

WVDN JUN 24, 2021



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Thomas E. (Brad) Ball, Jr.

By WV Daily News | WVDN JUN 24, 2021



BALL

Thomas E. (Brad) Ball, Jr., 82, passed away Saturday, June 19, 2021, at the Peyton Hospice House following a long illness.

Born June 23, 1938, in Hinton, WV, he was the son of the late Thomas E., Sr., and Irene Krise Ball.

Survivors include his loving wife of 56 years, Jo Lynn Burks Ball; daughter, Renee Harvey (Randy) of Alderson, WV; brother, Joe Ball (Linda) of Lewisburg, WV; special childhood friend, Glenn Vallandingham (Brenda) of Hinton, WV; and special cousin, Lynne Strubble (Skip) of Pittsburgh, PA.

Also left to cherish his memory is grandson, Matthew Harvey of Alderson, WV; grand-daughters, Nicole Adkins (Charles) of Ballard, WV, Amber Toney (Cody) of Danese, WV; three great-grandchildren; and a host of nieces and nephews.

A memorial service will be held at Wallace and Wallace Funeral Home in Lewisburg, WV, on Thursday, June 24, 2021, with the Reverend Joe Geiger officiating. The family will receive friends from 1-2 p.m. with the funeral following at 2 p.m.

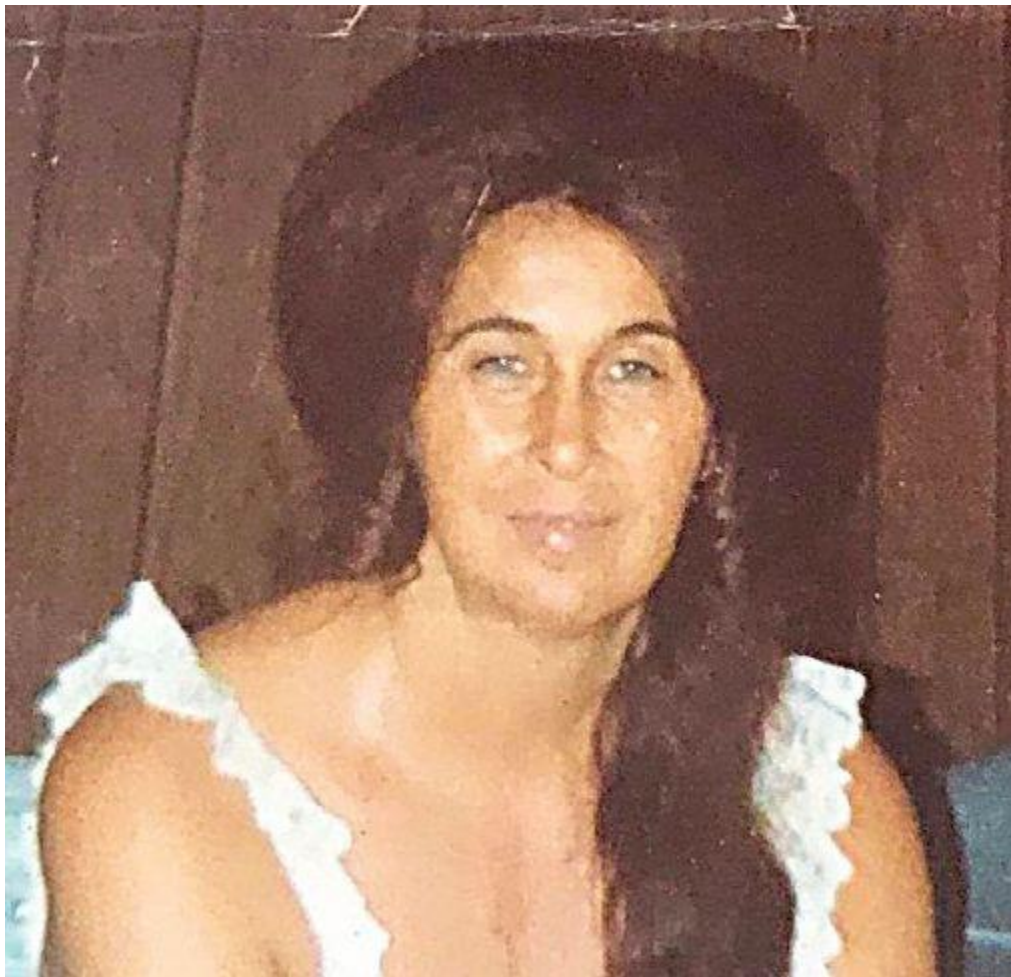
In lieu of flowers, donations of sympathy may be made to Peyton Hospice House, 1265 Maplewood Avenue, Lewisburg, WV 24901.

Please send online condolences by visiting www.WallaceandWallaceFH.com.

Wallace & Wallace Funeral Home in Lewisburg is in charge of arrangements.

Betty Elmore Morrison

By WV Daily News | WVDN JUN 24, 2021



MORRISON

Betty Elmore Morrison of Ronceverte passed away Monday evening, June 21, 2021 at her home with her family by her side.

She was born April 18, 1940 in Monroe County to the late Walter and Ruth Vance Elmore.

Betty was a member of Highland Park Community Church. She was famously known for her cooking. Betty worked for many years for Spuds Drive In, but most notably owned and operated the Stockyard Inn, better known as Betty's Restaurant.

She was a homemaker, mother, and friend to many and loved spending time with her children, grandchildren, and family. Betty looked forward to the family reunions. She gave to many people in many ways, especially if they needed a meal.

Preceding her in death, other than her parents, were her husband, Jim Morrison; grandchild, Colin Harris; siblings, Lee Vance, Jim Elmore, Earl Elmore, Vernon Elmore, Lewis Elmore, Oral Elmore, Dallas Elmore, Bonnie Ridgeway, Mary Sue Elmore, and Ruby McNeely.

Those left to cherish her memories are her children, Steve (Sandy) White of Sinks Grove, Danny (Liz) White of Fairlea, Timmy (Sherry) White of Second Creek, Rodney (Becky) White of Ronceverte, Todd (Darlene) White of Clintonville, Debbie Harris of Ronceverte, Tonya (Chad) White and Lexi of Covington, VA, and Amy (Justin) Woolard of Ronceverte; sisters, Carolyn Erskine (Jesse) of Ronceverte, Nancy Morgan (John) of Manteo, NC, and Rose Mann (Michael) of Lake Havasu, AZ; brother, Tom Elmore (Ellen) of Second Creek; daughter-in-law, Kim White of Alderson; 10 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren; and a host of nieces and nephews.

Funeral services for Betty will be Saturday, June 26, 2021 at 4 p.m. at the Highland Park Community Church with Pastor Freddie Bostic officiating, interment will follow the services at the church cemetery.

The family will receive family and friends on Friday, June 25, 2021 from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. at Wallace & Wallace Funeral Home in Ronceverte.

Betty's pallbearers will be Chad Thompson, Rodney White, Jacob White, Josh White, David Flack, Shawn Poage, Rodney McNeely, and Greg Elmore.

Please send online condolences by visiting www.WallaceandWallaceFH.com.

Wallace & Wallace Funeral Home in Ronceverte is in charge of arrangements.

Jackie Lee "Jack" Moore

By WV Daily News | WVDN JUN 24, 2021

MOORE

Jackie Lee "Jack" Moore, 80, of Lewisburg, passed away Tuesday, June 22, 2021.

Born December 12, 1940 at Rainelle, he was a son of the late Watson and Bula Rookstool Moore.

Jack was a graduate of Rainelle High School, was a member of Edgewood Presbyterian Church in Lewisburg, and retired from Orders Construction, where he was a bridge construction foreman.

He is survived by his wife of 53 years, Margaret Ann Moore; sons, James F. Moore (Monica) of Frankford and Richard Lee Moore (Iris) of Lewisburg; 6 grandchildren, Sequoya Moore of Asheville, NC, Boone Moore and Ava Moore, both of Lewisburg, Ryan Moore of Ravenswood, Paige Acord of Tampa, FL, and Jonathan Acord, who is currently serving in the Air Force in New Mexico. Also surviving is a sister, Joyce "Jean" Riggs (Roger) of Tennessee and brother, Charles Moore (Delva) of Nettie.

Funeral service will be 2 p.m. Sunday, June 27, 2021 at Wallace & Wallace Funeral Home in Lewisburg, with

Rev. Joe Geiger officiating. Interment will follow in Rosewood Cemetery.

The family will receive friends one hour prior to the funeral service on Sunday.

In lieu of flowers, donations of sympathy may be made to Edgewood Presbyterian Church, 162 Harper Road, Lewisburg, WV 24901.

Please send online condolences by visiting www.WallaceandWallaceFH.com.

Wallace & Wallace Funeral Home in Lewisburg is in charge of arrangements.

Susan Elizabeth Banton

By WV Daily News | WVDN JUN 24, 2021



BANTON

Susan Elizabeth Banton, 76, of Lewisburg, WV passed away Friday, June 18, 2021, at the Peyton Hospice House, Lewisburg, WV.

Born June 1, 1945, in Marlinton, WV, she was the daughter of the late Virle Harper and Phyllis Juanita Pyles

Hamrick.

Susan was a member of Lewisburg United Methodist Church. She was well known for owning Ace's Food Stand at the State Fair of West Virginia. Susan was retired from the Greenbrier County Courthouse as a Tax Assessor and had also worked for Hamrick Distributing.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by a sister, Ann Harper Hamrick.

Survivors include her loving husband of fifty-six years, Jerry Lee Banton; sons, Jerry Harper Banton (Teresa) of Conover, NC, and Richard Alan Banton (Stephanie) of Reston, VA; sister, Virginia Adair McClung (Glen Allen) of Hurricane, WV; grandchildren, Mychal and Cameron Gillespie, Maya and Jamison Banton; great-grandchildren, Ella Gillespie, Asher Gillespie, and Bennett Gillespie; nephews, G.A. McClung II (Kim) and Nelson McClung (Sara); many nieces, nephews, numerous cousins, and several friends.

A celebration of life service will be held at 11 a.m., Tuesday, June 29, 2021, at the Morgan Funeral Home Chapel - 252 Montvue Drive with Pastor Ron Miller and Rev. Bev Colombo officiating. Interment will follow in the Rosewood Cemetery, Lewisburg, WV. Visitation will be 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., Monday, June 28, 2021, at the funeral home.

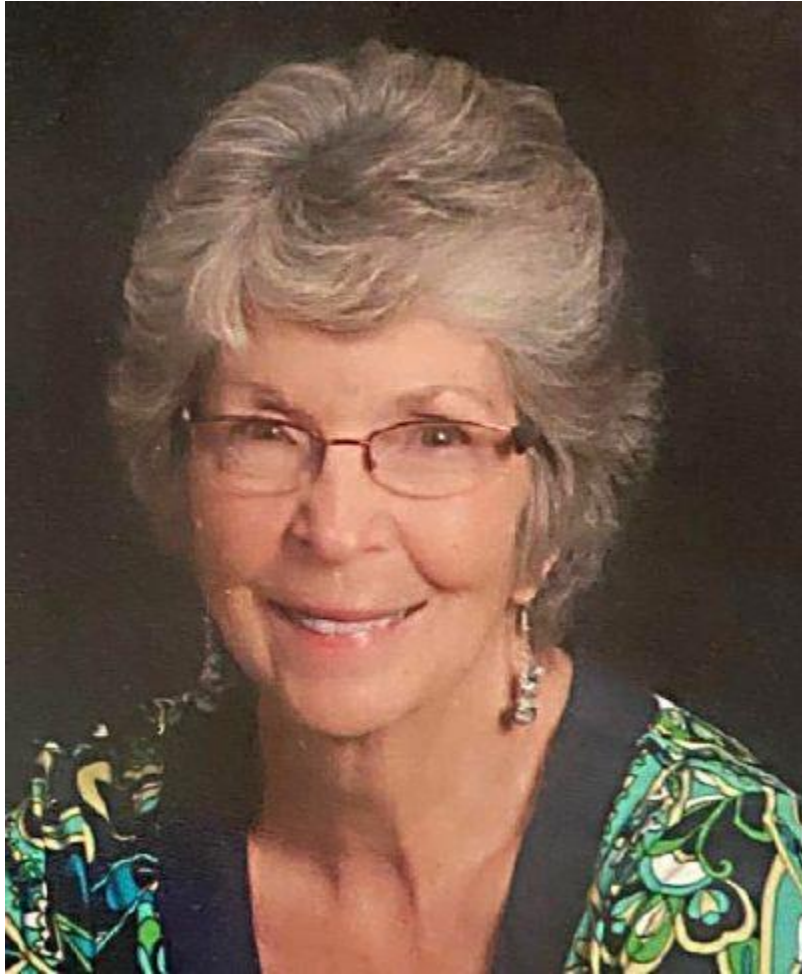
In lieu of flowers, donations of sympathy should be made to the Peyton Hospice House - 1265 Maplewood Avenue, Lewisburg, WV 24901.

Online guestbook can be signed at www.morganfh.net.

Arrangements by Morgan Funeral Home, Lewisburg, WV.

Shirley Dean (Bogle) Linkous

By WV Daily News | WVDN JUN 24, 2021



LINKOUS

Shirley Dean (Bogle) Linkous, 84, of White Sulphur Springs passed away on Tuesday, June 22, 2021 at Genesis Healthcare Center in White Sulphur Springs.

Shirley was born April 21, 1937 in Lester, WV and was the daughter of the late Joseph C. and Elvie Snuffer Bogle.

She was a member of the White Sulphur Springs Baptist Church. She had served as a secretary at the Bank of White Sulphur Springs. Shirley was a huge part of the White Sulphur Springs Women's Club. She was instrumental and very involved with the start of and continuation of the Dandelion Festival.

Other than her parents, she was preceded in death by her son, Samuel E. Linkous, Jr.; and a brother, Charles Bogle.

Shirley leaves behind Sam Linkous; her daughters, Linda Marie Linkous of Caldwell, Melissa Linkous McCutcheon and her husband, Jim of Lewisburg; son, Mark Joseph Linkous and his wife, Crystal of White Sulphur Springs; grandchildren, Nick Vance, Nicole Vance, Ryan Vance, Brittany Helvey (Mike), Andi Linkous, Malachi McCutcheon (Abby), Jacob McCutcheon, Noah McCutcheon, Christian Nahouse (Tori), and Addie Linkous; 16 great-grandchildren and one on the way; sisters, Frances Brewer of Lewisburg and Callie Patton (David) of Harper, WV; son-in-law, Lucky Vance; daughter-in-law, Karen Linkous Brothers; brother-in-law, Bobby Linkous; sister-in-law, Bonnie Bogle; and a host of nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Funeral services for Shirley will be Sunday, June 27, 2021 at 3 p.m. at the White Sulphur Springs Baptist

Church with Pastor Randy Gilliam and Pastor Lewis Brooks officiating. Interment will follow at the Hillcrest Cemetery. Grandsons will serve as pallbearers.

The family will receive their family and friends from 2 p.m. until 3 p.m. at the church.

Please send online condolences by visiting www.WallaceandWallaceFH.com.

Wallace & Wallace Funeral Home in White Sulphur Springs is in charge of arrangements.

Tri County FD Asks Summers County For Money, Fire Board Members Appointed

By autumn shelton | WVDN JUN 24, 2021

Officials with the Tri-County Fire Department in Alderson want their money.

Jim Massey, Tri County fire chief, spoke before the Summers County Fire Board on Monday, June 21, to state that his department has not received money from Summers County since 1985, even though the Greenbrier County-based department responds to calls across county lines.

A prior agreement was made that Summers County would provide Tri County with \$5,000 a year to help cover costs associated with these call-outs, but that just hasn't been happening, Massey said.

In 2021, so far, Massey stated that Tri County has responded to six calls in Summers County. Thirteen calls were answered in 2020.

It is vital that Tri County continue to provide services to those living close to the county line so that homeowners receive lower home insurance costs, Massey explained.

Summers County Commissioner Mike Gore told Massey that \$5,000 is included in the Summers County budget for Tri County and that they should be receiving it.

"They swear \$5,000 is coming, but we aren't getting it," Massey responded. He said he has asked those at the Alderson Fire Department if they were mistakenly receiving the funds, but they are not.

Gore told Massey to call the Summers County Commission Clerk to be placed on the next agenda so that an investigation into the missing money can begin.

In other Summers County Fire Board news, Bill Costomiris, Talcott Fire Chief, discussed ethics, responsibility and accountability for those serving on the fire board.

"We owe them the best management of our fire departments as we can," Costomiris said of all Summers County residents. "There should be some accountability."

Each homeowner in Summers County pays a \$25 yearly tax fee to provide financial assistance to the six fire departments serving the county. This nets a total of roughly \$16,000 a year, which provides departments with better equipment, better training and a better ISO rating.

It is no secret that recent events have hurt the public perception of those with local fire departments, Costomiris continued. However, it should be the goal of the board to become mindful of public perception.

Also, at this meeting, new fire board members were appointed.

Johnny Ratliff will serve as the new president of the Summers County Fire Board and Kody Lilly will serve as vice-president. Sandy Bragg will continue as secretary/treasurer.

The next meeting of the Summers County Fire Board will take place on the third Monday in September.

Marlinton Man Charged With Domestic Battery

By by matthew young | WVDN JUN 24, 2021



A Pocahontas County man was arrested on the morning of Monday, June 21 after allegedly assaulting his girlfriend one week prior. Zane Colter Burdette, 35, of Marlinton has been charged with strangulation and one count of domestic battery.

Just before 12:30 p.m. on Tuesday, June 15, law enforcement officers responded to a Huntersville residence to investigate reports of a domestic battery that had allegedly occurred between Zane Colter Burdette, and his girlfriend. This marked the fourth time law enforcement had been called to the residence for "domestic-

related issues” in the last two months. Upon arriving on the scene, Burdette was to be present at the residence, but his girlfriend was not.

A subsequent review of the 911 recordings from the incident revealed that Burdette had been accused of ripping down his girlfriend’s shower curtain, striking her several times with his fist, and “choking her out.”

Zane Colter Burdette is currently being held at Tygart Valley Regional Jail. Burdette is not eligible for bail at this time.

Dear Recycle Lady: Thursday, June 24

By Recycle Lady | WVDN JUN 24, 2021

Can a grill with a rusted-out tray be recycled? — **Griller**

Dear Griller,

Yes, your grill can be recycled. Take it to the Recycle Center, go to the door for aluminum can and push the button. Someone will come to help you.

Good afternoon!

I had a yard sale Saturday and a wonderful event happen! My house painter asked if she could set up a table with 1/2 full cans of paint for free! People took almost all the cans! One guy spent a long time looking so I went over to meet him. He was painting his deck and was studying how to mix different colors to make grey. He took about 5 cans. Recycling!!! It was a good day. — **Yard Sale Recycler**

Dear Yard Sale Recycler,

What a great idea! Kudos to you and your painter for finding a way to recycle leftover paint. And kudos to your customers who found a way for it to be reused.

Dear Recycle Lady,

Lately, the Charleston Gazette has had a small advertising label stuck on the top of the front page. Must that label be removed before putting the front page in recycling. — **Newspaper Reader**

Dear Newspaper Reader,

No, the small label stuck on the front page of a newspaper does not need to be removed before recycling it. The label will recycle with the newspaper.

Dear Recycle Lady,

Do you accept old fabric and old clothes for recycling? — **Seamstress**

Dear Seamstress,

No, the Recycling Center doesn’t accept old fabrics or old clothes. However, Goodwill in Fairlea, Greenbrier Better Living in Ronceverte, and The Thrift Store in Caldwell all accept clothing and usable fabrics.

Dear Readers,

Some good news for the environment this week. The state of New York has passed legislation that will eliminate millions of single-use plastic toiletry bottles from hotels — eliminating over 27 million annually in New York City alone. They are the second state to pass this ban, after California. These small single-use items add a lot of plastic pollution to our waterways.

Have questions about recycling, or interesting information about recycling? Send questions or requests to recyclelady@greenbrier-swa.com . Dear Recycle Lady is sponsored jointly by the Greenbrier Recycling Center

and Greenworks Recycling.

Lewisburg Plans July 'First Friday'

By WV Daily News | WVDN JUN 24, 2021

July First Fridays in Lewisburg is on July 2 from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.! Join the fun ... complimentary tastings, live music, giveaways, festive beverages and special offers throughout town all free to the public. Everyone is welcome!

Live music in the City GreenSpace from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.! The Thomas Taylor Band takes a step back in time to the Honky Tonk Era of Country Music with the sounds of a crying steel guitar, a walking bass, a shuffling drum beat, clear lead guitar licks, and a lonesome fiddle. That's what they're all about.

The Shoe Box asks "Are you ready to run wild this 4th of July?" Visit The Shoe Box for some new running shoes or great summer sandals! Get a fun free gift for the kids with the purchase of children's shoes! 847 Court Street North, 681-318-3377.

Join The Humble Tomato for "An Evening with Shane Meade", a soulful singer-songwriter. The Shane Meade & the Sound frontman returns to the mountain state for an intimate acoustic solo performance. Don't miss this special night of fantastic food and music in "America's Coolest Small Town". The show starts at 7 p.m. 855 Washington Street West, 681-318-3788.

Harmony Ridge celebrates First Friday with Bubbly! Pop in for a \$4 glass of Cava, a deliciously famous Spanish sparkling wine. 886 Washington Street West, 304-645-4333.

Aggie's and Vest will serve refreshments and feature new lines for entertaining: Bourbon Barrel Foods seasonings and Good Times Slushies and Cracker Smack. 979 Washington Street West, 645-4063.

Bella's love of the French never quits. French wines and cheeses are on the tasting board at Bella for July First Friday! Viva la France! Saluer l'Amérique! Details are on Facebook and Instagram @bellagourmetwv or call 304-520-4921. 1017 Washington Street East.

The Greenbrier Valley Visitors Center celebrates the 4th of July weekend with two unique art show openings. The Gallery will feature the works of Quincy Gray McMichael, a local artist and farmer. Quincy makes zero-waste art using canvas, wood, recycled paint, color and intuitive patterns. Stop by to meet Quincy and view her show titled "Reemerge/Peeling the Artichoke. Featured in the Art Alcove will be the pottery of ceramic artist, Alison Flegel Safrit, a Pocahontas County native. Her glazes and firing processes are enhanced by the carving and brushwork used in creating her pieces. Allison will also be on hand to chat with folks about her show titled "Re-emerge: On the Surface." Sit back and enjoy the sounds of local band Old Ease throughout the evening's event. 905 Washington Street West, 304-645-1000.

Edith's store will be sampling out Olipop soda: An incredibly delicious and refreshing soda that's actually good for you. Olipop has natural ingredients that work together to promote healthy digestion. A combination of plant fiber prebiotics and botanicals creates a sweet and healthy taste that even a sugar-loaded soda can't compete with. Don't believe us? Stop in the store and try some for yourself. 1035 Washington Street East, 304-645-7998.

The Washington Street Pub features the Spiked Arnold Palmer! 1030 Washington Street East, 304-645-7386.

In case you missed it, Cooper Gallery continues the exhibit of new work by Lynn Boggess, George Snyder, Bruce Macdonald, Marilyn Cooper, Daniel Meyer and other artists for July. Liquid refreshments provided. 1067 Washington Street East, 304-661-1752.

Pop into Patina to enjoy live Celtic music by Patrick O’Flaherty and complimentary beverages and Girl Scout cookies. 1046 Washington Street East, 304-520-4960.

The North House Museum invites you to visit, enjoy a drink, view their latest exhibits and experience the folk music of their house band, Rural Felicity. 814 Washington Street West, 304-645-3398.

Start Act II of your First Friday at The Asylum with a live performance by Shawn Benfield, playing from 9 p.m. to midnight. 399 Randolph Street East, 681-318-3515.

First Fridays is sponsored by City National Bank and the Shops & Restaurants of Downtown Lewisburg. For more information go to visitlewisburgwv.com or to FaceBook or call 304-645-4333.

DNC Credentials Committee Rejects Challenge To Biafore And Other WV Leaders

By by bobby bordelon | WVDN JUN 24, 2021



The Democratic National Committee Credentials Committee rejected a challenge to allowing several leaders in the West Virginia Democratic Party to be instated in the national party on Tuesday, June 15. The meeting saw West Virginia Democratic Party Chair Belinda Biafore defend herself against a challenge filed with the DNC Credentials Committee by Selina Vickers and a group of grassroots Democrats looking to reform the party/bait their challenge.

“I want to turn to the key issues of our challenge,” said Vickers. “First is the issue of notice. Second is the lack

of outreach to historically underrepresented groups, and third is the unacceptable lack of diversity in the membership of the executive committee as of June 29, 2020. ... The key element to achieving this goal is effective notice — not just to party insiders but to all of those that wish to participate. The so-called notice provided by the executive committee in connection with the important elections of June 29, cannot, by any stretch of the imagination, be called effective notice.”

Both Biafore and Vickers referred to a legal ad in the Charleston Gazette Mail published five days before the state executive committee meeting where the officers were elected. Biafore pushed against the accusations of not properly notifying the election.

“We sent notice by mail or email twice to every member of the executive committee, which is the body that votes in the election on this issue,” said Biafore. “We also took out a paid ad in a statewide newspaper announcing the meeting. We sent several press releases to other outlets in the state. We added the meeting to our calendar of events blog on our website and we emailed a general list of West Virginia Democrats. Our bylaws require notice to members and a press release, and we fully complied.”

She continued, pointing to the challenge the national party was specifically considering in the hearing.

“Let’s talk about what this challenge is really about,” Biafore said. “This is a challenge to the unanimous elections of four DNC members. A vote to deny us these credentials would be a vote against the unanimous choices of our party. These challenges raise several complaints about our party’s composition and practices. While there is always room for improvement, ... the challenges have not even attempted to present evidence that any aspect would have been any different. ... No one ran against us. Other races on June 29th were contested — ours were not. Not one person has come forward to say they would have run against us, but, somehow, we prevented them from doing so. If the challengers had wanted representation on the DNC, they could have run themselves or recruited candidates to run against us, but they did not. Now they are asking you to intervene and overturn an election they didn’t even contest.”

Vickers pointed out the ad did not identify which officers were being elected and the location of the meeting. In addition, the limited notice did not give her and other organizers time to find others to run against Biafore in the same way they have in other positions in the state party.

“With five days notice to contact, ballpark, 100 people ... that is difficult to do,” Vickers said. “If you were going to give people a fair opportunity, which is what the bylaws say, ... how in the world can you do that with five days notice? I also want to point out that the offices weren’t even listed. It just said election of officers. I want to be really clear that nowhere, in any document, that was sent out by the party, ... there was zero notice those positions were to be there.”

Biafore noted an email list of approximately 30,000 also received notice from the party. Vickers pushed back, providing witness testimony of several people who are signed on to that mailing list that did not receive an email notification but have received email from this mailing list. This included Jean Evansmore, a leader in the West Virginia Poor People’s Campaign, Dierdra Purdy, chair of the Calhoun County Democratic Executive Committee, and several more.

Biafore also denounced the challenge as being one of nine filed against the state party by Vickers in the past two years.

“Despite Ms. Vickers inflammatory rhetoric, she did raise some helpful points about how our bylaws could be improved,” Biafore said. “So to ensure that our party was doing all we could do to welcome diverse voices, last summer we agreed to conduct a comprehensive review of our bylaws. ... This challenge raises the exact same issues that Ms. Vickers agreed to withdraw [after the agreement] two days before. Word for word, it is

the same challenge against the same people, although it was based on them being automatic delegates to the convention. I had hoped this MOU and the monumental task ahead of us to grow our party, Ms. Vickers would set aside her desire to oust me and my fellow officers through DNC challenges and instead would focus her energies on the task at hand. Instead of proceeding in good faith, she filed this challenge and escalated her attacks on us. Filing this challenge showed a lack of respect to the agreement she had just made with me and the Rules and Bylaws Committee co-chairs.”

Vickers emphasized her desire to massively expand the party in West Virginia.

“One of the fundamental elements of our party rules is to ensure that all those who wish to participate in Democratic Party affairs have the opportunity to do so,” Vickers said. “The key element to achieving this goal is effective notice — not just to party insiders but to all of those that wish to participate.”

The decision from DNC Credentials Committee was to allow Belinda Biafore, Vice-Chair Rod Snyder, National Committeewoman Elaine Harris, and National Committeeman Patrick Maroney to be credentialed as members of the DNC. Several Credentials Committee members expressed a reluctance to not credential those elected by unanimous votes by their state executive committee. Members also noted that this decision did not reflect any approval or disapproval of West Virginia’s Affirmative Action Plan.

Since the contentious June 3 meeting of the West Virginia Democratic Executive Committee, more local Democratic executive committees have issued votes of no confidence. This includes Greenbrier County, Mercer County, Fayette County, Wood County, and Monongalia County.

“This follows years of decline of the Democratic Party under her leadership, taking us from a legislative supermajority to a super-minority,” announced the Greenbrier County Executive Committee. “Support for our county Democrats has been non-existent ... Statewide assistance for promoting candidates, voter registration, and get out the vote projects has been left entirely to local clubs, candidates, and organizations, with no strategy or planning from our state office.”

West Virginia gets OK for summer food benefits for students

By The Associated Press | WVDN JUN 24, 2021

CHARLESTON, W.Va. (AP) — West Virginia families with eligible school-age children will receive funding from the federal government for groceries this summer.

One-time benefits of \$375 are expected to be issued for each eligible child by mid-July, the state Department of Education said in a news release. The benefits will be loaded onto existing pandemic electronic benefits transfer cards that were issued during the 2020-21 school year.

School-age children are eligible if they were enrolled in a school that participates in the National School Lunch Program and qualified for free or reduced-price school meals. Children under age 6 are eligible if they live in a household that receives Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program benefits.

The state expects to issue \$83.4 million to more than 222,000 schoolchildren and \$13.3 million to 35,000 kids enrolled in SNAP this summer.

The funding comes from the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Lewisburg Man Arrested After Allegedly Assaulting Mother

By by matthew young | WVDN JUN 24, 2021



A Greenbrier County man was arrested on the morning of Monday, June 21 after an alleged domestic assault that had occurred two weeks prior. Zachariah Mark Feury, 20, has been charged with one count of domestic battery.

On Monday, June 7, were dispatched to a residence in Fairlea in response to a reported domestic altercation. Upon their arrival, officers made contact with both the accused, Zachariah Mark Feury, as well as the victim, his mother.

According to the criminal complaint, the victim “had locked herself in her bedroom with a heavy metal door that had two treated 2X4 reinforcements that could be put across the door as a safe room.”

The victim reportedly advised officers that, on the evening of Sunday, June 6, the West Virginia State Police had been contacted as Feury “had allegedly tried to set her (the victim) on fire.”

The complaint further states that, earlier on June 7, Feury’s father allowed him back into the residence before leaving for work. Once Feury was alone in the home with the victim, he began yelling at her, and allegedly “rammed” her several times, prompting the victim to “barricade herself in” the safe room.

The Greenbrier County 911 Center reports that there had been seven calls made regarding Feury in the ten days leading up to his arrest.

Zachariah Mark Feury is currently being held at Southern Regional Jail on a \$2,000 cash-bond or surety.

Man Sentenced For Role In Multiple Police Pursuits

By by bobby bordelon | WVDN JUN 24, 2021

Eric Matthew George was sentenced by Greenbrier County Circuit Court Judge Robert Richardson to three to 45 years of imprisonment on Tuesday, June 22, after striking a plea deal.

George was recently found guilty by the court after Richardson approved a plea deal between George, represented by Defense Attorney Paul Detch, and the Greenbrier County Prosecutor's Office. George was convicted of two counts of reckless fleeing and one count of burglary.

Richardson noted a sentence of active imprisonment would be proper in this case due to George's previous experience with alternative sentencing.

"He has a significant substance abuse history, which has undoubtedly contributed to his problems with the law over the years. ... He has a significant history of noncompliance with community based correctional programs," Richardson said. "That would include a pretrial diversion and a drug court diversion, as well as prohibition following his completion of the program at Anthony Correctional Center. Under these circumstances, a sentence of active imprisonment is appropriate, as the parties have recommended to the court."

George was indicted in three separate cases, one in 2017 and two in 2020. The charges included burglary, felony reckless fleeing from an officer, and driving while license revoked for driving under the influence of alcohol, and more.

Each set of indictments arises from a different incident. George was charged with misdemeanor battery on a law enforcement officer and felony fleeing from an officer while under the influence of alcohol for an encounter with police on August 23, 2020. According to the criminal complaint, officers received a be on the lookout call for a vehicle driven by George. After George failed to stop at a stop light, officers began to pursue, but the suspect vehicle continued to drive away at high speeds.

"I saw that the driver's vehicle was struggling taking turns at a high rate of speed due to it fish-tailing through the turns," reads the criminal complaint. "We then came upon a sharp left-hand turn. I felt our car slowing down to take the turn, but the suspect's car did not. The Mazda then ran through a fence almost flipping over on its top, this occurred one mile north of the Grand Ave/Fairview Road intersection. [The officers] then got out of the cruiser guns drawn."

George did not immediately exit the vehicle.

"The driver then stuck out his hand out of the window and appeared to be clapping. The driver of the vehicle opened the door. ... The suspect started to reach under the driver seat, at which point both Rodoussakis and I were yelling at him to stop reaching. The driver then gave up [whatever] ever he was reaching for and laid on his stomach."

After securing the scene, Emergency Medical Services arrived to make sure the uncooperating suspect was seen by a medical provider after the crash. Later, George failed a field sobriety test.

"They got [the suspect] out of the back," the complaint reads. "He immediately began to stare me down and

began to get into my face. At which point I escorted him to the ambulance and asking him to sit on the step. Eric then began to spit. He again stared me down and spat on my leg. I then walked away and let EMS handle him from there.”

In September 2020, George was involved in another chase attempting to pull him over for a headlight. Officers used a spike strip to stop his vehicle near the Brush Road and Anderson Road intersection, busting the passenger tires. After stopping

“[Officers were] trying to gain control of Mr. George so he could be placed into handcuffs,” reads the complaint. “Mr. George was continuing to resist. After a brief struggle we were able to place Mr. George into handcuffs and under arrest.”

When asked if he would like to make a statement to the court before sentencing on Tuesday, George agreed.

“I accept full responsibility for my actions,” said George. “I’m hoping that I can get my drug addiction under control and turn my life around.”

For each of the three offenses, George was sentenced to serve jail time for one to 15 years for each offense. These sentences will run one after the other, meaning George faces between three and 45 years. However, Richardson granted credit for 650 days served, including time he had previously served at Anthony Correctional Center. In addition, Richardson recommended George for the residential substance abuse treatment program offered by the Division of Corrections.

“You’ll still have a period of time to serve before you’re eligible for parole,” Richardson said. “It is my hope that you will use that time to address your substance abuse problem. Simply being away from drugs in a correctional facility is not treatment, you need more than that, which is why I’m recommending you for the substance abuse treatment program. I hope you will find it a benefit.”

4 die from COVID-19 at WVa assisted living facility

By The Associated Press | WVDN JUN 24, 2021

ATHENS, W.Va. (AP) — Four people have died due to COVID-19 at an assisted living facility in Mercer County, West Virginia.

The Bluefield Daily Telegraph reported that 12 of the 14 residents at Rockin’ Chair Residential Care in Lerona tested positive for the coronavirus, according to owner Airwana Arnett. Lerona is about 25 miles (40 kilometers) northeast of Bluefield.

One of the residents who died was in Hospice care, she said, and two had severe underlying medical conditions. “The other loss was a shock,” she told the paper. “He got sick and could not be revived.” The other eight who caught the virus are recovering, in addition to four of the 10 staff members who became infected, she said.

She said six residents and “several” staff members had received the coronavirus vaccine. “The ones vaccinated did not get the bad symptoms,” she said. “The shot may have saved their lives.”

She said some staff and family members of residents refused to receive the vaccine. A pharmacy had offered the shots at the care center.

West Virginia, which has one of the oldest and most at-risk populations, rapidly deployed doses of the vaccine to nursing homes in December.

The Mercer County nursing home had not previously reported any deaths from the virus. Long-term care facilities have accounted for 801, or about 28%, of the state's 2,872 virus-related deaths, health data show. The facility is being tested twice a week. "We have got it under control," Arnett said. "We are going to make it."