

# The Weirton Daily Times

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50 cents

## CHANGE proud to provide new program

By **ANGEL RAE TOMSIC**  
Staff writer

CHANGE, Inc. is continuing to work toward helping others, this time as the loan originator for the Onsite System Loan Program, which is aimed at those who need assistance with their septic system.

"There's no economic requirements to apply," CHANGE Inc Executive Director Judy Raveaux said. "Anyone can apply for this, they just have to show a need to have their septic system repaired, replaced or installed."

Information provided by CHANGE, Inc.

stated the onsite system loan program came about because of a partnership between the West Virginia Development Fund and the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection. The program is designed to help eligible households install, repair or replace onsite septic systems or connect to a public treatment system.

The onsite system loan program will provide a 2 percent interest loan to eligible borrowers to install, repair or replace existing onsite septic tanks. The maximum loan amount is up to \$10,000 and the maximum loan term is up to 10 years, officials explained. Septic and aeration systems

below ground only are allowed.

"Another great part of the onsite system loan program is that there isn't a deadline to apply," Raveaux said. "It's also going to be an ongoing loan program."

She said CHANGE already has assisted several residents to apply for the loan, and CHANGE, Inc. also will serve as the loan originator for the entire Northern Panhandle region.

Raveaux explained CHANGE also will be working with the Hancock County Health Department to provide all permits and inspections needed for the loans. Only one bid is required from a certified installer for

the installment and there are no income guidelines required.

Raveaux said the program has come at a good time for Hancock County residents.

"CHANGE, Inc. realizes there are parts of the county with failing septic tanks, and residents who truly need assistance with replacement or repair," Raveaux said. "We also understand there's a possibility of sewage service coming to a certain part of the northern part of county."

She said CHANGE, Inc. wants to be of service to the community and help resi-

See **CHANGE** Page 7A ⇨

### CHANGE

Continued from Page 1A

dents install, repair or replace a necessary service. Raveaux said the program is designed to help ease the financial burden of replacing, repairing or installing a septic tank system or the connection progress to a public a sewage system.

Residents interested in learning more about the program are encouraged to contact Joyce DeStefano at 797-7733.

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