

THE PENDLETON TIMES

Serving the Community since 1913

75¢
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Franklin, Pendleton County, West Virginia 26807

Thursday
April 28, 2022

Community CALENDAR

Road Work Scheduled On Dry Run Road

The West Virginia Department of Highways announces the closing of County Route 23 (Dry Run) from the top of Hoover Mountain to the Thorn Creek intersection. The road will be closed from 6:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Monday through Friday until the road work is completed.

Friends of Library To Meet Tuesday

The Friends of the Library will meet at 4 p.m. Tuesday in the basement of the Pendleton County Library in Franklin.

Pendleton Manor Auxiliary To Meet

Pendleton Manor Auxiliary will hold a meeting at 1:30 p.m. May 5 in the basement of the Walnut Street United Methodist Church in Franklin. A discussion will be held to address the future of the auxiliary. All members and interested persons are welcome to attend this important meeting.

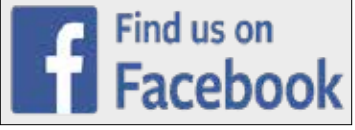
Tire Collection Set in Moorefield

The West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection will be collecting tires from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday at the HL Wilson Trucking Lot by Burger King in Moorefield.

Individuals may dispose of up to 10 tires per person. The tires must be off the rims, and only car and light truck tires will be accepted. The WVDEP requests that individuals stay in their vehicles when dropping off the tires.

PVCD Board To Meet May 4

The Potomac Valley Conservation District board meeting will be held at 7:30 p.m. May 4 by teleconference. Instructions are posted at www.wvca.us/district/pvcd.cfm or by contacting the office at 304-822-5174. The meeting agenda will be available three days prior to the meeting on the website or by contacting the Romney office. The public is invited to participate.



Kaila St. Louis Receives the Forest Service's 2021 Eastern Region Volunteer & Services Award



Kaila St. Louis and Larry Arnold

Monongahela National Forest partner Kaila St. Louis is the most recent recipient of the Forest Service's 2021 Eastern Region Volunteer and Services Award in the category of cultural diversity.

St. Louis is the heritage gardener at the historic Sites Homestead near Seneca Rocks, according to a news release. She has created a unique living history program showcasing mid-1800s Appalachian life. Each season an estimated 50,000 people visit the farmhouse, gardens, and apple orchard that she and her husband, Larry Arnold, who is also a volunteer, maintain. Stop by the Sites Homestead this summer to meet her and see the heritage garden and homestead. Learn more about visiting the area at <https://www.fs.usda.gov/recarea/mnf/recarea/?recid=7052>.

In fiscal year 2021, the Forest Service engaged over 65,000 volunteers and service participants across the nation. Together, they contributed over 3.6 million hours valued at \$103 million. The eastern region recorded 6,200 volunteers and service participants contributing more than 387,000 hours of service valued at \$11 million. The eastern region is proud to recognize these individuals, organizations, and partners for their exceptional work in five categories: enduring service, leadership, restoration, cultural diversity, and citizen stewardship & partnerships.

Vint Pleads Guilty To Murder

By Shawn Stinson

A Circleville man facing murder charges related to an Aug. 9, 2020, incident at his residence entered a guilty plea earlier this month.

Richard J. Vint, 46, entered a guilty plea on Feb. 17, 2022, to murder in the first degree. Vint admitted to shooting a weapon from inside his residence at Jeremy Propst. Vint was represented by attorney Ramon Rozas III. The state was represented by April Mallow, Pendleton County prosecuting attorney.

Judge Charles E. Parsons accepted the guilty plea and sentenced Vint "to imprisonment in the state penitentiary for life with mercy." Parsons added Vint was entitled to 557 days of penal credit. According to West Virginia code, an inmate sentenced for life with mercy may not be paroled until he or she has served 10 years.

In addition, Parsons wrote in the plea, conviction, and sentencing order that Propst's "significant other, Sherri Bennett, would like to be notified of any parole hearings in this matter."

Two members of the West Virginia State Police responded to a 911 call from Vint requesting law enforcement respond to his residence in Circleville. During the Aug. 9, 2020, 911 call, Vint informed the operator he had killed Propst.

Trooper First Class David Trenton and Trooper First Class Jacob Hebb arrived at the house. Trenton wrote in the criminal complaint he "observed a person lying face down in the driveway" of Vint's residence. Trenton added he was able to identify the individual from a tattoo on their right elbow as being Propst.

Vint was transported to the state police detachment office outside of Franklin to be interviewed regarding the incident. During the interview, Vint reviewed DPS Form 79 and his Miranda Rights. Vint initialized the form and stated he understood his Constitutional Rights and elected to make a statement to law enforcement officers.

Trenton wrote in the criminal complaint that Vint admitted to shooting a weapon from inside his residence as Propst was exiting his vehicle. Vint added when Propst was pulling into the driveway, he "was downstairs" and went "upstairs" to retrieve a rifle and fired at Propst from his kitchen and through a closed glass window. Vint continued by stating he saw Propst "fall down after he fired the shot." Vint said he called 911 to report the incident.

During the investigation, law enforcement officers confirmed Propst and Vint were acquaintances.

Covid Deaths Continue To Increase

By Erin Beck

Health officials have reported the 22nd death of a Pendleton County resident due to COVID-19.

The West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources reported the death of a 94-year-old Pendleton County woman in a news release April 21.

"Each death reported is a solemn reminder of the seriousness of this disease," said Bill J. Crouch, DHHR cabinet secretary. "Let's continue taking every precaution we can to stop the spread of COVID, including vaccination and booster shots."

Health officials have reported a significant increase in coronavirus deaths among county residents in recent months. Earlier this month, officials reported three deaths in county residents within a seven-day period. Four of 22 deaths – 18 percent of coronavirus deaths in the county – were reported in less than a month's time. Governor Jim Justice

declared the pandemic an emergency more than two years ago.

Health officials say 49% of the county is fully vaccinated, while 29.1% have received booster doses. Older people in the county are more likely to have received their booster doses – 75.2% of people 71 and older have been fully vaccinated, while 59.2% have received a booster dose.

Of 21 deaths since vaccinations became available in Dec. 2020, 18 were among people 51 and older who were not fully vaccinated, while three were "breakthrough deaths" of people 71 and older.

Younger people, who are less likely to die from the disease, can also experience severe health outcomes, including hospitalization or symptoms of long COVID-19, and can pass the disease on to others, including older people. According to the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 768 youth up to age 17 have been in the hospital statewide with the disease.

Mowery Enters Drug Rehab Program

By Shawn Stinson

A Grant County man sentenced for his role in a November 2020 burglary in the Onego area returned to court earlier this month.

Shawn Derick Mowery, 31, of Big Sky Drive, Petersburg, requested a reduction of sentence. Mowery was represented by his attorney Nathan T. Bennett. The state was represented by April Mallow, Pendleton County prosecuting attorney.

Mowery was convicted on June 28, 2021, of two counts of burglary, two counts of entering without breaking a building other than a dwelling and one count of conspiracy. Each count of burglary carried a sentence of one to 15 years, each count of entering without breaking a building other than a dwelling carried a sentence of one to 10 years and the count of conspiracy carried a sentence of one to 5 years.

Less than three months later, Mowery agreed to enter the GOALS (Getting Over Addictive Lifestyles Successfully) program and "upon completion of the program, (the) defendant shall be returned to the court for the purpose of a hearing on the defendant's Rule 35(b) motion for reduction of sentence."

Bennett informed the court Mowery completed the GOALS program on April 1 and submitted supporting documentation. In addition, Bennett said Mowery was accepted into Recovery Point West Virginia. Recovery Point is a nine-to 12-month rehabilitation program.

Mallow did not object to the motion or Mowery's participation in the Recovery Point program. Mallow recommended Mowery be placed on supervised probation "for a period of seven years."

Parsons agreed to suspend Mowery's jail sentence and place him on supervised probation for seven years. Mowery was also ordered to complete the drug rehabilitation program at Recovery Point West Virginia and report to the Pendleton County Probation Office within 24 hours of completion or leaving the program. Parsons also ordered the staff at Recovery Point West Virginia would be responsible for transporting Mowery to their program or members of the WVDOC if the staff at Recovery Point West Virginia is unable.

(Continued on Page 2)

Early Voting Is Underway

West Virginia registered voters may vote in person early at their courthouse (or annex), and in several counties at an additional approved community voting location, Secretary of State Mac Warner said in a news release.

All 55 counties offer early voting, with several offering more than one location around the county during the 10-day period. Any registered voter may vote their ballot early at the county courthouse (or annex) or designated community voting location in the county. Early voting hours differ depending on each county's normal business hours during the weekdays. Early voting is also available on the last two Saturdays before the May 10 Primary Election, between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. in all counties.

West Virginia's 2022 primaries are semi-open, allowing for voters who are not affiliated with a recognized political party to participate in the party's primary of their choosing. However, unaffiliated voters must ask the poll workers for the specific party's ballot they desire to cast. Poll workers are instructed to refrain from prompting voters to request any specific party's ballot.

To learn more about in-person and absentee voting guidance and options, view a list of early voting locations, or check your registration, visit the WV Secretary of State's secure elections website at GoVoteWV.com.

Mowery

(Continued From Page 1)

The order was filed on April 18 by Shalee Wilburn, Pendleton County Circuit Clerk.

Authorities alleged Mowery and Faustino "Tony" Jason Stokes of Elkins participated in a burglary of a residence in the Onego area with Staci Lynn Casstevens and Martin Allen Wimer.

A family friend of the property owner noticed the residence had been broken into and several items had been removed. The individual said the basement door had been locked the last time he visited the residence, but when he returned, he noted it was unlocked. In addition, the individual stated the breakers in the breaker box had been "flipped off" to turn the power off in the residence. It was noted all of the food in the refrigerator and freezer had spoiled due to the power being off.

A list of the property believed to have been removed from the residence was provided to the authorities. It was estimated the value of the items was more than \$1,000. The family friend informed authorities Wimer may have been involved in the burglary due to being at the property previously with his family and having knowledge of the residence.

A neighbor told authorities on the evening of Nov. 4, 2020, he confronted an unknown male and another male he later identified as Wimer, on the property. The neighbor stated he informed the pair he was calling the authorities. He also noted there was a white Dodge vehicle and an ATV parked at the residence. Authorities said the Dodge vehicle was no longer there when they arrived at the property.

In his report, Trooper First Class David Trenton wrote fellow Trooper Kevin Raymond responded to the residence following a phone call on Nov. 4, 2020, from the neighbor reporting suspicious activity on the property. Raymond informed Trenton he had located a white Dodge vehicle later that evening matching the description provided by the neighbor. Raymond stated the driver of the vehicle identified himself as Stokes.

During a statement to Trenton more than a month following the incident, Wimer said he, Casstevens, Mowery and Stokes gathered later in the evening at his residence with the items.

NFES Students Recognized For Academic Achievements

North Fork Elementary School has released the following honor roll and attendance record for the third nine-weeks grading period.

A Honor Roll

- First grade — Darek Greathouse, Andelyn Vance, Haley Warner and Forest Wimer;
- Second grade — Declan Shane;
- Third grade — Skye Dahmer, Avery Kile and Elaina Raines;
- Fourth grade — Vaylee Harper, Alayna Huffman, Katy Raines, Ava Sherman and Jacob Thompson;
- Fifth grade — Isabella Jameson and Mason Miller; and
- Sixth grade — Natalie Arbaugh, Ty Armentrout, Chesnee Colaw, Mason Harper and Chloe Kisamore.

A/B Honor Roll

- First grade — Brooklyn Vint;
- Second grade — Aaliyah Martin and Sadie Wimer;
- Third grade — Jakob Gray, Nickolas Harper, Tori Heavner and Addy Huffman;
- Fourth grade — Kinley Bennett, Mackenzie Day, Ty Johnson, Miley Kimble and Azalea Waddell;
- Fifth grade — Abigail Judy, Jacey Thompson and McKenzie Vandevander; and
- Sixth grade — Jax Bennett, Allison Reuss, Kaylee Teter, Lexy Tingler, Danielle Warner and Cameron Wyatt.

Perfect Attendance

- Kindergarten — Braxton Barkley and Jace Ours;
- First grade — Andelyn Vance;
- Fourth grade — Kyley Hedrick and Miley Kimble;
- Fifth grade — Allie Hedrick, Dalila Sponaugle, McKenzie Vandevander and Mason Waybright; and

Donald Ray Alt



Donald Ray Alt, 93, of Petersburg passed away April 21, 2022, at his home.

He was born on Feb. 15, 1929, in Landes and was a son of the late Pinkney "Pink" Alt and Cleo (Cook) Alt.

Mr. Alt was a graduate of Petersburg High School class of 1947 and served in the United States Army. He retired from General Motors in Baltimore, Maryland, after 30 years and was a member of UAW Local Union 239 Auto Workers.

He was a member of Gordon Chapel United Methodist Church and Landes Ruritan Club.

Surviving are a daughter, Roxanna Seltzer (Bruce) of Summerville, South Carolina; a son, David Alt (Tammy) of Reeds Creek; two grandchildren, Caleb Alt of Broadway, Virginia, and Chelsea and husband, Major Drew Shepler, who is currently stationed in Uzbekistan; a great-granddaughter, Dahlia Grace Shepler; a sister, Venus Stump of Baltimore, Maryland; a few nieces; and a nephew.

His wife, Mary Ann (Mallow) Alt, preceded him in death in 2013.

A funeral service was held Saturday in the chapel of Schaeffer Funeral Home in Petersburg with the Rev. David Webb officiating. Interment was in Kline Cemetery.

Memorial donations may be made to the charity of the donor's choice.

Donald "Don" Lee Rexrode



Donald "Don" Lee Rexrode, 74, of Franklin passed away April 24, 2022, at the University of Virginia Medical Center in Charlottesville, Virginia.

He was born Oct. 9, 1947, in Franklin, the son of the late Mary Catherine Rexrode.

Mr. Rexrode was a member of St. John Lutheran Church and Franklin Moose Lodge and a proud member of the National Rifle Association.

An avid farmer, he enjoyed time spent working with his livestock, as well as making hay. Also a prankster, he was well known for his happy disposition and appreciation of a good joke. He enjoyed attending local auctions and in his earlier years, hunting and fishing. Above all, he cherished his wife, always placing her needs above his own and was a loving and proud father to his daughter, Holly.

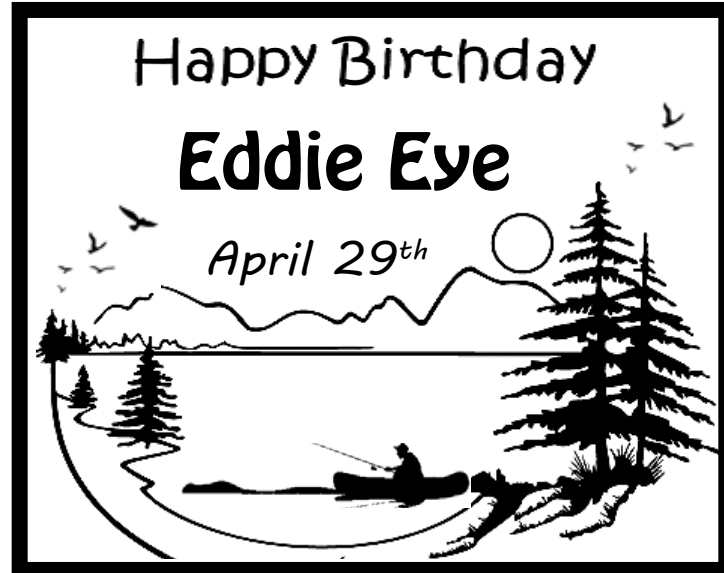
His wife of 31 years, Wilma Lee Pitsenbarger-Rexrode, survives.

Also surviving are a daughter, Holly Dawn Rexrode; a half sister, Ruth Spencer and husband, Clayton; and a close friend, Larry Propst.

A graveside memorial service will be held at 1 p.m. Friday at Cedar Hill Cemetery in Franklin with Pastor Jerry Smith officiating.

Memorial contributions may be sent to Highland County Humane Society, P.O. Box 458, Monterey, VA 24465.

Condolences and memories may be shared with the family at www.obaughfuneralhome.com.



PETERSBURG VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

ALL YOU CAN EAT BREAKFAST
Sunday, May 1 • 8-10:30 a.m.
\$10 per adult • \$5 kids under five

Breakfast Bake (Ham, Sausage & Bacon), Sausage Gravy & Biscuits, Chocolate Chip & Blueberry Muffins and French Toast Bake

Thank you for your support!

Come Join the Celebration

South Fork United Methodist
Saturdays • 6 pm
Recovery Celebration
Fairview-Bethel UMC
on Siple Mtn. Road, Fort Seybert

Sundays
8:45 am Francis Asbury UMC Sugar Grove
10 am Riverside UMC Brandywine
11 am Fairview-Bethel UMC Fort Seybert

Make Your Mom Feel Special

Mother's Day
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with
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- Hydrangeas •Dish Gardens
- Peace Lilies •Fresh Cuts •Balloons
- Large Selection of Teapots

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THANKS
to my friends and family
for the 104 Beautiful cards
that I received.
It made my
Birthday Extra Special!

Judy Rader

A Special Thanks

The Charles Bogan Family would like to thank everyone for the many acts of kindness shown to us during the loss of our loved one. Thanks to our friends who attended his viewing. A special thanks to Pastor Todd Rhodes, Kimble Funeral Home for their excellent job and the ladies who prepared the meal following the service.

Sincere Thanks

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who helped in any way during Winona's illness and death. Thanks to each of you for your prayers, delicious foods, phone calls, cards, beautiful flowers, many visits and memorials.

We also appreciate Keith and Barb for their kindness. Thanks to Bishop Apple and Elder David Hartman for their visits and helping at the funeral service.

To each of you, your generous acts of support, kindness and the expressions of sympathy will always be remembered.

God Bless each of you
The Winona Ruth Hewitt Family

A RESOLUTION HONORING CAROLE H. HARTMAN

Whereas the Mutual Protective Association of WV and the broader Pendleton County community lost a valued member and leader on April 4, 2022, with the death of Carole Hartman;

Whereas Carole Hartman worked tirelessly and was a strong advocate of the banking and insurance industry;

Whereas Carole Hartman served for 30 years on the board of Mutual Protective Association of WV;

Whereas she inspired countless other directors to become strong leaders;

Whereas Carole Hartman served with distinction as Secretary / Treasurer of the Mutual Protective Association of WV;

Whereas Carole Hartman's kindness, energy and graciousness enriched those fortunate enough to know and work with her;

Whereas Carole Hartman was loved and respected by her family, friends, co-workers, and Directors that she served within the Potomac Highlands;

Whereas her true legacy lies in the profound effect she had on the countless men and women she was associated with throughout her career,

Now, therefore, be it **Resolved, that the Mutual Protective Association of WV** on behalf of its members, officers and Directors recognizes the significant achievements of Carole Hartman over the course of her distinguished career and mourns her death;

And recognizes with great admiration and appreciation the contributions made!

With Honor, Remembrance and great Sorrow the Board of Directors for Mutual Protective Association of WV offers this resolution.

Lawn Mowing — A Useful Task or Despised Chore

Sugar Grove

By Paula Mitchell

Spring, glorious spring. Sunshine is the cure for a good deal of what ails all.

There is already a contest going on as to who is the first to mow their lawns. After a few hitches of mowing, it tends to become a “drag.”

There have been jokes made about lawn care, and they reach a wide audience. Humor is universal, and it is shared with love.

For those who are concerned about maintaining a professional appearance, Lawn in Order is a perfect example through and through.

Some people take pride in their lawns and get a lot of fulfillment by keeping them immaculately manicured. This is time well spent for them. For many, mowing a lawn is nothing but a chore and a despised one at that. To them, a perfect day is when the sun is shining, the breeze is blowing, the birds are singing, and the lawn mower is broken.

There are some tips to lawn mowing. The optimal time to mow grass is actually in the evenings. Grass clippings left in the yard helps to fertilize the lawn. It is called “grass-cycling.”

Mowing the lawn is a useful task, and it can organize one’s mind. One can think dreamy thoughts but still keep to the lines. Going back and forth, back and forth, on a lot can be very satisfying — the repetitiveness, the roar of the mower, the sense of progress, and turning raggedy grass into a model lawn. Once the mower has been shut off, one has earned the right to sit in the shade with a cool drink. Once that has been done, the misery has been dissipated.

Once fall has arrived, the task of mowing the yard has become quite cumbersome. There is hope that an early frost will take care of the lawn mowing once and for all for the season.

The writer feels sorry for those living in Texas, Georgia, Florida and Arizona where it is 100 degrees in temperature, and lawn mowing is a huge undertaking. The writer says to come north to Pendleton County!

Some instructions to life’s daily living include the following:

1. Lose without excuses.
2. Remember that all news is biased.
3. Win without boasting.
4. Choose a church that sings joyful music.
5. Remember that a good example is the best sermon.

Fickle Spring. Mother Nature wins again. Last Monday’s snowstorm was hard to believe. Then there was the hot spell from Saturday through Tuesday, with falling temperatures on Wednesday. No wonder folks are having sinus and cold issues.

Quotes for the week are as follows:

“Teaching a child not to step on a caterpillar is as valuable to the child as it is to the caterpillar.” — Bradley Miller

“All you need is love, but a little chocolate now and then doesn’t hurt.” — Charles Schulz

“Doing nothing for others is the undoing of ourselves.”



Ella Virginia Michael (Dec. 9, 1871 – Sep. 6, 1965) and Franklin Mitchell (July 20, 1865 – February 1905) had Eva E. (May 5, 1893 – Nov. 30, 1918, marrying Boyd Hoover), Beulah F. (Feb. 17, 1896 - July 2, 1990, marrying Frank Rader), Flora Jane (April 16, 1898 – Feb. 18, 1973, marrying James Luther Pitsenbarger) Walter (Nov. 30, 1900 - June 11, 1964, marrying Alma Howdyshell), and Eulah M. (May 28, 1903 - July 9, 1905). Tragically, Franklin died from a tree harvesting accident.

— Horace Mann.

“There is not a man of us who does not at times need a helping hand to be stretched out to him, and then shame upon him who will not stretch out the helping hand to his brother.” — Theodore Roosevelt

“There is a debt of service due from every man to his country, proportioned to the bounties which nature and fortune have measured to him.” — Thomas Jefferson

Not sure where it is best to hear the “Talk of the Grove.”

The VFW/Lions Club chicken barbecue on Saturday was the first of the season. It proved to be a huge delicious success.

Enos Horst and Tom Mitchell were the first reported community residents, with Robin Cassell and Betty Kimble following soon after, to mark the return of the hummingbirds. Be sure to put out the clean feeders for the little friends and sit back to enjoy their flights.

Phil Downs motored to Romney to spend a day visiting friends.

Karla and Jim Moats and Troy and Montana Hise were happy to meet up with Tuesday and Brian Simmons at their favorite vacation spot, Isla Mujeres, Mexico. They all enjoyed a fun-filled week, relaxing on the beach, snorkeling with exotic fishes, savoring the local cuisine and playing games in the sand.

On Sunday, Troy, Jennifer, Kay and Emily Eckard of Linville, Virginia, enjoyed a luncheon and visiting in the home of Willard and Judy Rader.

Recently, Helen and Rhonda Nash had a full house at “Nashland.” Robbie Nash of Palmer, Alaska, came for a week’s stay over Easter. Others making a visit were Todd and Cathy Nash, Vickie Nash, Terri Lowery, Callie Fox and children, Hannah, Madalyn, Nolan and Tucker and Levi Mangum. Several attended the lovely sunrise service at the Sugar Grove Cemetery. Helen, Rhonda and Robbie also visited and

had lunch with Ginger Nash and Justin Keller in Harrisonburg, Virginia. They all made room for dessert from Smiley’s ice cream.

Rick Adkins had a great visit with his daughter, Cassi, and Chuck, as well as a great dinner and some fishing with Ali and Charlee while Jett and Trigger played. It was a great day to be a grandpa.

An Easter/birthday celebration was held Sunday at the home of Evelyn Varner. Attending were the host, Kitty and L.J. Purcell, Joyce and Richard Marshall, Janet and D. J. Judy, Eugene and Cindy Varner, Jessica, Geneva and Nathaniel Varner, Raymond and Kelly Varner, Kelsey, Hunter and Ali Kesterson and Bill Troster of Kansas. Donnie and Judy Smith were Saturday visitors.

Visitors of Rosalee Grogg were Marleta Wimer, Steven and Skyler Grogg, Tyler, Dora and Vance Grogg and Dakota, Danielle, Braxton and Blakely Grogg.

Charlotte Hoover of Moyers has had quite an interesting spring. The first day of lambing, a set of triplets and 2 sets of quadruplets were born, with all surviving. Forty-one ewes had lambs in 16 days with multiple sets of triplets to add to the mix.

The Sugar Grove Maple Leaves 4-H Club members picked up trash on Sunday. It is good to see the youngsters taking on this volunteer project.

Clickety-clacks for the chin wagers are as follows:

- Japan has the most vending machines per capita.
- Harry Potter author J.K. Rowling is richer than the Queen of England.
- Most people say blue is their favorite color.
- Orchids don’t need soil to grow.
- The actors who voiced Mickey and Minnie Mouse were married in real life.

It’s soon May and with that, are the birthdays to celebrate: Betty Kimble, Keith Thompson, and Krista

Simmons, third; Joanne Simmons and Connor Hedrick, fourth; Linda Faye Rexrode, Sandy Simmons, and Judy Rexrode, fifth; Ashlyn Wimer and Shalee Wilburn, sixth; Bobby Bodkin, seventh; Grey Cassell, Jean Hudson, Kay Simmons and Donna Evick, eighth; Linnea Fisher, 10th; Willard Rader, Susan Kiser and Juanita Scott, 11th; Jean Ann Homan, 13th; Missy Harrison, Adelbert Hoover and Dinah Beverly, 14th; and Pastor Jess Felici, 15th.

Concerns for this week are many, and they are as follows: Charles Anderson, Bill Brackman, Scherry Chambers, Charlotte Copley, Jeff Craig, Jeff Evick, Lee Roy and Ina Evick, Mary Eye, Ron Gilkeson, Lola Graham, Marlene Harman, Ramona Harman, Missy Harrison, Steve and Armanda Heavner, Starr Hedrick, Virgil Homan, Jr., Charlee Hoover, Lorena Hoover, Myrtle Hoover, Debbie Horst, Alice Johnson, Richard Judy, Margaret Kiser, Rex Landis, Jay Linaburg, Angela Lung, Linda Malcolm, Morris and Sue Mallow, Roger and Skip Mallow, Yvonne Marsh, Neil McLaughlin, Naomi Michael, Joe Moats, Lincoln Moore, Ernie Morgan, Aaron Nelson, Kathy Nelson, Ken and Ruth Nelson, Betty Hoover O’Donnell, Cheryl Paine, Sutton Parrack, Betty Lou Propst, Kara Propst, Linda Propst, Nathan Propst, Sheldon Propst, Bryer Puffenbarger, Eldon Puffenbarger, Willard Rader, Don Rexrode, Donna Ruddle, Barbara Simmons, Chloe Simmons, Erin Simmons, Eva Simmons, Charlie Sites, Ona Smith, Stanna Smith, Steve Smith, Bernie Sponaugle, Patricia Swecker, Harry Lee Temple, Charlotte Thompson, Rosa Tichenor, Sandra Vandevander, Jack Vogel, Amby Waybright, Jr., Ron White, Judy Williams, Junior Wimer, Larry Wimer, Carol Windett and the people of Ukraine.

4-H’ers Participate In Talent Show, County Roundup

Pendleton County 4-H Roundup was held April 3 at the Pendleton Community Building in Franklin. Twenty-two 4-H’ers participated in the 4-H talent show, three 4-H’ers entered the pledge contest, 12 4-H’ers competed in the cookie bake-off and seven 4-H’ers joined in the Lego building and speaking contest.

This event provided an afternoon of entertainment and fun for fellow 4-H’ers, friends and family members, according to Brooke Alt, Pendleton County extension agent.

In the talent show comedy division, North Fork 4-H members, Hannah Bennett, Callen Kisamore, Chloe Kisamore, Jax Bennett, Tori Heavner, Abby Judy, Vaylee Harper, Mason Harper, Ty Armentrout, Callie Judy, Cole L. Harper and Caleb Armentrout, presented “The Disappearing Bench.”

Ty Heavner and Marley Champ, both members of the Upper Tract 4-H Producers Club, and Ava Bowers, Sugar Grove Maple Leaves 4-H Club, played individual pieces on the piano in the instrumental division of the contest.

In the dance division, Phoebe Pownell of Franklin Mountaineers and Tia Heavner, Katie Keyser, Kallie Keyser, Marley Champ and Gracie Hedrick of the Upper Tract Producers performed a dance to the hit song “Fancy Like.” Carly and Clair Kimble of the Upper Tract Producers presented an energetic gymnastic routine.

All contestants received a ribbon for their participation.

The 4-H Roundup contest included participants in the pledge contest: Tori Heavner and Vaylee Harper, both members of the North Fork 4-H Club, and Marion Williams of the Sugar Grove Maple Leaves 4-H club. These contestants received a certificate and blue ribbon, along with a \$5.00 scholarship for 2022 county camp.

Contestants in the Lego building and speaking contest included Ross Pownell of the Franklin Mountaineers, Owen Champ, Clair Kimble, Carly Kimble, Easton Boner, and Everette Boner, all members of the Upper Tract club, and Marion Williams from the Sugar Grove club. Ross Pownell and Williams tied for the grand prize in this event, receiving Lego building kits provided by the Pendleton County 4-H Leaders Association.

Cookie bake off contest participants included Kynleigh Sponaugle, Marion Williams and Ava Bowers, all members of the Sugar Grove club, Callen Kisamore and Madison Sword, both members of the North Fork club, Vivian Pownell and Phoebe Pownell of the Franklin Mountaineers club and Upper Tract 4-H members Carly Kimble, Clair Kimble, Addie Rexrode, Easton Boner and Everette Boner. Judge’s choice cookie was Madison Sword’s Peanut Butter Chocolate Chip cookies, and people’s choice cookie was Callen Kisamore’s Cowboy cookies, both members of North Fork 4-H. They both received a full baking set, including bowls, measuring cups and measuring spoons provided by the Pendleton County 4-H Leaders Association.

Due to Covid, the annual meeting of the **CONCERNED CITIZENS FOR THE USE AND PROTECTION OF THE SOUTH FORK RIVER, INC.**

will be held at our picnic in June. More information to follow.

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Call **304-358-7565** to schedule an appointment

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20 Years Ago
Week of April 25, 2002

Pendleton Gets Heavy Weekend Rain

According to Dave Ellis, 4.43 inches of rain fell in the Smith Creek area last week while the rain gauge at the Department of Transportation (DOT) headquarters in Franklin measured 4.8 inches of rain having fallen between Friday and Monday morning.

Legion Celebrates Birthday

Pendleton American Legion Post #30 celebrated its 83rd birthday Saturday evening with a dinner at the Pendleton Community Building in Franklin.

Manchin Encourages Telling of Life Stories

by Secretary of State
Joe Manchin III

Our lives and those of our loved ones are precious gifts that should never be taken lightly. Unfortunately, due to the demands and challenges of our daily responsibilities, many of us would concede that we spend most of our time and energy focusing on where we are going and what we have left to do, while rarely stopping to consider the larger picture of our lives.

Every life tells a story and is full of choices and experiences, both large and small, that form the blueprint for who we are as individuals. If one is a national celebrity, a well-known sports figure or an international head of state, odds are one's story will be told some day by the "Biography" channel. However, if you do not fall into one of these easily recognizable categories, you may fail to realize the importance of what your unique narrative has to offer.

If you are a veteran or senior citizen, I hope that you will consider taking time to tell your story, in your own words, to the youth of your local community. The "West Virginia SHARES" program is committed to educating all of West Virginia's elementary, middle and high school students about the sacrifices made by their predecessors in order to protect the rights and freedoms that all Americans cherish. We are working with teachers across West Virginia to provide students with "living history lessons"—real-life lessons learned by those who have experienced many of our nation's most historical moments, including the Great Depression, World War II, the Korean War, Vietnam, and the Civil Rights and Women's Rights movements. While many veterans and seniors have already come forward to recount their journeys, I would encourage you to think about the impact that your personal story may have on students as well. It is our sincere hope that by hearing these first-hand accounts at a young age,

children will be inspired to take their democratic responsibility seriously when it comes their time to step up to the ballot box and vote.

However, if you are not comfortable telling your personal history to groups of children, I urge you to strongly consider sharing what you have learned with at least those children who are closest to you. I know that there are times in all of our lives when we wish we could go back to ask our grandparents or parents a question. Therefore, I would encourage each of you to tell your children and grandchildren about all of the events that you have witnessed and the choices that you have made which have, in hindsight, proven to be significant. If we share our "forks in the road" with today's younger generation of Americans, then they will be better prepared to make decisions when faced with similar choices in their own lives.

It has often been claimed that those who ignore history are doomed to repeat it. If this is true, then it is our collective responsibility as citizens of a democracy to see that no meaningful story is left untold. Please join us in making "West Virginia SHARES" not only a school-wide effort, but a family-wide effort as well.

The Old Truck...

THE WARRIOR

This incident happened a few years ago. It was after the Gulf War. I was traveling down the road in the old truck listening to the only station the radio could pick up. It was a news conference and Schwarzkopf was being interviewed. He was asked his opinion about Saddam Hussein as a Military Strategist. "He is neither a strategist, nor is he schooled in the operational arts, nor is he a tactician, nor is he a soldier. Other than that," Schwarzkopf said with scorn, "he is a great military man. I want you to know that." With that statement the room burst forth with laughter.

Let us now move from then and there to now and church. The room is full of angels. The cameras are aimed at Jesus. The question is asked of Jesus, "What do you think of your soldiers on earth today?" Jesus answers. "Other than the fact they do not go out and seek lost souls, nor are they committed, nor do they come on Sunday prepared to worship, nor do they leave to serve. Other than that they are great soldiers." This time there is no laughter, only silence and Jesus leaves with a tear running down His cheek.

Difficult to face the truth isn't it! Yet most of us are not in any way, shape or form the warrior Christ has asked us to become, and we are guaranteed victory when we enlist. How pitiful some of us have become as we sit in our beautiful churches wearing the name "Christian Warrior." James 1:22-24 is very clear...Prove

yourselves to be doers of the Word and not only hearers.

Well that's all till next time...Remember what Willy the warrior always said... "Uniformity is nice, but it takes more than a uniform to make a warrior."

SUGAR GROVE

South Fork Rescue Squad History

The South Fork Rescue Squad was organized at a November 21, 1978, meeting. Twenty-three persons were present to hear Charles Waggy, president of the Pendleton County Emergency Rescue, Inc., explain the organization's constitution, mission by-laws and operation. Officers elected were as follows: Robert Marron, captain; Jean Hancock, secretary/treasurer; and Tom Mitchell and Wilmer Bodkin, board of directors. The first EMT class in the area began February 21, 1979. Instructors were Elsie Schulz and Ruth Todd. Upon completion of this class, 24-hour emergency medical service began in the community. An emergency service building was constructed in the early 1980s. This building was damaged by the 1985 flood. Repairs have since been made and a nice expansion almost completed. The South Fork Rescue Squad houses the fire trucks and emergency vehicles which are readily on call to assist anyone in need of their services. The volunteer group is dedicated to moving forward, better equipped to handle any emergency. The community is fortunate to have such an organization.

30 Years Ago

Week of April 30, 1992

SUGAR GROVE

Mice in the Clock Works Led to the Nursery Rhyme

Clocks of the 1700s were often made from wood. Although they were exceptionally accurate, in time the gears would dry out and shrink. To prevent this, the inner workings were lubricated with animal fat, which attracted mice to the clocks. These mice would gnaw on the wooden gears and ruin the clock. To discourage these unwelcome visitors, clangorous chimes that struck on every half hour were used. Thus, the "Mouse and the Clock" nursery rhyme was heard and recited: Hickory, dickory, dock! The mouse ran up the clock. The clock struck one. And down he run! Hickory, dickory, dock.

DAHMER

Lower Thorn Man Gathers 645 Mushrooms To Date

Kevin Harper, who lives with his dad, Lester Harper, on Lower Thorn, a lucky mushroom hunter, has already found 645

mushrooms (morels) of the blackish and grey mushrooms. His mother, Jean Harper (now deceased) was also an avid mushroom hunter.

50 Years Ago

Week of April 27, 1972

Farm Sales Rise To \$12,967,248

985 FARMS IN PENDLETON

Pendleton County showed a total of 985 farms in the 1969 Census of Agriculture, according to figures released by the U.S. Department of Commerce.

In the last previous Census of Agriculture (1964), the number of farms reported in the county was 932.

Of the county's total farms in 1969, 358 are reported as selling \$2,500 or more of agricultural products in the year, as compared with 373 in 1964.

The report also shows average farm size in the county was 281.5 acres, and average value of these farms (land and buildings) was \$29,951.

60 Years Ago

Week of April 26, 1962

100 YEARS AGO

Farragut's Fleet Captures New Orleans

By LON K. SAVAGE

Editor's Note—The following is one of a series of articles on the Civil War. Each weekly installment covers events which occurred exactly 100 years ago.

It was a clear, quiet night on the Mississippi River some 75 miles south of New Orleans, but in the darkness, Union sailors hustled about their ships. At 2 o'clock that morning of April 24, 100 years ago this week, they saw two red lights rise silently up the mast of the "Hartford," flagship of their fleet. Anchors were raised, and the ships began to move upriver and around the bend.

Suddenly, the night erupted into a roar of fireworks. Cannons—there were 109 of them—belched forth flames and smoke from two Confederate forts, one on each side of the river. Still more cannons—there were 192 of them on the 23 federal ships—fired back from the water.

Back behind the river bend, stubby, wide-mouthed mortars blasted from 15 federal mortar boats, and the lighted shells arched high in the sky, then plunged downward into the Confederate positions. Five other mortar boats came forward and hurled grape, canister and shrapnel directly at the forts. Confederate ships upstream headed toward the noise, their guns at ready. Flaming rafts, ignited and turned loose by the Confederates, began floating downstream into the federal fleet.

And the whole affair was

going just about as planned by Captain David Glasgow Farragut, commanding the federal fleet.

Months of Planning

For the past three months, Farragut had been planning for this moment. For the past month, he had been working his huge fleet through the tricky Mississippi passes. For the past six days, his mortar boats had lobbed nearly 17,000 shells into Fort Jackson, the larger of the Confederate forts. And now Farragut was trying to run the gauntlet between Fort Jackson on the west bank and Fort St. Philip on the east and charge upstream to his prize—New Orleans.

It was not easy. One federal ship, the "Varuna," outran the others and found herself surrounded by Confederate ships which sank her. Another, the "Iroquois," was cut up by guns of Fort St. Philip. A third, the "Brooklyn," was struck 17 times in the hull.

And Farragut's own ship, the "Hartford," caught fire when a flaming raft was pushed against it. His men extinguished the flames as Farragut shouted, "Don't flinch from that fire, boys. There's a hotter fire than that for those who don't do their duty."

But the Confederate ships fared worse. Nine were sunk or captured. By daylight, Farragut's fleet was steaming unmolested upriver toward New Orleans.

Forts Surrender

The mortar boats, under David D. Porter, remained behind, and Porter demanded surrender of the forts. The Confederates refused, and Porter opened on them again. The troops inside Fort Jackson—most of them Northerners or foreigners—mutinied; Porter landed troops and brought up gunboats, and within three days the forts had surrendered.

Meanwhile, Farragut arrived at New Orleans in a rainstorm on the 25th and was greeted by an angry, spitting, howling mob. Two federal officers walked through the mob to demand the town's surrender, and although the city officials refused, the American flag flew over the New Orleans mint next day. It was pulled down and ripped to shreds by a man named William Mumford, who later was hanged for the offense, but it soon was replaced for good, and the South's most important seaport was in federal hands.

On May 1, Gen. Benjamin Butler took possession of the city and began the iron-handed rule that was to earn him the nickname "Beast."

Next week: Corinth Besieged; Yorktown Evacuated.

Subscribe to The Pendleton Times

Smith Creek/Friends Run

by Dave Ellis

What a lovely sight of spring...hummingbirds have been spotted, flowers on the fruit trees and flowers blooming. Now the bad news, grass needs to be mowed.

Smith Creek and Friends Run Churches of the Brethren: shut-ins - Mary Mitchell, Shelda Warner, Vestyl Bible, Pam Riner, Anna Tessi, Ruby Propst, Alice Johnson, Arlin Dale and Freda Jamison, Hazel Simmons, Mary Alice Simmons, Reva Hartman, Sandy Washburn, Evelyn Ruddle and Sandra Vandevander; prayer list - Richard Campbell, Effie Harr, Brian Wilton, Tyler Moore, Tristan Hartman, Ronald Hayes, Becky Hedrick, Joshua Shirk, Libby Leeson, Doug Judy, Kay Alt, Ronnie Bowers Sr., Allen Kile II, Donna Bennett, Lloyd Hartman, Leann Britton, Mia Mahoney, Anne Hartman, Jack Vogel, Virginia Richardson, Rick Hoover, Don Rexrode, Ruth Simmers, Harry Allen Warner, Roberta Bennett, Quinley McConnell, Etha Mae Bowers, Mary Jo Wilfong, Grace Hammer, Kenny Williams, Dennis Mitchell, Olin Hoover, Debbie Horst, Rodney Crites, Raven Hoke, Charlotte Copley, Anita Hartman, Danny Arbogast, Jim Bible, Gloria Moats, Randy Bennett, Estyl Shreve, Jason Conley, Wendell and Darlene Nelson, Carolyn Gilbert, Charlie Westfall and Anna Lee Mitchell.

Prayer thought: "Help me God not to hold back in talking with you when I've got something on my heart and the burden too much. Thank you for your listening ear."

High and low temperatures and precipitation for April 18 through April 24, followed by the same for last year, were as follows: April 18 - 38°, 32°, 3° snow + .22" (59°, 39°); April 19 - 49°, 22°, .25" snow (69°, 38°); April 20 - 60°, 28° (72°, 35°); April 21 - 64°, 48° (48°, 34°, .25" snow); April 22 - 73°, 45° (49°, 31°); April 23 - 84°, 42° (63°, 29°) and April 24 - 88°, 55° (61°, 41°, .03").

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Pendleton bounces back, wins 2



Allden Rexrode had two hits in contests against Musselman, Highland County and Tucker County.

Rexrode was the hitting star again for Pendleton with two hits and two runs. Cameron Beachler added two hits and two RBIs. Vincell went 1 for 3 with two RBIs. Colaw also recorded an RBI for the Wildcats.

Pendleton scored two runs in the first, two in the third and added two insurance runs in the seventh to pull away from Tucker.

Pendleton coach Sam Yokum said he was pleased with his team being able to bounce back from the two blowout losses to post two victories. He praised the pitching performances of both Kisamore and Vincell.

"They pitched well," Yokum said.

Pendleton was scheduled to square off with Moorefield April 26 in Franklin before heading to Cooperstown, New York, for two contests against Jefferson. The two teams are set to battle at 1 p.m. Friday and again at 10 a.m. Saturday on Doubleday Field in Cooperstown. Pendleton will return home for a rematch against Highland County on May 2 in Franklin. Tucker will square off with Pendleton on May 3 in Franklin. Pendleton will look for revenge against East Hardy on May 4 in Franklin.

Registration Ongoing for Canaan Valley Races

In a news release, the Canaan Valley Running Company issued a call to runners to register for the 4th Annual Canaan Valley Half Marathon, 10K, and 5K presented by Mountain Top Realty and Canaan Valley BBQ.

The race will be held at the Canaan Valley Resort on April 30-May 1.

"We are excited to be launching our fourth season of our flagship race, the Canaan Valley Half Marathon, 10K, and 5K," said Robby McClung, owner and founder of the Canaan Valley Running Company. "Even with a global pandemic, this race has con-

tinued to grow and improve every year. This year will be no exception. Runnings and spectators can expect some exciting new additions."

"Available runner registration slots are limited, so we encourage runners to register today before it is too late," added McClung.

The 2021 season saw 1,600 runners participate in Canaan Valley Running Company races.

Runners who are interested in participating in the Canaan Valley Half Marathon, 10K, 5K race may visit canaan-valleyhalfmarathon.com to register.

Lady Wildcats post 2 wins, 5 losses

By Shawn Stinson

The Pendleton County softball team dipped back below the .500 mark following a 2-5 week.

Tucker County swept a doubleheader from Pendleton on April 20 in Franklin. Hedgesville downed Pendleton 14-6 in the opening game of the Bub Riggelman tournament on April 22 in Moorefield. Pendleton bounced back later in the day to blank Greenbrier West 9-0. Pendleton used late-inning heroics to post a 12-11 victory against Tyler Consolidated on April 23 in the tournament. Moorefield cruised to a 10-4 win against Pendleton in the final contest of the tournament. Keyser slipped past Pendleton 8-5 on April 25 in Keyser.

The Lady Wildcats fell to 8-9 on the season with the five losses during the seven-day span.

Pendleton coach Charlie Padgett said his team came out flat following being swept by the Lady Mountain Lions. Tucker posted a 16-6 victory in six innings in the opening game and rolled to a 13-1 win in five innings in the nightcap.

Pendleton led 5-2 at the end of the third inning and held a 6-5 lead after four innings before Tucker scored 11 runs in the final two innings to claim the win in the opener.

Tucker continued to swing hot bats in the nightcap, jumping out to a 5-1 lead at the end of the first inning. The Lady Mountain Lions tacked on four runs in both the second and third innings to pull away with the victory.

"We played small ball to

score our runs," Padgett said. "We didn't hit the ball very well."

A six-run seventh inning allowed Hedgesville to roll to a 14-6 victory against Pendleton on April 22 in Moorefield.

The Lady Eagles led 3-2 at the end of the first inning and tacked on two more in the second. Hedgesville plated three runs in the third and Pendleton responded with three runs in the bottom of the frame to make the score 8-5. The Lady Wildcats scored a single run in the bottom of the sixth before the Lady Eagles exploded for six runs in the seventh.

Padgett said his team played small ball again and was unable to get a big hit to have a "big inning."

Baylee Beachler hurled a complete-game shutout to pace Pendleton to a 9-0 win against Greenbrier West. Beachler recorded five strikeouts in the pitching circle.

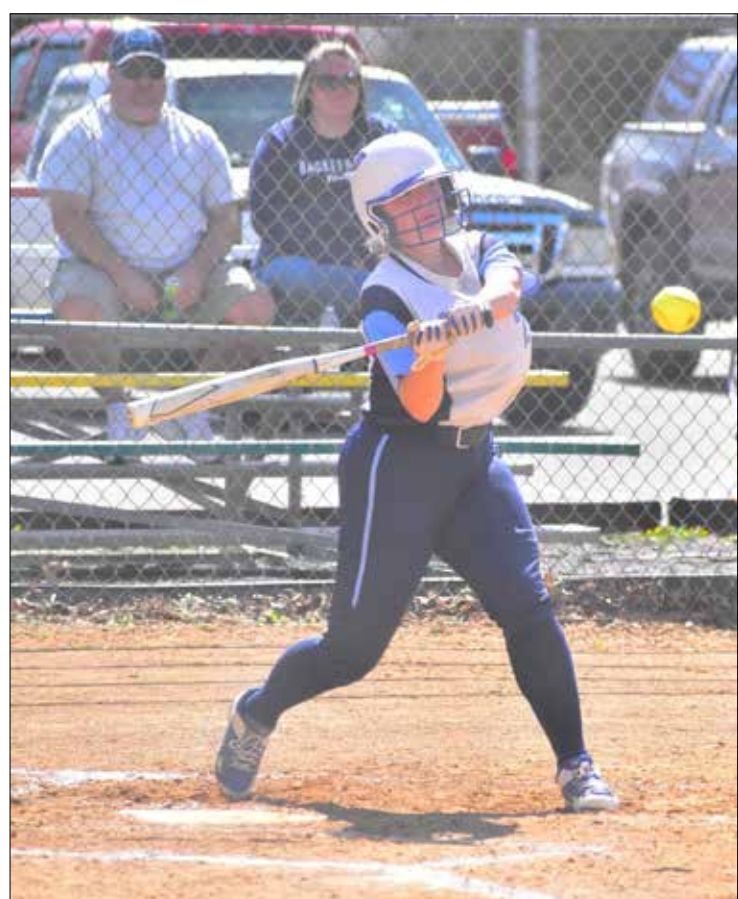
"She pitched well," Padgett said of his freshman pitcher.

Avery Townsend had three hits – two singles and a double – to pace the Lady Wildcats at the plate. Lizzie Alt and Ashton Hess both added doubles in the victory.

Townsend scored the game-winning run in the bottom of the seventh, allowing Pendleton to claim a 12-11 walk-off victory against Tyler Consolidated on April 23 in Moorefield.

Townsend walked to start the game-winning rally. She promptly stole second and third and scored on a fielder's choice ground ball off the bat of Jenna Smith.

Beachler added her cause with three hits at the plate, including a double. Kate Hedrick slugged a home run and finished 3 for 4 in the



Keira Gardner slugged a home run in Pendleton's loss to Moorefield in a contest in the Bub Riggelman tournament in Moorefield.

contest. Smith had two hits. Ally Vance notched a double and a triple.

Keira Gardner added a home run of her own in the 10-4 loss to Moorefield in the final game of the Bub Riggelman tournament.

The Lady Yellow Jackets jumped out to a 5-0 lead at the end of two innings. The Lady Wildcats sliced the deficit to 5-4 by scoring two runs in both the third and fourth innings. Moorefield pulled away by plating three runs in the fourth and single runs in the fifth and sixth.

Keyser scored four runs in the bottom of the sixth inning and broke open a tie game to allow the home team to post an 8-5 victory against Pendleton on April 25 in Keyser.

The Lady Wildcats raced out to a 3-0 lead at the end of the first. The Lady Golden Tornadoes grabbed

the lead with four runs in the third. Pendleton tied the game with a single run in the fourth. The teams were scoreless in the fifth before Keyser exploded for four runs in the bottom of the sixth. Pendleton scored a single run in the seventh.

"They were a very good team," Padgett said. "But a loss is still a loss. We had a couple of misplayed balls on defense. They only had three earned runs."

Pendleton was scheduled to play host to Petersburg on April 26 in Franklin. Pendleton will take on Moorefield today in Franklin. The regular season will close out with a doubleheader against Tygarts Valley Friday in Franklin. Padgett said the section tournament is scheduled to begin Monday with his team's opponent being announced later this week.

By Shawn Stinson

Following a tough start to its week, the Pendleton County baseball team closed it out with two victories to prepare for the final stretch of the season.

Musselman knocked off Pendleton 15-2 in five innings on April 20 in Franklin. It was the same story two nights later as East Hardy downed Pendleton 15-2 in five innings in Franklin. Pendleton bounced back the following day by edging Highland County 6-4 in Monterey, Virginia. Pendleton extended its winning streak to two games with a 6-2 victory against Tucker County on April 25 in Hamblenton.

Pendleton is now 6-8 on the season.

The Applemen led 4-1 heading into the top of the fourth when they took advantage of a two-out walk to score six runs. Musselman plated five more runs in the fifth to claim the 15-2 run-rule victory.

Allden Rexrode paced the Wildcats with two hits and a run. James Vincell recorded a run-scoring double in the loss.

East Hardy took advantage of walks, hits and errors to score 10 runs in the top of the first inning en route to posting a 15-2

road victory. The Cougars added a single run in the second and tacked on four more runs in the fourth. The Wildcats scored single runs in the third and fifth.

Brayden Beachler recorded the lone hit for Pendleton in the loss. Landon Colaw and Josiah Kimble each had a sacrifice fly for the Wildcats.

Pendleton was able to end its losing skid behind the pitching performance of Vincell. The freshman hurled a complete game and allowed five hits to Highland County hitters. He struck out seven and did not walk a batter. Vincell had a single and two RBIs at the plate.

Clayton Kisamore, Jayden Roberson and Beachler all went 2 for 3 for the Wildcats. Beachler and Kisamore both added an RBI. Rexrode was 1 for 1 with two RBIs and two runs scored.

In the victory against Tucker, Kisamore went the distance on the mound. He struck out 12, allowed four hits and no earned runs in the win. He aided his own cause at the plate with a hit, two runs and an RBI.

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Pendleton County Middle School Football Team and Coaches

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the many businesses and individuals who gave generously toward the purchase of new uniforms.

We sincerely appreciate each and every one of you.

Child abuse and neglect are risk factors to **Child Trafficking.**

According to the article, "Human Trafficking in American Schools," common risk factors of child trafficking include:

- Current or past involvement in the child welfare system
- History of running from out-of-home care
- Lack of social support
- Poverty
- Learning disabilities or developmental delay
- High number of adverse childhood experiences
- Family dysfunction or instability
- Current runaway or homeless status
- Involved with or targeted by gangs

Communities can decrease these risk factors by working together to build strong families and children.

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MENU

Pendleton Senior & Family Services

THURSDAY, APRIL 28
 Taco Salad
 Corn
 Blueberry Cobbler

FRIDAY, APRIL 29
 Open Faced
 Turkey Sandwich/Gravy
 Mashed Potatoes
 Lima Beans
 Peaches

MONDAY, MAY 2
 Hotdogs w/Sauerkraut
 Mashed Potatoes
 Peas
 Fruit

TUESDAY, MAY 3
 Baked Potato
 Chili/Cheese
 Broccoli
 Spiced Pears

WEDNESDAY, MAY 4
 Pork BBQ Sandwich
 Baked Beans
 Slaw
 Cobbler

Meals served daily at the Franklin center from 11:45 to 12:15. North Fork meals are served M, W, F from 11:45 to 12:15. Two percent milk served with every meal. Menus are subject to change.

DHHR Confirms Pediatric Flu Death

The West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources, Bureau for Public Health has confirmed an influenza-associated pediatric death for the 2021-22 flu season. According to the news release, the last influenza-associated pediatric death was reported during the 2019-20 flu season.

While adult flu deaths are not required to be reported, influenza-associated deaths of children under the age of 18 are required to be reported to the local health department within one week which in turn is reportable to the state. To protect the family's privacy, no details of the death will be released including the child's name, hometown, county, age and gender.

"This tragedy is a solemn reminder of the importance of flu vaccination, the most effective protection against the illness," said Dr. Ayne Amjad, state health officer and commissioner of DHHR's Bureau for Public Health. "While young people with chronic illnesses and compromised immune systems are at increased risk for serious complications, about 40% of children who die from influenza every year have no pre-existing conditions."

The Bureau for Public Health urges all West Virginians 6 months of age and older to get vaccinated against the flu. "It's not too late to get your flu shot as influenza is still circulating across the state," added Dr. Amjad.

Those who are very susceptible to flu and its complications include children under the age of five years old, the elderly, and people with underlying health conditions (e.g., diabetes, asthma, etc.). Infants under six months of age cannot receive the influenza vaccine. The best way to protect them is to have everyone who will have contact with the infant receive a flu vaccine, and to also limit an infant's exposure to large groups of individuals.

People who think they might have the flu should contact their doctor immediately to see if they need treatment with a prescription antiviral drug which can help prevent flu infections from becoming more serious. Treatment with an antiviral drug is especially important for hospitalized patients, people with severe flu illness and people who are at high risk of serious flu complications based on their age or health.

Other precautions people can take to protect against the spread of flu and other viruses include:

- Staying home when sick until fever-free for at least 24 hours;
- Covering coughs and sneezes with a tissue and then discarding the tissue promptly; and

- Washing hands frequently, preferably with soap and water.

A total of 16 influenza-associated pediatric deaths have been reported nationwide during the 2021-22 influenza season according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

For more information, visit <https://oeps.wv.gov/flu/pages/default.aspx>.

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 FFA Banquet	2	3 HS Baseball Highland 6:00 (H) Softball Sectionals Begin	4 MS Baseball Barbours 5:30 (A) HS Baseball Tucker Co 6:00 (H) PVC Track @ Keyser 5:00	5 HS Baseball Petersburg 6:00 (H)	6 MS Softball Tygarts Valley 6:00 (H) MS Baseball Tucker 6:00 (A)	7
8	9 Baseball Sectionals Begin	10  NO SCHOOL	11	12	13	14
15	16 Senior Awards 1:00	17	18	19	20 Baccalaureate 6:00 PCHS Auditorium	21  Class of 2022 Graduation 11:00
22	23	24	25	26	27 LAST DAY OF SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS Early Release	28
29	30  Memorial Day	31		Pendleton County Schools is an Equal Opportunity Provider	MS - Middle School HS - High School	

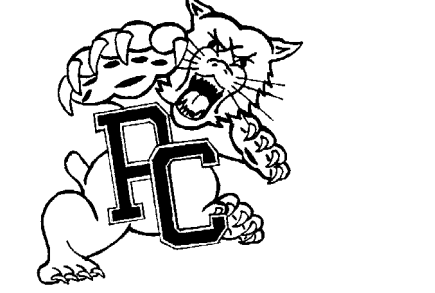
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Stay Alive — Don't Text and Drive

By Charlotte Lane
Public Service Commission Chairman

April is Distracted Driving Month, and the Public Service Commission has joined with other law enforcement agencies nationwide to deliver this lifesaving message. Officers are patrolling the state's highways to reinforce it with commercial motor vehicle drivers.

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, car crashes that involved distracted drivers killed 3,142 people in 2020, 8% of all fatal crashes in the country. Since 2012, when NHTSA started tracking distracted driver accidents, more than 29,000 lives have been lost in crashes involving distracted drivers. People who text while driving are 23 times more likely to be involved in a crash. Alarming, about one in five people killed in crashes involving a distracted driver are not in vehicles — they are walking, riding bikes or otherwise outside the vehicle.

Teenage drivers are especially impacted. AAA found distracted driving is responsible for over 58% of teen crashes. Recently, 39% of high school students reported texting or emailing while driving during the past month, and among drivers age 15-20 involved in fatal crashes, 9% were distracted at the time of the crash. Not all teenagers are equally likely to be involved in a motor vehicle crash. Teenage males are almost twice as likely as teenage females to be victims of motor vehicle fatalities.

Texting may be the most obvious offence, but anything that takes one's attention away from driving poses a danger to oneself, one's passengers and everyone who shares the road with a person. Seemingly harmless activities such as tuning the radio or adjusting the climate control can take one's attention off the road. A driver should never even consider eating, applying makeup, styling one's hair, or shaving while behind the wheel. That may sound far-fetched, but people do it. Children and pets should be securely belted in before setting out on the road. When a person is behind the wheel one's only job is to safely navigate from Point A to Point B.

It takes less than five seconds for a car traveling 55 mph to cover the length of a football field; a lot can happen in five seconds.

So, fasten the seatbelt, put down the phone and let's all arrive safely.

Senate Democratic Leader Writes Open Letter

Senate Minority Leader Stephen Baldwin, D-Greenbrier, wrote the following open letter to Senate President Craig Blair, R-Berkeley, prior to the special legislative session that Governor Jim Justice called for earlier this week.

Mr. President,
I hope this letter finds you well. I appreciate you taking the time to speak with me this week regarding potential issues to be addressed in this special session. On behalf of the minority caucus, I feel it is important to highlight critical issues that have been omitted from consideration. Many of these issues are time-sensitive and enjoyed overwhelming bipartisan support during our regular session.

First, I remain greatly disappointed that the legislature failed to pass the foster care bill during the regular session, nor address the numerous issues related to the foster care system. It is simply unacceptable that we did not pass any legislation during the session to improve our foster care system, and to repeat this error truly demonstrates our misplaced priorities.

I am sure you saw Hoppy Kercheval's April 18 column, "Drug Addiction is West Virginia's No. 1 Problem." I could not agree with him more, but a closer review of the three incidents he references reinforces the importance of improving our foster care system. Those three incidents related to: (1) child neglect after a toddler overdosed on heroin, (2) a mother who overdosed with her infant by her side, and (3) a troubled teenager convicted of the murder of her maternal grandparents, who adopted her and raised her after years of living with drug-addicted parents. If we again fail to address the issues that substance use disorder and addiction are causing in our state, we will be failing these children and more like them.

In addition to foster care, we saw the untimely end of the insulin cap bill the final night of regular session, another measure that would provide immediate relief to a vulnerable population. We believe this should be taken up as part of the special session, as it is widely popular and extremely beneficial to the 1 in 10 West Virginians living with diabetes. This bill had strong bipartisan support during session and

will provide both medical and financial reprieve to those who need prescriptive insulin to survive.

As you know, our caucus strongly believes that a temporary gas tax holiday will put immediate relief in West Virginian's pockets. I reiterate: this is a temporary measure, we can afford it, and surrounding states have done the same. This policy would especially help border counties, working West Virginians (who commute an average of 25 minutes to work), and retirees on fixed incomes.

We believe that redistributing certain taxes and surcharges to benefit volunteer fire departments, as the Senate voted to do during the regular session, will grant immediate relief to our struggling VFDs and allow them to continue funding operations. In turn, this ensures lower home insurance rates for our constituents and continues West Virginia's appeal of having a lower cost of living than our surrounding states.

Finally, we believe the legislature was remiss not to address county budget concerns during the regular session. COVID took a large toll on our counties, and with our great revenue surplus, it seems the time to offer relief is now. There are many ways to address this, including jail bill considerations (such as reform that will help the process in the future) and funding school building and courthouse deferred maintenance and improvements. These would lessen the load on our small and strained counties. We would welcome a chance to pass legislation toward this end.

I urge you to look at the priorities we are setting as a legislative body and weigh whether or not they are responsive to the needs of our people. Are people desperate for reduced CPS caseworker loads and coordinated services for foster children or are they desperate to create a new reimbursable fund for a government agency? Please consider the message we are sending to our constituency with which bills we choose to take up.

I appreciate you working with our caucus to elevate good ideas, no matter where they come from. I believe there are many in this letter, and I hope you agree. If so, please ask the Governor and Speaker Hanshaw to consider addressing them in the upcoming session.

Thank you for your consideration.

Mount Storm Lake Boat Ramp, Parking Area Closure Announced

Mount Storm Lake's boat ramp and parking area will be closed from June 1 through Aug. 29 due to significant improvements to the Grant County lake, the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources announced in a news release. The work includes installation of a permanent concrete ramp, a courtesy dock, a paved handicap access parking area and

walkway to the ramp, reconstruction of storm drains and recontouring and basing of the parking lot.

"We apologize for the inconvenience but are excited to see these long-awaited upgrades occur for Mount Storm Lake's public facilities and fishery," said Brandon Keplinger, District 2 fisheries biologist. "Unfortunately, there are no other publicly

available access locations to the lake currently. The contractor has 120 days to complete the construction. If construction is completed prior to the Aug. 28 deadline, access will be reopened."

For more information about the project, contact the District 2 office in Romney at 304-822-3551.

Social Security Online Provides Variety of Services

By Tony Stutts
Social Security District Manager in Petersburg, WV

More than likely a person does not have to visit or call a Social Security office to do business. Social Security's online services webpage at www.ssa.gov/onlineservices provides a wide variety of self-service options to use on

one's phone, tablet, or computer. A person can even apply for retirement, disability, or Medicare online.

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Statewide Crackdown Announced for Speeding, Distracted Driving in Work Zones

Drivers will see an increased police presence in West Virginia work zones this highway construction season, leaders with the West Virginia Department of Transportation and several law enforcement agencies announced at an event April 12 at the State Capitol recognizing Work Zone Awareness Week.

"We are going to do everything that we can to meet our goal of zero lives lost on our highways and zero lives lost in our work zones," said WVDOT Secretary Jimmy Wriston, P.E. "This is a united front with our partners in law enforcement. We're serious about this. The days of talking your way out of these tickets are over, and the fines you'll face in work zones are doubled."

According to a press release from the WVDOT, last year, there were 889 crashes in West Virginia work zones, killing five people and injuring more than 300.

With Gov. Jim Justice recently announcing that the 2022 highway construction season is in line to be the busiest year of roadwork in state history, efforts to crack down on speeding and distracted driving in work zones will also reach new heights.

"We have a lot of road projects in West Virginia this year. It's going to be an aggressive year thanks to the Governor's Roads to Prosperity program," said Randy Damron, WVDOT spokesperson. "Each one of those projects is a work zone. So, the message today is that there's going to be a lot of work zones around the state and people need to slow down."

During the 2022 highway construction season, law enforcement will be issuing tickets in work zones throughout West Virginia. Police will be targeting work zones on Interstate 70, Interstate 68, Interstate 64, Interstate 77, Interstate 79 and Interstate 81 throughout the season.

"I want to let everyone know that we will be out there. We will be issuing citations," said Matt Epling, enforcement officer, Public Service Commission of West Virginia. "We look forward to working with our partner agencies while continuing to enforce traffic laws within these construction zones to make the roadway safer for the traveling public, as well as the men and women that are making repairs to our roads, because one life lost is one too many."

"I speak for every member of law enforcement when I say that we would much rather issue a traffic citation for speeding than deliver a death message to the family of a driver, passenger, or road worker killed in a construction zone, or anywhere on our roadways," said Lt. Chris Zirkle of the West Virginia State Police. "This year, you may see one law enforcement officer sitting out in a construction zone. But what you won't see are the other three or four officers actively working that same construction zone, looking for infractions and writing citations."

During the event, WVDOT officials displayed 61 empty orange vests, draped atop traffic cones, representing the 61 workers who have been killed in work zones over the years. "There is not one empty vest up there that is acceptable," Wriston said. "And we certainly cannot have any more." "Our road workers are people who work hard every day

to make your commute to work, play, and vacation better," said Mike Clowser, executive director, Contractors Association of West Virginia. "For construction workers and highways employees, the work zone is their office. You want to be safe in your office. Our employees who are on our roadways deserve the same consideration."

"We can glean a lot from history," said WVDOT Traffic Engineering Division Director Cindy Cramer, who explained several statistics on crashes. Most crashes occur during daylight hours, with Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays being the most common days for a crash. She added that the most common type of crash are rear-end collisions. "What that says to me is that people need to pay more attention to the vehicle in front of them."

On average, 85% of the people who die in work zone crashes are drivers or passengers of the vehicles involved in the wreck.

Nationally, there are about 850 fatalities in work zones each year, which is approximately 2% of all roadway fatalities. Between 2017 and 2021, West Virginia saw 21 fatal crashes in work zones, just over 1% of all roadway fatalities.

"Even though West Virginia's numbers are slightly better than the national average, there's still much work to be done to ensure that everyone gets home safely," Cramer said. "The people who lose their lives are not statistics. They're people. They're parents, friends, loved ones, and children who are deeply missed."

Cramer added that driver speeds on roadways across the state have climbed in recent years. In that same time, the rate of crashes in which speed has been a contributing factor have also increased. "Speed limits are in place for your safety," she added. "They're not arbitrary. They're there for a reason, and we're going to be working with our partners very closely this year to bring speeds down into compliance with what's posted."

The WVDOT has made significant investments in cameras, road sensors, message boards, and other tools to urge drivers to reduce speeds and pay attention.

"What people also need to remember, though, is that the vast majority of speed-related crashes don't happen on the interstate, they happen on secondary roads," said Bob Tipton, director of the Governor's Highway Safety Program. "So, it's not just an interstate issue, it's an everywhere issue."

"We have to give the perception that any time you're driving in West Virginia and you're going 80 miles per hour or faster, there's a good chance you're going to get a ticket," Tipton continued. "That's the reality we need to drive home for the 15% to 20% of people who don't conform to the laws on our roadways, that there are going to be consequences for your actions. We also need to focus on the words we use when we describe a crash. A crash is not an accident. A crash happens for a reason. It happens because somebody did something wrong, or misjudged, or ignored the law. Crashes don't happen by accident."

National Work Zone Awareness Week takes place across the United States each spring, with efforts between state departments of transportation, national road safety organizations, government agencies, private companies, and others to remind the public of the importance of work zone safety.


West Virginia recognizes an entire month for the cause. Gov. Justice recently issued a proclamation, officially designating April 2022 as Work Zone Safety Awareness Month in West Virginia.

The WVDOT urges drivers to remain alert when traveling through work zones. Pay attention to signage and abide by posted speed limits. Above all, keep one's head up and cell phone down to avoid becoming the next crash statistic.

"You should always remember that you're operating a heavy piece of machinery when you get behind the wheel of an automobile," Wriston said. "The first thing you do is put on your safety belt. You're already in the right mind frame. But the attention to safety cannot stop there."

"I ask every citizen of this state: remain focused throughout your entire trip. Pay attention to the signs and put that cell phone down," Wriston continued. "You can literally save people's lives."

With work continuing in all 55 counties across the state, the West Virginia Division of Highways and the West Virginia Department of Transportation remind the public of the importance of keeping everyone safe in work zones by keeping "Heads up; phones down!"




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17 40 S&W Kahr CW 40+1 Clip

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73 Remington Model 7 TMM08 w/ Stainless Barrel and Laminated Original Stock

74 Remington Model 7 280 W/ Boyd Stock w/ Simmon Atec Scope

75 US Survival Rifle Henry 27R Rifle "NEW"

76 Bennelli Nova 12ga 28" barrel Shotgun "NEW"

77 Winchester XPR 270WSM Rifle "NEW"

78 Glock 23 Gen 4 40S&W Pistol

79 Glock 19X 9mm Pistol

80 Glock 23 Gen5 40S&W MOS pistol

81 Glock 37 Gen 3 45GAP W/ 1 Box of Ammo Pistol

82 Glock 26 Gen 3 9mm Pistol

83 Ruger New Vaquero 357 mag/Revolver

84 Taurus 856 Revolver 38spl Revolver

85 Taurus 856 Revolver 38spl Revolver

86 Taurus PT23 38Auto Pistol

87 Taurus Tracker 22WMR Revolver

88 Smith and Wesson model 15 357Mag Revolver

89 Kahr CW380 38Auto Pistol

90 North American Arms PUG 22mag Revolver

91 Magnum Research Desert Eagle 44mag Pistol "NEW"

92 RFT 2A1 7.62x51 (308) Rifle

93 Norinco SKS 7.62x39 Rifle

94 Savage Model 11 7mm-38 Rifle

95 Savage 112 Target 338 Lapua w/ Burris Eliminator III

96 Tikka T3X Tactical 6.5CM Rifle

97 Knight Muzzleloader 50cal 10 precision cap

98 CVA 45cal Muzzle 150Muzzleloader

99 Springfield Hellcat 9mm w/ Laser Pistol

100 Hi-Point CF380 38Auto

101 Keystone Crocket 22mag Rifle "NEW"

102 Delton DT1-15 5.56nato w/ vortex V-brite Rifle

103 Savage Axis 243 Camo Rifle

104 Savage Model 11 308win Heavy Barrel Rifle

105 Rossi Field Single Shot 243 Rifle

106 Smith and Wesson MP-15 5.56 Rifle "NEW"


107 Sauer Aug White 5.56 Rifle

108 Colt Carbine 5.56 Rifle

109 1973 Ford Industrial Tractor 3400 3 Cyl. Diesel w/Cab and front end loader

110 Track Hoe Bucket

111 Tracks and Rims for a Honda Pioneer 1000

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Request for Bids

The Pendleton County Commission is seeking bids for cleaning services at the Pendleton County Courthouse, Pendleton County Community Building, Clinton Hedrick Community Building and the Pendleton County Health Department.

Scope of work and detailed information can be obtained from the Commission Office M-F 8:30-4:30 or by calling Karen Pitsenbarger at 304-358-7573.

All bidders must have a valid WV business license and current liability insurance (proof required). Sealed bids will be received at the office of the Pendleton County Commission until 4:00 p.m. on May 13, 2022.

The Commission reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

The Pendleton County Commission is an EOE.

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West Virginians Urged to Apply For the Job Jumpstart Program

WorkForce West Virginia encourages West Virginians who are returning to work to apply for the Job Jumpstart Program (JJP). Since its launch in January, 14,685 West Virginians have applied and 12,533 have been approved to participate in the program, according to a news release from WorkForce West Virginia. The JJP provides a one-time, \$1,500 payment to eligible West Vir-

ginians. Payment distribution to approved applicants began in late February. "The Job Jumpstart Program has had a very successful kickoff and we encourage West Virginians who are returning to work or who have completed a training or certification program to continue to apply for these funds," said Scott Adkins, acting commissioner of WorkForce West Virginia. "Currently,

nearly 86 percent of applicants have met the requirements and qualify for this program. WorkForce West Virginia remains committed to assisting West Virginians experiencing unemployment and providing access to necessary resources." The JJP was created to assist West Virginians returning to the workforce. Those eligible for the program include West Virgin-

ia residents who have not previously received a JJP payment and one of the following:

- Receive Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits or Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), were unemployed or underemployed and have become employed since Jan. 1 and maintain employment for eight consecutive weeks working 32 or more hours per week, or enroll and complete an approved certification program and/or approved

WorkForce West Virginia training program from January 1 to August 12;

- Were unemployed or underemployed (working less than 32 hours per week) and have become employed since Jan. 1 and maintain employment for eight consecutive weeks working 32 or more hours per week; or
- Enroll and complete an approved certification program and/or approved WorkForce West Virginia training program from Jan. 1 to August 12.

Individuals are required

to register with WorkForce West Virginia and complete the pre-screening questionnaire. WorkForce West Virginia will review all submitted applications and required verification documents to determine eligibility. Once an application is reviewed and approved, the \$1,500 payment will be processed and distributed. For more information about WorkForce West Virginia and the JJP, visit www.workforcewv.org.

Information Shared on Using my Social Security Account

By Tony Stutts
Social Security District Manager in Petersburg

The Social Security staff wants to help everyone get the services they need as quickly and safely as possible. A person's personal my Social Security account at www.ssa.gov/myaccount is the gateway to doing business online.

Whether a person receives benefits now or in the future, one will want to create a personal my Social Security account or use the one already set up. More than 65 million people already have an account.

Does a person know one can use a personal my Social Security account to accomplish many tasks? A person can request a replacement Social Security card (in most states), check the status of an application or appeal, verify one's earnings, estimate future benefits, or manage the benefits one already receives. Watch a brief video at www.youtube.com/watch?v=2hjJqUAFSXI about the benefits of having an account.

Social Security is committed to protecting a person's information and benefits and take this responsibility seriously. That's why personal information is asked to verify one's identity in order to create a personal my Social Security account. Social Security works with external partners to securely verify one's identity in order to protect one's data while making the online services easy for a person to use.

Ready to sign up? A person can now create a new my Social Security account through either of these two credential partners:

- Login.gov or ID.me. Login.gov is the public's one account for simple, secure, and private access to participating U.S. government agencies.
- ID.me is a single sign-on provider that meets the U.S. government's online identity proofing and authentication requirements.

A credential includes a person's username, password, and two-step verification factors. A trusted credential partner helps Social Security securely verify one's identity online.

Here is a brief list of some things a person needs to know when creating or accessing one's personal my Social Security account.

- A person who has never accessed my Social Security and does not have a Login.gov or ID.me credential can visit the my Social Security webpage at www.ssa.gov/myaccount to get started. A person will have the option to create an account with one's preferred credential partner, Login.gov or ID.me.

Keep in mind: 1) A person must be 18 years of age or older and have a Social Security number; 2) A person will be redirected to the partner's website when selecting "Sign in with Login.gov" or "Sign in with ID.me."; 3) A person must provide a valid email address and some additional information; and 4) Once a person creates the credential, one will return to the my Social Security webpage for next steps.

- A person who has never accessed my Social Security, but already has a Login.gov or ID.me credential can sign in with one's credential on the my Social Security webpage at www.ssa.gov/myaccount and follow the prompts.

- A person who has accessed my Social Security with a Social Security username and password that was created before Sept. 18, 2021, should still sign in using one's Social Security username and password. This is the first option on the sign in screen secure.ssa.gov/RIL/SiView.action.

- A person who has accessed my Social Security using one's existing Login.gov or ID.me credential can sign in to my Social Security using either Login.gov or ID.me credential.

Please encourage friends and family to create their personal my Social Security account today at www.ssa.gov/myaccount.

Mental Health Hotline to Become Three-digit Number: 988

The West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources (DHHR) Bureau for Behavioral Health has secured a \$561,131 award from the federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration to prepare for the transition of the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline to a new three-digit number (988) on July 16, according to a news release.

BBH funds West Virginia's single National Suicide Prevention Lifeline call center, operated by First Choice Services, to answer in-state calls to the Lifeline, which includes the Veterans Crisis Line. On July 16, the three-digit dialing code for the Lifeline will become 988, replacing the current phone number of 1-800-273-8255. West Virginians needing support should continue to call 1-800-273-8255 until July 16.

The Lifeline accepts calls from anyone experiencing suicidal crisis or mental health-related distress. The state Lifeline/988 call center will also begin accepting texts and chats after July 16. The West Virginia Legislature passed and Gov. Jim Justice signed Senate Bill 181 in March to help prepare for 988, and DHHR will continue to support call center capacity.

"988 is the first step in building an acces-

sible crisis system that includes someone to talk to, someone to respond, and a safe place to be," said Christina Mullins, commissioner of DHHR's Bureau for Behavioral Health. "Roughly 75 to 80 percent of calls help de-escalate and provide support without further crisis intervention needed."

For the callers who need additional crisis services (someone to respond or a safe place to be), the state is enhancing its crisis continuum. Presently, West Virginia has statewide Children's Mobile Crisis Response for children and youth up to age 21 available through the 24/7 Children's Crisis and Referral Line (844-HELP4WV, <https://www.help4wv.com/ccl>). Adult crisis response services are available in certain counties.

"DHHR and its partners are collaborating to improve West Virginians' access to needed behavioral health crisis services to prevent suicide and other detrimental outcomes," added Mullins. "This new grant assists in saving lives in our state, where suicide is a leading cause of death for West Virginians aged 10-34, and a significant cause of preventable deaths across all age ranges."

Read more about 988 planning at <https://www.samhsa.gov/find-help/988>.

Medical Cannabis Industry Growing in West Virginia

The Medical Cannabis Act, passed by the WV Legislature and signed into law by Governor Jim Justice in 2017, has enabled thousands of state residents with qualifying medical conditions to access a new option for treatment, according to a news release from the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources.

Patients must have qualifying "severe or chronic conditions," the news release stated. The Office of Medical Cannabis has approved more than 7,000 applications for medical cannabis cards.

To date, nine dispensaries, two processors,

and six growers are operational across West Virginia.

"The medical cannabis industry has created 332 direct jobs in West Virginia, with an additional job growth of 1,884 positions in the fields of commercial construction security services, and transportation," said Jason Frame, director of the WVDHHR's office of Medical Cannabis. "As the medical cannabis industry continues to expand, opportunities for employment and patient care in West Virginia will also grow. Additionally all products dispensed have been cultivated within West Virginia's borders at medical cannabis growth and processing facilities."

To learn more, visit omc.wv.gov.

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Social Security's SSI Benefits Children with Disabilities

By Tony Stutts
Social Security District
Manager in Petersburg

Does one know that Social Security's Supplemental Security Income (SSI) program provides cash payments to children with disabilities whose families have limited income and resources?

A child must meet all of the following disability requirements to be considered medically eligible for SSI: The child, if not blind, must not be working or earning more than \$1,350 a month in 2022. If the child is blind, they must not be working or earning more than \$2,260 in 2022. The earning amounts usually change every year to keep up with inflation.

The child must have a medical condition(s), that result in "marked and severe functional limitations." This means that the condition(s) must very seriously limit the child's activities.

The child's condition(s) must last for at least a year or expected to result in death.

Some older teenagers may have part-time jobs or are involved in work programs, which may affect eligibility to SSI. In addition, if an unmarried child under age 18 is living at home, Social Security may consider some of the parents' income as the child's income. Allowances are made for the parents and their other children living in the home when parents' income is considered.

More information about children's benefits in can be found in the publication, "Benefits for Children with Disabilities" at www.ssa.gov/pubs/EN-05-10026.pdf.

Social Security also helps children – and adults – through its Compassionate Allowances program. Compassionate Allowances are a way to quickly identify conditions that, by definition, meet Social Security's standard for disability benefits. A list of conditions can be found at www.ssa.gov/compassionateallowances/conditions.htm. Compassionate Allowances can help reduce the wait time for Social Security to make a disability determination for children with the most serious disabilities. Thousands of children receive benefits because they have a condition on this list, but children with conditions not on this list can still qualify for SSI.

If a person is or knows a parent, guardian, caregiver, or representative of a child that may be eligible, visit Social Security's Disability Benefits - Apply for a Child (Under Age 18) at www.ssa.gov/ssikids to learn more and begin an application.

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LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT

Annual Drinking Water Quality Report 2021
PENDELTON COUNTY PSD
P.O. BOX 861
Franklin, WV 26807-0861
PWS# WV3303608-Pendleton US 220-N
PWS# WV3303609-Circleville
PWS# WV3303611-Upper Tract
PWS# WV3303613-Brandywine
PWS# WV3303614-Riverton
March 28, 2022

Why am I receiving this report?

In compliance with the Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments, the Pendleton County PSD is providing its customers with this annual water quality report. This report explains where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. The information in this report shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1st to December 31st, 2021 or earlier if not on a yearly schedule.

If you have any questions concerning this report, you may contact **Stephen Roberson or Jay Hartman (304) 358-3027**. If you have any further questions, comments or suggestions, please attend any of our regularly scheduled water board meetings held on the 2nd Thursday of every month at **10:00 AM** in the **Pendleton County Community Building, 200 Confederate Road, Franklin, WV.**

Where does my water come from?

Your drinking water source is **ground** water from a spring near Eagle Rocks in the Smoke Hole for Upper Tract. A **surface** water source from the South Fork of the South Branch Potomac River is issued for Brandywine. A **ground** water source from three wells is used for Circleville. A **ground** water source from two wells is used for Riverton and **purchased** ground water from the Town of Franklin which uses springs known as Town Springs near Dry Run is used for Pendleton US 220-N. The Eagle Rocks Spring in Smoke Hole and Franklin Town Springs have both been declared Ground Water Under the Direct Influence of Surface Water (GWUDI) and are considered surface water.

Source Water Assessment

A Source Water Assessment was conducted in 2003 by the West Virginia Bureau for Public Health (WVBPH). The springs that supply drinking water to the **Town of Franklin** have a higher susceptibility to contamination, due to the sensitive nature of surface aquifer in which the drinking water springs are located and existing potential contaminant sources identified within the area. This does not mean that this spring will become contaminated; only that conditions are such that the surface water could be impacted by a potential contaminant source. Future contamination may be avoided by implementing protective measures. The source water assessment report which contains more information is available for review or a copy will be provided to you at their office during business hours or from the WVBPH 304-558-2981.

The wells/springs that supply drinking water to the **Circleville, Upper Tract, and Riverton** facilities have a higher susceptibility (Upper Tract - moderate susceptibility) to contamination, due to the sensitive nature of the aquifers in which the drinking water wells are located and the existing potential contaminant sources identified within the area. This does not mean that the wellfields will become contaminated; only that conditions are such that the ground water could be impacted by a potential contaminant source. Future contamination may be avoided by implementing protective measures. The source water assessment report which contains more information is available for review or a copy will be provided to you at their office during business hours or from the WVBPH 304-558-2981.

Why must water be treated?

All drinking water contains various amounts and kinds of contaminants. Federal and state regulations establish limits, controls, and treatment practices to minimize these contaminants and to reduce any subsequent health effects.

Contaminants in Water

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits of contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of these contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline. (800-426-4791). The source of drinking water (both tap and bottled water) includes rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals, and, in some cases radioactive material and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife.

Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring, or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, farming.

Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses.

Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also, come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems.

Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally-occurring or the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Water Quality Data Table

Definitions of terms and abbreviations used in the table or report:

•**MCLG - Maximum Contaminant Level Goal**, or the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

•**MCL - Maximum Contaminant Level**, or the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technique.

•**MRDLG - Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal**, or the level of drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect benefits of use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

•**MRDL - Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level**, or the highest level of disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of disinfectant is necessary to control microbial contaminants.

•**AL - Action Level**, or the concentration of a contaminant which, when exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

•**TT - Treatment Technique**, or a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Abbreviations that may be found in the table:

•**ppm** – parts per million or milligrams per liter

•**ppb** – parts per billion or micrograms per liter

•**NTU** – Nephelometric Turbidity Unit, used to measure cloudiness in water

•**NE** – not established

•**N/A** – not applicable

Table of Test Results - Regulated Contaminants – Pendleton US 220N

Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Unit of Measure	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Volatile Organic Contaminants						
Chlorine	N	1.3 Annual avg. Range 1.2 - 1.5	ppm	4 MRDLG	4 MRDL	Water additive used to control microbes
Halocetic acids (HAAC5)	N	7.3	ppb	NA	60	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Total trihalomethanes (TTHMs)	N	11	ppb	NA	80	By-product of drinking water disinfection

*Copper and lead samples were collected from 5 area residences on 8-11-20. Only the 90th percentile is reported. None of the samples collected exceeded the MCL.

Table of Test Results - Regulated Contaminants – Circleville

Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Unit of Measure	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Volatile Organic Contaminants						
Chlorine	N	1.8 Annual avg. Range 1.4 - 2.2	ppm	4 MRDLG	4 MRDL	Water additive used to control microbes
Inorganic Contaminants						
Nitrate	N	0.18	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; erosion of natural deposits

*Copper and lead samples were collected from 5 area residences on 8-11-20. Only the 90th percentile is reported. None of the samples collected exceeded the MCL.

Table of Test Results - Regulated Contaminants – Upper Tract

Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Unit of Measure	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Microbiological Contaminants						

Turbidity	N	0.03 100% of monthly samples <0.3	NTU	0	TT	Soil runoff
Total organic carbon	N	1.23	ppm	NA	TT	Naturally present in the environment
Inorganic Contaminants						
Barium	N	0.0339	ppm	2	2	Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride	N	0.7	ppm	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive that promotes strong teeth; discharge from aluminum and fertilizer plants
Nitrate	N	0.84	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; erosion of natural deposits
Volatile Organic Contaminants						
Chlorine	N	1.9 Annual avg. Range 1.6 - 2.2	ppm	4 MRDLG	4 MRDL	Water additive used to control microbes
Halocetic acids (HAAC5)	N	3	ppb	NA	60	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Total trihalomethanes (TTHMs)	N	3	ppb	NA	80	By-product of drinking water disinfection

*Copper and lead samples were collected from 10 area residences on 8-11-20. Only the 90th percentile is reported. None of the samples collected exceeded the MCL.

Table of Test Results - Unregulated Contaminants – Upper Tract

Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Unit of Measure	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Aluminum	N	85 Annual avg. Range 53 - 170	ppb	NE	200	Erosion of natural deposits
Iron	N	19	ppb	NE	300	Erosion of natural deposits
Manganese	N	0.01	ppm	NE	50	Erosion of natural deposits
Sodium	N	6.4	ppm	0	20	Erosion of natural deposits

Table of Test Results - Regulated Contaminants – Brandywine

Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Unit of Measure	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Microbiological Contaminants						
Turbidity	N	0.05 100% of monthly samples <0.3	NTU	0	TT	Soil runoff
Total organic carbon	N	1.65	ppm	NA	TT	Naturally present in the environment
Inorganic Contaminants						
Barium	N	0.0651	ppm	2	2	Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride	N	0.87	ppm	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive that promotes strong teeth; discharge from aluminum and fertilizer plants
Nitrate	N	0.04	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; erosion of natural deposits
Arsenic	H	0.29	ppb	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use, erosion of natural deposits
Volatile Organic Contaminants						
Chlorine	N	1.9 Annual avg. Range 1.67 - 2.2	ppm	4 MRDLG	4 MRDL	Water additive used to control microbes
Halocetic acids (HAAC5)	N	18.43 Annual avg. Range 9.3 - 24.42	ppb	NA	60	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Total trihalomethanes (TTHMs)	N	19.80 Annual avg. Range 12.07 - 24.92	ppb	NA	80	By-product of drinking water disinfection

*Copper and lead samples were collected from 10 area residences on 8-11-20. Only the 90th percentile is reported. None of the samples collected exceeded the MCL.

Table of Test Results - Unregulated Contaminants – Brandywine

Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Unit of Measure	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Aluminum	N	241 Annual avg. Range 160 - 163	ppb	NE	200	Erosion of natural deposits
Iron	N	22	ppb	NE	300	Erosion of natural deposits
Manganese	N	0.02	ppm	NE	50	Erosion of natural deposits
Sodium	N	3.79	ppm	0	20	Erosion of natural deposits

Table of Test Results - Regulated Contaminants – Riverton

Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Unit of Measure	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Volatile Organic Contaminants						
Chlorine	N	1.5 Annual avg. Range 1.1 - 2.0	ppm	4 MRDLG	4 MRDL	Water additive used to control microbes
Halocetic acids (HAAC5)	N	3.9	ppb	NA	60	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Inorganic Contaminants						
Copper*	N	0.209	ppm	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing; erosion of natural deposits
Lead*	N	0.93	ppb	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing; erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate	N	0.28	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; erosion of natural deposits

*Copper and lead samples were collected from 10 area residences on 8-13-20. Only the 90th percentile is reported. None of the samples collected exceeded the MCL.

WE ARE PLEASED TO REPORT THAT THE PENDELTON COUNTY PSD MET ALL FEDERAL AND STATE WATER STANDARDS FOR THE REPORTING YEAR 2021

Additional Information

All other water test results for the reporting year 2021 were all non-detects. Turbidity is a measure of cloudiness in water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system.

The PSD does sample for E.coli in both Upper Tract and Brandywine systems. If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. The **Pendleton County PSD** is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your drinking water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

The **Pendleton County PSD** Upper Tract Water System and the Brandywine Water System is committed to protecting its drinking water sources. The drinking water for Upper Tract is sourced from a spring and the drinking water for Brandywine is surface water sourced from the South Fork of the South Branch Potomac River. We updated our Source Water Protection Plans (SWPP) in 2015, based on the requirements of Senate Bill 373. The SWPP includes physical actions to protect the drinking water sources such as ensuring that the source spring and the surface water is secured, and planning actions such as creating an emergency response plan. It also includes an assessment of potential sources of contamination. The SWPP's were developed by the PSD in collaboration with a local Source Water Protection Team, and with the involvement of the public. Please contact the **Pendleton County PSD** Upper Tract Water System and the Brandywine Water System to learn about source water protection.

This report will not be mailed. A copy will be made available for review or your use upon request at our office during regular business hours.

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SPECIAL NOTICES

RABIES CLINIC. May 7, 8 a.m.-9:30 a.m., Clinton Hedrick Community Building, Riverton. Dr. Greg and Sarah Bowers, DVM. 4-21-2c

YARD SALES

HUGE YARD SALE Friday & Saturday, April 29 and 30, 8 a.m.-?, 161 Mae Lane, Fort Seybert. Tools, hunting & fishing, housewares, antiques, garden equipment. Rain or shine. 1c

POSTED NOTICES

POSTED NOTICE No trespassing, of anyone or anything on any of my property, with no exceptions, on Upper Timber Ridge Road in Circleville. Violators will be prosecuted. Ardella Evans 4-14-4p

LEGAL ADVERTISEMENTS

The Region VII Workforce Development Plan Available for Public Review

The Region VII Workforce Development Board has prepared a draft Workforce Development Plan modification for the period July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2024. The Plan states goals and outlines the Board's planning and operational processes. Public participation is important to the process of preparing a sound workforce development plan. Citizens can review the Plan modification April 29, 2022 through May 29, 2022 online at <https://wvregion7workforce.org/resources/policies/>, the Martinsburg WorkForce WV Career Center, 202 Viking Way, Martinsburg, WV, and the South Branch Workforce WV Career Center, 151 Robert C Byrd Industrial Park Road, Suite 2, Moorefield, WV. You can obtain a copy of the Plan modification or additional information by contacting WIOA staff at (304) 530-5258 or tjanvanmeter@region7workforce.org.

HELP WANTED

MASONRY AND concrete helper. Driver's license required. Must have good job ethics. Call 304-567-2978. 4-28-2p

THE TOWN OF Franklin is seeking applications for part-time seasonal maintenance help for the summer. Duties include mowing, weeding, and basic general maintenance. **Must be at least 18 years old.** Position is part-time with no benefits. Applications are available at the Town Office or you can call 304-358-7525 for more information. Applications are due by 4:30 p.m. April 29, 2022. 4-21-2c

FOR RENT

BISSELL CARPET Shampooer for rent. Bowman's Do It Best. Call 304-358-2303. 4-28-4c

Writer, Reporter

The Pendleton Times is seeking a part time or full-time community news reporter and journalist to cover meetings, news, and local events in Pendleton County.

Coverage topics vary and include breaking news, crime, business openings, and local governmental body meetings and more. Compensation based on abilities.

If you would like an interesting job working to help improve your community newspaper and your community, call our office at (304)-358-2304 or contact the Publisher, Michael Showell at (304)-647-5724.

This Week in History...

The following events happened on these dates in West Virginia history.

April 28, 1914: An explosion at the Eccles No. 5 mine in Raleigh County killed 174 men. The mine connected with Eccles No. 6, operating in another coal seam, and nine men in No. 6 died of injuries and of afterdamp, the deadly gas left after a mine explosion.

April 28, 1948: Watt Powell Park opened in Charleston. About 8,000 people, including Governor Okey L. Patteson, attended the city's inaugural game in the Class A Central League. Watt Powell Park was replaced by the city's new Appalachian Power Park after the 2004 season, and the old ballpark was demolished in 2005.

April 29, 1863: Confederate General William E. "Grumble" Jones waged a battle at Fairmont that involved a force of 500 regulars, home guards, and volunteers. The Confederates prevailed, burning the personal library of Francis Pierpont, governor of the Restored Government of Virginia, and exploding an iron railroad bridge across the Monongahela River.

April 30, 1871: Coach Fielding Harris "Hurry-Up" Yost was born in Marion County. He was a tackle on West Virginia University's football team in 1895 and 1896, while earning a law degree. In 1901, Yost's first season as coach at University of Michigan, the Wolverines compiled an 11-0 record, including the 49-0 defeat of Stanford in the first Rose Bowl.

April 30, 1927: An explosion roared through the Federal No. 3 mine owned by New England Fuel and Transportation Company of Everettville, Monongalia County. The explosion, the sub- of slaves as a pre- He joined Presi- sequent fire, and condition for the dent Cleveland's gas in the mine creation of West cabinet as post- killed 97 men. Virginia. master general in

May 1, 1788: May 2, 1925: 1895. In the fol- lowing year, he was created from vestigator Gray introduced Rural Rockingham, Au- Barker was born Free Delivery in gusta, and Hardy in Riffle, Braxton Jefferson County, counties. The coun- County. Barker be- an experiment ty was named for came interested in which was quickly Virginia statesman unidentified flying instituted nation- Edmund Pendleton objects in the 1950s wide.

May 3, 1917: Fire destroyed the State founder Wait- Flatwoods Mon- West Virginia Pre- man Willey died ster. paratory School in Morgantown. **May 3, 1843:** Keyser. The school Willey is remem- U.S. Postmaster was rebuilt, and it bered for the Wil- General William evolved into the ley Amendment, Lyne Wilson was institution now which provided for born in Smithfield, known as Potomac the emancipation Jefferson County. State College.

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Help Wanted INTAKE / RECOVERY ASSISTANT

Part-Time Immediate Openings

The South Branch Valley Day Report Center

Hiring 1 Intake/Recovery Assistant for each of its three offices (Romney, Moorefield, and Franklin)

Intake /Recovery Assistants help individuals gain access to needed resources in the community by bridging gaps between needs and available resources. The (SBIRT) assessment will be utilized for the intake purpose. IRA's will assist in the day-to-day delivery of services at the SBVDRC including, but not limited to conducting drug testing, transporting clients as needed in agency vehicles, and any supportive rehabilitative services as needs arise.

High School Diploma or GED and valid driver's license required. Hours will be part time only at 20 hours weekly M-F (Subject to change as needs arise). No benefits or overtime will be paid for this position.

Send resumes to South Branch Valley Day Report Center, Darren Taylor, Executive Director, PO Box 844, Romney, WV 26757 or email drctaylor@frontier.com

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Pendleton County 4-H's Excel at Beef Expo Stockman's Contest

Thirteen Pendleton County 4-H members attended the 2022 Beef Expo at Jackson's Mill on April 8 to participate in the stockman's contest, which included judging breeding cattle, feeder calves, identifying cuts of beef, identifying different forage species and answering basic quality assurance questions. Many of these participants were first time attendees.

Participating in the day's event were Marion Williams, Alannah Miller, Aiden Whetzel, Hannah Heavner, Kallie Keyser, Katie Keyser, Ross Pownell, Phoebe Pownell, Jameigh Miller, Katie Heavner, Ty Heavner, Tia Heavner, and Vivian Pownell.

Vivian Pownell participated in the senior contest as an individual, while three teams participated in the junior contest.

Pendleton Team #1, which consisted of Ty Heavner, Katie Heavner, Jameigh Miller, and Phoebe Pownell, placed second in the competi-

tion, with Katie Heavner placing in the top 10 with the 10th highest individual score. All four contestants on this team placed in the top 20 individuals out of 73 in the contest.

Pendleton Team #2 placed fifth in the state with team members consisting of Tia Heavner, Katie Keyser, Alanna Miller and Aiden Whetzel.

Placing ninth in the contest was Pendleton Team #3. Team members were Marion Williams, Hannah Heavner, Kallie Keyser and Ross Pownell.

Also included in the day's events was a beef grilling contest, which required participants to grill a cut of beef and selected sides, prepare a place setting for the meal, and give a presentation about their set-up. Marion Williams and Ross Pownell participated in this event, being one of three teams to compete in the contest.



Pendleton County 4-Hers participating in the Beef Expo were, from left, front row, Marion Williams, Alannah Miller, Aiden Whetzel, Hannah Heavner, Kallie Keyser, Katie Keyser, Ross Pownell; and back row, Phoebe Pownell, Jameigh Miller, Katie Heavner, Ty Heavner, Tia Heavner, and Vivian Pownell.

West Virginia Moves Up In Rankings For Bicycle-Friendly States



CHARLESTON, WV – West Virginia is improving its ranking for states considered friendly to bicyclists, according to data just published by a national bicycle advocacy group.

The League of American Bicyclists lists West Virginia as 28th of the 50 states for laws and policies designed to keep bicyclists safe and to promote bicycling. West Virginia ranked 34th in 2019, the last time the league released rankings prior to the COVID-19 outbreak.

The League of American Bicyclists has been ranking states for bicycle friendliness since 2008.

"When this report first came out, we were 50th," said Dennis Strawn, a bicycling advocate who works for the West Virginia Division of Highways Strategic Data Management and Technology Division. "It shows the strides West Virginia has made over the past 10 years or so."

Strawn, who rides his bicycle to his Charleston office every day, said the state's rise in the rankings is largely due to an increased emphasis on bicycles from the West Virginia Legislature and West Virginia Department of Transportation.

In 2014, the West Virginia Legislature passed House Bill 4304, the Bicycle Safety Law. Among other provisions, the law requires drivers to give bicycles three feet of safe passing distance when overtaking them on the road. The Department of Transportation has also been providing funding to communities to better accommodate bicycles.

The League of American Bicyclists ranked states based on five criteria. West Virginia met three of them through its safe passing law, statewide plan for accommodating bicycles, and a complete streets policy — meaning that the state recognizes that, whenever possible, public thoroughfares should be designed to meet the needs of pedestrians, public transit, motorists, and bicycles.

"Through surveys, data collection, and analysis, the Bicycle Friendly States report and ranking demonstrates how states are — or are not — contributing to making biking safer, more comfortable,

and an easier option for everyone," said Bill Nesper, executive director of the League of American Bicyclists. "We applaud the vast majority of states for continuing to take steps to improve and increase the health, sustainability, and strength of their communities through biking. We hope

this ranking and our report cards serve as a call to action for leaders in every state to invest in safe streets and connected bike networks and put in place the programs policies that will make biking a real option for transportation and recreation."



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- SGR130** 0.36 Acres, w/House & Bunkhouse located in Harman, WV. **\$269,000.00.**
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- SGR634** 2.77 Acres, Raw Land, Hawes Run, Great Commercial Property, on US 33, Brandywine. **\$75,000.00. REDUCED \$69,500.00.**
- SGR441** Residential lots, public water, protective covenants and restrictions. Oak Flat Estates near Brandywine on Rte 33 East of Franklin. Lots from **\$20,760.00.**
- SGR247** Residential lots with town water, sewer & underground utilities. Protective covenants and restrictions. Franklin Airport Development. Lots from **\$14,630.00.**

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