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Thursday March 30, 2023

National Banking Issues Should Have Little or No Impact Locally

By Stephen Smoot

Three weeks ago Silicon Valley Bank, one of the largest in the United States, failed as poor news sparked a run by its depositors. That was followed by New York based Signature Bank. Later, Switzerland's 167-year-old Credit Suisse failed and was purchased by UBS Group after it also failed.

As the global financial system comes together to keep more major banks from falling like dominoes, the mission and focus of the community banks that serve Pendleton County make them much more resilient.

Bill Loving, president of Pendleton Community Bank, explained that "we had two regional banks closed by the FDIC in California and New York. It's important to explain that their business model is different from Pendleton

Community Bank and other businesses and clients in our community banks."

These banks, he explained, "are specialized institutions." Silicon Valley Bank's clientele included a large number of tech startups funded by venture capitalists while Signature Bank dealt heavily with online based cryptocurrencies.

"That in itself is completely different than community banks," Loving explained.

Charlie Maddy, CEO of Moorefield based Summit Community Bank, explained that Summit just reported record earnings and growth in 2022, "does not participate in crypto-currency programs, is not concentrated in the tech sector, and we do not lend in the start up and venture capital markets." Maddy additionally said, "we have a conservative operating philosophy and diversified portfolio of deposits, which we deploy in loans to

communities."

George L. Ford, president and CEO of Grant County Bank, added "Both . . . had large amounts of uninsured depositors who had balances in excess of the FDIC insurance limit of \$250,000. Almost 94 percent of Silicon Valley Bank's deposits were uninsured while Signature Bank was not far behind at 89 percent."

Maddy described the convergence of events that led to the fall of Silicon Valley Bank. During the long period of historically low interest rates, depositors invested heavily in securities to the tune of \$2 trillion in total across the nation. When inflation forced quick interest rate hikes, these portfolios "exposed financial institutions to significant unrealized losses."

At this point, the bank Continued on Page 8



Jess and Jason Felici served as co-pastors for Lutheran churches in Pendleton and Pocahontas counties for more than 10 years. Photo courtesy of Kami Keyser.

Felicis Reflect on Ministry Of Love and Community

By Stephen Smoot

"There is no more lovely, friendly, and charming relationship, communion, or company, than a good marriage."

Though Martin Luther spoke of marriages in general, he could also have described the special bonds between the partner pastors Jason and Jess Felici, as well as those between them and the community. Through pastoral care, de-

votion to the community, and personal friendship, the married ministers touched the lives of most in the Pendleton County area.

Eve Firor, volunteer for the Christian Assistance Network in Franklin, shared that Jason Felici "has just been an invaluable leader" and "a guiding light for C.A.N." She added of Jess Felici, "I really respect her. She's really an asset." Firor also described her as a fearless woman

unafraid to speak her mind when it matters most.

Every road, literal and metaphorical, to Pendleton County takes its twists and turns. The calling that eventually led Jason Felici to the region started in youth when "I attended church camp when I was in high school." Adults started suggesting to him that he

attend seminary. "I laughed. I didn't see it

Continued on Page 8



Smaller local banks, such as Pendleton Community Bank, have a more secure and diversified customer base, making them more resilient than the larger institutions that recently failed.

Library Friends To Meet Tuesday

The Friends of the Library will gather at 4 p.m. Tuesday in the meeting room at Pendleton County Library in Franklin.

Recycling Event Set for Saturday

The North Fork 4-H and North Fork Disposal are hosting a community recycling event from 9 - 11 a.m. Saturday at the Clinton Hedrick Community Building parking lot in Riverton. Eligible materials are cardboard, plastics 1 & 2, aluminum and tin cans. Items should be cleaned and sorted. No trash accepted.

Lenten Lunches Continue Today

The annual Lenten Lunches hosted by the Pendleton County Ministeral Association will begin at noon today at Walnut Street United Methodist Church in Fran-

A meal, consisting of soups, sandwiches, desserts and drinks, will be served at noon. The message will be delivered at 12:30 p.m.

This week's meal will be provided by Lutheran churches. The message will be delivered by Pastor Deborah Beam of the Franklin Presbyterian Church.

Next week's message will be delivered by Pastor Cindy Skinner of the Riverton United Methodist Charge. The meal will be provided by Mountaintop Ministries.

BOE, Community in Schools Site Coordinators Share Success Stories

participated in the Communities in Schools program. This national effort seeks to mitigate learning disadvantages experienced by children living in poverty or facing other social chal-

Site coordinators from each county school came to the regular Pendleton County Board of Education meeting to update members and the superintendent on their goals and progress toward them. The meeting opened with prayer. J. D. Wilkins asked that God "grant us wisdom and discretion." Directly afterward, the site coordinators shared their reports.

Amanda Teter described her efforts at Brandywine Elementary School. All the coordinators listed improving overall attendance and reducing chronic absences as primary goals. Teter stated that her goal lay in improving attendance at BES by two percent. Although illnesses and vacations made achieving the number a challenge, they hit the mark in February.

"Every day we express how important it is to be here," Teter told the board. She added that she does "a lot of tutoring with them, as much as I can."

CIS encourages incentive based programs to encourage better attendance among all students while also targeting those with unfulfilled basic needs. Teter organized assistance to help with weekend needs of 19 students.

Since the 2019-2020 school Papas and Pumpkins, for progress was hindered by a year, Pendleton County has example, targeted dads and kids by getting them to carve pumpkins together. Also, First Lady Cathy Justice brought Christmas presents and students received supplies and information for February's Dental Hygiene

"It's still kind of a work in progress," Teter stated, adding that "every school is different and every need is different."

Elizabeth Harper delivered the report for North Fork Elementary. Their efforts to reduce absenteeism by two percentage points only slightly fell short, but shot past the chronic absenteeism reduction goal. Harper set that goal at two percent as well, but saw a four percent improvement.

She explained that "I monitor the absence list every day. I call the parents. When they come back, I ask them 'how are you doing?" Harper added that she uses the motto "attendance matters, all day, every day." The school also, starting in March, offered a weekly attendance award where students can win small prizes, such as a pencil or an eraser. All winners get to participate in a year end drawing for a bicycle.

Other activities included a trunk or treat and special event for veterans. "They really appreciated it," she said.

Wendy Kisamore discussed progress at Franklin Elementary School. She also reported that incentive programs helped to contribute to declining absenteeism

Teter also organized events numbers, saying that "baby for students. In October steps may help." However, rash of illnesses that through the school.

Franklin conducts daily attendance drawings. "We keep a close watch on absences and tardies. We're seeing a slight improvement in tardiness as well." Kisamore said. Like the other site coordinators, she emphasized the importance of engagement. "We greet them warmly. letting them feel welcome at school," she said.

Additionally, the school held a special luncheon to welcome 28 new students. "It helped us, because we got to know those kids," Kisamore explained. She added that qualifying students got to attend a party held by the Fraternal Order of Police in Elkins. "They even provided money for transportation," she noted.

Leslie Cook, site coordinator for Pendleton County Middle/High School also shared information on progress at that facility. Cook focused strongly on chronic absenteeism at the school. Sixty students receive extra focus in case management for attendance and/or academics. Cook explained that 52 percent of the students showed improvement, 14 percent no change, and 34 percent had declines.

Cook stated that "we have to drill down to find the root causes," with the individuals whose attendance got worse. She and students worked on addressing one potential root cause by putting together a mental health week. "This was something the students

Continued on Page 10

CVB Discusses TMF, **County Visitors' Guide**

By Stephen Smoot

With longer and warmer days on the horizon, the Pendleton County Convention and Visitors Bureau met to prepare for its first tourist season as an independent organization.

Initially, Amber Nesselrodt, executive director of the

Pendleton County CVB, raised the discussion of changing the bylaws. Currently, they set the number of board members at seven. Tasks and duties have expanded beyond the current board's capacity, leading to the proposal of its expansion. Board members first proposed that the number simply be

raised, but it was later decided to set a minimum and maximum number of permanent members to ensure flexibility Bylaws require that changes be read through two meetings before officially passing. New members will not be able to participate until May's meeting at the earliest.

The board invited Jennifer Taylor-Ide to provide an update on the reinvigoration of the Treasure Mountain Festival. She shared copies of the half-century-old articles of incorporation for the Treasure Mountain Festival and read from the list of potential tasks of their board.

She then said "It is big. This blew my mind. That's a very

Many of the tasks listed by Taylor-Ide involved promotion, marketing, and coordination of different entities. She stated that "this is primarily what you guys do," then added that it was likely because no CVB existed in 1973. Board members explained that the purview included promoting tourism 50 miles and further from Pendleton County. They shared that they could help with marketing, but not coordinating

Additionally, she shared ideas on how to expand the Franklin based festival farther out into the county to get other areas involved. She also referred to desires among many who have attended for years to bring some of the old attractions back.

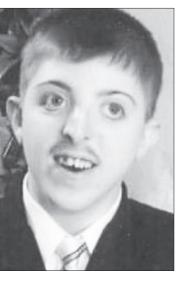
Taylor-Ide added that the TMF meeting also discussed changing its non-profit status, as well as the pros and cons of switching to 501 © 3. The main advantage, she said, is that "we can accept tax deductible donations."

Nesselrodt then introduced the board to some of the design features in the Pendleton County Visitors Guide. She explained that "they will create the visitors' guide at the direction of the CVB board." The guide will illustrate activities and attractions in the county while also featuring advertisements. Nesselrodt said that the CVB will print and distribute 5,000 guides to areas where it will produce the most benefit.

Next, discussion turned to promotion of the "On the Rocks Craft Beverage Trail." Currently the trail runs from near Harman in Randolph County, through Pendleton, and into Highland County, Virginia. Pendleton County is home to

Continued on Page 10

OBITUARIES



Charles Andrew Hedrick

Charles Andrew Hedrick, 35, of Upper Tract went to lina, passed away on Jan. 25, 2023, at her home. his heavenly home on March 25, 2023, while a patient at Grant Memorial Hospital in 8, 1937, in Riverton, the Petersburg.

He was born Oct. 30, 1987, at Harrisonburg, Virginia, line Simmons. and was the son of David

County High School, and General Electric Company. was a West Virginia Unigive good back rubs.

Also surviving are three (Shawna) and Benjamin her in death. Hedrick (Amberlee), all of nephews, Connor Hedrick Robert. and Gram Hedrick.

Clement (Kimble) Shreve; Faye; and a nephew, Randy. and his paternal grand-

officiating.

Memorials may be made WV 26807.

things may seem, there is always hope for a new day.

May God revive all your hopes & dreams this Easter!



Nancy Simmons Poleo

Nancy Simmons Poleo, 85, of Bluffton, South Caro-

youngest of eight children of the late Lester and Made-

Mrs. Poleo grew up in Riv-A. Hedrick and Wanda J. erton and graduated from (Shreve) Hedrick of Upper Circleville High School in 1955. She then relocated Mr. Hedrick was a 2009 to Waynesboro, Virginia, graduate of Pendleton where she worked for the

She was always active versity Mountaineers fan, in her community and was loved the Dukes of Hazzard, a beloved wife, sister, and watching game shows and mother. She was long-time listening to music, especial- member of both the First ly country music. He was Presbyterian Church in a member of the Pendleton Waynesboro, Virginia, and hugs and always liked to Church in Roanoke, Virginia.

Her husband of 60 years, brothers, William Hedrick Joseph Poleo, Jr., preceded

Surviving are a son, Morgantown, and Matthew Joseph Anthony and daugh-Hedrick (Tonia) of Brandy- ter-in-law, Linda Kay Powine; three nieces, Carrigan leo; nieces Beverly, Dixie, Hedrick, Corinne Hedrick Linda, and Amy; and nephand Layla Hedrick; and two ews Bob, Bill, Carl, and

She was also preceded in He was preceded in death death by brothers, Wayne, by his maternal grandpar- Jacob, and Paul; sisters, ents, B. Ottis Shreve and Mary, Ruth, Martha and

The family will receive parents, Arlin Hedrick and friends from 10 -11 a.m. Catherine (Smith) Hedrick. Saturday at the Basagic The family will receive Funeral Home in Frankfriends from 6 - 8 p.m. Sat- lin. Funeral services will urday at Kimble Funeral follow in the funeral home Home in Franklin. A funeral chapel with Pastor Mike service will be held at 1 p.m. Loudermilk officiating. In-Sunday in the funeral home terment will be in North chapel with Rita Beeman Fork Memorial Cemetery at Riverton.

Memorial donations may to the Ruddle Park, c/o be made to one's local Sal-Pendleton County Commis- vation Army or other local sion, PO Box 187, Franklin, charity of a person's choice.

Memories and words of Online condolences and comfort may be left at www. memories may be shared at basagic.com or on Facebook www.kimblefuneralhome. at Basagic Funeral Home.

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Ruth B. Simmons

Ruth B. Simmons, 88, of Franklin passed away March

She was born on June 26, She was born on June 1934, in Riverton, the daughter of the late Jimmie Jay and Mabel (Warner) Bennett.

> Mrs. Simmons was a 1953 graduate of Circleville High School and retired in 1989, after working 36 years as a printing specialist for the

She was a member of Walnut Street United Methodist Church and attended Friends Run Church of the Brethren.

On Oct. 8, 1951, she married Vernon Clay Simmons, who preceded her in death on April 26, 2012.

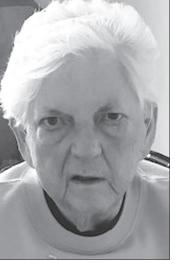
She leaves behind to cher-County CERT team, loved the Grandin Court Baptist ish her memory her best friend, Rita Lambert (Carl) of Grottoes, Virginia; nieces and nephews; and several great-nieces and great-neph-

> She was also preceded in death by two brothers, Merl E "Cub" and Glenn Bennett.

> The family received friends from 1-2 p.m. Wednesday at the Basagic Funeral Home in Franklin. An Eastern Star Service, conducted by Eastern Star #138, and funeral service officiated by Pastor David Morris followed in the funeral home chapel.

> Memorials may be made to Circleville Alumni Association or North Fork Rescue

Memories and words of comfort may be left at www. basagic.com or on Facebook at Basagic Funeral Home.



Juanita Hartman Self

Juanita Hartman Self, 88 of Mechanicsville, Virginia, and formerly of Franklin departed this life to enter her heavenly home on March 22, 2023.

Mrs. Self was a devoted life-long member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. She was a hard worker, skilled seamstress, excellent cook, and a loving mother and grandmother. She enjoyed working on her searcha-word puzzles, but her greatest joy was the time she spent with her family.

Her beloved husband of 26 years, Harmen E. Self, preceded her in death.

Surviving are six children, Sharon Shaver (Kenny), Lanora Troxell (Bob), Eddie Self, Jerry Self (Lisa), Gary Self (Denise), and Ricky Self (Maria); 10 grandchildren; 13 greatgrandchildren; and many nieces and nephews.

She was also preceded in death by her parents, John Esby and Mary Lena Simmons Hartman; and 15 siblings.

A funeral service was held Monday at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Franklin. Interment followed in Kimble Cemetery #37.

Memorial donations in her memory can be made to the charity of one's choice.

Funeral arrangements were under the direction of the Monaghan Funeral Home in Mechanicsville,

Anita Delores Ruddle, 75 of Lilburn, Georgia, passed away Feb. 27, 2023, at Piedmont Eastside Hospital of Snellville, Georgia.

Anita Delores Ruddle

She was born on Oct. 2, 1947, in Mineral Wells, Texas, the only daughter of Ernest and Opal Harris. She had four brothers.

Mrs. Ruddle was a homemaker, a registered nurse and a nursing professor.

From an early age, she always knew she wanted to be a nurse. She received her nursing degree from Texas Woman's University. She began nursing in Texas at MD Anderson Hospital in Houston, Texas.

In 1967, she and her husband, Dale, were married. After the births of daughters, Robyn and Catherine, the family moved to Philippi and she began nursing at various hospitals in Elkins. Then eventually, she began teaching nursing students at Davis & Elkins College. After the birth of her son, Timothy, she and the family moved to the Nestorville area near Philippi. She and her husband began attending Nestorville United Methodist Church and did so for almost 25 years.

She was a hard worker and a strong woman. She continued to be a nurse and raise her children even when her husband was deployed to Germany during Desert Storm. In 1991, she began teaching nursing students at Alderson Broaddus College in Philippi. She retired from teaching in 2004. During this time and since she has been blessed with seven grandchildren, Cameron Daniel Loew, Aidan Lazarus King, Abigail Grace Loew, Eden Faith Loew, Petra Hope Loew, Mason Conner Ruddle and Mavic Jonah Loew, and one great-grandchild, Ada Hope Loew.

In 2016, she and her husband moved to Lilburn, Georgia. They began attending Colonial Woods Baptist Church and have enjoyed becoming a part of the Lilburn community.

Surviving are her husband, William Dale Ruddle (at home); daughters, Robyn Melissa Loew and Catherine Janelle Ruddle; a son, Timothy Preston Ruddle; a brother; David Lee Harris; seven grandchildren; and a great-grandchild.

She was a much-loved wife of 55 years of marriage, a mother, and a grandma.

Funeral services were held March 6 at Bill Head Funeral Homes and Crematory of Lilburn/Tucker in Tucker, Georgia, with Pastor Glen McCall officiating.

Memorials may be made to one's favorite charity.

Online condolences may be left at www.billheadfuneral home.com.

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Pendleton County Public Library

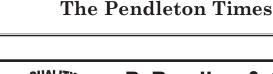
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administration, accounting/finance, and must have strong computer skills. Please contact Becky McConnell at the library for

a detailed job description. (304-358-7038).

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To Get an Easter Egg

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Pendleton FFA Members Exhibit Hams, Bacons, Eggs

Seven Pendleton County FFA members participated in the annual South Branch Area FFA Ham, Bacon and Egg Show and Sale held March 17 at Moorefield High

Sixty-one FFA members, representing Pendleton, Petersburg, Moorefield and East Hardy chapters, sold 218 products (93 hams, 96 bacons and 29 dozen eggs) for \$128,374.70. Pendleton's FFA members collectively took home earnings of \$16,878.40.

Two Pendleton County FFA members received top honors for their exhibits.

The grand champion eggs were exhibited by Selena Hedrick. Her champion eggs were purchased by Falcon Transportation of Petersburg for \$1,000.

Bailee Kiger's 23.36-pound ham was chosen as reserve champion. Lovers Lane Farms, Hinkle Trucking and Potomac Highland Construction of Moorefield purchased the ham for \$40 per pound.

Hedrick also exhibited two prime hams and two choice bacons. Her 18.53-pound ham was bought by Grant County Bank in Petersburg for \$32.50 per pound and her 18.93-pound ham was sold to Warner's Coin Laundry in Franklin for \$35 a pound. Greer Lime Company of Riverton purchased Hedrick's 7.8-pound and 6.5-pound bacons for \$60 and \$70 per pound, respectively.

In addition to her winning ham, Kiger sold a prime ham and two prime bacons. Her 23.3-pound ham fetched \$30 per pound from Rockingham Coop of Dayton, Virginia. Her 6.5-pound bacon was bought by Mountain View Veterinary of Moorefield for \$70 per pound with her 5.9-pound bacon sold to Lovers Lane Farm in Moorefield for \$80 a pound.

Other Pendleton FFA members participating in the show/sale were as follows (name, item, price per pound

Address: City:

and purchaser):

Caleb Armentrout — 20.59-pound prime ham, \$32.50, Murphy's Fencing in Franklin; 21.43-pound choice ham, \$30, Greer Lime Company; 7.49-pound prime bacon, \$80, Hinkle Trucking of Circleville; and 6.8-pound prime bacon, \$60, Greer Lime Company;

Lydia Heavner -20.96-pound prime ham, \$37.50, James River Equipment of Harrisonburg, Virginia; 20.86-pound prime ham, \$32.50, Pendleton Community Bank of Moorefield; 7.99-pound prime bacon, \$60, Farm Credit of Moorefield; and 6.1-pound choice bacon, \$100, French Brothers Dairy of Woodstock, Virginia;

McKenna Hedrick -17.95-pound prime ham, \$27.50, Greer Lime Company; 17.31-pound prime ham, \$30, Warner's Coin Laundry; 6.11-pound bacon, \$75, Seneca Rocks RV Resort in Seneca Rocks; and 5.57-pound choice bacon, \$80, Allegheny Farm in Seneca Rocks.

Lindsey Smith 22.2-pound prime ham, \$35, Warner's Coin Laundry; 21.75-pound prime ham, \$35, Pilgrims CCP Team of Moorefield; 7.32-pound prime bacon, \$70, Greer Lime Company; and 6.9-pound choice bacon, \$70, Greer Lime Company; and

Makayla Tingler — 16.71-pound choice ham, \$32.50, Murphy's Fencing; 16.65-pound choice ham, \$30, Greer Lime Company; 5.25-pound choice bacon, \$70, Faithful Friends Animal Clinic in Franklin; and 5.2-pound choice bacon, \$80, Greer Lime Company.

Ryan Poling, a Moorefield FFA member, exhibited the reserve champion eggs. Mountain View Veterinary purchased the eggs for \$500.

The champion ham, weighing 24 pounds, was exhibited by Kelsey Clark, Petersburg FFA member, and was pur-

chased by Falcon Transportation for \$85 per pound.

Jordan Teets of East Hardy FFA exhibited the grand champion bacon. His 6.15-pound bacon was purchased by Grant County Bank for \$175 per pound. Diamond G Farm of Petersburg paid \$60 a pound for the reserve champion 5.75-pound bacon exhibited by Olivia Bible of Petersburg

Pendleton FFA members had to choose a pig(s) to raise by last June. The pig was fed over the summer, getting it to the ideal weight of between 260 and 280 pounds. In November, the pigs were taken to slaughter. The slaughtered hogs were then transported back to the school where the meat was processed in the vo-ag's meat room. The hams and bacons were pulled for curing for the annual show in March, and the rest of the hog's meat was processed.

To prepare a ham or bacon for the ham/bacon show, the meat was cured with a brown sugar cure mix for two days per pound, or a minimum of 45 days, at a temperature of $36\square$ to $45\square$. (For any ham or bacon over 30 pounds. an additional two days per pound was added to the curing process.) To stabilize the hams and bacons and to end the curing process, the temperature was increased to $55\square$ for 20 days. Then the meat was dried for 11 days at $90\square$. Once the curing process was completed, each ham and bacon was trimmed, shaped and smoked. Each FFA member had two hams and two bacons participating in the show and sale.

The eggs and smoked hams and bacons were taken to Moorefield one day prior to the sale where a panel of neutral judges judged the 218 entries from the three counties. The hams and bacons were judged into three different qualities - prime. choice and good.

ewsstand



PENDLETON COUNTY FFA members participating in the annual South Branch Ham, Bacon and Egg Show and Sale were, from left, front row, McKenna Hedrick, Makayla Tingler, Caleb Armentrout and Bailee Kiger; and back row, Lydia Heavner, Selena Hedrick and Lindsey Smith.



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Local students placing at the Region VII Social Studies Fair were, from left, Vaylee Harper, Mason Harper and Carly Kimble.

Harper Siblings, Kimble Place at Regional Competition

Three Pendleton County students earned recognition at the Regional VII Social Studies Fair held March 18 at Musselman High School.

Mason Harper, Pendleton County Middle School stu-

in the State and Local Division II for his project titled Fork Elementary School. "The Evolution of Maple Syrup."

"Sacagawea: The Guide," Vaylee Harper's project received second place in the

dent, earned second place U.S. History Division 1 She is a student at North

Second honorable mention went to Carly Kimble, a student at Franklin Elementary School, for her project, "KFC."

Cook, Souza, Owens Named PCH/MS Students of the Month



Ryleigh Cook and Joclyne Souza

Ryleigh Cook, Joclyne Souza and Travis Owens have been named outstanding students of the month for February at Pendleton County High/Middle School.

A senior, Cook is the James

Huffman Responsible Student of the Month. She is the daughter of Charles and Jennifer Cook or Franklin. She likes to ride horses, spend times with friends and raise goats and lambs for the fair. She is on the A/B Honor Roll, and the secretary of the class of 2023, FFA, and National

Honor Society. She has been a 4-H member for eight years, and FFA member for four years, where she has earned her Greenhand and Chapter degrees. She plans to attend West Virginia University to major in animal science, with hopes of becoming a veterinary technician.

Souza, a senior, is the February Academic Student of the Month. She is a member of Upward Bound, National Honor Society, student council, pep club and 4-H, and attends Living



Travis Owens

Faith Church. She will be in the WVU honors program in the fall, and plans to study aerospace engineering. She is the daughter of Jeremiah and Saprina Berkstresser of

The Pendleton County Middle School Student of the Month is Travis Owens. He is the 13-year-old son of Josh and Krista Owens of Brandywine. He loves playing basketball and going to the movies. After high school, he would like to work as a

professional athlete.



10 Years Ago Week of April 4, 2013

FARM NOTES

by Roger D. Dahmer

I want to begin with a piece called, "Batting My Eyelashes." It was written by Janet Perez Eckles.

A baby camel asked his mother, "Why do we have such large hooves on our feet?" She turned to him. "God made us that way for a very special reason," and she began her explanation. "The big hooves are to keep us from sinking into the sand." "Oh! So why do we have long eyelashes?" "It's to protect our eyes from the sand." "Why the big humps?" "That is to store fat and have enough energy to go long distances in the desert!"

"I see!" the baby camel stretched his neck and looked up at his mother. "The big hooves are to keep us from sinking into the sand, the long eyelashes are to keep the sand out of our eyes, and the humps are to store energy to travel long distances...then what are we doing in this cage in the middle of a zoo?"

Goodness, gracious. Each time I reached another point in my journey, my eyes saw a whole new world with opportunities to make a difference. Best of all, I was delighted with affirmation that I was indeed created for much more.

Bars come in all sizes and shapes. Some are physical, others are emotional or even mental. But none can withstand the force of determination that breaks them down. The effort is worth it and the results, simply amazing! So, batting my long eyelashes to keep out the sand of discouragement, I challenge you. Step back and peek at what bars limit you. Take a deep breath, break them down, and emerge into the freshness of a new life!

20 Years Ago Week of April 3, 2003

SUGAR GROVE

Volunteerism — Of Community, Nation

April is known as the dainty month as newborns arrive, and flowers gesture their graceful arms. It is also a time to recognize the 89 million American volunteers, whose national value totals more than \$180 billion. Now, probably more than any time in the nation's recent history, citizen involvement is critical to the health of the community and nation. States are designating April as "general clean up in the communities" month. People who willingly volunteer their time are special. They give a gift to the society around them. Daily lives can be made a blessing to the fellow men and women. Sir Henry Davy once wrote that "life is made up, not of great sacrifices or duties, but of little things in which smiles, kindness and small obligations given habitually are what win and preserve the heart and secure comfort." To simply notice, care about and communicate with others can make their spirits soar above loneliness, insecurity and hopelessness. A short note of encouragement during a time of despair, or unmerited forgiveness are only a few of the seeds that can grow abundantly in the humanity garden. It must be said that the yellow bows and flags flurrying in the breeze has certainly been a contagious tribute to all the gallant men and women who are serving this country in such a magnificent manner. Knowing that their homeland whole-heartedly supports them can help ease their burden, a little.

30 Years Ago Week of March 25, 1993

One-Fourth of Births In West Virginia **Are to Unwed Mothers**

Final vital statistics for 1991 remain consistent with preliminary reports showing West Virginia's infant mortality rate at its lowest ever. The "1991 West Virginia Vital Statistics" released this week, lists the state's infant mortality rate at 8.1 deaths per 1,000 live births. That is significantly decreased from the state's 1990 rate of 9.8, and well below the 1991 provisional United States' rate of 8.9.

Other important findings in the report show that, overall, about one-fourth of the births in the state in 1991 were to unwed mothers, and over half of all births to teenagers were to unwed mothers. The report also found that 26% of all women giving birth in 1991 smoked cigarettes during the pregnancies, down only slightly from the 27% who reported tobacco use in 1990. In contrast, only 2.5% of mothers in 1991 reported that they used alcohol during pregnancy.

Week of April 1, 1993

First Steamboat Built By West Virginian in

By Ellen Hoffman

SHEPHERDSTOWN-"My God, she moves!" exclaimed Maj. Gen. Horatio Gates, formerly of Gen. George Washington's Continental Army.

"Yes," echoed Maj. Henry Bedinger, standing at Gates' side. "And when she moved, the destiny of the world, too, moved..."

So goes the eyewitness account of the demonstration December 3, 1787, of the first successful steamboat by its inventor, James Rumsey, on the Potomac River at Shepherdstown, about 75 miles northwest of Washington,

Rumsey's boat was about 50 feet long and carried two tons of rocks and eight women passengers to prove its river worthiness. It made history by steaming against the current at a speed of about three

40 Years Ago Week of March 24, 1983

Parachute Provides Fun, Exercise

Residents of Pendleton Nursing Home have been enjoying a new piece of exercise equipment — a parachute.

"No, we are not jumping out of airplanes, but we are exercising our arms," said a nursing home staff member.

The parachute is 15 feet in diameter. The residents and staff sit in a circle, each holding on to the edge of the parachute. Simultaneously all involved raise their arms and the parachute billows up.

Just to add a challenge to the activity, a very large beach ball is placed on the top of the parachute. The object of the game is to toss the ball over the head of the person across the circle. All benefit from exercise and have fun

Week of March 31, 1983

HOPEWELL

The writer has been asked how the word Hopewell originated. Asking questions and probing deeply, it is regrettable to state nothing surfaced. However, a little history was dug up, which might be of interest to the readers. The Pioneer Hopewell School was built in the late eighteen hundred. Because of the central location, it was built on the late John Wesley Warner's estate. The students would have to walk from half a mile to three. Two miles were average. It was here the McGuffey Reader was taught from the primer to sixth grade. The area where the school was located proved too swampy, so with men and horse power, it was moved to a more convenient spot. This old school was paneled inside with pine lumber. One night it burnt completely. Arson was suspected, but no one was ever brought to justice. While the New Hopewell School was being built, the teacher held classes in the old house of the late Ashby Warner. Being overcrowded there, permission was given to teach the children in Solomon's Chapel Church. The New Hopewell was completed around 1915. It was not clear when the Elson Reader took over, replacing the McGuffey Reader, and the eighth grade went into effect. Some of the educators that taught in the pioneer school were Clay Day, Oscar Harper, Margie Teter, Jessie Mullenax and George Grady. The New Hopewell School had one large room and a huge dark hallway, which was used to hang cloaks in and shelves were installed for lunch baskets and karo syrup buckets that some pupils used. It also was used to store school supplies. Lunches consisted of biscuits, pie, cake, apples and sometimes buckwheat cakes with apple butter spread on them. Drinking water was

carried in buckets, with one

dipper for everyone to drink from. Each day the teacher would choose two of the oldest to go for water. Later on, this school was renovated into two rooms. A few of the educators' names emerged that taught at the New School—Joe Biby, Leslie May, W. S. Dunkle, Leslie Thompson, Elmer Nelson, P. C. and Denver Warner. Incidentally, Denver Warner was the last teacher. The only surviving teacher is Robert M. Raines. Today, there is nothing left of this school, except a rock foundation and memories.

A frightening incident oc-

curred to the writer, as a

pupil under the supervision of P. C. Warner. There was a time, back then, when one could mail order just about anything to sell on credit. To name a few items, handkerchiefs, garden seeds, Cloverine salve, chewing gum and snap fasteners. The writer yearned for dolls—the years haven't changed that fascination. So, she ordered snap fasteners to sell to get a doll. Being eight years old, she didn't realize that folks didn't have money, leastwise not for snap fasteners. Nevertheless, the snaps weren't returned, and the writer continued to get duns from the company. The last one she received had a picture of a man looking out from behind prison bars, with his hands extended. P. C. would let the younger children out to play in the afternoon. On this particular day while out playing, the writer looked down the road and saw a man atop a wagon, pulled by two horses. The wagon looked like it had prison bars on it and arms darting in and out. Saying nothing, she darted for the schoolhouse and hid in that huge dark hall, for well she knew, the jailer had come for her. It seemed like forever to her, but nothing happened. Being scared and desperate, she dared to take a peep out the door. The jailer turned out to be the late Albert Warner, with a wagonload of crates filled with turkeys. Their heads bobbing in and out from a distance looked like human arms. Happily, the writer rejoined her playmates.

60 Years Ago Week of April 4, 1963

100 YEARS AGO

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

Lincoln, Wife Visit Virginia War Front

A little steamer, the "Carrie Martin," headed out of the Washington Navy Yard and down the Potomac River 100 years ago this week with a most important party aboard: President Abraham Lincoln, his wife, Mary; their 10-yearold son, "Tad," and the President's good friends, Dr. A. G. Henry and Noah Brooks, the California newspaperman.

Hardly had the trip gotten under way when a blinding snowstorm blew up, and the little vessel had to put into a cove for the night. But next day, the boat arrived at Aquia about 30 miles down the Potomac, and the group debarked amid cheering from soldiers who lined the waterfront. From there, they rode a freight car—furnished with benches and decorated with flags and bunting, but still a freight car—to the Virginia front just north of Fredericksburg.

With one newspaperman in the party and others at the front, the Lincolns' visit was well reported from beginning to end. First, they went to the headquarters of "Fighting Joe" Hooker, commander of the Army of the Potomac, who provided them with three large hospital tents, with the luxury of floors and bedsteads. Then they began reviewing troops.

It was a time of color and pageantry throughout, but the cavalry review of April 6, perhaps, outdid the others. Lincoln, Hooker and a long line of generals and colonels rode out to the reviewing field on horseback, mud flying from their horses' hoofs, Lincoln sitting tall in the saddle with his high hat pointing skyward. To one side, Brooks noted, young "Tad" rode along, "His gray cloak flying in the gusty wind like the plumes of Henry of

Navarre." Once on the field, Lincoln watched the cavalry pass in review. "It was a grand sight to look upon," Brooks wrote, "this immense body of cavalry, with banners waving, music crashing, and horses prancing, as the vast column came winding like a huge serpent over the hills past the reviewing party, and then stretching far away out of sight." Hooker, looking at the 17,000 horsemen before him, told the President it was the largest army of men on horses ever seen in history.

The infantry, too, got its chance. Sixty-thousand men, their rifles and bayonets so thick they resembled a forest, passed by the President in one review. The President "merely touched his hat in return salute to the officers but uncovered to the men in ranks."

Lincoln also called on the wounded in the hospital tents, and Brooks watched the men and reported "tears of gladness stealing down their pale faces."

"Tad" wanted to see some real, live Confederates, and one day, the President, "Tad" and Brooks noticed several staff officers rode down to the picket line and looked across the Rappahannock River to the war-ravaged city of Fredericksburg. They saw smoke from Confederate campfires in the hills beyond and a Confederate flag flying from a house.

Some day soon, Lincoln knew, Hooker's army must cross that river and attack those Confederates.

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Smith Creek/ Friends Run

by Dave Ellis

The county fire departments are to be commended for their response to a brush fire on Rt. 220 south of Franklin. About five acres were burnt, but the firemen kept the fire under control. The area is dry with many leaves on the ground, plus the wind doesn't help.

Anyone needing a hunter education class, a class will be held at the South Fork Volunteer Fire Department station in Brandywine beginning at 6 p.m. Friday. Smith Creek and Friends

Run Churches of the Brethren: shut-ins - Mary Mitchell, Shelda Warner, Vestyl Bible, Bucky Moyers, Pam Riner, Anna Tesi, Ruby Propst, Alice Johnson, Arlin Dale and Freda Jamison, Hazel Simmons, Mary Alice Simmons, Reva Hartman, Sandy Washburn, Sandra Vandevander, Larry Moyers and Ruth Simmons; prayer list - Richard Campbell, Brian Wilton, Tyler Moore, Tristan Hartman, Ronald Hayes, Becky Hedrick, Joshua Shirk, Ava George, Doug Judy, Ronnie Bowers Sr., Allen Kile II, Ruth Simmers, Roberta Bennett, Olin Hoover, Quinley Mc-Connell, Etha Mae Bowers, Mary Jo Wilfong, Kenny Williams, Dennis Mitchell, Debbie Horst, Charlotte Copley, Billy Rowe, Myrtle Hammer, Jack Judy, Jimmie Bennett, Pam Rexrode, Jason Rexrode, Margaret Wimer, Doris Simmons, Harry Allen Warner and

Sherman Bennett. Prayer thought: "We can rest in the assurance of God's love and power, no matter what's going on around us. God can provide peace and rest for us every

High and low temperatures and precipitation for March 20 through March 26, followed by the same for last year, were as follows: March 20 - 48°, 15° (52°, 35°); March 21 - 60° , 18° (67° , 39°); March $22 - 59^{\circ}$, 42° (66°, 43°); March 23 - 76°, 44° (49°, 35°, .62"); March $24 - 61^{\circ}, 43^{\circ}, .51^{\circ} (68^{\circ}, 36^{\circ});$ March $25 - 69^{\circ}$, 42° , .2'' (49° , 38°) and March 26 - 66° , 41° , $(39^{\circ}, 31^{\circ}, .5" \text{ snow}).$

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Cow Bells — Bring in the Cows, Play Music, Make Noise

Sugar Grove

By Paula Mitchell

Farmers are not prone to use cow bells today. At one time, they were used to keep free roaming livestock so herders could keep track of an animal via the sound of the bell when the animal was grazing in pastures close home. Even though they were typically referred to as "cow bells" due to their extensive use with cattle, the bells could also be used on a wide variety of animals, such as sheep and reindeer.

They were not put on all cows, just one in a bunch. Usually, the tamest animal that stays around where one can find it, on which the cow bell was fastened, if it got loose, and where the bell could be loosened if it got too tight. When checking the herd, there was usually a leader and to that a cow bell could be put around its neck. Wherever that bell went, the herd was usually close to hearing distance of it.

The herd would not leave that bell. If one were to bring in the animals, they were to just catch the leader cow with the bell and drive it in to the fenced in area, leaving the gate open. The others would soon follow. As soon as they were all in, the gate would be closed. This was usually done for milking time, marketing purposes, or herd separation.

Archaeological evidence of cow bells dates back to more than 5,000 years ago.

There were various types of bells used in the farming days. The farm or patio bells were made of a rough cast iron alloy with a black finish and black hangings. The family caller and kid caller bells were of cast iron also, with painted antique bronze finish and black hanger. An eagle usually sat atop the mounting bracket. The cow bells were used primarily for livestock. It was also a popular noisemaker for parties, holidays and sporting events. Many a cow bell has been heard at football games. Cowbells are often rung by human spectators at skiing events, and also, particularly in the United States at cyclo-cross races. They are usually held in the hand rather than worn around the neck. These bells were made of steel with a copper finish. They have a beautiful clear tone.

So, hang on to those cow bells!

Life's daily instructions include the following:

- 1. Be thoughtful about opening doors and giving one's seat.
- 2. Say, "I'm sorry."
- 3. Be kind to others.
- 4. Use good telephone manners.
- 5. Respect the property of others.
- This week's quotes are as follows:

"Don't wait for someone to bring you flowers. Plant your wn garden and decorate your own soul." — Luther Burbank "The trees will tell their secrets to those that tune in." —

"No problem is so formidable that you can't walk away from it." — Charles M. Schulz

"Let us be grateful to people who make us happy; they are the charming gardeners who make our souls blossom." -Marcel Proust.

Weather has been interchangeable. With that, it is better to be sitting by the fire to hear the "Talk of the Grove."

Connor Armstrong, son of Bobbie and Tracy Armstrong, had a 12th birthday on March 23.

Saturday, Wes, Becky, Ben, Emma and Nathan Puffenbarger motored to Clarksburg to eat dinner at Primanti Bros. Congratulations are in order for Marian "Pidge" Anderson who has retired after 32 years of contracting and carrying for

the postal service. Due to her husband's health issues, she

gave up delivering The Pendleton Times to county businesses after a year and four months. Robbie Nash of Palmer, Alaska, made a recent trip to Nash-

land to spend a few days with mom and sister, Helen and



Attending a gathering in the early 1940s at the Trinity Lutheran Church in Sugar Grove were, from left, Leota Simmons, Luther Simmons, Hilda Wilfong, Frances Simmons, unknown and Violet Wilfong.

Rhonda Nash. He enjoyed attending the buckwheat pancakes and sausage gravy supper at Calvary Lutheran and a visit to the Dry Run Spirits Distillery and learning about the history of the Ananias Pitsenbarger farm from proprietor Jeff Munn. Wanda Pitsenbarger and Evelyn Varner motored to Staun-

ton, Virginia, to visit with Cleo Simmons. This week's clickety-clacks for the chin waggers are as

•Crickets breathe through lots of small holes that cover

their body called spiracles.

• In the first basketball games, a ladder was used to retrieve the ball from the basket after scoring.

•Deer have been seen to play games like children. The one that's "it" actually tags the other with its hoof.

• The paper bag was not invented until 1850. Before that, groceries were carried in a twist of paper called a "cornucopia."

• Thomas Jefferson invented the dumbwaiter and the swivel

April birthdays are as follows: Charlee Marie Hoover, first; Willy Fisher, Judy Austin and Nancy Evick, second; Greg Hoover, third; Clem Rader, Jr. and Derek Crider, fourth; Wesley Puffenbarger and Danielle Hoover, fifth; Davy Simmons and Keith Kiser, sixth; Margaret Sasscer, Wes Eye and Judy Rader, seventh; Maxine Rader, John Todd, Vera Teter, Josh Parker and Diana Mitchell, ninth; Thelma Puffenbarger and Sherry Wilfong, 10th; Jim Holstein and Mike Alt, 11th; Ruth Craig, Lisa Dawn Jamison and Landon Bowers, 12th; Briar Puffenbarger, 14th; and Terry Simmons, Beth Propst,

Frankie Roberson and Ava Bowers, 15th. Bob and Judy Grimm en-

joyed a 10-day trip to Utah

with the Chris Grimm fam-

ily. Highlights of the trip were to visit all five Utah national parks, and to see Chris participate in a half marathon race. The scenery was breathtaking, and everyone had a wonderful time.

Concerns for this week are many, and they are as follows: Charles Anderson, Roger and Joan Ashley, Mercedes Aumann, Vernon "Fuzzy" Baldwin, Nathan Beachler, Lynn Beatty, Debbie Beeal, Jed Conrad, Jeff Craig, the John Doores family, Grayson Andrew Eye, Jordan Eye, Mary Eye, Mia Felici, Donna Fleisher, Ron Gilkerson, Lola Graham, Jordan Greathouse, Marvin Hartman, Steve and Armanda Heavner, Gary and Jackie Hills, Virgil Homan, Jr., Myrtle Hoover, Debbie Horst, Anna Gae Hughes, Alice Johnson, Richard Judy, the Sue Carol Laskey family, Dennis Kincaid, Kim Kline, Melissa Lambert, Robert Lambert, Rex Landis, Angela Lung, Linda Malcolm, Betty Mallow, Roger and Skip Mallow, Neil McLaughlin, Gary Mitchell, Melvin Moats, Aaron Nelson, Ruth Nelson, Don Nilsen, Cheryl Paine, Sutton Parrack, Shirley Pratt, Alda Propst, the June Propst family, Kara Propst, Kathy Propst, Linda Propst, Sheldon Propst, K.D. Puffenbarger, the Ona Puffenbarger family, Dick Rexrode, Gary Rexrode, Harley Propst, Jason Rexrode, Jimmy Rexrode, Robbie Sites, Ona Smith, Sandra Vandevander, Pam Rexrode, Max Rodriguez, Donna Ruddle, Annie Simmons, Barry and Phyllis Simmons, Davey Simmons, Amy Vaus, Judy Williams, the Crystal Willis family, Margaret Wimer, people in Ukraine and Yemen, earthquake victims in Turkey, victims of East Palestine, Ohio, and the victims of the Mississippi tornado.

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Wildcat Baseball Expected to Return with Explosive Seasoned Players and Exciting Newcomers

By Stephen Smoot

Last year, Pendleton County hit some speed bumps on their way to an 8-15 record. Normally accustomed to top five and 10 finishes and deep runs in the postseason, the Wildcats struggled with injuries to key players and inexperience. Sam Yokum, head coach, explained, however, "as the season went along, we improved every game. We were competitive in the sectional tourna-

The improvement and finish last year allows Coach Yokum and his players to set their expectations higher for 2023. "With a couple of newcomers coming out, plus a nice freshman class,' he stated, "we have a lot of optimism this year. We're looking forward to it."

The Wildcats can rely on experienced senior leadership to help push the team back to success. Clayton Kisamore helped to lead the squad last year and made both the all state and all conference teams. He is expected to play shortstop, centerfield, and also pitch. Yokum said, "He's absolutely been a joy to coach and is extremely competitive."

Also pitching in the senior class is Landon Colaw, who will also contribute in the infield. A knee injury kept him off the football field, but he is returning to "the sport he loves. We're fully counting on his arm and bat."

The senior class continues with Brayden Beachler, who plays outfield and also pitches. "He had a good junior year. He's a competitive hitter and gave us good innings on the road," Yokum said. The "extremely coachable" Jayden Roberson will anchor the first base position and also play some outfield.

Added depth will come from the "very versatile" Dustin Vandevander, who can support the team at pitcher, outfielder, and infielder po-

Two seniors are taking on the challenge of contributing to the squad for the first time. Alex Ruddle brings in his competitive spirit from the football field and already shows promise as a hitter.

Cameron Beachler, who represented Pendleton County High School at the state golf tournament, will help to lead the junior class. "He started last year at second base and has pitched as well," Coach Yokum said. "He is very schooled in the fundamentals and a leader on the field."

Dillon Smith serves as the other newcomer who could bring competitive drive and the potential for big plays. The "tough hombre," who "is learning really fast" will most likely contribute at third base and also pitch.

For most teams with senior laden rosters, sophomores and freshmen generally must wait patiently for their turn. The Wildcats, however, have tremendous athleticism and leadership potential in their underclassmen. James Vincell, an honorable mention all-state catcher last year, brings his strong arm and great baseball mind.

"You want your catcher to be the quarterback of your baseball team," Coach Yokum explained. Vincell brings a hard-nosed approach to both football and baseball and will be part of the foundation for success. He will possibly be backed up by Tucker Smith who also plays outfield. Caleb Armentrout will work some at both middle infield and pitcher.

The team has high expec-

tations of freshman pitcher and shortstop Chase Owens, who quickly emerged as a foundation player for both the football and basketball squads. "He has a lot of ability," Coach Yokum explained. "We are looking for big things out of him." Another freshman to watch is Cashton Kisamore, who "is the third brother of the Kisamore clan. These kids are first class young men," Coach Yokum commented. He will pitch, play infield, and outfield.

Finally, Cayden Boone will fill in at second base and outfield while Jonas Turner plays catcher and outfielder and Barrett Cook will play outfield and pitch.

"I think we'll be an exciting team to watch," says Coach Yokum. He explained that, currently, the offense has progressed somewhat faster than the defense. "As we get reps," he said, "we are going to get better. There's nothing like a game rep."

Unfortunately, game reps have become precious in recent years. The senior class missed their freshman season due to COVID. Early season rains and other issues erased the first game at Paw Paw, then a double header at Spring Mills, leaving only the contest at Bath County, Virginia, open for play last Thursday. The Wildcats recorded a 21-1 win over the Chargers.

The goal for the program each year remains the same. "Our whole goal is to do more than compete. We want to win and win at a high level," Coach Yokum explained.

The Wildcats will host Highland County, Virginia, for a double hitter beginning at 1 p.m. Saturday. Then they travel Monday to Pocahontas County and Tuesday to Tygarts Valley.



Allie Vance hurls a complete game win against the scrappy East Hardy Cougars. Photo by Robin Alt.

Cougars Roar Late, Wildcats Prevail 7-6

By Stephen Smoot

On a warm, breezy, sometimes sunny, sometimes overcast day in Baker, the Pendleton County Wildcats survived a tough challenge from home standing East Hardy.

The Lady Wildcats struggled somewhat on defense in their season opener against Keyser, who brought high powered offense to the contest.

Against the Cougars, fortunately, the batting, pitching, and defense all came to play.

Pendleton County struck first. Avery Townsend led the team off by hooking a double into left field. Lizzie Alt followed that by working a walk. Allie Vance grounded to short, taking the sacrifice to send Townsend home and Alt to third. Baylee Beachler followed that with a sacrifice ground ball that put the Wildcats up 2-0.

Vance then took the mound for Pendleton County and struck out two on her way to efficiently closing out the first inning.

One of the main differences between the two teams lay in patience at the plate. Through most of the game, Pendleton County hitters worked the opposing pitcher, going deep into most counts. This also opened up opportunities. For example, in the top of the second, Jenna Smith earned a two out walk on five pitches and eventually scored on a Nataley Hedrick single to right field. Hedrick herself scored on a Townsend line drive double to put the Wildcats up 4-0.

The bottom of the second saw the Pendleton County defense strongly supporting Vance. She allowed a lead off single, but Hedrick threw her out on a steal attempt. Then, two straight hits to third resulted in two good throws to retire the side.

East Hardy continued to struggle to keep the Wildcats off the scoreboard in the top of the third. Beachler singled to left and promptly stole second. Two wild pitches gave Beachler the opportunity to lift the score to 5-0. Later in the inning, Katie Hedrick sent another runner home with a double off the wall, extending the lead to 6-0.

The Cougars switched pitchers and righted their ship, shutting down the Pendleton County bats in the fourth. In the bottom of the fourth, they mounted their first major threat. A flare into shallow centerfield gave them a leadoff runner. Next, they popped out to second, but followed that with a line drive to center that gave them runners at first and second. Vance then walked the next batter in six pitches to load the bases with only one out.

Pendleton County ended the inning when the batter hit a slow roller to third. The third baseman stepped on the bag, getting the first runner out. A Cougar scored from third, but the Wildcats earned a double play by throwing to first. The East Hardy baserunner did not tag first and was called out. The Wildcats ended a potentially big inning with alert and sound defense.

East Hardy continued to pick away at the lead. In the bottom of the fifth they started with a leadoff runner at third, hitting a double that was extended to the next base by a fielding error. A line drive double to the wall sent that

runner in to cut the lead to 6-2. In the bottom of the sixth, Vance showed some signs of tiring. East Hardy hitters also started showing more patience at the plate, going deeper

in the count. Vance and her

fielders, however, forced the Cougars into going three up and three down.

Pendleton County earned one more run in the top of the final inning. They gained that insurance starting with a lead off line drive back up the middle by Alt. The ball injured the pitcher, forcing the umpires to hold her at first. Vance sacrificed and advanced Alt to third. Beachler then lofted a sacrifice fly deep into the outfield to allow Alt to tag up and score easily, setting the lead at 7-2.

Little did anyone realize at the time how important that insurance would be.

East Hardy tried to make the most of their final opportunity. They lined a double to the wall to lead off their half of the inning. The next batter also fired a shot off the wall for a double, scoring the leadoff hitter. A third straight double suddenly cut the lead to 7-4, followed by an RBI single that narrowed the once comfortable Wildcat lead to two.

The Cougars had one out, runners at first and second, and the tying run at the plate. A single loaded the bases. East Hardy rolled a grounder to second, gaining the crucial second out, but also putting the tying run at third and the go ahead at first.

Vance dug deep. With her arm visibly tired, she found a way. The last hope for East Hardy weakly grounded to third, ending the rally and preserving the win for Pendleton.

A weekend doubleheader against Spring Mills was rained out. On Monday, they hosted Pocahontas County, winning 20-3 Results from the Tuesday contest at Tygarts Valley were not available at time of publication. The Wildcats host the Petersburg Vikings tonight.

Bella Kesterson Named Photo Contest Winner

The winners of the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources' second annual Big Buck Photo Contest have been announced by Gov. Jim Justice.

Bella Kesterson of Franklin was selected as one of the winners. She was awarded a two-night state forest cabin stay.

Kesterson bagged her eight-pointer with a 16.5" spread after 30 minutes into the solo hunt on the first day of bucks firearm season on private property. An education major at Marshall University in Huntington, she is the daughter of Sam Kesterson and Connie Eason.

"I want to thank the DNR

and everyone who submitted a picture," Justice said. "Each and every one of them was truly amazing. It's important that we encourage everyone, including our children, to go outside, learn about nature, and enjoy the outdoors, just like we did when I was young. It's an honor for me to contribute by promoting these great kids and adults who're taking advantage of our beautiful outdoors. That's some really good stuff right there."

The contest, sponsored by the WV DNR and West Virginia Department of Tourism, was open to resi-



the Big Buck Photo Contest.

dents and nonresidents and included a youth division for hunters 17 and younger and an adult division for hunters 18 and older.

To enter the contest, hunters had to submit a photo with a buck they harvested during a 2022 hunting season along with a short account of their hunt. Each entrant was required to show proof of a valid 2022 West Virginia Hunting License and had to include the 13-digit DNRissued game check number

for the buck.

Finalists were chosen by random drawing from all eligible entries and winners were selected by a judging committee made up of Justice, Director Brett McMillion, DNR director, and Chelsea Ruby, tourism secretary, or their designated representatives. Winning photos were selected based on photo composition, size of the buck's antlers, number of antler points and how well the hunt was described.

Correction:

With apologies, the article about the Extension Service Robotics Team in last week paper's, omitted senior team member Phoebe Pownell.

www.pendletontimes.com

Sixth Annual Gold Rush Runs Through April 8 that the natural resources we

Governor Jim Justice ceremonially kicked off the 2023 West Virginia Gold Rush Monday during an event at Babcock State Park

The West Virginia Gold Rush officially began Tuesday for anglers and will include 12 days of special golden rainbow trout stockings at 68 lakes and streams around the state, including waters in or near 15 state parks. The sixth edition of the Gold Rush runs until April 8.

During the Gold Rush, the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources will stock 50,000 golden rainbow trout, a fish prized by anglers for its unmistakable, bright-yellow color. A list of stocking locations can be viewed at https://wvdnr.gov/fishing/gold-rush/.

"Like gold panned from a mountain stream in the old west, catching a golden rainbow trout is an experience you won't forget," Brett McMillion, WVDNR director, said. "To be able to give

anglers and their families —

chance to catch one of these

golden beauties is a reminder

have here in West Virginia are to be treasured and preserved for future generations to enjoy. We hope that the excitement and thrill of the West Virginia Gold Rush will inspire more people to explore our state's natural wonders and to appreciate its diverse wildlife and unique habitats." The 12 days of Gold Rush

stockings are not part of the WVDNR's regular trout stockings. As a fishing event, the Gold Rush is unique because only golden rainbow trout are included in the stockings. During traditional trout stockings, only one golden rainbow trout is stocked for every 10 regular rainbows.

Gold Rush has brought a lot of positive attention and economic activity to West Virginia over the last six years that will be paying us dividends for years to come," James Bailey, West Virginia Commerce secretary said. "Thanks to big ideas like this from Gov. Justice, his adespecially kids — a really good ministration is firing on all cylinders to make West Virginia a place of true economic and

recreational opportunity, where businesses want to come and

people never want to leave." Once again, the WVDNR is giving anglers a chance to win prizes during the Gold Rush. Out of the 50,000 golden rainbow trout that will be stocked during the event, 100 trout will receive a numbered tag. If an angler catches a trout with one of these tags, they can enter the tag number at WVdnr.gov/goldrush for a chance to win a free West Virginia lifetime fishing license, a one-night stay at a state park or forest cabin, a West Virginia State Parks gift car, or exclusive Gold Rush merchandise.

All anglers 15 and older are required to have a West Virginia fishing license with a current trout stamp and a valid form of identification while fishing during Gold Rush. Licenses and stamps can be purchased online at WVfish.com. Anglers must also follow West Virginia's fishing regulations.

For more information about stockings and other fishing resources, visit WVdnr.gov.

County Commission **Awards Funds to** Help South Fork VFD

By Stephen Smoot

The Pendleton County Commission had a light agenda for its second meeting in the month of March, but issued key decisions for local organizations.

As always, Commissioner Roger Dahmer opened the meeting with prayer, sharing that "we thank You that you've entrusted us with this responsibility."

Carl Hevener, county commission president, addressed the South Fork Volunteer Fire Department's previous request for help in obtaining an all-terrain vehicle. Pendleton County's rugged terrain and the sometimes difficult roads used to access remote locations make search and rescue, as well as other operations, challenging.

The SFVFD reported that the vehicle would be used mostly on Reddish Knob, Shenandoah Mountain, and other federal lands in the area,

Department representatives explained in a previous meeting that some roads cannot accommodate pickup trucks and rescue vehicles. When ATVs are needed, volunteer firefighters who own them have to return home to obtain their personal equipment for use in the field. This could add hours to resolving emergency scenarios. Hevener said, "We have approved \$21,000 for all the other ones." He then asked for a motion to provide \$21,000 for South Fork VFD to help purchase an ATV.

Commissioners also considered an ask from the Treasure Mountain Festival Association. It includes their yearly request to use the community building, the parking lot, and area in front of the courthouse. The only concern raised surrounded the as of yet unscheduled construction for the courthouse annex.

Diane Mitchell, Pendleton County 911 director, reported that recent snow removal efforts at the combined 911 office and state police barracks left too much salt. She reported that "the State Police had the fire department hose it down. It was bad." Rick Gillespie, Pendleton County emergency services coordinator, added that "salt just destroys parking lots."

Another parking lot sparked discussion during the meeting as well. As work crews dug into the community building parking lot to install a conduit for the facility's new generator, it was discovered that no gravel underlay the pavement, at least in that section of the lot. This could be one of the likely sources for its deterioration.

Finally, Laura Brown, Pendleton County economic development director, reminded the county commission of the business roundtable meeting planned for March 29 at the Lodestar Mountain Inn in Upper Tract.

According to the EDA's Facebook page, the roundtable will feature Ryan Thorne from the United States Department of Agriculture's Rural Development, the county broadband engineering team, and Thrasher Group, Inc.

Save Our Station LLC Develops Strategy To Preserve WELD and Sister Stations

By Stephen Smoot

"We have a bona-fide LLC," said Chip Combs, WELD radio

That announcement opened last week's meeting at Walnut Grove Church of the Brethren off the East Moorefield exit of Corridor H in front of approximately 30 people coming together to help save WELD.

The station and its sisters are based in Fisher, near Moorefield, but serve as the only true local station for Pendleton, Grant, and Hardy counties. Western Hampshire and Mineral counties also lie within its broadcast range. Emergency services officials have also pointed out its importance in communications with areas not served by the internet.

Supporters of WELD eschewed the non profit option because one could not be set up prior to the scheduled auction of properties on April 4. Save Our Station is a for profit limited liability company looking for investors seeking to support the station and possibly make a profit as well.

The auction will sell off the land and physical assets first, then the licenses. This makes investment in either less risky for a serious entrepreneur. Currently, Save Our Station LLC is watching to see if other potential competitors may enter the bidding. Miniscule "feeler" bids have been placed, but the important news shared on that front from Combs was "it sounds like Raese's team will not be a player."

John Raese's West Virginia and Allegany Radio Corporations have bought up small town stations throughout the region. Raese also owns Greer Limestone, the Morgantown Dominion-Post, West Virginia Metro News, and other Morgantown based corporations. Combs stated, however, that "their last few small station purchases have not been profitable."

As Combs said, "People may invest. This is not a donation." The company is accepting investments to raise enough capital to successfully compete for the Federal Communications Commission broadcast licenses, as well as the physical assets of the station. These include land, the station building, equipment, and a large record catalogue that includes country and western records dating back to the 1950s.

The big hurdle for Save Our Station lies in a problem of perception. It seeks to be a business instead of a charity, but "businesses are still seeing it as a donation instead of an investment."

Combs outlined potential scenarios. The best case involves Save Our Station raising sufficient capital to outbid competitors while also satisfying the debt holder. Although the debt is approximately \$675,000, the holders of the debt would likely accept substantially less.

"There are no absolutes," Combs said of the auction, "this is the best opportunity they have to get the best dollar value."

Should the auction fail to raise enough funds for the owners of the debt, the next action would be a sell off "on the courthouse steps." Since that would obtain likely only pennies on the dollar, there is a strong incentive for them to take what they can get at auction. If another outfit purchases the station the FCC mandates 30 to 90 days to transfer the licenses. Some stated that this could give an opportunity for buyers' remorse. The debt holders could also decide to keep the status quo, should the auction fail

Save Our Station is working to be prepared for any possible eventuality. Should it have no option, the company would return investors' money by the end of 120 days. In addition to raising capital, the group has also continued to

hold discussions with the offices of Senators Joe Manchin and Shelley Moore Capito. "This time frame is herculean," Combs admitted. "We're still

several steps from making it happen." Save Our Station will have to sell many more shares to solidify its position as a competitive buyer. Combs said that as of yet, only two from Pendleton County have invested.

Save Our Station is selling shares currently for \$1,000 each. Smaller scale investors can enter plans to purchase shares jointly. Investors can purchase shares at Pendleton Community

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Queens Pageant - Saturday, April 1 at 6:00pm

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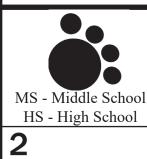
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April Friday Saturday



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Pocahontas

5:00 (A)

HS Softball

Pocahontas

HS Softball Pocahontas 5:00 (H) **HS** Baseball Pocahontas 5:00 (H)

MS Baseball

Tygarts Valley

6:00 (H)

HS Baseball

Tygarts Valley

5 HS Softball Tucker (DH)

6 March Madness Attendance Reward MS Baseball Petersburg 5:00 (A) Track Frankfort (A) **EARLY RELEASE**

HS Baseball Petersburg/Keyser (H)-HS Softball Robert C. Byrd (A) -

Highland (DH) 1:00 (H) MS Softball

HS

Baseball

Braxton County

2:00 (A) (DH)

5:00 (A) **10** HS Baseball East Hardy 6:00 (A)

6:00 (A) MS Baseball Tucker 6:00 (A) **HS Softball** Moorefield 6:00 (H) Track Buckhannon (A)

12 HS Baseball Moorefield 6:00(H)

5:00 (A)

MS Softball Tygarts Valley 5:00 (A) MS Baseball Petersburg 5:00 (H)

Graduation

Walk for Seniors

14 HS Softball Hampshire (DH) 5:30 (H) Track Elkins (A) ·HS Baseball McDonald's Classic ·

MS Softball

(DH)

NO SCHOOL

15_{HS Softball} Frankfort (DH)

17

8 HS Baseball (H) Tygarts Valley 6:00 HS Softball Moorefield 6:00 (A) MS Baseball Tygarts Valley 6:00 (A)

HS Baseball **Bath County** 6:00 (H) **HS Softball** Tygarts Valley 6:00 (H)

NO SCHOOL

at Local Elementary Schools MS Baseball Elkins 6:00 (A)

Eastern Greenbrier

South Harrison 1:00 (A) (DH) MS Softball (DH) Barrickville 1:00 (A)

2:00 (A)

HS Baseball

5:30 (H) ← HS Softball Bub Riggleman Tourney (A)→

23

FFA Banquet National Honor Society Inductions **HS Softball**

Keyser

6:00 (H)

HS

Baseball

Paw Paw

6:00 (H)

HS Baseball Moorefield 6:00 (A) MS Softball Petersburg 5:00 (A) HS Softball Petersburg 7:00 (A) Track Moorefield (A)

Track Frankfort (A)

SAT Make Up Day

HS Baseball 26 Tucker 6:00 (H) HS Softball East Hardy 6:00 (H) Track PVC National Honor Society Blood Drive Interim Reports

FFA Regional **Scholastics** Contest MS Softball MS Baseball

Elkins 6:00 (H)

28 HS Baseball Jefferson 4:30 (A) Southern Garrett 7:00 (A)

29 MS Softball Philippi Barbour 11:00 (H) (DH) MS Baseball 12:00 (A) (DH) Buckhannon-Upshur

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Felici Ministry

Continued From Page 1

at the time," he stated.

Later, his involvement took him to working with the Lutheran Open Ministry at West Virginia University. Jason Felici explained that "By staying connected with the church through college, I discovered what God was calling me to do." Next he attended the Lutheran Seminary at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, and said of his time there, "of course that's where Jess and I met."

Both earned four-year degrees and served as full-fledged pastors in the Lutheran church.

As Jess Felici says, "I went to a Brethren in Christ college where I fell in love with Scripture all over again." She also worked with a Lutheran summer camp. Her specialty lay in youth ministry, working with children and families. "It was there that I was bit by the education bug," she explained.

Jess Felici came to the area in 2010, serving as chaplain in the nursing home, and also as an intern for Calvary, Brandywine, and Peru. As she completed her internship, Jason Felici completed a term of service at Holy Trinity Lutheran in Wytheville, Virginia.

For over a decade, the Felicis administered the Mountain Lutheran Parish, based in Franklin. The parish also covers Mount Hope in Upper Tract, New Hope in Minnehaha Springs, St. John in Moyers, Faith in Franklin, and Calvary in Brandywine.

The differences between Wytheville, Virginia, and Pendleton County were pretty clear. The city has 2,000 more residents than all of Pendleton County. There, they served a single church, as opposed to five scattered amongst the mountains and valleys. The Felicis related, however, that here "we were never bored." Jason Felici added that "yes, we live further away from fast food and Wal Mart, but there is always something to do and always someone to visit."

He spoke of the love and hospitality shared with the couple during their tenure in the county. "The people in the church have been incredibly supportive and willing to go on this journey with us." Additionally, she said, "I don't know the number of funerals we've presided over, but we've been to every funeral supper." Jason Felici appreciated that "they've shared with us meals that are traditional to the area and their families."

The Felicis work as co-pastors, because as the Preacher writes in Ecclesiastes, "two are better than one, because they have a reward for their hard work. If one of them falls, his companion can lift him up." As Jason Felici describes, "we're the second couple to do it in this parish." He added that "we balance each other out. We each have different gifts, abilities, and interests." Each Sunday, one would take three churches and the other two, then rotate

Aside from their ministry, the Felicis shared their Godgiven talents of organization and compassion with the Pendleton County community.

"We participated in community functions, served on boards and committees," Jason Felici said, adding that "we really felt connected even to people who didn't go to our church." He also served as one of the leading members of the Christian Assistance Network, serving the hungry in the county. Jess Felici served with multiple organizations as well, including the Franklin Elementary School PTO and volunteering "as judge for the Sugar Grove Antique

The Felicis accepted an appointment with Trinity Lutheran Church in Latrobe, Pennsylvania. "It's a little closer to our families," Jason Felici stated.

"We are leaving with many fond memories and good experiences," Jason Felici shared. Then added, "we're thankful for all of the experiences . . . it's hard to say good-bye, but we're excited about what's next."

Jess Felici added "and there have been a lot of laughs."

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LEGAL ADVERTISEMENTS Continued from Page 9

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National Banks

"faced a liquidity problem due to slowing venture capital funding and tech companies accelerating deposit outflows." When the bank's moves to recapitalize and news of their \$2 billion in losses hit the news, it cratered confidence in the bank and depositors abandoned the institution because the vast majority of their accounts were officially uninsured under FDIC policy.

This situation also drew the ire of US Senator Shelley Moore Capito, who asked West Virginia Metro News "where were the regulators? The regulators had to be looking at the SVB bank and saying to themselves the average amount of insured depositors at that bank was less than 10 percent . . . why did the regulators not put a red flag on it?"

The FDIC, or Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, was founded in 1933 after Great Depression bank failures threatened to cripple the industry. According to its website, deposit insurance from this agency protects consumers "at thousands of FDIC insured banks across the country." Deposits under \$250,000 are "backed by the full faith and credit of the United States Government."

"When the FDIC guaranteed deposits (for SVB), it reminded the public of the soundness of the system," Loving said.

Additionally, banks are usually protected by the Federal Reserve Bank of the United States. The original and still vital purpose of the "Fed" lay in providing government loans to banks when they face mass depositor demand for their money, commonly called "a run." "In the Great Recession," as Ford explains, "many banks failed,

but their failures were telegraphed ahead of time due to increasing levels of problem loans in their portfolios. Silicon Valley Bank failed in three days as depositors rushed to withdraw monies held at the bank, causing a liquidity crisis." The strength of community banks, as Loving explains, comes

from "our set of customers, which is diverse and represents all walks of life." He added that "since 1925 we're relationship forward, building long term trust. We live and work in the county." Ford adds that "community banks tend to be well-capitalized and diversified. Silicon Valley Bank had all their eggs in one basket." Ford described how "community banks are focused on building

relationships with local people and all sorts of businesses. Our bank is one of the best capitalized in the state, meaning we have a large safety margin built into our operation to ensure that we can handle any adversity."

According to Loving, regulations put in place after the financial crisis in 2008 and 2009 are sufficient. "Dodd-Frank protects depositors and puts safeguards in place." Ford added that "I don't expect there to be many community

banks who will fail, again because they are well-capitalized, have a diversified customer base, and tend to be more conservative in the way they operate, as opposed to larger banks." Loving, Ford, and Maddy all reported that few customers

expressed many concerns, that each institution's careful and conservative approach has created strength and security, and that depositors in their banks had no reason to worry.

Finally, Loving shared his advice to those looking for banking services, saying "think local. Bank with people who live in the community."



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DEADLINE FOR APPLICATION: 04/07/2023 POSITION: (3) FULL TIME RESPIRATORY THERAPIST - SHIFT OR HOURS NEEDED: Various shifts - (3) 12-hour shifts per week, alternating weekends required, but schedule may flex to cover open shifts. Job duties include: Set-up, operate

and maintain various oxygen and therapeutic gas equipment; administer various respiratory treatments; postural drainage with percussion and positioning; perform arterial sticks and run arterial blood gas analysis; must be able to read and understand physician orders and respond accordingly; perform various pulmonary function tests. Excellent Customer Service Skills required. Current West Virginia RT license required. ACLS and PALS certification recommended. Must be capable of multitasking and have critical thinking skills. DEADLINE FOR APPLI-CATION: 03/31/2023

POSITION: FULL TIME REGISTERED RADIOLOGY TECHNOLOGIST — SHIFT OR HOURS NEEDED: Rotating nights and weekends. ARRT and West Virginia license required. CT experience preferred, but not required. Excellent customer service and computer skills needed. DEADLINE FOR APPLI-CATION: 03/31/2023

POSITION: FULL TIME RN FOR MEDICAL SURGICAL SPECIAL CARE UNIT — SHIFT OR HOURS NEEDED: Nights - (3) 12-hour shifts per week, with rotating weekends and holidays. Current West Virginia RN license required. BLS, ACLS and PALS certifications recommended. Reliable and detail oriented, exhibits good judgment and promotes teamwork. Must be capable of multitasking and have critical thinking skills. Excellent Customer Service Skills required. DEADLINE FOR APPLICATION: 03/31/2023

POSITION: PART TIME LPN FOR MOTHER INFANT CARE CENTER (MICC) — SHIFT OR HOURS NEEDED: Various; 12-hour shifts, with alternating weekends. Current West Virginia RN license required. Excellent customer service skills and prior labor and delivery experience preferred, but not required. ACLS and PALS recommended. Must be capable of multitasking and have critical thinking skills. Highly motivated individual who can work as a team and individually. Ability to undertake a variety of diverse care tasks and work in a multidisciplinary environment. DEADLINE FOR APPLICATION: 03/31/2023

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Outdoors, Franklin, commercial vehicles davit has been filed before WV 26807, 304-358- and meet industry Pendleton County Commis-3265, www.penco workforce needs by sion at 100 S. Main Street, Franklin, WV 26807. That no appointment

ages students to ob- made pursuant to the pro-

tain their WV Class foreign will or affidavit of REGISTERED A CDL. Must have heirs of the decedent has ESTIMATED EXPENDITURES ANGUS BULLS, 14 knowledge of the been filed with the Pendto 24 months, fertil- Federal Motor Car- leton County Commission, ity tested, priced for rier Safety Admin- and is of record in the www.fmcsa.dot.gov/) to ensure compliance. objecting to the filing of the This is a part-time, objecting to the absence of foreign will or affidavit or non-benefits eligible appointment or adminis-

position. For more tration being made in this information, visit state must be filed with the https://easternwv. Pendleton County Commission within 60 days edu/employmentafter the date of first pubopportunities/ or lication or within 30 days email careers@east of the serving of this notice, whichever is later. If an objection is not filed timely, the objection is forever

First Publication Date: RECOVERY CELE-Thursday, **BRATION Saturdays** March 30, 2023

> Claim Deadline Date: Monday, May 29, 2023

Mark Alan Mueller, Washington, DC Filed by: Mathew Bader, **POSTED NOTICES** Personal Representative, Raleigh, NC

No trespassing, no Subscribed and sworn to SOMEONE TO de- hunting or trapping before me on March 23,

> Commission **DRIVE NOW**

TEXT LATER

\$ 2,501,712

20,000

6,000

5,000

25,000

7,000

LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT

SPECIAL NOTICES

at 6 p.m., Fairview-

Bethel United Meth-

POSTED NOTICE

Pendleton County Commission Levy Estimate (Budget) 2023 - 2024 Fiscal Year

> PENDLETON COJNTY, WEST VIRGINIA REGULAR CURRENT EXPENSE LEVY

Assessed Value for Tax Purposes Rate/\$100

Certificate of Valuation

Class I				
Personal Property	\$		14.30	\$
Public Utility	_			
Total Class I				\$
Class II				
Real Estate	\$	369,122,610	28.60	\$ 1,055,691
Personal Property	-	1,918,034		5,486
Total Class II	\$	371,040,644		1,061,177
CI III				
Class III	_			
Real Estate	\$_	83,458,610	57.20	\$ 477,383
Personal Property		66,616,043		381,044
Public Utility	_	123,105,142		704,161
Total Class III	\$	273,179,795		\$ 1,562,588
Class IV				
Real Estate	\$	11,306,060	57.20	\$ 64,671
Personal Property	-	6,630,038		37,924
Public Utility	-	2,727,588		15,602
Total Class IV	s	20,663,686		\$ 118,197
Total Class IV	Ψ=	20,000,000		Ψ110,137
Total Value & Proje	cted			
Revenue	\$	664,884,125		\$ <u>2,741,962</u>

E-ZEE **SELF STORAGE**

Glover Dr. - Franklin 304-358-3651 **Inside Units**

7x10 10x20

Less Delinquencies, Exonerations & 137,098 5.00%Uncollectable Taxes 52,097 Less Tax Discounts 2.00% Less Allowance for Tax Increment Financing - see worksheet (Subtracted from regular current expense taxes levied only) **Total Projected Property Tax Collection** 2,552,767 Less Assessor Valuation Fund 51,055 (Subtracted from regular current expense taxes levied only)

Net Amount to be Raised by Levy of Property Taxes For Budget Purposes (Transfer amount to Worksheet GCRev - Account No. 301-01)

Pendleton County Commission Levy Estimate (Budget) 2023 - 2024 Fiscal Year

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA County of: Pendleton, West Virginia

In accordance with WV Code § 11-8-10, as amended, the Pendleton County Commission proceeded to make an estimate of the amounts necessary to be raised by a levy of taxes for the current year, and doth determine and estimate the several amounts

Estimated Revenues General Fund Fund Balance .. Property Taxes Current year 45,500 Prior Year Taxes Tax Penalties, Interest & Publication Fees..... 30.000 Property Transfer Tax 60,000 Coal Severance Tax..... Gas and Oil Severance Tax 10,000 Wine & Liquor Tax 100,000 Hotel Occupancy Tax Miscellaneous Permits..... Federal Grants/Federal Payment in Lieu of Taxes..... 250,000 Sheriff's Service of Process..... Sheriff's Earnings

County Clerk's Earnings

Regional Jail Operations Partial Reimbursement.....

Circuit Clerk's Earnings.....

IRP Fees (Interstate Registration Plan).....

Franchise Agreement......

Interest Earned.

Miscellaneous Revenue..... Sheriff's Commission Gaming Income 45,000 Filing Fees... 4.000 3,000 Video Lottery..... Refunds/Reimbursements (External Sources)..... 284,656 Dog & Kennel Reimbursement..... 20,000 General School Reimbursements. 578,424 Payroll Reimbursements.. Transfers Assessor's Valuation Fund **Total Estimated General Fund Revenues......**

Coal Severance Tax..... Total Coal Severance.....

Estimated Revenues

...\$1,092,721 \$

273,958

227,095

36,000

110,051

Severance

Tax Fund

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Coal Severance Tax

County Commission
County Clerk
Circuit Clerk
Sheriff-Treasurer
Prosecuting Attorney
Prosecuting Attorney

Assigned Fund Balance

226,476 Assessor's Valuation Fund Statewide Computer Network..... Elections-County Clerk...... 130,000 Circuit Court 7.000 22,000 Custodial ... 33,900 Insurance Program (Self Insured) Other Buildings. 92,000 Regional Development Authority...... 8,474 72,596 Economic Development..... State Grants.. Contingencies - Not to Exceed 10% of Budget..... TOTAL GENERAL GOVERNMENT...... 3,235,151

PUBLIC SAFETY Sheriff-Law Enforcement Sheriff-Service of Process Regional Jail...... 212.500 231,074 Emergency Services 578,424 Communication Center..... Ambulance Authority..... 32,500 Flood Control.. 10,000

TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY...... HEALTH & SANITATION 35,000

Local Health Department..... Mental Health..... 500 264,656 TOTAL HEALTH & SANITATION

TOTAL CULTURE & RECREATION

CULTURE & RECREATION Parks & Recreation...... 22,500

SOCIAL SERVICES Public Transit. 5.000 TOTAL SOCIAL SERVICES 5,000 CAPITAL PROJECTS

General Government ... Total Expenditures\$ 7,790,799

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA, PENDLETON COUNTY I. Elise M. White, CLERK OF THE COUNTY COMMISSION OF SAID COUNTY

RECORD OF ORDERS MADE AND ENTERED BY SAID COMMISSION ON THE $21\mathrm{st}$ DAY OF MARCH 2023. Elise M. White

DO HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE FOREGOING ARE TRUE COPIES FROM THE

Legal Advertisements Continued on Page 8

Fisher Mountain Golf Club NOW HIRING!

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CART ATTENDANTS RESTAURANT AND BAR STAFF

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- Applicant must be at least 16 (cart attendants) • Applicant must be at least 18 for Pro Shop or Restaurant/

Please contact Jerry Landis at (304) 358-2261 or ilandis@fishermountain.com to pick up an application or schedule and interview.

Office Adminstrator **Pendleton County Economic and Community Development Authority**

Minimum Qualifications:

Proficient with Microsoft Office Suite and QuickBooks. Excellent verbal and written communication skills, including

spelling, grammar, word usage, and punctuation.

Excellent organizational skills and attention to detail.

Excellent time management skills with a proven ability to meet

Work independently in the absence of supervision and prioritize

Leadership skills. Ability to prioritize tasks and to delegate them when appropriate.

Ability to function well in a high-paced and at times stressful environment.

Basic understanding of how to operate standard business equipment.

Business letter writing.

Typing and transcribing a variety of correspondence and notes of meetings To Apply: Please send a cover letter and resume to:

Karen Pitsenbarger PO BOX 187, Franklin, WV 26807 Must be delivered to Pendleton County Courthouse (Commission) by 4pm on 4/5/23

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CVB Meeting

Continued From Page 1

two of the four producers.

Nesselrodt shared that she wanted to erect a metal map of the trail, created by marketing partner New South Media, at the CVB office. Board member Janice Lantz inquired, "can we put signs up at Seneca?" The board agreed with the idea, but questioned where they could be placed.

The Pendleton County Economic Development Authority had previously published a brochure that included a QR code linking to a website. The website explains the participating distilleries in more detail. Originally, the EDA paid for two-thirds of the brochure while participating businesses

Additionally, the board came to an important decision regarding internal policy. During a discussion in which the board agreed to sponsor the non profit "Gravel Ride Up Spruce Knob," (or GRUSK) board member Jeff Munn suggested that the group craft a policy to only sponsor non profits working for the good of the county.

He explained that problems could arise should the CVB sponsor one for profit enterprise entity or event, but not choose to pay to sponsor another. Lantz added that the board needed to assemble a policy book for long-term guidance.

Nesselrodt agreed, saying "let's start one and make that

Munn then stated that the board could recognize a difference between other activities and sponsorship, saying "we can promote, advertise, and attend without sponsoring." The board agreed to sponsor GRUSK, especially since the

event "supports local emergency service providers." As tourist season arrives, Nesselrodt told board members

to expect changes to the outside of the CVB office. There will be a permanent rack with information cards, metal maps of attractions, and a QR code on the door that links visitor phones to the CVB website and attractions.

She added that the local department of highways will erect official blue signs to identify the CVB office to motorists.

Finally, Nesselrodt shared that Pendleton County is a finalist for which county will provide the official United States Capitol Christmas Tree. Regardless of where the tree is cut, a special truck will make stops in Pendleton County as it makes its way to Washington, DC.

BOE Meeting

Continued From Page 1

requested," Cook shared. It included topics such as art and music therapy, as well as wellness."

J. D. Wilkins, school board president, said, "I thank all of you for the difference that you make." Sonny O'Neil, board member, added, "We'll do every kind of support you need." The board moved on to discuss facilities construction and

planning. "We are trying to get the CAN building operational," Travis Heavner reported. The concrete floor still needs time to cure and flooring would be installed next week. "The people at CAN are very pleased with the new floor," he said.

He also stated that FES would likely not see its new bleach-

In the long term, Heavner explained that the school system had plans to develop the area behind the school for the convenience and use of football and spring sports. "It will be a really nice place if it all works out," Heavner noted.

Charles Hedrick, superintendent, reported that PEIA premiums would increase by approximately 25 percent to keep the legally mandated 80-20 split in cost. He explained that salary increases for most would mitigate that increase. He also shared a new mandate that every public school post its curriculum online. Parents may access, but only with passwords.

Finally, the board decided that it would dedicate one wall of the new meeting room for permanent display of Pendleton County teachers of the year.

Kesterson Named To Dean's List

Bella R. Kesterson, an education major at Marshall University in Huntington, achieved Dean's List recognition for the fall semester.

To make the Dean's List, a student must have a 3.3 grade point average for a minimum of 12 graded hours.

Subscribe to **The Pendleton Times**

MENU Pendleton Senior & Family Services

FRIDAY, MARCH 31 Chicken Salad Wrap .ettuce/Tomato Pasta Salad, Fruit Birthday Cake

Monday, April 3 Corn Beef/Cabbage Tomato Bread **Applesauce** Tuesday, April 4

Baked Potato Chili/Cheese Broccoli, Berry Crisp **Wednesday, April 5**Chicken Burrito w/Rice

Beans, Fruit WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6 Ham

Sweet Potato Casserole California Blend Banana, Cookie



Meals served daily at the Franklin center from to 12:15. Two percent milk served with every meal. Menus are subject to change.

Harper Earns Outstanding 4-H Leader Award



Vanessa Harper, leader of the North Fork 4-H Club, was named the 2022 Outstanding 4-H Club Leader for Pendleton County. Ashley Harper, left, a long-time leader and supporter of the North Fork 4-H Club, presented the award. Submitted by Jax Bennett, club reporter.

GARRY L. SIMMONS REAL ESTATE

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Marlinton Stockyards Spring Sale Schedule SPECIAL SPRING CALF SALE

Pocahontas Producers Livestock Market

Friday, April 7 - 7 p.m. **REGULAR SALE Saturdays**

April 8, May 13 and June 17 - 2 p.m. For more information, call:

Sherry Sullenberger (PPCA manager) at 540-499-2718 Pocahontas County Extension Office at 304-799-4852

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April 2, 2023 • 2 p.m. 132 N Main St.

Next Big Auction

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Franklin, WV 26807 Penny K. Lambert, Sales Agent C 304.668.2975 Laura B. Brown, Sales Agent C 304.668.3952 304.358.3332/3337 304.358.3334 (fax) Jennifer Raines, Sales Agent 304-851-3522

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GREAT FINANCING RATES NOW AVAILABLE

2021 FORD F-150 "SHELBY SUPER SNAKE." 2K miles, red, new condition 2021 FORD F-150 SUPERCREW S/BED LARIAT 4X4, 5.0 V-8, auto., fully ldd., soft blue color, 34K miles, like new SPECIAL \$59,900 \$54,900 2021 NISSAN TITAN CREW CAB 4X4, V-8, auto., ldd., black, only 10K miles. .. <u>SPECIAL</u> \$44,900 \$39,900 2020 JEEP GLADIATOR 4X4 CREW CAB TK., V-6, auto., ldd., silver, 39K miles, very sharp .. 2018 TOYOTA TACOMA EXTRA CAB 4X4, 4-cvl., auto., ldd., white, one owner w/103K miles, ex, cond.

2016 FORD F-450 SUPERCAB DUALLY "ENCLOSED BODY" UTILITY TRUCK, 2-WHEEL DRIVE, 6.7 diesel, auto., ldd., white, only 88K miles 2016 FORD F-250 CREW CAB S/BED 4X4, XLT premium pkg., 6.7 dsl., auto., ldd., white & gray, only 92K miles,

2015 FORD F-350 CREW-CAB 4X4 UTILITY TRUCK, 6.7 dsl., auto., ldd., white, 79K miles .. .\$49,500 2015 FORD F-250 SUPERCAB SHORTBED 4X2, 6.2 liter gas V-8, auto., ldd., white, 175K miles, ex. cond. .\$19,900 2014 FORD F-150 SUPERCREW FX4 4X4, 3.5 Ecoboost, auto., Idd., white, 280K miles, very nice truck .. SPECIAL \$19,500 \$16,900 2010 FORD F-150 SUPERCREW 4X4, XLT pkg., V-8, auto., ldd., black, 174K miles, good cond... ..\$12,900

2007 FORD F-350 SUPERCAB S/BED 4X4 "CUSTOM BUILT," 7.3 diesel, 6-spd., ldd., must see to appreciate ..\$37,500 2019 FORD MUSTANG GT "BULLITT EDITION," V-8, 6-spd., ldd., green, 2K miles, new condition 2019 HONDA FIT 4-DR HATCHBACK, 4-cyl., auto., ldd., red, great MPG and only 43K miles............. SPECIAL \$17,900 \$15,900

2018 FORD EXPLORER 4-DR XLT AWD, V-6, auto., ldd., charcoal, only 59K miles, ex. cond. 2018 FORD ESCAPE TITANIUM AWD, 2.0 4-cyl., auto., ldd, blue 102K miles, very sharp 2014 JEEP WRANGLER UNLIMITED "SPORT" 4X4, V-6, 5-spd., ldd., gray, 152K, lift kit w/bigger tires. Very sharp FOR ONLY \$17,900

2005 FORD E-350 CARGO VAN, 6.0 diesel, auto., air, etc., white, only 134K miles 1997 FORD MUSTANG COBRA CONVERTIBLE, V-8, 5-spd., ldd., white, tan leather, only 49K miles, ex. cond. \$39,500

2014 FORD EXPLORER AWD "POLICE INTERCEPTOR," 3.7 liter, V-6, auto., ldd., white, 170K miles

1966 FORD MUSTANG 2-DR COUPE, Hot 289 V-8, auto., etc., fully restored, many custom features, blue w/white 1965 FORD MUSTANG 2-DR COUPE (EARLY PRODUCTION 1964 1/2 CAR) 260 V-8, auto., PS, PB, etc., red, \$34,900 SGR276A 5.11 Ac., Raw Land, Lot #23, Blackthorn SGR245 0.96 Acres w/2 Bed, 1.5 Bath 1900's Mtn. Estates, Sugar Grove District, Pendleton Cty. **NEW** LISTING \$35.900.00.

Cove Subdivision, Some Restrictions, Milroy District, Grant County, WV. \$219,900.00. SGR271A 1.84 Acres, Potomac Heights Subdivision, Williams Rd., Franklin District, Pendleton County, WV.

SGR272A 1.625 Acres w/4 Bed, 1 Bath 2 Story Frame house, along Rt. 33, Brandywine, Bethel District. **NEW** LISTING \$75.000.00.

SGR271-A 1.84 Acres, Potomac Heights Subdivision, Williams Rd., Franklin District, Pendleton County, WV.

SGR270A 1.97 Acres w/1 Bed, 1 Bath Cabin, Well, Septic, Sugar Grove District, Pendleton Cty. NEW LISTING \$99,000.00.

SGR268A 1837 IN EDRACON, TRACTrea, Excellent Hunting, Franklin District. \$449,900.00. SGR266A 1.0 Acre, 3 Bed, 2 Bath Doublewide w/2 Car Garage. Mountain 60 No Roof 2021. Located in Green Acres Estates. Some Convenants & Restrictions. NEW

LISTING \$199,900.00. SGR265A .63 Accept bocated in Brandywine. NEW LISTING \$7,900.00

SGR264A 2.097 Acres w/4 Bed, 2 bath Brick Cape Cod,

2 Car Detached Garage, Unfinished basement. Quiet neighborhood, conveniently located to town amenities.

NEW LISTING \$329,000.00. SGR634 2.7 Acres, Electric nearby, Septic, Public Water avail. \$69.500.00. SGR259A 230.83 Acres, more or less, Spring, Septic, Electric available to 4-year farm lease. Sugar

Grove Distric. NEW LISTING \$869,000.00. SGR258A 17.75 Acres, Raw Land, Sugar Grove District.

NEW LISTING \$40,000.00. SGR258B 3.42 Acres, w/3 Bed, 2 Bath Home. Sugar Brandywine. Each unit has 2 Bdrms, 1.5 Baths, LR and Grove District, Falcon Lane. NEW LISTING \$259,000.00. Large Kitchen. Near National Forest for hunting and

SGR252A 81.01 Acres, more or less, Lot 7, Seneca Lookout, adjoins National Forest. Spring on property. North Fork hiking trail crosses. Union District. Covenants & Restrictions. NEW LISTING \$519,000.00. SGR248 1.407 Acres, more of test by 9, Highland Estates, Glander, FGGapproved. Some Restrictions.

NEW LISTING \$31,500.00. SGR246 242.36 Acres, more or less, w/5 Bed, 2-1/2 Bath Contemporary Home as well as a Farmhouse on property. Pond, Magnificent Views. Conservation Easement. \$998,700.00.

Remodeled Cottage, Seneca Rocks. \$249,900.00 REDUCED \$234,900.00.

SGR275A 3.26 Acres w/3 Bed, 1 Bath Ranch Home, Oak SGR244 0.14 Acres w/2 Bed, 1 Bath 1,008 sq. ft. Home, Bonus Room, Metal Roof, Mini-Splits. Franklin Corp. \$149,900.00. SGR236 World Class View Overlooking Germany Valley! Log Cabin, 70.08 Acres, 2 bed, 2.5 Baths. Seneca Lookout.

Some Restrictions. \$799,000.00. SGR233 29.82 Acres, Raw Land, Electric. Located on South Fork Mountain, Mill Run District. \$190,000.00.

SGR223 0.6673 Acres w/Spacious 3 Bed, 2 Bath Home, 2090 sq. ft., 1 Car Detached Garage. Franklin Corp. **NEW LISTING \$329,000.00**. SGR216 0.662 Acres w/1 Bed, 1 Bath, 908 sq. ft. Cabin

located in close proximity to Brushy Fork Lake and National Forest, Sugar Grove District. \$79,900.00 REDUCED SGR197 557.7 Ac., Raw Land, Excellent Hunting,

Joins National Forest, No Utilities, Potential Food Plots Watering Holes, Bldg. Sites w/Views. Milroy District, Grant County. \$1,749,000.00. SGR190 3.17 NE Pay Can Tree Offin., Level Bldg Site, Mature 1 moer \$49,500.00.

SGR188 22.72 Ac., Raw Land, Hoover Mtn., Hunting, Bldg Sites. \$179,900.00.

SGR187 8.87 Ac., Raw Land, Hoover Mtn., Bldg. Sites View. \$79,900.00. **SGR176** 2.02 Acres Raw Land, Rocky Mountain Rd, Deer Run area. Electric nearby. **\$19,900.00**.

SGR156 15.97 Acres, Rolling Hills Estate, Electric nearby, Water available.Hardy County. \$95,000.00. REDUCED

SGR128 2-3 Bedroom Ranch w/Full Basement on 0.6386 NEW LISTING \$169,000.00 REDUCED \$149,900.00.

SGR042 Five Unit Townhouse property located in fishing. Perfect for retirement income, live in one and rent the others! \$399,000.00

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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