

THE PENDLETON TIMES

Serving the Community since 1913

\$1.00
Volume 111, Number 5

Franklin, Pendleton County, West Virginia 26807

Thursday
February 1, 2024

Rushing Rivers Rise and Roar after Rapid Snow Melt



Local rivers felt the impact of quickly melting snow. The North Fork roils as it passes under the Veterans Killed in Action Memorial Bridge in Riverton.

Christian Assistance Network Reviews Progress in 2023

By Stephen Smoot

On a (relatively) warm January day last week, the Franklin based Christian Assistance Network (or C.A.N.) held its yearly recap meeting.

This organization serves the county by taking in food donations from a variety of sources both large and small. Food then gets distributed through their facility next door to Pendleton County Middle/High School.

Pastor Debbie Beam, who recently moved to the area from Greenbrier County, led the prayer to start the meeting. She said, "We thank You Lord for all the blessings You have given us."

Then Carol Windett, acting president of C.A.N., said, "Welcome to all of you."

Seventeen board members, volunteers, and others attended the meeting and all were asked to introduce themselves. Pastor Beam shared that she served for 40 years in the education field in her home county and now serves with the Presbyterian churches in Franklin and Ruddle.

When her turn came up to introduce herself, long time member Eve

Firor discussed the history of the organization. She talked about when C.A.N. first moved to its current building, which she described as a "derelict building" owned by Pendleton County Schools. They made an agreement with the school system to renovate the structure, use one part of it as a food bank and allow the rest to be used as storage.

Pendleton County Schools accepts \$10 per year as a lease on the property. The board of education just this month approved another year's lease at the same rate.

Firor shared stories of how volunteers flocked to wash down and spruce up the building, which had layers of soot on the interior from years of use of a coal fired heating system.

"That's the way C.A.N. is," Firor said. "They (helpers) just show up when you need them."

First, the board heard the treasurer's report. Sheila Davis gave a precise accounting of the finances, including noting a deposit from the James Simpson Trust in the amount of \$14,992.86. Simpson remains a mystery to the board despite the large sum that he willed to them on his death.

Davis explained that "he had been from Pendleton County, but he moved away. He thought C.A.N. was a wonderful thing and he wanted to support it".

Firor noted that "he's been gone from here years and years and years."

The next order of business lay in selecting a slate of officers for 2024. Board members agreed to approve it "as a chunk," or simultaneously. When presented with the list of officers, including Pastor Beam as the new president, Windett returning to her role as vice president, Davis remaining treasurer, and Sherry Crigler staying on as secretary, the board voted unanimously in favor.

Shirley Shank spoke up and suggested that the board discuss either naming an executive director or allowing Beam as presi-

dent to assume the duties of that office. Presidents of boards generally run meetings while executive directors represent the organization and handle day to day responsibilities. Firor had served in that position for years, but recently those duties were split among different volunteers.

Shank said that those duties would include working with the press, representing C.A.N. at community meetings, including the school board, and other tasks. She added praise of the Pendleton County School board for running meetings "like clockwork."

Beam responded that "I'd be perfectly comfortable doing that."

The board then heard from Edna Mullenax who represented Eastern Action and came to share information about the Family Support Center that opened in December. Before she started, Beam asked that if a person in need received their allotment of food from C.A.N., but still faced problems, could they turn to the Family Support Center.

Mullenax answered in the affirmative, then started her presentation.

The center welcomes families from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. during business days and often schedules evening activities at the center or with partners in the community, such as the Pendleton County Library. It connects struggling families with vital resources while providing a safe space for them to ask questions, learn skills, or sometimes simply vent about the frustrations of day-to-day life.

Mullenax shared that two high schoolers had joined the center's advisory committee. She said they got "great input from these young people."

Beam, who officially assumed the presidency after the meeting, said that the ministerial association is "also available to help them if they have a need outside of food."

The next meeting will take place Jan. 23, 2025.



Quill Ward shared lessons from six generations of family farming and his own trial and error experience of extending grazing times.

Meeting Attendees Hear About Extending Grazing Time

By Stephen Smoot

Chilly evening temperatures and lingering snow on the ground did not dampen attendance at the West Virginia University Extension meeting dinner last Tuesday night. Brooke Alt, Pendleton County Extension Agent, told the group, "This is probably the largest group that we've had since pre COVID."

This despite the postponement for weather from last week.

Festivities opened at 6:30 with social time and the serving of dinner. The Upper Tract 4-H Producers prepared a meal of baked steak with gravy, green beans, dinner roll, potatoes, lemonade, iced tea, coffee, and a range of different pies to enjoy.

Before excusing tables to line up and get dinner, Alt implored guests to help fill the other extension agent position. She said, "If you know anybody who is interested in being an extension agent, tell them to go to the WVU website and apply for the job."

Vanessa Harper, United States Department of Agriculture veterinarian for the state and Seneca Rocks resident, discussed updates to the premises

ID program. She said, "We've updated to 911 addresses. If we have some kind of disease outbreak, it's important that we do that. The premises ID program from USDA, according to its webpage, "is a unique code that is permanently assigned to a single physical location." The purpose "allows animal health officials to quickly and precisely identify where animals are located in event of an animal health or food safety emergency."

Alt then introduced the new Pendleton County service forester from the West Virginia Division of Forestry. Curtis Betty discussed the three priorities of the agency - working with logging and loggers, landowner assistance, and the prevention and fighting of wildfires.

Betty reported that 2023 presented a challenging year for those engaged in the third area of focus. He said that more than 1,000 fires damaged approximately 43,000 acres across the state. They came in "different sizes and different complexities" from the two massive fires that afflicted Pendleton County last year to a single one "the size of a tabletop."

He said firefighting success is helped by the fact

Continued on Page 3

Area Judicial Circuit Drug Court Holds Graduation at Hampshire Park

By Stephen Smoot

"It's not fun and games to get there or go through it," said Circuit Court Judge H. Charles Carl as he opened his judicial circuit's drug court commencement. Last week, the assembled group honored eight graduates.

The late Judge John Yoder of Jefferson County, an early advocate of the program, said in a 2015 speech at a drug court graduation, that "it's easier to go through simple probation, but this program gives you the tools to stay drug free. He added some key advice in "don't associate with those who got you in trouble or encouraged that behavior."

Carl opened with strong praise for April Mallow, prosecuting attorney of Pendleton County, as well as her colleagues in Hampshire and Hardy counties. Carl explained that "they take time out of their schedules" and that they are "an integral part of our success."

Also, according to Carl, "drug courts with participation from prosecuting attorneys have a 90 percent higher success rate."

Mallow explained how prosecutors assist the drug court, saying that she is engaged in "helping to assess individuals within our Court System who may be eligible and will also benefit from the program."

Carl also expressed appreciation for Roger Dahmer, Pendleton County Commissioner, who he said "drove down from Franklin to be with us." In addition to David Cannon, commissioner from Hampshire County, he said, "Thank you gentlemen, very much."

Additionally, each of the eight graduates received a personalized certificate from



Judge H. Charles Carl opens the 2024 Drug Court Graduation ceremonies at Hampshire Park.

US Senator Joe Manchin, with the message "we're extremely proud of you."

At the end of his talk, Carl stated that graduation represents a beginning, adding, "We just gave you the tools to make 'good choices.' You now can decide what life is going to look like."

The next speaker, Derek Stewart, said that "from a young age, I hated being alive," but that "graduation day (from drug court) is still my proudest accomplishment."

Mallow explained that drug court "helps them to learn how to become productive members of society" through both building the participant up and also strictly holding them accountable. "I have seen successful participants go into drug court as a shell of the person they used to be, or should be, and come out with the tools to succeed in overcoming addiction and a sense of self-worth," she said.

Two graduates courageously stood before the packed room, opened themselves up, and told stories about the worst periods of their lives - and how drug court helped them to escape.

George Johnson of Hardy County identified himself at the start as "a son, a brother, a father, a grandfather, and an addict." He explained his descent into drug abuse by saying "I never thought I was hurting anyone but myself."

Johnson's story is typical. It is no steady rise to completion and success, but a tale of achievements and setbacks. At one point, while participating in the South Branch Day Report Center program, he got clean, but "within three months I was back on meth."

Drug court and the Pathways treatment center helped Johnson rebuild himself. "For once in my life, I saw myself as more than an addict," he shared.

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Community CALENDAR

Post 30 To Meet

American Legion Pendleton Post 30 will meet at 6:30 p.m. Feb. 7 at the Star Restaurant in Franklin. (Note change in meeting date.)

Activities Planned At Family Support Center

Upcoming activities scheduled at the Pendleton County Strive to Thrive Family Support Center in Franklin are puzzles and PlayDoh at 10 a.m. Feb. 6 and movie night at 6 p.m. Feb. 9.

For more information, call 304-538-7711.

OBITUARIES



Janice C. Nitti

Janice C. Nitti passed away peacefully at home on Jan. 17, 2024.

She was born in Newark, New Jersey, and raised in Maplewood, New Jersey.

Throughout her life, she was a realtor in sales and acquisitions in Lakewood, New Jersey. Her success as a realtor was paralleled by the successes of her family.

She loved to dance, and she could always be found on the dance floor. If she was not on the dance floor the beach was where one could find her. Her presence will be deeply missed by all who

had the pleasure of knowing her. May she rest in eternal.

Left to cherish her memory are her beloved daughter, Jacqueline "Jackie" Redmond, and husband, Derek of Brandywine; a son, Ronald Matthew Nitti; a dear brother, James Vinciguerra, and wife, Bonnie; nephew, Anthony Vinciguerra; and many cousins and friends.

She took great joy in being a doting grandmother to her adored grandchildren, Katie, Shannon and Derek Michael Redmond, who she cherished dearly. She would always take the time to spend with them on adventures to the beach or to be pirates or any other thing she could come up with. She would attend every event she could, and if she was not able to be there she would expect all the pictures and videos. She also has two other grandchildren, William and Hannah Nitti.

A memorial service will be held at 3 p.m. Saturday at Living Faith Church in Franklin.

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



Virginia Mae (Rexrode) Pitsenbarger

Virginia Mae (Rexrode) Pitsenbarger, 97, of Amherst, Virginia, passed away Jan. 27, 2024, at Fairmont Crossing Health and Rehab in Amherst, Virginia.

She was born June 6, 1926, in Doe Hill, Virginia, a daughter of the late William Ernest and Dora (Simmons) Rexrode.

The eldest child, she grew up between Doe Hill, Virginia, and Moyers, where she helped both her dad on the farm, as well as her mother in the home with housework and the care of her younger siblings. At times she would stay with neighbors when they were expecting a baby, providing care to the other children. She was a student at a local one-room school and attended St. Paul Lutheran

Church.

She and her husband, Henry Clay Pitsenbarger, whom she married on May 19, 1951, bought a farm adjacent to her parents on Hiner Mill Road where they lived until 1959. At that time her husband received a teaching job and they moved their four small children to Amherst County in Virginia. Once settled in, the family started attending Amherst Baptist Church. In her later years she was very involved with the Ruth Sunday School class, helping prepare and serve Wednesday evening youth meals and serving on a committee to provide various other meals. They maintained their connection to St. Paul Lutheran Church by attending each time they returned to the farm.

In Amherst, Virginia, she applied her work ethics from growing up on the farm as she and her husband always had a large garden. She canned and shared the summer bounty with friends and neighbors. In the spring, she enjoyed gathering and preparing water cress and dandelions and her numerous house plants attested to her "green thumb." She continued gardening into her late 80s.

Mrs. Pitsenbarger's nur-

turing ways continued as she cared for her family and started babysitting for several of her husband's coworkers. Once word about her caring nature spread, more teachers sought her out. By the time she retired in 1980, she was caring for 11 children, aged infant to school age, as well as several after school. In her spare time, she enjoyed working on puzzles. Above all, she will be remembered for the love and time she spent enjoying her family and friends.

Her husband, Henry Clay Pitsenbarger, preceded her in death on Feb. 18, 2000.

She is survived by sons, Wendell and wife, Rebecca of Altavista, Virginia, Harold and wife, Susan of Amherst, Virginia, and Larry and wife, Ruth of Bellevue, Nebraska; a daughter, Betty Artman and husband, Delroy of Berwick, Pennsylvania; sisters, Annie Simmons of Bridgewater, Virginia, and Norma Cunningham and husband, Paul of Williamsville, Virginia; sister-in-law, Mary Ann Rexrode of Winchester, Virginia; five grandsons, Christopher Artman and wife, Louise of Berwick, Pennsylvania, Benjamin Artman and wife, Emily of Catawissa, Pennsylvania, Timothy Artman and wife, Janice of

Bloomsburg, Pennsylvania, John Kerns IV and wife, Susannah of Richmond, Virginia, and Dr. Robnet Kerns and wife, Tammy of Raleigh, North Carolina; nine great-grandchildren, Elyse, Eden, Estelle, Isaac, Emma and Virginia Artman, Lily, John V. and Olivia Kerns; and numerous nieces, nephews and cousins.

She was also preceded in death by a grandson, Matthew Tyler Pitsenbarger; sisters, Beulah Rexrode, Mary Eckard and Lena Simmons Shifflett; infant sister, Luella; and brother, Russell Rexrode.

A funeral service will be held at 1 p.m., Friday at Obaugh Funeral Home in McDowell, Virginia, with Rev. Jerry Smith officiating. Burial will follow in St. Paul Independent Lutheran Church Cemetery.

Her grandsons will serve as pallbearers.

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

Memorial donations may be sent to St. Paul Cemetery Association, c/o Joeann Moyers, 1685 Doe Hill Road, Sugar Grove, WV 26815.

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



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WVU Extension Service

Continued From Page 1

that “we work closely with the VFDs.”

Betty also advised that landowners can partake in the “firewise” program where “we come out and give your property a rating to see how susceptible you are to wildfires.”

Alt then brought forward the keynote speaker, Quill Ward. Ward joked during his presentation that many regular attendees had tired of “professors who don’t own cows” advising them on how to farm. His bio described him as a “sixth generation agriculturalist to live and work on his family’s beef cattle operation. He owns and manages 280 cows, as well as 60 yearling heifers.”

Ward shared his years of experience in using “trial and error” to develop his own best practices in “keeping grass grazeable for as long as possible, even after ice and snow lay on it.” He admitted that even sometimes “my family thinks I’m nuts” and that some things worked and some didn’t.

He spoke about where he got his ideas and encouraged attendees to go to every informational dinner meeting possible. Ward explained that his father taught him that some will work and some won’t, but that “it’s what you take out of it and move forward with” that matters.

Ward described one of his “errors,” using

chicken litter to fertilize his pasture in such a way that the hay grew in too thick. Cutting the 18 acres took three hours and resulted in the sacrifice of a lot of broken equipment.

He also shared ideas that he said allowed his pastures to continue supporting grazing well into winter. Ward advised that hay should never be cut or grazed too close to the ground, that leaving more inches allowed the pasture to continue to sustain itself. “The biggest factor,” he stated, “to extend your time is rest period.”

The presentation included videos of cattle using their noses to dig through inches of snow to get to the grass beneath, rather than going to the hay bale on the nearby truck.

One of the main benefits of adopting this system may also promote keeping farms in family hands. Ward said, “After my generation, there isn’t anyone wanting to do hard work.” Taking as much labor from the work of farming as possible may keep more young people interested in the field.

Of his own kids, he said of their farming future that he wanted them to do it if they wanted to, not out of a sense of legacy. Ward added that “I want them to come back and have every opportunity I had.”

Callison, Smith, Fertig Named PCH/MS Students of the Month

Kaylee Callison, Marcus Smith and Lani Fertig have been named outstanding students of the month for November at Pendleton County High/Middle School.

Callison is the November Academic Student of the Month. She is the daughter of Brandon and Misty Drake of Franklin. She is a member of the National Honor Society, Pep Club and Derek Hinkle’s Film Society, and serves as historian for the class of 2024. She is also president of FFA and has proudly earned her Chapter Degree. She is currently a waitress at the Star Restaurant and volunteers at Faithful Friends Animal Clinic. She plans to attend Bethany College in the fall to pursue a degree in pre-veterinary medicine. She hopes to attend an out-of-state veterinary school and earn a doctorate degree in veterinarian medicine as well.

The James Huffman Responsible Student of the Month for November is Smith. He is an active member of the National Honor Society of High Scholars, a member of Upward Bound, and is on the A/B Honor Roll. He has participated in track and field for four years. He also loves to play basketball and go fishing. A senior, he plans to further his education to become an electrician. He is the son of Amalia Villalobos of Brandywine.

The Pendleton County Middle School Student of the Month is Fertig, an eighth-grade student. She plays volleyball at PCMS, is

active on the student council, and is a proud honor roll student. Her hobbies include cooking and playing volleyball. In the future, she plans to become a detective. She is the daughter of Jeremy and Cathi Eye of Fisher.



Lani Fertig



When the weather turns cold, it can bring a chill into our homes. Portable space heaters have become a popular way to supplement central heating or heat one room. If you plan to use portable electric space heaters, make sure to follow these tips and recommendations:

HEATER CHECKLIST

- Purchase a heater with the seal of a qualified testing laboratory.
- Keep the heater at least 3 feet (1 metre) away from anything that can burn, including people.
- Choose a heater with a thermostat and overheat protection.
- Place the heater on a solid, flat surface.
- Make sure your heater has an auto shut-off to turn the heater off if it tips over.
- Keep space heaters out of the way of foot traffic. Never block an exit.
- Keep children away from the space heater.
- Plug the heater directly into the wall outlet. Never use an extension cord.
- Space heaters should be turned off and unplugged when you leave the room or go to bed.

Types of electric space heaters

- Oil or water-filled radiator**
Heated oil or water travels through the heater.
- Fan-forced heater**
A fan blows warm air over metal coils.
- Ceramic heater**
Air is warmed over a ceramic heating element.
- Infrared heaters**
Heat is created by infrared bulbs.

Fact

Two in five deaths in space heater fires involve portable electric space heaters.

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Kaylee Callison and Marcus Smith

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20 Years Ago
Week of January 29, 2004

**Local NWTF Chapter
Receives Major Awards**

Only two and a half years old and already one of Pendleton County's fastest growing organizations, the National Wild Turkey Federation, Potomac Headwaters chapter, came away from the recent NWTF state banquet in Flatwoods with the top honors in West Virginia for the organization's banquet in Franklin last June.

The local chapter received a handsome plaque for staging the most successful banquet in state history for the NWTF. The plaque states that the Potomac Headwaters chapter was the first in West Virginia to mount an "80 percent banquet."

(The "80 percent" refers to a formula devised by the national organization for ranking NWTF banquets.)

The Potomac Headwaters chapter was also awarded three colored ribbons for their exceptional banquet, which consisted of food, a lively auction conducted by State Senators Walt Helmick and Mike Ross and the raffling off of numerous guns and other items.

Larry Simon, the president of the Potomac Headwaters chapter, received the plaque from Bob Farkasousky, the state director of the NWTF.

Simon said the success of the record-setting banquet was owed to the local merchants and businesses that sponsored it and generously contributed the many items auctioned away by Helmick and Ross.

This past year, the NWTF also staged the first annual JAKES event, an educational program for young hunters, and purchased 76 turkeys which were given away to needy families at Thanksgiving by the county ministerial association and the Christian Assistance Network.

30 Years Ago
Week of February 3, 1994

DAHMER

**Old Timers Known
By Their
Slang Expressions**

Some humorous sayings often used by the local folks who have gone on to their reward such as, By Crackety—Hendron Propst; By Gum—Alben Pitsenbarger; By George—Walter Mullenax; By Grabs—John A. Pitsenbarger; By Jolly—Jacob L. Mitchell; By Heavens—Frances (Franie) Propst; By Gosh—Mabel (Propst) Pennybacker; Aw Shaw—Will Weese; Deed and Double—A. Russell Pitsenbarger; Now Let Me Tell You—Sam Mitchell; Aw Shucks—Alva Propst.

40 Years Ago
Week of January 26, 1984

**Frigid Blast
Hits Pendleton**

A freezing rain early Tuesday morning resulting in icy roads and hazardous travel brought to an end several days of severe winter weather in Pendleton County.

The wintry blast began last Wednesday morning with a snowfall that deposited six to 10 inches of snow throughout

the county. Temperatures dropped to sub-zero readings both Friday and Saturday mornings. Temperatures in various sections of the county ranged from five to 16 degrees below zero on both mornings.

DAHMER

The cold weather January 20-21-22, called the Siberian Express because it came from Siberia by way of the polar region and western Canada, pushed temperatures to a record low at Virgil Rexrode's on the South Fork Mountain, on Friday with a low of 18 below and Saturday a whopping 24 degrees below zero were recorded. At John L. Harper's store at Moyers the temperature stood at 20 below zero Friday, 18 below Saturday and 14 below Sunday. At Dillon S. Propst's store at Sinnett's Lane, 18 below Friday, 20 below Saturday and 12 degrees below zero Sunday. B-r-r-r!

Week of February 2, 1984

DAHMER

This snowy winter night of January 30 is a splendid time to look forward, also back to December 24, 1927, when seven gallons of gas cost \$1.68 at Main Street Garage at Franklin. A Model T Ford car license for the year of 1928 was \$13.00. Grover C. Evick bought 40 sugar cakes at 10 cents apiece on February 19, 1927. In February 1927 Eliza (Rexrode) Dahmer's coffin cost \$65.00. The Franklin District Road Fund for a day's work on the road paid \$2.00 on May 2, 1927. Here is an example of some free labor donated by the older pupils at the Dahmer School for the school year of 1926-1927—scrubbing the Dahmer Schoolhouse the first time were Verona Dahmer, Mary Snyder, Russell Blizzard, Lillie, Russell, Herbert and Alston Propst. The second time were Verona and Elvira Dahmer, Edith Mitchell, Mary and Bennie Snyder, Russell Blizzard, Alston, Herbert, Russell and Lillie Propst.

On the morning of January 24, the ice on the back roads at high elevations brought the traffic almost to a halt. Only the bravest ventured out. Bruce Moyers, by using chains on his four-wheel drive, delivered the mail on the mail routes for Mr. and Mrs. Ira Judy.

60 Years Ago
Week of February 6, 1964

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.

**South Starts Drafting Men
From 17 to 50**

Heated debates were going on in Thomas Jefferson's old capital building at Richmond, Va., 100 years ago this week.

The Confederate Congress, which had passed the first national draft law ever adopted in America in 1862, was in the process of adopting a new draft law that went far beyond its predecessor. The law would make all white men from 17 to

50 subject to the draft.

And although it met stiff resistance in the Southern Congress, the bill was enacted, to become effective February 17. The law later drew the comment from General Grant that the South was drafting men "from the cradle to the grave."

Under the new law, white men from 17 to 50 were declared to be in the army for the rest of the war. Youngsters 17 and 18 and men from 45 to 50 were to register within 30 days to form reserves that would fight only within their home states.

The rest—those between 18 and 45—were to remain in the army (most already were in) for the duration.

Negroes, too, were affected. Both freed Negroes and slaves, with certain exemptions, could be called for service in hospitals, war factories or in fortifications. However, no slave owner could lose his only slave, and none lose more than one in five.

The bill provided exemptions for men in necessary work. These included top elected officials and government administrators, ministers, superintendents and physicians of insane asylums, one editor on each newspaper, one apothecary for each shop existing October 1, 1862, physicians who had practiced seven years and had attained age 30, college professors, some teachers, public printers and men personally exempted by the president or state governors.

Men who were physically unfit for the army were to work as clerks or in such militarily necessary fields as food production and railroad transportation.

The draft act was never to be a huge success. Southern governors considered it an infringement upon states' rights, and some of them used their personal powers to exempt thousands of potential draftees. In areas of the South, there was open defiance of the act.

But the act may have stimulated a far more important development in the Southern armies during the early spring of 1864. In the Confederate armies, soldiers—realizing that their war was far from won—accepted the fact that they would fight until the matter had been decided. Despite desertions and desperate shortages in the military, the Confederate armies kept their strength during that winter, and as events were to show later, those armies still had plenty of fight in them.

Next week: Sherman's war of destruction.

70 Years Ago
Week of January 28, 1954

EDITORIAL

WE ARE HONORED ---

Although weather conditions in 1953 were 22 per cent dryer than in 1952, the damage caused by forest fires in West Virginia was only about one-half as much. This substantial reduction in forest fire damage is largely a result of an increased awareness by the public of the cost of forest fires and a more determined effort to suppress

them.

At the beginning of the fire season last fall, The Pendleton Times published a special section on forest fire prevention. It included a number of fire prevention ads, articles on the causes and effects of forest fires written by local citizens and the winning essays in the fire prevention contests held in the Franklin and Circleville high schools.

Last week the Times received a Citation by the West Virginia Forest Fire Protective Association, the West Virginia Forest Council and the Conservation Commission for "outstanding effort and achievement in public information and education to prevent forest fires in West Virginia."

While we are proud of this Citation we know that there are others who deserve this honor even more than we do. Connor Kelly, the local forester deserves the lion's share of the credit, for it was he who worked up the campaign and made it a success. Those who sponsored the fire prevention ads deserve special credit because without them the special section would not have been possible. Also Dr. Thacker, Glen DePue, John Dahmer, Dave Judy, Eldon Hottinger and the others who wrote the interesting articles discussing the forest fire hazards played a major part in this cooperative effort to preserve our most precious natural resource, the beautiful forests of West Virginia.

Week of February 4, 1954

EDITORIAL

Enforcement Problems ---

Last Wednesday night hunting and fishing enthusiasts from the eastern part of the state gathered at Petersburg for a Conservation Commission sponsored meeting. This was one of the regular meetings that the Commission holds throughout the state to give local sportsmen an opportunity to express themselves concerning bag limits and conservation practices in general.

After discussing various problems of conservation rather extensively, a couple of questions were raised which were of unusual interest to those attending the meeting, both as sportsmen and as landowners. The first was, "Why is it that conservation officers do not enforce the law which prohibits hunting on posted land?" The second was, "May a conservation officer enter upon privately owned land and arrest the owner of the land for hunting out of season?"

Concerning the first question, it was pointed out that the law provides it is unlawful to hunt on the enclosed or unenclosed land while it is posted belonging to another, unless the hunter has the written permission of the owner. The law also provides that it is not the duty of conservation officers to enforce this law, unless asked to do so by the owner of the land.

The question of a conservation officer's authority to arrest a landowner for hunting on his own land out of season is an

old favorite among landowners. This question, of course, grows out of the feeling that when a man buys land and pays for it, it is his and he should be permitted to do with it as he pleases. However, the fact that is lost sight of here is that the state owns all wild game and fish in the state, whether on private land or not. Since the state owns the game and fish, the state can pass laws regulating hunting and fishing.

And of course officers can enforce the laws even though it may be necessary for them to go on private land to do so. The fact that landowners are seldom arrested for hunting on their land out of season indicates that they obey the law just as other sportsmen do.

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The Pendleton Times is published weekly by Mountain Media LLC, 77 North Main St., Franklin WV 26807. Periodicals Postage Paid at Franklin WV 26807 and at additional mailing offices.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Pendleton Times P.O. Box 906, Franklin, WV 26807

Subscription Rate: \$37.00 a Year In-State \$39.00 a Year Out-of-State Phone: 304-358-2304 Email: ads@pendletontimes.com

**Smith Creek/
Friends Run**

by Dave Ellis

This coming Friday is Groundhog Day, marking the halfway of winter. Only six more weeks of winter as spring arrives on March 19.

The area was blessed with unusual warm weather last week. Now the weather is back to normal. The area received lots of rain during the weekend.

Smith Creek and Friends Run Churches of the Brethren: shut-ins - Mary Mitchell, Bucky Moyers, Pam Riner, Anna Tesi, Alice Johnson, Arlin Dale and Freda Jamison, Hazel Simmons, Reva Hartman, Larry Moyers, Mary Alice Simmons, Sandy Washburn, Sandra Vandevander and Woodrow Hartman; prayer list - Richard Campbell, Tristan Hartman, Joshua Shirk, Ava George, Roberta Bennett, Kenny Williams, Dennis Mitchell, Debbie Horst, Myrtle Hammer, Pam Rexrode, Nancy George, Neal Eye, Margaret Wimer, Sherman Bennett, Donald Burns, David Bowers, Wendell and Darlene Nelson, Ruby Gail Roberson, Gary Hess, Ruth Bauer, Anna Mauzy, Linda Maxwell Looney, Gloria Moats, Martha R. Kimble, Bennie and Mary Alice Evick, Jimmie Bennett, Ruthalene Judy, Wayne Kimble, Stanley Propst and Leann Britton.

Prayer thought: "Our fears and heavy burdens give way to new hope when we accept the forgiveness and reconciliation Jesus freely offers."

High and low temperatures and precipitation for Jan. 22 through Jan. 28, followed by the same for last year, were as follows: Jan. 22 - 41°, 7° (37°, 31°, .04"); Jan. 23 - 50°, 27° (36°, 30°, .02"); Jan. 24 - 57°, 37° (45°, 27°, .25" snow); Jan. 25 - 63°, 48°, .03" (39°, 29°, .5" snow + .17"); Jan. 26 - 68°, 49° (37°, 26°); Jan. 27 - 60°, 44°, .7" (39°, 27°) and Jan. 28 - 45°, 39°, 1.03" (51°, 35°).

*February is
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February Second Is Noted for Diverse Reasons

Sugar Grove

By Paula Mitchell

Historically, February the second is best known as a Christian holiday called Purification of the Virgin, or Candlemas. On this day, the Anglican and Catholic churches give candles to worshippers. In the Greek Orthodox churches, this holiday is the anniversary of the Presentation.

Somehow the Candlemas has been associated with a rent-paying day, and weather forecasting ever since the Middle Ages. It is the latter that this area is best known.

That furry critter is becoming the center stage on Friday. The groundhog is the most common name of this ground squirrel. It goes by other names such as the woodchuck, land beaver, whistler, and even whistle pig. Whatever the name, there is a strong belief that this little burrowing mammal predicts the weather on February the second. This tradition is best known amongst the German ancestors.

February the second is the half-way point of winter. The claim is that if the groundhog sees his shadow, he goes back in his hole on that day because there will be six more weeks of winter weather. If it is cloudy, rainy, or snowy, and he doesn't see his shadow, the winter is almost over.

So, what will the prediction be on the second of February? Time will only tell.

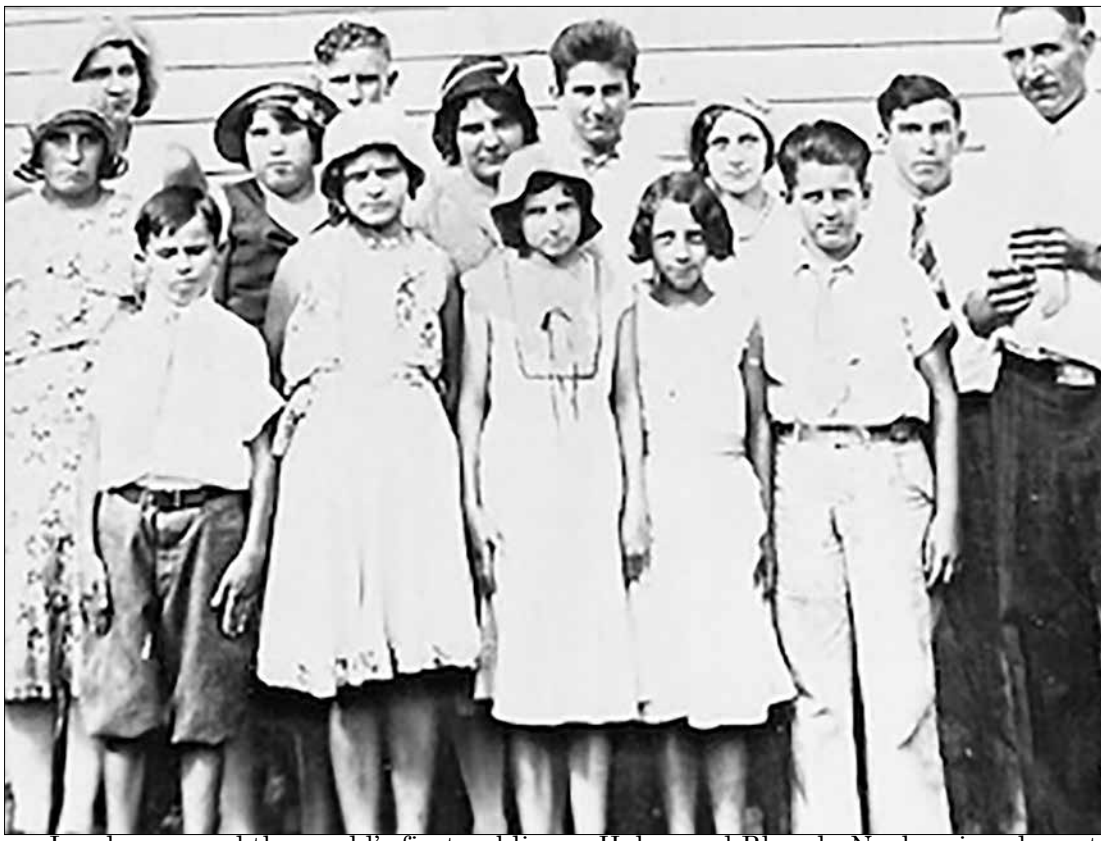
Life's little instructions include the following:

1. When one really likes someone, tell them. Sometimes a person only gets one chance.
2. Take a tour of one's hometown.
3. Show respect for teachers, police officers, and firefighters.
4. Whistle.
5. Let people pull in front of a person when one is stopped in traffic.

The river is swollen from the gentle rains the area has had in the last several days. Brooks, creeks, and streams have sent their water downstream. The answer to the need of water replenishment has come, and it is gratefully accepted.

Along with the moisture comes the fifth season of mud!

This week's clickety-clacks for the chin waggars are as follows:



London opened the world's first public flushing toilet in 1852. *Students attending the former Sugar Grove School were, from left, front row, Hurl Mitchell, Talma Mitchell, Leta Simmons, Margene Mitchell and Everette Rader; middle row, Eva Eckard, Cleo Eckard, Pauline Hoover, Emmor Hoover, Helen Puffenbarger, Gordon Todd and Ray Hoover (teacher); and back row, Emma Ruth Mitchell and Leland Bowers.*

flushing toilet in 1852.

• Groundhogs are lousy weather predictors.

• Originally, February was made the last month of the calendar year.

• Massachusetts, Oregon, Arizona and Mississippi entered the United States in February.

• In some cultures, winter is a time for storytelling.

Sitting by the fireplace is where one can hear the "Talk of the Grove."

Shaun, Ava, and Leslie Bowers enjoyed a weekend in Davis with Laura George and Brian, Reshella, and Hudson Leary. They went sledding at Blackwater Falls and celebrated Hudson's birthday.

Visitors of Rosalee Grogg were Terri Grogg, Marleta Wimer, Claude Castleberry, Madison Grogg, and Asher Mauzy.

Visiting with K.D. Puffenbarger was his neighbor, Phil Downs.

Eddie Rader of Davis visited in the home of Willard and Judy Rader Thursday. They had 28 inches of snow in Davis.

Helen and Rhonda Nash enjoyed meet-
ing daughters/sisters, Terri Lowery and Vickie Nash, for lunch at the Cracker Barrel in Waynesboro, Virginia, last week. It was a belated celebration for Terri, Vickie, and Helen, all with January birthdays.

The Sugar Grove Lions Club held its monthly meeting this past Thursday. Planned activities for the coming year were discussed. The Lions Club International Foundation gave Brandon Mitchell, club president, the Melvin Jones Fellowship Award.

Quotes for the week are as follows:

"I need a long, cold winter." — John Rzeznik

"To appreciate the beauty of a snowflake, it is necessary to stand out in the cold." — Aristotle

"In seed time learn, in harvest time teach, in winter enjoy." — William Blake

"Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere." — Martin Luther King, Jr.

"One kind word can warm three winter months." — Japanese Proverb

February birthdays include Dave Gil-

ispie, first; Carolyn Smith, second; Bernie Sasscer, Tom Mitchell, Vanessa Moats and Steven Grogg, fourth; Patsy Bennett and Rhonda Stump, fifth; Eddie Smith, Liz Armstrong, Charles Cook and Gloria Moats, sixth; Hannah Koontz, seventh; Lannie Mitchell and Mary Eye, eighth; Danny Gillispie, ninth; Pat Hoover, Violet Aumann and Dennis Hull, 11th; Virginia Propst, 12th; Madison Grogg, Peggy Bodkin and Pam Rexrode, 13th; Jennifer Simmons, Donna Ruddle and Dick Rexrode, 14th; and Calvin 'Buddy' Ruddle, Lisa Jamison, Judy Vance and Joyce Moates, 15th.

Concerns for this week are many, and they are as follows: Bob Adamson, Rick Adkins, Charles and "Pidge" Anderson, Roger and Joan Ashley, Mercedes Aumann, Lynn Beatty, "Bo" Boggs, Dewayne Borrer, Jane Conrad, Marie Cole, Norma Propst Cunningham, Christian Dasher, Isaac Eye, Marie Eye, Mary Eye, Neal Eye, Loralee Gordon, Lola Graham, Jordan Greathouse, Patsy Green, Rosalee Grogg, Marlene Harman, Marvin Hartman, Steve and Armanda Heavner, Grace Hedrick, George Hevener, Jackie Hill, Edsel and Mary Ann Hogan, Virgil Homan, Jr., Adelbert Hoover, Myrtle Hoover, Debbie and Enos Horst, Mike Jamison, Jessica Janney, Alice Johnson, Richard Judy, Marsha Keller, the Herbert Paul Ketterman, Jr. family, Danny Kimble, the Linda Weaver Kimble family, Dennis Kincaid, Kim Kline, Tracie Knight, Rev. Angela Lambert's father, Melissa Lambert, Robert Lambert, Ronnie Lambert, Rex Landis, the Pat Lang family, Roger and Skip Mallow, Yvonne Marsh, Anna Mauzy, Neil McLaughlin, Rose Miller, Bruce Minor, Tom Mitchell, Barbara Moats, Aaron Nelson, Ruth Nelson, Cheryl Paine, Alda Propst, John O. Propst, Kathy Propst, Mike Propst, Sheldon Propst, Brandon Reel, Charles Rexrode, Jason Rexrode, Pam Rexrode, Dennis Riggelman, Donna Ruddle, Annie Simmons, Phyllis Simmons, Erin Simmons, Eva Simmons, Kent Simmons, Robbie Sites, Donnie Smith, Stanna Smith, the Michael Steele family, Steve Stump, Rosa Tichenor, Sandra Vandevander, Evelyn Varner, Raymond Varner, Amy Vaus, Judy Williams and Margaret Wimer.

Safety Tips Listed for Pedestrians

At some point in the day, everyone is a pedestrian. Whether a person walks a child to school or walks from one's vehicle's parking lot to the office, each person walks where vehicles travel. Unfortunately, in 2021 there were 7,388 pedestrians killed in traffic crashes, a 12.5 percent increase from the 6,565 pedestrians' fatalities in 2020. This is the highest since 1981 when 7,837 pedestrians died in traffic crashes. On average, a pedestrian was killed every 71 minutes and injured every 9 minutes in traffic crashes in 2021.

People rarely are more vulnerable than when walking in urban areas, crossing busy streets, and negotiating traffic. Even rural areas can be dangerous to walk in, as many areas have no sidewalks, crosswalks, or safe spaces for walking. Since everyone is a pedestrian from time to time, it is important to pay attention to what is going on around one. That is why the West Virginia Governor's Highway Safety Program is sharing information on pedestrian safety this month.

"As both pedestrians and motorists, we all need to pay more attention to our surroundings. Vehicles are deadly weapons and, when combined with a pedestrian, can be deadly," said Amy Boggs, pedestrian/bicycle safety Coordinator for the GHSP.

"Thirty-six people died on West Virginia's roadways in 2021, while they were walking. That is 36 too many. Nearly all pedestrian-involved crashes are preventable. It all boils down to all of us paying attention, not being distracted or impaired, and slowing down," Boggs concluded.

Follow these tips to stay safe as a pedestrian:

- Pay attention. That means: Head Up, Phone Down.
- Stay alert. Don't wear ear buds.
- Whenever possible, walk on the sidewalk; if no sidewalk is available, walk facing traffic.
- Follow the rules of the road, obeying all traffic signs and signals.

• Cross streets at crosswalks.

• If no crosswalk is available and a person's view is blocked, move to a place where one can see oncoming traffic.

• Look left, right, and left again before crossing the street, making eye contact with drivers of oncoming vehicles to make sure they see a person.

• Avoid alcohol and drug impairment.

• Wear bright and/or reflective clothing and use a flashlight at night.

• Watch for cars entering or exiting driveways or backing up in parking lots.

• Children should cross the street with an adult.

Distracted walking incidents are on the rise, and everyone with a cell phone is at risk. People are losing focus on their surroundings and putting one's safety at risk. The solution: stop using phones while walking, and not just in crosswalks and intersections. Over half of distracted walking injuries occur in one's own homes, proving that a person needs to stay aware of one's surroundings whether indoors or out.

When driving, help keep pedestrians of all ages safe:

• Pay attention. Put the phone down and never drive while distracted.

• Obey all traffic laws, especially posted speed limits in school zones.

• Always watch out for pedestrians and be extra cautious when backing up.

• Yield to pedestrians in crosswalks, making eye contact to indicate that a person sees them.

• Never pass vehicles stopped at crosswalks.

• Do not drive under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs.

For more information about pedestrian safety, visit <https://www.nhtsa.gov/road-safety/pedestrian-safety>.

For more information about the West Virginia Governor's Highway Safety Program, visit [wvhighwaysafety.gov](https://www.wvhighwaysafety.gov), or call 304-926-2509.

Drug Court Graduation

Continued From Page 1

"Being in the throes of addiction," Mallow explained, "takes away a person's sense of purpose, but if they work this program, they have the opportunity to get it back."

Shannon Crowley of Hampshire County told attendees that "I didn't care about anything but men, drugs, and alcohol. I didn't even care for my child." Crowley's experience showed the damage that toxic relationships can do to an addict dealing with a number of life issues.

She said, "I thought I met the man of my dreams. He introduced me to heroin, which became the love of my life." Drug court taught Crowley that "no" is a complete sentence and that "a bad day sober is better than any day in addiction."

Crowley now works to help other addicts to navigate the process as a certified recovery coach and is studying to be a peer support specialist. Mallow stated that "successful individuals come out of

the program employed or employable, with a place to live and the ability to succeed in life."

After a slideshow documenting their journey toward a new life, one of the best, if unscripted, moments of the day occurred. As Joshua Dingess of Hardy County was introduced and strode forward to get his certificate, the whole room could hear a small child scream "way to go Josh!"

Carl explained after each graduate received their honors that "this is a unique program." It requires participants to both work on their sobriety and legal obligations, but also "they go through life. They work, they work through relationships, handling their day-to-day problems."

Dahmer said of the drug court program "I think it's great that people have a choice to go through this program. They get a chance at a normal life instead of spending their lives in jail."

Carl Announces Candidacy for Re-Election



H. Charles Carl, III, current Chief Judge of the 22nd Judicial Circuit (Hampshire, Hardy, and Pendleton counties), is announcing his candidacy for re-election to a second full term. Carl has been a Circuit Judge since 2013 and will appear on the ballot running in Division I of what will now be designated as the 26th Judicial Circuit beginning in 2025.

Judge Carl is a native of Springfield in Hampshire County. Before becoming Judge he practiced law for 25 years in Romney, primarily handling criminal, civil, and domestic litigation matters, but also handled other matters in the general practice of law, and served as general counsel and director for The Bank of Romney. He was president of the South Branch Valley Bar Association for many years.

Judge Carl has presided over criminal, civil, abuse and neglect, juvenile, and other cases in all three counties. He has also been assigned to serve as a Justice of the Supreme Court of Appeals of West Virginia on several occasions when a Justice was recused. He served a full seven year term as one of seven judges in the Business Court Division, exercising statewide jurisdiction to preside over complex civil cases involving business disputes. He is also Judge of the South Branch Valley Drug Court. Carl has been very active in the judiciary statewide, having served as President of the West Virginia Judicial Association, where he chairs two committees and serves on the Education Committee for judicial training and education, including new Judges' training. Carl was honored as a West Virginia Bar Foundations Fellow in 2022, is a member of the West Virginia Judicial Association, American Bar Association, and former member of the American College of Business Court Judges.

In seeking re-election, Carl stated, "I am extremely proud to have served as Circuit Judge these past ten years, and would be very honored if re-elected. Applying over 36 years of experience as a lawyer and Judge, I will strive to provide the very highest levels of professionalism, fairness, honesty, and integrity in carrying out my responsibilities and duties, which I take very seriously."

Judge Carl enjoys hunting and is a member of the Hampshire County Athletic Hall of Fame, and has coached youth basketball and other sports. He and his wife, Lisa, have three daughters and two granddaughters, and reside near Romney.

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Arrhythmia: fluttering feelings in the chest

Heart Failure: shortness of breath, fatigue, or swelling of the feet, ankles, legs, abdomen or neck veins

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Pendleton County Makes Statement in Big Win over Tygarts Valley

By Stephen Smoot

The sports media elite love to discuss “signature wins” that make a statement about the progress of a program. To them, only upset victories or defeats of the biggest and best count.

But other times, a team makes a statement in a win that shows how far it has come, as well as its potential to do even better in the future. The Wildcats made such a statement against a very good squad of Tygarts Valley Bulldogs.

Tygarts Valley brought a team with height, strength, athleticism, and discipline. They also have a tremendous asset in the fiery head coach Tom Wamsley whose 42 years of experience always makes them a tough out.

Pendleton County head coach Jeremy Bodkin noted, “He’s been there a long time, even when I was still playing. He does a great job.”

The Wildcats owned the opening tip, but the Bulldogs swiped the ball and immediately drew a foul. They missed the first two free throws, but grabbed an offensive rebound and scored a layup to take the early lead.

All night long, Bulldog athletes found a way to get rebounds in key situations and turn them into big plays.

Cashton Kisamore put the Wildcats on the board first with a post move and layup. Chase Owens quickly followed with a layup of his own at the 6:27 mark. Tygarts Valley retook the lead 30 seconds later with a layup. Kisamore then grabbed an offensive rebound and laid it in to give his team a 6-5 advantage, kicking off a 16 to five run over the remainder of the quarter.

Although Pendleton County kept the lead the rest of the way, the Bulldogs kept bringing the fight to the home team. For most of the night, the Wildcats would extend the lead to between seven and 12 points, only to see Tygarts Valley battle and close the gap.

Pendleton County started the second quarter with a 20-10 lead, but the Bulldogs buried a three-point shot only 10 seconds in. A free throw, a three-point shot, and a layup drew them within one at nearly the six minute mark. Three point makes by Josiah Kimble (from 21 feet away) and Henry Warner helped to push the lead back to nine with a little less than three minutes to play in the half.

After Tygarts Valley pulled to within six, Zykijah Wright, who played strong in the post all night, took an offensive rebound and scored to set the lead at 33-24. With 23 seconds left, a Kimble three gave Pendleton County a 12-point advantage, but a last second Tygarts Valley three sent their crowd into a celebratory frenzy and put the score at 41-32.

After the half, Coach Wamsley adjusted his defense to take away the Wildcats’ outside shooting. His outside players stuck close to Pendleton County’s shooters wherever they went. Bodkin also noted that Tygarts Valley unveiled a one two two full

court press that his squad had not seen from the Bulldogs prior.

Pendleton County’s guards adjusted well to the tight defense, using their quickness and ball handling to break down the defense and score more shots close to the basket. At the 7:10 mark, an Owens pass found Wright for a layup. Shortly after, Kimble drove to the 10-foot mark, pulled up and drained a shot. Next, Dusty Smith blew by his man and had a wide open lane to a layup. He gave his team a 47-35 lead with 5:25 left in the third quarter.

On offense, the Bulldogs tried to isolate one of their taller and bigger guards on Smith. They posted him up on Smith over and over to get shots close to the basket, but Smith battled him stoutly.

At the 3:42 mark, a Tygarts Valley defender collided hard with a Pendleton County player, knocking him to the floor. Without hesitation the Bulldog player helped him up, showing good sportsmanship in a very tightly contested game that Tygarts Valley desperately fought to win.

Both teams showed incredible patience on the offensive end, attacking the defense with deft passing and good ball handling. The main difference lay in that Wildcat shooters hit their marks more accurately than Tygarts Valley.

Tygarts Valley made a final push in the last minutes of the third and opening of the fourth. They tried to take advantage of Bodkin giving each of his main starting ball handlers significant rest, one at a time, before the last minutes of the contest. Jaydon Hess stepped in to give vital minutes, handling the ball and playing strong defense.

With one minute left, the Bulldogs hit a 10-foot jump shot, then followed that with a layup with 10 seconds in the quarter to set the score at 56-49.

A minute into the fourth, the visiting squad cut the lead to five with a layup. Pendleton County then went on a 10 to two run over the next two minutes and 20 seconds. One of the key plays was a technical foul called on a Bulldog – key because the officials called the game more closely for the duration to keep the game under control, taking away some of the aggressive play of Tygarts Valley defenders.

At this point, Pendleton County made their statement.

Both teams went into the final minutes exhausted, fighting for the win with great effort. Great teams in such situations find that higher gear and shift into it. They don’t play as if hoping for the game to end to seal the win, but go even harder after the other team to keep them from rising from the canvas after being knocked down.

At the 3:30 mark, Pendleton County did their 80s Lakers “Showtime” impression, using a pretty set of three passes to find Wright under the basket for a layup, to the delight of the home crowd. With 2:30 left, the Wildcats led by 16, but their opponents maintained their intensity as if they only trailed by one.



Dusty Smith launches a long distance shot as Wyatt Franklin (20) and Zykijah Wright position themselves to rebound in the win over Tygarts Valley.

Pendleton County maintained their pressure. Justus Kuykendall shut down the Bulldogs’ last hopes with a three with 1:36 left that put the score at 77-60. Caleb Armentrout closed scoring with a free throw to give his team a 78-60 win.

Kimble led the Wildcats with 20 points, including five three-point shots. Smith followed closely behind with 17, on seven of nine shooting from the field. Owens added 15, Kisamore 11, Wright six, Warner five, Kuykendall three, and Armentrout one. Wyatt Franklin, Bradey Bowers, and Hess brought fierce intensity to the defense.

The win served as a solid rebound from the tough loss against Petersburg earlier in the week. In the 69-64 setback, Owens led with 23 followed by Kimble with 19, Smith with eight, Kisamore and Bowers with four, and Wright and Warner each scored three.

Pendleton County hosted Tucker County and traveled to 10 and five Paw Paw, but both games were played after publication of this week’s edition. They travel to East Hardy tonight and to Moorefield for a Friday night rivalry showdown. Next week, the Wildcats travel to Harman on Monday, host East Hardy on Feb. 8 and Paw Paw on Feb. 10.

Wildcats Defeated at Home by 10th Ranked Vikings

By Stephen Smoot

Coming off strong wins against Pocahontas County and Tygarts Valley, Pendleton County played their third game in three days during a stretch that sees them in five games in six days. Inclement weather in January forced a number of rescheduled games, requiring the Wildcats to play an unusually packed set.

The Wildcats took the fight to Petersburg in their last outing, falling behind early, but outscoring them over the next three quarters. Though never threatened, coaches and players for the Vikings brought heightened intensity, determined to not permit an upset.

Petersburg took the opening tip and hit a three-point shot to commence scoring in the game. Last week, the Vikings established a commanding lead at the start. This time, the Wildcats brought more aggression on defense to start.

Avery Townsend, who continues to attack the opposition effectively on both ends of the court, dribbled in, then freed herself with a step back move and hit a 15-foot jump shot. Petersburg hit a layup, but the Wildcats responded as Susan Vincell took a pass, split two defenders, hit a layup, and drew a foul.

The Vikings went on an 11 to two run, but Townsend responded at the 2:10 point with an eight-foot jump shot after Jameigh Miller fired a pass to her from her knees. Teams have keyed on Townsend on the outside, resulting in fewer scoring opportunities for her, but opening up more big play chances for others.

With 1:25 left in the first, Jessica Parker lofted a baby hook to cut the lead to 18-10. Two free throws from Townsend cut it to six, but the Vikings hit two free throws to set the score at 20-12.

Once again, Pendleton County responded. Nataley Hedrick, known as a fierce and feisty rebounder and defender, hit a 10-foot baseline shot to once again put the Petersburg lead at six. It was the defense, however, that made the difference in the



Jessica Parker pivots to start a post move as Kiera Heavener works to get open against the Vikings.

first half. While not forcing as many turnovers, the Wildcats still made the Vikings work for shots and scores. In the second quarter, however, the Viking shooters heated up. They hit a trio of three pointers in the frame. Jenna Smith responded with a three at the 2:25 mark with Townsend gliding in for a layup shortly thereafter.

Smith Named Winner in Big Buck Photo Contest

The West Virginia Division of Natural Resources has announced the winners of the state’s third annual Big Buck Photo Contest. The 19 winners included five resident youths, five resident adults, four non-resident youths and five non-resident adults who were selected from a list of 55 finalists.

Monica Smith of Buckhannon and formerly of Brandywine was chosen as one of the five resident adult division winners. Smith shared the following regarding her hunt and harvest of the 10 pointer with a 22” spread.

“I hunted the Wednesday of rifle/buck season in beautiful Pendleton County on Smith Creek, a place my family and I love so very much. The land I hunted makes the hunt that much more special.

A very large buck was under my stand early that morning, but I was unable to get a shot. The beauty of the morning was watching several does fight right underneath me, but also this large buck in particular, I watched for a long period of time as he traveled a short distance away from me and very intently watched and then chased a doe out of sight. I was nervous and devastated all at the same time. It was the largest buck I had ever had that close of an opportunity to shoot.

Several hours later as I was about to finish hunting for the day, I looked ahead and a large buck walked right towards me, traveling to me from probably 200 yards away. He came within 20 yards and I took the opportunity for a shot. He traveled about 30 to 40 yards before falling. I have never hunted alone so I was very nervous, but I have listened and learned from others.

I have several people that played an important role in allowing me such a wonderful hunt, without them the hunt would not have been possible. Brooklyn, my daughter, was overjoyed and could not wait to help me the very best she could in dragging the deer. My cousin, Todd, has always allowed me an opportunity to hunt. My brother, Darren, and my nephew, Bryce, field dressed him for me and my cousin, Travis George, is bringing him back to life for me with a mount. I have learned hunting through help from both of my kids, just watching and learning from both of them.

Hunting is such a passion and what a wonderful state we have

to enjoy the sport.

I chose the lifetime hunting license as the prize offered through the WVDNR.”

“West Virginia’s hunting traditions are a big part of what makes our state so special and the Big Buck Photo Contest is just one of the ways we celebrate that heritage,” said Brett McMillion, WVDNR director. “I want to thank everyone who participated in the contest because your contributions not only help us showcase the excellent hunting opportunities in our state but will help us keep our outdoor tradition alive for generations to come.”

“Seeing families bonding over campfires, young hunters proudly displaying their first deer, and photographers capturing West Virginia’s breathtaking scenery through their lenses – these are the moments that truly warm my heart as a lifelong outdoorsman,” Gov. Jim Justice said. “I want to extend my heartfelt congratulations to the winners of our contest and thank everyone who shared their passion for West Virginia’s incredible hunting seasons. These stories prove, beyond any doubt, that West Virginia offers not just thrilling hunting, but also unparalleled natural beauty, shared traditions, and lasting memories. It’s truly Almost Heaven.”

The contest was open to residents and nonresidents and included a youth division for hunters 17 years of age and younger and an adult division for hunters 18 years of age and older. To enter, hunters were required to submit a photo with a buck they harvested during a 2023 hunting season along with a short account of their hunt. Each entrant was required to show proof of a valid 2023 West Virginia Hunting License and had to include their personal 13-digit DNR-issued game check number.

Finalists were chosen by random drawing from all eligible entries and winners were selected by a judging committee. Winning photos were selected based on photo composition, size of the buck’s antlers, number of antler points and how well the hunt was described.

The five resident youth winners will all receive one lifetime hunting and fishing license. The five resident adult winners can choose one lifetime hunting license or a two-night state forest



Monica Smith’s harvest of a trophy buck on Smith Creek earns her a winning entry in the Big Buck Photo Contest.

cabin stay. The four non-resident youth winners will all receive a Cabela’s prize package. The five non-resident adult winners can choose a two-night state forest cabin stay or two Pipestem Peaks Zipline tour passes.

WVU Releases Fall Honor Lists

Thirteen Pendleton County students attending West Virginia University in Morgantown were named to the college's honor lists for the fall semester.

Achieving the President's List with a 4.0 grade point average were Colton Batson (sustainable food and farming major), Carrigan Hedrick (fashion, dress and merchandising major) and Kaley Sponaugle (biology major), all of Brandywine and Marshall Harper (computer engineering major), Hallee Sites (biology major) and Rowan Witt (geology major), all of Franklin.

Named to the Dean's List were Corinne Hedrick (psychology major) and Hannah Koontz (nursing major), both of Brandywine, Kayla Phares (wildlife and fisheries resources major) and Gage Sites-Wood (engineering major), both of Circleville, Lindsey Houck (multidisciplinary studies major) and Joclyne Souza (engineering major), both of Franklin, and Sophia Harper (animal and nutritional sciences major) of Sugar Grove.

Students having a 3.5 grade point average or higher are named to the Dean's List.

PCM/HS Students Recognized For Academic Achievements

Ali Judy, Pendleton County High School counselor, announced the following honor rolls for the second nine-week grading period.

- Principal's Honor Roll (All A's)**
- Seventh grade — Ava Bowers, Laney Bowers, Tatum Aumann, Kinsely Price, Evie Nulph, Cohen Hielt, Abigail Judy, Mason Miller, Carolina Kimble, Ziva Jones, Jacey Thompson and Lauren Williams;
- Eighth grade — Jax Bennett, Samuel Eason, Dylan Eye, Alaena Fertig, Chloe Kisamore, Mason Harper, Katie Heavner, Katie Keyser, Phoebe Pownell, Albert Ramos-Rivera and Jonah See;
- Ninth grade — Alex Adams, Claire Adkins, Trey Armentrout, Olivia Gonsior, Cole Harper, Ty Heavner, Callie Judy, Jessica Parker, Gabriella Trail and Susan Vincell;
- Tenth grade — Madison Arbaugh, Breena Bowers, Mason DiFalco, Corbin Dove, Larissa Greathouse, Kiera Heavener, Dakota Huffman, Braylin Hull, Cashton Kisamore, Gena Lambert, Orrin Merrick, Jameigh Miller, Jaiden Mitts, Leah Nesselrodt, Chase Owens, Emily Poling, Vivian Pownell, Taylor Roberson, Lindsay Simmons, Carolyn Varner and Isabelle Zirkle;
- Eleventh grade — Elizabeth Alt, Sawyer Apple, Caleb Armentrout, Baylee Beachler, Leah Bennett, Madisen Brooks, Emma Hartman, Lydia Heavner, Ila Jones, Aubree Keiter, Josiah Kimble, Paigelyn Long, Jacob Mitchell, Titus Nulph, Addison Rexrode, Nicholas Rhodes, Jenna Smith, Makayla Tingler, Avery Townsend and Zykijah Wright; and
- Twelfth grade — Kaylee Arbogast, Margaret Connor, Claire Cooney, Allie Cooper, Natalie Evick, Katelyn Hedrick, Tanner Huffman, Myra Mitchell, Alexander Reyes, Dillon Smith, Dusty Smith, Megan Smith and Ally Vance.

- Regular Honor Roll (B/3.0 Average)**
- Seventh grade — Colton Drake, Aidynn Deshawne, Marley Champ, Lily Brogan, Blaine Cook, Tia Heavner, Landon Davis, Yaslin Cruz, Haileigh Alt, Bryce Propst, Carly Kimble, Katelyn Myers, Isabella Jameson, Ashlyn Wimer, Avionna Thurston, Jackson Wimer, Jaxon Simon, McKenzie Vandevander, Jude Propst and Jazmin Severance;

- Eighth grade — Shayne Clutter, Travis Owens, Kaylee Teter, Danielle Warner, Cameron Wyatt and Colton Roberson;
- Ninth grade — Zander Adams, Arianna Alt, Cayson Armstrong, Alyssa Bennett, Taylor Forbus, Summer Hull, Kali Johnson, Spencer Hartman, Trace Lambert, Autumn Lockard, David Noble, Cain Nulph, Bryn Reel, Molly Rowe, Bentley Ruddle, Hannah Schell, Colby Simmons, Liam Simmons, Madison Waybright-Bird, Kourtney Whetzel, Brody Wimer and Brennan Wyatt;
- Tenth grade — Jestani Atkins, Zackary Boggs, Landen Champ, Emily Conrad, Barrett Cook, Evelyn Ditch, Bethany Eye, Tildon Graham, Laikyn Hanna, Garrett Hartman, Makinley Hedrick, Jaydon Hess, James Martin, Ruby McClanahan, Kaitlyn McQuain, Clara Raines, Kamron Redman, Sadie Rowe, Jonas Turner, Brynlynn Waggy and Cheyanne Whetzel;
- Eleventh grade — Kinsley Armstrong, Hannah Bennett, Kacy Bennett, Timothy Bogan, Isabelle Engle, Thunder Gill, Cortlyn Hartman, Hannah Harvey, McKenna Hedrick, Ella Johnston, Isabella Lockard, Isaiah Lockard, Gracie Lough, Michael Miller, Julia Mongold, Andrew Mowery, Jaida Reel, Bryson Ruddle, Laney Sites-Woods, Johnnie Tidd, Jasper Tingler, Lucas Vandevander and James Vincell; and
- Twelfth grade — Jacob Buck, Makaylin Calkins, Kaylee Callison, Gabby DePue, Nataley Hedrick, Kinley Hinkle, Riley Howard, Seneca Johnson, Ashlyn Judy, Bailee Kiger, Baylie Kirby, Colton Pennington, Hanna Pennington, Dillon Poling, Shannon Redmond, Ashley Reuss, Allden Rexrode, Kacie Simon, Marcus Smith, Abigail Vanmeter, Selena Warner and Breanna Wolfe.

County Students Named To FSU Honor Lists

Nine Pendleton County students have been named to honor lists for the fall term at Fairmont State University.

Earning recognition on the President's List were Joshua Alt, Brooklyn Aumann, Cameron Kisamore, Rachel Loudermilk, Makailyn Ruddle and Alexandra Schenk.

Named to the Dean's List were Lillian Barbour, Brandy Bowers and Tanner Townsend.

Mike Davis, president and

Diana Phillips, provost and vice president of academic affairs, released the President's List and the Dean's List to recognize high-achieving students for their academic distinction. Full-time students who earned a 3.4 or better grade point average are named to the Dean's List. Full-time students achieving a perfect 4.0 grade point average are named to the President's List.

Local Students Graduate from WVU

Six Pendleton County students were awarded diplomas at West Virginia University's commencement exercises held Dec. 16 in the college's coliseum in Morgantown.

Graduating were Kaley Sponaugle (biology major) of Brandywine, Grant Evick (exercise physiology major), Lindsey Houck (multidisciplinary studies major) and Tiffany-Amber Perry (nursing major), all of Franklin, Isiah Phares (software engineering major) of Seneca Rocks and Ross Liggett (secondary education major) of Upper Tract.

Eastern Recognizes Pendleton County Students

Several Pendleton County residents achieved academic honors during the Fall 2023 semester at Eastern West Virginia Community and Technical College in Moorefield.

Earning President's List honors, which requires completing 12 or more credit hours this spring with a 4.0 grade point average, was Miranda Simon.

Dean's List recipients, earned for completing nine or more credit hours this spring with at least a 3.5 grade point average, were Kelsey Cook, Allie Cooper, Katelyn Hedrick, Ila

Jones, Baylie Kirby, Clayton Kisamore, and Caleb Lockard.

Merit List honorees, based on completing six or more credit hours this spring with at least a 3.25 grade point average, included county residents Elizabeth Alt, Jordan Black, Autumn Clark, Margaret Connor, Claire Cooney, Natalie Evick, Emma Hartman, Seneca Johnson, Ashlyn Judy, Samantha Long, Myra Mitchell, Ashley Reuss, Dillon Smith, Dusty Smith and Megan Smith.

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Tri-County Fair Annual Meeting
 Wednesday, Feb. 14 • 7 p.m.
 Meeting Room at the Fairgrounds
 Meeting will include
 Election of a director for a three-year term from Grant, Hardy and Pendleton counties and review of the 2023 financial report
2024 Tri-County Fair Dates are July 27 - August 3

PENDLETON COUNTY MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL						February
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	MS - Middle School HS - High School	Girls Basketball Tournaments Sectionals Feb. 16 - 24 Regionals Feb. 27 - 29 State March 5 - 9	Boys Basketball Tournaments Sectionals Feb. 23 - March 2 Regionals March 5 - 7 State March 12 - 16	1 HS Boys Basketball East Hardy 6:00 (A) MS Boys Basketball East Hardy 6:00 (H)	2 HS Boys Basketball Moorefield 6:00 (A) HS Girls Basketball East Hardy 6:00 (H) Commitment to Graduate Ceremony 9th/10th Grades	3 MS Girls Basketball Capon Bridge 5:00 (H)
4	5 MS/HS Boys Basketball Harman 6:00 (A) MS Girls Basketball Petersburg 6:00 (H)	6 HS Girls Basketball Moorefield 7:00 (H) National Honor Society Blood Drive 9:15 a.m. - 2:45 p.m. Interim Reports	7 MS Boys Basketball Marlinton 6:00 (H) MS Girls Basketball Marlinton 6:00 (A) Educators Rising Week	8 HS Boys Basketball East Hardy 6:00 (H) MS Boys Basketball Moorefield 6:00 (A)	9 MS Boys Basketball Petersburg 6:00 (A) MS/HS Girls Basketball Union 6:00 (A) Love Around the World Fundraiser EARLY RELEASE	10 PVL Cheer Competition MS/HS Boys Basketball Paw Paw 1:00 (H) HS Girls Basketball Pocahontas 1:00 (A)
11	12 MS Girls Basketball Romney TBA (A) MS Boys Basketball Marlinton 6:00 (A)	13 MS Girls Basketball Romney TBA (A) HS Girls Basketball Tucker Co. 5:00 (A) Future Business Leaders of America Week	14 <i>Happy Valentine's Day</i> HS Boys Basketball Union 6:00 (A)	15 MS Girls Basketball Romney TBA (A)	16 County Math Field Day	17 Winter Formal 7/8th grade 4 - 7 p.m. 9-12 grade 8 - 11 p.m. FFA Week Begins
18	19 MS Boys Basketball Moorefield TBA (A) HS Boys Basketball Frankfort 6:15 (H) End of Educator's Rising Strawberry Fundraiser	20 MS Boys Basketball Moorefield TBA (A) HS Boys Basketball Petersburg 6:15 (H)	21 FFA Week	22 MS Boys Basketball Moorefield TBA (A) HS Boys Basketball Moorefield 6:15 (H)	23	24
25	26	27	28	28	Pendleton County Schools is an Equal Opportunity Provider	

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Schedules are subject to change.
 Please call the school at 304-358-2573 to confirm events.

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State of West Virginia Offers Waiver Program for Children Showing Serious Emotional Disorders

By Stephen Smoot

According to the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, slightly more than five percent of children between the ages of four and 17 exhibit serious emotional and/or behavioral difficulties. West Virginia studies have shown that a little less than 1,400 children statewide between three and 21 display identified emotional or behavioral disorders.

As the social foundation of the traditional family continues to break down, more children experience the kind of neglect and trauma that leads to these behaviors. Parents, guardians, or other caregivers can find themselves overwhelmed by behaviors displayed and emotional problems experienced.

In the past, this has often led to placement in a facility like Burlington Children's Home or others. The State of West Virginia, however, has created a program to prevent placements when support services can help to connect troubled children and their caregivers to the right resources.

The Children with Serious Emotional Disorder Medicaid waiver, according to a West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources document, "provides additional Medicaid support to children from ages three to 21 with serious mental, behavioral, or emotional health needs."

Cindy Beane, commissioner of the West Virginia State Bureau of Medical Services, shared that the goal of this program aims to "keep West Virginia kids home and with their parents."

"The State of West Virginia was confronted with the fact that too many kids were being placed in residential treatment homes," said Damon Cater, CEO and founder of Home Base Inc. in Charleston. Some of these treatment centers took kids hundreds of miles away, many even to other states.

Cater added that "there was a severe lack of meaningful and effective community based services to work with this popula-

tion in the child's home and community."

Home Base serves as a provider for Pendleton County under the WV CSED program.

According to the West Virginia Department of Education, serious emotional and behavioral problems can have a variety of causes. Family dysfunction serves as a powerful malefactor, whether the cause comes from drug abuse or addiction, the impact and stress of living in poverty, or mental illness in parents, guardians, or others living in the home.

In many cases, however, as Beane explains, taking a child from their home environment, even one that is less than ideal, but not threatening or dangerous "is traumatic for the child." She adds that "we don't want them to have disruption in their home life" if services can treat the child where he or she lives and is most comfortable.

Not every child, however, develops these behaviors or emotions in an atmosphere of family breakdown. Some children have hereditary conditions, develop brain disorders, or live under high levels of stress. Children developing such problems, regardless of origin, can face tremendous challenges at home, in school, or with peers.

"We have seen really fantastic results," shared Cater. He explained that a "sibling group was on the verge of losing an opportunity to be adopted due to the behavioral and emotional dynamics being displayed in the home." After eight months of treatment and services supported by the CSED waiver, "the adoption was able to proceed successfully and the family is still intact today."

Cater added "had it not been for CSED, these kids would have been placed back into foster care and probably would have had to endure a multitude of placements and separation over the past few years."

The program started three years ago when the State of West

Virginia requested from the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services "if we could have an in-home program to provide services," as Beane stated.

Most children in the program receive "professional counseling for the child and family," but families may also obtain "respite, supportive counseling, wrap around facilitation, independent living skills, job development, supportive employment services," and more.

West Virginia residents between three and 21, even those housed in an out-of-state facility, can be eligible. Potential participants must meet eligibility requirements, receive services in the home or community based treatment, sign up with an identified managed care organization, have a professional diagnosis found in the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual, and have a "severe" score on an assessment scale.

The program relies on a partnership connecting the West Virginia Bureau of Medical Services, state providers, and Aetna.

As with seniors, providing in home services usually costs patients and taxpayers much less than relocation to a residential facility. Home based treatment, when appropriate, also helps to keep clients better connected to the world.

Beane described the program as "well-received" by parents and others who struggle with basic child rearing skills. "Often," Beane said, "parents don't know what to do," especially when behaviors and emotional disorders can overwhelm the family unit.

"As families become aware of the program, those who have been struggling to get meaningful services for their kids" increasingly gain access, says Cater. Kids with SED "are able to work with a team of professionals to build a plan to help to stabilize their families and to ensure that the integrity of the family remains intact."

2024 West Virginia Vacation Guide Is Available

Gov. Jim Justice has unveiled the 2024 West Virginia Vacation Guide, the state's official travel magazine. Travelers can view the 112-page guide online or get a free copy mailed to them directly. Last year, the West Virginia Department of Tourism distributed over a quarter of a million printed guides to travelers across the nation and around the world.

"I could not be more excited about this year's vacation guide because it showcases our state's incredible beauty," Justice said. "From the breathtaking views to charming mountain towns, this guide truly brings West Virginia to life, and we continue to prove that we're the diamond in the rough. We have people from all over the world wanting to explore our state, and this guide serves as a big reason why interest is still on the rise."

This year's cover depicts a magnificent starry sky surrounding the Hanging Rock Raptor Observatory in Monroe County. Using a special printing technique, the front cover is textured to give readers an earthy, sensory experience before even opening the guide.

"Showcasing our great state in what we do, and

this magazine is our premiere printed piece. We've produced some amazing guides in the past, but this one is my all-time favorite. It is packed with stunning photography and features hidden gems in every corner of the state," Chelsea Ruby, West Virginia Department of Tourism secretary said. "This year, we are encouraging folks to not only order themselves a copy, but to also send one to friends and family members they'd like to see visit the Mountain State this year."

The 2024 Vacation Guide was produced in partnership with Dotdash Meredith, a leading publisher that also produces Southern Living, Real Simple, and Parents magazines. This partnership has been recognized in the past by the U.S. Travel Association when West Virginia was recognized as having the top printed piece in the county two years ago. By partnering with Dotdash, the 2024 guide will be mailed directly to 100,000 Travel + Leisure subscribers in West Virginia's target markets to encourage travel to the Mountain State.

Organized by seasons, this year's guide highlights the multitude of activities to experience in West

Virginia all year long. The "field guide" in the front of the book, is the introduction to the unparalleled sights and adventures that can only be found in the Mountain State. The guide also features a section all about the state's arts and culture scene with a special story about artisans and creative entrepreneurs throughout West Virginia.

Four perforated postcards, with images from each of West Virginia's distinct seasons make easy tear-away keepsakes and add an interactive element to the guide. There's also a quiz that helps readers discover the road trip best suited for them based on their interests.

To request a free copy of the 2024 West Virginia Vacation Guide, go to <https://wvtourism.com/information-and-press/free-travel-guide/get-a-free-wv-travel-guide/>. To access a digital version of the guide, go to <https://emagazines.com/Account/ExpressLogin?plid=58>.

Copies are also available in the Governor's Office, the State Museum, all rest areas, and welcome centers.

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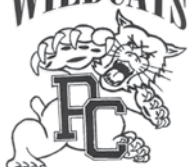
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Help wanted to care for handicapped person at home.

Please call Paul Morton 304-358-3028

WANTED

Information or Photos of Trustee's Prison Camp
 Located at Junction of 33 and 28
 On North Fork ~ Around 1945
 Send information to Charles Teter
 PO Box 7, Riverton, WV 26814



MENU Pendleton Senior & Family Services

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 2
 Ham
 Sweet Potato Casserole
 Green Beans
 Pineapple
 Roll/Milk

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 5
 Taco Salad
 Corn, Applesauce
 Milk

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6
 Baked Potato
 Chili/Cheese
 Broccoli
 Blueberry Crisp
 Milk

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 7
 Beans/Ham
 Stewed Tomatoes
 Cornbread
 Fruit Cup/Milk

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8
 Baked Fish
 Tator Tots, Slaw
 Spiced Pears
 Bread/Milk

February

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



FOR SALE
GUNS! GUNS! GUNS! You want them. We got them. Hundreds in store, even more online. Buy. Sell. Trade. Pendleton County Outdoors, Franklin, WV 26807, 304-358-3265, www.pencooutdoors.com, www.facebook.com/penco-outdoors. 10-12-tfn

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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 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, February 1, 2024
 Claim Deadline Date: Monday, April 1, 2024
 Decedent: Thomas Earl Propst, Orange County, CA
 Filed by: Margaret Chang, Friend, Pahrump, NV
 Subscribed and sworn to before me on January 26, 2024.
 Elise M. White, Clerk of the Pendleton County Commission 2-1-2c
NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION
 The administration of the following estates is pending in the Office of the Clerk of the County Commission of Pendleton County, West Virginia, 100 S. Main Street, P. O. Box 1167, Franklin, West Virginia 26807. The names of the personal representatives are set forth below.
ALL INTERESTED PERSONS ARE NOTIFIED THAT:
 All persons on whom this notice is served who have objections that challenge the validity of the will, the qualifications of the personal representative, venue, or jurisdiction of this Commission are required to file their objections with this Commission WITHIN SIXTY DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE, whichever is later.
 All creditors of the decedent(s) and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate(s) must file their claims with this Commission WITHIN SIXTY DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE.
ALL CLAIMS, DEMANDS AND OBJECTIONS NOT SO FILED WILL BE FOREVER BARRED.
 The date of the first publication of this Notice is February 1, 2024. Deadline for claims is April 1, 2024.
Raymond Ray Auville Estate - Patricia Ann Vint-Auville, Administratrix;
Edward C. Piotrowski Estate - Zane Good, Executrix;
Betty Gay Mallow Estate - Lisa Mallow Raines, Executrix;
Samuel J. MacMichael Estate - Jeremy Townsend, Executor.
 Subscribed and sworn to before me on January 26, 2024.
 Elise M. White, Clerk of the Pendleton County Commission 2-1-2c

WEST VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Division of Highways
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 February 13, 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 020 Contract 2020000229R1 State Project S336-1/2-0.01 00 Federal Project NFA-2023(260)D
Description STRUCTURE REPLACEMENT Greenawalt Gap Bridge Greenawalt Gap Bridge COUNTY: PENDLETON
BRIDGE: 11771 BridgeClass SPAN(S): STRUCTURE STEEL:
 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. 1-25-2c

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE
 NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE is hereby given pursuant to and by virtue of the authority vested in the Trustee, Richard A. Pill, by that certain Deed of Trust dated January 27, 2020, executed by the Borrowers, Rebecca Lynn Arcure and Nicholas F. Arcure, II, to Larry F. Mazza and Richard A. Pill, the Trustee(s), of record in the Office of the Clerk of the County Commission of Pendleton County, West Virginia, in Book 163, at Page 349. At the time of the execution of the Deed of Trust, this property was reported to have a mailing address of 4125 Troublesome Valley Rd., Franklin, WV 26807. The Borrowers defaulted under the Note and Deed of Trust and the Trustee has been instructed to foreclose under the Deed of Trust. Accordingly, the Trustee will sell the following described property to the highest bidder at the front door of the Courthouse of Pendleton County, in Franklin, West Virginia, on the following date:
 February 8, 2024, at 12:45 p.m.
 The following described tract or parcel of real estate, together with any buildings and improvements thereon located, lying and being situated in Mill Run District, Pendleton County, West Virginia, and being more particularly described by its metes and bounds as follows:
 BEGINNING at an iron pipe at the South Western end of a concrete bridge, thence running from that point S. 15 37' W. 160.1 feet to another iron pipe on the West side of and adjacent to Secondary Route N. 1; thence N. 45 11' W. 299.4 feet to another iron pipe; thence N. 31 53' E. 231.1 feet to an iron pipe on the West side of Deer Run Creek; thence S. 27 48' E. 286.1 feet to the place of beginning, containing 1.135 acres, more or less, and being the same real estate conveyed to Nicholas F. Arcure, II, by Deed of record in the Clerk's Office of the County Commission of Pendleton County, West Virginia in Deed Book 185, at Page 44. Thereafter, Nicholas F. Arcure, II granted and conveyed to Nicholas F. Arcure, II and Nicholas F. Arcure, Sr., by Deed dated January 24, 2020, of record in Clerk's Office aforesaid in Deed Book 211, at Page 110, to which references are herewith made for all pertinent purposes.
 The Grantors do further grant and convey unto the Grantees, their heirs and assigns, all rights of ways and easements appertaining to the aforesaid real estate.
 This conveyance is made subject to all exceptions, reservations, covenants, conditions, easements, and rights-of-ways created or mentioned in prior instruments of record affecting the property herein conveyed, including, but not limited to, a non-controlled access right of way to the WV Department of Transportation, Division of Highways, as more particularly set forth in Deed Book 184, at Page 87.
 TERMS OF SALE:
 1) The property will be conveyed in an "AS IS" physical condition by Deed containing no warranty, express or implied, subject to the Internal Revenue Service right of redemption, all property taxes, prior Deeds, liens, reservations, encumbrances, restrictions, rights-of-ways, easements, covenants, conveyances and conditions of record in the Clerk's office or affecting the subject property.
 2) The Purchaser shall be responsible for the payment of the transfer taxes imposed by the West Virginia Code § 11-22-1.
 3) The Beneficiary and/or the Servicer of the Deed of Trust and Note reserve the right to submit a bid for the property at sale.
 4) The Trustee reserves the right to continue sale of the subject property from time to time by written or oral proclamation, which continuance shall be in the sole discretion of the Trustee.
 5) The Trustee shall be under no duty to cause any existing tenant or person occupying the property to vacate said property, and any personal property and/or belongings remaining at the property after the foreclosure sale will be deemed to constitute ABANDONED PROPERTY AND WILL BE DISPOSED OF ACCORDINGLY.
 6) The total purchase price is payable to the Trustee in thirty (30) days of the date of sale, with ten (10%) of the total purchase price payable to the Trustee at sale.
 Richard A. Pill, Trustee
 85 Aikens Center
 Edwin Miller Boulevard
 PO Box 440
 Martinsburg, WV 25404
 (304) 263-4971
 foreclosures@pillwvllaw.com 1-11-4c

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 Applicants must be able to communicate effectively by radio and telephone, accurately comprehend auditory inputs, remain calm and react appropriately under stress, work in a smoke free environment, and establish and maintain effective working relationships with user agency personnel and the general public.
 Applicants must be 18 years of age and possess a high school diploma or GED.
 Applications may be picked up at the Pendleton County Courthouse from Karen Pitsenbarger, County Administrator or requested by email at karenp@pencowv.com

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