



## ***RGS GOVERNOR'S RACE 2014***

### **FEDERALIST**



Federalist candidates for 2014 RGS Governor include: (front) Samantha Buffy, Monongalia; Shayla Klein, Monroe; Theresa Smith, Upshur; Carlie McCoy, Lewis; (back) Isabella Malone, Northern Panhandle; Megan Frampton, Calhoun; Taylor Toothman, Monongalia; E. Jordan Ammons, Upshur; and Bonnie Walton, Monongalia.



Nationalist candidates for 2014 RGS Governor include: (front) Lydia Wade, Kanawha; Marissa Bailey, Kanawha; Madison Slusher, Calhoun; Vanessa Anderson, Monongalia; (back) Caitlin May, Northern Panhandle; Bre Staunton, Monroe; Aubrey Lewis, Marion; Katherine Friday, Webster; and Perry McGhee, Lewis.

### **NATIONALIST**





Joy Gibson, Girls State's nurse for the week, ensures Isabella Preston's heart is still beating. She assured those in the Rhododendron Daily office she was good to work another 48 hours straight. (Just kidding, it's only 47!)

## Today's Nursing Technology & Leadership

*By Sarah Smith, Lewis*

Here at Rhododendron Girls State, everyone on staff volunteers their time to ensure the safety and growth of the attendees.

One of the most important and often overlooked members of that staff is Joy Gibson, who is the acting nurse.

Gibson has worked as a nurse for roughly 44 years, but was not involved in the RGS program until 10 years ago when a co-worker of hers was unable to attend.

Gibson filled the position and has been the Girls State nurse ever since.

Each year, she sees about 20 to 30 patients, treating everything from minor scrapes to the flu.

She highly recommends a career in nursing to students attending Girls State.

Gibson says that nursing today includes working with technology and opportunities for leadership.

"They need good nurses," said Gibson.

## *Inauguration art contest open to all RGS citizens*



All citizens are invited to enter the art contest for the cover of the Inaugural Program, which will be used Thursday, June 12, during Inauguration ceremonies.

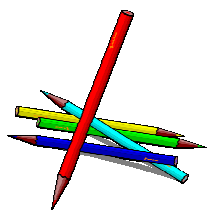
Sue Brown and Jill Robbins will organize the Inaugural Ceremonies and award a prize to the designer of the winning cover.

The slogan this year will be American Legion Auxiliary - "Forever on our Minds, Always in our Hearts!"

Deadline for turning in entries is Wednesday, June 11, at noon. Those entering the contest may submit their entry to the Rhododendron Daily staff in Ignatius Hall.

Please remember to sign all artwork before submission. Entries drawn on lined paper will not be considered. Participants are also reminded to refrain from using pencil.

Entries must include the slogan in the design and art should be the created based on the designer's interpretation of this years slogan.



## *Open for Business*

*By Zoe Thompson, Monroe*

Rhododendron Girls State Country Stores are located near all dorm locations.

Mrs. Nancy Plants, who manages all the country stores and can be found in the Ignatius store, has been a volunteer for close to 10 years.

Items most commonly bought are beverages and shorts.

The Country Stores are provided to the citizens for refreshments and campaigning.

Clothing items, such as shorts, shirts, and hoodies, are sold as well as snacks.

Forgot your toothbrush? You

can easily purchase one at the Country Store.

Plants said that a citizen should ask her Senior Counselor or a member of the Staff, if they need an item not sold at the stores.



**Nancy Plants, Country Store Manager**



## Confidence & Magnanimity

# *Natalie Tennant shares insight with RGS*

*By Jillian Kinder, Randolph & Grace Skidmore, Calhoun*

Secretary of State Natalie Tennant addressed the citizens of Rhododendron Girls State (RGS) on June 9<sup>th</sup> during lunch in the Benedum Room.

In her speech, Tennant introduced her message with personal anecdotes, detailing her childhood and her start in politics.

She credits her first inspiration to enter politics to her older sister, who was the first female Student Body President of Fairview High School in Marion County.

This shaped her ambition and showed her determination when, after losing three elections, she won Student Body President in her senior year at North Marion High School (the product of a consolidation of high schools in the area).

Continuing in her theme of confidence and magnanimity, she reinforced the idea that “failures are just as important as victories.”

She urged the citizen of RGS to “have grace in defeat and humility in victory.” Additionally, she quoted Roger Babson in her speech, saying, “Neither success nor failure is ever final,” to reinforce the idea that “[people] gain confidence from ups and downs in life.”

Tennant took a few minutes out of her schedule to speak with the Rhododendron Daily reporters before her speech.

She spoke about her early career in broadcast journalism, which led to her career as a news anchor for 12 years. During this time, she covered election results.

“When I announced the election results every year, I was inspired to become a part of history. I remembered running for office in high school, and the confidence I gained from that experience.”

As the first honorary citizen of Girls State, she also dis-



Grace Skidmore, Calhoun, and Jillian Kinder, Randolph, took a moment Monday, June 19 to interview West Virginia Secretary of State Natalie Tennant.

cussed how the philosophy of the organization can assist young women in achieving their goals.

“I think it’s so important; you gain confidence when you’re around the best of the best. It’s a good way to network throughout the

state.

Getting involved and learning about the process can form valuable friendships and enhance any experience.”

Tennant is currently running for a seat in the United States Senate.

## *2014 Rhododendron Girls State Election Officials*

**Braxton:** Commissioners: Josie Kemper-N, Emily Newton-F, Erica Tracewell-N, Sydney Pander-F; Poll Clerks: Anna Ritchie-N and Allison Grimm-F

**Calhoun:** Commissioners: Madison Slusher-N, Willow Hammond-F, Jess McLain-N, Michelle Joseph-F; Poll Clerks: Alex Schaffer-N, Hannah Hall-F

**Kanawha:** Commissioners: Hannah Burkhardt-N, Kristi Berardi-F, Olivia Ooten-F; Poll Clerks-**TBA**

**Lewis:** Commissioners: Kenadee Kleech-N, Hailey Bittinger-N, Baylee Abbott-F; Poll Clerks: Callie Riggs-N, Karlie Hamrick-F

**Marion:** Commissioners: Bridgette Jarrett-N, Liz Adams-F, Bryanna Munoz-N; Poll Clerks: Adriana Thomas-N, Sarah Cox-F

**Monongalia:** Commissioners: Cheryl Romine-N, Jessica Davis-F, Jillien Wiseman-N, Alexis Spell-N; Poll Clerks: Viola Donegia-N, Andrea Pettit-F

**Monroe:** Commissioners: Elizabeth Goets-N, Shayla Klein-F, Olivia Wilson-N; Poll Clerks: Olivia Richardson-N, Anna Crogan-F

**Northern Panhandle:** Commissioners: Lauren Welsh-N, Kristen Strawder-F, Taylor Cox-N, Elizabeth Mearns-F; Poll

Clerks: Carli Harlan-N, Desiree King-F

**Randolph:** Commissioners: Mary Lamp-N, Skylar Foster-F, Lindsay Peters-F, McKenzie Dean-N; Poll Clerks: Brittaney Graham-N, Audrey Eisenmann-F

**Upshur:** Commissioners: Kayla Simon-N, Heidi Ha-F, Theresa Smith-F; Poll Clerks: Calandra Olenick-N, Mikinna Poling-F

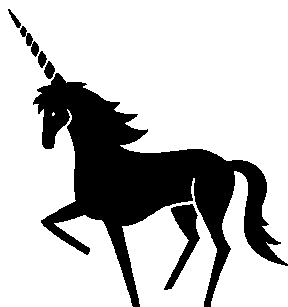
**Webster:** Commissioners: Hannah Eller-N, Kaylee Burdette-F, Mackenzie Yeater-N; Poll Clerks: Shelby McCracken-N, Amanda Young-F

## Party Leaders

### Federalist

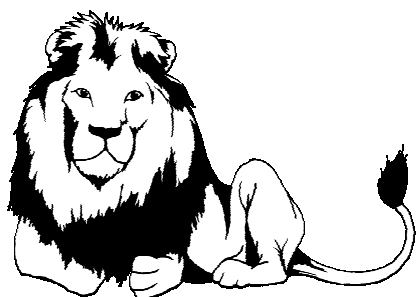
Platform: "Confidence"

Slogan: "Support Your Girls State Girls"



### Nationalist

Platform: "Adoption Costs, Rights & Regulations"



Slogan: "Be the Splash That Creates the Ripple"

Theme: Ripple Effect

## *Don't forget to order photos*

Girls State citizens have the opportunity to order photos from throughout their week at RGS.

From community or party pictures, to parade or Inauguration photos, a variety of shots are available for purchase at: [www.p.wvgirlsstate.org](http://www.p.wvgirlsstate.org)

Prices for group photos including Party, Community and Inauguration are 4x6 = \$6.00; 5x7 = \$8.00; 8x10 = \$12.00; Digital Download = \$35.00.

Larger images are also available.

Candid photo prices are 3.5x5 = \$2.00; 4x6 = \$2.00; 5x7 = \$3.00; 8x10 = \$4.00; Digital Download = \$5.00.

Anyone with questions on the site may speak with Director Michelle Sirbaugh or Rontina McCann.



## Primary Election Candidates

### GOVERNOR

**Federalist:** Megan Frampton, Calhoun; Bonnie Leigh Walton, Monongalia; Taylor Toothman, Monongalia; Shayla Klein, Monroe; Isabella Malone, Northern Panhandle; Theresa Smith, Upshur; Samantha Buffey, Monongalia; Carlie McCoy, Lewis; Jordan Ammons, Upshur.

**Nationalist:** Emily Duncan, Monongalia; Aubrey Lewis, Marion; Bre'ana Staunton, Monroe; Perry McGhee, Lewis; Vanessa Anderson, Monongalia; Madison Slusher, Calhoun; Marissa Bailey, Kanawha; Lydia Wade, Kanawha; Caitlyn May, Northern Panhandle; Katie Friday, Webster

### SECRETARY OF STATE

**Federalist:** Hana Ulman, Monongalia; Keri Shetler, Lewis; Peyton Panger, Calhoun

**Nationalist:** Emma Harrison, Upshur; Lexi Demasters, Randolph; Haley Shanholtz, Calhoun; Eve Barnhart, Calhoun

### AUDITOR

**Federalist:** Sarah Appel, Calhoun; Marion Emerson, Marion

**Nationalist:** Kathryn Quillen, Webster; Megan Russell, Calhoun

### TREASURER

**Federalist:** Andrea Pettit, Monongalia; Kayla Delorenzo, Kanawha

**Nationalist:** Maggie France, Calhoun; Anne Wilson, Kanawha

### COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE

**Federalist:** Mikinna Poling, Upshur, Allyson Royston, Monroe; Hannah Vincent, Kanawha

**Nationalist:** Hailey Bittinger, Lewis; Hannah Dodson, Calhoun; Taylor Stewart, Webster

### ATTORNEY GENERAL

**Federalist:** Ashley Nicole Bruner, Lewis; Taylor Saurborn, Webster; Sloane Miller, Randolph

**Nationalist:** Lauren Dea Harrison, Calhoun

### JUSTICE OF SUPREME COURT

**Federalist:** Victoria Anderson, Kanawha; Courtney Jack, Webster; Anna Crogan, Monroe; Skylah Haight, Randolph; Sarah Cox, Marion; Liz Adams, Marion; Alyssa Al-lowatt, Lewis

**Nationalist:** Bridgette Jarrett, Marion; Genna Liu, Lewis; Natalia L. Buczek, Marion; Mackenzie Bosley, Upshur; Jillian Kinder, Randolph; Gabrielle Hersey, Kanawha; Jana El-Khatiho

## *Read The Daily online*

Read the Rhododendron Daily online at [www.wvgirlsstate.org](http://www.wvgirlsstate.org)

Keep in touch with your friends and the program on:

Twitter: [t.wvgirlsstate.org](https://twitter.com/t.wvgirlsstate.org)

Facebook: [f.wvgirlsstate.org](https://facebook.com/f.wvgirlsstate.org)

Order Photos: [p.wvgirlsstate.org](https://p.wvgirlsstate.org)

## Politics, Culture, Social Learning

# *Girls Nation Senators report*

By Haley Yeomans, Webster

Girls Nation is a once-in-a-lifetime experience for "senators" from 49 of the 50 states to meet and to learn about the United States Federal Government.

West Virginia Girls State was privileged to be represented by Ava Tennant and Tristan Quinones this past year (2013) at Girls Nation in Washington DC.

During the week-long seminar, Senator Tennant and Senator Quinones were able to build personal relationships with aspiring young women from all over the country.

The elite group of 98 state "senators" participated in mock senate sessions and elections as well as visited national monuments and other sites around the Washington DC area.

Some of the sites included the Ar-

lington National Cemetery, Capitol Hill, the Pentagon Memorial, and the botanical gardens.

Also, they were given the humbling opportunity to visit with wounded warriors at the Walter Reed National Military Medical Center.

Both Tennant and Quinones commented that visiting the veterans was specifically touching experience.

They were able to meet both West Virginia Senators, Manchin and Rockefeller.

Finally, both Girls Nation and Boys Nations were privileged with touring the White House and hearing President Obama speak.

All in all, Girls Nation is a week filled with political, cultural, and social learning.

It emphasized the crucial role



**GIRLS NATION SENATORS - Ava Tennant and Tristan Quinones**

women play and will play in leadership of today and tomorrow.

## *Honorary Junior ALA President inspires RGS*

By Christen Mangano, Webster

Carlie McCoy the American Legion Auxiliary Honorary Junior President, gave a very inspirational speech on the importance of helping veterans and how to get involved in the community.

McCoy shared her experiences of her volunteer work through the American Legion.

McCoy played a large role in the many projects run by the American Legion including making Christmas ornaments, planting flowers, and cleaning up yards all for veterans.

One of the most important things done by McCoy and the American Legion Junior Auxiliary is simply spending time with veterans.

McCoy not only performs

volunteer work but also promotes it.

She recommends joining the American Legion Junior Auxiliary, volunteering at veteran homes and veteran hospitals, and donating to the Wounded Warrior program and other veteran programs.

In addition, McCoy strongly supports anti-bullying.

She started a pledge called the Blue Pinky Project at her school.

The project consists of students painting their pinkies blue agreeing to never bully. McCoy believes bullying is the number one problem for kids our age.

"We are all our own person and shouldn't be judged on our



**Carlie McCoy**

views," said McCoy.

It is easy to tell that Carlie McCoy is extremely active in her community.

She is making a difference each time she volunteers, she is a great inspiration upon us all.

## Ballot Commissioners

**Braxton:** Kelly Leveaux-N and Abigail Brown-F; **Calhoun:** Willow Hammond-N and Michelle Joseph-F; **Kanawha:** Haley Stewart-F and Raven Bonnett-N; **Lewis:** Carlie McCoy-F and Megan Dean-N; **Marion:** Jessica Balash-N. and Erika Utt-F; **Monongalia:** Emily Spainhour-N and Amber Foster-F; **Monroe:** Nicole Taylor-F and Toni Campbell-N; **Northern Panhandle:** Jentzen Kowcheck-F and Haley Coleman-N; **Randolph:** Leanna Hinkle-N and Glenna Brown-F; **Upshur:** Laura Petty-N and Karol Almendarez-F; **Webster:** Emily Chandler-N and Kasandra McCartney-F

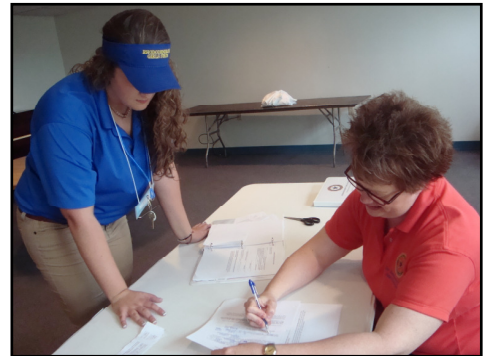
## ***REVISED SCHEDULE***

Please take note of this revised schedule for Thursday, June 12. This schedule replaces the one found in citizen and staff binders.

### **Thursday, June 12th**

- 6:15      Everybody Up  
Breakfast - Benedum Room/Swint Hall - citizens must go at designated times
- 7:00      Marion, Monongalia, Upshur, Webster
- 7:15      Kanawha, No. Panhandle, Monroe, Randolph
- 7:30      Braxton, Calhoun, Lewis
- 8:00      Assembly - Meet Outstanding Citizens- Troy Theatre/Swint Hall
- 9:00      House and Senate to Independence Hall  
Chorus - Troy Theatre/Swint Hall  
All Others - College Forum - McDonough Center
- 11:00-12:15 Inaugural Practice - Troy Theatre/Swint Hall  
Governor, Board of Public Works, Mayors, Sheriffs, Supreme Court Justices, Party Leaders
- Lunch      Benedum Room/Swint Hall - citizens must go at designated times
- 12:15      Kanawha, No. Panhandle, Monroe, Randolph
- 12:30      Braxton, Calhoun, Lewis
- 12:45      Marion, Monongalia, Upshur, Webster
- 1:00      Outstanding Citizens report to Ignatius Hall
- 1:30-3:30 Prepare for Inauguration - Dorm Communities
- 3:30      Citizens assemble for Inauguration - Troy Theatre/Swint Hall
- 3:45      Inaugural Ceremony Procession - Brenda L. Miller
- 4:45      Officials Pictures - Flagpole in front of Swint Hall - Paulette Anderson
- 5:00      Community Pictures - Flagpole in front of Swint Hall
- 5:30      Flag Ceremony - Flagpole in front of Swint Hall  
Supper - Benedum Room/Swint Hall - citizens must go at designated times
- 6:00      Braxton, Calhoun, Lewis
- 6:15      Marion, Monongalia, Upshur, Webster
- 6:30      Kanawha, No. Panhandle, Monroe, Randolph
- 7:30      Showtime - Troy Theatre/Swint Hall - Nancy Farley  
Friendship Circle to follow - Outside Chapel
- 10:30      Reflections - Dorm Communities
- 11:00      Lights Out

## *Filing for RGS state offices ...*



**Dr. Rosemary Thomas** accepts the Candidate Certificate for State Office from Federalist Taylor Toothman, Monogalia, who filed for the office of Governor.



**Nationalist Emily Duncan**, Monongalia, filed for the office of 2014 RGS Governor.



**Federalist Shayla Klein**, Monroe, completes her Candidate Certificate for State Office, prior to filing for the office of 2014 RGS Governor.