

THE PENDLETON TIMES

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February 8, 2024

Pendleton County Candidates Complete Filing for Primary Election

By Stephen Smoot

Filing period for the 2024 Primary Election closed on Jan. 27, but candidates who mailed their forms could have them accepted if postmarked by that date.

The West Virginia Secretary of State's Office also issued clarification regarding the Pendleton County Board of Education race. The resignation of a sitting board member opened up an unexpired term. Originally, the race was set to have one for the regular seat that was up and a separate race for the unexpired term.

Clarification issued resulted in a reorganization and simplification of the race. Now the top three vote getters will be considered the winner, unless all three come from the

same district. Then the fourth-place finisher will supersede the third-place vote getter.

Candidates filing for office are as follows:
For Pendleton County Commission, Roger Dahmer of Franklin and Travis Moyers of Franklin;

For Prosecuting Attorney, April Mallow of Upper Tract;

For Pendleton County Sheriff, Bradley Kimble of Franklin and Joshua Todd Nesselrodt of Franklin

For Pendleton County Assessor, Sandie Huffman Smith of Franklin

For Magistrate Court Judge Division 1, Morgan Basagic of Franklin, Jeremy Bodkin of Upper Tract and Rev. James Young of Seneca Rocks, and Division 2, Kevin Puffen-

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Bill McWilliams, Rob Morgan, and Alec Morgan brought the "Daddyjeep" from Smithport, Pennsylvania, to take on the Mountain State's rugged back roads.

Back Roads Enthusiasts Kick Off 24 Hours of Appalachia from Seneca Rocks Starting Point

By Stephen Smoot

"I haven't slept in four days," said Jedediah Smith, organizer of the 24 Hours of Appalachia road event that raised thousands for Children's Home Society. He added that "this morning when I saw everyone pulling in, it made me cry."

More than a hundred people and 75 vehicles gathered at Seneca Rocks on a cold, but sunny, Saturday morning to commence a drive across the state of just under 600 miles. Vehicles came in from up and down the East Coast, from Pennsylvania to Georgia to take a crack at a planned route that promised "gravel, mud, dirt, snow" and also some pavement.

Participants came together first at Yokum's Grille and enjoyed a breakfast put together especially for them. After signing waivers, they went to the lower lot of the Seneca Rocks Discovery Center to hear a final list of instructions before returning to Yokum's for an organized departure.

A broad range of vehicles showed up for what organizers said was "not a rally or a race," but an endurance test of man and machine. These included a number of new and modified pickup trucks and other sport vehicles designed to take a pounding. Others drove everything from newer model Jeeps, Fords, Chevrolet, Toyota and Dodge pickup trucks and sport utility vehicles to rusty

and scarred, but still classic, "redneck battle trucks."

Pride in one's vehicle make is nothing new to a state that revels in the ancient, but ever ongoing, "Ford versus Chevy" debate.

Mike Julian of Reading, Pennsylvania, brought his 1989 Toyota Land Cruiser. He said, "I follow the Back Roads of Appalachia because they do a lot of motor sports." Julian hoped for "nothing too crazy" to challenge his "35-year-old vehicle," but was excited "to see a lot of areas I've never been to."

Though he has run his vehicle in Moorefield area events, he added that, "I've never off-roaded this way, so it will be all new."

Pride in vehicle make was front and center with many drivers. Brent Kayser of Charlotte, North Carolina, was joined by Aaron Justice of Beckley. They proudly drove a green Subaru 4X4 with Kayser touting its advantages, saying that their vehicle's superior suspension won't "get our teeth rattled out of our heads." He praised the car's "low center of gravity," saying, "you won't roll it over."

Some seemingly unlikely vehicles, such as "Leon the Neon," owned by Peyton Owen Barnes of Walton (New York, not Roane County) donned large off road tires to prove the endurance of the plucky little Plymouth.

Leon's owner chronicled the sport sedan's saga on social media as it climbed narrow

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Children of all ages enjoy warm evenings of outdoor film fun at the historic Warners Drive-In.

Warner's Drive-In Cultural and Resource Center Receives State Arts Grant

By Stephen Smoot

Since its reopening, Warner's Drive-In has reestablished its place as a go to center for fun and entertainment on weekend nights during the warm weather months. The facility's leadership team has an expanded vision for the theater, both in terms of improving the guest experience and expanding the slate of potential offerings.

"Up to this point, the drive-in has been using its grant and donated funds to renovate and restore existing infrastructure and buildings, most of which date back to the original drive-in construction in 1952," explained Bob Davis, who works on multiple committees for Warner's Drive-In and Cultural Re-

source Center.

Efforts have included obtaining "several smaller grants" from the West Virginia Department of Arts, Culture, and History. These grants funded "a new roof for the snack bar, rebuilt entry gates and signs, a new roof on the screen building, and a new HVAC system for the snack building."

Governor Jim Justice, accompanied by Secretary Randall Reid-Smith, shared the news of the latest grant from the WVDACH as part of a presentation delivered in Clarksburg's Robinson Grand Performing Arts Center. Warner's received a Cultural Facilities and Capital Resources grant for more than \$51,000.

The most recent grant, Davis said, is "for the construction of a new restroom facility and septic system." Until now, the organization relied "on temporary fixes to our aging bathroom and septic facilities in recent years. Construction started in fall with a local partner, Upper Tract based VRER Construction, and should see completion in May prior to the facility's season opening."

Grants from WVDACH come on a dollar for dollar match basis, meaning that Warner's must match every dollar provided with money of their own from revenues or generous donors. "We had a donation from the Pianfetti Foundation and many community members to help with the matching requirement," Davis explained.

This grant helps to fulfill the initial phase of the vision for Warner's, which was to bring facilities up to date. Once the restroom and septic system work has finished, Davis says, "We plan to turn our attention to the expansion of our facilities to support programming in the performing arts."

In 2024, Warner's plans to upgrade screen building rooms for use as backstage and storage areas. "This is an exciting phase in our long-term plans," Davis stated, "because it takes us into a totally new area of our mission to support arts and culture in Pendleton County and the surrounding regions."

During the announcement of the 44 grant awards, Justice, alongside his constant sidekick Babydog, shared that "they're an investment in dreams, communities, and the Mountain State's bright future. The arts are the bridges that connect us, the voices that give us strength, and the colors that paint our path forward. Together, we're continuing to make West Virginia not just a state with artists, but a living, breathing work of art."

Quilters To Meet

The Sew and Sews Quilt Guild will meet at 6 p.m. Monday at Faith Lutheran Church in Franklin. Anyone interested in quilting is welcome to attend.

Library Friends To Hold Annual Meeting Friday

The annual meeting and potluck dinner of the Friends of Pendleton County Library will begin at 5 p.m. Friday. Doors will open at 4:30 p.m.

PVCD Board To Gather Tuesday

The Potomac Valley Conservation District board meeting will be held at 7 p.m. Feb. 13 by teleconference only. Call in instructions are posted on the district webpage www.wvca.us/district/pvcd.cfm or by contacting the office at 304-822-5174. The meeting agenda will be available three days prior to the meeting on the district website or by contacting the Romney office.

The public is invited to participate.

Community CALENDAR

Post 9666 To Meet

VFW Post 9666 will meet at 6:30 p.m. today at the post home in Sugar Grove.

Morrisey's Staff To Visit Feb. 15

A representative from Attorney General Patrick Morrisey's office will meet with residents from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Feb. 15 at the Pendleton Senior and Family Services Center in Franklin.

Activities Planned At Family Support Center in Franklin

Upcoming activities scheduled at the Pendleton County Strive to Thrive Family Support Center in Franklin are movie night at 6 p.m. Friday, sweetheart painting at 4 p.m. Sunday, blood drive from noon to 5 p.m. Monday and play day from noon to 2 p.m. Feb. 14. For more information, call 304-538-7711.

Local Producers and Other Tourist Businesses Gear Up for Maple Days

By Stephen Smoot

Once again, maple producers and sellers across the state have started gearing up for West Virginia Maple Days. This year, the West Virginia Maple Syrup Producers have selected Feb 17 and March 16 as the days to feature the entire process, from tapping the tree to plugging the product.

Though production centers around or near the South Branch and Greenbrier valleys, production takes place in every corner of the state. Producers from as far away as Wellsburg, Kenova, and Hinton will join a number of producers from Pendleton and elsewhere to showcase Mountain State maple.

Kent Leonhardt, West Virginia Commissioner of Agriculture, has promoted maple syrup production throughout his tenure. He visited Future Generations University's research facility at McCoy's Mill near Franklin last February to learn more about work done there. He exclaimed at the time, "It's in Pendleton County! What a great place to do it!"

Luke Taylor-Ide, vice

president of engagement at Future Generations University near Franklin, told the West Virginia Commissioner of Agriculture's Market Bulletin newsletter that "I grew up in Pendleton County. Maple syrup was always on my radar."

He added that "Mike Reclin was our longtime dean at Future Generations. Mike's passion and hobby was researching maple syrup." Taylor-Ide also stated that "Mike is the one who really helped open my eyes to the fact maple syrup can be something more than just a hobby."

The producers association chose February and March for the time to celebrate production of local maple because it takes place in the middle of the production season. Taps work best when temperatures rise above freezing during the day, but drop below 32 degrees at night. Unseasonably warm temperatures hindered production in 2023, but conditions should be much better this year.

Pendleton County lies in the center of the region's maple producing area and

offers sweet opportunities for fun and food. The Pendleton County Convention and Visitors Bureau will host a "pop up" version of the county farmers' market.

Producers opening the doors to their operations to show off their wares include FGU's McCoy's Mill, M&S Maple, Bess Farms, Jack Mountain Maple (only in February) and Mountain Cajun Getaway.

Leonhardt was quoted in My Buckhannon as explaining that "despite the warmer temperatures, our maple operations still managed to produce a lot of syrup. Compare it to the maple-flavored corn syrup you find in big box stores, and I guarantee you'll reach for pure West Virginia maple syrup every time."

Despite the challenges, the Mountain State produced approximately 11,000 gallons of maple.

Warmer temperatures also affect the taste of the final product as well.

The West Virginia Maple Syrup Producers Association offers a statewide map of participating businesses and other organizations.



Robert "Bobby Joe" J. Armstrong

Robert "Bobby Joe" J. Armstrong, 90, of Moyers passed away Feb. 2, 2024, at Harrisonburg Health and Rehabilitation Center in Harrisonburg, Virginia.

Mr. Armstrong, or "Bobby Joe" as he was commonly known, was born July 15, 1933, in Moyers.

He was a graduate of Franklin High School, where he excelled as an athlete and was a standout running back on the school's varsity football team. Following graduation, he enlisted in the United States Army, and was stationed in France before his discharge from service in 1956. Soon thereafter he married Juanita Anne Jones.

He was raised in and held membership with the former St. Paul Lutheran Church, held membership with St. John Lutheran Church, and attended Doe Hill United Methodist Church prior to his wife's passing. He was also a former member of the Treasure Mountain Swingers Square Dancers, and at one point served on the Pendleton County School Board.

On the family farm, he raised beef cattle and had a large flock of ewes; he tended to both with great pride. Additionally, he had retired from the Pendleton County Public School System as a bus driver.

Amongst his countless qualities, he was known as a man of good humor, strong work ethic, and selfless nature - always willing to lend a hand to his neighbors and

friends. He was also a very caring person toward his family and community, and carried a special place in his heart for his dogs. He enjoyed time spent participating in the local howling league, cooking holiday meals for his family (and less formal meals at the family hunt camp), as well as fishing and going on fishing trips. However, he enjoyed none of these activities greater than the time he spent with his grandchildren.

Above all else, Mr. Armstrong will be remembered as a diligent provider and loving husband, father, and grandfather to his family.

His wife, Juanita Anne Jones Armstrong, passed on July 6, 1996.

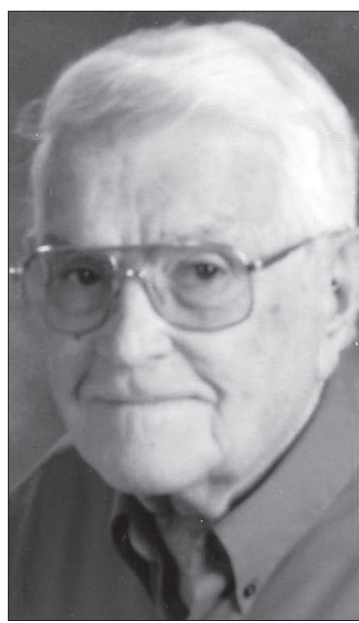
Surviving family members include his sons, Barry Armstrong and companion, Lisa Zirkle of Quicksburg, Virginia, and Craig Armstrong and wife, Elizabeth of Harrisonburg, Virginia; grandchildren, Nicole Vickery of Clemson, South Carolina, Justin Armstrong of Moyers, Bronson Armstrong of Franklin and Elijah Armstrong of Sugar Grove; a sister, Doris Douglas of Staunton, Virginia; a brother-in-law, Tom Jones of Doe Hill, Virginia; and nephews, David Douglas of Weyers Cave, Virginia, and Victor Douglas of Staunton, Virginia.

He was also preceded in death by his mother, Myrtle Armstrong; and grandson, Wyatt Dane Armstrong.

A funeral service was held Wednesday at Obaugh Funeral Home in McDowell, Virginia, with Rev. Jerry Smith officiating. Burial followed in St. Paul Independent Lutheran Church Cemetery.

Active pallbearers were grandsons, Justin, Bronson, and Elijah Armstrong, as well as Tom Jones, Tom Wimer, and Joe Campanella. 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.



William "Bill" Lough Heavner

William "Bill" Lough Heavner, 91, of Bridgewater, Virginia, passed away peacefully Feb. 1, 2024, at Harrisonburg Health & Rehabilitation in Harrisonburg, Virginia. He had been in declining health for several years.

He was born Dec. 1, 1932, and was the son of the late Gertrude and Russell Heavner of Deer Run.

Mr. Heavner graduated from Franklin High School in 1950 and was a faithful member of Sangerville Church of the Brethren.

He liked to make things with his own hands. Throughout the valley are many rock fireplaces, picture frames, and chainsaw carved bears he created. Being an avid gardener, he was always eager to get started and reluctant to stop in the yard and garden each year. So much, that his grandson recalls him mowing grass in the snow.

He passed along a love of outdoor adventures and particularly of hunting. He was lucky enough to understand how to appreciate and enjoy the simple pleasures, like the beauty of leaves in the fall or watching deer graze in a field.

He served in the Army from 1955 to 1957.

He routinely gave back to the community with acts of kindness like active participation as a big brother. He once walked from Harrisonburg, Virginia, to Oak Flat to raise money for a neighbor's wheelchair, and also raised many blisters on his feet along the way.

On Dec. 1, 1950, he married the love of his life, Louise Loan from Millboro, Virginia. They enjoyed 69 years of married life.

Surviving are two sons, Michael (Kim) Heavner and Joe (Liz) Heavner; three grandchildren, Hunter (Nicole) Heavner, Matthew Heavner and Jessica Heavner; two brothers, Jerry Heavner (Phyllis) and Joe Heavner (Anna); and a sister, Mary Lee Heavner.

He was also preceded in death by two sisters, Betty Lou Mason (Charlie), and Alice Heavner.

A graveside service was held Monday at the Cedar Hill Cemetery in Franklin with Pastor Steve Spire officiating.

Arrangements were entrusted to Johnson Funeral and Cremation Service in Bridgewater, Virginia.

Online condolences to the family may be shared at www.johnsonfs.com.



Tommy Guy George

Tommy Guy George, 83, of Petersburg went to his Heavenly Home on Feb. 3, 2024, at Grant Memorial Hospital in Petersburg.

He was born on May 5, 1940, in Riverton and was a son of the late Walter E. and Gracie E. (Vandevander) George.

Mr. George was a 1959 graduate of Circleville High School.

He worked in Washington, DC, for Trailways for several years. He and his wife moved back to Petersburg and worked for the former Trenton Motor Company and later retired from Potomac

Valley Transit. He attended Riverside Church in Cabins.

His wife, Alma E. (Brooks) George, preceded him in death on April 24, 2011.

Surviving are a son, Pastor Tommy A. George and wife, April of Petersburg; three grandchildren, Haley M. Greathouse, Madison (George) Nesselrodt and husband, Nathan, and Caleb George; a great-grandson, Carter L. Nesselrodt; two brothers, Junior R. George and wife, Mary Catherine of Joppa, Maryland, and Toney M. George and wife, Nancy of Petersburg; a nephew, Eric S. George; two great-nieces; and two cherished friends, Bruce Kimble and Carroll Smith.

He was also preceded in death by a brother, H. Wayne George; and an infant sister, Nancy George.

A funeral service was held Monday in the chapel of Schaeffer Funeral Home in Petersburg with Pastor Vivan Watts officiating. Interment was at North Fork Memorial Cemetery in Riverton.

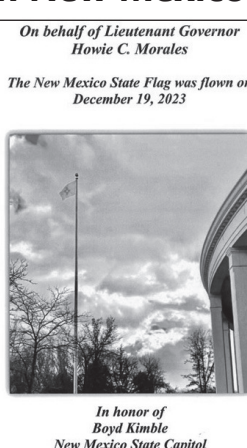
Memorial contributions may be made to Riverside Church, PO Box 157, Cabins, WV 26855.

Boyd Kimble Honored in New Mexico

Boyd Kimble was well known and loved here in Franklin, WV, but he was even able to leave his mark wherever he traveled. Boyd and Leta Kimble's son, Dave Kimble, lives in Las Cruces, New Mexico, where he has worked as a state lobbyist for more the 25 years. Boyd made a trip several years ago with his son to Sante Fe to meet everyone at the Capitol and see what Dave did for a living.

He made quite the impression, because two days after Boyd's passing on December 17, 2023, Lieutenant Governor, Howie C. Morales, declared a proclamation to have the New Mexico state flag flown over the State Capitol in Sante Fe, NM, on Tuesday, December 19, in honor of Boyd Kimble. The flag was respectfully presented to Dave when he returned to Sante Fe in January for the beginning of their legislative session.

This honor was truly appreciated by the entire Kimble Family and stands as a testament to the enduring impact of Boyd Kimble's life.



On behalf of Lieutenant Governor Howie C. Morales
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In honor of Boyd Kimble
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Pot Luck Dinner & Annual Meeting



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Mitchell Presented Melvin Jones Lions Club Award

Members of the Sugar Grove Lions Club met at the South Fork Rescue Squad building Jan. 25 for their monthly meeting. During the meeting, Brandon Mitchell, club president, was presented the Melvin Jones Fellowship award.

The Melvin Jones Fellowship is named for Melvin Jones, the founder for Lions Club International. It is through this program that humanitarian needs are met in communities around the world. Fellowship contributions help to bring medication to prevent river blindness to people, restore the sight to individuals, and provide Lions Quest to youth. Mitchell takes great pride in knowing that he will be having an impact with so many lives, both in his community, as well as across the globe.

He plays an integral part in his community. Mentioned in the application for this award were many ways he has energized the community. He was on the steering committee for the ball field and playground in Sugar Grove which benefits the youth. He enjoys coaching for both his daughter's and son's basketball and coach pitch teams. The tractor parade has delighted many folks who attend the annual rescue



Sugar Grove Lions Club member, Brandon Mitchell, right, is presented the Melvin Jones Fellowship award by Jeff Bowers.

squad's lawn party. Organizing the bi-annual chicken barbecue fundraisers, as well as the annual Treasure Mountain Festival stand keeps him very busy. He is involved with his church and its activities, as well as his farm work which he enjoys after a day's work as a dentist in Franklin. He is also vice president of Pendleton County Farm Bureau. Mitchell rightfully deserved the Melvin Jones

Fellowship award, as he definitely has an impact in his community.

His children, Macie, Carson, and Carly, were in attendance while his wife, Cara, pinned the Melvin Jones Fellowship lapel pin. Jeff Bowers, the club's LCI coordinator, presented him with the plaque.

Mitchell's father, Tom Mitchell, had received the Melvin Jones Fellowship in 2013.

Candidate Filing for Primary

Continued From Page 1

berger of Upper Tract; For Pendleton County Board of Education Eastern District, Pat Godfrey of Sugar Grove, Betty Kimble of Brandywine, and Wesley Puffenbarger of Sugar Grove, Western District, Sonny O'Neil of Seneca Rocks, and Central District, Charles Burgoyne II of Franklin, Jamie DiFalco of Franklin and Wilma "Miss Pitts" Pitsenbarger of Franklin; For House of Delegates 67th District, Elias Coop-Gonzalez of Elkins and Cody Thompson from Elkins; For House of Delegates 86th District, Bryan Ward of Fisher; For State Senate, 11th District, Robert Karnes of Helvetia, Robbie Morris of Elkins and Mandy Smith Weirich of Elkins; For Judge in the 26th Circuit Division 1, H. Charles Carl of Romney and Division 2, C. Carter Williams of Old Fields and John H. Treadway Jr. of Baker; For Governor, Moore Capito of Charleston, Kevin "KC" Christian of Chloe, Chase Linko-Looper of St. Albans, Chris Miller of Huntington, Patrick Morrissey of Harpers Ferry, Mitch Roberts of Poca, Mac Warner of Charleston, and Steve Williams of Huntington; For Secretary of State, Thornton Cooper of South Charleston, Ken Reed of Hedgenville, Doug Skaff Jr. from South Charleston, Kris Warner from Charleston and Brian Wood from Winfield; For State Auditor, Caleb Hanna of Charleston, Eric Householder of Martinsburg,

Mark Hunt of Charleston, Tricia Jackson of Harpers Ferry, and Mary Ann Roebuck Claytor of St. Albans; For State Treasurer, Larry Pack of Charleston; For Commissioner of Agriculture, Joshua Kent Higginbotham of Charleston, Kent Leonhardt of Fairview, and Roy Ramey of Lesage; For State Attorney General, John "J.B." McCuskey from Charleston, Richie Robb from South Charleston, Mike Stuart of South Charleston, and Teresa Toriseva from Wheeling; For Intermediate Court of Appeals, Elgine Heceta McArdle of Wheeling, Mychal S. Schulz of Charleston, and S. Ryan White from Charleston; For West Virginia State Supreme Court of Appeals, Haley Bunn of Charleston (Division 1) and Charles S. Trump IV from Berkeley Springs (Division 2); For United States Senate, Bryan Bird of Beckley, Don Blankenship from Sprigg, Glenn Elliott from Wheeling, Jim Justice of Lewisburg, Zane Lawhorn from Princeton, Don Lindsay from Baker, Bryan McKinney of Inwood, Janet McNulty from Martinsburg, Alexander X. Mooney of Charles Town, and Zachary Shrewsbury from Princeton; and For United States House of Representatives 1st District, Derrick Evans of Prichard, Carol Miller of Huntington, Chris Bob Reed of Charleston, and Jim Umberger of Lewisburg.

Back Roads Enthusiasts

Continued From Page 1

dirt roads with a mountain on one side and a cliff on the other. It also barreled through snow still laying thick in the roads of the highest elevations.

At one point, participants stacked rocks in a creek rushing around a flattened culvert to help Leon get through on the long journey to the finish line, set at the Mothman statue in Point Pleasant, only two blocks from the Ohio River.

Local emergency management officials and first responders made safety the first priority. Units on the scene in case of emergency included Pendleton County Office of Emergency Management, represented by Rick Gillespie. Also present were Pendleton County Emergency Rescue North Fork EMS standby, the Pendleton County Emergency Rescue Tactical Skills Team, along with training officer Mike Alt, West Virginia State Police, the Seneca Rocks Volunteer Fire Department, and a Monongahela National Forest officer.

Smith gave a 10-minute safety talk before releasing the drivers. He explained that "we have to be careful how we act, how we conduct ourselves." Smith also reminded drivers to "be respectful of hunters and their dogs."

He also urged drivers to remain respectful of each other, to not tailgate, to pass each other respectfully and safely, and "if you see one of your brothers at the side of the road, please stop and help." Back Roads of Appalachia also deployed 10 recovery vehicles in case of drivers in distress.

All vehicles required 31 inches of clearance to overcome the sometimes large obstacles in their path.

He implored drivers to appreciate their surroundings, saying, "You're going through some of the most beautiful parts of West Virginia. Take it in."

Smith then turned the "stage," the back end of a pickup truck, to Gillespie who said, "Thank you for coming to West Virginia, on behalf of everyone representing the first responder community."

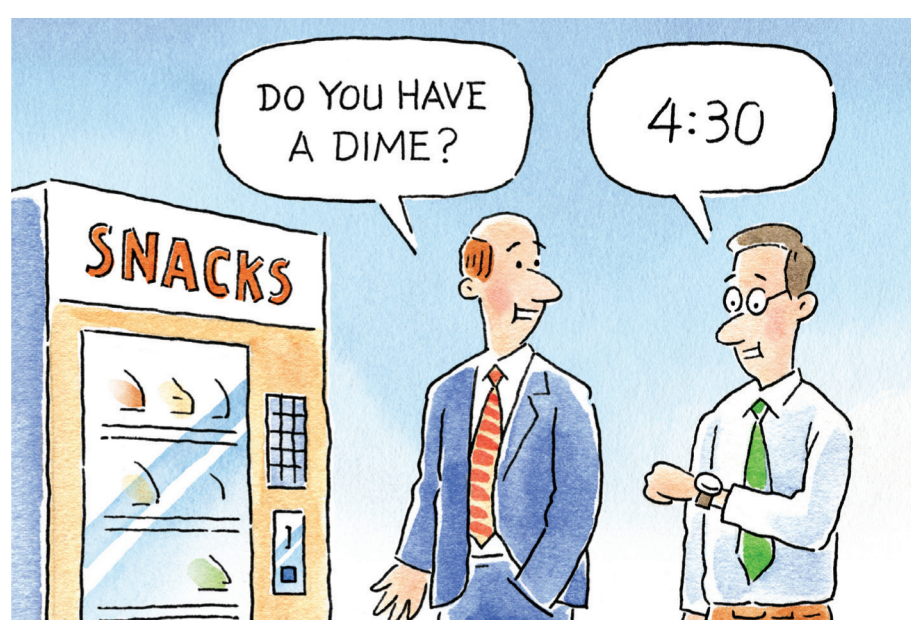
He added that "we fully support what you are doing. Be safe and enjoy our beautiful state."

Though not a race, the event did have a winner in Children's Home Society. Back Roads of Appalachia raised more than \$16,000 for the West Virginia based social service organization. "It's the first time that we've been part of an event like this," said Chris Freeman, who directs communications for Children's Home Society.

The organization just celebrated 127 years of service, having been founded in Charleston in 1896. They currently operate eight emergency child shelters, 18 community-based service programs, and a total of 28 locations serving all 55 counties. Children's Home Society works at the front lines of West Virginia's foster care crisis.

On any given day, the organization serves between 300 and 400 children in foster care.

"All funds raised," Freeman shared, "go to our foster care program statewide."



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would like to thank the local churches, the schools, the boy scouts and the general public for their generous donations of food and money. Also a big thank you to all of the volunteers who give their time to distribute the food to those families in need.

Thank You and God Bless Everyone

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Raisins, Milk

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13
Lasagna, Lima Beans
Garlic Bread
Tropical Fruit, Milk

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14
Chicken/Dumplings
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Strawberry Cheesecake
Love Potion Punch

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15
BBQ Rib
Mashed Potatoes
Roasted Zucchini
Grapes, Bread, Milk

Febuary

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.

Empathy Is Guided by the Innate Ability of the Heart

Sugar Grove

By Paula Mitchell

Mankind has two hearts. Everyone has the heart that beats 100,000 times a day, every day that one is alive. This is an astonishing fact. The second heart is that one that makes a person human. It is the one that makes a person care. It is the one that gives a person courage, passion, and inspiration.

This heart guided Michaelangelo to carve the statue of David. It told the Medal of Honor winner to charge into enemy lines without thinking of his own life. This heart makes one love, laugh, to be happy or sad. It is the heart that makes a person who one is, all the same and all different.

This heart of one beats within everyone. It guides a person toward one's passion. It is the driver that makes a person think higher, do better, feel stronger, and create with more feeling. Everyone has this heart.

The secret is to unlock it. The secret is to find that thing that a person is passionate about and make it one's mission in life. This is what makes great athletes, great doctors and dentists, great teachers, great bus drivers, great nurses, great next door neighbors, great mechanics and great people.

Everyone has two hearts...one that beats and one that feels...one that makes everyone different and the same.

A Happy Valentine's Day to all the writer's readers. Life's little instructions to make daily living much better include the following:

1. Treat everyone a person meets like one wants to be treated.
2. Send lots of Valentine's cards.
3. Remember other people's birthdays.
4. Become the most positive and enthusiastic person one knows.
5. Never waste an opportunity to tell someone one loves them.

Sunday morning temperatures were 19 degrees, with the forecast for next week as being colder than the last week.

Valentine quotes are as follows: "And if the stars should ever die, we'll make our own light, you and I." — John Mark Green

"I don't go by the rule book...I lead from the heart, not the head." — Princess Diana

"Love doesn't make the world go 'round.' Love is what makes the ride worthwhile." — Franklin P. Jones

"I hope you don't mind that I put down in words how wonderful life is while you're in the world." — Elton John

"Love is the whole thing. We are only the pieces." — Rumi

Sitting by the fireplace is where one should be to hear the "Talk of the Grove."

Missy Harrison, Charlotte Hoover, and Kathy Nelson have been reporting busloads of robins arriving on the Thorn. Surely their feathers will be needed this coming week.

The white snow drops have been sighted at the late Gertrude



Whitney Almer Propst (April 16, 1898 - July 9, 1964) was the son of Albert and Neva Jane Propst, and husband of Grace Mabel Rexrode (Oct. 25, 1903 - Jan. 14, 1989), whom he married May 29, 1925. They are both buried in the St. John Cemetery. Children were Bryan Stover (Sept. 12, 1926 - April 14, 1973) and Anita Grace (Dec. 9, 1937).

and Hugh Mitchell homeplace. Daffodil stems are about 4 inches above ground. According to the old groundhog, spring is around the corner! Everyone shall see.

Coming home to celebrate Tom Mitchell's birthday this past weekend were his family, Jennifer, Tim, and Allison Hoover of Bridgewater, Virginia, Damien Morris of Dayton, Virginia, Janelle Mitchell and Destiny and Jace Sroka of Charlotte, North Carolina, and Brandon, Cara, Macie, Carson, and Carly Mitchell.

Willard and Judy Rader enjoyed a visit with Benny and Linda Custer and celebrated Linda's birthday at the Gateway Restaurant on Saturday.

Evelyn Varner paid a visit to Bridgewater, Virginia, last Tuesday, to visit her brother, Donnie, and Judy Smith. Her daughter, Judy Costello, of Verona, Virginia, spent the weekend with her. Sunday visitors were Joyce Marshall, Ali Kesterson,

and Tim Baldwin.

Marleta Wimer, Terri Grogg, and Claude Castleberry continue to see to the care of Rosalee Grogg.

Spending Saturday with Phil Downs were Sue Ellen Weason-forth and Susie Ruffner of Romney.

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

- Americans send 140 million Valentine's Day cards each year.
- The conversation hearts got their start as medical lozenges
- In the 1300s Valentine's Day officially became a holiday associated with love.
- The first valentine was sent in the 15th century.
- Nearly 250 million roses are grown for Valentine's Day.

Concerns for this week are many. They are as follows: Bob Adamson, Rick Adkins, Charles and "Pidge" Anderson, the Bobby Joe Armstrong family, John Ashley, Roger and Joan Ashley, Mercedes Aumann, Lynn Beatty, "Bo" Boggs, Dewayne Borror, Jane Conrad, Marie Cole, Norma Propst Cunningham, Christian Dasher, Isaac Eye, Marie Eye, Mary Eye, Neal Eye, Lorelee 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, Danny Kimble, 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, Wanda Pitsenbarger, Alda Propst, John O. Propst, Kathy Propst, Mike Propst, Sheldon Propst, Brandon Reel, Charles Rexrode, Jason Rexrode, Jarod "Jerry" Rexrode, Pam Rexrode, Dennis Riggelman, Donna Rud-dle, Annie Simmons, Phyllis Simmons, Erin Simmons, Eva Simmons, Kent Simmons, Robbie Sites, Donnie Smith, Stanna Smith, Steve Stump, Rosa Tichenor, Sandra Vandevander, Evelyn Varner, Raymond Varner, Amy Vaus, Judy Williams and Margaret Wimer.

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Dear Friends,

We are so grateful and blessed because of all the love and support that came our way after the passing of Michael Steele through attendance at the wake and funeral, all of the sympathy cards, phone calls, messages and flowers, those who brought food to our home, the dinner that was prepared by our church family after the burial, with special thanks to Pastors Dan and Mario, David Basagic Funeral Home, the rescue squad, the Petersburg Veterans and the U.S. Army who sent representatives to present the flag to our family.

The Steele Family

Position Opening Activity Assistant Full-time

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Wildcats Battle Fourth Ranked Cougars on the Road



Josiah Kimble skies to outthrustle an East Hardy player chasing down a loose ball.

By Stephen Smoot

Pendleton County's boys' basketball squad rolled up for a magical mystery tour last week. Two top five opponents, a trip to rival Moorefield, a lengthy bus excursion to a riot in Paw Paw, and no rest for the weary added up to a challenging stretch.

All of this took place on four consecutive days. The road trip to Baker came on the heels of the game to the upperclass dominated Cougar squad with one loss on the year and a fourth place ranking in single A.

The Wildcats took the opening tip and also the first score. Cashton Kisamore grabbed an offensive rebound and laid it in less than 30 seconds into the action. He gave his team a 4-0 advantage a minute later doing the same thing.

Both squads gave up points grudgingly and played outstanding defense. The Wildcats used a one-two-two zone defense at times in the first quarter that disrupted East Hardy at the top of the key. The man defense was often extended past the three-point line to defend long range shots.

East Hardy stuck to a tight man to man that, like Tucker County, worked to take away Pendleton County's accurate outside shooters, but conceded opportunities to make plays after using drives to break down the defense.

The Cougars hit two free throws and a three-point shot to regain the lead at the 3:09 point, but a Wyatt Franklin layup seized it back just 13 seconds later. The end of the first quarter saw the teams knotted up at 10.

East Hardy took the lead with a three at the 7:30 mark in the quarter, but Dusty Smith responded with a 17-foot jumper a minute later to close the lead to one. The Cougars patiently worked the ball around the outside to find three-point shooting opportunities. They did not have a lot, but what they got, they generally made. Of the 19 points they scored in the quarter, 15 came from long distance shots.

With accurate shooting, they opened up a 29-19 advantage at the half.

Smith opened second half scoring with a layup, matched by the Cougars shortly after. Chase Owens drove to the post, executed a spin move to free himself, then laid the ball in to set the score at 31-24 with 6:17 left in the third.

From the 6:38 mark, East Hardy outscored Pendleton County six to three over the remainder of the quarter, with a Josiah Kimble free throw at 3:17, the last scoring until the fourth.

The Cougars took a 10 point lead into the fourth. Both defenses maintained energy and intensity until the final seconds of the game. Pendleton County went into a press, which forced turnovers from the efficient Cougar squad. Bradey Bowers did not make the stat sheet, but contributed valuable time and high energy on defense.

Wildcat offensive players also worked hard to manufacture points. After an East Hardy three, Owens once again took his man to the post, spun around him, and scored. He followed that with an offensive rebound and a layup with 5:36 left.

In the final minutes, Pendleton County whittled a lead that was at 15 at the 6:48 mark down to eight with a little less than two minutes left.

Kimble played a huge role in that push. At about the three minute mark, he drove from the right wing, hit a shot, drew a foul, and hit the free throw to complete the old fashioned three-point play. Next, he fired a pass to a cutting Franklin for a score and followed that by driving and pulling up from about six feet to hit a shot.

Pendleton County was only down 45-37 at the 1:48 point. They started working to extend the game through intentional fouling. East Hardy hit most of their foul shots. Kimble scored four more, but the Wildcats could not keep pace.

On their third game in as many days, Pendleton County gave the fourth ranked team all they wanted, but had to take the setback in the end.

Kimble led scoring with 12 points, followed by Kisamore with 10. Smith added seven, Owens six, Franklin four, and Zykijah Wright two.

In the 81-46 Wednesday win at Paw Paw, who came into the game with 10 victories, Kimble and Owens both scored 22. Wright added eight, Henry Warner and James Kuykendall both put in seven, Franklin six, Kisamore five, and Smith and Caleb Armentrout each had two.

The Wildcats will battle with the Cougars again tonight. Game time is 6 p.m. On Saturday, Paw Paw comes to town with the middle school game starting at 1 p.m., followed by the high school game.



Dusty Smith and Bradey Bowers push the offense up the floor during a fast break against Tucker County.

Wildcats Push Top Ranked Mountain Lions at Home

By Stephen Smoot

In science, the concept is called a "control." A control shows a point of comparison from which the observer can determine facts. This can take the form of a reaction or to demonstrate a change over time.

Pendleton County played Tucker County on the road in the team's opener. In the first match up the Wildcats stayed with their opponent through the first half, only trailing by 11 at the break. The Mountain Lions then delivered a knockout punch in the third quarter that sent the visiting team reeling, winning the game 68 to 28.

Last week, the top team in West Virginia class A made the trip off the mountain to face a still young, but much more seasoned Wildcat squad.

The Mountain Lions took the opening tip and executed well on their initial possession, scoring a layup 17 seconds into the game. More than a minute later, Cashton Kisamore blocked the first of several shots on the night. It led to a possession where Wyatt Franklin chased down an offensive rebound, and hit a shot to tie the game at two. Two minutes after, Chase Owens hit a three-point shot to put his team up 5-4.

In the first quarter, Tucker County used a one-three-one zone that helped to open shot opportunities from the deep corners for Pendleton County shooters. Owens alone hit a trio of three-pointers.

With eight seconds left in the first stanza, Josiah Kimble pump faked, shook his man, dribbled in and drilled a shot from the foul line extended to knot the game at 18. Tucker County, however, answered with a three to lead at the end of the quarter.

Kimble opened the second quarter by taking a pass from Franklin and hitting a three at the 7:30 mark. Tucker County abandoned

the zone for the remainder of the game, trying to shut down the Wildcats' outside shooting. Wildcat guards found avenues to drive, getting around defenders and finding opportunities closer to the basket.

Tucker County looked for shots near the basket with excellent interior passing using their motion offense, but also shot consistently well from three when they found openings. They hit one to pull ahead 24-21 at the 6:26 point, but Franklin soon after poked a rebound away from an opponent, had it returned to him by a teammate, and hit a layup. Extra efforts like this from Pendleton County players often led to big plays at crucial times.

With nearly four minutes remaining in the half, a Kimble pass reached the hands of Zykijah Wright, who made a move, hit a shot, and pulled his team within one. Almost 40 seconds later, Kisamore blocked a shot, which Kimble picked up, drove cross court to the right post, then fired back to Owens on the left wing.

The Pendleton County crowd erupted when Owens completed the play with a three, giving his team the lead 32-30.

In the last seconds of the half, the Wildcats took a 36-33 lead when Dusty Smith drove, pulled up, and hit a shot from eight feet. The Mountain Lions cut the lead to one with 29 seconds left on a layup. Wright broke up one last chance Tucker County had to score by intercepting a length of the court pass.

Pendleton County came out confident in the third quarter. Only 20 seconds into the quarter, Kisamore knocked the ball away from a Mountain Lion player. Smith caught it and fired the pass back to Kisamore for a layup and a 38-35 lead, quickly followed by a

Tucker County layup. For almost two minutes, neither team could score. Kimble with a little less than six minutes left in the quarter exploded past his man and took an open lane to a layup and a 40-37 lead. A minute later, Tucker County took the lead back with a three-point shot. From that point through the end of the quarter, the Mountain Lions scored 13 to Pendleton County's five and took a 55-45 advantage.

The lead remained around 10 until the 3:28 point. Kisamore made a post move and laid the ball in shortly after that, followed by a Bradey Bowers steal. With 1:12 left in the game, Smith passed outside to Owens who hit a three to pull the Wildcats to a 65-60 disadvantage. Tucker County, however, took advantage of intentional fouls made to extend the game, hitting enough free throws to give themselves a 72-60 win.

The progression of the game showed why Tucker County earned the top ranking. They play aggressively, but with discipline, patience, and good execution. The team enjoys upper class leadership and ample height. Pendleton County pushed them hard, but Tucker executed when it mattered.

Even though a loss, the game did serve as a control. With a minute left in the December game, the Wildcats had absorbed a significant defeat. With a minute left in the game last week, Pendleton County had a shot to win the game.

And Tucker County had done nothing but improve in the meantime, but so had the home team.

Owens led the Wildcats with 21, including six three-point shots. Kimble followed with 18. Franklin and Kisamore each scored six, Smith five, and Wright and Bowers two a piece.

That Look One Gets When Pendleton Beats Moorefield on the Road



Pendleton County finished a rough and tumble week where they played four games in a row, winning two, and playing strong against two of the top five teams in West Virginia single A basketball. The Wildcats topped the Yellow Jackets 62 - 39 Friday night in Moorefield. Wildcats are, from left, Chase Owens, Cashton Kisamore, Bradey Bowers, Josiah Kimble, Wyatt Franklin, Dusty Smith and Dillon Smith (manager).

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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



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become fluent in all aspects of health center electronic applications. A minimum of a bachelor's degree in accounting. Two years of related experience is preferred. The successful candidate should also have been working in an automated business environment. This is a full-time position with benefits including affordable health insurance and a 401K. If you are interested in this position, please submit a letter of interest and a resume to: Jodie Wimer, PO Box 100, Franklin, WV 26807, jwimer@pcc-nfc.org. PCC is an Equal Opportunity Employer. 1c

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 OR THIRTY DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF THE NOTICE, whichever is later.
 All creditors of the decedent(s) and other persons having claims or demands against decedent(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 - Lori Mallow Raines, Executrix;
Samuel J. MacMichael Estate - Jeremy Townsend, Executor.

made pursuant to the provisions of law but that a foreign will or affidavit of heirs of the decedent has been filed with the Pendleton County Commission, and is of record in the Pendleton County Clerk's Office.

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

First Publication Date: Thursday, February 1, 2024

Claim Deadline Date: Monday, April 1, 2024

Decedent: Thomas Earl Propst, Orange County, VA
 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

Hunters Harvest 981 Wild Turkeys in Fall Season

The West Virginia Division of Natural Resources has announced that hunters harvested 981 wild turkeys during the 2023 Fall Wild Turkey Season. Due to the lower brood production in 2023 was lower than last year. However, more counties were open for a two-week fall season due to this year, the 2023 harvest saw a slight decrease of three percent over the 2022 harvest of 1,012 birds. However, this season was one percent above the five-year average and 12 percent below the 10-year average. Fall turkey harvest numbers are influenced by hunter participation but also depend on the current year's brood production and most conditions. Brood production in 2023 was lower than last year. However, more counties were open for a two-week fall season due to this year, the 2023 harvest saw a slight decrease of three percent over the 2022 harvest of 1,012 birds. However, this season was one percent above the five-year average and 12 percent below the 10-year average. Fall turkey harvest numbers are influenced by hunter participation but

Counties with the most harvests were Nicholas County (57 birds), Greenbrier (46), Monroe (43), Randolph (42) and Fayette (32). These counties, except Fayette, had a four-week season.

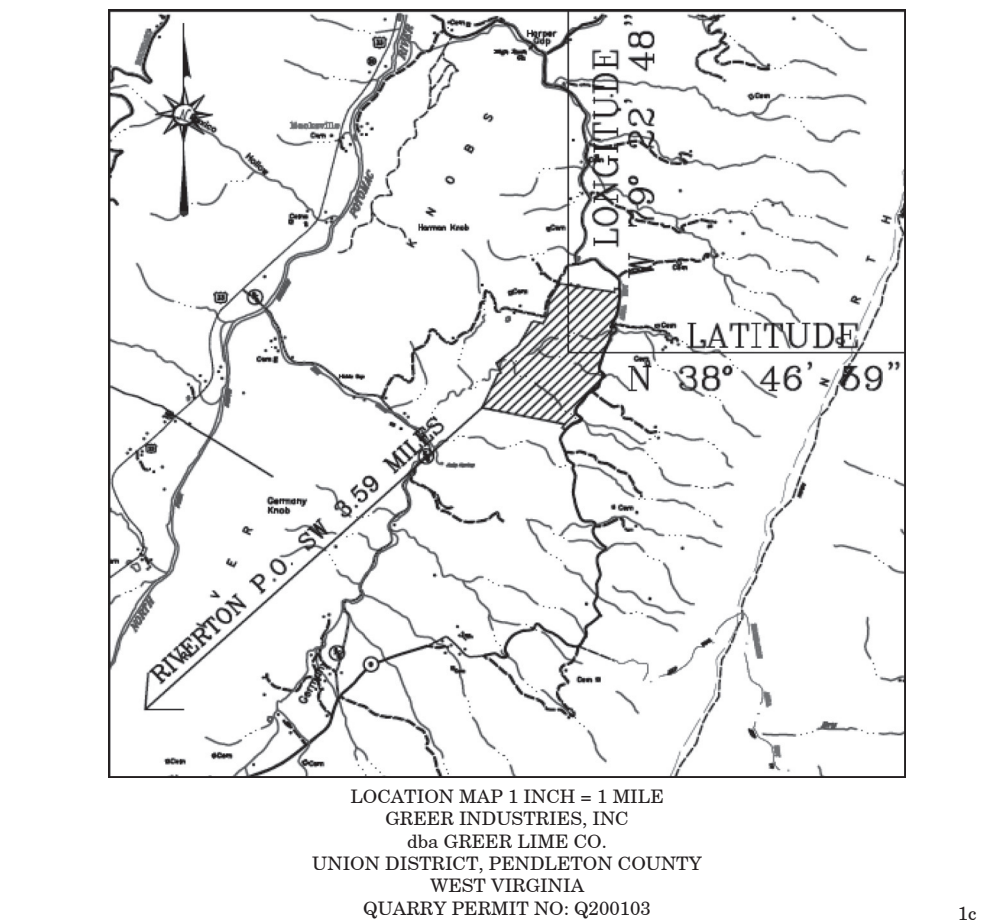
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ADVERTISMENT
 Notice is hereby given that GREER INDUSTRIES, INC. DBA GREER LIME COMPANY, 8477 VETERANS MEMORIAL HWY, MASON TOWN, WV 26542 has submitted an application for RENEWAL of Quarry Article 4 Permit Number Q200103 to the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) 47 School Street, Suite 301, Philippi, WV, 26416-1600, in order to remove Limestone (Lincolnshire and New Market) by conducting Quarry operations.

The operation is discharging into unnamed tributary of Mill Creek of the South Branch of the Potomac River and is located 5 miles, Northeast of Riverton, West Virginia in Union District of Pendleton County, Longitude 79° 22' 48" and Latitude 38° 46' 59" (Coordinates from USGS Topographic Map).

Written comments on the Article 4 Quarry Permit Renewal Application shall identify the applicant and application number and will be received by the Permit Supervisor at the DEP address above until March 9, 2024, or thirty (30) days from the date of publication. A copy of the application will be available for review in the DEP Regional Office located at the address above and is available at: http://apps.dep.wv.gov/WebApp_dep/Search/ePermitting/ePermittingApplicationSearchPage.cfm.

The above link can be accessed from a computer at all West Virginia public libraries. DEP Telephone Number: 304-457-3219 Permit Number: Q200103



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

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CLASSIFIED BUSINESS DIRECTORY

<p>TREE SERVICE</p> <p>RON'S TREE SERVICE, LLC <i>Since 1991</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete Tree Care & Removal • Lot Clearing • Rights-of-Way • Stump Grinding • Chipper and Bucket Truck Service <p>FREE ESTIMATES 304-799-2476 Licensed & Insured License #2226-1961</p>	<p>CLEANING</p> <p>J&L's RECONDITIONING</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Detail Vehicles • Steam Clean Carpets & Furniture • Contract Cleaning <p>Joyce Moates, owner 304-249-5480 <i>BBB Accredited</i></p> <p>CONTRACTORS</p> <p>JERRY L. LAMBERT CONSTRUCTION, INC.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stick Built Homes • Additions & Garages • Decks • Remodeling & Repairs • Replacement Windows <p>1-304-358-2500 WV 027848</p>	<p>FUEL</p> <p>ATCO Heat ATLANTIC OIL CO., INC. Phone 358-2242 • Franklin</p> <p>PROPANE PROMISE.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Automatic Fill Plan • Budget Payment Plan • Small Tanks Filled • Heating Systems - Sales <p>(304) 358-2307 Service Heatline 1-800-287-3494</p> <p>MATHESON VALLEY <i>ask...The Gas Professionals™</i> 1256 Mountaineer Dr. Franklin, WV</p>	<p>STORAGE SPACE</p> <p>FOX DEN MINI STORAGE LLC</p> <p>Storage Units 5x10, 10x10, 10x15, 10x20</p> <p>24-Hour Accessibility Call 304-358-3514 6.7 MILES SOUTH OF BRANDYWINE ON ROUTE 21 IN SUGAR GROVE, WV just south of Navy Base</p> <p>Storage Spaces Available Now Spaces for Vehicles Also Available Call Julie VanMeter at 304-358-7492 (after 6 o'clock) Very Reasonable Prices</p>	<p>TNT SELF STORAGE Upper Tract</p> <p>304-257-1421 or 304-703-3054</p> <p>NEW SELF STORAGE UNITS 5X10 • 10X10 10X20</p>
<p>AUTOMOTIVE</p> <p>Aumann's Custom Auto</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Custom Paint Mixing • Complete Body Work • Frame Straightening • Insurance Work Accepted <p>OPEN Monday - Friday 8-5 358-7758 53 Mill Road ~ Franklin</p>	<p>ELECTRICAL</p> <p>MALLOW ELECTRIC, LLC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Residential • Commercial • Standby Generators <p>304-668-9885 Brandon Mallow Licensed and Insured WV057572</p>	<p>HEATING/COOLING</p> <p>WENS HEATING, COOLING & SERVICES W051083</p> <p>Josh Owens, owner Brandywine, WV</p> <p>Heil Dealer Service & Installation Heat Pumps, Oil & Propane Furnaces & Commercial Refrigeration Units</p> <p>304.249.5420 304.668.9616</p>	<p>MOUNTAIN IR Heating & Cooling L.L.C. Franklin</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Installations • Custom Duct Work • Service on All Brands Trane, Carrier & Heil <p><i>Serving the area for more than 30 years</i> Here Today and Here To Stay Tyler Scheibner 304-668-9296 License # WV 062818</p>	<p>E-ZEE SELF STORAGE Glover Dr. - Franklin 304-358-3651 Inside Units 7x10 10x20</p>
<p>Need To Get Rid of Extra Items, Then Advertise Them IN THE CLASSIFIEDS</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Call or Email Today 304-358-2304 ads@pendletontimes.com</p>				

