

New levy on horizon

Many Preston County schools use funds for repairs. **Page 1-B**

Man injured in I-79 wreck

Truck flips over rail, goes down hill. **Page 5-B**



Post

Celebrating Lucky 13

WVU women's team defeats DePaul, 64-57, in overtime. **Page 1-C**

Men lose to Notre Dame

Coverage of 70-68 defeat. **Page 1-C**



Morgantown, West Virginia

www.dominionpost.com

Newsstand: \$1.50

SUNDAY

Jan. 10, 2010

TODAY'S WEATHER
Cold with clouds and sun.
High **23** Low **16**
Your complete forecast
Page 8-A

TO FIND OUT about school closings or delays, go to dominionpost.com.

Video links

Taliban to CIA bombing
Man sat next to new chief of group.
Page 8-D

Obituaries

BOWSER, Larry A. Sr.
COOLEY, James Robert
FOWLER, Garnetta Glendening
GALUSKY, Edward Paul
GARRETT, James Alan
LEWIS, Eva Claire Hawley
MCDONALD, Delbert F. "Pudge"
SELBY, Susan Elizabeth Fox
TERANGO, Virginia R. "Whig"
DeFazio

Page 7-A

Markets

DOW
+ 190.14
NASDAQ
+ 48.02
S&P 500
+ 29.88

Page 3D-4D

Report: Slight cost hike in

Senate health bill
Officials: Dems to drop government-run insurance.
Page 7-D

Cashmere 101

Know how to buy and care for this fine fabric.
Page 1-E

Contractor wins award for home

Page 1-F

COMING TOMORROW

State lawmakers

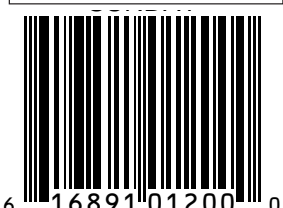
2010 interims begin.



Inside

AUTOMOTIVE 1H-6H
BUSINESS 1D-6D
CAMPUS LIFE 8B
CROSSWORD 6E
EMPLOYMENT 1G-6G
LOCAL 2A-6A, 1B-7B
LIFE & LEISURE 1E-10E
MINIPAGE 7E
MOUNTAIN STATE OUTDOORS . 8C
NATION 7D-8D
OPINION 1D-2D
REAL ESTATE 1F-10F
SENIOR NEWS 3H, 5H
SPORTS 1C-7C
TV SCHEDULE 8A
WORLD 8D

For home delivery:
304-292-6301
For news:
304-291-9425



Area bankruptcies up

Experts: Trend to continue in bad economy

BY ALEX LANG
The Dominion Post

Bankruptcy filings in 2009 in Monongalia and Preston counties were up from 2008.

Mon County had a 55 percent jump in bankruptcy filings in 2009, 195 up from 126 in 2008.

Preston County's were up by 65 percent, or 111 filings in 2009 and 67 in 2008.

"I'm sure it's all economy based," said Michael Sturm, clerk for the U.S. Bankruptcy Court Northern District of West Virginia.

Some of the factors that could lead someone to file for bankruptcy are loss of job, an unexpected family incident like a major medical bill or excessive spending, Sturm said.

The number of bankruptcy filings tends to follow the economy, Sturm said. When the econ-

omy is doing well, the number of cases is down, and when the economy slows, it goes up.

Area attorneys have also seen an increase in the number of people filing.

"Yes, we've certainly had more cases," Tom Hazlett said.

Hazlett, of Harper & Hazlett, said he also believes the reason is economic.

His firm has offices in Westover, Wheeling and Ohio.

Dave Jecklin, of Gianola Barnum Wigal & London in Morgantown, said they saw an

increase in the number of bankruptcy cases and in the number of people requesting information about bankruptcy.

In the past year, the region began to see the impact of the recession, Jecklin said. The unemployment rate increased, and the housing prices went "topsy-turvy."

The primary reason for people filing for bankruptcy is still credit card debt, Jecklin said. They have seen more people come in because they lost their jobs, but

SEE **ECONOMY**, 3-A

WORKING IN ALCATRAZ

Former Kennedy Youth Center employee recalls time on 'the rock'

BY MALINDA REINKE
The Dominion Post

From his position on the wall, Correctional Officer Joe Santos, 32, his big carbine rifle strapped across his shoulder, stared down into the prison yard at what was happening between the guard and the inmate.

A standoff was brewing. They were at a checkpoint by the old model building, a concrete structure at the northwest tip of the island where some of the most trusted inmates worked making gloves and brooms and other items.

To pass between the model building and the yard, inmates had to be "shaken down" — their arms stretched straight out from their sides while the officers on duty patted them down for makeshift weapons or contraband. Most days it was a routine that took place without incident.

But not this day. On this ordinary afternoon at Alcatraz in 1956, an inmate looked the officer in the eyes and refused.

"You're not gonna shake me down anymore." And the officer glared back.

Decades later, when Santos described the incident from the quiet of his Morgantown home, he'd say that he thought the officer was picking on the inmate, "a big black fellow." But in that moment — standing guard on the wall at the most celebrated maximum security penitentiary in the country — Santos was on the job.

"I'm gonna shake you down," said the officer below. "No, you're not," said the inmate.

Joe Santos (above) describes photos from a 1991 calendar of Alcatraz. At right, Santos poses in his uniform when he was a correctional officer on Alcatraz in 1956. The lighthouse (below), warden's home and cell house sat above the residential building that housed some of the prison's employees and their families. Jason DeProspero/The Dominion Post and courtesy of the U.S. Bureau of Prisons

"You wanna bet?" His eyes still on the prisoner, the officer on the ground yelled up to the officer on the wall. "Santos," he shouted. "Put one in the chamber!"

"I had to put my clip in the chamber," Joe Santos, 85, said with tears in his eyes. "The man saw the guns pointed at him, and all the other inmates got out of the way. If you shoot a carbine, it's pop! pop! pop! pop! and there's shells all over the place."

SEE **ALCATRAZ**, 4-A

ELECTION 2010

Filing begins Monday

Many federal, state, county offices open

INCUMBENTS ponder another run for Westover council. **Page 1-B.**

BY DAVID BEARD
The Dominion Post

Candidates will begin filing Monday to run for office in this year's primary and general elections.

They will have until Jan. 30 to file for local, state or national elections.

Candidates filing for offices that serve more than one county and those running for the state Senate and the House of Delegates must file with the secretary of state, according to the secretary's office.

Those running for offices in just one county must file with their county clerk.

Some candidates have already filed precandidacy papers with the secretary of state. This allows them to test the waters and begin fundraising.

The primary is May 11; voter registration deadline is April 20.

The general election is Nov. 2; voter registration deadline is Oct. 12.

Independent and minor party candidates do not appear on primary ballots. They must gather signatures on a nominating petition to have their names placed on the general election ballot.

Here is a rundown of offices up

SEE **FILING**, 3-A



Obama promotes health care overhaul

REPORT: SLIGHT cost hike in Senate health bill. **Page 7-D.**
GOVERNMENT insurance option may be cut. **Page 7-D.**

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — As Congress struggles for final agreement on health care, President Barack Obama is getting a head start on promoting a permanent ban on "the worst practices of the insurance industry" and other changes in the overhaul he's eager to sign into law.

Obama acknowledged it would take several years — until 2014 in some instances — for some of the changes to be fully in place, and that has disappointed consumers and their advocates. He used his weekly radio and Internet address Saturday to play up the brighter

side of the overhaul he hopes to sign in time for his first State of the Union address to a joint session of Congress in a matter of weeks.

"Now, it'll take a few years to fully implement these reforms in a responsible way," the president said. "But what every American should know is that once I sign health insurance reform into law, there are dozens of protections and benefits that will take effect this year."

Among them, Obama said: ■ People with illnesses or medical conditions will be able to buy affordable health insurance.

■ Children with such conditions will no longer be denied coverage.

■ Small-business owners who can't afford to cover their employees will get tax credits to help

them do so.

■ Insurance companies will be required to offer free preventive care to their customers and will be prohibited from dropping coverage when someone becomes ill.

"In short, once I sign health insurance reform into law, doctors and patients will have more control over their health care decisions, and insurance company bureaucrats will have less," Obama said. "All told, these changes represent the most sweeping reforms and toughest restrictions on insurance companies that this country has ever known."

House and Senate versions of the overhaul would require nearly all Americans to get coverage and provide subsidies for many who can't afford the cost, but they differ on the details.

Court stalemate ends Civil War re-enactors' fight

Associated Press

STANARDSVILLE, Va. — A judge in Virginia said it's a draw between two Union and Confederate Civil War re-enactors who got into a tussle on the battlefield.

A judge found each man not guilty of assault Wednesday after they pressed charges against each other over the dispute last September.

The men were playing cavalry officers in a re-enactment of the Battle of Stanardsville. The Confederate re-enactor claims his Union counterpart knocked his hat off. The Confederate was accused of firing a blank round, of which the powder charge injured the Union re-enactor.

Both men said their actions were accidental. The judge concluded he could not find either man guilty "beyond a reasonable doubt."

