Nearly 700 people have registered for the West Virginia Chamber's 83rd Annual Meeting and Business Summit. This year's meeting will take place Wednesday, August 28 - Friday, August 30 at The Greenbrier Resort in White Sulphur Springs, WV. Attendees at this year's meeting will get to hear from world-class speakers, including Kimberly A Reed, President and Chairman of the Export-Import Bank of the United States. Reed is the first woman and first West Virginian to lead the EXIM Bank. The Annual Meeting is an unparalleled networking event unlike anything else in West Virginia.

Rooms at The Greenbrier are going fast, so if you have not yet done so, register today and make your hotel reservation for the business event of the year!
For information about sponsorship opportunities, please contact Amanda Pasdon at apasdon@wvchamber.com. We look forward to seeing you at The Greenbrier!

Register Now!

West Virginia Leads Nation in Economic Growth

U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis - Real gross domestic product (GDP) increased in all 50 states and the District of Columbia in the first quarter of 2019, according to statistics released today by the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis. The percent change in real GDP in the first quarter ranged from 5.2 percent in West Virginia to 1.2 percent in Hawaii. Continue...

Scout World Jamboree will help put West Virginia on international radar

The Exponent Telegram

What started as a dream a little over 12 years ago has taken root in Fayette and Raleigh counties, as the Summit Betchel Family National Scout Reserve has made a national impact. But on Monday, that impact was increased significantly as more than 44,000 scouts from about 130 countries began arriving for the 24th World Scout Jamboree. These scouts, adult leaders and hundreds of volunteers will make the reserve their home for parts of the July 22 through Aug. 2 Jamboree, enjoying the reserve's outdoor activities and reveling in camaraderie the scouting programs bring. Summit Group Director Todd McGregor said this year's event is the culmination of the efforts of many over the past eight years as the reserve has matured into an outstanding facility that has already hosted two National Boy Scout Jamborees. Continue...

West Virginia News

Yeager Airport officials pitch training environment, economic impact to attract military
Long-term economic development and unique training zones was the pitch to Naval units by Yeager Airport officials at recent meetings in Norfolk, Virginia to attract military use to the facility. Assistant Airport Directors James Mason and Nick Keller recently returned from the Naval Aviation Readiness Group, where Navy units and communities came together to discuss requirements needed for military training.

Mason called the discussions "very fruitful," telling MetroNews Yeager was the only airport in attendance. He told the airport's board on Wednesday the other two civilian groups there were Boeing and Lockheed Martin. **Continue...**

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**Expansion, realignment of Route 2 planned with $10 million federal grant**

A large federal grant will help finance the expansion of state Route 2 in Wetzel County, both U.S. Senators Joe Manchin and Shelley Moore Capito announced Monday. Both senators were informed by U.S. Department of Transportation Secretary Elaine Chao earlier Monday the Route 2 project had been chosen for a $10 million DOT Infrastructure for Rebuilding America (INFRA) grant. Plans are to construct a new route for Route 2 between the towns of Proctor and Kent freeing up property along the Ohio River where the highway is currently located for additional economic development. The project will expand the highway to four lanes north of New Martinsville. **Continue...**

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**Editorials / Op-Eds**

**Hoppy's Commentary: West Virginia lends helping hand to FirstEnergy Solutions**

**WV MetroNews**

The West Virginia Legislature voted overwhelmingly this week to allow FirstEnergy Solutions to avoid paying an annual $12.5 million business and occupation tax to the state for operation of the Pleasants Power Station in Pleasants County. The company, which is a subsidiary of FirstEnergy and is going through bankruptcy, argued it needed the tax break to keep the coal-fired plant open. The many supporters in the Legislature, as well as Governor Jim Justice, argued that forgoing the tax was worth it to save the 160 employees at the plant. Opponents criticized it as corporate welfare for a failing plant. **Continue...**

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**Upcoming West Virginia Chamber Events**
West Virginia Chamber 2019 Annual Meeting & Business Summit

August 28-30, 2019

Register Now!

West Virginia Chamber 2019 Women's Leadership Summit

December 4-5, 2019