

**WEST VIRGINIA**  
**KIDS**  
**ACTIVITY**  
**BOOK**

**CELEBRATING 150 YEARS!**



# GREETINGS FROM GOVERNOR AND FIRST LADY TOMBLIN



*Follow our state's black bear through the book to discover lots of fun and exciting facts about West Virginia!*

**AS GOVERNOR AND FIRST LADY OF WEST VIRGINIA**, we are excited to share this activity book with you. You will learn about our culture, our history, and the many West Virginians who have made the Mountain State what it is today, in this, our 150th year!

With every turn of the page, you will have the opportunity to relive history. You will learn that West Virginia is the only state formed by presidential proclamation and the only state entirely within the Appalachian Mountains. You will learn about our government and the legislative process — and how you can get involved.

Whether you're studying at school or spending time with friends, there's always something new to learn. Joanne and I hope you enjoy the activities in this book and hope you are inspired with a new sense of pride in our state. West Virginia is truly a great place to live, and we encourage you to learn more about the things that make our state wild and wonderful!

Sincerely,

Earl Ray Tomblin  
Governor

Joanne Jaeger Tomblin  
First Lady



*A presidential proclamation is a special power the president has to make a formal announcement!*



# WHAT DOES SESQUICENTENNIAL MEAN?

ses•qui•cen•ten•ni•al  
\*ses-kwi-sen-'ten-ē-əl* \  
noun  
a 150th anniversary or its celebration

*Help me color  
the birthday  
cake!*



Source: Merriam Webster Dictionary

# THE GOVERNOR'S MANSION



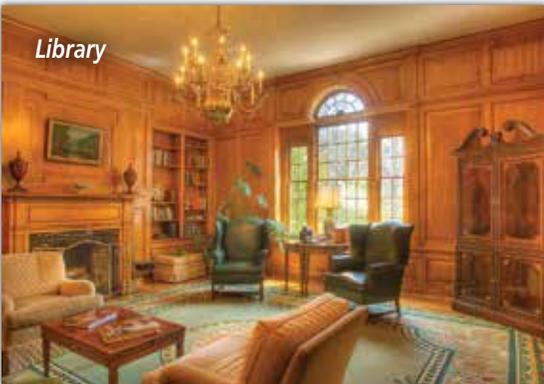
Ballroom



Foyer



State Dining Room



Library

**GOVERNOR EARL RAY TOMBLIN** and First Lady Joanne Jaeger Tomblin live across from the Capitol in the 30-room Executive Mansion. The elegant red brick home with white columns was completed in 1925 to house governors and their families.

It was designed by Charleston architect Walter F. Martens, who consulted with the Capitol's architect, Cass Gilbert, to make sure the home would match the Capitol's style. Governor Ephraim Morgan was the first to occupy the mansion, just one week before his term ended in 1925. The garage, service wing, and garden were added in 1926.

The first floor of the mansion is used for entertaining and official governor functions. It has a large ballroom and dining room, as well as a library and drawing room. The second floor of the mansion is the private residence for the governor's family.

For Capitol and Governor's Mansion tour information or reservations, call 304-558-4839 or visit [www.wvfirstlady.wv.gov](http://www.wvfirstlady.wv.gov) to see a virtual tour.

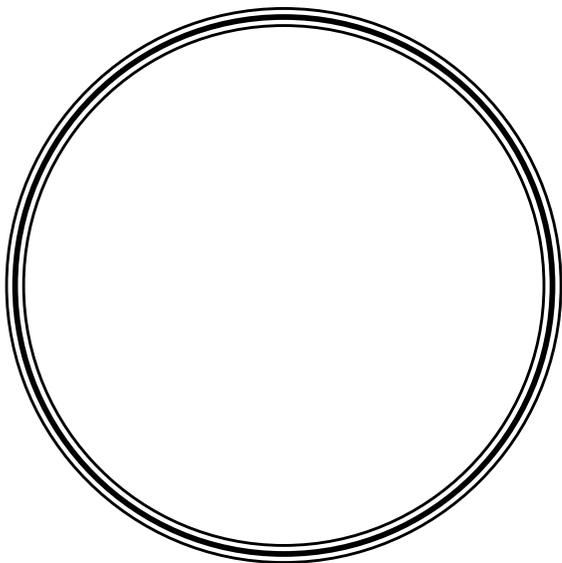
# WEST VIRGINIA GOVERNORS



1. Arthur Ingram Boreman 1863-1869
2. Daniel Duane Tompkins Farnsworth 1869
3. William Erskine Stevenson 1869-1871
4. John Jeremiah Jacob 1871-1877
5. Henry Mason Mathews 1877-1881
6. Jacob Beeson Jackson 1881-1885
7. Emanuel Willis Wilson 1885-1890
8. Aretas Brooks Fleming 1890-1893
9. William Alexander MacCorkle 1893-1897
10. George Wesley Atkinson 1897-1901
11. Albert Blakeslee White 1901-1905
12. William Mercer Owens Dawson 1905-1909
13. William Ellsworth Glasscock 1909-1913
14. Henry Drury Hatfield 1913-1917
15. John Jacob Cornwell 1917-1921
16. Ephraim Franklin Morgan 1921-1925
17. Howard Mason Gore 1925-1929
18. William Gustavus Conley 1929-1933
19. Herman Guy Kump 1933-1937
20. Homer Adams Holt 1937-1941
21. Matthew Mansfield Neely 1941-1945
22. Clarence Watson Meadows 1945-1949
23. Okey Leonidas Patteson 1949-1953
24. William Casey Marland 1953-1957
25. Cecil Harland Underwood 1957-1961
26. William Wallace Barron 1961-1965
27. Hulett Carlson Smith 1965-1969
28. Arch Alfred Moore, Jr. 1969-1977
29. John "Jay" Davison Rockefeller IV 1977-1985
30. Arch Alfred Moore, Jr. 1985-1989
31. William Gaston Caperton III 1989-1997
32. Cecil Harland Underwood 1997-2001
33. Bob Wise 2001-2005
34. Joe Manchin III 2005-2010
35. Earl Ray Tomblin 2010-present

## BECOME A GOVERNOR

*If you run for Governor someday, what would your campaign button look like? Show me by using the circles below to create your own button!*



# ABOUT WEST VIRGINIA



Each year, snow transforms the Mountain State into a skier's paradise. Popular winter sports include snowboarding, snow tubing, snowshoeing, and skiing — both downhill and cross country.

The Vandalia Gathering is an annual festival held at the State Capitol in late May to celebrate West Virginia's rich Appalachian culture. Join me next May!

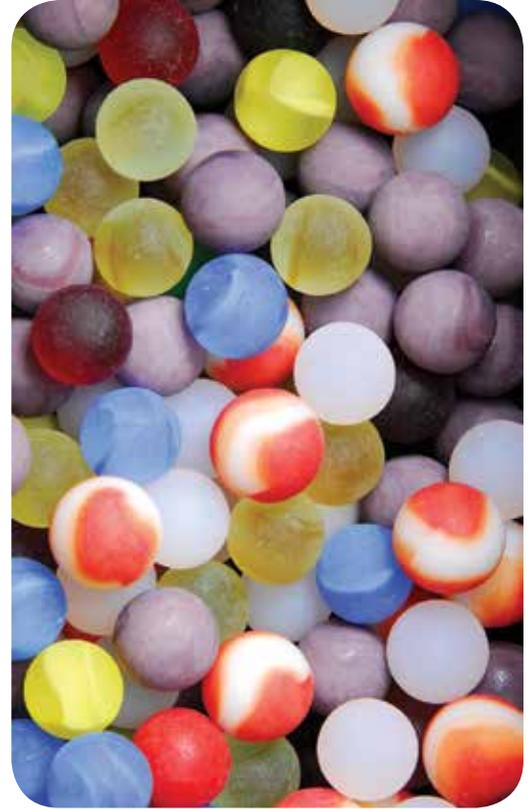


**WEST VIRGINIA IS A UNIQUE STATE** with a diverse and rugged past. It is the only state formed out of the Civil War and the only one that ever became a state by presidential proclamation. It is the 41<sup>st</sup> largest state and was the 35<sup>th</sup> state admitted to the Union. West Virginia became a state on June 20, 1863.

The Mountain State is really close to the eastern United States' largest cities, but it is mostly rural, with a lot of countryside and small towns. That's one reason people from big cities like to visit West Virginia — they want to vacation in the mountains away from crowded, busy streets, and they can easily get here by car.

West Virginia is sometimes called the most northern of the southern states or the most southern of the northern states because it is right in the middle. It is the only state that is completely within the Appalachian Mountains, which are some of the oldest in the world. Everywhere you look in West Virginia, there are mountains.

In between the mountains are beautiful rivers and streams that are great for fishing and whitewater rafting. People come from all across the world to raft here.



West Virginia is known for its heritage crafts such as quilting, woodworking, and glass. You may be surprised to discover that the Mountain State is home to one of only two marble manufacturers in America, making more than 1 million marbles a day!



West Virginia's whitewater rapids attract visitors from all over the world. Thrill seekers can also enjoy zip lining, rock climbing, and even take a catwalk tour of the famous New River Gorge Bridge.

# ABOUT WEST VIRGINIA



Explore West Virginia's hundreds of miles of off-road trails for bicycle or ATV. Enjoy a relaxing pedal down mostly level rail trails or the thrill of powering up rocky mountain trails. Ride happy, ride safe!



West Virginia is one of the world's largest coal producers, so a lot of its history is about coal mining. At Beckley's Exhibition Coal Mine, you can go underground in a former coal mine to see what it was like to be a coal miner.

We also have massive, thick forests that are home to birds and animals and all sorts of plants. Deer, wild turkeys, bears, songbirds, and even rare salamanders live in these forests, which cover almost 80 percent of the state!

Some of the favorite places tourists visit are our state and national parks that have lots of hiking and biking trails and swimming holes. In the winter, the mountains are covered with snow and thousands of people come here to ski, snowboard and snow tube. In the summer, golfing and camping are popular activities.

Visitors also come to learn more about West Virginia's Appalachian culture, which includes music, dancing, storytelling, and fine handcrafts. West Virginians are known for making beautiful quilts, glass, pottery, furniture, and musical instruments.

West Virginia is famous for its coal, which is most often used to create electricity. Many of West Virginia's families have worked in the coal mines or lived in tiny coal towns. People visit to learn about our coal mining history and can even tour a former coal mine!

When you travel in West Virginia, you can learn even more about the state's history and scenery. West Virginians are very friendly and are always glad to have visitors drop in to say hello and share stories.

*West Virginia is a great place to live! What's your favorite thing about living in the Mountain State?*



Pack a snack of "almost heaven"-ly foods! The tasty and portable pepperoni roll was invented in West Virginia. Native brands of salsa, flavored ice pops and potato chips are also produced in the state.

# THREE BRANCHES OF GOVERNMENT

**WEST VIRGINIA'S GOVERNMENT** is divided into three branches — the Executive, the Legislative, and the Judicial — which make up the checks and balances system. This system allows for each branch to maintain an amount of power but not be exceeded by the other two branches.

## WEST VIRGINIA CONSTITUTION



## THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH

**THE FIRST BRANCH** is the executive branch. Its primary function is to carry out or execute the laws made by the Legislature or the Constitution. It also must administer the daily affairs of the state. To help carry out its duties, West Virginia voters elect six key figures:

- The Governor
- The Commissioner of Agriculture
- The Attorney General
- The State Auditor
- The Secretary of State
- The Treasurer

The most well-known figure of these six officials is the governor. The governor is elected by the voters to a four-year term with a maximum of two consecutive terms.

One of the many privileges granted to the governor is the right to address the Legislature in the annual State of the State Address. The address conveys the governor's priorities for the state, as well as his agenda for the

Legislature. He also delivers to the Legislature his proposed budget for the state. The budget is the expected expenditures for the state.

In addition to delivering his State of the State Address, the governor also is given the veto privilege. The governor may use the veto if a piece of legislation does not conform to the administration's philosophy and cannot be modified to complement the long-range plans of the governor. The governor may also extend legislative sessions and call for special sessions if the need arises.

The governor also plays a part in the judicial system as well. He or she can levy fines and penalties and grant reprieves and pardons to persons convicted of certain crimes. The governor is the only state official who is vested with these powers.

The executive branch also oversees state agencies such as the departments of Transportation, Revenue, Health and Human Resources, Administration, and all divisions that fall under the agencies.

## THE LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

**THE LEGISLATIVE BRANCH** is the branch of government that makes the laws. West Virginia's Legislature is a bicameral legislature, meaning there are two houses of the Legislature. Our Legislature is divided into a Senate, with 34 members, and House of Delegates, with 100 members. Senatorial and house districts are arranged according to population. Two senators are elected from each district, with each up for election in alternating years. Members of the Senate serve four year terms, but these terms are staggered, meaning that not all 34 State Senate seats are up every election; some are elected during presidential election years, and some are up during midterm elections. The number of delegates from each district is dependent upon the population from that district. All 100 members of the House of Delegates are up for election every two years.

Each of the two houses has a presiding officer: the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House. Each presiding officer is elected by the majority party of that house.

Also within each house, there are other officers who play key roles in the legislative process. Once the President

and Speaker are elected, those leaders select members for certain roles. The Majority Leader and the Majority Whip promote the majority party's agenda, with the Majority Leader playing a more visible role. If the President or Speaker is unable to chair the floor session, a substitute, known as the Speaker/President Pro Tempore, will act as the presiding officer.

Along with presiding over the floor session, the President and Speaker also selects committee chairs as well as the majority party members of those committees.

The minority party also elects officers to promote their party's agenda. The Minority Leader is elected by the minority party. The Minority Leader also selects a Minority Whip as well as the minority party's membership to the committees.

According to the West Virginia Constitution, the Legislature meets annually for 60 consecutive days commencing on the second Wednesday in January. However, this changes when it is an inaugural year. The year a new governor is inaugurated, the session begins on the second Wednesday in February. It is during these 60 days that proposals or ideas can become law.

## THE JUDICIAL BRANCH

**THE THIRD BRANCH OF GOVERNMENT** is the judicial branch. The judicial branch interprets the laws. The judiciary is made up of courts — supreme, circuit, the magistrate (local) and municipal (city) courts.

The state judges are elected by the citizens rather than being appointed. They also run for their office as members of a political party.

The duties of the judicial branch include:

- Interpreting state laws;
- Settling legal disputes;
- Punishing violators of the law;
- Hearing civil cases;
- Protecting individual rights granted by the state constitution;
- Determining the guilt or innocence of those accused of violating the criminal laws of the state; and,
- Acting as a check upon the legislative and executive branches of state government.

The Supreme Court of Appeals is the highest court in West Virginia and supervises the lower courts. It is composed

of five judges who are elected for twelve-year terms by the voters. The Supreme Court is required to meet twice a year, in January and in September, and may hold special terms when necessary. The Supreme Court has the authority to determine if state laws and actions of state officials, including the governor, are constitutional. Laws and executive orders cannot be enforced if they violate the state constitution.

Most cases brought before the Supreme Court are appeals that have been tried in the circuit or magistrate courts. Once a decision has been made by the Supreme Court, that is the final decision, with the exception of conflicts between state and federal laws, which may be appealed to the United States Supreme Court.

Of the five Supreme Court justices, one is selected to be the chief justice. The selection process is a rotation among the five justices. Each serves as the chief justice for one year. The chief justice's duties include submitting a budget to the Legislature, and according to the state constitution, the Supreme Court will be appropriated for whatever amount it requests. The chief justice also assigns justices to write opinions and decisions of the court.

# FILL IN THE BLANKS

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

West Virginia's state government is divided into the executive branches: The executive, the branch that enforces the laws; the judicial, the branch that interprets the laws; and the legislative, the branch that makes the laws.

West Virginia's Legislature is known as a bicameral legislature, which means there are two bodies - the Senate and the House of Delegates.

West Virginia's Legislature is composed of West Virginia citizens. Lawmakers are elected by the voters in their district, or area, to represent them in the lawmaking process.

The Senate has 34 members which are elected to four-year terms with half of the membership up for election every two years. The House of Delegates is composed of 100 members with all the membership up for election every two years.

Both the Senate and the House have presiding officers. In the Senate, that officer is the President of the Senate, who is first in the line of succession to the Governor's Office. In other words, if for any reason the Governor must resign or becomes unable to fulfill his or her duties, this person would become Governor.

The presiding officer in the House of Delegates is the Speaker of the House, and he/she is second in the line of succession to the Governor's Office. Both of these leaders are elected by the membership of their respective bodies.

In addition to maintaining order during the floor sessions, the Speaker and the President also select the clerk and the majority leader for each of the committees and refer bills to the appropriate committees.

There are other officers who are appointed by either the Speaker or the President. The minority leader and the whip help promote the party's position on issues, however, the majority leader plays a more visible role.

In the event that the Speaker or President is absent, there is an appointed substitute. Their title is Speaker or President pro tempore.

The party with the least number of members is known as the minority party. It has both a leader and a whip who perform the same duties as the Majority Leader and Whip. Both of these leaders are elected by the members of the minority party.

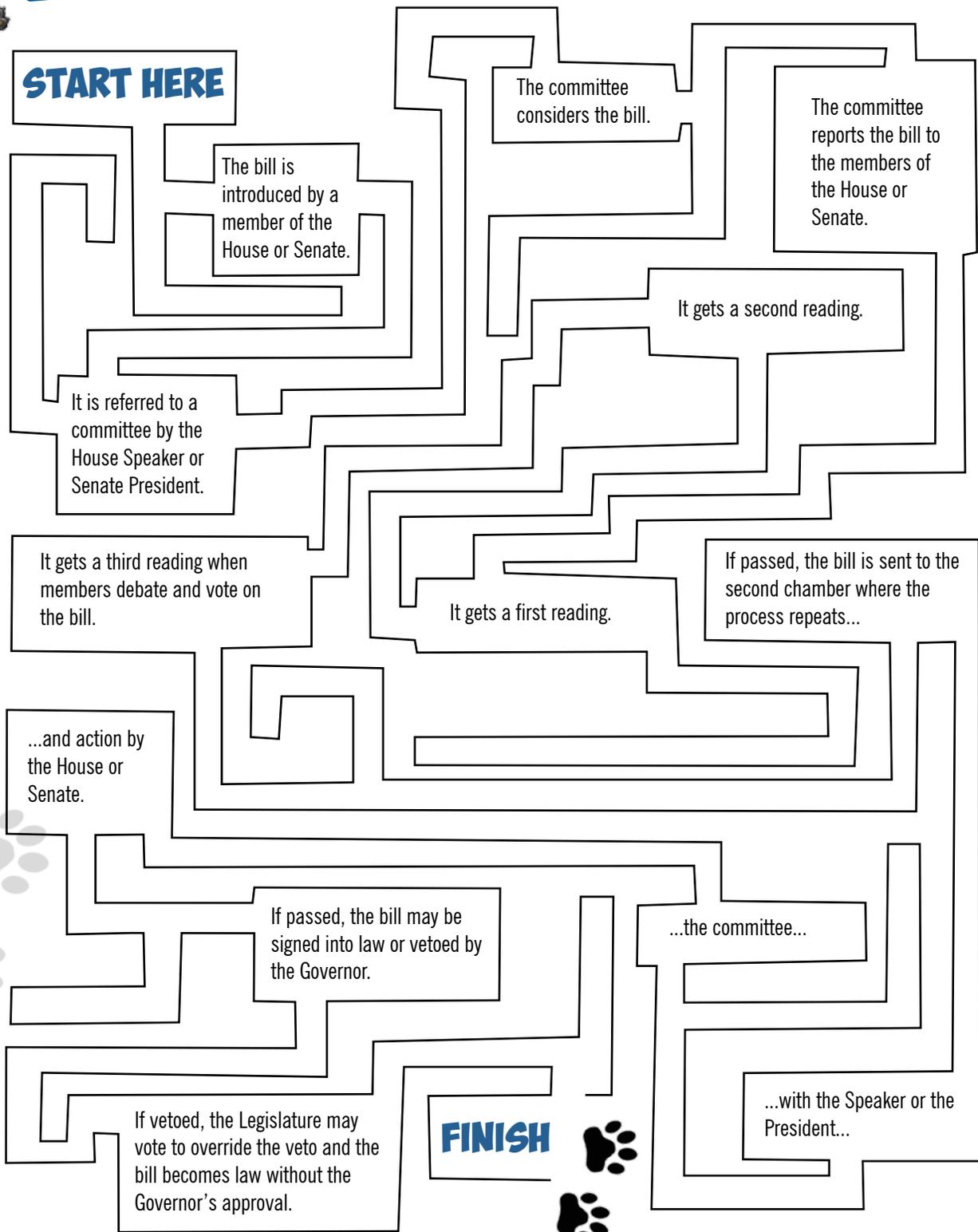
Another officer who is elected by the legislative membership, but is not elected by the voters, is the Clerk, who is the chief administrative officer for either the House or Senate. The Clerk numbers and files the bills for introduction. The Clerk places the bills that are to be introduced on a daily calendar. Both the Senate and House have their own Clerk, with each elected by their respective body.

# HOW A BILL BECOMES LAW



Follow this path to learn how a bill becomes a law.

**START HERE**



**FINISH**



# THE COUNTIES OF WEST VIRGINIA

Barbour  
Berkeley  
Boone  
Braxton  
Brooke  
Cabell  
Calhoun  
Clay  
Doddridge  
Fayette  
Gilmer  
Grant  
Greenbrier  
Hampshire

Hancock  
Hardy  
Harrison  
Jackson  
Jefferson  
Kanawha  
Lewis  
Lincoln  
Logan  
Marion  
Marshall  
Mason  
McDowell

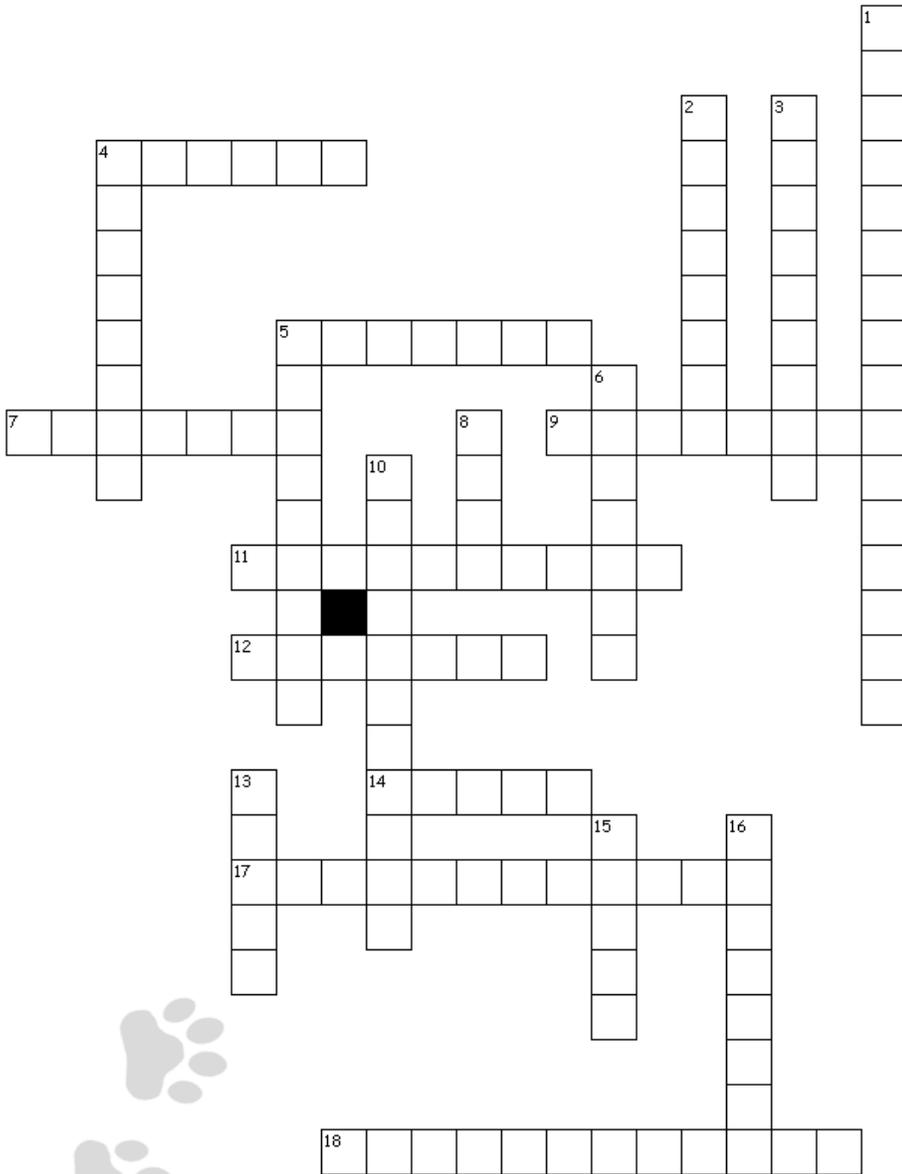
*Can you locate all 55 counties in the Mountain State? Color in your home county!*



Mercer  
Mineral  
Mingo  
Monongalia  
Monroe  
Morgan  
Nicholas  
Ohio  
Pendleton  
Pleasants  
Pocahontas  
Preston  
Putnam  
Raleigh

Randolph  
Ritchie  
Roane  
Summers  
Taylor  
Tucker  
Tyler  
Upshur  
Wayne  
Webster  
Wetzel  
Wirt  
Wood  
Wyoming

# WEST VIRGINIA CROSSWORD



## ACROSS

4. Last name of Senator who submitted West Virginia's petition to be included in the Union
5. West Virginia did this from Virginia
7. Originally proposed state name
9. He is called the "Father of West Virginia"
11. The current capital city
12. Name of West Virginia's first Governor
14. Last name of the man who organized an unsuccessful raid in Harpers Ferry in 1859
17. West Virginia is the \_\_\_\_\_ State
18. West Virginia is the only state formed by this from the President

## DOWN

1. This celebration marks West Virginia's 150th birthday
2. West Virginia was formed during this conflict
3. West Virginia was referred to as the "child of the \_\_\_\_\_"
4. West Virginia's original capital city
5. West Virginia was granted this in 1863
6. President who declared statehood
8. Birth month of West Virginia
10. Hometown of the first Governor
13. During the election of 1861, citizens did this to make West Virginia a new state
15. The last county added to the state in 1895
16. The first battle of the Civil War was fought in this West Virginia town



Can you help me solve this puzzle about the Mountain State?

**EVEN WITH 1.8 MILLION PEOPLE,** West Virginia is still like a small community. We love to tell others about the West Virginians who have become well known outside our borders.

Notable Mountain State natives and residents range from actors to athletes and scholars, inventors, musicians, and holiday founders. These are only a few. For a whole lot more famous West Virginians, please visit Jeff Miller's famous West Virginians page at <http://jeff560.tripod.com/wv-fam.html>.



Brigadier General  
Charles "Chuck" Yeager

- **U.S. Air Force Brigadier General Charles "Chuck" Yeager** – First person to fly faster than the speed of sound, in 1947. He was born in Myra, Lincoln County.

- **Booker T. Washington** – African American educational leader and the first president of Tuskegee Institute. He was raised in Malden, Kanawha County.

- **Mary Lou Retton** – 1984 Olympic Gold Medal winner in gymnastics is from Fairmont, Marion County.

- **Cyrus R. Vance** – U.S. Secretary of State from 1977 to 1980 during the Jimmy Carter administration. He was born in Clarksburg, Harrison County.

- **Homer H. Hickam, Jr.** – Author of "Rocket Boys: A Memoir," the story of his life in the little town of Coalwood, WV, the book that inspired the movie "October Sky."

- **Jerry West** – NBA basketball legend and former star of the Los Angeles Lakers, was born in Cabin Creek, Kanawha County. The silhouette on the NBA logo is West's likeness.

- **Hal Greer** – NBA All-Star for 10 straight seasons and was the first African-American to receive a scholarship at Marshall University. He was born in Huntington.



Pearl S. Buck

- **Pearl S. Buck** – Pulitzer Prize and Nobel Prize winning author of "The Good Earth." She was born in Hillsboro, Pocahontas County.

- **Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson** – born in Clarksburg, Harrison County. One of the Civil War's most famous generals, Jackson was admired by both North and South for his military skill. The Confederate general's boyhood home became the first state 4-H Club Camp in the United States.

- **Don Knotts** – Comedy actor made most famous for his portrayal of Barney Fife on "The Andy Griffith Show" in the 1960s. He won five Emmys for his part on that show. He was born in Morgantown, where a street is named in his honor.

- **Alex Schoenbaum** – Founder of the Shoney's Restaurant chain, one of the largest businesses to originate in West Virginia.

- **Anna Jarvis** – The founder of Mother's Day, which was first officially celebrated at a Methodist church in Grafton and became a national holiday in 1914. She was born in Webster, near Grafton.



Rev. Dr. Leon Sullivan

- **Rev. Dr. Leon Sullivan** – A clergyman and civil rights activist, he developed the Sullivan Principles, a code of conduct for U.S. businesses operating in South Africa. He created the Opportunities Industrialization Centers of America and was the first African American appointed to the General Motors board of directors. He was born in Charleston, where a street now bears his name.

- **Marian McQuade** – The founder of Grandparents' Day, which was first celebrated in West Virginia in 1973. It became a nationally designated day in 1979. She was born in Caperton and lives in Oak Hill.

- **Carter G. Woodson** – Educator, author and the father of Black History Month, was raised in Huntington, Cabell County.



Brad Paisley

- **Brad Paisley** – Country music star and actor, born in Glen Dale.

- **John Forbes Nash, Jr.** – 1994 Nobel Prize winning mathematician, who was the subject of the 1998 biography and 2002 film "A Beautiful Mind." Born and raised in Bluefield, Mercer County.

- **Kathy Mattea** – A country music star with dozens of hits, she was born in South Charleston and grew up in Cross Lanes. She graduated from Nitro High School and attended West Virginia University.



Jennifer Garner

- **Jennifer Garner** – award-winning TV & movie actress and film producer who graduated from George Washington High School in 1990.

- **Robert C. Byrd** – United States Senator from West Virginia. A member of the Democratic Party, Byrd was the longest-serving senator and the longest-serving member in the history of the United States Congress.

- **John Corbett** – "Northern Exposure," "Sex and the City" actor and country music singer who was born in Wheeling. Graduate of Wheeling Central Catholic High School and West Liberty University.

# WHAT WEST VIRGINIA MEANS TO ME



*Use the space below to draw  
a picture of your favorite place or thing to do  
in the Mountain State!*



# WEST VIRGINIA WORD SEARCH

W E L G N L Q G B H T A S H D R I R L D  
 N O I T A M A L C O R P P A E J N E U O  
 O D N C L K H S N G K J I E N W D B N O  
 I D Y A U Q F A T L N D N V U H E E O H  
 U V Z F I Y N U R M O I N W J E P L I E  
 U O J R Q H J Y T P A C B Q Z E E L T T  
 S E S Q U I C E N T E N N I A L N I A A  
 N A M E R O B A N C L R Y I L I D O R T  
 J X P T Z A U U L C I P S A L N E N B S  
 J O H N B R O W N A N V W F M G N M E L  
 F V K V X M Q T X O P E I G E I C C L L  
 N O I S S E C E S F N P Q L Q R E Q E U  
 B I R T H D A Y C O E O A T W G R X C D  
 T H X X M D L L T N E Y D B X A X Y C D  
 I D H Z T K E S Q A A G Y T Z A R Q X H

*Help me search this puzzle for these "West Virginia" words.*



APPALACHIAN  
 BIRTHDAY  
 BOREMAN  
 CELEBRATION  
 CIVIL WAR  
 HARPERS FERRY

INDEPENDENCE  
 JOHN BROWN  
 JUNE  
 LINCOLN  
 MOUNTAINEER  
 PROCLAMATION

REBELLION  
 SECESSION  
 SESQUICENTENNIAL  
 STATEHOOD  
 STONEWALL  
 WHEELING



# VISIT OUR STATE MUSEUM

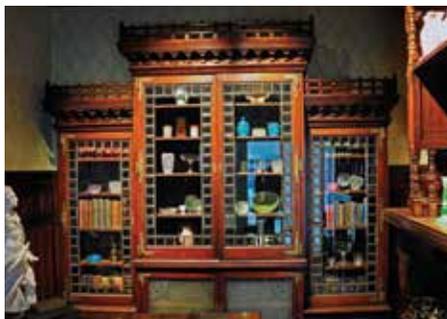
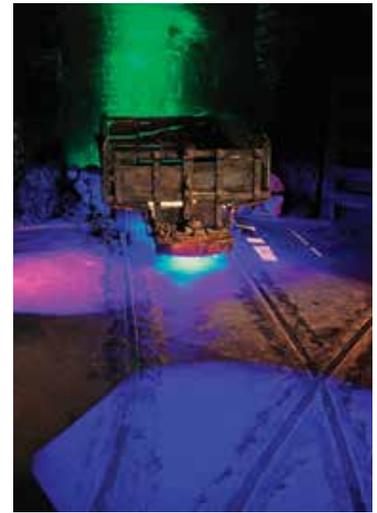


**EXPLORE THE MOUNTAIN STATE'S** rich history and cultural heritage at the West Virginia State Museum, located in the lower level of the Culture Center at the State Capitol Complex.

Opened in June 2009, the 24,000-square-foot state-of-the-art museum details the history of the Mountain State through a walk-through exhibit experience focusing on the hills and valleys, people, and places that define the culture and history of West Virginia. Visitors follow a show path through time, starting with a trek through a prehistoric forest. The museum uses themed settings to highlight pivotal moments in the state's history. Full surround sound, dynamic theatrical lighting, and narration set the tone for a unique experience that makes visitors feel like part of the action. Following the path takes visitors on chronological progression through West Virginia's birth as a state during the Civil War into the present.

Along the self-guided tour, discovery rooms offer opportunities to learn more about the history of West Virginia. These rooms feature artifacts, works of art, stories, music, and film clips. Visitors can step inside a re-created coal mine or tour a homestead cabin. Connections rooms, equipped with computer stations, provide facts about additional topics related to the show path and discovery rooms. A library of books by and about West Virginians also gives visitors the opportunity to further explore the lives and places that make the Mountain State distinctive.

Admission to the museum is free. Hours of operation are: Tuesday through Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sunday, noon to 5 p.m. (closed on Mondays and some holidays). For more information, visit [www.wvculture.org](http://www.wvculture.org), or call the Culture Center at 304-558-0220.



# STATE FLAG AND PLEDGE



Show me how well you can color the flag and state seal!



*"I pledge allegiance to the flag of West Virginia, which serves as a constant reminder that **Mountaineers are always free**, which stands as a symbol of her majestic mountains, fertile forests, rich veins of coal, and the pride of her people."*



**BY SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NUMBER 18**, approved by the Legislature March 7, 1929, West Virginia adopted the present State Flag. The resolution in part is as follows: "That the Legislature of West Virginia hereby adopts a State Flag of the following design and proportions, to-wit:

The proportions of the flag of the State of West Virginia shall be the same as those of the United States ensign; the field shall be pure white, upon the center of which shall be emblazoned in proper colors, the coat-of arms of the State of West Virginia upon which appears the date of the admission of the State into the Union, also with the motto, *Montani Semper Liberi*

(Mountaineers Are Always Free). Above the coat-of-arms of the State of West Virginia there shall be a ribbon lettered, 'State of West Virginia,' and arranged appropriately around the lower part of the coat-of-arms of the State of West Virginia a wreath of Rhododendron maximum in proper colors. The field of pure white shall be bordered by a strip of blue on four sides. The flag of the State of West Virginia when used for parade purposes shall be trimmed with gold colored fringe on three sides and when used on ceremonial occasions with the United States ensign, shall be trimmed and mounted in similar fashion to the United States flag as regards fringe, cord, tassels, and mounting."

# STATE SEAL AND STATE QUARTER



**JOSEPH H. DISS DEBAR**, an artist from Doddridge County, designed the Official Seal of West Virginia in 1863. The seal contains the Latin motto, *Montani Semper Liberi*, which means “Mountaineers Are Always Free.”

A large stone in the center of the seal stands for strength. On the stone is the date West Virginia became a state, June 20, 1863. The farmer with an ax represents agriculture, and the miner holding his pick represents industry. In front of the rock are two rifles crossed over the Phrygian cap, or cap of liberty. The cap and rifles symbolize the fight for freedom and liberty.

The reverse side is the Governor’s Official Seal. It depicts laurel and oak leaves, a log house, hills, factories, and boats.

**THE FIFTH AND FINAL QUARTER** released by the U.S. Mint in 2005 commemorates the State of West Virginia. On June 20, 1863, the Mountain State became the 35th state admitted into the Union, making this the 35th coin to be issued in the United States Mint’s 50 State Quarters® Program.

This coin captures the scenic beauty of West Virginia with its depiction of the New River and the New River Gorge Bridge. The coin bears the inscription “New River Gorge.”

The design chosen to represent West Virginia combines the natural physical beauty of the state and the triumph of the human intellect



exemplified by the engineering wonder that is the New River Gorge Bridge. At 3,030 feet long, 69 feet wide and 876 feet high, the bridge is the world’s second-largest single-span arch bridge and the second-highest bridge in the United States, rising above the New River Gorge in southern West Virginia. In 1978, 53 miles of the New River were added to the National Park Service as the New River Gorge National River.

# STATE FACTS



## STATE BIRD: NORTHERN CARDINAL

The **Northern Cardinal**, or *Cardinalis cardinalis*, became West Virginia's official bird in 1949. The male is a deep, bright red with a black mask, while the female and young have a lighter tint. The cardinal is about eight inches long and can be found from New York to the Gulf of Mexico and as far west as Oklahoma.

## STATE DAY: JUNE 20

West Virginia was proclaimed a state in 1863. "**West Virginia Day**" became a legal holiday in 1927.

## STATE ANIMAL: BLACK BEAR

In West Virginia, the **Black Bear**, or *Ursus americanus*, is found mostly in the eastern mountains but they roam freely in 36 states and Canada. Black bears may have black, tan, and brown or even white fur. Usually, one or two cubs are born at a time and weigh about eight ounces. An adult black bear can weigh up to 250 pounds.

## OFFICIAL STATE TARTAN

The Legislature adopted the "**West Virginia Shawl**" as the official state tartan. The pattern for the tartan is based on a "West Virginia Shawl" found at the Daughters of the American Revolution Museum in Barboursville:

- Scarlet for the cardinal
- Yellow for the fall colors
- Blue for the rivers and lakes
- Black for the black bear, and the state's oil and coal resources
- Green for the rhododendron, and the state's meadows
- Azure for the sky
- White in order to include all the colors of the United States



## STATE BUTTERFLY: MONARCH BUTTERFLY

The **Monarch Butterfly** was designated West Virginia's official state butterfly in 1995. As a caterpillar, the orange and black insect dines on milkweed; as a butterfly, it sips nectar from flowers; and, at summer's end, it migrates to Mexico. The butterflies you see in the spring are the great-grandchildren of the ones that lived in Mexico during the winter.

## STATE INSECT: HONEYBEE

The **Honeybee** became West Virginia's official state insect in 2002. In addition to its flavorful honey, the honeybee pollinates many of the state's most important crops including fruits, vegetables, and grasses. Its activity produces more benefit to the state's economy than any other insect. The honeybee has six legs, four wings, and is dark yellow to gold with three dark bands on its abdomen.



## STATE FISH: BROOK TROUT

Anglers enjoy fishing for the **Brook Trout**, a fish that is native to West Virginia, because it puts up an excellent fight for its size. It thrives in small, cold, spring-fed streams. The brook trout is olive green with lighter sides and a reddish belly (in males). It has light-colored edges on the lower fins. It became the state fish in 1973.

# STATE FACTS



## STATE TREE: SUGAR MAPLE

The **Sugar Maple**, or *Acer saccharum*, became West Virginia's official tree in 1949. Its wood is excellent for furniture, and maple syrup is produced from its sap. Sugar maples grow 70-120 feet high and have a five-lobed leaf and a small wing-shaped seed pod. In the fall, the leaves turn brilliant colors.



## STATE FRUIT: GOLDEN DELICIOUS APPLE

The **Golden Delicious apple** was designated the official state fruit in 1995. Anderson Mullins discovered this apple variety in Clay County in 1905. The plain apple had been previously designated as the official state fruit.



## STATE FLOWER: RHODODENDRON

The **Rhododendron maximum**, or "Big Laurel," became the state flower of West Virginia in 1903. It is a shrub with large, dark evergreen leaves and delicate pale pink or white blooms with red or yellow specks.

## STATE GEM: LITHOSTROTIONELLA

The State Gem is technically not a gemstone, but rather the silicified Mississippian Fossil Coral, **Lithostrotionella**, preserved as the siliceous mineral chalcedony. Designated by House Concurrent Resolution March 10, 1990. It is found in Hillsdale Limestone in portions of Greenbrier and Pocahontas counties and is often cut and polished for jewelry and display.



## STATE ROCK: BITUMINOUS COAL

Formed from fossilized plant matter in tropical conditions, **bituminous coal** became the official state rock of West Virginia in 2009. Of the four main types of coal, bituminous is the most abundant. In fact, deposits from this type of coal can be found in a majority of the state's 55 counties. Typically black but sometimes brown, this soft coal burns with a smoky yellow flame. It is primarily used to generate electricity and make coke for the steel industry.

## STATE SOIL: MONONGAHELA SILT LOAM

The state soil is **Monongahela Silt Loam**, adopted on April 2, 1997, making West Virginia the 12th state to have an official state soil. Monongahela soils occur on more than 100,000 acres in 45 counties in West Virginia. The name "Monongahela" is derived from a Native American word meaning "high banks or bluffs, breaking off and falling down in places."

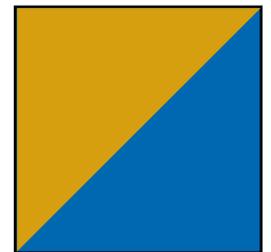
## STATE NICKNAME

The Mountain State

## STATE SONGS

The Legislature adopted the following three official state songs on February 28, 1963:

**The West Virginia Hills**, words and music by Ellen King and H.E. Engle;  
**This is My West Virginia**, by Iris Bell;  
and **West Virginia, My Home Sweet Home**, by Julian G. Hearne, Jr.



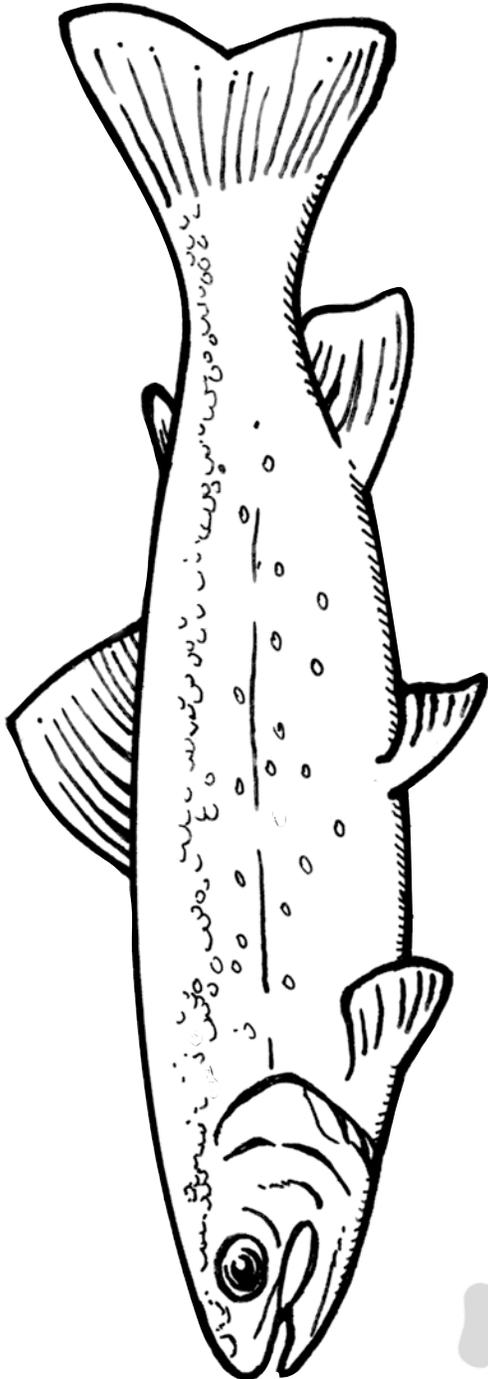
## OFFICIAL COLORS: OLD GOLD AND BLUE

**Old Gold** and **Blue** were designated as official state colors adopted by the Legislature on March 8, 1963.

# FUN WITH STATE FACTS



Color the brook trout and the monarch butterfly, and then show off the state facts you have learned by matching the items in the blue column to those in the gold column.



**NORTHERN CARDINAL**

**BLACK BEAR**

**LITHOSTROTIONELLA**

**SUGAR MAPLE**

**BIG LAUREL**

**BROOK TROUT**

**MONARCH BUTTERFLY**

**HONEYBEE**

**URSUS AMERICANUS**

**STATE FISH**

**RHODODENDRON MAXIMUM**

**STATE INSECT**

**STATE BUTTERFLY**

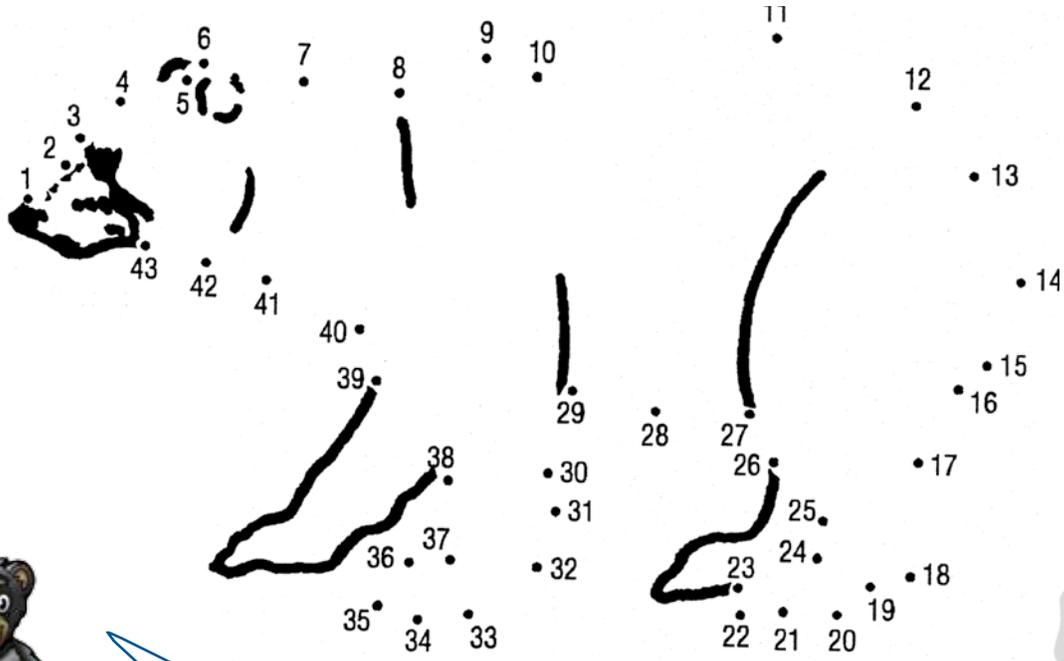
**ACER SACCHARUM**

**STATE GEM**

**CARDINALIS CARDINALIS**



# FUN WITH STATE FACTS



*Have fun connecting the dots to reveal our state animal and bird!*

**COUNTIES**

**1863**

**POPULATION**

**4,861  
FEET**

**STATEHOOD**

**3,030  
FEET**

**HIGHEST POINT**

**1.8  
MILLION**

**LOWEST POINT**

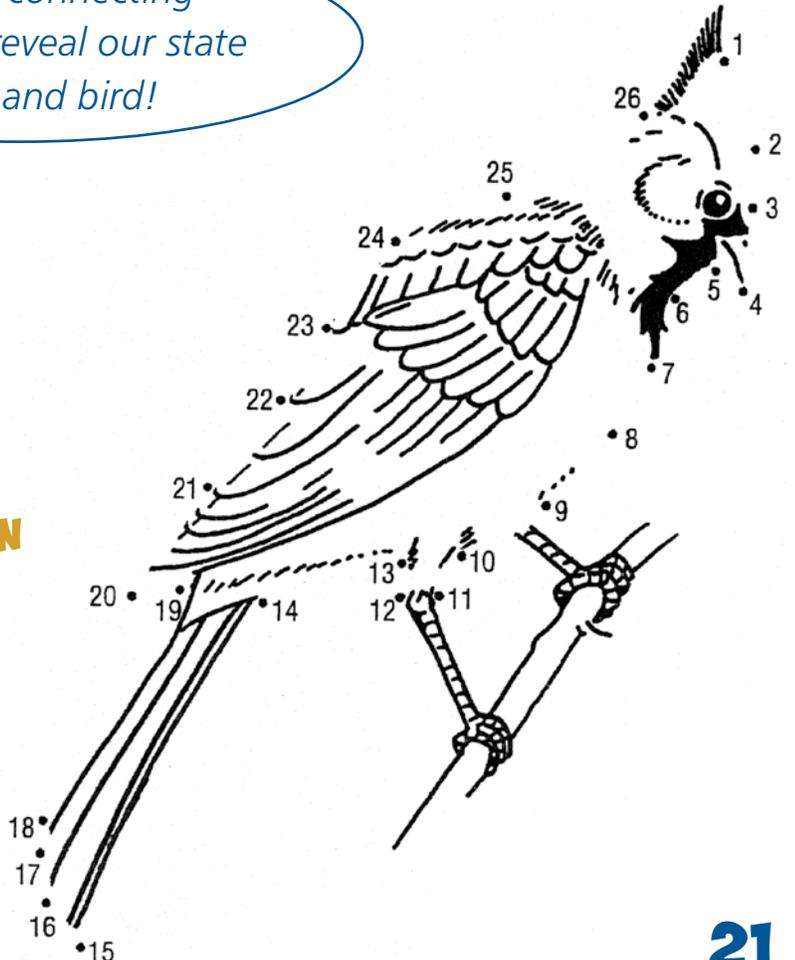
**80%**

**FOREST COVERAGE**

**55**

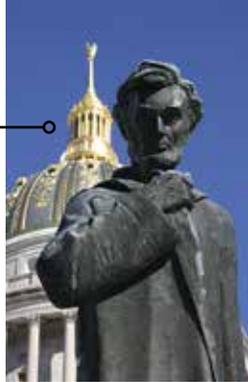
**LENGTH OF  
NEW RIVER GORGE  
BRIDGE**

**247  
FEET**



## DID YOU KNOW?

- West Virginia became a state on June 20, 1863. West Virginia had separated from Virginia during the Civil War and President Abraham Lincoln signed the proclamation making it its own state. It is the only state formed by presidential proclamation.



- West Virginia is known for its coal mining, natural gas, and massive forests. A lot of the state's history is related to the coal, natural gas, and timber industries.

- West Virginia's agriculture industry includes apples, poultry, beef, and pork.

- Nearly 80 percent of West Virginia is covered by forest, making it the third most-forested state in the nation.



- Today, tourism is one of the state's leading industries. West Virginia has world-famous whitewater rafting and tourists enjoy many of the state's outdoor activities, such as skiing, hiking, biking, fishing, and rock climbing.

- Many people travel to West Virginia to learn about its history and culture. Tourists often visit Civil War battlefields and watch crafters make glass and other handmade items such as quilts and baskets.



- West Virginia has many public and private colleges and universities. The two largest universities are West Virginia University in Morgantown and Marshall University in Huntington. WVU's mascot is the Mountaineer and Marshall's is the Thundering Herd.

- West Virginia's Capitol is one of the largest in the country and was designed by Cass Gilbert, a famous architect who also designed the U.S. Supreme Court building. The gold-covered dome is higher than the U.S. Capitol.



- The U.S. Congress in 1908 recognized Point Pleasant as the site of the first battle of the American Revolution, Oct. 10, 1774.
- The first land battle of the Civil War happened in Philippi in June 1861.
- Many historians believe abolitionist John Brown's 1859 raid on Harpers Ferry led to the start of the Civil War. Brown tried to arm a slave uprising by taking over the federal arsenal here.
- Meriwether Lewis in 1803 gathered guns and supplies at the U.S. Armory and Arsenal at Harpers Ferry. The rifles, accessories, and "Indian Presents" obtained at Harpers Ferry were crucial to the success of the famous Lewis and Clark expedition.
- The world-famous Greenbrier Resort in White Sulphur Springs was used as a U.S. Army hospital during World War II.
- The Adena Indian burial mound in Moundsville is the largest conical type of any of the mound builder structures. Grave Creek Mound is 295 feet in diameter, 69 feet high, and almost 2,000 years old.
- Minnie Buckingham Harper of Keystone was appointed to the West Virginia House of Delegates in 1928 to fill the unexpired term of her late husband. She was the first African-American woman to become a member of a legislative body in the United States.
- The New River is a strange name because the river is actually considered by geologists to be among the oldest rivers in the world.
- The Wheeling Suspension Bridge, which was completed in 1849, is the oldest vehicular suspension bridge in the United States still in use.

# DID YOU KNOW?

- James Rumsey was an innkeeper in Berkeley Springs and the inventor of the steamboat. George Washington endorsed his design in 1784 and he had a successful public demonstration of it on the Potomac River in Shepherdstown in 1787.
- The New River Gorge Bridge in Fayetteville is 3,030-feet long and is the world's second-longest single-span arch bridge. At 876 feet above the New River, it is the second-highest bridge in the United States.
- Spruce Knob, at 4,861 feet above sea level, is the highest point in the state. Harpers Ferry, at 247 feet above sea level, is the lowest.
- West Virginia is the highest average elevated state east of the Mississippi River. Because of its mountains, West Virginia is sometimes called "the Switzerland of America."
- West Virginia is the only state entirely within the Appalachian Mountains.
- Berkeley Springs was originally called Bath and is known as the country's first spa. A young George Washington surveyed the area and bathed in its warm, mineral waters.
- In 1911, West Virginia led the nation with more than 3,000 miles of logging railroad line. All is gone now, except for the 11 miles at Cass Scenic Railroad State Park, where visitors can take rides on restored steam trains that used to haul lumber, just as it was in the early 1900s.
- West Virginia's first capital city was in Wheeling in the far northern part of the state. It was moved to Charleston, then back to Wheeling, and then back to Charleston where it remains today.



- West Virginia's first oil well was drilled at Burning Springs in May 1860. Early explorers discovered oil and natural gas and in 1771 George Washington bought 250 acres in West Virginia because it contained an oil and gas spring.
- There are three national parks and three national forests in West Virginia. They include the New River Gorge National River, Harpers Ferry National Historical Park, and the Monongahela National Forest.
- In the 2000 Census, West Virginia's population was 1.8 million. The largest city is Charleston, with a population of 53,000.
- The first organized golf club in America, Oakhurst Links, was formed in White Sulphur Springs in 1884.
- The first brick street paving in the United States was laid in Charleston on Summers Street in 1870. The method of laying the pavement was patented by Mr. M. Levi, a Charlestonian.
- The legend of John Henry originates in Talcott, where the C&O Railroad's Big Bend Tunnel was built between 1870-1872. A U.S. postage stamp, as well as an eight-foot bronze statue and an annual festival celebrate the legacy of "The Steel Drivin' Man" who beat a steam-powered machine in drilling the rock to carve the tunnel.
- West Virginia has more than 50 of the country's finest state parks, forests, and wildlife management areas that attract tourists from across the United States and Canada.

## STATE SONG

### "THE WEST VIRGINIA HILLS"

Written by Ellen King and H.E. Engle

Oh, the West Virginia hills!  
How majestic and how grand.  
With their summits bathed in glory,  
Like our Prince Immanuel's land!  
Is it any wonder then,  
That my heart with rapture thrills,  
As I stand once more with loved ones  
On those West Virginia hills!



O the hills, Beautiful hills,  
How I love those West Virginia hills.  
If o'er sea or land I roam  
Still I think of happy home.  
And the friends among the West Virginia Hills.

Sing out loud for  
West Virginia!



### "TAKE ME HOME, COUNTRY ROADS"

Written by Bill Danoff, Taffy Nivert and John Denver

Almost heaven, West Virginia,  
Blue Ridge Mountains, Shenandoah River  
Life is old there, older than the trees  
Younger than the mountains, blowin' like a breeze.

*Chorus:* Country Roads, take me home  
To the place I belong  
West Virginia, mountain momma,  
Take me home, country roads.

All my memories gather round her  
Miner's lady, stranger to blue water  
Dark and dusty, painted on the sky  
Misty taste of moonshine, teardrop in my eyes.

*Chorus*

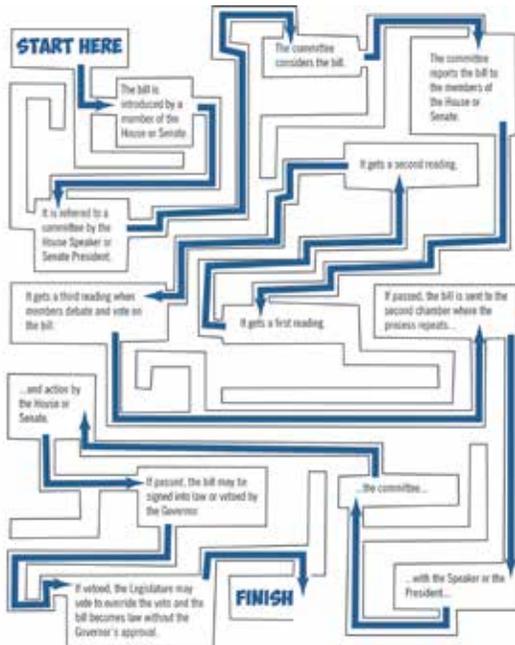
I hear her voice in the mornin' hours she calls me,  
The radio reminds me of my home far away  
And drivin' down the road I get a  
Feelin' that I should've been home yesterday, yesterday

*Chorus*

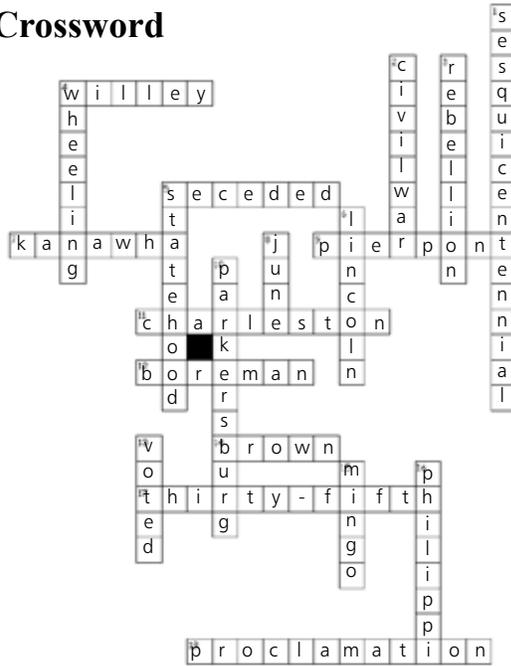
## Fill-In-The-Blank

1. three
2. executive
3. judicial
4. legislative
5. bicameral
6. Senate
7. House of Delegates
8. Senate President
9. Speaker of the House
10. chairs
11. members
12. Majority Leader
13. Majority Whip
14. pro tempore
15. minority party
16. Clerk

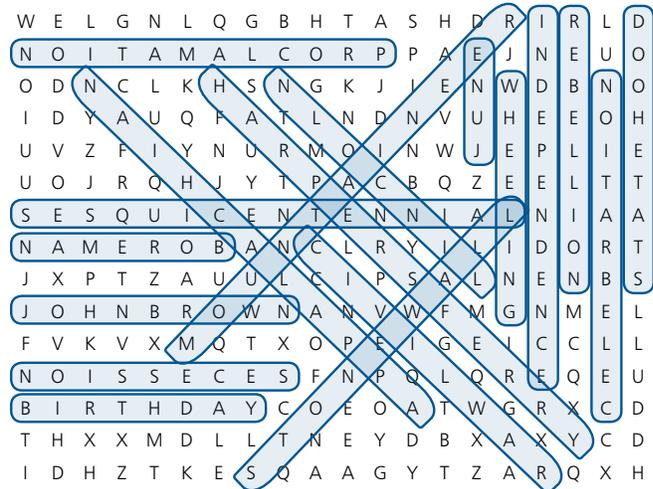
## Bill Maze



## Crossword



## Word Search



## Counties



# THIS BOOK BELONGS TO

**NAME:**

**CITY:**

**COUNTY:**



Happy 150th  
West Virginia!



150



West Virginia  
1863-2013

Visit  
[wv150.com](http://wv150.com)