



The Mountaineer

87TH ANNUAL SESSION OPENS AT WVU JACKSON'S MILL

Jamie Summerlin Addresses New 2026 ALMBS

By Reporter Name

The 87th Annual American Legion Mountaineer Boys State opens today, June 7, 2026, at West Virginia University's Jackson's Mill. Young men from across all 55 counties of West Virginia gather here for a week of hands-on instruction in city, county, and state government.

The American Legion Mountaineer Boys State program is the second-oldest in the nation. Founded in 1936, it is the only Boys State program in the country to be held continuously where it was founded. During the week, Citizens learn the rights, privileges, and responsibilities of franchised citizens.

Training is objective and centers on the structure of city, county, and state government. Operated by students elected to various offices, ALMBS activities include legislative sessions, court proceedings, law-enforcement presentations, assemblies, bands, choruses, and recreational programs.

Each Citizen will receive the Manual of Government, which serves as his guide throughout the week. Career path opportunities span ten programs — see today's Career Paths feature inside for the full list.

Welcome to a week that shapes a lifetime!

***Free Newspaper until
Tuesday, and then you PAY....
fifty ALMBS dollars***



TODAY AT A GLANCE

MONDAY, JUNE 8, 2026

- 6:45 a.m. Revielle, inspection
- 7:50 a.m. In formation -- Dining Hall
- 7:55 a.m. Flag raising
- 8:00 a.m. Breakfast
- 10:55 a.m. Morning activities
- 12:30 p.m. Lunch
- 3:50 p.m. Afternoon activities
- 5:30 p.m. Dinner -- Dining Hall
- 6:30 p.m. Evening activities
- 7:45 p.m. Assembly
- 10:30 p.m. Devotions — Chapel
- 11:30 p.m. Lights Out

TODAY'S WEATHER

Monday outlook—Lewis County/Jackson's Mill

HIGH [88°] LOW [63°F]
CONDITIONS [Mostly Cloudy]
PRECIP [35 %] WIND [3-5mph]

INSIDE TODAY

- Speaker Spotlight (1)
- From the Podium — 1 draft article
- Career Paths at ALMBS
- Awards & Boys Nation
- Feature: What is Taps & When Is It Used?

Poem of the Day

This the beginning of a new day.
God has given me this day to use as I will.
I can waste it or use it for good.
What i do today is important,
because I am exchanging a day of my life for it.
When tomorrow comes, this day will be gone forever,
leaving something in its place I have traded for it.
I want it to be a gain, not a loss;
good, not evil;
success, not failure ----
in order that I shall not forget the price i paid for.

Boys State Staff Spotlight: Dr. Tanner Moore



Q: What brought you to Boys State?

Tanner Moore, M.D.: I was a 2007 Boys Stater... I had been invited to Boys State. I told my dad, I was like, "Hey, I got this invitation to Boys State... I'm not gonna go." And my dad was like "Actually, you are gonna go!" I went to Boys State, and it was awesome. I ended up running for governor and was the 2007 governor and it changed my life. After that, I had the boost in morale and confidence to do whatever I wanted.

Q: How many years have you been volunteering at Boys State?

Tanner Moore, M.D.: I went on this odyssey and was gone for about 11 years with med school and the military. Last year was my first year as Chief Medical Officer.

Q: What is your job as CMO (Chief Medical Officer)?

Tanner Moore, M.D.: We are here to ensure that people have rapid medical support. Interesting stuff happens every year, you know, there's fractures, there's lacerations, there's anaphylactic reactions, and it's nice to have somebody there that's got ice water in their veins because that's their regular life.

Q: Where did you go to practice medicine?

Tanner Moore, M.D.: I went to WVU with, again, no plan (editors note: Randall Kocsis would not approve). When I was there, I was standing near the WVU cheerleading team one day. They were doing a routine and one girl started to fall from the top. I took two steps and dove and caught that girl, who said "Wow. I love you." That was the first time I ever spoke to my wife. She was a doctor (or something). I went to my advisor and switched to pre-med.

Q: Any additional comments?

Tanner Moore, M.D.: Number one, traditions are solutions to problems that time has forgotten. You should seek to understand the traditions of the culture you were born into so that you can avoid the problems that they solved and we forgot.

Number two, pleasure is counterfeit purpose and its indulgence is its own punishment.

FROM THE PODIUM

DRAFT COVERAGE OF TODAY'S KEYNOTE ADDRESS | FILL IN BLANKS FROM INTERVIEW



DINNER ADDRESS · MOUNT VERNON DINING HALL

Marine Vet Carries the Run to ALMBS, Calling Citizens to Service

By Aiden Russell

Marine veteran and author Jamie Summerlin took the podium at Mount Vernon Dining Hall Sunday evening, opening the keynote address for the 87th American Legion Mountaineer Boys State with stories from the 100-day cross-country run that defined the next chapter of his service.

Summerlin spoke about the discipline that runs through both military service and long-distance running — themes that resonate with Citizens preparing for tomorrow's Bar Examination, party caucuses, and the week of self-government ahead.

◆ INTERVIEW

"The biggest thing is understanding that it's not about yourself... others are depending on you not to lose yourself for success," stated Summerlin.

His work with Operation Welcome Home in Morgantown, where he serves on the Board of Directors, exemplifies the continuation of service beyond the uniform — a message that carried into the MIA/POW and Taps Ceremonies which followed at Assembly Hall.

Summerlin's Freedom Run raised funds and awareness for veterans across 16 states and the District of Columbia. Copies of his book are available through major retailers; proceeds continue to support veteran organizations.

A L M B S F E A T U R E

What is Taps & When Is It Used?

Taps is now played by the military at burial and memorial services, to accompany the lowering of the flag, and to signal the “lights out” command at day’s end. Throughout the week of American Legion Mountaineer Boys State you will hear Taps sounded numerous times throughout the day. When heard, it is appropriate for you to stand in place and surrender a proper salute.

Day is done, gone the sun, from the lakes, from the hills, from the sky. All is well. Safely rest. God is nigh.

STAFF & CITIZEN CONTRIBUTIONS · DROP DAILY NEWS BELOW

ARTICLE 1

Bishop: Newspaper

Eli Ramsey- Reporter, Jakob Elliott- Photographer, Matthew Furey- Sports Writer, Joshua Green- Graphic Designer, Aedan O’Quinn- Editor, Aiden Russell- Reporter, Jonah Coakley- Graphic Designer, Caleb Shamblin- Sports writer, Owen Baker- Reporter, Brooks Broomfield- Layout Editor

Letters To The Editor

These will be accepted by 5:00 P.M. for the next days edition. Letters can be emailed to Rebecca.young@wvboysstate.org

ALMBS Day 1: Opportunity Awaits!

As the first day comes to a close, I would like to highlight a point from the opening ceremony that I found particularly impactful. The repeated chant encouraging students to “get involved” and telling them “don’t hold back” may seem cliché, but its message holds true for new citizens. You only have one chance and Boys State, why not take this opportunity to reach out to other citizens and try to make new connections! It’s important to remember that every student is here for the first time this year and is just as excited to make new connections as you are. Every voice at Boys State deserves to be heard and you can help to inspire your community. Be a leader!

“Ask not what your country can do for you, but what you can do for your country.”

-John F. Kennedy
-Aedan O’Quinn, editor

OF NOTE

Pledge of Allegiance

“I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.”

The Pledge should be rendered standing at attention facing the flag with the right hand over the heart. Persons in uniform render the military salute. Veterans and Service Members not in uniform may also render the military salute.

OFFICIAL ALMBS SONG

Men of Tomorrow

Words by Roy Lee Harmon - Music by Margaret Nicely Leidig · MBS Original, 1938

V E R S E

Someday the State we love will call for leaders strong and bold
To solve the problems great or small and we'll be enrolled
For service to our fellowmen, and we won't be afraid,
We're training now for service, then we'll lead the big parade.

C H O R U S

Oh, we're the Men of Tomorrow, we march along in happy ranks today.
We never borrow a bit of care or grief along the way.
Gladly we're learning the things a good American should know.
Gladly we're yearning to chart the way a patriot should go.
With lessons done, objectives won, Good citizens we'll be;
We'll proudly stand in our home land When Mountaineers are free,
Men of tomorrow, good fellowship each one of us enjoys,
Men of tomorrow . . . a group of all-American boys.

CONNECT WITH US

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#ALMBS · #WVBoysState
#WeAreBoysState · #MenOfTomorrow

Monday 6/8/2026	Waffles Sausage Link Eggs Hot & Cold Cereal Fresh Fruit Milk/Juice/Water	Battered Fish French Fries Coleslaw Frozen Fudge Bar Water/Punch	Meatloaf Mashed Potatoes Peas Caesar Salad Rolls Cherry Crisp Water/Tea	Boys State BLD
Tuesday 6/9/2026	Sausage Gravy Biscuit Eggs Hot & Cold Cereal Fresh Fruit Milk/Juice/Water	Hamburgers w/Fixings French Fries Salad w/Dressing Ice Cream Sandwich Water/Lemonade	Beef/Chicken Tacos Hard and Soft Shells Lettuce/Cheese Sour Cream Pico de Gallo Spanish Rice Black Beans Churros Water/Tea	Boys State BLD

The American Legion
Mountaineer Boys State
Speaker's Schedule - 2026

FINAL

SUNDAY, Jun 7

LUNCH - Bar Exam

DINNER, 1730 - Jamie Summerlin

ASSEMBLY - NO SPEAKERS UNLESS ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY, ORIENTATION

MONDAY, Jun 8

BREAKFAST, 0800 - NO SPEAKER IS PREFERRED

LUNCH, 1230 - U.S. Congresswoman Carol Miller

DINNER, 1730 - WV Comm of Ag Kent Leonhardt

ASSEMBLY, 1945 - WVU PRES Benson

TUESDAY, Jun 9

BREAKFAST - WV SoS Kris Warner

LUNCH - NO SPEAKER

DINNER - WV AG J.B. McCuskey

ASSEMBLY - NO SPEAKER

WEDNESDAY, Jun 10

BREAKFAST - Brent Walker, WVDOT Communications Director

LUNCH - NO SPEAKER UNLESS ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY – COURT TRIAL ATTORNEYS

INNAUGURATION – PRESIDING JUDGE (arranged by Brandon Flowers)

DINNER - WV Treasurer Larry Pack