# THE PENDLETON TIMES

Serving the Community since 1913

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Franklin, Pendleton County, West Virginia 26807

Thursday November 30, 2023



Danny Wilburn of Franklin and the Reasonable Redneck Stud Fee team captured a South Dakota pheasant hunting title earlier this month. Wilburn is pictured second from left in back row.

# **Pendleton County Hunter Helps Team** Earn Pheasant Hunting Championship

By Stephen Smoot

The big skies, pancake flat plains, and endless cold winter months are a distant cry from Pendleton County, but a local man with his Baker based buddy helped their team win a competition that has attracted hunters from across the country for more than a quarter century.

At the beginning of this month, Danny Wilburn from Franklin and Brian Branson from Baker made the long trek to the Mount Rushmore State.

They competed as part of the "Reasonable Redneck Stud Fee" team. It has competed for 12 years with Wilburn joining them the past six.

In the competition, 30 teams this year hunted on plots of land lent out by local landowners for that purpose. Each team member receives four shells to bring down birds during a time frame starting at 10 a.m. and ending at 4 p.m. Team members can give shells to teammates if they choose.

"You have to be really selective," Wilburn said of the four shell limit. He added that "you have to have really good dogs."

A team has to operate strategically to bag this elusive bird. "Wingers" and "blockers" try to keep a pheasant inside the team of hunters. Wilburn explains that if not lined up properly, "pheasants have a way of finding the hole and blowing out the holes."

Hunter safety is even more important in this mode of hunting. "Make sure the birds are up high enough" before you shoot, Wilburn cautions. He added that "you'll see inexperienced people shooting pheasants on the ground with dogs in the field."

South Dakota is sometimes an excellent, sometimes a dangerous natural habitat for the birds. They thrive in the brush in warmer conditions. Winter on the plains, however, often brings lots of snow and cold winds from the north. Landowners will plant groves of trees to provide shelter and safety for the birds during extreme conditions.

One recent winter, however, killed an estimated 60 percent of the pheasants in nearby Winner, South Dakota, another hunting des-

Wilburn's team took the maximum possible number of pheasants, 18. Only two shells remained unspent, giving them an 82 percent kill rate. Should teams tie in numbers, the total weight of the birds provides a tie breaker.

Alongside the hunt is a separate bird dog challenge. According to the rules, the contest "tests the skills of two hunters and one dog. Each hunter is limited to five shells each as the team attempts to retrieve six birds in a 15-minute time period. Points are awarded to each team based on birds harvested, full retrieves, partial retrieves, normal retrieves, shots not taken, and every second remaining on the clock."

The hunt is held by the Huron Chamber and Visitors Bureau as a fundraiser.

The North Fork 4-H Club kicked off the start of the new 4-H year with a hayride to the top of Spruce Knob on Oct. 22. A meeting was held at the top where they elected new officers, and everyone enjoyed snacks and drinks. Four-H'ers going on the hayride were, from left, front row, Benson Harper, Chloe Barkley, Brynleigh Ruddle, Tori Heavner and Vaylee Harper; and back row, Aubriana Holloway,

NF 4-H'ers Kick Off New Club Year

# Mason Harper, Cole Harper and Jax Bennett. **COVID Lockdowns Created Serious Issues for Local and Nation Schools and Students**

By Stephen Smoot

The COVID pandemic served as a body blow to school system efforts across the state and the nation to educate individual children and to also meet collective expectations of achievement. Pendleton County was not immune to the strains induced, and in some ways faced more difficult challenges than other areas.

The county system faces overall problems partly related to COVID, but also part of trends and issues already facing remote rural areas.

That said, the county school system and each school have put together plans, programs, and partnerships designed to bring support to every individual student in a variety of ways, both academically and socially.

Statistics in recent years have raised some concerns. The West Virginia Department of Education Balanced Scorecard rates schools in different categories as "exceeds standard," "meets standard," "partially meets standard," and "does not meet standard." Behavior at all elementary schools fell under "exceeds standard," while attendance fell under "partially meets standard."

Brandywine Elementary School scored well academically, meeting or exceeding in all academic areas. Franklin and North Fork partially met standards in most areas. Franklin fell just short of partially meeting standards in mathematics, while North Fork exceeded state standards in English and language arts.

Pendleton County Middle/High School fell short of partially meeting standards in both English and mathematics, but exceeded state expectations in graduation rate. Attendance was also rated a problem area by the scorecard.

The website SchoolDigger.com reported that West Virginia as a whole had not fared well in key areas. Pendleton County seventh graders outpaced the state in English and language arts, 40 percent to 38 percent meeting standards. They came within three percentage points of students

across the state, of whom 30 percent met standards in mathematics.

For 11th graders, the same site reported that 20 percent across the state met math standards with Pendleton students at 17 percent. In English and language arts, 30 percent of Pendleton students met standards. In science, 19 percent of county students met standards.

Across the state and the nation, school systems struggled with the academic disaster created by COVID lockdowns. George Washington High School in Kanawha County, whose entire student body uses a college prep program and also draws students from one of the most affluent areas in the state, saw just around 40 percent of their 11th-grade students meeting state math standards. Just more than half of the 11th graders met standards in science.

The years before the pandemic showed gains in Pendleton schools. Between 2018 and 2020 middle school results had shown stark improvement. Reading jumped 11 percentage points to 48 percent. Math results collectively rose from 26 to 33 percent.

COVID lockdowns, however, took their toll. Reading scores dropped 16 percentage points and math sank by 11. State mandates that upended student routines and imposed virtual schooling in an area with enormous gaps in internet service hurt student achievement.

Barbara Whitecotton, a 47-year veteran of public education, has served as Hardy County superintendent, principal of Franklin Elementary School, and now holds the newly created office of school improvement coordinator.

Whitecotton explains that the COVID lockdowns "affected the social well-being of children, adolescents, and adults." She added that "they lost a lot of direct instruction and that's delayed

them immensely." Last March, the U.S. House of Representatives

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# School Officials Use Assessments, Data Tracking to Improve Education

By Stephen Smoot

Pendleton County officially has 878 students in its four schools.

Teachers, school administrators, and main office officials have the ability to track the

progress of each one. According to Charles Hedrick, superintendent of Pendleton County Schools, the county has "used data to help drive our instruction for more than 20 years." From top to bottom, the county schools are using data to track student progress and learn more information that, hopefully, will lead to improved outcomes.

As Hedrick explains, "Our benchmark testing allows our staff to check to see how instruction is working." He added that "this enables us to check for gaps and provide additional targeted instruction for our students."

Though data use had aided county schools for years, a renewed focus post pandemic has helped to make it a more precise and effective

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# Community CALENDA

## 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.

### **Prayer Tree Lights** Riverton Pavilion

The Community Christmas Prayer Tree will light up the Riverton Pavilion through December. Residents are invited to hang their prayer requests on its branches anytime, to sit and pray and enjoy a candy cane. If one can't make it to the tree, prayer needs may be emailed to christmas prayertree@yahoo.com and requests will be added to the tree. Each request will be lifted in prayer daily.

### **Community Chorus** To Perform Saturday

The Pendleton Community Christmas Chorus will be in concert on Saturday. Performances will begin at 10 a.m. at Pendleton Manor and at 2 p.m. at Franklin United Methodist Church on Main Street.

Everyone is welcome to at-

### 'Times' To Publish Christmas Memories, **Holiday Recipes**

Christmas is just around the corner. The Times would like for its readers to share with other subscribers some past Christmas memories, as well as favorite holiday

Please submit articles or recipes by Monday, Dec. 11. Both can be e-mailed to ads@ pendletontimes.com, mailed to PO Box 906, Franklin, WV 26807, or dropped off at the office.

# Communities In Schools Program Uses Incentives to Motivate Better Attendance

It's a common sense concept hiding a sometimes complex situation. To learn, grow, and achieve, students must go to school regularly and consistently. Taking too many days off can lead to lower levels of achievement and ability.

COVID lockdowns in some cases loosened the ties that bound students to regular attendance. Virtual school implied that the traditional model was replaceable. Also, students living in problematic situations find less encouragement to attend, or even barriers to going to school.

Carrie Nesselrodt, director of student services, has taught seventhgrade English and also served as assistant principal at the high school. Now in the central office, one of her main responsibilities lies in boosting attendance across the board.

"I find it really interesting," she noted "how at the district level, you see the big picture of how everything connects."

Since "free public school" evolved into a compulsory model, school systems and law enforcement have primarily used punitive measures to get parents to send children to school. During the past generation, however, the traditional family system that served as a foundation from which the school operated has declined and dissipated.

Now family struggles hamper attendance more than willful disobedience of the law.

"We have to reach students in ways we haven't tried before," Nesselrodt savs.

Pendleton County Schools has partnered with Communities in Schools, which operates in 28 states and Washington, DC. In West Continued on Page 8

# **County Commissioners** Received Update On South **Branch Day Report Center**

By Stephen Smoot

"We thank you for the rain that is much needed on this dry ground." Commissioner Roger Dahmer opened the second Pendleton County Commission meeting of November with thanks for the soaking rains that followed wildfires earlier this month.

Rick Gillespie, Pendleton County Emergency Services coordinator, requested that the county commission approve the hiring of Bryson Gribble as a Pendleton 911 telecommunicator, which was done without debate.

Gillespie noted that county emergency services were "still trying to recover from the fire." One issue lay in a brand new generator that was "new out of the box," but failed to function at the West Side Road fire. Commissioner Jimmie Bennett suggested using a higher octane fuel in the generators.

Edna Mullenax and Toniue Dyer also came to the meeting to discuss the operation of a new community and family resource center, starting next month. Mullenax explained that the center, which opens on Dec 14, would make "it's main focus . . . a family in trouble." The center will also partner with Potomac Highlands Guild and Communities In Schools. A grant from the West Virginia Department of Health and Human

Resources will help to fund the facility. Darren Taylor, executive director of the South Branch Day Report Center, also came to discuss that program's progress during the past year. The center works to prevent repeat offenses and probation revocations by offering, as the website explains, "personalized and evidence-

based treatment programs, along with accountability measures." It goes on to say that "by following this approach, the participants gain

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# **OBITUARIES**



Carol Ann Smith

Carol Ann Smith, 81, of Franklin passed away Nov. 20, 2023, at her home.

She was born Nov. 3, 1942, at Baltimore, Maryland, and was the daughter of the late James Betton Franklin and Mary Ann Kemp Franklin.

Mrs. Smith had worked as a medical technician at a nursing home, and was an avid crocheter, loved reading and puzzles.

On Jan. 4, 1961, she married Gerald Herbert Smith, Jr., who preceded her in death on Feb. 26, 2019.

Surviving are a son, Kevin Smith (Theresa) of Franklin; a brother, James "Butch" Franklin (Kathy) of Fort Myers, Florida; six grandchildren, Kevin, Jessica, Jennifer, Heather, Courtney and Gerald IV; and 12 greatgrandchildren, Ryleigh, Mc-Kenzie, Cameron, Eli, Evie, Hunter, Kayla, Kody, Scarlett, Josie, Benjamin and Farrah.

She was also preceded in death by a son, Gerald H. Smith, III.

Her body was cremated. A celebration of life service will be held at a later date.

Online condolences and memories may be shared at www.kimblefuneralhome.

Arrangements were entrusted to the Kimble Funeral Home in Franklin.

The Community Christmas

Prayer Tree

will once again light up the Riverton Pavilion

throughout the month of December

**Raymond's Gymnastics Center** 

**Upper Tract** 

Saturday, Dec. 2 • 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Proceeds to benefit kids in the gymnastics program

Vendors • Pony Rides • Food

Mr. and Mrs Claus

AND MUCH MORE!

Games •Crafts •Square Dancing

You are invited there to hang your prayer

requests on its branches. Come anytime and

feel free to sit, pray and enjoy a candy cane.

If you can't make it to the tree, just email your prayer needs to christmasprayertree@yahoo.com

and they will be added for you. Each and every request will be lifted in prayer daily.



**Edward Charles Piotrowski** 

Edward Charles Piotrowski, 75, of Franklin and formerly of Brandywine passed away Nov. 25, 2023, at Pendleton Manor in Franklin.

He was born July 15, 1948, in Baltimore, Maryland, a son of the late Judas Edward and Opal (Bailey) Piotrowski.

Mr. Piotrowski had retired from the Federal Bureau of Prisons, where he had worked as a correctional officer for many years. Additionally, he was a convert into the Jewish faith and was diligent in his daily studies of the

A very private man, his close friends will remember his excitement for good food, the joy he had for his 1945, she was awarded a late pup and above all, his undying love for his late by the Virginia Defense companion, Hope Bitzer.

Upon his request a burial will take place in Doe Hill

Memorial contributions retirement. may be mailed to Doe Hill Cemetery, c/o Delbert Rexrode Jr., 527 Windrush Lane, Doe Hill, VA 24433.

Condolences and memories can be shared at www. obaughfuneralhome.com.



Dorotha "Dot" Wimer Stone

Dorotha "Dot" Wimer Stone, 94, of Franklin passed away Nov. 23, 2023, at Pendleton Manor in Franklin.

She was born on Oct. 7, 1929, in Durbin, a daughter of the late Joseph H. and Margie R. Wimer of Blue Grass, Virginia.

A devoted Christian, Mrs. Stone was a member of the Walnut Street United Methodist Church, where she was organist. She was also a former member of Harper Chapel United Methodist Church, where she was pianist and organist.

In her youth, she worked with her father at his store, which also served as a gas station and barber shop. In Home Nursing Certificate Council. She had been employed at the Aileen plant in Monterey, Virginia, and Cemetery with no formal Hanover Shoe plant in Franklin before her early

> On Feb. 18, 1955, she married Ivan L. Stone, who

predeceased her in November of 1985, when he was overtaken by flood waters while returning home from helping neighbors during the West Virginia flood.

Surviving are nieces, Cindy (Johnson) Thompson and husband, Roger of Kings Mountain, North Carolina, Rita Simmons and companion, Woodrow White of Grottoes, Virginia, and Gloria Hise and husband, Andy of Monterey, Virginia; nephews, Steve Johnson and wife, Tessi of Morningside, Maryland, and Wilson Smith of Monterey, Virginia; and a number of great- and great-greatnieces and nephews.

She was beloved by her family and will be remembered by family, friends, and loved ones.

She was also preceded in death by three sisters, Kathleen W. Smith, Gretta W. Johnson and Margaret Lois Wimer.

A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m., Sunday at Walnut Street United Methodist Church in Franklin with Pastor Mike Loudermilk officiating. Inurnment will follow in Cedar Hill Cemetery.

The family will receive friends one hour prior to the service at the church.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Walnut Street United Methodist Church, PO Box 638, Franklin, WV 26807 or to a charity of one's choice.

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



**Ruby Simmons Propst** 

Ruby Simmons Propst, 97, of Smith Creek, Franklin, passed away Nov. 27, 2023, at Pendleton Manor in Franklin.

She was born Dec. 5, 1925, at home and was the daughter of the late Albert Simmons and Levie Lambert Simmons.

Mrs. Propst graduated from Franklin High School in 1944 and was a member of the Smith Creek Church of the Brethren.

She had worked at Troy Laundry in Harrisonburg, Virginia, and was a housekeeper for Mrs. Beulah Sites

and family in Franklin. She then left to care for her mother and father.

She loved gardening, canning, cooking and designing and decorating jugs and

She was the last surviving member of her immediate

family. Her husband, Ira "Bub" Propst, preceded her in death

on March 14, 2022 She leaves behind several nieces and nephews to cher-

ish her memory. She was also preceded in death by three sisters, Norma Warner, Erma Waggy and Reba Wiseman; and a

brother, Guy Simmons. The family will receive friends from 1 to 2 p.m. Saturday at Kimble Funeral Home in Franklin, where a funeral service will follow in the funeral home chapel. Interment will be at Cedar Hill Cemetery in Franklin.

Memorials may be made to Pendleton Manor, PO Box 700, Franklin, WV 26807 or to a charity of one's choice.

Online condolences and memories may be shared at www.kimblefuneralhome.



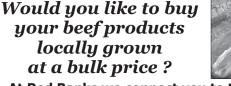


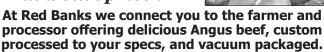
# Clinton Hedrick Community Building

Riverton

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Pictures with Santa by Windy Pines Photography -\$45





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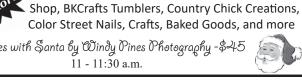
### Please help in making Christmas a little more special for the residents at Pendleton Manor.

I would like to make gift bags for the residents at the Pendleton Manor for Christmas and I am asking for donations from our community. I was thinking the most need would be for toiletries, such as shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, body wash, lotions, cologne, and any other items that may be used in baths or just personal grooming. Little things like fluffy socks, playing cards, or anything you may think they would enjoy. Anything would be greatly appreciated. If you would like to donate or have any questions please feel free to private message. Again anything would be greatly appreciated.

For those that would like to donate instead of buying toiletries, we will have cans out for that as well. Donation cans are located at Shell, Korner Shop, Gateway Restaurant, RiverMart and Yokums in Seneca Rocks.

> Drop off locations are Pendleton Manor, Red Barn Boutique and Hotts Feed Mill. Donations will have to be in by Dec. 16.

Thanks, Rachel Gardiner



# **Brushy Mountain Tree Farm** Now Open and Selling **CHRISTMAS TREES**

(Douglas Fir, Fraser Fir, Concolor Fir Canaan Fir, Norway Spruce)

Retail Lot or Choose and Cut

Wreaths, Centerpieces and Tree Supplies Available

> Also Check Out Our "Shop Local" Gift Shop

Open: Friday 3 p.m. - 6 p.m. Saturday 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Sunday 11 a.m. - 6 p.m. Located: 10 Miles from Franklin - Go east on Rt. 33, turn left at Long Mountain Store and follow signs.

For more information, call 304-358-2511, www.brushymountaintreefarm.com or check us out on Facebook.

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The applications can be picked up in the Pendleton County Assessor's Office or you can call the office at 304-358-2563 and one will be mailed to you.

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Person who are 65 years of age or older by June 30, 2024, or are totally and permanently disabled (letter from physician stating you are totally and permanently disabled) may apply.

Qualifications: The applicant must have been a resident of Pendleton County for two previous calendar years and lived on the property for six consecutive months prior to date of application. Also, mobile home owners on leased land can apply.

If you have already filed for these exemptions do not reapply.



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# School Officials

Continued From Page 1

Barbara Whitecotton, Pendleton County coordinator of school improvement, believes in "a strong focus on data-driven instruction," but with added depth and also 100 percent participation from everyone involved.

In a presentation prior to the November board meeting, Sonya Ertel, Pendleton County Middle/High School assistant principal, presented test scores from last year and shared that "these are not numbers that we're happy or proud of." She added that "we're looking very hard at the data to see what we can do differently."

Ertel explained that on a regular basis each student takes a benchmark assessment, usually around every four weeks. Scores for a variety of needed skills are tracked on an individual color coded spreadsheet. This format makes it easier to "see where our weaknesses and strengths are."

Whitecotton stated that "I have data talks with my principals. My principals have data talks with teachers. Teachers have data talks with kids." The data also involves students in terms of setting goals. Data gives a clearer picture and "a better chance of motivating students to reach that goal."

"We have good administrators and they do know their students," she explained.

Data can reveal more than student academic progress. For example, if a small number of students in a class show declines in progress, it pinpoints the problem and suggests that the student needs assistance. Should a large number of students in the same class show problems, it might suggest that the method of instruction is a problem and that the teacher should make a change. The skill missed by the students can be retaught in a different fashion so it does not get missed.

In other cases, if a student who has shown high achievement suddenly struggles, the data could indicate a personal, social, or home problem. Programs run by Communities In Schools can then work with the student to determine the issue and if they can help.

Whitecotton also discussed the notion of teaching strategies, including "building thinking classrooms." She added that "there really is a process where they can be trained to think

One way that the school system has attacked mathematics, which has emerged as a serious national educational issue, is a program called "Math for Life." Whitecotton described this as taking "the tools out of the toolbox and applying them to real life." Situations drawn upon for instruction include work, grocery shopping, and other real life scenarios that use math.

Another key task for Whitecotton lies in implementing the mandates of the Third Grade Success Act passed in the 2023 State Legislature. According to the text of HB 3035, "this bill adds mathematics to existing programs and goals from kindergarten to third grade and incorporates science of reading instruction, which can include phonics, phonemic awareness, vocabulary, fluency, and comprehension."

It goes on to say that "furthermore, this bill requires Pre-K level teachers and staff to utilize early learning reporting systems and requires benchmark assessments or screeners for kindergarten through third grade in reading and mathematics to determine proficiency."

Intervention programs to get the students on grade level at the required time must continue until the student shows proficiency.

Whitecotton said, "It's got so many pieces and moving parts to it. I'm putting the framework of all of this in." She also explained that the county has worked to both train teachers and find ways to plug "holes," through purchasing additional materials or other methods. One of the most helpful aspects lies in how "everyone is on the same page with the adopted curriculum" and that "our teachers are on board with this."

While no one promises easy efforts or quick fixes, officials remain optimistic that the approach has and will continue to provide improved outcomes. "Our data driven approach," says Hedrick "has helped improve our instruction and improve our students' academic growth, providing differential instructional practices for all students."

Whitecotton agrees, saying, "We'll see growth as we go and also see a maintenance of that

# Arbogast, Pennington, Judy Named PCH/MS Students of the Month





Abigail Judy.

Kaylee Arbogast, Hanna Pennington and Abigail Judy have been named outstanding students of the month for October at Pendleton County High/Middle School.

Kaylee Arbogast of Sugar Grove is the Academic Student of the Month. She is historian of the National Honor Society and secretary of the Class of 2024. She also has perfect attendance, is on the honor roll, and is a member of NSHSS. She plans to attend Shepherd University in the fall and major in communications. The daughter of Rachel Smith, she aspires to be an event planner.

The James Huffman Responsible Student of the Month for September is Hanna Pennington of Circleville. She is a member of FFA, having earned her Greenhand and Chapter degrees. She plans to enter the workforce after graduating from high school, pursuing a high paying job. She is the daughter of Christina Arbaugh and Rusty Pennington.

The Pendleton County Middle School Student of the Month is Abigail Judy. A seventh-grade student, she is a cheerleader and also plans to play softball this year. Her hobbies include hunting and fishing. Her future plans are to become a hairdresser after college. She is the daughter of Jeremy and Andrea Judy of Riverton.

### LET'S CELEBRATE!

# 90TH BIRTHDAY PARTY FOR ROSE MILLER

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# SOLAR INSTALLATION TECHNICIAN TRAINING

Become certified as a Photovoltaic Installer-Level 1 (PV1) through a six-week hybrid course instructed by Jay Warmke, co-owner of Blue Rock Station. Starts Jan. 16!

The course is designed to provide a solid foundation for those wishing to enter the industry, design and install their own residential solar system or simply understand how this emerging and important technology works. No prior experience is required.

Course format: Training seminar on Dec. 4 over Zoom. Six weeks of online education with weekly one-hour webinar sessions begins Jan. 16. Followed by a two-day in-person session Feb. 28-29.

Cost: \$400 for adults. \$200 for high school juniors and seniors (16+).

To register: email WorkforceEd@easternwv.edu or call (304) 434-8000

easternwv.edu/workforce-education an EOE, ADA, AA institution. Accredited by the Higher Learning Comm



# **CONTEST RULES/DEADLINES**

•Contest is divided into two grade categories: Preschool and Kindergarten and First, Second and Third Grade

•The top three entries in both age categories will receive a cash prize.

- •Contestants must use crayons, colored pencils or markers.
  - •ALL entries must be submitted with the contest entry form. •Previous years' winners are encouraged to enter,
- but are not eligible to win prizes in consecutive years. •Entries must be received at "The Pendleton Times" office by

Friday, December 8, either by drop off at the office or mail. Mail to PO Box 906, Franklin, WV 26807.

Gifts Are Compliments of

THE PENDLETON TIMES

Entry Form (Must Accompany Colored Picture)				
Name	Grade			
Address:				
<u> </u>				
Parent's Name	Phone			

10 Years Ago Week of November 21, 2013

SUGAR GROVE

### Feather Quilts Make One Feel like Royalty

The warmth has seeped from the day, and night arranges herself around the community. Cooler weather has reigned supreme, lately. Allowing one's mind to revert to the turn of the 19th century to see how residents in the community dealt with warmth during the winter months, has one truly blessed in the present state of affairs. Most folk were perhaps poor in some ways; however, they never felt that way at night. Everyone had goose feather quilts on their beds. Snuggled beneath them, they knew they were right up there with kings

and queens!

These quilts were a treasure! They were handmade, mostly out of muslin or scraps of cloth pieced and sewn together. Like many things in life, the outside really didn't matter. It was what was inside of each quilt that mattered—genuine, authentic, non-artificial goose and duck feathers—that gave it its great worth. Folk raised their own geese and ducks, and so they had the "pick" of the feathers. The quilts were thick—a generous half a foot or even more. Still, they were light as a bunch of feathers. Most importantly, they were unfailingly warm—even on the coldest night when the last chunk of coal or wood had burned itself out.

Since no one wanted to get

poked at night with a sharp quill, it made dequilling the feathers a necessary first step in the quilt making process. There were "dequilling bees" where neighborhood ladies would meet at someone's house. In the middle of the dining room table would be placed a bowl where, after painstakingly plucking the feathers, they would be placed in the bowl. Naturally, it took a long time to accumulate the sufficient amount of feathers needed to fashion a cozy softas-air quilt for the family's bed. Along with the chore, would be hours of sitting side by side, having neighborly chats and enjoying each other's company.

Goose down is thicker and fluffier than duck down. The down pieces hold together better because of their larger size, providing more thermal warmth. The colder the climate of origin of the goose, the warmer the down will be. The down feathers are plucked from under the breast of the adult duck or goose. These feathers are used to line their

Anyone having a down quilt will surely attest to its warmth on a chilly, windy night. Snuggling under those covers to a comforting position, allows one to sleep with ease, and dream sweet dreams!

Week of November 20, 2003

**20 Years Ago** 

### A Sign of New Business

A Subway restaurant, the largest fast-food sandwich chain in the world, as well as the largest fast-food franchise in the U.S., is coming to Franklin, owners Barry Glover and Jeff Bowers have announced.

The Subway will occupy the former premises of the 7-11 convenience store north of the

SUGAR GROVE BUILDERS Sugar Grove, WV Roofing Decks •Garages 😭 •Spray on **Elastomeric Roofing** Jeremy Swartzentruber

304-249-1584

WV 060843

stoplight at the intersection of Rts. 33 and 220 in Franklin.

Although Franklin's population apparently is less than what Subway usually looks for in a town, there are, Glover noted, "other factors," one of which almost certainly is that Rt. 33/220 from the stoplight to the intersection near Thompson's Motel and The Pantry is one of the most heavily trafficked roadways in the tri-county area.

Subway is famous for its made-to-order 12-inch and sixinch sub sandwiches, served on Italian, wheat and gourmet-seasoned breads.

Those breads are baked fresh throughout the day.

What's more, Subway fare is popular not only because it's tasty but because it's not as hard on one's waistline as other fast foods.

Health-conscious consumers love the fact that seven sixinch subs, seven salads and three deli-style sandwiches all have six grams of fat or less.

President Fred DeLuca founded the Subway chain in 1965. Then a 17-year-old college student, he received a \$1,000 loan from a family friend to start the venture as a way to finance his college

### Flue Liners Help Reduce Fires, Carbon Monoxide **Poisonings**

The threat of chimney fires or carbon monoxide poisonings from deteriorating masonry chimneys can be reduced with the installation of a stainless steel chimney liner.

This recommendation applies to masonry chimneys that vent gas or woodburning fireplaces, freestanding stoves and fireplace inserts, as well as gas or oil burning furnaces. The proper installation of a stainless steel liner can create a safer chimney within a deteriorated structure.

Chimneys that look good on the outside can often have problems inside that are potentially dangerous. "A liner can help a chimney perform as it was designed."

Most masonry chimneys are built with clay tile liners that can deteriorate over time or incur damage from weather, undetected chimney fires or foundation settling. This deterioration or damage can cause missing or cracked clay tiles that leave the chimney unsafe.

50 Years Ago Week of November 22, 1973

### **Bucks Shed and Grow New Set of Antlers Every**

WHOSE WOODS ARE THESE . . .

(A Weekly column of Wilderness Lore by The Woodlands and Whitewater Institute Staff, Spruce Knob Mountain)

During autumn the rutting season for the white-tailed deer begins. The first sign of the rut usually occurs in late September when the bucks lose the velvet from their antlers. Velvet is a very fine hair which covers the soft new antlers as they grow.

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Many people believe a buck grows only one set of antlers during his lifetime. This is not so. Each year the old set is lost and a new set grows in. The size of this new set of antlers is more a function of nourishment than of age. A very old buck in poor health will most probably be a spike buck while a much younger, well nourished deer will carry the trophy rack.

As the new set of antlers begins to harden up in September, the bucks find small trees, called "buck rubs" and rub this hair or velvet off. A buck will often pick out one particular tree for removing all the velvet from his antlers. When this occurs a considerable amount of bark will be removed from the tree by the scraping of the antlers and the ground all around the base of the tree will be noticeably trampled and kicked up.

The hardening of the antlers is caused by various physiological changes which occur in the buck's system. These same physiological changes cause a slight swelling of the neck which complements the bucks fine physical condition at this time of year.

During this rutting season bucks are easily antagonized and itch for fights. This is the only time of year bucks have been known to charge people in unprovoked attacks. Usually however, their attacks are saved for other bucks also eager for combat. When two bucks engage in a duel the contest is usually one of brute strength rather than the backing off and ramming of heads characteristic of the Dall and Bighorn sheep. The bucks will usually meet head on and then push for all they are worth, each trying to get the other off balance and then gore with the tip of his antlers. These battles usually do not go to the death, however, if the antlers of the two deer become locked, it is nearly impossible for them to separate and the two deer will die a slow death of starvation.

Bucks enter the rut before the does. One of the first indications that the does are also entering the rut is the increased scent given off by the tarsal glands. These glands are found on the inside of both hind legs of bucks and does. These tarsal glands give off a scent at all seasons with the scent being markedly increased during rutting season which is very important in helping the buck locate the

Both the buck and the doe are in the rut during November and December. These are the months when mating usually occurs; however, some does mate as late as February. The gestation period for the white-tailed deer is about seven months. The fawns resulting from the November matings are born in May or June. Those fawns produced by the February matings are born the following September and usually don't live through their first winter.

This is the first of a series of articles on the life of the white-

60 Years Ago

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Week of November 28, 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 ago.

### **Grant Defeats Bragg** At Missionary Ridge

Gen. Ulysses S. Grant finally broke the back of Confederate Gen. Braxton Bragg's Confederate army 100 years ago this week, but the way he did it was somewhat of a surprise even to himself.

Grant had planned his batte to destroy Bragg's two flanks, but he won the battle by tearing through Bragg's middle.

The Battle of Chattanoogaor Missionary Ridge—started as Grant had planned it. Gen. George H. Thomas' Army of the Cumberland, acting under Grant's orders, made a demonstration in the plain south of Chattanooga on November 23, capturing some territory. The attack was designed to cause Bragg to fortify his center.

Then, next day—a cloudy, drizzly day—the real battle began. To the east, Gen. William Tecumseh Sherman smashed in with 8,000 men at the northern tip of Missionary Ridge on Bragg's flank. To the west, Gen. Joseph Hooker, with 9,000 men, charged up Lookout Mountain attacking Bragg's left flank. In the center, the Army of the Cumberland waited impatiently

Grant's plans did not succeed entirely. Sherman's men successfully carried what they thought was a portion of Missionary Ridge, only to find it an isolated and almost useless hill. Hooker's men whipped heavily out-numbered Confederates on Lookout Mountain in what was dubbed "The Battle Above the Clouds," but the gain was not of great consequence. So the first day

Next day was bright and sunny. Sherman renewed his attack on the left but was stopped by stiff Confederate resistance. Hooker, on the right, swept over Lookout Mountain and down into the valley toward Missionary Ridge, only to find a bridge across an important creek had been destroyed. It took him three hours to get his army across the creek.

Grant, who was watching all this with Thomas on a little hill, applied more pressure. He ordered Thomas to move his men out toward Missionary Ridge in a central attack, to

divert Bragg from his flanks. And in mid-afternoon, the Army of the Cumberland, which had been champing at the bit, went off into action and the history books. As if on parade, the 18,000 men swept out across the plain toward the ridge, flags flying and drums beating. Ahead, the bulk of Bragg's Confederates waited in lines of trenches along the side of the ridge.

Artillery and musketry filled the air, and Federals fell by the score, but on they came toward the base of the ridge. Suddenly, the soldiers—avenging their defeat at Chickamauga-were at the base, driving Confederates from their trenches, then occupying those same trenches. There they were supposed to stop but they did not. Instead they clambored out the other side of the trenches and started up the ridge without orders.

Grant, watching the incredible feat, asked anxiously who had ordered the men up the ridge. "I did not," answered

The Cumberlanders now were scrambling up the hill hard on the heels of retreating Confederates. Southerners on top could not fire down without fear of hitting their own retreating men. Then, all at once, the three-mile long Federal line reached the crest, as Confederates scrambled down the other side. And with that, Bragg's whole army collapsed.

The battle has cost nearly 6,000 casualties for Grant, nearly 7,000 for Bragg.

Next week: Knoxville Siege

### **Sugar Water Production** Can Boost Local Farm

There is a time in late February through March each year—a period when farm and woods work is slack, especially in the higher, cold elevations—when the sap of maple trees begins to flow at

The sap is appropriately called sugar water. Sugar water is the raw material from which maple syrup is manufactured.

There are several market possibilities for the sugar water. It may be sold to small producers who wish to increase the output from the sugar house. In other places, going enterprises have been built simply by operating a central evaporating plant—the place where sugar water is boiled into maple syrup.

Sugar water is sold on a basis of sugar content by percentage, called brix. With good volume, delivery can be profitable for as high as 30 miles.

The collection of sap with plastic tubing and conduits is an innovation which is gaining acceptance. The closed tubing keeps the sap sanitary, reduces spillage by handling, and if properly hung, often results in a greater flow than with buckets. It reduces the amount of labor needed for gathering sap and at the same time, cuts down on costs of maintaining roadways and the equipment needed to haul sap through the sugar bush.

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# Smith Creek/ Friends Run

(USPS 425-240) (ISSN 2833-8979) Michael Showell, Publisher

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by Dave Ellis

It is the end of November and the start of the last month of the year.

The area is seeing signs of Mr. Winter blowing his snowflakes about, but nothing major.

Good luck to the area bear hunters as they go in the woods during the month of December, fighting the cold.

Smith Creek and Friends Run Churches of the Brethren: shut-ins - Mary Mitchell. Bucky Moyers, Pam Riner, Anna Tesi, Alice Johnson, Arlin Dale and Freda Jamison, Hazel Simmons, Reva Hartman, Mary Alice Simmons, Sandy Washburn, Larry Moyers, Sandra Vandevander and Woodrow Hartman; prayer list - Richard Campbell, Tristan Hartman, Joshua Shirk, Ava George, Roberta Bennett, Olin Hoover, Kenny Williams, Dennis Mitchell, Debbie Horst, Myrtle Hammer, Pam Rexrode, Nancy George, Neal Eye, Margaret Wimer, Sherman Bennett, Wendell Nelson, Donald Burns, David Bowers, Vada Bible, Ruby Gail Roberson, Gary Hess,

Propst family. Prayer thought: "Dear God, thank you for being near me. Because of your loving presence, help and peace, I don't have to be anxious or

Ruth Bauer, Jeff Evick, Lin-

da Maxwell Looney, Gloria

Moats, Sterle Lambert, Mar-

tha R. Kimble and the Ruby

worried." High and low temperatures and precipitation for Nov. 20 through Nov. 26, followed by the same for last year, were as follows: Nov.  $20 - 51^{\circ}$ ,  $25^{\circ}$ (32°, 19°); Nov. 21 - 41°, 35°. 2.14" (53°, 20°); Nov. 22 -46°, 35°, .06" (55°, 25°); Nov. 23 - 55°, 32° (56°, 24°); Nov. 24 - 34°, 29° (58°, 26°); Nov.  $25 - 35^{\circ}$ ,  $27^{\circ}$  (55°, 33°) and

Nov.  $26 - 45^{\circ}$ ,  $35^{\circ}$  ( $54^{\circ}$ ,  $34^{\circ}$ ).

MENU

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# Services

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1 Baked Chicken Hashbrown Casserole Beets Ambrosia Salad

Bread, Milk Monday, December 4 Stuffed Pepper Soup Grilled Cheese Ants on a Log

Raisins, Milk Tuesday, November 5 **Baked Potato** Chili/Cheese

Broccoli Apple Crisp, Milk WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 6

Fish, Tator Tots Lima Beans Apricots, Milk THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 7

Chicken n' Dumplings Mixed Vegetables Stewed Tomatoes Banana, Milk



Franklin center from 11:45 to 12:15. Two percent milk served with every meal. Menus are subject to change.

# Health Mart Health Advisor Tip

# CHILDREN & MEDICATIONS

Did you know that when it comes to medication, children and adults react differently? That's why the American Academy of Pediatrics advises never to give any over-the-counter (OTC) medications to children two years old or under without first talking to the child's doctor. Additionally, children under the age of 12 should never take aspirin without a doctor's approval because aspirin may lead to Reye's syndrome, a potentially fatal illness. So if your child is under the weather, consult their pediatrician before administering any medications. And talk to your Health Mart pharmacist, who will help monitor your child's medication.

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# **NOW SERVING PENDLETON COUNTY**

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# Past Opinions Express a More Simple Lifestyle Charles and Susan Kiser of Harrisonburg, Virginia, hosted a

### Sugar Grove

By Paula Mitchell

Comments made in the year 1957 might be quite interesting

• If they raise the minimum wage to \$1, nobody will be able to hire outside help at the store.

• If they think I'll pay 50 cents for a haircut, forget it.

•If cigarettes keep going up in price, I'm going to quit. A

- quarter a pack is ridiculous. (April 3). Did you see where some baseball player had signed a contract
- for \$75,000 a year contract just to play ball? It wouldn't surprise me if someday they'll be making more than the president. • I read the other day where some scientist thinks it's possible
- to put a man on the moon by the end of the century. They even have some fellows they call astronauts preparing for it down
- Have you seen the new cars coming out next year? It won't be long before \$5,000 will only buy a used one.
- •No one can afford to be sick any more; \$35 a day in the hos-
- pital is too rich for my blood. •There is no sense going to Lincoln or Omaha anymore for a
- weekend. It costs nearly \$15 a night to stay in a hotel.
- Thank goodness I won't live to see the day when the government takes half our income in taxes. I sometimes wonder if we are electing the best people to Congress.
- •Did you hear the post office is thinking about charging a dime just to mail a letter?
- I'll tell you one thing, if things keep going the way they are, it's going to be impossible to buy a week's groceries for \$20.
- •When I first started driving, who would have thought gas would someday cost 29 cents a gallon. Guess we'd be better off leaving the car in the garage.
- •I'm just afraid the Volkswagen car is going to open the door to a whole lot of foreign business.
- It won't be long before young couples are going to have to hire omeone to watch their kids so they can both work.
- •Marriage doesn't mean a thing any more. Those Hollywood tars seem to be getting divorced at the drop of a hat.
- Life's little instructions to make the life better for a person nclude the following:
- 1. Let someone into one's name.

My, how things have changed.

- 2. Hold the door for the person behind one.
- 3. Return one's shopping cart.
- 4. Tip a person's server. 5. Pick up a piece of trash/

The community has had stark raving freezes that have wrenched coats off racks to wear for comfort. Even though around 2" of rain fell this week, it has not made a budge in the river's level. Still, it brought balm to the soul. Morning tempera-

tures of 21-25 degrees have been brisk. This week's quotes are as follows:

"It's only with gratitude that life becomes rich." — Dietrich

"Do what you can to show you care about other people, and you will make our world a better place." — Rosalynn Carter

"A lie doesn't become truth, wrong doesn't become right and evil doesn't become good just because it's accepted by a majority." — Booker T. Washington

# Note of Appreciation

Thank you to the ones that helped me celebrate my birthday with cards, phone calls, e-mails and in person.

A special thank you to my family for surprising me with cake and ice cream.

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Mary Etta Puffenbarger Todd (May 21, 1844 - May 6, 1918) was the daughter of Samuel and Susannah Stone Puffenbarger and wife of Addison Pleasant Todd (April 3, 1844 - Dec. 7, 1890). Their children were Mary, John, Mariah, Effie, Sarah, Samuel, Gertrude, Maude and Louisa.

"When the world is so complicated, the simple gift of friendship is within all our hands." — Maria Shriver

"There is a calmness to a life lived in gratitude, a quiet joy." - Ralph H. Blum Sitting by the fireplace is a definite to hear the "Talk of the

Evan Arrington and his oldest child of Morgantown visited

with Donna and Bill Arrington for five days. Rick Adkins and Shannon Shockey "tied the knot" Nov. 19. Congratulations to the couple of wedded bliss!

California visitors of the Tom and Brandon Mitchell families were Barry, Jacqueline, Kirra, and Jack Ziehl, and Kennan Harper. During the Thanksgiving holidays, Rich and Alexis Ziehl of Maryland joined them.

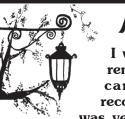
Phil Downs motored to Romney to the home of Susie Rufner where family gathered for a Thanksgiving dinner. The South Fork Rescue Squad held its annual smorgasbord

dinner for several hundred folks. The food was delicious, and everyone left fuller than they came. Judy Costello spent several days with her mother, Evelyn

Varner. Thanksgiving dinner was enjoyed in the home with Judy and Richard and Joyce Marshall. Recent visitors of Rosalee Grogg were Junior and Marleta

Wimer, Terri Grogg, Claude Castleberry, Leana Leap, Clint Davis and Addie, Hendrix Bogan, Madison Grogg, Asher Mauzy, and Tyler Grogg. Rosalee enjoyed her Thanksgiving with family. Calvary's spaghetti dinner last Tuesday was very well at-

tended. Proceeds went towards a good cause.



# A Note Of Thanks

I wish to thank all of you that remembered me in your prayers, cards and thoughts for my recovery during my recent fall. It was very much appreciated. Thank you very much and God Bless You.

Sincerely, Charlene Simmons Hubbard

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family Thanksgiving dinner at which Brenda Fisher and Robby, Linnea, Michael and Logan Fisher attended. Willard and Judy Rader and C.J. Eckard were Thanksgiving Day visitors in the home of Benny and Linda Custer and enjoyed

a delicious Thanksgiving meal. Recent visitors in the home of Willard and Judy were Ed Rader and Jim Reichard.

Helen and Rhonda Nash enjoyed a Thanksgiving holiday visit from Todd and Cathy Nash of Rhoadesville, Virginia, and Cathy's brother, Allen Browning of Heflin, Alabama.

Clickety-clacks for the chin waggers are as follows:

- •Japan's Okinawa Island has more than 400 people living above the age of 100 and is known as the healthiest place on
- •The Dead Sea Scrolls were discovered in 1947 by Bedouin nomads at the caves of Qumran in Jordan.
- •In the wild, chickens navigate using the sun.
- •The first country to be named after a woman was St. Lucia.
- •St. Maarten is a private island and has the steepest zipline

December birthdays include the following: Naomi Wilfong (97), Emma Puffenbarger and Kipton Owens, first; Josh Hedrick, second; Charlotte Thompson and Kathy Smith, fifth; Willard May and Rose Miller, sixth; Liz Bodkin, eighth; Daniel Propst, Gary Harrison and Gary Sheffer, ninth; Dennis Knicely and Bonnie Shanholtz, 10th; Kelsey Jamison, 11th; Kathy Nelson, 13th; and Seth Bowers, 14th.

Concerns for this week are many. They are as follows: Bob Adamson, Charles Anderson, Roger and Joan Ashley, Mercedes Aumann, Judy Austin, Lynn Beatty, "Bo" Boggs, Jane Conrad, Boyd Kimble, Kim Kline, Marie Cole, Jeff Craig, Norma Propst Cunningham, Christian Dasher, Bethany Eye, Isaac Eye, Marie Eye, Mary Eye, Neal Eye, Donna Fleisher, Loralee Gordon, Lola Graham, Jordan Greathouse, Marlene Harman, Marvin Hartman, Steve and Armanda Heavner, Grace Hedrick, Jackie Hill, Edsel and May Ann Hogan, Virgil Homan, Jr., Adelbert Hoover, Myrtle Hoover, Debbie and Enos Horst, Mike Jamison, Alice Johnson, Richard Judy, Ruthlene Judy, Marsha Keller, Danny Kimble, Dennis Kincaid, Kim Kline, Tracie Knight, Melissa Lambert, Robert Lambert, Rex Landis, Angela Lung, Linda Malcolm, Betty Mallow, Roger and Skip Mallow, Yvonne Marsh, Willard May, Neil McLaughlin, Rose Miller, Bruce Minor, Barbara Moats, Melvin Moats, Shelby Morrison, Aaron Nelson, Ruth Nelson, Don Nilsen, Cheryl Paine, Barbara Parker, Sutton Parrack, Shirley Pratt, Alda Propst, John O. Propst, Kathy Propst, Linda Propst, Harley Propst, Sheldon Propst, Mary Puffenbarger, Nicole Reel, Charles Rexrode, Jason Rexrode, Jimmy Rexrode, Pam Rexrode, Donna Ruddle, Annie Simmons, Phyllis Simmons, Erin Simmons, Eva Simmons, Kent Simmons, Robbie Sites, Connie Sulser, Rosa Tichenor, the family of Marilyn Kay-Uhl, Sandra Vandevander, Evelyn Varner, Amy Vaus, Sheldon Waggy, Judy Williams, Ann Wimer, Junior Wimer and Margaret Wimer.

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Three Wildcat Senior Volleyball Players Earn All State Honors

By Stephen Smoot

At the end of a long season where the team earned memorable victories over fierce rivals and stunned state tournament crowds in Charleston, three players earned selection for all-state honors.

Allie Cooper was named second team all-state while Kate Hedrick and Gabby DePue were chosen for honorable mention

Cooper served as the glue for the team, relentlessly patrolling the back line. Serves fired quickly and directly at the defense usually found her outstretched arms as she dove to the ground to keep the play alive. Pendleton County relies heavily on an aggressive approach at the net, but many of those perfect spikes that sliced the defense started with Cooper getting on the ball first.

Her hustle and drive also freed up other players to get into position for the most precise possible sets and returns.

Cooper also attacked the opposition with powerful serves, often scoring aces. Many times, she would end up serving at the end of a set, her shots helping to seal a well-earned win in the set or the game.

The other two selections, Hedrick and DePue, will not be missed by Wildcat opponents. Pendleton County's game relies on continually coming after the other team with aggressive play at the net. Both of these players brought height, athleticism, and experience to the front line.

Both players brought different skills to bear against opponents. They created chemistry with Carolyn Varner, Cooper, and others whose job it was to pop the ball in the air in the perfect spot. Regularly, DePue and Hedrick could catch those sets at the perfect time and fire them down into the waiting defense.

Teams trying to return the ball to the Wildcat side also often found these players an insurmountable barrier. By themselves, or in tandem with other front line forces like Baylee Beachler and Lizzie Alt, they blocked countless returns before they got to the Pendleton County side.

The most important contribution, however, came from leadership. As the year progressed, coaches Rod Cooper and Madison Day relied more and more on younger players. Breena Bowers, Emma Hartman, and Varner played from



Senior volleyball players, from left, Kate Hedrick, Allie Cooper and Gabby DePue, were recognized with all-state honors.

the beginning of the year, but Alyssa Bennett and Brynlynn Waggy also provided important contributions to big wins down the stretch.

The three seniors brought leadership to those younger players. They led through example, through countless bruising dives to the floor and chasing every loose ball. Senior leader-

ship also taught the skills and winning attitude that helped the team reach the state tournament and upset the top seed.

Though the younger players led and made memories, the all state seniors created a legacy and contributed to the advancement of a power program in West Virginia state Class A volleyball.

# Important Rule Changes Will Impact High School Basketball this Season

By Stephen Smoot

With local teams already hitting the hardwood in exhibition games, seeking their final tune ups before the start of the season, players, coaches, and fans are seeing the first impact of significant rule changes that will affect the course of contests this year.

The first rule was suggested by the National Federation of High School Associations, an advisory body for high school sports programs across the nation.

According to the NFHSA, "in addition to awarding two foul shots for all common fouls, teams will reach the bonus when their opponent commits five fouls in each quarter and team fouls will reset at the end of each quarter. Previously, teams were awarded the one-and-one bonus when their opponents committed seven fouls in a half and two foul shots when 10 fouls were committed each half."

NFHSA officials cited player safety as the guiding rationale, saying that injuries occur more often in rebounding situations "and saw this as an opportunity to reduce rough play during rebounds," said Lindsay Atkinson, NFHSA director of sports.

Donnie Kopp, head coach of the Pendleton County Wildcats girls' basketball team, expressed skepticism about the change. He anticipated that the change would lead to games lasting longer. Kopp added that coaches will have to rethink their end of game strategies as well.

Trevor Wilson, who has worked for almost 20 years as a Cabell County based high school sports official, agreed that "end of game strategies will be interesting to watch as coaches try to navigate the rule change."

He added that "teams that are aggressive defensively, mainly using full court pressure" will see an advantage. Resetting the foul count at the end of a quarter, he said, will allow "them to stay more aggressive . . . mostly in the second and fourth quarters."

The strategic component removed from consideration is the oft used intentional foul to stop the clock and force teams to make a one-and-one foul shot play.

Another rule change that fans will notice lies in the change of position of where the ball gets thrown in

after out of bounds plays. According to the NFHSA, "When the ball is in team control in the offensive team's frontcourt and the defensive team commits a violation, a common foul prior to the bonus, or the ball becomes dead, the corresponding throw-in by the offensive team will be at one of four designated spots determined by where the infraction took place. The designated spots are either the nearest 28-foot mark along each sideline or the nearest spot three feet outside the lane line on the end line. The one exception is when the defensive team causes a ball to be out of bounds, the throw-in shall be the spot

where the ball went out of bounds."

Kopp had no issue with this rule change, saying, "That's okay. You won't have to worry about getting caught in the corner."

Wilson anticipates few issues here, except that coaches that have not yet implemented set out of bounds plays will have more strategic reason to do so now.

"It will take a few weeks for the fans to get used to this," Kopp observed.

Pendleton County Middle/High School December							
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
	MS - Middle School HS - High School		Pendleton County Schools is an Equal Opportunity Provider		HS Girls Basketh Picture Makeup Interim Reports	<b>2</b> pall at Hampshire →	
3	MS Boys Basketball Moorefield 6:00 (H)	Registration for Eastern Spring Courses 8:15 a.m. HS Girls Basketball Tucker Co. 6:15 (H) MS Girls Basketball Capon Bridge 6:00 (A)	Financial Aid  Workshop 6 p.m. FFA Fruit Delivery HS Girls Basketball (A) Buckhannon-Upshur 5:45 HS Boys Basketball Tucker Co. 5:45 (A)	7 MS Boys Basketball Green Bank 5:45 (H) MS Girls Basketball Green Bank 6:00 (A)	8 MS Boys Basketball Capon Bridge 6:00 (H) HS Girls Basketball Moorefield 6:00 (A) HS Boys Basket EARLY RELEASE		
10	HS Boys Basketball Pocahontas Co. 6:15 (H)	Last Day of the 12 Days of Christmas Holiday Food Drive MS Girls Basketball East Hardy 6:00 (H)	HS Boys Basketball Tygarts Valley 5:45 (A)	14	Angel Tree Gifts Due to School  HS Girls Basket	16 ball at Petersburg>	
17	Angel Tree Gift Pick Up Allowed 12:30 - 2:30	HS Girls Basketball East Hardy 6:15 (A)	20 First Semester Attendance Reward MS/HS Boys Basketball Harman 6:00 (H)	21 HS Girls Basketball Tygarts Valley 6:15 (H) EARLY RELEASE	<b>22</b> <──Holiday Breal	23  - No School>	
24	25 Wherry Christnas (3)  A HAPPY NEW YEAR	26	27	28	<b>29</b> ← Boys Holiday T	30 ourney Petersburg—>	
<del>/31</del>	January 1		Holiday Break - No Scho	901			
The state of the s	304.358.2311		Schedules are subie	ect to change.	450	2004	



Schedules are subject to change.

Please call the school at 304-358-2573 to confirm events.

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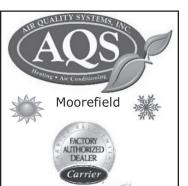
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CLOSING NOTICES MY OFFICE WILL or actions taken by be closed Thursday, law enforcement of-November 23 thru ficers. Friday, December 1. Dr. Kevan Hoover,

### POSTED NOTICES

### POSTED NOTICE Friends Run. No hunting of any kind and no trespass-

ing without written POSTED NOTICE STORAGE permission on my No trespassing or land in Sugar Grove running of dogs on area. Not responsible Linda Moyers propfor any accidents.

There absolutely will 3265, www.penco be no hunting, no outdoors.com, www. trespassing, no dog facebook.com/penco-running or training pen." and no 4-wheelers on the Larry Thomas 1 and Nov. 20, property on North 10,618 deer were OFFICE-ROOM for Mountain and on the hit on West Virrent Main Street, Cataloochee, LLC Franklin. Call 304- property on Middle 668-0525. 11-30-2c Mountain and Town BISSELL CARPET Mountain. All hunt-Shampooer for rent. ing rights have been Bowman's Do It Best. sold and no permits will be issued. Land 11-7-tfn will be patrolled. I will not be responsible for any accidents

> Larry V. Thomas 11-16-6c 11-23-2c POSTED NOTICE No hunting or trespassing on Kee Property on Rt. 33 West,

Mike Kee erty in Upper Tract. Donald Mongold Not responsible for ous sites first. <u>11-30-4c</u> accidents. <u>11-9-4c</u>

Hunting isn't all state's roads.

accidents on the of Highways chief engineer of operations. "The more rural the area, the more likely accidents are to hap-

> ginia highways, as well as 15 bears. Cleaning up after those accidents falls to the men and women who work in the department of highways field offices spread

throughout

Between

Jan.

state. "We treat it just like any other road obstruction," Pack said. A deer in the middle of an interstate poses more of a threat to the public than a deer on the side of a rural road, so the department of highway takes care of the most danger-

But department a state roadway, https://dotforms. people think about "We live in a of highway's work one can report it wv.gov/cra to file when it comes to mountainous, ru- crews might not be through the Safety a report of an anideer. According to ral area where aware of every sin- With Action To- mal strike online. insurance statis- wildlife is preva- gle animal strike. day hotline. Call Citizens tics, the Mountain lent," said Joe If a person sees a 1-833-WVROADS, also contact their State leads the na- Pack, P.E. West dead deer or other email WVROADS@ local WVDOH field tion in deer strike Virginia Division animal in or near wv.gov, or visit office.

Region 8 Planning and Development Council

is seeking applications for the position of

### **Senior Community Service Employment** Program Director (SCSEP)

The SCSEP Director is responsible for developing and overseeing the program in an eight-county area, including Berkeley, Grant, Hampshire, Hardy, Jefferson, Mineral, Morgan and Pendleton Counties. The position requires a bachelor's degree from a four-year college or univesity and two years related experience. An equivalent combination of education and experience may be considered in substitution of a bachelor's degree.

Fringe benefits for the position include health insurance, retirement vacation and sick leave.

Interested individulas should send a letter of interest and resume to Assistant Director, SCSEP Position, Region 8 PDC, 131 Providence Lane, Petersburg, WV 26847.

Resumes must be received by 4 p.m. December 8. The Region 8 PDC is an Equal Opportunity Employer

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is seeking applications for a full-time

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- Ensures that the park and pool operate as profitably as
- Oversees the park concessions, ensuring the stand is open during events, such as park fundraising events, ball games, and the Treasure Mountain Festival.
- Report to the Board of Parks any needed repairs of pool and park equipment. Work with sports organizations to make sure that the
- ball fields and park areas are utilized effectively.
- Ensures all park and pool facilities are maintained and kept clean. This includes park bathrooms, and pavilions.
- Collaborate with civic organizations and schools to develop community activities, both new and existing, culminating in an overall activity based program for public use throughout the year.
- Collaborate with the Board of Park's chief fundraiser on events and activities.
- Supports and enhances other civic groups' programs as well as the Town in their activities.
- Work schedule will vary and will change depending on the program and fundraising event calendar.

This position is full-time with benefits. Applications are available at the Town office. Deadline for applications is December 8, 2023.

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# **Caregiving Word Search**

AGE IN PLACE AGING CAREGIVER COMPASSION D Ι CONTINUING COORDINATOR DAYCARE **EQUIPMENT** FAMILY **GERIATRIC** E 0 HOSPICE Т Y **ILLNESS** X **MEMORY** 0 NURSE **PALLIATIVE PROXY** RESPITE Ι D SKILLED Ι Ι THERAPY

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November 30, 2023 - The Pendleton Times - Page 7

# **COVID Lockdowns**

Select Subcommittee on the Coronavirus Pandemic studied the effects of lockdowns and mandates on academics in the elementary and secondary school system. According to a Heritage Foundation report on its workings, "student achievement on a national comparison, the National Assessment of Educational Progress, administered by the U.S. Department of Education, fell by the largest amounts ever recorded between two test administrations  $(2019 \mathrm{\ and\ } 2022)$  in fourth- and eighth-grade math."

It also reported that "in every state, academic proficiency declined." Data indicated "compulsory reliance" on virtual or remote schooling "imposed enormous educational costs" and that "the longer students were out, the greater the educational loss."

Expert testimony also shared that "children who could avoid lockdowns and attend Catholic or other private schools were oneand-a-half to two years ahead of their public school counterparts.'

This undergirds Whitecotton's assessment that for most students "virtual school is not the same as a teacher standing in the front of a classroom." While she said, "The minority of students can do that, the majority of students took a significant hit." In too many households, Whitecotton affirmed, "education took a back seat" to video games, television, and other recreational activities.

This did not necessarily happen because parents did not care or try, but because not every parent has the ability to teach complex subjects well, even if they are knowledgeable themselves. Other families still had parents having to leave the house and work meaning that little time remained for parental direction.

The impacts affected different groups of children in different ways. Whitecotton stated that "we have a group of younger ones that didn't have routine daily teaching" and sometimes lack the understanding of how to function in a typical school environment. Even more detrimental, she said, "The middle students have skills, but did not learn how to apply them." They, Whitecotton surmised "took the greatest hit" because "they have the basics, but didn't



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make them functional skills.

At the same time, and perhaps partly related to COVID, came a  $\,$ number of retirements from Pendleton County schools, particularly in the middle grades. "All these teachers who were teaching a long time left," Whitecotton said, adding that "that was the beginning

Rural state school systems struggle to recruit in the best of times, but COVID pushed Pendleton County into exploring alternative certification teachers. Whitecotton explained that "they're catching on. They've stepped up to the plate."

Pendleton County Schools has also entered into a partnership with Eastern West Virginia Community and Technical College to give local high school students the opportunity to start teacher training early. They earn college credits toward an education degree as high school students, can complete their degree in two years after high school, then return to Pendleton County and teach. This should help to alleviate some of the recruitment problems and also keep teachers who have ties to the area.

Whitecotton also warned of another trend that has harmed student achievement and started before COVID, saying that an overall national cultural "shift toward a lower expectation of performance" has negatively impacted schools and student achievement. People both outside and inside the school system, she says, must "get on board with raising that expectation."

Whitecotton is encouraged, however, saying "Pendleton County Schools still care. We have people here at all levels who see the ssues. They know the issues."

She added that "we had a jolt, but Pendleton will move forward."

## **County Commission** Continued From Page 1

motivation and learn functional skills that are essential for leading a

crime-free and addiction-free life with productivity." Taylor shared that "the day report center is doing well right now.'

One of the program's successes lay in obtaining a telehealth grant. "I believe we are the only ones who got that grant," Taylor observed. He expressed the hope that the grant funding will help to make the programs sustainable over time. The program wants to utilize personnel to help with drug recovery,

therapy services, and assessments. Taylor reported that although the grant did not provide as much money as he requested, it did give twice as much as last year. Program options include a variety of ways to learn to avoid destruc-

tive behaviors, such as domestic violence classes. Taylor explained that holding such classes adds to the long-term sustainability of the center. He also requested an increase in support from the county, but shared

that they remain comfortable in "the space we're in." Taylor added that the goal next year lay in "firming up the foundation so that we're providing the best service we can." Carl Hevener, Pendleton County Commission president, pointed out

Taylor's role in a lifesaving operation late in October, saying, "Thanks for being in the right place the other week." Commissioners and Gillespie then briefly discussed the disposition

of state funds dispersed to assist emergency responder units. Some counties in the region, such as Hardy, Mineral, Grant, and Hampshire, proposed to divide the funds based on how many calls each unit took. Diana Mitchell, director of Pendleton County 911, shared that locally,

many units went on calls alongside one or more others. Gillespie added that each unit had significant "baseline costs," such as equipment and other needs. The commission decided after the discussion to split funds equally between units.

# Communities

on building relationships with students."

Virginia, the effort started in 2017 as an initiative headed up by First Lady Cathy Justice. Now, 53 of the 55 counties in the state work with

the program. Communities In Schools, coordinated in Pendleton County by Wendy Kisamore, focuses on school culture. Nesselrodt explains that "we focus

Liz Warner, who along with Lesley Cook works for Communities in Schools at Pendleton County Middle/High School, said that the county schools reached out to Justice to enter the program.

Cook explains why the program makes attendance a top priority. She said, "Research shows that the more days they miss, the lower their test scores are." Warner added that "it can affect their confidence when they

programs. In the elementary schools, classes with the best attendance receive an attendance flag and rewards for earning it. The flag moves on a regular basis between classes as they earn rewards. "Kids really love the flag," Nesselrodt commented, adding that "it's

All of the county schools have adopted different types of incentive

really nice to see at the elementary level kids taking this really seriously. They positively encourage each other." These kinds of actions and attitudes eventually become habits that can provide lifelong benefit. Franklin Elementary School awards "paw dollars" to be redeemed

for prizes once a month. Other schools have drawings that can win students significant prizes.

The incentives have produced surprising results. Brandywine and North Fork Elementary both recorded days with 100 percent attendance.

High school incentives focus more on collective rewards, such as class

parties, to encourage better attendance. Last year, they used a March

Madness theme. This fall, they held a Super Bowl themed party. Each class gained "yards" on a chart as they showed good attendance. The first class to "score" a touchdown earned the party. Communities in Schools works to promote better attendance across the board, but places a high priority on "chronic absences." A student

is chronically absent when they miss 10 percent of days or more. Over the course of the year, that adds up to over three weeks of missed school days. Chronic absenteeism doubled in the years after COVID.

"We're trying to come back from that," Nesselrodt said, adding that 'many families struggled with anxiety post COVID."

Middle and high schoolers also receive direct intervention and encouragements to come to school more. With some families' permission, Communities in Schools will provide case management help to support them in overcoming family challenges. Nesselrodt says that "sometimes it's a cultural issue. Sometimes

parents didn't have a positive school experience themselves." She said that "working through these generational issues presents the biggest challenge." Additionally, the schools work on educating parents about getting absences excused when appropriate. "We are still lacking in mental health support," she said. "That's one

of the things we struggle with the most." Communities in Schools tries to fill that gap. Warner stated that "sometimes students just need a safe place to vent." Cook added that "they need a safe space and a caring adult. We can fill that caring adult connection."

With many families struggling and a number of students being raised by grandparents, other relatives, or family friends, the basics of comfort and hygiene sometimes fall through the cracks. Communities in Schools helps to provide no questions asked school and personal supplies, such as pens, paper, deodorant, and even easy to prepare meals for the weekend. Children who are hungry or uncomfortable are more likely to miss school and these programs help to make up for that.

They will even set up a wake up call for students whose parents work schedule forces them to get up and go to school on their own.

The program also helps students to get peer or other forms of tutoring. Peer tutoring can see a student offering help in one subject, but getting

Much of what Communities in Schools does at one time fell back on teachers to handle. With program people in the schools, teachers can focus more on their core academic role.

The program's main mission lies in both keeping kids in school and preparing for the future. As Warner states, "We help students stay in



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SGR287A 0.20 Acres w/3 Bed, 1.5 Bath Doublewide Home, close to Scholar Eranklin Corp., Pendleton County. NEW LISTING REDUCED \$100,000.00 SGR056 Highland County property. Pasture, several year-

round Springs, Hunting, High Speed Internet, Electric, 1.3 miles of public Road Frontage. Awesome view of Blue Grass Valley. \$2,973,000.00.

SGR042 Five Unit Townhouse property located in Brandywine. Each unit has 2 Rdrms, 15 Baths, LR and Large Kitethan ER Monal FBracker hunting and 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. **SGR258B** 3.42 Acres, w/3 Bed, 2 Bath Home. Sugar Grove District, Falcon Lane. \$259,000.00. REDUCED SGR247 Residential lots with town water, sewer & underground utilities. Protective covenants and restrictions. Franklin Airport Development. Lots from \$14,630.00.