



THE PENDLETON TIMES

Serving the Community since 1913

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Thursday
December 21, 2023

Celebrating the Birth of Our SAVIOR



The Christmas season in Pendleton County is highlighted by area churches holding special services which celebrate the birth of the Christ Child.

The public is cordially invited to attend the following programs.

Friday, Dec. 22

A Community Christmas Carol Hymn Sing Along will begin at 6:30 p.m. at the Cedar Grove Church of the Brethren in Brandywine. There will be singing of favorite Christmas carols and readings, followed by refreshments in the fellowship hall. Attendees may bring a can of food for the food pantry.

Sunday, Dec. 24

Franklin United Methodist Church on Main Street will host a Christmas Eve service.

The Friends Run Church of the Brethren will have its Christmas program at 7 p.m. The program will include scripture, prayer, solos, singing and two plays. "To the Manger and Back" and "Have You Heard", both by Diana C Derringer, have parts played by adults and

teenagers and a message for all.

The annual Christmas Eve program will begin at 7 p.m. at Mt. Zion United Methodist Church in Deer Run. The program will consist of three plays, "The Animals at the Manger," "The Best Gift Ever" and "The Christmas Nativity" and special music.

Mountain Lutheran Parish will host the following Christmas Eve candlelight services with communion in Pendleton County at the following times: 3 p.m. at Calvary in Brandywine, 5:30 p.m. at St. John in Moyers, 7 p.m. at Mount Hope in Upper Tract and 10 p.m. at Faith in Franklin. Pastor Sherri Schafer will officiate the services.

Monday, Dec. 25

High Rock Church at Seneca Rocks will hold its Christmas program at 7 p.m. This year's play, "Just Like a Miracle," takes place at the end of World War II during the Battle of the Bulge. Nine soldiers find a miracle in a bombed out church in Belgium.

'Strive to Thrive' Support Center Introduced Facility and Services for Community Families



County Commissioner Roger Dahmer officially opens the Strive to Thrive Family Support Center.

By Stephen Smoot

A family support center is a warm and welcome center where families can come for support," explained Susan Knibiehly, executive director of the new Pendleton County Support Center in Franklin.

"Our goal is to strengthen families any way we possibly can," she added.

Last week, the Eastern Action Building on 204 Gambill Road welcomed families for the first time to the center. Approximately 20 children played games, enjoyed refreshments, and got to meet with both Santa Claus and the Grinch.

Families mingled with community members, such as county commissioner Roger Dahmer, Franklin mayor Bob Horan, and Pendleton County Chamber of Commerce director Elizabeth Scott, who all came to learn more about the impact of the center.

Horan explained that "we have a lot of families in this area who don't have the means to get what they and their children need. This will be a big asset to help those families." He added that "once parents see it and get involved in it, we will see a tremendous impact."

The center welcomes families facing chal-

lenges. Parents can come to socialize, to learn, or to find ways to connect with vital resources. Children can eat, drink, play with toys, and take part in activities when scheduled.

Knibiehly stated that "we've been working on this since March or April." The organization successfully applied for a grant from the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources. Four counties, Pendleton, Hampshire, Hardy, and Grant, received funds to open centers for county families.

Pendleton County's opened first. The center held a ribbon cutting in conjunction with the Pendleton County Chamber of Commerce. Dahmer announced, "I'd like to welcome you all to the Pendleton County Family Support Center."

The work that comes next is pivotal. Families in need used to be able to rely on friends and relatives in a network of support systems. As families shrink, and many face struggles and even crisis, fewer resources are readily available.

"A lot of folks don't know what's out there," Knibiehly stated, adding that "our first challenge will be awareness in the community, making sure families know we're here."

She encouraged those in need to understand

that "they don't need appointments. They can just stop in."

The center will have normal hours from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday, but will also offer activities, classes, and other events on evenings and weekends. "It's important to watch the Facebook page to find out what's going on," she said.

Strive to Thrive will partner with other community and youth support agencies in the area. Knibiehly shared that "the Communities In Schools and Family Support Center partnership is one of the keys to serving families in the community. Hopefully, we can combine these two services and really make a difference."

King Seegar, retired Pendleton County pediatrician, added that "all families are in need in Pendleton County. We've got some fabulous programs." He added that "what's intriguing to me is this grant has been extant for multiple centers in West Virginia for years. This is the first time that the four counties involved have gotten the grant."

The purpose and mission, as Knibiehly described, lies in serving as "a hand up to families. We're trying to offer supports to supplement what is here in the community and lift families up."

Fostering a High Standard of Animal Treatment, PAWS Has its Annual Meeting

By Stephen Smoot

The Pendleton Animal Welfare Shelter gathered to celebrate the Christmas season and to hear about progress made throughout 2023. First, the official meeting was held,

followed by a reception. Members brought homemade baked sweets and other goodies and had chances to win Christmas themed door prizes.

Thirteen members were present, as well as Roger Dahmer, county commissioner.

Amber Nesselrodt, president of the board of directors, opened with a discussion of updating the Pendleton County Commission on activities throughout the year, specifically those funded by commission support. One of the major accomplishments of the year lay in "acquiring a 'new to us' van" which became "significant in transporting animals back and forth."

Financial support for PAWS came from a number of sources. Besides the funds from the county, they run a summer flea market, hold a spaghetti dinner, have a partnership with Swilled Dog, and receive a number of discounts and donated funds and supplies. They are, however, "looking at new ideas for fundraising."

The Swilled Dog partnership helped to pay for a flight of 16 dogs to new homes in Michigan.

One innovative thought applied this year was a pet photo booth at the US Capitol

Christmas Tree event.

PAWS also received a key state grant to support spay and neuter programs. Kristin Dingess, vice president of the PAWS board, stated that "if it wasn't for donations, sponsors, and discounts, we'd never be able to make it."

Nesselrodt introduced new members to the board. These included Lauren Hagman and also Constance Heavenrich, who also replaces Chelsey Simmons as organizational treasurer.

Jane Seegar, secretary for PAWS, reported that they had fostered 15 dogs and directly facilitated adoptions for 54 cats and two dogs, "but we know there were a lot more dogs than that." She explained that many dogs taken in by PAWS do not get adopted directly from them. Seegar explained that "our pets are in demand in Northern Virginia because they're fully vetted, socialized, and don't have parasites."

Shelters in Virginia and some as far away as Long Island in New York, Philadelphia, and Michigan have taken dogs from PAWS. While PAWS does not collect adoption fees for them, it also does not have to take back returns

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Franklin Council Discusses Water, Sewer, and Town Law Enforcement Proposals

By Stephen Smoot

"You'll get to know him as time goes on," Franklin Mayor Bob Horan said in the first few minutes of the town council meeting.

After Genevieve Glover retired from town service after 35 years, Russ Sasso was named to fill out her term. He brings to the council chamber a variety of experiences, including military. He has already been sworn in and can act in an official capacity.

Council members approved minutes from

both a regular and a special meeting held in November. The special meeting took place to formalize a meeting's public comment rules. The Town of Franklin, following general guidance of the West Virginia Ethics Commission, systematized their policy and brought it into line with most other government bodies.

This includes a five-minute limit and requirement that those speaking in the public comment period sign up with town officials

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Community CALENDAR

Library Friends To Meet Jan. 2

The Friends of the Library will gather at 4 p.m. Jan. 2, 2024, in the meeting room at Pendleton County Library in Franklin.

No 'Times' On Dec. 28

The Pendleton Times will not be published the week of Dec. 28. The Times will resume publication on Jan. 4, 2024. The newspaper's office will be closed from Friday, Dec. 22, until Monday, Jan. 1, 2024. The office will re-open on Monday, Jan. 1, 2024, when normal deadlines will resume.

A drop slot in the door is available for one's convenience.

Manchin, Capito Successfully Keep Secure Rural Schools Funding Bill Moving

By Stephen Smoot

A threatened federal source of funding for schools in Pendleton County and other systems across the nation received a reprieve. The bill S. 2851, currently in committee chairman Joe Manchin's Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, was "marked up" for reauthorization. The committee also favorably reported the bill.

Secure Rural Schools funding serves as federal government compensation for the inability for counties to earn tax income off of timbering forest lands that are part of national forests.

Funds pay for schools, fire prevention efforts, and other public safety programs. The program has existed since 2000, but the forest service's efforts to reimburse counties with national for-

est lands goes back to 1908.

As J. P. Mowery, treasurer for Pendleton County Schools, stated, "We understand that Congress faces difficult decisions with regard to reining in the federal debt and deficit." He went on to say, "However, the forest lands were formed from counties in the early 20th century, removing that land from local control and taxing authority."

Representing Pendleton County Schools, Mowery and Nicole Hevener both traveled to Washington, DC, earlier this year to discuss the need for this program with West Virginia's congressional delegation and others.

Money distributed is based on a formula that takes into consideration timber harvest levels, economic activity in the area, and other vari-

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Merry Christmas

The Pendleton Times Staff extends its sincere wishes for a joyous Christmas season and a healthy, happy and prosperous New Year to all its readers, correspondents, advertisers and friends.

OBITUARIES



Boyd Kimble

Boyd Kimble, 86, of Franklin passed away Dec. 17, 2023, at Sentara RMH in Harrisonburg, Virginia.

He was born Jan. 29, 1937, in Upper Tract, the son of the late Ottis and Wilda (Judy) Kimble.

In 1954, Mr. Kimble moved to Baltimore, Maryland, where he enjoyed working at General Motors, and retired in 1989, after 30 years of service. During his retirement, he proudly worked for Basagic Funeral Homes for 30 years.

He attended Upper Tract School and Franklin High School and was a member of Mt. Zion United Methodist Church at Deer Run. He was also a member of the Franklin Moose Lodge #769, UAW and of the "Adopt-a-Highway" Crew for more than 25 years. He had a great love of sports, all college sports and especially being involved and coaching little league baseball for many years. LeBron James was his hero, and during his stay in the hospital, the TV was tuned to him for his entertainment.

One of his biggest accomplishments was donating almost 40 gallons of blood for the American Red Cross, but his greatest passion in life was his family. He was a staunch Republican and took pride in his political views.

On Sept. 20, 1958, he married the love of his life and his wife of 65 years, Leta (Propst) Kimble, who survives.

He leaves behind to cherish his memory his wife, Leta Kimble; two children, David W. Kimble (Susie) of Las Cruces, New Mexico, and Debbie Kimble Turner (Tom) of Franklin; four grandchildren, MaryAlice Allred (Tyler) of Las Cruces, New Mexico, Zachary Kimble of Gilbert, Arizona, Raven Siciliano (John) of Harrisonburg, Virginia, and Alexis Evans (Tyler) of Petersburg; three great-grandchildren, Kenley Evans, Caroline Allred, and Baylor Siciliano; two sisters, Betty Ann Alt of Gambrills, Maryland, and Sue Eskridge of Myrtle Beach, South Carolina; a sister-in-law, Nancy Bilheimer (John) of Baltimore, Maryland; his "extra kid," Sheila Torrance of Harrisonburg, Virginia; and many other special nieces and nephews.

He was also preceded in death by three sisters, Helen Weese, Sitty Dunkle, and Lucille Torrance; and a brother, Johnnie Kimble.

Funeral services were held Wednesday in the chapel of the Basagic Funeral Home in Franklin with Pastor Mike Loudermilk officiating. Interment was at Cherry Hill Cemetery in Upper Tract.

Memorials may be made to Mt. Zion United Methodist Church or Cherry Hill Cemetery in Upper Tract.

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



Delane Etta (Bennett) Bland

Delane Etta (Bennett) Bland, 96, of Wickliffe, Ohio, passed away peacefully on Dec. 8, 2023, at Kemper House of Highland Heights in Cleveland, Ohio.

She was born July 11, 1927, in Circleville and was the daughter of the late Curtis and Alpha (Sponaugle) Bennett. She was one of eight children.

She attended Circleville High School until she married Albert Bland of Macksville, upon his return from World War II in 1946. They had one daughter, Peggy Lou (Bland) Mills.

Mrs. Bland moved with her husband and daughter to Ohio in the early 1950s to pursue employment opportunities in the manufacturing industry, first in North Canton and later in Cleveland. For more than 30 years, she was employed at the General Electric Company at Nela Park in Cleveland. At the end of her career there, she was the sole quality inspector for the Miniature Lamp Department.

After retiring, she devoted her time to her family, friends and fellow GE retirees in the Quarter Century Club. She loved life and was so very proud of her granddaughter and her great-grandchildren. Her family was her heart and soul.

She had a passion for planting and caring for the flowers and shrubbery in her yard and kept it always looking pristine. She also loved getting her nails and hair done weekly, walking around the mall, always looking her best and talking on the phone with her family.

Surviving are a granddaughter, Jennifer Allyn (Mills) Reed (Lucas) of Chardon, Ohio; four great-grandchildren, Logan Edward Coles, Josslyn Peggylou Coles, Beckett Allen Coles, and Alexander Reed, all of Chardon, Ohio; a brother, Harlan Bennett of Damascus, Maryland; a sister, Judy Stout (Dywayne) of Franklin; a sister-in-law, Nancy Bennett of Sugar Grove; a former grandson-in-law, George Coles of Rossosh, Russia; an aunt, Idelta Sponaugle Lambert of Circleville; and many nieces, nephews and friends.

She was also preceded in death by a daughter, Peggy Mills; brothers, Paul, Raymond, Hartsel, Guy and Richard; ex-husband, Albert Bland; sister-in-law, Darlene Bennett; and many aunts and uncles.

The family will receive friends from 11 a.m. until noon today at Kimble Funeral Home in Franklin, where a funeral service will follow in the funeral home chapel with Pastor Michael Loudermilk officiating. Interment will be at Cedar Hill Cemetery in Franklin, alongside her parents.

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



Mary Kathryn (Terry) Puffenbarger

Mary Kathryn (Terry) Puffenbarger, 78, of Sugar Grove, passed away Dec. 17, 2023, at home surrounded by her loved ones.

She was born Sept. 29, 1945, in Staunton, Virginia, a daughter of the late Garland Rio and Myrtle Kathryn (Carroll) Terry.

The true definition of a homemaker, Mrs. Puffenbarger enjoyed all facets of life, including cooking, farming, gardening, canning, sewing, babysitting countless children in the community, and playing piano. She loved reading her Bible, attending church, and singing in the church choir.

She was a former member of the Churchville Volunteer Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary and assistant leader of the Churchville Girl Scouts.

Above all, she will be remembered as a faithful wife and best friend to her husband, as well as a loving mother and grandmother.

On Aug. 2, 1970, she married Elden "Butch" Puffenbarger, who survives.

In addition to her husband of 53 years, she is survived by two sons, Wesley Puffenbarger and wife, Becky, and David Puffenbarger and wife, Tabitha, all of Sugar Grove; sisters, Jane Daggy of Harrisonburg, Virginia, Sue Terry and Judy Foxx and husband, Harry, all of Mount Solon, Virginia, and Donna Jack and husband, Steve of Deerfield, Virginia; grandchildren, Ben, Emma, Nathan, Cole, Leah, Aria and Ella; sisters-in-law, Connie Terry of Staunton, Virginia, and Bonnie Reynolds of Toronto, Ohio; and numerous nieces and nephews.

She was also preceded in death by a brother, Wilson Terry; and a sister, Frances Glenn.

A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. Dec. 30 at Obaugh Funeral Home in McDowell, Virginia, with Pastors Judy Vetter and Jerry Smith officiating.

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

Memorial contributions may be made to South Fork Rescue Squad, 10733 Sugar Grove Road, Sugar Grove, WV 26815; or to Francis Asbury United Methodist Church, 262 Mischler Way, Sugar Grove, WV 26815.

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



Forest L. Greenawalt

Forest L. Greenawalt, 86, of Bourbonnais, Illinois, passed away Dec. 12, 2023, at Riverside Medical Center in Kankakee, Illinois.

He was born April 24, 1937 in Kline, the son of the late David and Clara (Alexander) Greenawalt.

Mr. Greenawalt was a civil engineer for the Illinois Department of Transportation. He graduated from Berea College in Kentucky for his undergraduate degree and received his master of arts degree from the University of Illinois.

He was a world traveler and went on multiple mission trips with his church. He planted more than 3000 trees around his home. He had a wonderful sense of humor and loved to make people laugh. He was a member of College Church of the Nazarene in Bourbonnais, Illinois.

On Aug. 9, 1975, he married Rachel Champion in Beaver Falls, Pennsylvania. His wife of 48 years survives.

Also surviving are a daughter, Keren Greenawalt-Russell and Jason Russell of Peoria, Illinois; and many nieces and nephews.

He was also preceded in death by six brothers, Willie, Vernon, Carl, Fred, Hugh, and Dale; and two sisters, Geneva and Twila.

A funeral service was held Friday at the College Church of the Nazarene in Bourbonnais, Illinois.

The family will receive friends from noon until 1 p.m. Friday at the Mt. Horeb United Methodist Church in Mozer. A funeral service will follow at the church with Pastor David Webb officiating. Interment will be at Kline Cemetery in Kline.

Memorials may be made to the donor's choice in his name.

Arrangements were by Clancy-Gernon Funeral Home in Bourbonnais Illinois, with local arrangements by Kimble Funeral Home in Franklin.



Virginia Catherine (Judy) "Jenny" George

Virginia Catherine (Judy) "Jenny" George, 93, of Petersburg passed from this life on Dec. 13, 2023, at Grant Memorial Hospital in Petersburg.

She was born on March 5, 1930, at Brushy Run, the daughter of the late Arlie Skidmore Judy and Betty Jane (Riggleman) Judy.

Mrs. George was the keeper of the stories, both in writing and in picture. She wrote stories, poetry and books to keep the history of the area and the Judy family alive for generations to come.

She loved the land that she grew up on and walked it with her family, with her camera handy taking pictures to share. She enjoyed sharing with others and regularly visited in the community, the hospital or nursing homes, as long as she could. She always had a story to help lift one's spirits and was ready to bring a smile to a face. She will be missed by many.

On Sept. 3, 1955, she married her husband, Clifton Rudolph "Joe" George, who preceded her in death on May 25, 2016.

Surviving are a son, Steven Bradley George; a brother, Arlie S. "Nick" Judy, Jr. and wife, Sue of Petersburg; three special cousins, Eleanor Ayers of Rivesville, Maggie Hartman of Franklin and Carol Jean Sullivan of Aurora, Colorado; and many nieces and nephews.

She was also preceded in death by two brothers, John Paul Judy and Jesse Ray Judy.

A funeral service was held Saturday in the chapel of Schaeffer Funeral Home in Petersburg with Pastors Harold and Cheryl George officiating. Burial was in the Judy Family Cemetery at Upper Tract.



French Arlan Moates

French Arlan Moates, 80, of Brandywine passed away Dec. 15, 2023, at his home.

He was born on Nov. 15, 1937, at Doe Hill, Virginia, the son of the late French and Fannie Jane (Simmons) Moates.

Mr. Moates attended Franklin High School. He retired in December 1992 from Sugar Grove Naval Base, as a public works supervisor.

He was a veteran of the U.S. Navy, after 11 years of service to his country.

He attended Riverside United Methodist Church and was a member of St. Paul Lutheran Church, the Sugar Grove VFW #9666, and Franklin Moose Lodge #769. He enjoyed spending time with his family and friends. He had an infectious personality and a kind heart.

His wife, Jerline Marie (Benson) Moates, survives.

In addition to his wife, he leaves behind to cherish his memory two sons, Edward A. Moates (Penny) of Franklin and Michael E. Moates (Nichelle) of Brandywine; two sisters, Dorothy Atkins (Jesse) of Mt. Clinton, Virginia, and Helen Mines of Clover Hill, Virginia; three grandchildren; and 13 great-grandchildren.

He was also preceded in death by two sons, Randy (1973) and Brian (1997); and a grandson, Joey (1991).

Funeral services were held Wednesday in the chapel of the Basagic Funeral Home in Franklin with Pastor Judy Vetter officiating. Military honors were conducted by U.S. Navy representatives.

Memorials may be made to South Fork Volunteer Fire Department or C.A.N.

Memories and words of comfort may be left at www.basagic.com.

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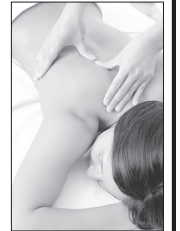
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PAWS

Continued From Page 1

from households that decide to not keep their pets. PAWS has no space to handle returns.

Sue Prail, second vice president, noted, "A lot of rural counties send their pets to urban areas because there's a demand for pets."

Seegar described the impact of the work of PAWS and other such organizations around the country. Across the nation in 1980, animal welfare organizations euthanized 17 million pounds of animals. In 2022, that number dropped to under one million. Sterilization, more focus on adoption, and other measures have prevented millions of animals from facing death from welfare agency hands.

In Pendleton County alone, 374 cats were sterilized in the first 11 months of 2023.

The organization has also issued a call for volunteers. They need individuals who can transport animals, perform cleaning, work on fundraisers, help with the board, and more.

Seegar said at the end of the meeting, "Everyone is doing terrific work."

Rural Schools Funds

Continued From Page 1

ables. More than 700 local jurisdictions across the 50 states and Puerto Rico receive assistance.

Mowery explained that "funding from the Secure Rural Schools Act is critical to our needs to cover basic operating expense such as utilities, insurance, maintenance, etc." He has praised Pocahontas County for working hard to keep the issue at the forefront of consideration for Senators Manchin and Shelley Moore Capito.

Mowery went on to add that "at first glance, the SRS funds of approximately \$90,000 per year for Pendleton County are not huge in an \$18 million dollar overall budget, but the fact that they can be spent on discretionary needs such as maintenance, increased utility costs in a cold winter, or be used without restriction make the funds vitally important."

Last April, 14 counties in West Virginia received nearly \$1.4 million in total funding from the SRS program. Manchin said at the time, "That will help ensure that West Virginia's rural counties and school districts can continue to provide essential services to students and communities on forest service lands."

Capito said of the program, "Many rural communities whose tax base is limited due to presence of federal land in West Virginia rely on the SRS program to ensure their education system and essential services receive the necessary funding."

Current legislation would reauthorize the SRS funding through 2026.

Franklin Town Council

Continued From Page 1

first.

In Open Meetings Advisory Opinion 2006-04, the West Virginia Ethics Commission "approved a City Council's procedural rules for conducting open meetings. Those rules included a five-minute time limit on public comments when no more than four persons signed up to speak, and a pro-rated four-minute time limit when the maximum of five persons per meeting signed up to speak. In several earlier opinions, this committee approved five-minute time limits on presentations during an agency's public comment period."

The commission also recommended that agencies create a mechanism to allow for more time to comment when circumstances make it necessary.

Mayor Horan added that the new policy "lays down a couple of good rules" to establish "a time for the public to be heard and not debate." The main reason for their adoption, he stated, was "we've got to control the time factor."

The town heard a project update from Cody Turner, representing Thrasher. He came to provide a report on the town water project. Turner shared that "the two clear wall tanks should be in by the end of December or mid-January." The tanks will have a capacity of 40,000 gallons.

"They're probably 90 percent done," Turner said, adding that "they're sifting through a lot of rock." Also, Thrasher must deal with "old piping that wasn't shown on the plans."

Next Chris Burford and Eric Hartwell from New River Engineers Inc discussed progress on the sewer project. They stated that "we came up in October. The facility plan is 60 percent complete and will be ready for presentation by the next council meeting."

Responding to queries from concerned citizens, the mayor and council took up discussion of the question of hiring a Town of Franklin police officer.

The mayor stated that "we have wrestled with this for a long time." He then explained that establishing town law enforcement involves much more work and cost than merely hiring an officer.

Council member Keely Smith requested that the council undertake a public discussion of the topic, which mostly included the barriers to implementation. Frank Wehrle, town administrator, said, "The last time we had local law enforcement was a while ago. The last discussion on it was eight years ago."

Joanie Nelson, town attorney, and Wehrle conducted re-

search on the topic. She explained that "certainly the town can hire its own cop," but that would incur a lot of potential issues. Nelson's chief concern lay in the fact that the town resources would be stretched thin to even hire a single officer.

"One officer is pretty precarious," she said, adding that "there's too much authority in one guy, and not enough oversight." Additionally, the Pendleton County Sheriff's Department and West Virginia State Police always "have at least two officers on duty at the same time" to ensure backup when needed. A Franklin town officer would have to rely on either agency for support. In criminal cases, a town officer "will likely defer to the sheriff or state police" anyway.

"Safety would be an issue for a single law enforcement officer," council member Kristen Dingess agreed.

Moreover, town council members could be personally held liable for the misbehavior of a town officer.

The mayor suggested that the council "table the discussion on law enforcement until we are financially equipped to deal with it."

The mayor then invited Franklin citizen Cassie Piel to commence her comment regarding public security and safety.

"From what I've learned," she stated, "I don't think you can afford a town cop." Piel added that she agreed with Nelson, and added that she saw possibilities for "conflicts of interest." Additionally, she said she understood the position of the council, saying, "I've been on the liability end of things."

Piel then asked about the possibility of a resource officer for the high school and was urged to speak with the county commission or the county board of education.

Piel assured council "I am not your enemy," then discussed their efforts to start a Neighborhood Watch in Franklin, saying "we need our civilians to help." She asked, "Can we afford cameras?" because "if they have a face, they have a case."

Cost would likely be a factor here as well. In their application for a COPS grant in 2022, Pendleton County Schools estimated that replacement of their video cameras on each school campus would total approximately \$180,000. The town also has limited spaces under its ownership where they could be mounted.

The meeting ended with good news from Wehrle, that "the new truck that was supposed to be here in 2024 is ready now. We may take possession by the end of the month." Anticipating not getting the new truck, the town also got a plow to use in the meantime that was attached to a vehicle.

We are here when you are ready!

Staying up to date on immunizations is important for the whole family. Contact us to schedule your COVID vaccine.

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Correction:
The breakfast at the Pendleton Senior and Family Services center for Winter Wonderland in the Park was cooked by the Franklin Board of Parks, not the senior center staff.
In the Dec. 7 article, "Gateway Rewards NFES Students for Reading," Noahjo Nededog was inadvertently identified as Nolin Nededog.

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10 Years Ago
Week of December 12, 2013

County Is 2nd In Promise Scholarships

Pendleton County is second only to Monongalia County, home of the state's flagship university, in the percentage of high school graduates who earned Promise scholarships in the 2011-12 school year, the most recent year for which data is available.

The merit-based scholarship program was championed by Bob Wise when he was governor and awarded funding by the state legislature in 2001. Wise maintained that the program is a way to help high-achieving state students financially while also encouraging the best students to attend college in-state.

Thirty percent of Monongalia County seniors received the Promise scholarship almost two years ago. In Pendleton County, the percentage of recipients—27.3 percent—was nearly as high.

Altogether, almost 10,000 students received the Promise scholarship during the 2011-12 academic year. Of that number, 4,447 attended West Virginia University, which brought the school about \$22 million in state-funding tuition monies.

The total value of the scholarships in 2011-12 was \$47.7 million.

The Associated Press reports that the number of scholarships went up while the number of high school students in the state has dropped somewhat.

To contain the program's costs, eligibility requirements were later stiffened and tuition payments were capped.

For in-state high school students with a 3.0 GPA and a composite 22 on the ACT test or a combined 1,020 on the SAT exam, the Promise scholarship pays \$4,750 of tuition costs. A 3.0 scholastic average must be maintained in college for the scholarship to be retained.

30 Years Ago
Week of December 16, 1993

Christmas At the Country Store

By Charles Teter

The happiest time of the year in the store business, to me, was Christmas. After Thanksgiving and the butchering were over, my grandfather, Charles G. Teter, and my father, George E. Teter, would start decorating the store and putting out the toys which were left over from the previous year and the new ones that they had ordered. My father would go out and get a small cedar tree, place it in the middle of the large front window, decorate it, and then surround it with a toy train amid piles of toys. There were wind-up trucks, toy soldiers, Jack-in-the-Boxes, airplanes, and dolls.

Every counter in the store,

plus a few added tables were loaded with all kinds of toys and candies, Christmas cards, and gifts like perfume, sheet sets, and handkerchief sets. Usually during the evening from 6:00 until 9:00, people would come in with their children to look, buy, or lay away items until Christmas time.

Sometimes extra help was hired to make sure that the excited children didn't handle the toys too recklessly and break them. This was in the days when there was no guarantees and if a toy was broken, it couldn't be sent back. The most exciting time for me was when I was allowed to demonstrate the toys to interested children and their parents. My favorite was the wind-up train in the window and it sure did get a lot of wear and tear.

Prices were extremely low compared to today—the train set cost \$3.00, the Jack-in-the-Box, 75 cents, large baby dolls were \$1.00, and rubber balls, jacks, and packs of marbles of all different colors were a nickel. There were also all kinds of small toys like trucks, animals, army men made out of tin, checker boards, and Chinese checkers. A box of Christmas cards sold for 50 cents and the most expensive box cost about \$1.00.

There were Christmas lights of all different kinds plus the bulbs that were used when one of the lights burnt out. The icicles and tinsels were placed next to the fragile Christmas balls.

One counter that I was forbidden to even get close to was the candy counter—I never could figure out why! I was a normal child and liked candy just like everyone else. My father bought the candy in twenty-five pound boxes and cut the top off of them and he angled the box on the counter so people could see what each box contained. There were gum drops, chocolate drops, hard tack, peanut brittle, peanuts, chestnuts, and all other kinds of nuts. These were sold by the pound and they normally sold for 10 to 15 cents a pound. We also sold candy by the box—chocolate covered cherries, filled chocolates, and other candies. These started at 50 cents a box and didn't exceed more than \$1.25.

Some people would pay by bringing in walnuts, hickory nuts, and eggs or they would use credit for a short period of time. The women and children would walk around the store looking at the different items and the men would sit or stand around the old pot-belly stove which was glowing from a hot fire. Behind the stove was a five-gallon bucket with ashes in it. This was a place for the men to spit and throw their peanut hulls as they talked.

Now and then you would see a man call my grandfather or father over and whisper in his ear, "Hey, George, set back that red towel set for my wife and I will stop by before Christmas and pick it up."

Then you would hear a roar

of laughter from the men and you would know that someone had told a joke. Mom always watched that I didn't get close enough to further my education. Soon I would be told that it was time to go to bed. I always appealed the decision but was overruled with a "You're going to bed because I said so!"

When Christmas was over, the counters were almost bare and the candy would be all gone. Yet it is wonderful to remember the old days when time didn't mean too much and the dollar went a lot further. I will never forget those wonderful days before Christmas when I spent my time watching people and young children play and buy gifts at the Riverton Cash Store in Riverton.

Week of December 23, 1993

DAHMER Christmas At the Dahmer School 1927

Christmas at the Dahmer School December 1927: No Christmas decorations, no week off during Christmas, and the teacher taught right up to almost Christmas Day depending on what day Christmas came on. On this particular day, the teacher John Dahmer continued on as usual until all were seated after the last recess. He said, "Now put your book away. I have some candy for you." The older girls were told to go wash their hands to help divide four boxes of pretty striped stick candy of different flavors. A small piece of white paper was placed on the teacher's desk for each scholar to use. Paper was more precious than it is today. The older girls divided the candy while the little scholars gathered around watching, breathing a little loud, shivering a little with delight with sparkling eyes and told not to touch the candy until told to do so. Then the youngest scholar was told to have the first pick, on up by age and you can bet your boots the older girls made an equal division. The scholars did not make a hog of themselves eating candy, but took it proudly home to show it to others. The writer's candy lasted until the New Year. Those enrolled in 1927, but not sure if all were present that day, were boys—W. Russell, John C. and A. Roy Blizzard, Byron Bowers, Johnny A. Dahmer, Alston L., D. Roy, Herbert, Russell B. Propst and H. Snyder; girls—Mary L., Lucy C. Bowers, Elvira J., Arla E., Jennie A. Dahmer, Edith and Mabel Mitchell, Lillie K., Tressie M., S. Pauline, Mabel L., Mary G. Propst, Mary M., Sallie C. Snyder and Nina C. Tusing.

60 Years Ago
Week of December 19, 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.

Joe Johnston Gets Bragg's Command

Jefferson Davis, president of the Confederacy, sent off a telegram with a saddened heart 100 years ago this week. To Joseph E. Johnston, the telegram read: "You will turn over the immediate command of the Army of Mississippi to Lt. General Polk and proceed to Dalton and assume command of the Army of Tennessee."

And in so doing, Davis gave in to the wishes of his enemies within the Confederacy. Joe Johnston, the hero of the first Battle of Bull Run, the pre-war quartermaster general of the United States Army, finally had climbed back into an important position in the Confederate Army.

The relationship between Johnston and Davis had been bad for more than a year. Johnston had been wounded at Seven Pines back in the spring of '62, and when he'd recovered, he'd found Robert E. Lee holding his old job as commander of the Confederate army in Virginia. That was the first blow to his ego.

Since then, nothing seemed to go right for him. He was assigned to the West, where he accomplished little of note. His bickering with Davis grew worse, and when Vicksburg fell in the summer of '63, Davis laid much of the blame on Johnston.

Davis had many detractors within the Confederacy, both in the army and in the Confederate Congress, and all of them seemed to rally around Johnston. Hence Johnston's very existence was something of a thorn in Davis' side.

Now, Davis was giving Johnston an important job. Why? The reason was mainly that Davis had little choice.

The Army of Tennessee had been commanded by Braxton Bragg, whose record was not impressive: he had been driven from Kentucky into Tennessee after the battle of Perryville; he had lost central Tennessee after the battle of Murfreesboro; he had been maneuvered out of southern Tennessee to Chattanooga, and in late November he had been beaten in Chattanooga and driven into Georgia.

So Bragg had been relieved of command immediately after his latest defeat, and Johnston was the only remaining person qualified to handle the job. Davis considered sending Lee, himself, to take the job but was talked out of it. Johnston's many friends—Davis' enemies—rallied to the general's cause, and Davis saw that he could spare some friction by giving the appointment to Johnston.

So the telegram was sent. But even that did not patch up the quarrel between Davis and Johnston. As he headed for Dalton, Ga., and his new job, Johnston realized that

Davis had waited two weeks after Bragg's removal before appointing him; and that another man had been named to fill the position in the interim. To Johnston, it was another personal affront.

Next week: Christmas season.

Tourist Dollars Make Silver Lining In West Virginia Snow Clouds

For years, snow on the Allegheny Mountains in West Virginia meant only trouble—something to shovel out from under—to be scraped off windshields—or cindered by road crews.

But things have changed. Nowadays, the Mountain State—bidding fair to become one of the nation's handiest and most popular winter playgrounds—is rejoicing over the discovery that snow clouds have a silver lining in the form of tourist dollars.

Not only do the natives now look forward to snow, but they also welcome the opportunity to earn more money by playing host to a growing number of winter sports enthusiasts.

Blessed with the highest average elevation of any state east of the Mississippi River, boasting 115 mountain peaks towering more than 4,000 feet, West Virginia receives over five feet of snow annually. Residents of the Allegheny highlands can usually bank on a white landscape from mid-December until late March.

Although most of the Mountain State is south of the Mason-Dixon Line, three key factors—high elevation, central location, and lots of the white stuff—combine to make West Virginia a "natural" when it comes to winter sports. According to the last census, over 71 percent of the nation's people live within 500 miles of West Virginia.

Since getting acquainted with the Mountain State, snow enthusiasts no longer find it necessary to trudge off to the north country to enjoy their favorite winter sport whether it be skiing, skating, ice fishing, sledding, or tobogganing. For millions, West Virginia's winter wonderland is less than a half day's drive away.

West Virginia proudly points to five major winter sports centers: Bald Knob near Beckley; Cabin Mountain and Weiss Knob near Davis; Chestnut Ridge outside Morgantown; and Oglebay Park at Wheeling.

All offer not only the full spectrum of winter sports but also, equally important, excellent accommodations at reasonable rates. In some cases, handsome lodges and warm, comfortable cabins with big stone fireplaces are located at or near the ski slopes.

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Smith Creek/ Friends Run

by Dave Ellis

From this writer, "Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. May God bless you in the year of 2024."

Good-bye autumn, hello winter. Not noticeable in the first week, but there will be more daylight by the minute each day.

Smith Creek and Friends Run Churches of the Brethren: shut-ins - Mary Mitchell, Bucky Moyers, Pam Riner, Anna Tesi, Alice Johnston, Arlin Dale and Freda Jamison, Hazel Simmons, Reva Hartman, Larry Moyers, Mary Alice Simmons, Sandy Washburn, 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 and Darlene Nelson, Donald Burns, David Bowers, Vada Bible, Ruby Gail Roberson, Gary Hess, Ruth Bauer, Jeff Evick, Linda Maxwell Looney, Gloria Moats, Sterle Lambert, Martha R. Kimble, Bennie and Mary Alice Evick, Jimmie Bennett, Wayne Vandevander and the family of Frenchie Moates.

Prayer thought: "Loving Father, I'm so grateful for the birth of Jesus and His mission of rescue and redemption. Thank you for His certain return for me."

High and low temperatures and precipitation for Dec. 11 through Dec. 17, followed by the same for last year, were as follows: Dec. 11 - 34°, 27° (49°, 39°. .02"); Dec. 12 - 44°, 18° (38°, 33°); Dec. 13 - 46°, 23° (39°, 29°); Dec. 14 - 47°, 24° (35°, 20°); Dec. 15 - 56°, 23° (33°, 31°, .51" ice); Dec. 16 - 54°, 26° (34°, 31°) and Dec. 17 - 39°, 35°, .36" (38°, 30°).

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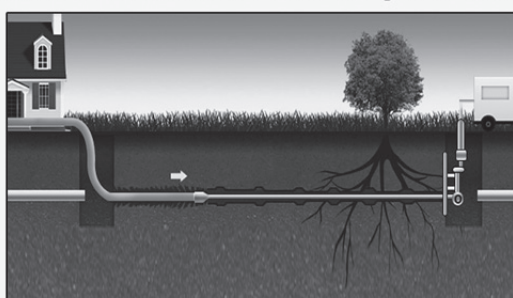


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Destructive Morning Fire...Main Street Garage

December 14, 1923

The Main Street Garage owned by W. W. Harper, was practically destroyed by fire on Tuesday morning and nineteen cars in the garage were badly damaged. Also damaged was a considerable amount of equipment and household furniture, clothing, etc., on the second story which was occupied as a dwelling by Mr. Harper and family.

The damage would probably reach as much as \$15,000.00 with insurance to cover about half of the loss.

The fire started in the work shop about six o'clock in the morning and probably caught in a pair of greasy overalls hanging near the stove pipe of the coal stove in which a fire had been made by Ezra Judy only a few minutes before. After making the fire Mr. Judy went to the gasoline pumping station to draw some gas for a customer and was in the office charging the item when the alarm was given by Eston Simmons who saw the fire from the adjoining building. The fire spread over the room almost instantly and in a very few minutes it had caught from the windows in the living rooms upstairs where Mrs. Harper and her six small children were sleeping and it was with the greatest difficulty that she and the children scantily clad got out of the building before being suffocated by the stifling smoke. Mr. Harper was at Circleville at the time and did not reach home until the fire had been extinguished.

For a short time, it looked as though it would be impossible to save the building and the whole central part of the town, but good judgment and presence of mind got the fire hose into action in a very short time and with a good head of water in the reservoir the fire was soon under control in the work shop, and the real fight was to control the rapidly spreading flames upstairs and in the walls of the building.

Three times Harry Crigler and Casper Cowger who had the nozzle of the one hose with several helpers tried to ascend the stairs but each time they were driven back by the smoke, almost exhausted. They then gained an entrance over the front balcony and with the other hose meeting them from the rear, they fought desperately until they had it entirely under control.

The second hose was manned by Preston Pennybacker and Newt Carter and they were aided by a number of persons who helped carry the hose and do the chopping into the walls to turn the hose on.

While this work was going on, a number of men were at work removing the burning cars from the building through the rear entrance. While engaged in this work Ezra Judy was badly burned about the head, neck and arm and Hugh Hedrick was less seriously burned on the hands.

Nineteen cars were in the garage at the time and all were considerably damaged and several were practically destroyed. A new Dodge car of Justin Barger's was totally destroyed. A Dodge owned by Cal Ours was badly injured but he was able to drive it home. The Hudson Sedan of Irving Ritchie and the Hudson Touring car of J. H. Cook were considerably damaged and will need new bed and tops.

Too much praise cannot be given to Harry Crigler, Casper Cowger, Preston Pennybacker and Newton Carter for their presence of mind, good judgment, courage and determination in fighting the fire. They are all strong, active, cool-headed and fearless and they did a job that could not be improved upon. They saved the town. Many others assisted and did good work and we do not wish to discredit their part but we believe those mentioned above deserve especial credit.

HOW CAN FRANKLIN PROFIT BY THE FIRE
December 21, 1923

If there is any one thing above all others that impressed those who witnessed the fire last Wednesday in the Main Street Garage when the whole central business section of the town was about to be wiped out by fire, it was the absolute necessity of having a heavy pressure of water and plenty of it. It was the heavy pressure of water quickly applied that saved the town. In this instance it only happened that we had it. We are told that on the morning before there was not six inches of water in the reservoir and if the fire had started then or at dozens and dozens of other times when this condition existed, our water system would have been worse than to have none at all. But it happened that on the previous day the pump had been running all day and the reservoir was as full as it would hold water.

When the fire was gotten under control, the water pressure was about gone, the reservoir was empty, and only the water that was being pumped into the reservoir was available. This had very little pressure and would only supply one nozzle.

The reservoir has great fissures in the sides from half way up the sides to the tap. Millions of gallons of water are being pumped into it at a great expense to the town only to run out and down over the hill.

The reservoir should be repaired and this should be done promptly so that an abundant supply of water would be available at all times.

It is a greater security than all the fire insurance our citizens can carry.

Will the council take prompt action?

USDA Now Accepting Applications for Farm Loans Online

The U.S. Department of Agriculture has launched an online application for direct loan customers. More than 26,000 customers who submit a direct loan application each year can now use an online, interactive, guided application that is paperless and provides helpful features including an electronic signature option, the ability to attach supporting documents such as tax returns, complete a balance sheet and build a farm operating plan. This tool is part of a broader effort by USDA's Farm Service Agency to streamline its processes, improve customer service, and expand credit access.

"The Biden-Harris Administration is working hard to make it easier for farmers and ranchers to get the loans they need to keep growing food, fiber, and fuel for our country," said Xochitl Torres Small, deputy secretary. "Online services are commonplace in commercial lending, and with USDA Farm Service Agency's new online loan application feature, it is now easier for producers to get the financing they need to start, expand, or maintain their farming and ranching operations."

The online farm loan application replicates the support

an applicant would receive when completing a loan application in person with an FSA farm loan officer, while continuing to provide customers with one-on-one assistance as needed. This tool and other process improvements allow farmers and ranchers to submit complete loan applications and reduce the number of incomplete and withdrawn applications.


Through a personalized dashboard, borrowers can track the progress of their loan application. It can be accessed on farmers.gov or by completing FSA's Loan Assistance Tool at farmers.gov/loan-assistance-tool. To use the online loan application tool, producers must establish a USDA customer account and a USDA Level 2 eAuthentication ("eAuth") account or a Login.gov account. For the initial stage, the online application tool is only available for producers who will be, or are currently, operating their farm as an individual. FSA is expanding the tools availability to married couples applying jointly and other legal entities in 2024.

FSA has a significant initiative underway to streamline and automate farm loan program customer-facing business processes. For the more than 26,000 producers who submit

a direct loan application to FSA annually, and its 85,000 direct loan borrowers, FSA has made improvements this year, including: a simplified direct loan paper application, reduced from 29 pages to 13 pages and the Loan Assistance Tool on farmers.gov that provides customers with an interactive online, step-by-step guide to identifying the direct loan products that may be a fit for their business needs and to understanding the application process.

FSA continues to accept and review individual requests for assistance from qualifying borrowers who took certain extraordinary measures to avoid delinquency on their direct FSA loans or those who were unable to make a recent installment or are unable to make their next scheduled installment for installments through Jan. 15, 2024. All requests for assistance must be received by Dec. 31. For more information, or to submit a request for assistance, producers can contact their local USDA Service Center or visit farmers.gov/inflation-reduction-investments/assistance.

Happy Birthday
to
Derek Rexrode
12-31-91 — 5-5-15
singing with angels
in Heaven



Love,
Mom

Merry Christmas


to
Johnny
and
Derek Rexrode
in Heaven

Love, Pam & Mom

A Note Of Thanks

Roger & I would like to thank all the caring people for the many acts of kindness they have shown us during Roger's illness. A special thank to Trent Alt, Faye Kile, Jeff & Cindy Lough and the South Branch Ruritan Club for the firewood that they brought us. A special thanks to Carl Shirk for delivering the wood from Faye Kile & the South Branch Ruritan Club. Thanks for the cards, phone calls and food.

God Bless,
Roger & Bonnie Mitchell



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Our Heartfelt Thanks

The family of Earl Alden "Babe" Roberson would like to thank everyone who came to visit him in the hospital and at home. We want to thank everyone for the prayers, food, flowers, prayer shawls, donations in his memory, Rebecca, Jameigh, Alanna, and Addie for staying at nights, Emily and Katie in the daytime, Pastor Deborah Bean for the beautiful service, Kimble Funeral Home, Keith Kimble and Paul Mallow. He got to spend his last days at home with his loved ones by his side, that was his wishes.

Love and Hugs To All
RubyGail, Tommy, Randy, Vickie and Families



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CLOSED Saturday
December 23

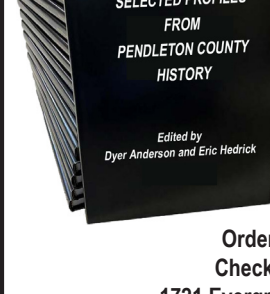
A Very Merry Christmas to you!

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Selected Profiles From Pendleton County History

For a listing of the 50 important persons covered visit erichedrick.com/sfpfch/

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To our family, friends and the entire Pendleton, Grant, Hardy, Hampshire communities and beyond, we don't even know where to begin.

As many of you know, our lives turned upside down recently after we lost our home to a massive fire. It has been a surreal time. Thankfully our family is safe, which is absolutely the most important part of this whole experience!

We have to begin with a special thanks to the first responders and fire companies who came to our home on November 12. We cannot thank you enough for your heroic efforts to keep our family safe and for trying to limit the level of damage to our home.

With regard to the communities in general, thank you for all of your generous donations of time, clothing, meals and money. While we are devastated that the experience of a house fire will be etched as one of our children's biggest childhood memories, we take comfort in the fact that your incredible acts of kindness will likely be a much more vivid memory. It has been so important for them to see all of the goodness in the world in the middle of such a frightening time of uncertainty. The compassion and generosity that has been shown to us started while the fire was still burning and continues each day. It has been overwhelming. People brought us toothbrushes and clothing that morning when we hadn't even processed the fact that we didn't have ours anymore.

We certainly have a long road ahead, but it is so comforting to know that we are not alone. We are eternally grateful for everything the community has done for us. It may be a while before we get a chance to acknowledge friends, families and first responders individually, but know that we have seen every text, listened to every voice mail, read each email and treasured each of the beautiful cards that have been sent. We are truly humbled by it all! What makes a house a home is the people inside. And next year, when we return to our old address, we will come back to our home with not only our family, but also the spirit of all of you who have helped us through this challenging time.

We will never forget the incredible support you have all given us. From the bottom of our hearts, thank you.

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Dan, Rebecca, Jameigh, Alanna and Adelynn

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Roger and I would like to wish our family, church family, friends and neighbors a Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year.

Because Roger has been sick, I cannot send cards this year.

God Bless.

Love,
Roger & Bonnie Mitchell



Christmas Coloring CONTEST WINNERS



Christmas coloring contest winners for this year have been chosen. Winner of the prekindergarten and kindergarten category was Dylan Hensley (kindergarten), son of Rich and Stephanie Hensley of Brandywine, left. In the first-, second- and third-grade category, Ava Rose (third grade), right, was the winner. She is the daughter of Doug Rose of Franklin. Second- and third-place winners can be found in the Christmas greeting section of this week's paper. All winners will receive cash, sponsored by The Pendleton Times.

Pendleton County EDA Awards Business Mini-Grants

By Stephen Smoot

Although Pendleton and Grant counties earlier this year combined efforts into a regional economic development authority, each county kept its own separate office in operation. The PCEDA remains in place, although with a reduced purview.

One of the organization's remaining jobs includes the yearly awarding of mini grants to county businesses to encourage development and growth. PCEDA partners with Pendleton Community Bank to provide the grants.

They handed out four awards last week.

The first went to a recently opened tourism business known as The Trout Camp. Founded by local fishing enthusiast Dustin Wichterman, it "offers 30 acres to explore, with 15 tent sites and annual RV sites open for reservation. Nestled between Big Run and the North Fork River, The Trout Camp offers ample angling attractions." The Trout Camp received \$3,000.

Sweetwater Farm Trail Center, a collaborative project of Experience Learning and Trail Labs, has spent almost a year developing miles of trails to accommodate bicycles and hikers. The organization also uses the space for a number of educational opportunities for young and old alike. PCEDA and PCB gave their program \$1,200.

Mountain Springs Motel LLC, formerly Thompson's Hotel, has spent the past year retooling under new ownership to provide both lodging for visitors and small efficiency apartments for locals. They were granted \$500.

Cool Hollow Maple Farm, a family farm that produces genuine maple and other products, received \$250. According to their website, "we pride ourselves on offering organic maple syrup, nature's greatest sweetener."

The grant program exists to provide incentives and support for local businesses and development of tourism.

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WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 27
 Cheeseburger
 Lettuce/Tomato/Onion
 French Fries
 Fruit/Milk

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 28
Brunch

Sausage Gravy/Biscuits
 Sausage Links/Potatoes
 Orange Juice
 Yogurt Parfait

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 29
 Open Face Roast Beef
 Mashed Potatoes
 Collard Greens
 Cake/Milk

MONDAY, JANUARY 1

CLOSED

MONDAY, JANUARY 2
 Hot Dogs/Sauerkraut
 Mashed Potatoes
 Berry Cobbler
 Milk/Bread

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 3
 Lasagna, Carrots
 Garlic Bread
 Peaches/Milk

THURSDAY, JANUARY 4
 Fish Sandwich
 Tator Tots, Slaw
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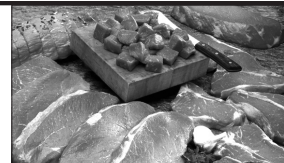
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Henry Warner looks for an open man while Chase Owens makes a cut during the win against Pocahontas County last week.

Wildcats Outwork Warriors to Gain 30 Point Win in Franklin

By Stephen Smoot

"I knew last week would be tough," said Pendleton County head boys basketball coach Jeremy Bodkin. I think that we learned some stuff, but it's good to get a win."

The first week of the season saw the ninth ranked Wildcats traveling to number one ranked Tucker County. They also absorbed a 90 to 50 loss at top 10 in quad A ranked Jefferson High School. After a one day delay due to weather, Pendleton County battled Pocahontas County.

Pocahontas County took the opening tip and immediately took the initial lead with a 15-foot jump shot. The opening two minutes saw both teams experiencing some ragged play, trading turnovers as they got settled into the game.

Dusty Smith put his team on the board first when fouled by the Warriors at the 6:33 mark. Only 12 seconds later, Smith made a tremendous hustling save that helped to set up a Josiah Kimble shot to give the Wildcats their first lead at 4 to 2. The Warriors quickly answered, but a strong post move from Zykijah Wright led to a layup, a made free throw, and a 7 to 4 lead.

The Warriors scored again to close within one, and that is the closest they came to the Wildcats for the rest of the game.

Henry Warner entered the game with less than four minutes to play in the first and made an immediate impact. He stole the ball at the 3:19 mark, tipped a shot in 10 seconds later, then got a steal with 2:40 left in the quarter.

In workmanlike fashion, Pendleton County manufactured points and tightened its defense through the first quarter. The Wildcats then exploded in the second quarter, outscoring their opponents 22 to seven in the stanza.

Justus Kuykendall started the run with a steal that he drove in for a layup to set the score at 20 to 9. Shortly afterward, Chase Owens repeated the feat. This all took place in the first 30 seconds.

Later in the quarter, Wyatt Franklin found Cashton Kisamore with a well placed pass to the post. Kisamore's layup set the score at 30 to 12 with two minutes remaining in the half. Owens took over the game at the 1:30 mark. He scored an athletic layup, then followed that with two made free throws. With 12 seconds left, he scored a fast break layup. A late Pocahontas County basket put the halftime score at 40 to 16. The recipe for success in the first half rested

on the Wildcats patiently breaking down the Warrior defense, probing for openings with good passing and personnel movement. The Warriors struggled to find open shots, but they moved well and showed athleticism.

The second half showed that Pocahontas County was truly a team of Warriors. Undeterred by the score, they fought back in the third quarter. While they still struggled to get open and score, the Pocahontas County defenders remained active. They also cut back on the turnovers that led to many easy Pendleton County layups at the other end.

For 5:40, Pocahontas County labored to put together an 11 to nothing run. Warner broke the cold spell by hitting a 10-foot shot. Franklin then swiped the ball and drove the length of the floor to lay in a shot to push the lead to 44 to 27.

Bodkin said of his squad, "I keep trying to remind myself that these guys are sophomores." He added that "we fight through it. We took over when we needed to."

In the fourth quarter, active defense and more aggressive offense stymied Warrior efforts to get back into contention. Jaydon Hess started the quarter by hustling down the court to block a layup on a fast break. Warner followed with a three-point basket to give his team an 18 point advantage. With just less than six minutes left, Pocahontas County again sent Wright to the line where he – again – made both free throws. He followed that with a steal that gave the Wildcats a possession where Kimble found Warner for another three-pointer.

Franklin's 17-footer with 4:48 left and a Warner three 45 seconds later gave their squad a 57 to 29 lead. Jacob Buck then shot a three-pointer and scored a steal with just under three minutes remaining. Buck then took a Hess pass for a layup, the Wildcats' final basket.

The final score was 62 to 31. The next night, the Wildcats had a quick turnaround, traveling to Tygart Valley. They dispatched the always challenging Bulldogs 64 to 51.

Against the Warriors Warner led the team with 16. Owens followed with 10, Kimble and Franklin both had eight, Buck, Kisamore, Wright five, and Smith three, and Kuykendall had two.

The Wildcats were scheduled to play at home Wednesday and will participate in the Holiday Tournament in Petersburg on Dec. 29 and 30.

Wildcat's Re-Union with Tigers a True Consolation in Petersburg Tournament

By Stephen Smoot

Coach Donnie Kopp took a team full of kids battling seasonal illnesses to Petersburg last weekend. Though they got stung by a swarm of Yellow Jackets Friday night, a game against the Union Tigers on Saturday proved to be just what the doctor ordered.

Union took the opening tip. The first minute of the game saw both teams feeling each other out and forcing turnovers from each other. Pendleton County's Susan Vincell gave her team the first points of the contest, taking a deft pass from Jameigh Miller and converting a layup.

With a minute and a half gone in the period, Avery Townsend took a steal and doubled the lead with a 15-foot step in shot. Union scored again with 3:40 left in the quarter, but was answered by Jenna Smith who hit a 17-foot shot to extend the lead to 6 to 2. Thirty seconds later, Gabby DePue took a beautiful Townsend pass in for a shot basket and an 8 to 2 lead.

Union answered with two minutes left. Shortly thereafter, Jessica Parker got her first steal of the night, which set up another long Smith shot and a 10 to 4 lead.

Tight defense led to points for Pendleton County, especially in the first half. DePue and Julia Mongold combined for a steal with 6:11 left in the half. This led to a Mongold layup at the other end.

When running their offense, Pendleton County worked often out of high low sets, using give and go plays to increase player movement. Toward the end of the half, Parker swiped two steals at both the 1:15 and 31 second marks. A Mongold three with 13 seconds left put the score at 23 to 5, but Union signaled they were not yet out of it, hitting their own three at the buzzer.

The Tigers went on to prove their spirit by taking charge through much of the third quarter. Their adjustments helped them to reduce turno-

vers and incite their inside out game. Union relies on strong and powerful players inside, as well as opportune outside shooting.

The Tigers closed the gap to 23 to 12, but Vincell stopped the run with an offensive rebound and score. Miller also worked to find her shot on offense, hitting a pull up shot at the 4:45 mark. Miller closed out a remarkable possession with a three pointer that was kept alive repeatedly by two Smith offensive rebounds.

The Wildcats faced a Tiger squad with momentum going into the fourth. The commanding lead at the half was whittled to a 32 to 25 advantage. Townsend faced uncharacteristic struggles with her outside shot, but as great players do, found other ways to help push her team to the win.

Townsend's defense helped to shut down Union in the last stanza. She relentlessly harassed Tiger ball handlers, forcing errant passes and taking steals. Miller continued to make plays on offense as well, hitting Vincell with a pass that led to a layup and a 38 to 25 lead. Townsend also scored on a coast-to-coast layup at the 5:25 and the 2:43 marks.

The defensive intensity continued for the remainder of the game as Olivia Gonshor, Kiera Heavener, and Nataley Hedrick all stopped Union possessions with steals.

The game ended with Pendleton County securing an important 45 to 27 win.

Of his team's battles with illness, Kopp said, "They really sucked it up. Dan (Coach Miller) did a great job of telling me when people needed a break." The victory was sealed because "we took care of the basketball in the last four minutes"

Kopp praised his entire team, especially Smith, saying "I thought this was her best."

He added "I'm proud of them."

The Wildcats are scheduled to host Tygarts Valley tonight.

Pendleton County Falls to Moorefield in Opening Game of Petersburg Tournament

By Stephen Smoot

After a long layoff, Donnie Kopp's Wildcats made the trip up U.S. Route 220 to play a familiar opponent. They took on Moorefield, who eked out a one-point win in their last match up.

One important note of difference from the nail-biter at Moorefield last week is that although the Wildcats carried a full complement of players, much of the team has been hamstrung lately by illness.

The Yellow Jackets came ready to battle. Moorefield took the opening tip, but Pendleton County took the opening points as Julia Mongold hit a 10-foot baseline shot. Moorefield quickly responded to tie the game up.

Points came slowly for both teams at first. With a few seconds less than six minutes to go in the first, Avery Townsend took an offensive rebound and laid it in to give her team the lead again at 4 to 5, but the Yellow Jackets answered with a three to seize it right back.

That three kicked off a 13 to nothing run to give them a 15 to 4 advantage. The quarter's last seconds saw Townsend driving in for a finger roll layup and a foul. She converted the old fashioned three-point play, setting the score at 16 to 9.

Jenna Smith hit the first basket of the second quarter, a 10-foot jumper after an offensive

rebound with 6:15 remaining in the half. Moorefield then went on another long run, this time 17 to six, over the remainder of the half. Jameigh Miller scored off of a pull up jump shot and Gabby DePue had a blocked shot, but overall, Wildcat shots were not falling as usual.

The Yellow Jackets opened the second half with a 31 to 17 advantage. They hit a three in the opening 10 seconds to extend that. Susan Vincell, however, asserted herself underneath for the Wildcats, grabbing offensive rebounds and getting scoring opportunities. This helped to fuel a Pendleton County run that cut the lead to 40 to 30. A Townsend steal led to a called foul that put her on the line toward the end of the quarter. She hit both shots to put the score at 42 to 32.

Moorefield, unfortunately, followed with a buzzer beater three to take a 13-point lead with one quarter to play.

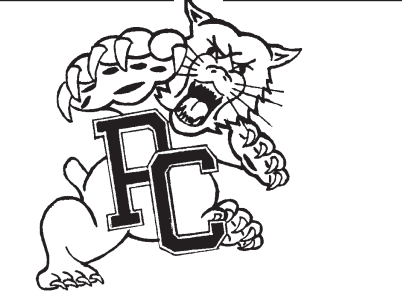
Neither team lit up the scoreboard in the fourth. Mongold hit a running one hander with a little more than five minutes in the game and Olivia Gonshor hit a 17-footer. The Wildcat defense held Moorefield to only five points, but the game ended with a 50 to 36 Yellow Jacket win.

One area in which Pendleton County shone was at the foul line. They hit 12 of 16 from the line.

PENDLETON COUNTY MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL						January
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3 MS Girls Basketball Moorefield 6:00 (H)	4 MS Girls Basketball Green Bank 6:00 (H) MS Boys Basketball Green Bank 5:30 (A) Parent/Teacher Conferences Report Cards	5 MS/HS Girls Basketball Harman 6:00 (H)	6 HS Girls Basketball Kesyer 12:00 (H) HS Boys Basketball Petersburg 6:00 (A)
7	8 HS Boys Basketball Tucker Co. 6:15 (H) MS/HS Girls Basketball Union 6:00 (A) MS Boys Basketball East Hardy 6:00 (A)	9 HS Girls Basketball Pocahontas Co. 7:00 (H)	10 MS Girls Basketball Romney 6:00 (H) MS/HS Boys Basketball Harman 6:00 (A)	11 HS Girls Basketball East Hardy 7:00 (H)	12	13 MS Boys Basketball Warm Springs 1:00 (H) MS Girls Basketball Warm Springs 1:00 (A)
14	15 HS Boys Basketball Frankfort 6:15 (H) NO SCHOOL	16 HS Girls Basketball Tucker County 6:15 (A)	17 MS Girls Basketball Capon Bridge 6:00 (H) HS Boys Basketball East Hardy 6:00 (A)	18 HS Girls Basketball Petersburg 7:00 (A) MS Boys Basketball Capon Bridge 6:00 (A)	19 MS Girls Basketball Marlinton 6:00 (H) MS Boys Basketball Marlinton 6:00 (A)	20 PVL Cheer Competition
21	22 HS Boys Basketball Pocahontas Co. 5:45 (A)	23 MS Boys Basketball Petersburg 6:00 (H) HS Girls Basketball Tygarts Valley 7:00 (A)	24 MS Girls Basketball Petersburg 6:00 (A)	25 HS Girls Basketball Petersburg 7:00 (H)	26 HS Boys Basketball 6:15 (H) Tygarts Valley MS/HS Girls Basketball Harman 6:00 (A)	27
28	29 MS Boys Basketball Romney 6:00 (H) MS Girls Basketball East Hardy 6:00 (A)	30 MS Boys Basketball East Hardy 6:00 (H) MS Girls Basketball Moorefield 6:00 (A)	31 MS/HS Boys Basketball Paw Paw 6:00 (A)	MS - Middle School HS - High School	Pendleton County Schools is an Equal Opportunity Provider	

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Veterans Experience Productive Bear Harvest

The Potomac Highlands Wounded Warrior Outreach hosted a fall bear hunt, bringing five combat wounded veterans to Pendleton County to fill their bear tags.

Pendleton County residents, houndsmen, women, their families, and landowners assisted all five veterans in successfully harvesting a bear and an experience these heroes will never forget. Three of the five bears were harvested on the property of Kathy and George Sponaugle.

The food for dinner each night was donated by T&K Markets and Teet's Meats and was prepared by Cheryl McClanahan, her mother, Shirley Sisson, Rosa Propst and Girl Scout Troop #32119 and served at the South Fork Ruritan Club building.

For more information about Potomac Highlands Wounded Warrior Outreach, contact Richard or Lisa Ogden at 304-545-8599 or 304-541-2068, email staff@phwwwo.com, or visit <https://www.phwwwo.com>.



Combat wounded veterans came to the county to participate in a black bear hunt, sponsored by the Potomac Highlands Wounded Warrior Outreach. The successful hunters were, from left, Casey Traxler, Josh Leeson, Bob Hansen, Brent Casey and Tom Fischer.

Highlands Bankshares Declares Quarterly Dividend

Highlands Bankshares, Inc. announced unaudited earnings of \$2,390,000 for the first nine-month period ending Sept. 30. This represents a decrease of 27 percent from the \$3,276,000 earned during the same period in 2022. On a per share basis, net income was \$1.79 for the first nine months of 2023, compared to earnings of \$2.45 per share for the nine months ended Sept. 30, 2022.

On Oct. 10, the board of directors declared a quarterly dividend of \$0.42 per share to be paid on Nov. 3 to all shareholders of record as of Oct. 27. Based upon the current market price and annualizing the dividends paid to shareholders this quarter, Highlands' current dividend yield is 4.04 percent.

Jack H. Walters, chairman and chief executive officer of the holding company, stated, "Net income has lagged this year com-

pared to the prior year due to the unexpected write-down of certain securities held in our investment portfolio, higher interest expense and increased provisions for future loan losses. When taken together with the current economic and geopolitical uncertainties, we believe it is in the best interest of the company to reduce the dividend to \$0.42 per share for the current quarter. This is not a decision

we take lightly, but we feel it to be necessary for the long-term strength of the company."

Highlands Bankshares, Inc. operates 12 banking locations in West Virginia and Virginia through its two wholly-owned subsidiary banks, The Grant County Bank and Capon Valley Bank, and offers insurance services through its wholly-owned subsidiary HBI Life Insurance Company

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To: Mrs. Jerri Moates, the Moates Family and Friends

Recently hearing of the passing of our friend Frenchie Moates, Nancy and I were shocked and saddened. During our years together Frenchie presented himself as a valuable link between the local community and the men and women of the Sugar Grove Naval base.

Such a professional, he was able to solve the many problems he encountered with a calm approach and attention to detail. One example was his quick response to the repair of the galley's burst water pipe in the dead of winter so that its operation could continue on schedule with no missed meals. Afterward he gave me a piece of the broken pipe as a souvenir!

Another is his oversight of the motor pool to provide vehicles for day to day requirements as well as for both long distance commissary trips for dependents and short distance trips to deliver food and Christmas gifts to the surrounding community.

Socially, Frenchie was a charmer with all contacts. His complimentary phrase "You lovely damsel" flattered many of the fair sex while another, "Mess with the elephant you might get the tusk" always delighted those within earshot. With a twinkle in his eyes and quick wit he was welcome in every informal setting including our home, as we were in his and Jerri's.

A while after our time together Frenchie and Jerri suffered the loss of their young son, Brian (our youngest daughter's first boyfriend). A devastating blow they both handled with gracefulness. Frenchie is now reunited with Brian and as we mourn the loss of this wonderful man we will find peace in the memories we share.

So long old friend. Fair winds and following seas.

Michael B. Driscoll, Commander USN, Ret

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LEGAL ADVERTISEMENTS Continued from Page 9

WEST VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Division of Highways
NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS

ROADWAY STRIPING DISTRICT WIDE COUNTY: DISTRICT 8, PENDLETON, POCAHONTAS, RANDOLPH, TUCKER

DBE GOAL: 10 % OF CONTRACT BID AMOUNT. BIDDER MUST PROVIDE WRITTEN ASSURANCE OF MEETING GOAL ON FORM IN PROPOSAL

REMARKS:
Proposals will be received from prequalified and West Virginia licensed contractors only except that on Federal-Aid Projects a contractor's license is not required at time of bid, but will be required before work can begin. Registration is required with the Department of Administration, Division of Purchasing, in accordance with Chapter 5A, Article 3, Section 12 of the West Virginia Code. All contractors submitting bids on project(s) must submit electronically with their bid a Proposal Guaranty Bond for \$500.00 or 5% of total bid, whichever is greater.

The West Virginia Department of Transportation, Division of Highways reserves the right to defer, delay or postpone the date for receiving and publicly opening proposals for any project designated in this advertisement, without the necessity of renewing such advertisement. The deferment, delay, postponement, and the date that proposals will be received and publicly opened will be available on www.bidx.com.

The West Virginia Department of Transportation, Division of Highways hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively insure that in any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, minority business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, religion, sex or national origin in consideration for an award. 12-14-2c

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TRUCK DRIVER, Class A CDL a must, Peer's Sanitation. Call 304-249-5266 or apply within. 12-21-2c

CLOSING NOTICES

FAITHFUL Friends Animal Clinic will be closed Saturday, December 23. Greg Bowers, Sarah Bowers, DVM. 1c

POSTED NOTICES

POSTED NOTICE
 No trespassing, no hunting or trapping of any kind and no running or retrieving of dogs on any of my lands on Snowy Mountain. Not responsible for accidents.
 Frances Warner
 1-3-eow

POSTED NOTICE
 No hunting of any kind and no trespassing without written permission on my land in Sugar Grove area. Not responsible for any accidents.
 Donald Mongold
 11-30-4c

POSTED NOTICE
 There absolutely will be no hunting, no dog running or training and no 4-wheelers on the Larry Thomas property on North Mountain and on the Cataloochee, LLC property on Middle Mountain and Town Mountain. All hunting rights have been sold and no permits will be issued. Land will be patrolled. I will not be responsible for any accidents or actions taken by law enforcement officers.
 Larry V. Thomas
 11-16-6c

LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT

NOTICE OF ANCILLARY FILING WITHOUT ANY ADMINISTRATION OF ESTATE
 Notice is hereby given that a foreign will or affidavit has been filed before Pendleton County Commission at 100 S. Main Street, Franklin, WV 26807.
 That no appointment of administration is being made pursuant to the provisions of law but that a foreign will or affidavit of heirs of the decedent has been filed with the Pendleton County Commission, and is of record in the

Pendleton County Clerk's Office.

Any interested person objecting to the filing of the foreign will or affidavit or objecting to the absence of appointment or administration being made in this state must be filed with the Pendleton County Commission within 60 days after the date of first publication or within 30 days of the serving of this notice, whichever is later. If an objection is not filed timely, the objection is forever barred.

First Publication Date: Thursday, December 21, 2023

Claim Deadline Date: Monday, February 19, 2024

Decedent: James T. Shorb, Franklin Township, PA
 Filed by: Jeffrey S. Bowers, Attorney, Franklin, WV

Decedent: Gae M. Harper, Stark County, OH
 Filed by: Jeffrey S. Bowers, Attorney, Franklin, WV

Subscribed and sworn to before me on December 18, 2023.

Elise M. White, Clerk of the Pendleton County Commission 12-21-2c

WEST VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS

Bids will be received electronically by the West Virginia Department of Transportation, Division of Highways through the Bid Express Bidding Service (www.bidx.com) and by sealed proposals (only when prequalification is waived) being received at its office in Building 5, Room 843, 1900 Kanawha Boulevard East, Charleston, West Virginia until January 17, 2024 at 10:00 AM (Eastern Standard Time). The bids will be downloaded and/or opened and read publicly thereafter for the construction of the following project(s):

Call 010
 Contract 2022880004

State Project

S388-REC/AL-24 00
Federal Project
 STBG-2024(009)D

Description

PAVEMENT MARKINGS
 D-8 RECALL STRIPING
 2024
 DISTRICT WIDE
 COUNTY: DISTRICT 8,
 PENDLETON,
 POCAHONTAS,
 RANDOLPH, TUCKER

DBE GOAL: 10 % OF CONTRACT BID AMOUNT. BIDDER MUST PROVIDE WRITTEN ASSURANCE OF MEETING GOAL ON FORM IN PROPOSAL
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Project Administrator
 Region 8 Planning and Development Council
is seeking a creative, results driven Project Administrator to join our team to deliver community development projects within Grant, Hampshire, Hardy, Mineral and Pendleton counties of West Virginia
 The Project Administrator position requires a bachelor's degree in public administration/business administration or a related field. Also, an associate degree with related experience will be considered. Primary responsibilities will include the development of community development projects for local government projects, grant writing and special projects as assigned. Strong analytical, written and oral skills are required. Salary commensurate with education and experience. Fringe benefits for the position include health insurance, retirement, vacation and sick leave.
 To see a job description go to www.regioneight.org/employment.
Please submit your resume with a cover letter by 4:00 p.m. on December 29 to Project Administrator Position, Region 8 PDC, 131 Providence Lane, Petersburg, WV 26847 or mearle@regioneight.org.
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FINANCIAL MANAGER
 Region 8 Planning and Development Council
is looking for a detailed-oriented, responsible, organized and dedicated individual to join our team of professionals. The position we currently have open is for a Financial Manager who can begin work immediately.
 We expect our new teammate to be proficient with standard accounting and office software, possess the technical abilities and experience to become proficient in infrastructure project accounting and management assistance, have good interpersonal and written skills, the ability to problem solve, and work unsupervised.
 The position requires a bachelor's degree in accounting or a related field. However, candidates with related experience, a strong work ethic and a proactive mentality will also be considered. Experience in budgeting, planning and administration of State and Federal funds, payroll processing and human resource management is advantageous.
 Fringe benefits include employee health insurance and participation in a retirement system.
Interested individuals should send a letter of interest and resume to: Executive Director, Financial Manager Position, Region 8 PDC, 131 Providence Lane, Petersburg, WV 26847 or mearle@regioneight.org.
Resumes must be received by 4:00 p.m. December 29.
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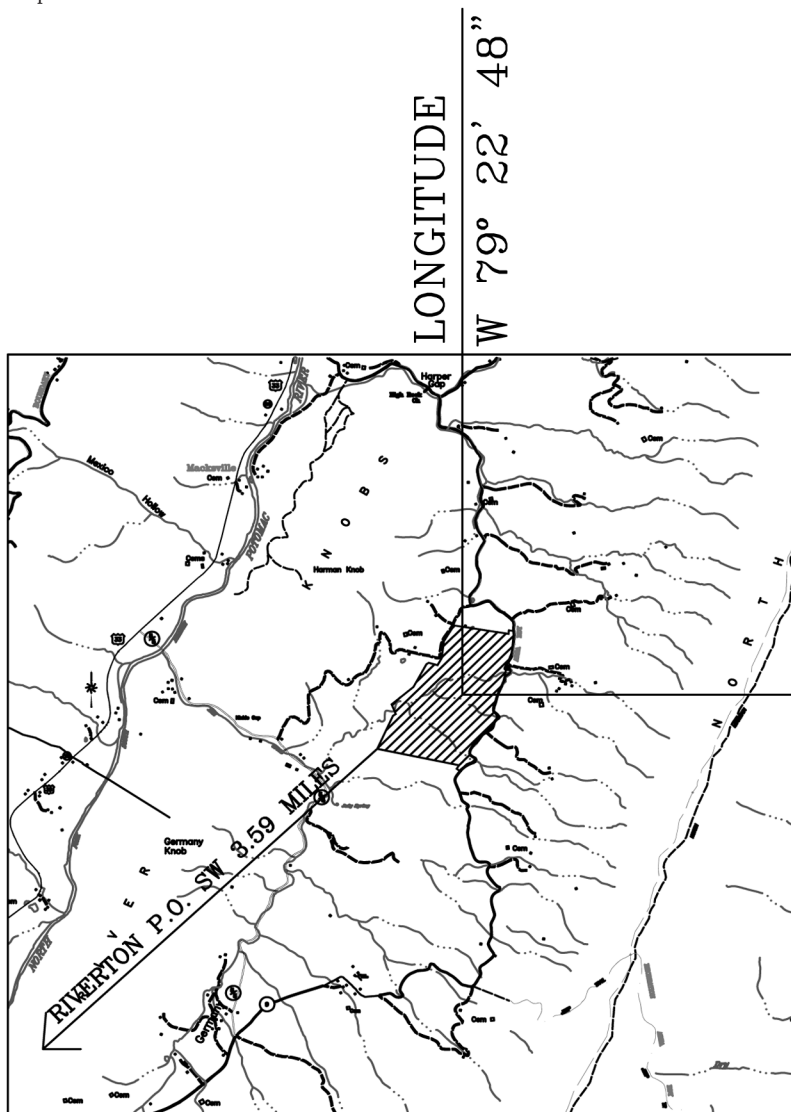
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Notice is hereby given that GREER INDUSTRIES, INC. DBA GREER LIME COMPANY, 8477 VETERANS MEMORIAL HWY, MASON-TOWN, WV 26542 has submitted an application for Permit Number Q200103 to the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) 47 School Street, Suite 301, Philippi, WV, 26416-1600, in order to submit a lessee blasting waiver per 38CSR3. The operation is discharging into an unnamed tributary of Mill Creek and is located near Riverton in Union District of Pendleton County, Longitude 79° 22' 48" and Latitude 38° 46' 59" (Coordinates from USGS Topographic Map). Comments on the application shall be in writing and shall identify the applicant and application number and be sent to the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) at the address above. Comments received by January 6, 2024, or thirty (30) days from the date of initial date of publication, will be considered. A copy of the application will be available until January 6, 2024, or thirty (30) days from initial date of publication in the DEP Regional Office located at the address above and is available at: http://apps.dep.wv.gov/WebApp/_dep/Search/ePermitting/ePermittingApplicationSearchPage.cfm.

The above link can be accessed from a computer at all West Virginia public libraries.

DEP Telephone Number: 304-457-3219



LOCATION MAP 1 INCH = 1 MILE
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 UNION DISTRICT, PENDLETON COUNTY
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Pendletontimes.com

Manchin Reflects on His Political Career

By Senator Joe Manchin

It was a cold November morning just a week after my family's store had burnt to the ground losing the lives of four people when tragedy struck again. This time there had been an explosion in the Farmington No. 9 mine. My Uncle John, our neighbor and several of my high school classmates worked in that mine. I knew family members of most everyone working in the mine that day. Everyone knew everyone in Farmington.

Over the next several days, I sat with my mother and Aunt Jenny, Uncle John's wife, desperate for any kind of update. Our whole state was paralyzed as the days drug on and news of the explosion rocked the entire nation with reporters from around the country ascended into Farmington to cover the story. Ultimately, my Uncle John was among the 78 brave coal miners who lost their lives in the Farmington Mine Disaster.

Thirty-eight years later, I could still vividly remember waiting with my mother for news about Uncle John when disaster struck at the Sago Mine in Upshur County trapping 13 brave miners with only one surviving. That same month, an accident at the Aracoma Mine in Logan County killed two miners. Once again, our state was shaken to our core but this time I could do something about it because I was governor.

I vowed we would not leave these families in the dark like we had been left in Farmington. Every few hours we would brief the families, listen to their questions and do everything possible to ease their pain. We prayed with them, ate with them and cried with them when we learned their loved ones had not survived.

Their strength powered us forward as I worked with the West Virginia legislature to pass legislation to update the mine emergency-response systems and impose stricter safety requirements on coal companies. I signed this critical legislation into law shortly after the January mine disasters. In the beginning of February, I ordered all coal mining in the state of West Virginia halt until adequate safety precautions were put in place and tests were conducted. Our state legislation set the stage for federal legislation to improve mine safety. This was just the beginning of our work to ensure every coal miner could return home safely to their family after a hard day's work.

In the years to come, we fought tooth and nail to secure permanent healthcare and pension benefits for our coal miners and their families. This bipartisan coalition was most recognizable by the United Mine Workers of America who barnstormed the U.S. Capitol for years on end decked out in their camouflage t-shirts. It was my honor to fight hand in hand with them to ensure they received the benefits they rightly earned.

When I reflect on the last 42 years serving West Virginia – in the state legislature, as secretary of state, governor and now as U.S. Senator – it is abundantly clear to me that I would not have accomplished anything without the strength and support of my fellow West Virginians. And we have accomplished so much together.

Most recently, we have worked in a bipartisan way to revitalize the West Virginia energy economy by paying homage to our legacy of coal production and looking to the future to ensure West Virginia remains an energy powerhouse for generations to come. Last month, we announced the ARCH2 Hydrogen Hub will be located

in West Virginia creating 20,000 jobs and spurring billions more in investments. And that's just the tip of the iceberg. In the last 18 months, we've announced energy investments that will resolve in nearly 5,000 jobs across the state. And we will continue to see announcements like this across the state in the months and years to come.

We also invested almost a billion dollars in West Virginia broadband to ensure every home in the Mountain State has access to reliable broadband access. And we included \$3 billion for West Virginia highways, \$506 million to repair aging bridges and \$487 million to invest in wastewater and drinking water improvements throughout the state. We have helped bring down the cost of healthcare by capping the cost of insulin at \$35 and allowing Medicare to negotiate for lower prescription drug prices.

For the last 13 years, my Senate office has operated the best constituent services team in the United States Senate ensuring the federal government works for West Virginians. We have closed more than 100,000 cases having helped hardworking West Virginians get their Veterans Affairs or Social Security benefits, secure Medicare or helping people in their time of need. And we hosted 75 job fairs across the state connecting thousands of West Virginians with good paying jobs, amongst many other creative ways of bringing good government to people.

After months of deliberation and long conversations with my family, I believe in my heart of hearts that I have accomplished what I set out to do for West Virginia. I am leaving our state better prepared for the future than when I first took office. I have made one of the toughest decisions of my life and decided that I will not be running for re-election to the United States Senate, but what I will be doing is finishing my term in the Senate while traveling the country and speaking out to see if there is an interest in building a movement to mobilize the middle, finding common ground and bringing Americans together.

To the people of West Virginia who have put your trust in me: It has been the honor of my life to represent you in the West Virginia legislature, as your Governor and as your United States Senator. Thank you for this privilege and I hope you are proud of what we have accomplished together.

To my wife, Gayle, who has also dedicated her career to serving West Virginia and the Appalachian region: None of this would be possible without you, I love you.

To our children and grandchildren: Your patience and support has meant more to me than you will ever know.

And to my staff - from my days as secretary of state, to governor and now to senator - who have worked tirelessly on behalf of the people of West Virginia: Every day your commitment to public service and to our beautiful state has made me proud. Thank you for joining me on this journey.

When it comes to what is best for West Virginia, our country, and the people I'm privileged to serve, I will never stop fighting to unite Americans.

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NEW LISTING - JAKE HILL ROAD, UPPER TRACT - 1,600+ sf 2 BR/1BA farmhouse and two outbuildings situated on 4.6 peaceful, unrestricted acres bordering a state maintained road. Original section of dwelling constructed in 1840 of hand-hewn logs. Public water plus two wells. Soapstone wood stove, propane, and EBB heat. New metal roof installed in 2018. Small greenhouse attached. Cell service. Smoke Hole Recreation Area nearby. Ideal getaway or full-time living! **\$98,000. Call Angie Nelson.**

NEW LISTING - CAMP RUN - 14+/- acres of mostly level, wooded land adjoining the George Washington National Forest. Property borders a state maintained road and is situated in close proximity to both the Camp Run Campground and Camp Run Lake. Perfect for camping, hunting, fishing, canoeing, and relaxing! **\$62,500. Call Angie Nelson.**

NEW LISTING - KISER GAP ROAD - 55.60 acres of mountain land located on Kiser Gap Rd., Pendleton County, culvert in place, leveled off for a house or camping trailer, 1/4 mile of good road frontage, electric available, excellent hunting, beautiful scenic views, only 15 minutes from the golf course. **\$325,000. Call Gene Boggs.**

NEW LISTING - FRANKLIN - Cozy 4 BR/2 BA rancher situated on 1.50 private, level acres. Over 2,200 sf of living area, with propane FA and wood stove heat. Appliances convey. Fully fenced with beautiful landscaping. Miscellaneous outbuildings, including a chicken coop and a greenhouse. **\$299,900. Call Angie Nelson.**

CIRCLEVILLE - Old 2-story farm house on +/- .5 AC, 5 BR 1.5 BA, new roof, public water, fenced yard, also old country store bldg. Close to Seneca Rocks, Spruce Knob, Canaan Valley and Snowshoe. **PRICED TO SELL. \$220,000 \$190,000. Call Gene.**

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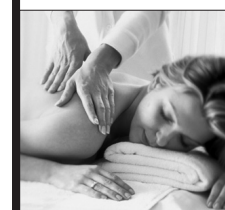
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2021 RAM 1500 CREW CAB SHORTBED 4X4 "Bighorn Pkg.," E-Torque V-6, auto., ldd., red, 55K miles, like new cond.	\$34,900
2021 FORD E-450 34 FT MOTORHOME "Forest River Pkg.," 7.3 gas V-8, auto., ldd., dual slide-outs, automatic leveling, leather couch w/recliners, flat screen TVs, etc., only 6,000 miles.	SPECIAL \$79,500 \$74,900
2020 JEEP GLADIATOR 4X4 CREW CAB TK., V-6, auto., ldd., silver, 39K miles, very sharp.	SPECIAL \$44,900 \$37,500
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2018 CHEVY COLORADO Z-71 EXTRA-CAB 4X4, 3.6 liter V-6, auto., ldd., white, 60K miles.	\$26,900
2015 FORD F-250 REGULAR CAB 4X2 UTILITY TRUCK, 6.2 liter gas V-8, auto., air, etc., 129K miles.	SPECIAL \$19,500 \$17,500
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2011 FORD F-250 REGULAR CAB LONGBED 4X4, XL pkg., 6.2 liter gas V-8, auto., ldd., 168K miles, custom fiberglass cap.	\$18,900
2009 FREIGHTLINER M106 SINGLE AXLE HD UTILITY TRUCK, dsl., 6-spd., mechanic's crane, welder, air compressor, etc., 94K miles.	SPECIAL \$29,900 \$26,500
1996 FORD F-250 S/CAB LONGBED 4X4, 7.3 diesel, auto., ldd., bronze, 154K miles.	SPECIAL \$28,900 \$26,900
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2019 DODGE JOURNEY GT AWD, V-6, auto., ldd., 56K miles, black, very sporty 3rd row SUV.	FOR ONLY \$24,900
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SGR311A 1 acre w/3 bed, 2 bath home located in Franklin District. Public Water & Sewer service & Internet avail. Franklin District. NEW LISTING \$269,900.00.	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. \$519,000.00.
SGR309A 0.44 Acres w/4 bed, 2 bath home in Franklin. Two car garage w/bonus room. NEW LISTING \$229,000.00.	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.
SGR306A 6.36 Acre Raw Land, US RT 220N. Nice Building Site. NEW LISTING \$69,000.00.	SGR245 0.96 Acres w/2 Bed 1.5 Bath 1900's Remodeled Cottage, Seneca Rocks. \$249,900.00 REDUCED \$234,900.00.
SGR303A 18 Acres w/Unfinished 3-Story Cabin, another Older cabin and Hunting Bunkhouse w/Spectacular View of Dolly Sods. Located in Roaring Creek area, Union Dist. Septic avail, but not hooked up. Spring, Electric, Phone/Internet. NEW LISTING \$279,000.00.	SGR241 60.24 Acres w/Cabin. Exceptional Views, Excellent Hunting w/stands in place. Bathhouse, Electric Nearby, Cistern, Small pond. Close to National Forest. NEW LISTING \$299,000.00 REDUCED \$259,000.00.
SGR302A "The Hollow" Restaurant, fully furnished, at the corner of US RT 220/US RT 33W, Franklin. Property adjoins neighboring motel. NEW LISTING \$425,000.00 REDUCED \$320,000.00.	SGR236 World Class View Overlooking Germany Valley! Log Cabin, 70.08 Acres, 2 bed, 2.5 Baths. Seneca Lookout. Some Restrictions. \$799,000.00.
SGR300A 599.19 Acres, more or less, off of Sandy Ridge Rd. Hunting, Food Plots, Timber, Catfish Pond, Mtn. Views, Roads throughout. Franklin District. NEW LISTING \$1,795,000.00.	SGR156 15.97 Acres, Rolling Hills Estate, Electric nearby, Water available. Hardy County. \$95,000.00. REDUCED \$89,900.00.
SGR296A 0.90 Acres w/1 Bedroom Townhouse w/Loft, Riverbend Gardens, Pool area, HOA fee, Corner Unit. NEW LISTING \$64,900.00.	SGR128 2-3 Bedroom Ranch w/Full Basement on 0.6386 Acres, more or less, Meyers Gap Rd, Sugar Grove District. NEW LISTING \$169,000.00 REDUCED \$149,900.00 REDUCED \$145,000.00.
SGR290A 0.82 Acres Raw Land located in Bethel District along US RT 33 East. Public Water available. \$15,000.00.	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.
SGR287A 0.20 Acres w/3 Bed, 1.5 Bath Doublewide Home, close to amenities. Franklin Corp., Pendleton County. NEW LISTING REDUCED \$400,000.00 REDUCED \$89,900.00.	SGR042 Five Unit Townhouse property located in Brandywine. Each unit has 2 Bedrooms, Baths, LR and Large Kitchen. Near National Forest for hunting and fishing. Perfect for retirement income, live in one and rent the others! \$399,000.00.
SGR282A 0.75 Acre Store Front/Residence located in Brandywine. Needs some TLC. \$85,000.00 \$69,000.00.	SGR441 Residential lots , public water, protective covenants and restrictions. Oak Flat Estates near Brandywine on Rte 33 East of Franklin. Lots for \$20,760.00.
SGR277A 17.81 Acres w/4 Bed, 3 Bath Home, 2-4 Car Garages, Hiking/ATV Well water w/deeded access to Spring, Sugar Grove District. Covenants & Restrictions apply. \$499,900.00 REDUCED \$469,900.00.	SGR247 Residential lots with town water, sewer & underground utilities. Protective covenants and restrictions. Franklin Airport Development. Lots for \$14,630.00.
SGR271A 1.84 Acres, Potomac Heights Subdivision, Williams Rd., Franklin District, Pendleton County, WV. \$14,000.00.	
SGR258B 3.42 Acres, w/3 Bed, 2 Bath Home. Sugar Grove District, Falcon Lane. \$259,000.00. REDUCED \$229,000.00.	

Exclusive to our readers, Santa shares some of his favorite letters from Pendleton County boys and girls this year.



Dear Santa,
Can you please give me these presents that I want for Christmas, please? I want a horse – one that can walk and I can ride on it and it walks around the house. I want a real big Barbie doll house and a Barbie that comes with puppies and it has a carrier for the puppies and the doll has different kinds of high heels. Nathaniel is mean to me a lot of times, but bring him five toys – that would be enough. My mom wants a candle lighter that smells. My dad he wants some new sandals that you slip in that have just the top on and you can see the toes in a big size. I'm going to get cookies that me and my mom has some in the refrigerator that we will bake for you for Christmas. And I'm going to put the cookies on a plate and put it on my daddy's toolbox that he has that's in the house. Then I think you'll get them and eat them, but I'm not going to set a trap for you. I'll probably sit five out for you.
Geneva
BES 1st Grade

Dear Santa,
I would like a skate board and a mountain goat for Christmas. I want a toy razor with a remote controller. I would like you to bring mom a Christmas speaker that glows in the dark so she can have it in her bedroom. Cody J wants a toy electric scooter that is small for him. I want you to bring our Tyler a kids helicopter that comes with a tank. Jayden wants a skate board and a goat too. When you went to get your deer that go up in the sky, did you see penguins and polar bears. I can't wait to see you Santa!
Jedidiah
NFES Kindergarten

Dear Santa,
I have a red-headed temper like my Papaw but Mommy and Mamaw still say I'm so sweet the rest of the time! I want some magnetic builders, some doll babies for me to cuddle, lots of stuff to draw on, and lots of toys to take apart and put back together.
Love,
Teagan
Tiny Tots

Dear Santa,
How do you eat all those cookies? Is Rudolph real? For Christmas, please bring me 7 Lego sets, a VR headset, and an Aquaman action figure. Bring Levi a VR headset and a new game for his Xbox 4. My mom needs new shoes and a new hair clip because she needs some and she only has one. Bring my dad a watch because he's always late sometimes. He might need a rubber band for his beard because his beard gets in the way sometimes. Please bring Greta a new collar and some more toys. I'll leave cookies and milk for you in the middle of the coffee table so Greta won't get to it.
Thank you, Santa!
Cooper
BES 1st Grade

Dear Santa,
Please can I have a kid four-wheeler and can you get us money so we can get my playhouse built and the old blue truck fixed and equipment and big trucks.
Thank You,
Trenton
FES 1A

Dear Santa,
I would like the new Hess Truck. I want the dog elf pet. I would like a firehouse like this one in town, also firetrucks.
Love,
Charles
FES 1B

Dear Santa,
I have been a nice girl. I want Santa to bring me a pair of shoes, a bundle of switches, a rug and a baby named Samuel.
Samantha S.
NFES Pre-K

Dear Santa,
For Christmas I want a pop it, a skateboard, and new scissors. My sister wants a new jacket, grandma needs a new pair of socks, and grandpa needs new underwear.
Ok thank you.
Jayden
NFES Kindergarten

Dear Santa,
I want a brother, a computer, a real shark to put in the pond!
Love,
Tearyn
BES PK

Dear Santa,
I want a play kitchen to cook. I would like for Jaxon to have a computer. I want a treasure box to put my junk in like we have in the classroom. Daddy wants baseballs cards and mommy pink band-aids for her job because she gets cut. I will leave you some cookies and milk and some carrots for your reindeer.
Love,
Titus S.
BES Kindergarten

Dear Santa,
Mommy and Daddy say I've been a good girl for them this year. I really want Play-doh ice cream and a baby doll. Please Santa! Also, I think my mom and dad want a big toilet from you this time.
Love,
Magnolia
Tiny Tots

Dear Santa,
I want a pink lion and a peacock! And a bird and a worm for the bird!
Love,
Lyla M.
FES Pre-KA

Dear Santa,
Please be nice. Please do not be mean. Please will you give me a toy egg? How many elves do you have? Please will you give me a stuffie fox? Please will you give me a brand new heart pillow?
Love,
Emma
FES 1A

Dear Santa,
How does your elf on the shelf lose magic when someone touches it? I would like a spa ticket for my mom. I would like a Gabby Doll House, a Play-doh ice cream truck, slime, and Lanky box plushies.
Love,
Lyndi C.
NFES 1st Grade

Dear Santa,
Even though I gave you a side eye at the National Christmas Tree event, I kind of like you. Please bring me some trucks and a school bus to play with!
Love,
Lucas
Tiny Tots

Dear Santa,
I have a present and I will give it to you, but I want to keep it and then when you come I'll put it by the Christmas tree and get it when I wake up. I want you to bring me a floaty suit with wings to float at the beach.
Love,
Wyatt
FES PKB

Dear Santa,
Merry Christmas! Can I have an orange whistle like Mrs. Wagoner? I want everything! My brother wants a new tractor.
Love,
Mason
FES PKB

Dear Santa,
I would like a set of Legos and a Lego motor. A real tablet would be nice. I also would like to have a remote-control airplane and a remote-control car and one for my brother. Please bring my dad and mom a hat. Oh, and bring my brother a chewy toy because he bites. A set of Hot Wheels would be nice.
Love,
Silas
FES KA

Dear Santa,
I would like the checkers board game, a big bathtub, a membership to the car wash, and crab legs.
Love,
Silas
FES KB

Dear Santa,
Could I have a hover board? I want a good Christmas. Please, could I have a water bottle? May I have an ice cream shop toy? Santa, have a good Christmas and give to all who are good.
Love,
Willow
FES 1A

Dear Santa,
I want a big bouncy castle and a Princess Doll. I'm pretty sure mommy needs new phone because I spilled coffee on it.
Love,
Mackenzie
FES PKB

Hi Santa,
I have been on green a lot of days. I want a toy named Black Panther, and I want a Transformer like my friend Benson has that transforms, and I want another eraser that looks like a Transformer that actually transforms. I also want my mommy to get a crib and baby toys for our new baby. I also want my mommy to get some gingerbread people so that the baby can play with them. Also, how did you get your white beard? I saw one movie where you had an orange beard and you were a baby and they called you a Cringle. And did Mrs. Cringle turn into Mrs. Santa Claus? That's all I wanted to say.
Thank you, Santa.
Jaxon
NFES Kindergarten

Dear Santa,
I want a toy kitchen for Christmas. And I really want my own cat. My big brother and big sister both have their own cat, and I just want my own kitten too. I probably want some new clothes. I also wanted to let you know that Tegan and Kali are on the naughty list but not Peanut, she's been nice. You could bring a comfy blanket for my mother and dad, and they are on the Nice List too.
Love, Evelyn C.
FES Pre-KA

Dear Santa,
Do the reindeer like carrots? Santa, please and thank you. Will you get me a horse? I love you. What color is your favorite? I love Santa. Santa, please and thank you. Will you get me a baby doll?
Love,
Braylee
FES 1A

Dear Santa,
Santa! Santa! Why do your elves come every year? How many elves do you have? I would like a hoverboard, WWE toys, camera man toys, a BEST Lab, and a hunting set.
Love,
Benson H.
NFES 1st Grade

Dear Santa,
I would like a science kit.
Love,
Eve
FES 1B

Dear Santa,
I want a baby doll that has shoes on and you can take them off. You can put this baby doll to sleep and put it in a stroller. It's at Walmart. Daddy and mommy just don't want presents because they are parents. Leo wants trucks and baby dolls and Tori wants a unicorn and LOL dollhouse. Micki wants a LOL doll and Squishmallows at Family Dollar. We have carrots for your reindeer like we did at granddaddy Rich's house and we saw you and the reindeer out the window.
Love,
Ali C.
BES Kindergarten

Dear Santa,
I have been a good boy this year. Please bring me balls that I can throw. I would like a busy board with buckles I can snap. I love putting buckles together at daycare on high chairs especially when they don't need to be buckled!
Love,
Samuel M.
Tiny Tots





Letters to Santa...

Forwarded directly from the North Pole, we're pleased to brighten the holiday season by reprinting some of Santa's favorite letters from Pendleton County children in day care, preschool, kindergarten and first grade.

Dear Santa,
What does your elves do when it's summer? How does your elves get everything for all the kids? How do you get in our house because both of our doors are locked? I want a Nintendo switch for Christmas. Please bring me the Tiger Shark RC car and a gel blaster. My sister would also like a Nintendo Switch, too, and Switch games for both of us. Get Bailey an X-Box with a controller and Faith wants some babies. I will leave cookies and milk for you.
Thank you, Santa!
Wyatt C.
BES 1st Grade

Dear Santa,
Has Mrs. Claus made any cookies yet? I can't wait for it to be Christmas! What I want for Christmas is Pokemons, a toy tractor, and Optimus Prime. Please bring my brother a toy tractor, farm cows, and square baler. Bring my mommy a picture of me and her and bring my daddy a new computer. I always leave cookies and milk out for you. Thank you, Santa!
Wyatt H.
BES 1st Grade

Dear Santa,
Are you ready for Christmas? How are your reindeer? There's a bunch of stuff I want for Christmas, but it's expensive. I'd like a new Nintendo game – it's Super Mario Odyssey. There's another Pokemon game I want and it's Pokemon Sword and Shield. Mom already got a new vacuum for her Christmas present, but will you please bring her a candle? My dad needs a new hat. All my sisters want is money. I will give you cookies and milk.
Merry Christmas and thank you!
Lucas C.
BES 1st Grade

Dear Santa,
I want Ultron, Fin from Star Wars, and Death Star the Rebel Cub. Bring daddy a new gun and mommy needs a new ring. Brody wants a PS 2 with a Lego game.
Bentley
BES 1st Grade

Dear Santa,
Are you gonna be here for Christmas soon? First, for my momma, she needs a new pillow. My cousin Aubrey wants a Barbie boat and for my little cousin, he wants a dinosaur. My baby cousin should get a little teddy bear so he can snuggle with it at night. And the dogs, I want to give them a chewy toy so they don't have to chew on us! I would like to have a Barbie house. Also Aubrey wants a Barbie house, too. And I think also Liam wants a car where there's a dinosaur and the dinosaur eats the car. For Kyra, bring ear plugs because her kids are loud. For me, I also want a car that has a back seat, how about a van, like the Barbie camper? I'm gonna give you some chocolate chip cookies and some chocolate milk because you love sugar and some carrots for your reindeer! I'll also leave out a picture from me and Aubrey.
Thank you, Santa, and Merry Christmas to all!
Ho! Ho! Ho!
Alani
BES 1st Grade

Dear Santa,
Merry Christmas! Thank you! Please bring me some things for hunting like a hunting coat, a .223, and a sniper Nerf gun, and a .22-250. My mom wants a new ring and my dad wants a 300 because his is very, very old – I can tell. My sister likes babies and my brother likes really, really Nerf guns. There will be milk and some snacks for you at my house.
Thank you!
Lukas K.
BES 1st Grade

Dear Santa,
Are you ready for Christmas?
For Christmas, I want a mini dirt bike, an iPhone, and a helmet for my dirt bike. My brother, Bryant, needs some baby food, a teether, and clothes. Cameron needs a helmet and a dirt bike. Bring some clothes and new shoes for TJ. For my dad, bring some pants. My mom needs some clothes. There will be cookies and milk for you. Thank you!
Colton
BES 1st Grade

Dear Santa,
How have you been? Can you please give me the LOL house and a Gabby doll? Please bring my mommy earrings and bring my daddy a coffee cup because he drives a long way to work. Bring my baby brother a basketball toy and some Bluey sheets.
Thank you, Santa!
Annabelle
BES 1st Grade

Dear Santa,
Are you ready for Christmas? Do you like Christmas? For Christmas, I would like to have Pokemon cards, an X-Box, and a sniper gun. Bring a babydoll for Quinley and a stuffed animal for Hadie. Bring baby stuff for my mom. My dad needs cooking stuff. I will leave milk and cookies for you!
Thank you, Santa!
Hunter
BES 1st Grade

Dear Santa,
How are you? Are you ready for Christmas? Please bring me a Play Station, an Apple phone, and a Hot Wheels race track with cars. Bring my brother a stuffed kitty. Annabelle would like to have a tablet. Bring my mom a tablet, too. My dad needs a new watch.
Thank you!
Ben
BES 1st Grade

Dear Santa,
Please bring me a PS5, a Nintendo Switch, and metal football people. I will leave chocolate chip cookies and milk for you. Bring cat toys and cat food for our cats. Make sure it's wet cat food, the sloppy kind, because they don't like dry cat food.
Romeo
BES 1st Grade



Dear Santa,
I love you! You are the best! Please bring me a real computer, a fire tablet, and a two-door Ford truck that I can ride in that is grey. Bring Elizabeth some Pokemon cards. My dad wants more pants, probably. Mommy needs hugs and kisses from me. I will leave cookies and milk for you and carrots for the reindeer.
Thank you!
Jacob
BES 1st Grade

Dear Santa,
I love you! You give the best gifts to people! Please bring me a new phone because mine is broken, a new tablet because mine always freezes in the middle when I'm trying to play a race, and a new blanket with something Christmasy and Halloweeny on it.
Thank you! I'll leave milk and cookies for you!
Skylar
BES 1st Grade

Dear Santa,
I want a Batman car and a Batman gun. My daddy wants a truck.
Love,
Traycen D.
BES Kindergarten

Dear Santa,
I love you, Santa! I would like a toy dinosaur. Sissy will definitely want a baby doll. Mommy likes flowers. Daddy would like candy when he wakes up. He likes M&M's. I will leave you milk and cookies. Merry Christmas!
Love,
Wyatt R.
BES Kindergarten

Dear Santa,
I want basketball shoes so I can go outside and play basketball with my dad and brother. Dad would like some sunglasses and mommy would like shampoo. Addy would like a stuffed animal and Cayden wants a basketball.
Love,
Dylan H.
BES Kindergarten

Dear Santa,
I want magic mixes and a LOL car. I would like a fake vanity with pretend makeup too. I know Wyatt wants a race track. Mommy wants Stitch and Horses. Daddy needs tools to fix his car. I will make you some star shaped cookies and leave you some milk.
Love,
Karma C.
BES Kindergarten

Dear Santa,
I would like a Monster truck car wash. Actually, I need a new jacket. My sister needs a new jacket too. Ben has a lot of stuff but bring him a surprise. You could bring mommy some new clothes and daddy a hat.
Love,
Nathan P.
BES Kindergarten

Dear Santa,
I want some blue shirts and new words like we do in school because I like them. Mommy would like a new phone and bring daddy a new hat.
Love,
Carter B.
BES Kindergarten



From Our Home to Yours
MERRY CHRISTMAS

As we gather with friends and family during this joyous season, let us not forget a CHRISTMAS WISH and a PRAYER for those serving in far away lands to protect the FREEDOM we cherish.

CMI

Merry Christmas
AND HAPPY NEW YEAR



and a round of best wishes to our many good friends this holiday season. Thanks for spending time with us in 2023 and we look forward to serving you in the coming year!

The Highlands at Fisher Mountain

Dear Santa,
I want a race car track.
Bring Bryce some Michael
Jordan shoes. Carolina
wants a hot tub. Bring dad
a new phone because his is
kind of broke. Bring mom a
pink shirt.
Love,
Braxton K.
BES Kindergarten

Dear Santa,
I want a real computer, a real
phone, a Barbie, sand, slime
and LOL doll!
Love,
Alyssa
BES PK

Dear Santa,
I want a remote-control pink
car!
Love,
Carly
BES PK

Dear Santa,
I like you! I would like
"Grannie Don't Wake Her
Up". I saw it on a commer-
cial. I would like Let's play
gator golf. Mommy would
like a ring and daddy works
on cars so he would like
some tools.
Love,
Miner H.
BES Kindergarten

Dear Santa,
I want a real computer, a real
phone, a real fire truck and
real books!
Love,
Cohen
BES PK

Dear Santa,
I want a Barbie doll and a toy
treasure box!
Love,
Liz
BES PK

Dear Santa,
I want a dinosaur cage and
a toy fish. Emma would like
Barbie dolls. Bring mommy
a cup for her coffee and
bring tools to work on cars.
I love you!
Malcolm G.
BES Kindergarten

Dear Santa,
I want a daddy, mommy,
sister and brother airplane!
Love,
Liam
BES PK

Dear Santa,
Bring Wyatt some Pokemon
cards. Bring me a red angus
bull. I'll put it in our collec-
tion. Bring mommy some
clothes and daddy a WV
shirt.
Love,
Cayson H.
BES Kindergarten

Dear Santa,
I want a remote-control car!
Love,
Wyatt
BES PK

Dear Santa,
I want an X-box, Barbie, a lot
of Barbies!
Love,
Madelyn
BES PK

Dear Santa,
I want lizard toy and my
brother wants a monster
truck. Mommy wants
rainbow flowers and daddy
needs tools so he can work.
That's all!
Love,
Reighlynn E.
BES Kindergarten

Dear Santa,
I want different kinds of
dinosaurs!
Love,
Luke
BES PK

Dear Santa,
I want a magnifying lens!
Love,
Gwen
BES PK

Dear Santa,
I want a truck and stuff and
a Christmas tree!
Love,
Trevor
BES PK

Dear Santa,
I want a dress, candy and a
toy!
Love,
Raylee
BES PK

Dear Santa,
I want a Barbie house and a
Cinderella dress!
Love,
Aubrey
BES PK

Dear Santa,
I want a snow tube and
Legos!
Love,
Tyler
BES PK

Dear Santa,
I want a remote-control
dump truck and excavator!
Love,
Alexander
BES PK

Dear Santa,
I want a remote-control car
that can roll over and a lot of
stuff!
Love,
Isaiah
BES PK

Dear Santa,
I want a new brother, derby
cars and a dump truck with
real sand!
Love,
Brantley
BES PK

Dear Santa,
Santa, do you have a baby
reindeer? I want a four-
wheeler. Please! I want a
choker. Thank you! I want a
pair of black pants. Thank
you. I want Kool-Aid.
Thank you!
Love,
Kinley
FES 1A

Dear Santa,
Santa, can I please have
pets? Dear Santa, can I
please have a fan? Dear
Santa, can I please have a
pink pen, unicorn, and toys
for my dogs?
Love,
Zoe
FES 1A

Dear Santa,
I want an Xbox. Thank
you. I want a four-wheeler.
Thank you. I want a puppy.
Thank you. I want a gas-
powered weed eater. Thank
you. I want a hunting place.
Thank you. I want a chair
for a six-year-old.
Thank you,
Hendrix
FES 1A

Dear Santa,
Please give me a Xbox, a
Mr. Bee's hoodie, and an
Animatronic costume.
Love,
Alastor
FES 1A

Dear Santa,
Do you like cookies? Do
your reindeer eat candy
canes? How many elves do
you have? What is your
job Santa? I would like a
Transformer and Legos.
Love,
Kaisen
FES 1A

Dear Santa,
Please may I have anything
wolf related?
Love,
Jameson
FES 1A

Dear Santa,
Can I please have a snow
globe? Can I have a cat? Can
I have a teacher doll? Can
I have a math book? Can I
have a coloring book? Can I
have a notebook? Please and
thank you!
Love,
Aubrey
FES 1A

Dear Santa,
Can I please have a real
puppy? Do you have a baby
reindeer? Thank you for be-
ing a great person! Have a
nice year!
Love,
Payton
FES 1A

Dear Santa,
Please can I have two Christ-
mas Tree seeds and Christ-
mas tree ornaments?
Thank You,
Maci
FES 1A

Dear Santa,
Can I please have a pink toy
car and a Santa book and a
snow globe and a blue toy car
and a puppy and a cat and a
book. Thank you Santa!
Love,
Anasen
FES 1A

Dear Santa,
Please can I have an Xbox
and also a blue and white
and black bike? I want a real
puppy Chihuahua please.
I would like a hoverball,
please. Please can I have an
Apple Watch? I want 10,000
dollars please. Thank you,
Santa! I also want Minecraft
clothes, a cop car, and a po-
lice motorcycle, please.
Love,
Jase
FES 1A

Dear Santa,
Can you please bring me a
thermometer, keys, a new
phone, a remote controlled
car, Xbox, stapler, and an
alarm clock. Thank you!
Love,
Devlan
FES 1A

Dear Santa,
I would like a big, red, out-
side tractor please.
Love,
Rylan
FES 1A

Dear Santa,
I want an American Girl
Doll, a new kitchen set,
and a new baby doll.
Love,
Evealynn
FES 1B

Dear Santa,
I want a puppy, toy cars,
Match Box, and kinetic
sand.
Love,
Lane
FES 1B

Dear Santa,
I want a remote-control
truck, Hot Wheels cars,
and a remote-control trac-
tor.
Love,
Jonah
FES 1B


Dear Santa,
I will leave cookies for
you. I want Pokémon, a
kitchen set, and a little
binder.
Love,
Paisley
FES 1B

Dear Santa,
I would like a new bike,
because mine is too
small. Please get my little
brother a new Spiderman.
I think my big brother
would like a VR set. For
my big sister, bring her
the new iPhone 15.
Love,
Cash
FES 1B

Dear Santa,
I want a four-wheeler, a
gold necklace, and a new
phone.
Love,
Kane
FES 1B

Dear Santa,
I want a toy car 57 and a
big toy truck.
Love,
Bryer
FES 1B

Dear Santa,
I want a VR headset, a
beast lab, and an Xbox.
Love,
Kylan
FES 1B



It's a season for reflection,
hope and gratitude too,
and we hope the warmth of its spirit
touches each and every one of you.

With our thanks and best wishes.

**Yokum's
Store & Vacationland**

Seneca Rocks 304.567.2351

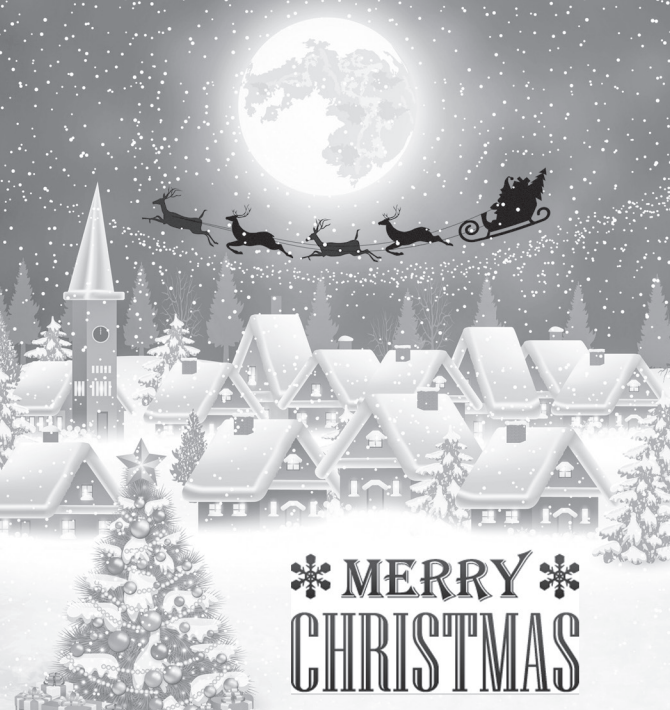
**Customers Like You Lift
Our Spirits All Year Long!**



Thanks for making 2023 so much fun for us.
We look forward to taking care of you
in the New Year.

Merry Christmas & Best Wishes!

Bowers Garage & Body Shop
Sugar Grove and Brandywine



**MERRY
CHRISTMAS**

The holiday spirit is in the air and we hope the joy and
goodwill of the season fill your heart and soul with gladness.

**PENDLETON COUNTY
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**




Wishing You Joys
Big & Small All
Holiday Season

With our thanks
for your friendship and support,
we hope you have a Merry Christmas!

**COUNTRY ROADS
COLLISION**
EST. 2020

105 Arlie Lane
Brandywine
304-249-2109

**Feel the Joy!
Share the
Spirit!**



Hugs and wishes at
Christmastime to everyone
who has made our year
so very merry!

Being around friendly folks like you brings us joy
each and every day, and we're grateful to be a
part of this community. Thanks for sharing your
smiles and support with us. We hope you have a
perfectly wonderful holiday season!

**HARTMAN'S
SERVICE STATION**
Mark, Vickie, Katie & Holly

Dear Santa,
I want a bunch of toys for my sister and for me too.
Love,
Ciara
FES 1B

Dear Santa,
I want my Mommy to have flowers. I would like a Nerf Gun, remote control race-car, clothes, VBucks, and a headphone set.
Love,
Solomyn
FES 1B

Dear Santa,
I want a unicorn headphone set.
Love,
Harlyn
FES 1B

Dear Santa,
I want a scooter, a doctor kit, and a Woody doll.
Love,
Madelyn
FES 1B

Dear Santa,
I like trucks! I want a tablet and monster trucks.
Love,
Bryson
FES 1B

Dear Santa,
I want a big fluffy unicorn pillow and a flip phone.
Love,
Charlize
FES 1B

Dear Santa,
I want a cat stuffed animal.
Love,
Cambri
FES 1B



Dear Santa,
I want a real tablet. I want rings and a picture of Mrs. Flanigan. I also want a picture of Jacob because I don't have one for my room.
Love,
Jaylynn
FES KA

Dear Santa,
I want Nerf guns and remote-control trucks.
Love,
Colin
FES KA

Dear Santa,
I want new Halloween roller skates and an LOL Ball. And I want a unicorn pillow, Gabby House, and one more thing, a kitchen set.
Love,
Violet
FES KA

Dear Santa,
I want for Christmas a doll and I want a board that you can paint on. That's what I want.
Love,
Gia
FES KA

Dear Santa,
I want snow! I want toys. I have been good.
Love,
Hugh
FES KA

Dear Santa,
I want a LOL. I want a doll and I want roller skates. And I want a toy horse, toy cow, and I want a cowgirl.
Love,
Norie
FES KA

Dear Santa,
I want an electric scooter, RC Truck, skateboard, a barrow wheel that you sit on then you drive it, an X-Box, and that's all.
Love,
Waylon
FES KA

Dear Santa,
I want a girl remote control car. Maybe Colin would like one too. I would also like a rainboney thing that makes noise and you keep flipping it over.
Love,
Macie
FES KA

Dear Santa,
I want a jeep, a real one! I'd like to have a card punch. I also want some markers with colors. I would also like to have a couple of robots that fight. I want dump trucks and tractors that can haul and dump some rocks. I want a T-Rex dinosaur, and a car that drives. I will leave milk and cookies out for Santa to have.
Love,
Colt
FES KA

Dear Santa,
I want a phone. It has to be an iPhone 14. I also want a toy car that's remote control and a tractor and trailer toy because I love toys! I need a pair of new shoes size 13. I want them striped with black and orange and I also want new American Flag boots like Lucas and Colt's. I also want a picture of Mrs. Flanigan, and my picture with Santa with all of my brothers and sisters.
Love,
Cannon
FES KA

Dear Santa,
I want an airplane. I want a hat. I want things to make crafts. I will leave you milk and cookies.
Love,
Bryer
FES KA

Dear Santa,
I want a baby doll, Legos, and barbies.
Love,
Makinley
FES KA

Dear Santa,
I would like a four wheeler, side-by-side, new hunting clothes, and Minecraft.
Love,
Lucas
FES KA

Wishing You

from
Grant Memorial Hospice



Dear Santa,
I would like a tablet, stuff to play school, a craft set, a pink ball, a baby doll, Barbies, a stroller for babies and a toy cow and reindeer.
Love,
Harper
FES KB

Dear Santa,
I would like to have a Power Ranger robot and a black widow spider that is a remote control.
Love,
Alby
FES KB

Dear Santa,
I would like a ring for mommy, a bb gun for bubby, a police car, a fire truck, and a small ambulance.
Love,
Mason
FES KB

Dear Santa,
I am asking for LOL dolls, princess books, sticky notes, and stuff to play school.
Love,
Carlea
FES KB

Dear Santa,
I would like to have a fake deer for my room, a real blue four-wheeler, a little toy tractor with a trailer, and play tools.
Love,
Ryan
FES KB

Dear Santa,
I would like a rainbow filled with slime, a stuffed puppy dog, and a big marker set.
Love,
Jada
FES KB

Dear Santa,
I am asking for a Barbie dream house, a yellow dress, and a Barbie that changes colors.
Love,
Genevieve
FES KB

Dear Santa,
I would like to have a Grinch costume, Transformer toys, and the new ninja turtle toys.
Love,
Ruger
FES KB

Dear Santa,
I would like truck toys, tractors, hay bales, fences, and small farm animals.
Love,
Jordan
FES KB

Dear Santa,
I would love to have a tablet, a Barbie playset, a painting set, a baby doll stroller, a Barbie watch, a unicorn Squishmallow and a lunch box.
Love,
Hallie
FES KB

Dear Santa,
I am asking for a Mario watch and a Squishmallow.
Love,
Raiden
FES KB

Dear Santa,
I would like a toy police car, a monster truck, a tool set for my brother and I, a shirt for mommy, new Crocs for daddy, and a baby doll for Ava. A Christmas tree for me and my siblings to decorate. I will leave cookies and milk for you.
Love,
Jaxson
FES KB

Dear Santa,
I am asking for picture things for mommy. A volcano and Hot Wheels.
Love,
Richie
FES KB

Dear Santa,
I would like to have a piano, arts and crafts items, a toy mouse for my kitties, and a book about kittens.
Love,
Addyson
FES KB

Dear Santa,
I like you a bunch. I want Ladybug Saves Paris. I like butterflies with flowers.
Love,
Brielle
FES PKB

Dear Santa,
I want princess stuff and I want blue heart earrings and I want new slippers. Jonah wants remote control trucks and team Hot Wheels and mom wants new garden stuff. I'm not sure what dad wants, that's all.
Love,
Olivia
FES PKB

Dear Santa,
I love you Santa and I love you forever and please bring me a hospital with an ambulance.
Love,
Catherine
FES PKB

Dear Santa,
I kinda like the candy pull thing. My brother, I think he wants that little cartoon that we run down the ramp. I think that's all.
Love,
Naomi
FES PKB

Dear Santa,
Ok, I want something that is great for me and a note for me so mommy can read it.
Love,
Kinsley
FES PKB

Dear Santa,
How do you fly?
Love,
Marlee
FES PKB

Dear Santa,
I want a mighty boat, nothing else. I want a car to ride in like the Mighty Pup movie. It's Paw Patrol.
Love,
Marcus
FES PKB

Dear Santa,
I want a fire truck and Pokemon cards. My brothers want Pokemon cards too.
Love,
Oliver
FES PKB

HO HO HO

May your Christmas be merry, bright and magical in every way.

Thanks for your support in 2023!

Jerry L. Lambert Construction Co.
WV#027848
Jerry, Sheila & Chris

May Faith and Love Light Your Heart, Home and Spirit

Dr. Terry & Sonja Harper and Misty

Ho Ho HOME!

Hope the Holidays Fill Your Home With Joy From Floor to Rafter!

Thanks to all of our friends and clients for making 2023 an outstanding year for us. We wish all of our customers, neighbors and friends, Merry Christmas and best wishes for a happy, healthy year ahead.

Laurel Hill CONSTRUCTION

JAY NESSELRODT
304-668-2172
304-358-2742

Merry Christmas

With appreciation for your friendship and patronage, we wish you a warm and wonderful holiday. Customers like you have really made our year special. Thank you and have a blessed Christmas season!

JAMES RIVER EQUIPMENT

1332 Garbers Church Road, Harrisonburg, VA 22801
(540) 434-4457 (800) 900-8970

Dear Santa,
I'll leave you cookies outside on the chair and can you bring me a robot named Power Ranger and a monster truck that crawls and turns like I want it to go the way. I'll leave milk with your cookies and I love you Santa.

Love,
Rhett
FES PKB

Dear Santa,
I want the talking McQueen, he talks!

Love,
Connor
FES PKB

Dear Santa,
Me want B Bucks for Fortnite, a battle pass, and Spiderman toys. Landon wants B bucks too. Me want big guns cause my brother has big guns. Dad wants real guns. Mom wants girl stuff. That's it!

Love,
Landon
FES PKB

Dear Santa,
I want a Spiderman football, a Spiderman car and I'm going to drive it.

Love,
Ethan
FES PKB

Dear Santa,
I want a big truck, a puzzle, a real big cat, and a big chainsaw like Daddy's.

Love,
Gabriel
FES PKC

Dear Santa,
I would like to have a white truck, two ducks, and more Mickey Mouses.

Love,
Willie
FES PKC

Dear Santa,
I love Spidey and want Spidey toys and clothes.

Love,
Brayden
FES PKC

Dear Santa,
I want water animals and dinosaurs. And Pokémon cards because I saw one at home and it was kinda rare and a rare thing means its super special and I want a Bluey house too.

And my name is Cayde so you know me.

Love,
FES Pre-KA

Dear Santa,
I want an airplane, a toy one. Ummmm, and a Yo-Yo! And I guess hmmm, I want a doll.

Love,
Arlo B.
FES Pre-KA

Dear Santa,
I love you! I want you to bring me a robot. And bring my mom and dad card. My mommy likes green and blue so just give her a blue card because she really loves blue. I love you with love,
Juniper B.
FES Pre-KA

Dear Santa,
I want a tractor and I want a princess. A Rapunzel princess. And a Merida princess.

Love,
Layla D.
FES Pre-KA

Hi Santa,
My name is Mason and I want Ninja Turtles...the new ones. And I want socks-Christmas socks and Christmas pants and Christmas candy! Make sure you go around the big turn and then up the hill and you'll be at my house!

Love,
Mason
FES Pre-KA

Dear Santa,
I want Troll stuff and Bluey Stuff! Mayne Sissy wants some new Legos! Bring my mommy and daddy a vacation!

Love,
Addisynn C.
FES Pre-KA

Dear Santa,
I just need a cattle trailer and some stuff and that's a whole bunch because I love a whole bunch of stuff. And I want a My Puppy's home. And it's like a toy and I think the puppy should come with it but I don't know for sure. Maybe a toy rainbow for mommy and daddy-they can just have the same thing I guess.

Love,
Liam K.
FES Pre-KA

Dear Santa,
I want a baby doll and Barbie fingernails!

Love,
Brielle M.
FES Pre-KA

Dear Santa,
Ok, ok so I want a Transformer, and Play-Doh, and some Legos! And just a new kitchen, a play kitchen. And a play ice cream truck and that's all! Tell your Reindeer I like them. I like them all! I'll leave them a Reindeer snack when you come to my house.

Love,
Keraun N.
FES Pre-KA

Dear Santa,
Bring me a present—like a Grinch toy. He has a dog named Max. I want to give you a hug. Bring daddy a present too and bring mommy a purple hairbrush. I want some Hey Dudes-those are shoes and Lego Dinosaurs...a Spinosaurus ...that's the biggest one in the world it's bigger than the T-Rex! I want a Rapture Lego too.

Love,
Easton S.
FES Pre-KA

Dear Santa,
Well I know I really really want the Barbie Camper and a lot of puzzles!

Love,
Sylvie D.
FES Pre-KA

Dear Santa,
I want a Barbie Camper with Barbie dolls! I really like a Barbie with green hair for it! And I want a car with food with it and I like a toy computer! And I want a Mickey Mouse stuffy and a Ms. Wilis doll that's like her. And a baby shark toy! And I think a grocery store and a camper for my Barbie and a car for my Barbies! OH, and I live in West Virginia!

Love,
Amelia A.
FES Pre-KA

Dear Santa,
Ho, Ho, Ho! I like Mickey Mouse and a ball!

Love,
Carter S.
Pre-KA

Dear Santa,
I want you to have a Happy Christmas and I love you! I want horse and an airplane and truck and a thing to pull the horse with and a dad horse and a mom horse and a baby horse and a sister horse and the dad horse will be big and the baby horse won't be big so make it little. Make Dani a card because she will like that!

Love,
Charlee H.
FES Pre-KA

Dear Santa,
Thank you for the toys. I would like a Xbox and WWE toys. Please bring my mom a box necklace. Can I have a picture of the reindeer by your sleigh?

Love,
Easton J.
NFES 1st Grade

Dear Santa,
Thank you for the toys. Santa you are so nice. I have been good this year. I want a Xbox, Nintendo Switch, a race car, and a hover board.

Love,
Israel M.
NFES 1st Grade

Dear Santa,
I tried to be good this year. Can I please have a real car, LOLsurprise, and stuffed unicorn? Can I also have a plush reindeer that has a button that we can push and then its nose glows? My brother would like a reindeer plushy like me. My dad would like a new car. My mom would like make-up, perfume, and nail polish.

Love,
Marley K.
NFES 1st Grade

Dear Santa,
I have been good this year. I would like a trampoline, hoverboard, RC car, WWE toys, excavator Legos, Barbie doll, punch bag, and a stuffed dog. Can I have a picture of your reindeer and sleigh?

Love,
Hurikane T.
NFES 1st Grade

Dear Santa,
I have been good this year. Thank you for the toys. I will be thankful for a doll, a trampoline, a horse, and a dirt bike.

Love,
Ellie H.
NFES 1st Grade

Dear Santa,
You are so nice, Santa. Thank you for giving me presents. I have been a good girl this year. I would like a make-up stand like my sister. I love you, Santa.

Love,
Aniah H.
NFES 1st Grade

Dear Santa,
I have been good this year. I would like a Xbox, a stuffed animal, a Barbie Doll, WWE toys, an iPhone, a make-up center, and Skippity Toilet like Benson.

Love,
Makenna B.
NFES 1st Grade

Dear Santa,
Santa, can I please have make-up. I have been good. I am giving you a present in return. I would also like a doll, RC car, and Xbox. Thank you for the toys. My brother wants a knife. My granddad wants a TV. My aunt wants a dog. David wants a stress toy.

Love,
Allison N.
NFES 1st Grade

Dear Santa,
Thank you for giving me presents. I have been good this year. I want a Nintendo, tractors, and excavator toy.

Love,
Ashton K.
NFES 1st Grade

Dear Santa,
Thank you for the toys. I will be thankful for Nintendo Switch, WWE toys, Xbox, dinosaurs, and fortnite toys.

Love,
Mason S.
NFES 1st Grade

Dear Santa,
I have been good this year. I want a trampoline, Xbox, tractors, Nintendo Switch, and a dirt bike.

Love,
Hunter
NFES 1st Grade



Warmest Wishes from
Pill Box Pharmacy!

Pill Box PHARMACY
Franklin (304) 358-2887
Harman (304) 227-3661

PENDLETON Community Care, Inc.
Franklin • Pendleton Community Care
Riverton • North Fork Primary Care
Harman • Harman Health Center

Christmas
THE SAVIOR IS BORN

Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests. - Luke 2:14

May your home be filled with the peace of Christ this holiday season.

PENDLETON MANOR

All faiths or beliefs are welcome.

Season's Greetings

We appreciate you calling on us this year!

WITH OUR
APPRECIATION
DURING THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

Merry Christmas

FROM ALL OF US AT PENDLETON COMMUNITY CARE, INC.

PENDLETON Community Care, Inc.
Franklin • Pendleton Community Care
Riverton • North Fork Primary Care
Harman • Harman Health Center

Dear Santa,
Thank you for giving me presents. You are nice every year. My family and I give you cookies. I want an iPhone, Nintendo Switch, and a make-up center.
Love,
Delaney T.
NFES 1st Grade

Dear Santa,
Thank you for giving me presents. I want a trampoline, skateboard, WWE toys, and a dinosaur.
Love,
Nicholas J.
NFES 1st Grade

Dear Santa,
You are nice. I would like a trampoline and dinosaurs.
Love,
Blake L.
NFES 1st Grade

Dear Santa,
Thank you for giving me presents. I have been good this year. I would like a doll, a hoverboard, trampoline, iPhone, and a Xbox.
Love,
Nathalie C.
NFES 1st Grade

Dear Santa,
Thank you for giving presents to me. Thank you for the toys. You are nice. I would like a gymnastics bar. Skye probably wants fidgets.
Love,
Oakley D.
NFES 1st Grade

Dear Santa,
Can I please have Pancake block? I need a new sticker for my chromebook. My dad needs a new headset. Ava needs a new pillowcase. Mommy needs a new phone case. Daddy needs more fire wood.
Love,
Gauge E.
NFES 1st Grade

Dear Santa,
Can I please have a motorcycle toy? I would like a pulling truck too. You can bring my daddy jumper cables, a knife, and knife sharpener. Chloe wants a new bucky. Mawmaw wants a new pillowcase.
Love,
Braxton B.
NFES 1st Grade



Dear Santa,
I would like a toy gun for Christmas, but just a toy one. I think I want a tractor too. I only want two toys. I want to tell you that I have been good. I think Daddy would like a real gun for Christmas and I think my sister wants a dog Squishmallow and a unicorn Squishmallow too.
Thank you.
Waylonn
NFES Kindergarten

Dear Santa,
I would like a John Deere toy Skidder like the one daddy drives, a log truck, and a robot. Maybe you could bring my mommy a ring, maybe a new pair of boots for daddy, and then you can bring my brothers and sisters shoes.
Thank you.
Timber
NFES Kindergarten

Dear Santa,
I am going to leave you cookies and milk. I would like Barbie Dreamhouse pool party dollhouse, LOL surprise doll and Barbie Chelsea Friend Doll. Daddy needs more hats and shoes. Grandma Shirley needs more cowgirl boots and dresses. Delanie wants the Barbie camper set. Leah needs a bucket of coal.
Love,
Gracie
NFES Kindergarten

Dear Santa,
What's your favorite cookie? I'll leave you some. I would like a Barbie camper, some make up and a princess castle. Bryer wants a remote-control monster truck. Gavin wants balloons. I want mommy to have a necklace. Daddy needs a hammer. Chelsea wants a hoverboard. Aniah wants a doll. I love you and Merry Christmas!
Love,
Haleigh
NFES Kindergarten

Dear Santa,
Are you ready for Christmas? I can't wait! I would like a Barbie dream camper, a "My puppy's home!" (I was going to get this at the store but it would have taken all my money) and LOL bubble surprise. Baby Kade needs a shirt. Jace and Brandon need an apple watch. Mommy needs a new phone cause she keeps dropping it. Mimi needs some earrings. Pappy needs another hat. Merry Christmas, I love you!
Love,
Cambrie
NFES Kindergarten

Dear Santa,
I want Santa to get me a boat and a man to go in the boat. I'm going to give the reindeer chocolate chip cookies.
Elijah P.
NFES Pre-K

Dear Santa,
I have been nice this year. I want Santa to get me a train, tracks for the train to run on, and wood for the train to haul.
Shepard P.
NFES Pre-K

Dear Santa,
I want some Magna Tiles, toy kitchen set, colored pencils and Slime. I have been good. Maybe my mom and I will make cookies for you.
Bowen E.
NFES Pre-K

Dear Santa,
I'm being good Santa. I want Ninja Turtles, hunting stuff, Spiderman toys and Ninja Turtle masks! I will leave Santa some cookies and milk. I will leave the reindeer some carrots.
Brody N.
NFES Pre-K

Dear Santa,
I want a hair salon, make-up set, cry baby, a lot of baby dolls, toy train, puzzles and a wooden kitchen set. I will leave presents for Santa.
Skyler S.
NFES Pre-K

Dear Santa,
I have been a nice boy. I want some Play-Doh, toy kitchen, a toy rifle, toy trucks and a toy phone. I'm going to leave Santa a present. I will leave the reindeer some apples.
Russell W.
NFES Pre-K

Dear Santa,
I have been nice this year. I want a purple bunny, magnets and a book. I will leave a cookie for Santa and an apple for the reindeer.
Ivy H.
NFES Pre-K

Dear Santa,
I have been nice this year. I want Santa to bring me race cars, toys, magnets, Legos and coloring books. I will leave the reindeer water to drink.
Elias C.
NFES Pre-K

Dear Santa,
I have been nice this year. I want Mario, a toy car and a new bed. I will write you a note Santa.
Takota K.
NFES Pre-K



Dear Santa,
I've been a very good helper with my baby brother, Santa. Please bring me the Butterfly Ballerina Minnie Mouse plush toy. Can you bring presents for my baby brother that I can play with, too?
Love,
Lela
Tiny Tots

Dear Santa,
I've been a good boy! I would like to have some monster trucks and the giant Military Copter Playset, please Santa.
Love,
Greydon
Tiny Tots

Dear Santa,
I try to be very good for my mommy and daddy. I would like lots and lots of toys this year!
Love,
Bentlee
Tiny Tots

Dear Santa,
I am so excited for Christmas! Can you please bring me lots of Gabby's Dollhouse toys this year?
Love,
Josie
Tiny Tots

Dear Santa,
This year can you please bring me a 13" talking Bluey Plush toy, Bluey Family and Friends Plush toy, Frozen Fashion Doll and the Butterfly Ballerina Minnie Mouse plush, too?
Love,
Amaryllis
Tiny Tots

Dear Santa,
For Christmas I want Trolls Best Friend Pack, Disney Princess Magical Adventures, and a castle. Please bring my sisters and brother some toys, too!
Love,
Nova
Tiny Tots

Dear Santa,
I would really like to have the Rubble and Max action figure set and the Bluey's Bingo talking set. We will leave some cookies and milk for you, Santa.
Love,
Braxton
Tiny Tots

Dear Santa,
I'm very excited to see you this year. I would like you to bring a dog toy for Honey, baby toys for my little brother, lipstick for my mom and a taco Christmas ornament from Amazon for my Pap. For me, please bring a new Dually Truck and some wooden blocks to haul around in the new truck.
Love,
Liam G.
Tiny Tots

Dear Santa,
This year for Christmas, please bring me lots of Co-Camelon toys and the Butterfly Ballerina Minnie Mouse.
Love,
Ellison
Tiny Tots

The Spirit Is Growing!
May the holiday spirit blossom and surround you, and may the love of family and warmth of good friends sustain you throughout the holiday season and beyond.
For the honor of serving you, we are sincerely thankful.
We wish you a Merry Christmas.
RED LICK GREENHOUSE
Circleville

'Tis the Season To Say THANKS!
Wishing you and yours much good fortune this holiday season and beyond. We're truly grateful for your support!
Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!
EDDIE SIMPSON CONSTRUCTION
Franklin

Peace. Faith. Love.
At this time of great joy and celebration, we hope the blessings of family, friendship and fellowship surround you with warmth.
Jim Brown Insurance Agency
Jim, Debra & Susan
State Farm

JOY IS IN THE AIR!
As we recall the Miracle of Christmas, we'd like to thank each and every one of you for the gift of your friendship and support this past year. It's been a privilege and a pleasure knowing you.
Merry Christmas Friends!
Faithful Friends Animal Clinic

THE SPIRIT IS BUILDING!
Thanks to all of our friends and clients for making 2023 an outstanding year for us. We owe our success to your loyal support, and we wish you and yours a very happy holiday!
Pap's Lumber & Rentals
Wayne & Carol

Strike Up the Holiday Fun
We hope this festive season is right up your alley!
Friends and customers like you truly bowl us over with your kindness. Thanks for your valued support throughout the year!
Potomac Highlands Rec Center

From our family to yours, best wishes for a holiday trimmed with love, laughter and delight.
OWENS
HEATING, COOLING & SERVICES
Josh Owens, Owner
304-249-5420 ~ 304-668-9616
WV051083

Dear Santa,
Please bring me a kitchen set,
a puppy and carrier toy, and
lots of baby dolls. I am being
very good for my mommy.
Love,
Wrenlee
Tiny Tots

Dear Santa,
I'm such a good girl for
my teachers. Please bring
me a watch, a real suit-
case from Amazon, and a
baby doll.
Love,
Jaycee
Tiny Tots

Dear Santa,
I try to be very good for
Mom and Dad. This year
can you bring me a T-Rex
Quad ride-on toy and also
a Giant Military Copter
play set? That is all!
Love,
Mason
Tiny Tots

Dear Santa,
I have been a very good boy
this year! I'd love to have
some blocks to build with.
I love building towers and
knocking them down!
Love,
Kipton
Tiny Tots

Dear Santa,
I know I've been a good
boy this year because my
mommy is always giving
me lots of kisses! Please
bring me toys I can hold
onto and chew on.
Love,
Colson
Tiny Tots

Dear Santa,
I am always so happy and
giggling. Please bring me
toys I can hold to chew on
and shake.
Love,
Gracie
Tiny Tots

Dear Santa,
I am such a good girl! I would
like to have a swing set
with a slide this Christmas.
Please bring me a Barbie
bus, too.
Love,
Haisleigh
Tiny Tots

Dear Santa,
I want magnet tiles, a
scooter, a new jacket and
hat and a fishing tackle
kit. I'll leave cookies for
you.
Love,
Joseph
Tiny Tots

Dear Santa,
I would like to have some
cars that go when you pull
them back and a Fluffie
Stuffiez plush toy.
Love,
Macie
Tiny Tots

Dear Santa,
I've been trying to be a
good boy this year, my mom
calls me a stinker. I'd like
to have a tractor and farm
animals this year!
Love,
Oliver
Tiny Tots

Dear Santa,
My daddy and mommy say
I've been a very good girl
this year! I am learning to
walk right now so please
bring me something I can
hold on to and learn to
walk.
Love,
Clara
Tiny Tots

Dear Santa,
Please bring me a Safari
Time Dress Up Trunk. I
would also like the Disney
Junior Firebuds Bo & Flash
Rescue Adventure Fire-
truck, Santa!
Love,
Allister
Tiny Tots

Dear Santa,
Please bring me a rainbow
heels, a watch, a bike, and a
jewelry box. Can you bring
my daddy a TV so he can
watch basketball?
Love,
Ryleigh
Tiny Tots

Dear Santa,
I would like a Rhino
Beetle Transformer and a
real snake for Christmas.
I will take care of the
snake so Mom doesn't
have to. My brother wants
a baby toy because he
is still a baby. Can you
bring Mom and Dad a tent
so me and my brother can
play in it?
Love,
Samuel C.
Tiny Tots

Dear Santa,
I would like the Hot
Diggity Dance and Play
Mickey Mouse Plush and
the CoComelon Storybook
Treasury for Christmas!
Love,
Zoey
Tiny Tots

Dear Santa,
Mommy says I've been a
good girl this year. Please
bring me a baby doll that I
can snuggle and feed.
Love,
Cora
Tiny Tots

Dear Santa,
I am always a good boy
and smiling all the time.
Please bring me toys I can
hold onto and chew on. I
also like looking at mobiles
and bright lights when I'm
playing.
Love,
Idris
Tiny Tots

Dear Santa,
I have been a very good
girl this year! Please bring
me toys that stack or nest
together this year. I like
stacking cups together at
daycare and pulling them
apart.
Love,
Sophia
Tiny Tots

Dear Santa,
Can you bring my baby sister
a baby doll she can cuddle? I
would like a race car for me!
Love,
Brayden L.
Tiny Tots

Dear Santa,
I want the Mega Pokémon
Jumbo Pikachu Building
Set, please Santa! I want
the Transformer 1-Step
Flip Heroes. P.S. There
are three Heroes in there.
Love,
Tyler
Tiny Tots

Dear Santa,
I really, really want a
Transformer Optimus
Prime NERF Blaster and a
Power Wheels Jeep Wrangler.
My sisters want a lot
of stuff, too!
Love,
Tucker
Tiny Tots

Dear Santa,
I really like playing with
farm animals and tractors. I
would also like teething toys
for me to bite since I'm get-
ting so many teeth right now.
Love,
Jacob
Tiny Tots



Dear Santa,
I just want the Minnie Bou-
tique Shopping Cart and the
Scoop and Serve Wooden Ice
Cream Counter Play set for
Christmas.
Love,
Lyla
Tiny Tots

Dear Santa,
I am trying to be a very
good boy this year. Please
bring me Hot Wheels
Monster Trucks Arena
Smashers MEGA-Wrex
vs. Crushzilla Takedown
Playset. I would like to
have the Hot Wheels City
Ultimate Garage Playset,
too!
Love,
Eli
Tiny Tots

Dear Santa,
I really like Spiderman and
want Spidey and His Amazing
Friends Web Spinners
Web-Quarters toy set! Can
I have a Mario Kart Ride-
on Racer, too?
Love,
William
Tiny Tots



Dear Santa,
I want a lot of presents this
year! Please bring me a
Ballerina Castle, Ballerina
shoes, Ballerina dress, a
new horse and an Elsa tent.
You can bring my brother
some Pokémon cards.
Love,
Laynee
Tiny Tots

Merry Christmas

Wishing you all the peace and happiness this season brings.

Jim Crites
304-257-8540
Petersburg

All the best!

With warm wishes and gratitude for your continued patronage.

H&R Block

Ann & Myra

Merry & Beautiful Wishes

AVON

Angie Hedrick
Independent
Sales Representative
304.902.5295
www.avon.com/repstore/ahedrick

WISHING YOU A MODEL SEASON

Here's hoping your holiday is all that "auto" be.
Customers like you are the best of the lot!

With best wishes and gratitude for your continued support.

TED DAVIS AUTO SALES

Riverton

Wishing You Cartloads of Cheer!

We hope your holiday is filled with lots of good stuff: happiness, friendship, peace, gratitude, goodwill and more.

Merry Christmas and Thank You for your patronage throughout the year!

T&K MARKETS
EST 2021

AT THE BIRTH OF OUR SAVIOR

On this holy night so long ago, our Savior, Prince of Peace was born, bringing His light and love to shine upon all the world for all time. For this, and our many blessings, we are deeply grateful and wish all our neighbors a truly miraculous holiday season.

Merry Christmas

The Schaeffer Funeral Home Family
Petersburg

Christmas Coloring CONTEST

WINNERS

The exceptional skill with color and design exhibited again this year by local kids made Santa's job of picking almost impossibly difficult. Here are examples of the kind of skill that forced Santa to make some tough decisions.



Second Place — Paelyn Linaburg of Hilton Head, South Carolina kindergarten, daughter of Trey and Amber Linaburg



Third Place — Cambrie Ours of Circleville kindergarten, daughter of Brandon and Holly Ours

Day Trips to Entertain Holiday Guests

Travel tends to heat up as the weather begins to chill around the holiday season. With friends and family to see and holiday cheer to spread, it's no wonder why millions of people take to the roads, railways and friendly skies to travel during the holiday season.

It's not uncommon for holiday hosts to open their homes to loved ones for days at a time. Holiday hosts who want to ensure that visitors enjoy their stay can plan certain excursions to make the most of their time together.

Go see the lights. Holiday lighting displays are popular across the country. Treat guests to a visit to a nearby attraction. That could be an amusement park that drapes the center of the park in lights, Main Street storefronts and town centers that put on tree lighting ceremonies, urban centers where department stores showcase impressive windows, or other attractions where lights take center stage.

See a show. From productions of 'A

Christmas Carol' to other holiday favorites, it's not difficult to find entertainment that showcases some holiday spirit. Dance troupes may be showcasing 'The Nutcracker' or a choral ensemble may be putting on a concert of Christmas carols. Enjoy a night or day out at one of these events.

Visit a cathedral or temple. The holiday season brings many individuals closer to their faiths. Travelers may want to visit a house of worship during their stay. Many churches are dressed up for Christmas and some may even have live animals in their liv-

ing nativity scenes.

Cut down a Christmas tree. Save the tree cutting and trimming for when guests arrive. This way everyone can enjoy a day out at the tree farm as families select the perfect evergreen. Partake in refreshments such as hot chocolate or warm cider, then return home to decorate the tree together.

Day trips with overnight guests staying for the holidays can make for an entertaining way to get out of the house and enjoy time together.



Greetings!

It's our pleasure to say, "Happy Holidays!"



May your Christmas be merry, bright and magical in every way.

Carl's Crafts
304-668-4452
Main Street, Franklin

Celebrate Joyful Moments with

The Grant County Bank

May Christmas cheer fill your home with warmth and happiness.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from our family to yours.

THE Grant COUNTY BANK

GrantCountyBank.com

Member FDIC

PETERSBURG | RIVERTON | KEYSER | MOOREFIELD | HARMAN | DAVIS | CANAAN VALLEY

Warm Wishes

May your Christmas be filled with meaning and joy!

CAVE COUNTRY STORE & CAMPING

304-358-7553

Merry Christmas

Wishing you all the peace and happiness this season brings.

Franklin Florist

304-358-2727

REJOICE

in the Reason for the Season

And may the spirit fill you with hope and peace throughout the coming year!

Betty's Total Image

Christmas Coloring CONTEST

WINNERS



Second Place — Levi Miller of Upper Tract second grade, son of Nancy Miller



Third Place — Alena Barkley of Harman third grade, daughter of Weylin and Jennifer Barkley

GRANT MEMORIAL HOSPITAL
wishes you
MERRY CHRISTMAS
AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR

WVU Medicine WVUMedicine.org/Grant
304-257-1026

Tips to Pick the Perfect Christmas Tree



Christmas trees are among the most recognizable symbols of the holiday season, and the popularity of trees is undeniable. According to the National Christmas Tree Association, approximately 25 to 30 million real Christmas trees are sold in the United States each year. Christmas trees also are big business in Canada, where Statistics Canada notes cash receipts from Canadian Christmas tree producers totaled nearly \$163.5 million in 2022.

Annual spending on Christmas trees underscores how important they are to holiday decor. Christmas trees serve as the centerpiece in millions of holiday home decor schemes, so it's important to pick a tree that can shine in that role. This holiday season, celebrants can consider these tips as they look for the perfect Christmas tree.

¥ Measure the area where the tree will be placed. A large tree can be awe-inspiring, but also can stick out like a sore thumb if it takes up too much space. There should be enough room around the tree for families and their guests to sit around it. The home interior experts at Better Homes & Gardens recommend leaving a minimum of six inches between the top of the tree and the ceiling. If a tree topper will be added, make sure the top of the tree is at least 12 inches from the ceiling. Measure the area before leaving to buy a tree so it can fit nicely into the room and the surrounding decor.

¥ Try the shake test. Anyone who has purchased a fresh-cut Christmas tree is

undoubtedly familiar with the shake test, which remains an effective way to measure the dryness of the tree. A slight shake will produce some fallen needles. If the needles are brown and few and far between, then the tree likely is not overly dry. However, a lot of falling green needles indicates the tree is already drying out, which means it could shed quite a bit and lose its looks before Christmas Day.

¥ Pick a tree with a symmetrical look. Trees are living things, so it's unlikely that buyers will find a perfectly symmetrical tree. However, a tree that's misshapen or already has some sagging branches won't make for an awe-inspiring addition to a home decor scheme.

¥ Find the trunk (if you can). A trunk that's visible through the branches indicates the tree does not have dense branches, which will be necessary if homeowners want to dress the tree with ornaments. If it's hard to find the trunk because of all the thick branches and green needles, then the tree is likely pretty healthy.

¥ Test the needles. The home improvement experts at Lowes note that needles should be flexible but still snap when bent sharply. Avoid trees with needles that are already losing their color and can easily be pulled off.

A Christmas tree garners a lot of attention come the holiday season, which only underscores the significance of finding a tree worthy of being the centerpiece of holiday decor.

Best Little Bank In The Virginias

The Blue Grass Valley Bank
Est. 1915

Monterey Office (540) 468-1915
Blue Grass Office (540) 474-2430

Holiday Hours
December 23 - Closed
December 25 - Closed
December 30 - Closed
January 1 - Closed

The Blue Grass Valley Bank
bluegrassvalleybank.com

Member FDIC

Christmas Trivia

1. Which country first started the tradition of putting up a Christmas tree?
2. Which popular Christmas beverage is also called 'milk punch'?
3. How many ghosts show up in A Christmas Carol?
4. What do people traditionally put on top of their Christmas tree?
5. Where was baby Jesus born?
6. What Hollywood actor played six different roles in The Polar Express?
7. What color are mistletoe berries?
8. Which fairytale was the first gingerbread house inspired by?
9. Who invented the Christmas wreath?
10. Where did the tradition of Christmas stockings come from?
11. What are the traditional 12 days of Christmas?
12. How many years do Christmas trees grow before they are sold?
13. In Home Alone, where is the family going on holiday?
14. How many Christmas trees are in Buckingham Palace?
15. What King was crowned on Christmas Day?
16. How many gifts are there in the 12 days of Christmas song?
17. What is the best-selling Christmas song?
18. What country has the most reindeer?
19. What is the most fragrant real Christmas tree?
20. Which animal carried Mary before she gave birth to Jesus?
21. What's the name of the period leading up to Christmas?
22. What is the name of the shortest day of the year?
23. What is traditionally hidden inside a Christmas pudding?
24. According to the song,

- what do you deck the halls with?
25. What sauce is traditionally served with Christmas pudding?
26. In which US state would you find the town Santa Claus?
27. What is the name of the carrot in Aldi's Christmas advert?
28. How many times does the number 1 appear on an advent calendar with 24 doors?
29. What is the most recorded Christmas song in history?
30. When should Christmas decorations typically be taken down?
31. What words follow 'Silent Night' in the song?
32. What gift did the Little Drummer Boy give to the newborn Christ?
33. What was Frosty the Snowman's nose made out of?
34. What were Victorian mince pies made from?
35. What is the name of the Grinch's dog?
36. Name a tree that mistletoe grows on
37. What Christmas decoration was originally made from strands of silver?
38. In folklore, which horned figure punishes badly behaved children at Christmas?
39. Which festive sweet resembles a shepherd's staff?
40. Who sings the first line on the 1984 Band-Aid single, Do They Know It's Christmas?
41. What was Scrooge's first name in Charles Dickens's A Christmas Carol?
42. What well-known Christmas carol became the first song ever broadcast from space in 1965?
43. What color was Elvis' Christmas in the famous song?
44. What did the other reindeer not let Rudolph do because of his shiny red nose?
45. What are the two other most popular names for Santa Claus?



Deck the Halls Word Search

D	C	W	R	C	M	E	H	W	S	S	Y	C	E	C	N	M	E	A	S	ANGEL
N	G	N	R	H	Y	E	W	R	N	I	N	H	U	D	C	G	P	H	P	BELLS
A	L	B	E	D	A	L	N	G	O	M	B	R	H	G	U	O	B	A	S	BOUGH
L	R	S	K	B	P	B	T	D	W	D	H	I	L	F	N	U	K	C	L	CHRISTMAS TREE
R	I	H	C	E	C	A	R	O	M	N	I	S	E	E	R	W	D	U	L	DECORATE
A	R	A	A	U	U	T	D	G	A	N	O	T	T	O	T	O	F	F	E	DISPLAY
G	R	T	R	F	K	A	I	T	N	L	D	M	N	T	D	D	I	P	B	FIREPLACE
N	F	N	C	U	D	L	I	Y	E	W	N	A	A	E	N	N	R	O	T	GARLAND
A	S	A	T	A	G	F	I	A	B	T	K	S	M	L	A	K	E	U	S	HOLLY
G	L	S	U	O	E	N	W	H	P	H	B	T	G	T	T	G	P	W	W	INFLATABLE
S	E	Y	N	D	O	I	D	L	G	T	W	R	W	S	S	Y	L	I	T	MANTEL
W	I	D	E	C	O	R	A	T	E	U	F	E	W	I	S	E	A	C	R	MENORAH
D	G	L	U	H	W	R	E	A	T	H	C	E	D	M	T	L	C	Y	L	MISTLETOE
Y	H	Y	M	U	L	I	N	I	C	I	R	H	P	T	K	A	E	O	N	NUTCRACKER
W	M	D	P	O	I	N	S	E	T	T	I	A	M	E	N	O	R	A	H	ORNAMENTS
O	E	P	W	E	G	S	L	B	W	R	R	I	W	W	D	K	D	I	L	POINSETTIA
D	C	F	A	A	N	G	E	L	Y	A	L	P	S	I	D	K	K	E	L	SANTA
N	Y	L	L	O	H	O	R	N	A	M	E	N	T	S	F	W	P	E	A	SLEIGH
I	S	T	H	G	I	L	D	E	G	N	I	R	T	S	N	L	M	P	B	SNOWMAN
W	N	O	S	G	N	I	K	C	O	T	S	H	C	G	P	Y	I	S	S	STAND

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally and backwards.

*It's been a pleasure
Serving you this year!*
Dr. and Mrs. Kevan Hoover & Staff

MERRY CHRISTMAS
May you be armed with peace and love throughout the year!
Thank you for making our season complete and we look forward to serving you in 2024!

Pendleton County OUTDOORS
"Where wild and wonderful begins"

38 Pike Rd., Franklin
off Rt. 33
in T&K Market Shopping Plaza
304.358.3265
www.pencooutdoors.com

*Tidings of
Comfort & Joy*

To our friends, neighbors, customers and associates, we offer our warmest wishes for the coolest holiday season ever!

Mountain Air Heating & Cooling
Tyler Scheibner
304.668.9296
WV Contractor's Lic. #WV006661

Christmas blessings to you and yours this holiday season.

**Warner's
Coin Laundry**

With **JOY**
in our hearts we wish you a
Merry Christmas
& Happy New Year

Thank you for your patronage in 2023.

Rivermart
304.567.2022

*Over the river and
through the woods,
may the holiday spirit reach you
wherever you are this season!*

As we reflect on 2022, we're filled with gratitude for the good friends and neighbors who make this community such a wonderful place to live and work. Folks like you have brought so much meaning and happiness to our year, and we thank you for your trust in us.

We hope your Christmas season is merry, bright and beautiful and your New Year happy in every imaginable way.

**Whiterock
Excavating
LLC**
BILL AND ANGIE NELSON
304-668-4332 304-358-2524

MERRY CHRISTMAS
&
Happy New Year!

Wishing you all the trimmings of a wonderful holiday.

**Sponaule
&
Sponaule**
Law Office

History of Christmas Traditions in America

Here is a little bit about the history of Christmas traditions in America, from Christmas trees to greeting cards, that we all know and love today.

Christmas Trees

The first American Christmas tree can be credited to a Hessian soldier by the name of Henrick Roddmore, who was captured at the Battle of Bennington in 1776. He then went to work on the farm of Samuel Denslow in Windsor Locks, Connecticut, where for the next 14 years he put up and decorated Christmas trees in the Denslow family home.

The first Christmas tree retail lot was established in 1851 by a Pennsylvanian named Mark Carr, who hauled two ox sleds loaded with Christmas trees from the Catskill Mountains to the sidewalks of New York City.

The first president to set up a Christmas tree in the White House was Franklin Pierce, and the first president to establish

the National Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony on the White House lawn was Calvin Coolidge.

In 1882, the first tree lights were sold in New York City.

Martha's Great Cake

Although not the first Christmas cake, this is a recipe from the first First Lady, Martha Washington. These are the exact words in which it was written for celebrating what she called "a true Virginia Christmas" at Mount Vernon:

"Take 40 eggs and divide the whites from the yolks and beat them to a froth, start to work four pounds of butter to cream and put the whites of eggs to it a spoon full at a time till it is well worked. Then put four pounds of sugar finely powdered to it in the same way, then put in the yolks of eggs, and five pounds of flower, and five pounds of fruit. Two hours will bake it. Add to it half an ounce of mace, one nutmeg, half a pint of wine, and some French brandy."

Holiday Cards

The first American to print and sell Christmas cards was Louis Prang of Roxbury, Massachusetts, who began publishing cards in 1875.

President Dwight D. Eisenhower is given credit for sending the first "official" Christmas card from the White House. An art print also became the standard Christmas gift for the president's staff, a practice continued to this day.

Here comes Santa Claus. . .

The first department store Santa was James Edgar, who, during Christmas seasons beginning in 1890, would wander about his store (the Boston Store) in Brockton, Massachusetts, dressed as Santa Claus, talking to the children of customers.

— Old Farmers Almanac

The Legend of the Candy Cane

A candy maker in Indiana wanted to make a candy that would be a witness, so he made the Christmas Candy Cane. He incorporated several symbols for the birth, ministry, and death of Jesus Christ.

He began with a stick of pure white, hard candy. White to symbolize the Virgin Birth

and the sinless nature of Jesus, and hard to symbolize the Solid Rock, the foundation of the church, and firmness of the promises of God.

The candy maker made the candy in the form of a "J" to represent the precious name of Jesus, who came to earth as our Savior. It also represents

the staff of the "Good Shepherd" with which He reaches down into the ditches of the world to lift out the fallen lambs who, like all sheep, have gone astray.

Thinking that the candy was somewhat plain, the candy maker stained it with red stripes. He used three small

stripes to show the stripes of the scourging Jesus received by which we are healed. The large red stripe was for the blood shed by Jesus on the Cross so that we could have the promise of eternal life, if only we put our faith and trust in Him.

Unfortunately, the candy became known as a candy cane - a meaningless decoration seen at Christmas time. But the meaning is still there for those who "have eyes to see and ears to hear."



WISHING YOU
Happy Holidays
AND A WONDERFUL NEW YEAR

Thanks for stopping in and we look forward to serving you again in the future.

COUNTRY
CARS & TRUCKS

Petersburg, WV ~ (304) 257-4114
www.countrycarsandtrucks.com

U-SAVE
AUTO RENTAL

Tidings of Comfort & Joy

At Christmastime, may the company of loved ones present and the fond memories of those who have passed surround you with happiness and fill your heart with peace.

We wish you all the very best this holiday season.

Kimble Funeral Home
Franklin

Let Heaven & Nature Sing

As we celebrate the miraculous birth of our Savior, may the beauty and wonder of the season fill you with warmth, joy and contentment.

We'd like to take this opportunity to sing the praises of our neighbors and customers here in the community. Your friendship is a blessing, and we wish you all the best.

Rejoice!

BOWERS AND BOWERS, PLLC
Jeffrey S. Bowers & J. Stuart Bowers, II
Attorneys-at-Law

Catch the Spirit!

The holiday spirit is in the air, and we're so grateful to share it with good friends like you. Thanks for choosing us. Serving you has been a pleasure, and we really appreciate your patronage.

We wish you a very merry Christmas, topped with a happy and healthy New Year!

Now on tap - *Our Best Wishes!*

We hope your holiday season is filled to the brim with happiness and good fortune!

FRANKLIN MOOSE LODGE

Fox's Pizza Den

Brandywine

*Ronnie & Betty Kimble and Family
and all of our wonderful employees*

The Story of Santa Claus



Santa's biography begins almost two thousand years ago – and he's still going strong today! Follow the story of the world's best-loved Christmas symbol with these tales from "The Santa Map" (Hedberg Maps).

• In 280 A.D. a priest was born in Turkey who eventually became St. Nicholas. He was known for his good works, and because he was a bishop, he is often pictured wearing red robes. In the early Middle Ages, his feast day was celebrated in winter.

• Around 1000 A.D., Germanic people combined the story of a gift-giving St. Nicholas with their war god, Odin, who also gave gifts, blending Odin's white beard with St. Nicholas's red robes.

• In the Middle Ages (1400-1600), different peoples began to have different stories. The Dutch retained St. Nicholas, the Germans got gifts from the Christkindl, and English children started seeing Father Christmas.

• Dutch and German settlers in Colonial America brought their traditions to the

new world. In fact, it was the English settlers mangling the German name that gave Santa his nickname, "Kris Kringle."

• Santa got his big boost in the mid-19th century with the story "A Visit from St. Nichols," perhaps better known by its opening line, "Twas the night before Christmas..."

• In 1897, the existence of Santa was verified by the editor of the New York Sun, when a young reader wrote to ask if Santa Claus was real.

• In the mid-20th century, the Coca-Cola company popularized our current image of Santa Claus by featuring him in their holiday advertising. The popularity of Coke overseas during World War II also helped spread the word about Santa.

• A Sears ad invited kids to call Santa, but the telephone number of the national air defense command was printed by mistake. In 1955, NORAD started tracking Santa's Christmas journey around the world on its radar screens.

• Santa joined the Internet with his first Web site, www.santaclaus.com, in 1994.



Christmas Trivia Answers

1. Germany
2. Eggnog
3. Four — the spirits of Christmas Past, Present and Future, and Jacob Marley
4. An angel
5. Bethlehem
6. Tom Hanks
7. White
8. Hansel and Gretel
9. A German Lutheran pastor named Johann Hinrich Wichern
10. According to tradition, the original Saint Nicholas put gold coins in the stockings of three poor sisters
11. The Twelve Days of Christmas are the last six days of the old year (26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31 December) and the first six days of the New Year (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 January)
12. 15 years
13. France
14. Three trees
15. King William I of England in 1066
16. 364 gifts
17. Bing Crosby's *White Christmas* is the best-selling Christmas song with more than more than 50 million copies sold
18. Southern Norway
19. Balsam Fir
20. A donkey
21. Advent
22. Winter solstice
23. Silver coins
24. Boughs of holly
25. Brandy sauce
26. Indiana
27. Kevin
28. 13 times
29. *Silent Night*
30. Twelfth Night is the night before Epiphany and is the night, tradition says, when Christmas decorations should be taken down
31. Holy Night
32. He played a song on his drums
33. Button nose
34. Minced beef
35. Max
36. Hawthorne, lime, poplar, apple tree
37. Tinsel
38. Krampus
39. Candy Cane
40. Paul Young
41. Ebenezer
42. Jingle Bells
43. Blue
44. Join in any reindeer games
45. Kris Kringle and Saint Nick

Bells Are a Part of Christmas

As Clement Moore, the author of "A Visit from St. Nicholas," was driving home in his sleigh one snowy night listening to the bells along the sleigh, he added Santa's bells to his story. Bells are a very definite part of Christmas; they are used in decorations and heard at shopping malls asking one to remember the needy. Even cookies are cut into bell shapes.

Bells help to heal life's discords; at Christmastime they chime out peace and good will.



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year



Thanks for shopping local and we look forward to serving you in 2024!

Sites Auto Parts

Eddie & Angie



Christmas Greetings



**HOTT'S
AG SERVICE**

May you and your family enjoy the many blessing that give true meaning to the holiday season.

We feel privileged to have you as customers, friends and neighbors.

Christmas Is Coming!



May blessings of goodwill fill you with joy this holiday season!

**FRANKLIN VOLUNTEER
FIRE DEPARTMENT**

Wishing You a Simply Wonderful Christmas



KAR KARE

Dempsey



Holiday Blessings to you and yours

Thank you for your patronage throughout the past year.

**Rexrode's
Country Store**

Cassey, Tish & Karen



Wishing You a Merry & Magical Christmas...

May all of your hopes and wishes come true!

Town of Franklin

Christmas Recipes

Almond Bars

From the kitchen
of Sandra Sweeney
Seneca Rocks

I received a box of these delicious cookies for Christmas from my friends, Michael and Marina McLaughlin, over 15 years ago. Oh, what a treat they were! I begged for the recipe, which Michael was happy to share with me, and I've baked them ever since. What makes them even more wonderful is that they are so easy to make but look incredibly special! The recipe can be doubled or tripled easily, and the cookies freeze well. I usually make a double batch of the frosting to drizzle over the cookies. To make less of a mess while frosting, place the cookies on a cooling rack and place that rack over the used cookie sheet before drizzling the frosting on the almond bars.

Cookies:

- 1-3/4 cups all-purpose flour
- 2 teaspoons baking powder
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 cup butter
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 egg
- 1/2 teaspoon almond extract milk
- 1/2 cup sliced almonds, coarsely chopped

Frosting:

- 1 cup sifted powdered sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon almond extract
- 3-4 teaspoons milk

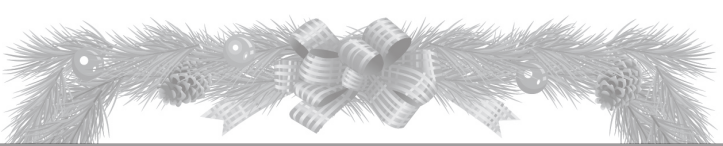
Sift together flour, baking powder, and salt. In a large mixer bowl, beat butter until softened. Add sugar and beat until fluffy. Add egg and almond extract and beat well. Add flour mixture and beat until well mixed.

Divide the dough into four equal portions. (If you want smaller bars, divide the dough into six equal portions and form each into a 12-inch roll. Put three rolls on each cookie sheet and flatten each until it is two inches wide. I prefer the smaller bars). With four equal portions, form each portion into a 12-inch roll. Place two of the rolls about five inches apart on an ungreased cookie sheet. Flatten each roll until it is three inches wide. Repeat with remaining rolls. Brush each with a little milk and sprinkle with chopped almonds.

Bake in a 325-degree oven for 12 to 14 minutes or until edges just start to lightly brown. While still warm, cut crosswise at a diagonal into 1-inch strips. Cool completely on a wire rack.

Stir together the powdered sugar, almond extract, and enough milk to make a frosting of drizzling consistency. Drizzle over cooled bars. Makes 48.

This recipe is a favorite of family and friends. It's so easy to make, looks elegant, freezes well, and tastes so good! Enjoy!



In Honor of Holly Hubbs

- 1 cup flour
- 1/2 cup salt
- 1/2 cup water

Salt "Cookies" Christmas Ornaments

Bake at 350 degrees for 15-20 minutes.

DO NOT EAT

Thank you Mrs. Hubbs from all the kids who had you as their teacher.

In Memory of Ms Jean Landes

- 4 eggs
- 3 cups sugar
- 1 cup oil

By Cassie Hubbs

- 1-1/2 teaspoons salt
- Mix and add—

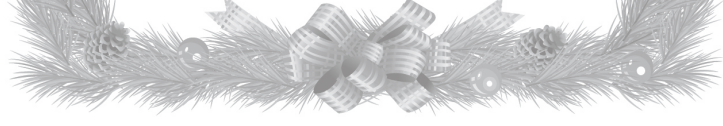
Pumpkin Bread

- 1 cup pumpkin
- 2/3 cup water

- 1-1/2 teaspoons nutmeg
- 2 teaspoons baking soda

- 1-1/2 teaspoons cinnamon
- 3 cups flour

- 1/2 teaspoon ginger
- 1 teaspoon allspice
- Bake 1 hour at 350 degrees.



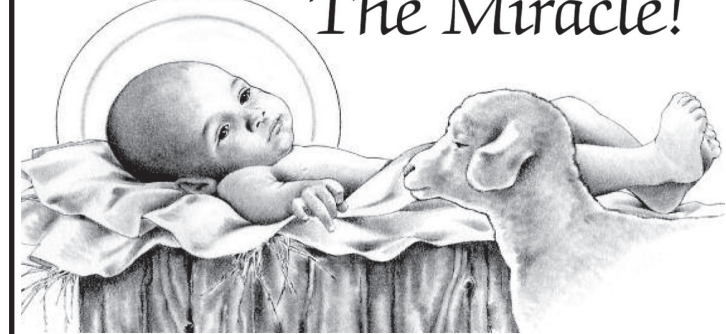
304.358.2230

304.358.2252

THANK YOU

for your loyal patronage and we look forward to your visits in 2024!

Celebrate The Miracle!



As we celebrate the birth of our Savior, we're reminded of the many blessings we enjoy, including the opportunity to serve good people like you. Thanks for your support.

From Our Family to Yours,
Have A Safe and Merry Christmas and
A Blessed New Year!

Brandywine Family Dining

Rt. 33, Brandywine ~ 304-249-5616

May All Your Dreams Come True



HOUSE of BEAUTY

304.668.5023

Brandywine

Bring on the JOY



Hoping your holiday season is fit for a king!



FRANKLIN TOTAL FITNESS

44 Pike Road | 304-902-7019



Merry Christmas and Many Thanks

May your holiday be filled with the abundance of happiness and good fortune that you deserve.

Peer's Furniture, LLC

&

Peer's Sanitation, LLC

Brandywine

Blessed & Thankful



Remembering the reason for the season and sharing our very best wishes with all of you.

We truly appreciate our wonderful friends, customers and community for all the love and support you have shown to us.

Merry Christmas

AUMANN'S CUSTOM AUTO

Merry Christmas

Thank you for your business from all of us at

Brandywine General Store & Long Mountain General Store

We're All Smiles at Christmas

With friends and neighbors like you, we have every reason to smile at the holidays and all year!

We hope you have a merry and bright Christmas and a dazzling New Year. Best wishes to you and yours!

Merry Christmas!

Dr. Brandon Mitchell, DDS

Brandon, Alyssa, Chanda & Donna

WARMEST WISHES at Christmastime

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!



Wishing you and yours much good fortune this holiday season and beyond. We're truly grateful for your support and look forward to serving you again, soon!

BA BEACHYAREHART
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS
304.358.3370/540.433.2488

My Christmas Play Suit...

By Virginia George

I will always remember the Christmas that mom got me a play suit for a present or, I guess I should say, Santa Claus brought it for me.

I was six years old at the time and it was nearing Christmas. Mom had already put up the cedar tree and had it all decorated with pretty red roping and lots of icicles, but there were no presents under it. I can recall that every day I would ask mom how many days it would be before Santa Claus would come. Finally, the day came when mom told me that Santa Claus was coming that night. So, I was to go to bed early and go to sleep, for she always told me he would not come if I was awake, so I went to bed early, hoping I would soon go to sleep, but it seemed the harder I tried, the more wide awake I was. I guess my poor brain got tired of all the battling and I finally fell asleep.

Well, here it was morning at last. I jumped out of bed and ran to the tree, before I was wide awake yet. (I could never see myself doing that now or I would be running into the wall or chairs, or would probably end up on the floor). At last I was at the Christmas tree, grabbing presents right and left, as the saying goes. I was starting to tear them open when my mom appeared on the scene. "Girl, as she always called me, what are you doing?" "Opening my presents from Santa Claus," I said.



I guess I thought they were all for me, for I could not read at that time, as I had just started to school in September. Mom stopped me at once and said, "These are not all yours. Don't you think Santa Claus brought some for your brother, Paul?" (Who was four years old at the time. My mom was just about due to give birth to another baby, which in fact, my brother, Jesse, was born the day after Christmas). Mom checked through the packages until she found several with my name on and handed them to me, saying, "they're all yours. The rest are for your brother, Paul, and your dad and me."

Well, if you ever saw a dog trying to dig a groundhog out of a hole, with dirt flying in all directions, that was me that Christmas morning with pieces of Christmas wrapping paper flying all over the room as I was in a hurry to get all my packages open. After they were all open, the room looked like a street after a ticker tape parade of some famous person. Some of my gifts were coloring books, crayons, pencils, candy, handkerchiefs, socks and some other things. I can't remember, but I guess the one thing that I liked the best was a play suit. It was light blue, trimmed in red, and oh my, it had four pockets in it. Just like pockets on my dad's clothes, for I was a daddy's girl and wanted pockets on my clothes just like he had. Mom helped me get it on and buttoned it up for me. Then there I went strutting around the house like a banty rooster with my hands in my pockets. Oh me, now what could I put in these pockets? First I found some pretty colored ribbon on the floor. So, in my pocket it went. Then I went to mom's button box and picked out some pretty buttons. These I also put in my pocket. I tried to put my pencil in my pocket but it was too long and kept falling out. But by noon I had something in all my pockets. Oh, how proud I was. Then I had to go to the bathroom. The play suit had to be all unbuttoned and taken down (I often wonder why they make things like this for little girls). I guess mom thought it was the perfect thing for her little tomboy to wear, but what about when she needed to go and as children always do, they wait until the last minute to go.

The day after Christmas, there was more excitement, for my brother, Jesse, was born. So now all the attention went to his wants and needs. I had to do more things for myself. Then my cousin Evelyn Riggelman came to stay with us and help with the work.

Well, as the weeks and months went by, my little play suit

began to show lots of wear—buttons were missing, which had to be replaced with ones not matching, patches of other colors were put on it and stains that would not come out. Finally, the day came when it was beyond mending.

So, then the story of the ending of its life began. First, all the buttons were removed and put into mom's button box. Then pieces were cut from it to mend my brother, Paul's, shirt. Mom was needing a patch for her apron, so here went another piece. Then some of it that didn't show so much wear and tear was put in a quilt that mom was making. Then in the spring when mom's geese were laying eggs, mom would bring the eggs in that were laid each day and put them in a box with the piece of my play suit in the bottom. When the geese went to setting, the eggs were all returned to the nest.

One day dad took a piece of my play suit to put tallow on his shoes to weather proof them. Mom used another piece to polish her old wood cook stove. Well, there was just one small piece left, so mom took half of it and put some turpentine on it and put it in a jar with her seed beans for next year's planting to keep the bugs and worms out. Well, the last little piece was used when mom was wanting to start a fire in her kitchen stove and she didn't have any pine at the time. So the last little piece was soaked in kerosene and put in the stove and a match was struck to it. It was no more.

Santa never did leave me any more play suits for Christmas. P.S. For you folks that don't know what a play suit is, it is what we now call coveralls.

They sold for .45, .65, .69, and .77 cents in the 1934 Sears and Roebuck catalogue.

Virginia is 93 years old and has written dozens of stories about growing up on the family farm in the 1930s and 1940s.

After this article was submitted to The Pendleton Times, the staff received the sad news of Mrs. George's passing away on Dec. 13.



Hope It's Very Merry!

With warm wishes for a joyous and bright holiday to you and your kin this season.

**Tiny Tots
Day Care Center &
Baby Land**

Brad, Emily & Courtney Hartman & Staff
Franklin (304) 358-2032



**North Fork Disposal &
North Fork Recycling Service**
The Bennett Family

Merry Christmas

Here's hopin' you have a
rootin', tootin' holiday season
filled with family, friends and
enough good cheer
to last all year through!



**SOUTH BRANCH
VALLEY
LIVESTOCK EXCHANGE**
MOOREFIELD



*May Happiness
Reside in Your Heart &
Home This Christmas*

We hope your holiday season is filled with
peace, joy and contentment.

Merry Christmas and best wishes to
you and yours!

Sugar Grove Realty, Inc.

Jeffrey S. Bowers, Broker
39 Maple Ave - Franklin

www.sugargrovewv.com

304-358-3332

**We're So
Ho-Ho-Grateful!**



Thank you for believing in us! It has been our pleasure to serve this
community in 2023, and we wouldn't be here without your kind support.

*We hope your Christmas is merry and bright in every way, and
we look forward to seeing you again soon in the New Year!*

GREER LIME COMPANY

Sisters Carry on Family Tradition

By Violet R. Eye

You might recall that I introduced you to Rose and Ellen several years ago and their adventures delivering Christmas gifts to their siblings. As the weather forecast for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day 2022 was a bleak one—ice, snow, sleet, along with below zero temperatures and high winds—helped with the decision to deliver gifts early in the week with no snow on the ground, dry roads and temperature above freezing, the ladies headed out.

The first stop was at Bud's and Jane's house. Jane was busy trying to get a small vacuum cleaner assembled while waiting on Bud (who was out doing the chores) to get the ingredients needed to make "party mix" down from the top cabinet. Ellen and Rose visited a while, opened their gifts and then headed over to Margaret's house. Margaret was sitting in the kitchen and was cooking green beans with ham. They sure smelled good! The sisters visited for about an hour and opened more gifts and then headed home. Rose commented about how nice it was without

snow drifts and ice to drive through and over.

Rose and Ellen are no strangers to nasty weather and Christmas Eve celebrations and discussed the upcoming celebration at Anne's house on Christmas Eve. The weather sounded simply awful! These Christmas Eve and New Year's celebrations were started by Rose and Ellen in the late 1960s. One would host Christmas Eve and the other New Year's Eve and reverse every other year. The menu for the evening meal always included oysters, shrimp, and meatballs along with sides. Rose would fix oysters for the rest of the family but never ate one herself. Christmas gifts were never exchanged on Christmas Eve but were taken to mom and daddy's on Christmas Day for opening.

The sisters' children were not yet teenagers and two nieces were toddlers. Rose recalled how the older children had rolled on the floor with laughter as they listened to Ahab The Arab or Mississippi Squirrel by Ray Stevens. Anyone remember Ray Stevens?

It was at one of the New

Year's Eve celebrations Rose decided to have champagne. She had gone so far as to purchase special champagne glasses. Ellen and Rose had no idea what to expect as neither had ever had champagne and besides, champagne was supposed to be a special drink. It was a special drink sure enough, not fit to drink! All that supposedly good wine went down the drain as no one would drink it. I don't mind saying, champagne was never offered again at the Rexrode Christmas celebration.

The 2022 Christmas Eve at Anne's house found about half of the family in attendance. There are no young children now, the youngest age 15, and those who were the young mothers and fathers of the 1960s, 70s, and 80s are now the senior citizens.

Though age has changed our appearances and health, one thing from years ago remains. We are able to look back into the past and remember ourselves and our lives back then. We can see in our mind's eye those happenings and laugh again as we did back then.



MERRY CHRISTMAS

and sincere thanks to our many kind neighbors this holiday season

Ruddle Equipment Co.

US 220 North Franklin

TUMBLE ON IN
this holiday season

Krystal, Kevin, and the rest of the coaching staff wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Raymond's Gymnastics
(267) 374-9018

Here's hoping your holiday brings more joy than a great book!

PENDLETON COUNTY LIBRARY

all is calm
all is bright

It has been a joy to serve folks like you, and we look forward to seeing you again soon in the New Year!

ROCK GABLE SERVICE STATION
Circleville
304.567.2539

Piping In With Our Best Wishes

Hope your holiday is sugar, spice and everything nice!

Thanks for putting the icing on our year with your visits. Serving you is always a treat for us.

Sweet Dreams of Cakes and Things

Linda Rexrode

From the first sip to the last bite, thanks for making our year merry and bright!

MERRY CHRISTMAS & BEST WISHES

The Korner Shop Gang

Peace & Joy

Wishing you every happiness this holiday season.

Franklin
304.358.2714
www.ODRWV.com
George I. Sponaugle, Broker

OLD DOMINION REALTY
Built on Integrity

Jolly, Happy Christmas

Wishing our customers and friends all the best this holiday season

KILE'S GROCERY
The Laytons
Dave & Marsha

'Tis the Season To Say THANKS!

We couldn't have done it without your support!

Wishing you and yours much good fortune this holiday season and beyond. We're truly grateful for your support and look forward to serving you in 2024.

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

13804 Mountaineer Dr.
Riverton
304-567-6673

COUNTRY Decor & More
Melinda Mallow, owner

teleflora

Joy to the World

May the glory of God's love and light shine in your heart and illuminate your Christmas season!

It has been our pleasure to serve you this year, and we hope we see you again soon.

Mathias & Associates Insurance
Tom Mathias
34 Odgen Farm Rd., Moorefield 1-800-628-3064

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

Thank you for your loyal support throughout the year.

Hartman's Construction
Kelly, Polly, Haley and Blake
(304) 668-0547

Fun Books to Read to Children this Holiday Season



The holiday season is a special time of year for people of all ages, but children might be the most enthusiastic celebrants come December. Children spend much of the holiday season anticipating the arrival of the man in the red suit, and that enthusiasm can be contagious.

Families have their own unique traditions during the holiday season, but one popular way to harness kids' enthusiasm between Thanksgiving and Christmas Day is to read them holiday stories. There's no shortage of great holiday books for kids, but here are a handful that kids may remember well into adulthood.

¥ 'The Polar Express,' by Chris Van Allsburg: The beloved tale is the story of a young boy who boards a mysterious train bound for the North Pole.

¥ 'The Littlest Elf,' by Brandi Dougherty: Part of a series, this story focuses on a tiny elf named Oliver and a series of misadventures as he navigates his way through Santa's workshop.

¥ 'Olive, the Other Reindeer,' by Vivian Walsh: Olive is

no ordinary reindeer. In fact, Olive is a dog who heads to the North Pole believing she is a reindeer. Her decision to join Santa's team ultimately benefits the big man and his trusty reindeer.

¥ 'The Miracle of the First Poinsettia: A Mexican Christmas Story,' by Joanne Oppenheim: A little girl named Juanita is the star of this retelling of a traditional Mexican tale with a valuable lesson.

¥ 'Gingerbread Mouse: A Christmas Holiday Book for Kids,' by Katy Bratun: A fallen tree branch almost ruins Christmas for Mouse, whose determination and resourcefulness mixed in with a little Christmas magic ensures she finds a place to call home in time for the holidays.

¥ 'A Night in Santa's Great Big Bag,' by Kristin Kladrup: Santa saves the day in this tale starring a young boy's favorite stuffed animal, whose excitement for Christmas compels him to climb into Santa's big bag of presents on Christmas Eve.

¥ 'Santa Claus and the Three Bears,' by Maria Modugno: This twist on the popular tale 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears' finds three unsuspecting bears encountering a familiar fellow in a red suit upon returning home after a nighttime walk.

¥ 'Twas the Night Before Christmas: Edited by Santa Claus for the Benefit of Children of the 21st Century,' by Clement C. Moore: Parents will appreciate this updated version of the popular tale that, among other things, has removed the reference to Santa smoking.

¥ 'How the Grinch Stole Christmas!' by Dr. Seuss: Children can join generations of fans that came before them as they hear the redemption story of the Grinch who was once determined to ruin Christmas for the happy people of Who-ville.

¥ 'The Nutcracker,' by the New York City Ballet: The classic story is retold based on famed choreographer George Balanchine's production.

The holiday season is steeped in tradition. Reading new and classic holiday stories to children is one tradition any family can embrace.

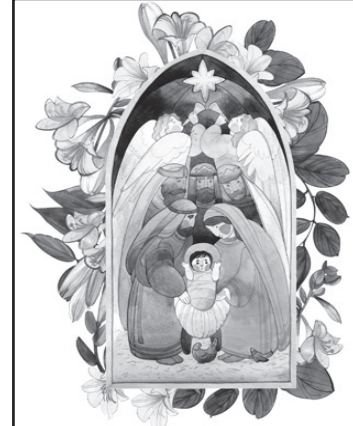


The Light of the world has come... Let us rejoice in His gift of peace and joy!

Christmas Blessings!

MAGIC DOOR BEAUTY SALON

Kathy, Rose Sarah & Kitty



Joyful & Triumphant

May the comforting spirit of the season lift you up and fill you with peace.

MEADOWS Backhoe Service
Dennis & Wilma

GOOD FRIENDS...



Make It All Worthwhile!

With sincere appreciation for your valued patronage this year.

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!
D&K Dairy Bar & Grocery



Wishing You A Magical, Merry Christmas

Bowers Used Auto Sales

Justin Bowers
Main Street, Franklin
540-209-4920

WISHING YOU A HOLIDAY SEASON THAT'S *Reel Merry*

It's the support of you, our patrons and our generous community sponsors that keep our historic theater running.

Best wishes from **WARNER'S DRIVE-IN**

www.warnersdriveinwv.org
Facebook.com/warnersdriveinwv

Wishing all our good friends and neighbors a holiday filled with good times, joy and laughter. Serving you has been a real treat for us. Thanks!

Merry Christmas
ATLANTIC OIL COMPANY
304.358.2242

The First Noel

Like the shepherds in the fields on that holy night so long ago, our faith is renewed and our spirits lifted as we celebrate the Miracle of Christmas.

Merry Christmas Happy New Year
Thank You
HARPERS OLD COUNTRY STORE

Joy

LOVE, HOPE & PEACE AT CHRISTMAS

Thanks for stopping in. May the spirit of the season fill you with joy through the coming year.

Mid-Atlantic Group
INDEPENDENT INSURANCE BROKERAGE
6 Mountain View St. - Petersburg

WESTFIELD INSURANCE
Sharing Knowledge. Building Trust.
304.257.4616

Jesus IS THE Reason FOR THE Season

Thanks for your support during the past year!
CIRCLEVILLE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Seasons Greetings!

Warm winter wishes for a wonderful holiday season!

Summit COMMUNITY BANK
"Service Beyond Expectations"

Proudly serving our communities for over 140 Years!

MONTEREY STOCKYARD LLC.
Regular & Graded Sales - Barry Wilkins (540)607-6032

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

Sharing Our Thanks at Christmas

Of all the gifts the holidays bring, the support of this community is the one that makes us most grateful. Thanks to each of our valued customers for your trust in us.

We hope your season is full of happy surprises!

J & L Reconditioning
Brandywine ~ 304.249.5480