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Thursday March 7, 2024

Fox's Forges Kimble Family Legacy in Brandywine



By Stephen Smoot

A year before John F. Kennedy's election to the presidency, under the headline "Bear Hunter Decides to Stay," an article described the entrepreneurial efforts of Fairmont contractor Wilbert L. Wilson in Brandywine.

Wilson's "flagstone and frame construction" building featured a motel on the oft traveled US 33 with eight rooms and adjoining a restaurant that seated 40.

"When I learned that the Navy was building the world's largest radio telescope in Pendleton County, I decided that this would be a good time to come up here and do business," Wilson said at the time.

Fast forward three decades from its opening. Pendleton County ended up hosting two nearby federal installations, though Pocahontas County received the astronomical facility.

In 1992, Ronnie and Betty Kimble took over the restaurant. Two years later, they purchased both the eatery and motel outright. This month, they will hand the reigns over to the next generation, their son, Darren, and daughter-in-law, Heidi, who are ready to step up and continue the family business for decades to come.

"Through the 32 years we've had good and bad days, as any business does," shared Continued on Page 3



Ramp Season Only a Month Away in West Virginia Mountains

By Stephen Smoot

"Ramps announce the arrival of spring in the woods," stated an article published by the West Virginia University Extension Service.

They also serve as a staple of the Appalachian diet since the earliest days of settlement. Historian John Alexander Williams wrote of them that "ramps, or wild leeks, wild vegetables that appear in the forest every spring, often poked their pungent leaves up through the snow. They have a bad odor when cooked, but are otherwise wholesome."

Williams went on to write that "children and everyone else looked forward to their coming and they have become a traditional Appalachian food."

According to Annie Humes, executive director of the Pendleton County Farmers Market, "unlike garlic, green onions, or other similar alliums, they don't thrive in a traditional cultivated garden environment. They are uniquely suited to forest environments."

Humes goes on to explain that "this means that, especially in mountainous wooded regions where cold winters and rocky ground make gardens more challenging, they are one of the first bounties of nature available to folks as the spring arrives."

Even before the arrival of European settlers, the Cherokee valued these plants for both food and health purposes. On Travel Culture.com, an article explains that "the Cherokee used raw ramps as an ingredient for a spring tonic."

"For native communities and early settlers whose diets were completely reliant on what was locally available, green vegetables, which are essential for nutrition, had been unavailable for many months," Humes explained. She also stated that "by ramp Continued on Page 3

CALENDAR

Upper Tract 4-H'ers To Meet

The Upper Tract Producer's 4-H Club will meet at 6:30 p.m. Monday in the club room at the Upper Tract Volunteer Fire Department. The program will be Appalachian Forests Pollinator-Initiative.

Lenten Lunches Continue Today

The annual Lenten Lunches hosted by the Pendleton County Ministeral Association began at noon today at Walnut Street United Methodist Church in Franklin.

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

This week's meal will be provided by Franklin Presbyterian Church with the message by Pastor Deborah Beam. Next week's meal will be provided by Circleville and Seneca Rocks churches. The message will be delivered by Jerry Smith, pastor of St. Paul Independent Lutheran Church.

Activites Planned At Family Support Center in Franklin

activities Upcoming scheduled at the Pendleton County Strive to Thrive Family Support Center in Franklin are parent advisory meeting at 5 p.m. and cooking class at 6 p.m. on Monday, an event at the North Fork Southern Baptist Church in Riverton beginning at noon on Tuesday and dinner at the North Fork Elementary School on March 13.

For more information, call 304-538-7711.

Post 30 To Meet

American Legion Pendleton Post 30 will meet at 6:30 p.m. March 13 at the Star Restaurant in Franklin.

Board of Health Schedules Meeting

The Pendleton County Board of Health will conduct a meeting at 5 p.m. on March 14 at the health department in Franklin.

Quilters To Meet

The Sew and Sews Quilt Guild will meet at 6 p.m. Monday at Faith Lutheran Church in Franklin. The activity will be the tying of comforters of valor. Anyone interested in quilting is welcome to attend.

Ag Dinner Meeting Set for March 18

The West Virginia University Pendleton County Extension Service will be sponsoring an educational dinner meeting at 6:30 p.m. March 18 at the Clinton Hedrick Community Building in Riverton. Meeting topic will be "The Eastern Coyote: Ecology and Management" by Sheldon Owen.

For reservations for the meeting call 304-358-2286 no later than March 13.

PVCD Board To Gather Tuesday

The Potomac Valley Conservation District board meeting will be held at 7 p.m. Tuesday at the Farm Credit building in Moorefield. The meeting agenda will be available three days prior to the meeting on the district website at www. wvca.us/district/pvcd.cfm or by contacting the Romney office at 304-822-5174.

The public is invited to participate.

Allegheny Wood Products' Decade of Struggle Leads Up to Corporate Closure: Part One

By Stephen Smoot

Just over a year ago, Allegheny Wood Products shone near the center of the political world, albeit briefly. Representatives Alex Mooney and Carol Miller, as well as the powerful House Ways and Means Committee, visited the site of AWP

Only rarely do congressional committees venture far from the friendly confines of Capitol Hill to hold a committee hearing. On this date, the company could claim to be a part

For the hearing, E. Thomas Plaugher, vice president of operations for AWP, provided a written statement to be read into the Congressional Record.

That statement contained within its professional and staid narrative a plea for help.

Before describing and explaining the company's maxim that "it all starts with the trees," Plaugher established that AWP served as "a family-owned company founded by John and Patricia Crites in 1973. The company that started with 13 employees and a customer base that extended 300 miles

evolved into a global industry giant."

Plaugher shared that "the past few years have been very challenging for the industry." In an effort to punish Communist China for unfair trade practices against the United States and others, President Donald Trump hit mainland China's exports to the United States with a \$550 billion in tariffs, all designed to punish the Asian economic power.

In 2022, five years after the Trump tariffs took effect, the United States - China Economic and Security Review Commission stated that "China has subverted the global trade system and moved further from the spirit and letter of its obligations under its WTO (World Trade Organization) accession protocol. China's subsidies, overcapacity, intellectual property (IP) theft, and protectionist nonmarket policies

exacerbate distortions to the global economy." The report added that "These practices have harmed workers, producers, and innovators in the United States and other

market-based countries." For this and other reasons, President Joe Biden quietly

continued the Trump era tariffs restricting trade with main-Continued on Page 3

Potomac Highlands Guild Raises Awareness On 'the Deadly Game With No Way to Win'

By Stephen Smoot

"West Virginia is doing a great job" in terms of keeping the horrors of drug abuse and addiction as part of the conversation, according to Bethany Perez, a peer recovery support specialist with Potomac Highlands Guild in Franklin.

That said, she also cautions that dangers posed by substance abuse have continued to destroy lives and families. Also, the widespread abuse of fentanyl creates potential danger even for those who never would choose to expose themselves to drugs.

Potomac Highlands Guild is joining countless service organizations, government agencies, and others across the United States to mark National Drug and Alcohol Facts week between March 18 and 24.

According to the National Institutes of Health, the week "is an annual health observance that inspires dialogue about the science of drug use and addiction among youth." The event will "bring together scientists, students, educators, healthcare providers, and community partners" to explain the science and confront drug use among the young in communities across the nation.

One way in which Potomac Highlands Guild will mark the event is a visit by Perez to Pendleton County Middle/High School on March 20.

Perez stated that the Guild surveyed students at the school to determine what they see as the most urgent drug related issues. She stated that the survey results indicated that alcohol, vaping, and THC (the active intoxicant in marijuana and a number of recent commercial products) serve as the

"three things our local community youth are doing." Additionally, each member of the drug abuse and addiction team at Potomac Highlands Guild took on a drug to research, lead discussions upon, and record a radio message about. Perez chose fentanyl, one of the areas most dangerous drugs that has blasted many regional communities.

She cautions all to not assume that drug problems among Pendleton County youth are limited to these. One of the hidden dangers comes from the proliferation of fentanyl.

"The amount of drugs that are cut with fentanyl are insane," Perez said. She further explained that fentanyl is at the same time very cheap and very potent. Drug dealers, including those who sell marijuana, "cut" their product with fentanyl to increase both potency and dealer profits.

"They're trying to say, 'we've got the best drugs," because of the enhanced potency.

With fentanyl cut drugs, Perez stated, "You have no trace of how much you are doing." She called it the worst, because "it's killing people left and right."

Perez has visited the school to perform anti-drug presentations before. One took the form of a traditional assembly, where she spoke to large numbers of students in a

Continued on Page 3



OBITUARIES



Allene Hartman McCoy

Allene Hartman McCov, 104, of Harrisonburg, Virginia, passed away March 2, 2024, in Harrisonburg,

She was born Oct. 21, 1919, in Brandywine and was the daughter of the late Forest D. and Beulah M. Simmons

Mrs. McCoy was a 1938 graduate of Franklin High School, and she moved to Harrisonburg following her graduation.

She was a member of the Otterbein United Methodist Church, the Open Door Fellowship, the organizer of the 9:00 Breakfast Club and a member of the Rebecca Bible Class and Adult Bible Class.

On Sept. 21, 1939, she married Lee E. McCoy who preceded her in death on Feb. 17, 1967.

Surviving are a son, Dennis W. McCoy and wife, Eleanor of Harrisonburg, Virginia; granddaughters, Heather Leigh and husband, Chris Parker and Kelly Marie and husband, James O'Hara; great-grandson, Connor J. Parker; a sister, Betty Lea Thompson; a number of nieces and nephews; and special friends, Denise Torres Pagan and Sam and Martha Spicher.

She was also preceded in death by a son, Dwight Lee McCoy; an infant daughter; and a sister, Hilda Harris.

The family will receive friends from 1 to 2 p.m. today at the Kyger Funeral Home Chapel in Harrisonburg, Virginia. A funeral service will follow with Reverend Adam Blagg officiating. Burial will follow at Pine Hill Cemetery in Brandywine.

Memorial gifts may be made the Otterbein United Methodist Church in Harrisonburg, Virginia.

Condolences may be shared by visiting www.kygers.com.



Bonnie Ada (White) Hedrick

Bonnie Ada (White) He-Rocks passed away on Feb. 26, 2024, at Grant Reha-

She was born on Sept. 13, Lee White and Leona Marie (Kerns) White.

Mrs. Hedrick attended Harman High School. She one-room schools on Snowy was a member of Brushy Run Mennonite Church.

Her husband, Johnie Hedrick, preceded her in death on May 2, 2014.

Surviving are a son, David Allen Hedrick of Cabins; a daughter, Beverly Morral and husband, Roger of Petersburg; three grand- ation, she moved to Washchildren, Jennifer Morral, ington, DC, where her job Jonathan Hedrick and Elis- with the FBI was waiting abeth Hedrick; two step- for her. In 1959, she was grandchildren, Tabitha married to Robert Everett Pierce and husband, Troy, Hubbard of Washington, and Roger Morral, Jr.; a DC. To that union, three brother, Carl White of Wel- children were born, Robert lington, Ohio; and several Simmons, Charlene Ann, nieces and nephews.

death by an infant grandson, she went back to work for Christopher Lee Morral; five the Montgomery County sisters, Lois Weaver, Lillian Schools as a bus operator. Lambert, Helen Lambert, infant Wanda and Carol White; and a brother, Ralph White.

Funeral services were held Friday in the chapel of Schaeffer Funeral Home in Petersburg with Pastor Robert Mallow officiating. Interment was at North Fork Memorial Cemetery in Riv-





Charlene Deloris Simmons Hubbard

Charlene Deloris Simdrick, 83, formerly of Seneca mons Hubbard, 85, passed away on February 28, 2024.

She was born on July 3, bilitation and Care Center in 1938, on Snowy Mountain, also known as East Dry Run, Cherry Grove. She was 1940, in Dry Fork and was the sixth of seven children a daughter of the late Hoye born to the late Ralph and Mabel Louella Tichenor Simmons.

Mrs. Hubbard attended Mountain before moving to Franklin in 1951 and graduating from Franklin High School in 1957. During her high school years, she worked for The Pendleton Times and enjoyed it very

Two weeks after graduand Susan Marie. After She was also preceded in her children were raised,

She loved it, but decided after almost 25 years, she needed a much quieter lifestyle and retired in 2000.

She loved her church, her loving family, her country and gospel music, and good Ole West Virginia, which she still called home. She frequently said, "You can take me out of the mountains, but you can't take the mountains out of me!"

She was the last surviving member of her immediate family.

Her husband, Robert Hubbard, survives.

Also surviving are three children and two in-laws, Robert (Eileen), Charlene Ann (Joe), and Susan (Doug, deceased); five grandchildren, Lauren Evans (Sam), Olivia Hughes (Jake), Stephen Robertson (Amanda), Cory Robertson, and Miranda Henry; three great-grandchildren, Ryleigh Ann and Jack Everett Robertson and Westley Robert Evans; a niece; and several nephews.

She was also preceded in death by brothers Melvin Ralph, Edgar Leroy and Vernon Clay; and sisters Mabel Arlene, Charlotte Louise, and Lula Belle Mor-

Visitation will be held from 10 a.m. to noon today at Holy Cross Church in Garrett Park, Maryland, where Mass of Christian burial will follow. Interment will be at Gate of Heaven Cemetery in Silver Spring, Maryland.

Memorial donations may be made to Holy Cross Church.

Arrangements were by Collins Funeral Home in Silver Spring, Maryland.



James Gavin Beyersdorfer

James Gavin Beyersdorfer, 63, of Franklin passed away unexpectedly.

Born on Feb. 13, 1961, in Washington, DC, he was the son of the late James Richard Beyersdorfer and brother-inlaw, Jeffrey John Shaw.

Mr. Beyersdorfer grew up in Bethesda, Maryland, and attended Walt Whitman High School. He received a bachelor's degree in psychology from Lawrence University in Appleton, Wisconsin, before embarking on a career as a general contractor.

Never meeting a piece of scrap lumber he didn't like, he was a resourceful and skilled carpenter for more than 30 years. He lived and worked in the Washington, DC, area while caring for his parents. After their deaths, he fulfilled a lifelong dream

of making a home in West Virginia, where he continued working on projects across Pendleton County.

He was a lover and explorer of the outdoors, often with one of his much loved yellow labs in tow. His favorite place was his North Fork Mountain property, where he studied animal tracks, feuded with bears, and flagged the locations of lady slipper orchids so as not to disturb them with one of his many construction projects.

He was a devoted and deeply loved son, brother, uncle and friend. Always ready to provide his support, he helped care for his parents, sister, and brother-in-law at the end of their lives. He was a kind and steady presence in the lives of all who knew him.

He is survived by a sister, Marcella Ann Beyersdorfer of Petersburg; and two nieces, Casey Ann Shaw of Miami, Florida, and Erin Duffy Shaw of Richwood.

A celebration of life service will be held at a later date. Memorial donations may

be made to one's local volunteer fire department or a charity of choice.

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

Arrangements were entrusted to the Kimble Funeral Home in Franklin.



The Family of

would like to express their gratitude to every-

one for their support in prayers, sympathy cards, phone calls, food, flowers, memorial contributions, love and kindness. We would also like to give a heartfelt thank you

to David Basagic for a wonderful service. Also thank you to Pastor David Webb and Pastor Rita Beeman for having the services.

A special thanks to Mt. Horeb Church for an awesome meal. May God Bless You All.

Bruce Smith and Family



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PLEASE

WHEN: Sunday, March 17 at 7 p.m.

WHERE: PCMHS Gymnasium

TICKETS: \$8 presale - \$10 at the door To purchase pre-sale tickets, contact a Wildcat Baseball

Player, PCMHS Main Office 304-358-2573, ParMar #29 (AMCO), Fox's in Brandywine, Gateway or Yokum's Store

2 Country Style Ribs Meal

Meal will include: Country Style Ribs, Green Beans, Mac and

Cheese, Dessert, and Drink.

Dine-in or Carry-out 4:30-6:30 p.m.

All proceeds from the Donkey Basketball & the Country Style Ribs Meal will benefit the High School Baseball Team.

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WE SELL LAND

Fox's Pizza

Continued From Page 1

Betty Kimble, adding that "my biggest fear when we opened was that we would have no business on opening day."

She had no reason to worry, however. Her first customer would show soon enough. "Gary Smith," she remembers of the legendary Franklin and Pendleton County High coach recently inducted into the West Virginia University Tech Sports Hall of Fame, "was my first customer."

Kimble said, "I can still see 'Big Ole Gary' standing in Fox's the night before opening and saying, 'I want to be your first customer and you'll be fine.' He handed me a dollar bill and bought a bottle of Pepsi."

The opening of the Brandywine Fox's by the Kimbles did not come without huge risk for the family. Darren Kimble, said, "She opened the door with \$500 to her name."

Betty Kimble knew the business. She had worked at a Fox's in Franklin, near where T&K Markets stands today, and understood both its company processes and also its food's local appeal. "I knew the business would be here because of the Navy Base," she remem-

They first looked at a smaller location, but she said, "I never would have made it in that small building.'

"I came over here on a whim and a prayer," Betty Kimble shared. In a time before federal regulations strangled much of a local bank's latitude to operate, the Kimbles could go to the local bank, even without collateral, and obtain a small business loan.

Banks used to take the measure of an individual or group's reputation almost as much as other metrics, such as credit score or income. They would often make a decision to loan based on the certainty that the applicant was "good for it."

"Back then, you could go to a bank and borrow money easily," she remembers.

Like a number of other chain restaurants, including McDonald's, Fox's operates on the franchise model, Franchisees are actually local small business owners using the branding and products of the larger corporation. They must adhere to the standards of the company, both in their food and their branding, but sometimes can forge a bit of leeway.

Brandywine's Fox's offers a couple of menu items not found in other franchise locations. For those with a big love of pizza, but a smaller appetite, they offer a "bambino." From the Italian word for little boy, it's what other chains call a personal pizza.

Betty Kimble remained so dedicated to keeping the item on the menu, one of the corporate representatives gave her the nickname "Bambino Bettv."

The Kimble family not only sells the smallest pizza in the Fox's chain, but also the largest. Called merely, "The Big One," their 30 inch pizza with 54 slices only clears the front door by a few inches.

Be sure to bring a vehicle large enough to

drive it home, the Kimbles joked. What is the secret for success over 30

years? "Always have love and concern for your customer," Betty Kimble said. "You have to care that anything you're making for your customer is done right. You have to treat your customer right. You always have to be willing to serve your community."

That included her husband, Ronnie, "meeting everyone at the window or at the cash register." Betty Kimble smiled warmly and explained, "He was the greeter!"

Underlying values also help to build a business on the most solid foundation. Betty Kimble said that "we've always been honest in everything we've done. We put our trust in God knowing that he will provide."

That faith even held when the Sugar Grove Navy Base shut down almost a decade ago. She stated that "it didn't impact me much at all. It did some, but we were still busy."

Heidi Kimble explained why the Navy Base closure did not bring a serious shock to the business, saying that "people kept coming back for the service and the food."

The impact of COVID nationally produced trends that boosted business for Fox's. Urban dwellers "started exploring the area more," said Darren Kimble. The outdoor tourism boom that enveloped most of the state during COVID, and continues to grow, increased traffic considerably on U.S. 33.

The incoming owners have plans to continue to develop the restaurant. Darren Kimble shared that "I'd like to make a nicer outdoor seating area." Staffing and space issues have forced the closure of the inside dining room for the time being.

"There are times that we're making 20 pizzas out here on the tables on Friday and Saturday nights," he added, also saying "my major concern is staffing.'

Long term, they want to reopen the dining room, if possible. Said Heidi Kimble, "we'll gladly open inside if we get enough people to serve the customers. We don't want to get them inside and not be able to take care of them."

Betty Kimble said, "The kids are excited about the new changes. The parents are not." She said later, however, that "I didn't want to see it go out of our hands, but it needed younger blood to take it over. It's hard to see changes, but I wanted it to work."

Over the years, many of the former staff remain customers, friends, and almost family. Betty Kimble explained that "a lot of people said this was their best work experience. It's been good to see teenagers come in here and you see them become good and responsible adults. Even my own kids thanked us for the work experience."

"We're looking forward to keeping it in the family," Heidi Kimble stated. "We couldn't imagine it in someone else's hands. Our kids, they encouraged us to do it. They wanted Fox's to continue in the family." And also to continue the legacy started in 1959 and continued by their parents, following the example of the elder Kimbles' American Dream realized.

As Betty Kimble put it, "Our biggest reward for operating Fox's was that we have been able to provide for our family. We never had the intent to become wealthy, just make an honest living."

Burning Restrictions Began March 1

The start of West Virginia's annual spring fire season which began March 1 marks the return of burning restrictions.

The West Virginia Division of Forestry reminds residents to confine their outdoor burning to the hours of 5 p.m. to 7 a.m. according to the West Virginia State Code Chapter 20-3-5. Fires set during that time must be put out before 7 a.m.

"Since January 1 we have responded to 95 fires that have burned approximately 389.1 acres," said Jeremy Jones, state forester with division of forestry.

Statewide burning restrictions will remain in effect until the close of the spring fire season on May 31. The division of forestry has issued burning guidelines on its website at wvforestry.com/fire-laws.

Regulations include:

•All fires must have a safety strip.

•The safety strip itself must be cleared of burnable material and be at least 10 feet

• Fire must be attended until completely extinguished.

•Only vegetative materials such as leaves, brush and yard clippings are permitted to

• Spark-throwing machinery, such as power shovels or sawmills operating on land subject to fire, must contain an adequate spark arrestor.

•Inflammable waste disposal areas must annually remove all grass, brush, debris, and other inflammable material adjacent to disposal areas to provide adequate protection, preventing the escape of fire to adjacent

"Our fire laws protect one of West Virginia's most valuable resources: our forests," Jones said. "We urge everyone who decides to burn anything outside to be completely familiar with the guidelines available on our website. During the spring months it doesn't take long for our fuels to dry out and fires to escape easily."

Commercial burning during prohibited periods requires a permit, which is issued by local WVDOF offices. A permit is required for each commercial burning site.

Any person or company who causes a fire on any grass or forest land must reimburse the state for costs to suppress the fire. Fines for forest fires caused by negligence range from \$100 to \$1,000 with an additional civil

WIC Announces March Schedule

During the month of March, Pendleton County WIC Clinic will be open 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Wednesdays at the Pendleton Community Building in Franklin. Limited services are also available from 2 to 4 p.m. on other days of the week. Call for details.

Pendleton County participants can receive services in Petersburg if alternate days or evening appointments are desired. The office will be closed March 22.

WIC offers nutrition education and healthy foods to pregnant, breastfeeding and postpartum women, infants and children under the age of five.

For more information, call 304-358-

City:

Ramp Season

Continued From Page 1

season, you can imagine there was a great deal of joy at the prospect of a haul of savory greens that came on their own from the woods without laborious gardening."

Local entrepreneurs have increasingly worked to bring more products to the market. Many scour the landscape looking for ramps to sell in farmers markets or even on the side of the road. Many use them in brown bean soup, once regarded as the official food of West Virginia. Humes suggests that "the best comparison

when it comes to cooking with them is with fresh baby spinach. They can be added to any dish where a collard, or a spinach would be welcome, but must be added later in the cooking process to keep them from overcooking."

In recent years, ramps have developed into, as Vox.com described, "America's trendiest produce." Springtime now ushers in "an annual frenzy" of the "food-obsessed on the East Coast."

Prices of the precious plant hit \$20 per pound three years ago.

Rising prices have boosted interest in commercial harvesting, leading some to consider national forest land as a perfect area to scavenge. U.S. Forest Service officials, however, share every year the guidelines for picking ramps on federal lands.

"While collecting ramps for personal use is permitted on the forest land within established limits, commercial harvesting of ramps in the forest is prohibited," said a forest service release last month.

It also stated that "Personal use is defined

as two gallons per person in possession at any one time, about the amount that fits in a typical plastic grocery bag. This equals about 180 whole plants, including roots and leaves. Individuals may not collect ramps on behalf of someone else or for a fundraiser." "The craze in recent years for ramps, in my

opinion," says Humes, "is part of a broader rediscovery of the bounty of our forests and the natural environment around us, especially by those who are not blessed to be surrounded by nature in their daily lives."

"On the one hand, this has led to astronomical prices for ramps in urban markets, and to harmful over harvesting, but on the other hand a greater understanding of what is needed to conserve and protect these gifts of nature for future generations has also grown."

Ramp season extends from early April to

Alleghany Wood Products

Continued From Page 1

land China. They remain in place today.

Part of the response from Communist China included a \$90 billion tariff on goods bought from American producers, including 10 species of American hardwoods. According to an article from Syracuse.com on the western New York hardwood industry "a growing Chinese middle class developed a taste for American hardwoods, a status symbol for those who could afford American red oak floors, kitchen cabinets or furniture." This helped to buoy American wood products

companies as the Great Recession spanning the late George W. Bush and early Barack Obama administrations took hold. Empire State based Gutchess Lumber sold 50 percent of its produc-

Fast forward to 2023, and Plaugher described the effects of the trade war. He explained that "in 2017, we were caught in a trade war between the U.S. and China. American hardwood producers suffered because of retaliatory tariffs imposed on our products."

Like many fellow companies in the industry, AWP had to retrench. "AWP was forced to close two of our mills and lay off employees that had been with us for decades because business was so bad," Plaugher said.

In 2019, the CEO of Northwest Hardwoods, Nathan Jeppson, told the Washington DC based political news outlet The Hill that they had to lay off 225 of approximately 1,600 employees, as they closed facilities in Washington state and Virginia.

He added that "I don't think people understood actually the job loss potential here and where these jobs are. You think about our industry, we are where the woods are so we are in rural Pennsylvania, rural West Virginia. I can't even get cell coverage at most of our mills."

By 2019, United States exports of hardwood products to mainland China dropped by 43 percent.

That said, when the House Ways and Means

Committee came to Petersburg, Plaugher could report that "trade agreements were worked

But the industry still faced even stiffer chal-The next hit came from the economic tsunami

created by the spread of the COVID virus and the impact of government responses and programs designed to slow the spread of the virus and its ripple effects in business and industry. COVID brought a significant negative impact on the economy throughout the world. The

Journal of Forest Business Research conducted a study in 2023 that stated, "We found an overall significant decrease in prices across all timber products" ranging between seven and 30 percent. Some of this occurred due to consumer uncertainty. A specific problem for AWP came from its ineligibility for Paycheck Protection Program

from a United States Small Business Association "backed loan that helps businesses keep their workforce employed during the COVID-19 crisis," as the federal website explains. Plaugher shared that those creating the programs failed to grasp the specific nature of the

funds. Until May 31, 2021, PPP funds came

industry. He said, "The hardwood industry is a highly fragmented industry with many small producers. There are no Fortune 500 companies in the hardwood lumber industry."

The largest of companies in the field only has a market share of approximately five percent.

"The vast majority of our competitors were eligible for these funds, but we were not," Plaugher commented.

Such a situation created a competitive advantage for AWP's competition in an economy already distorted by trade wars and pandemic

Next week, how AWP struggled with the impacts of Biden Administration policies, workforce woes, and an environmentalist crusade from Hardy County residents.

Potomac Highlands Guild

Continued From Page 1

group. She also participated in Red Ribbon Week, where she shared her testimony of years of addiction and the damage it did.

On March 20, Perez will set up in a table near the lunchroom in the middle of the day. She explained that this might give her a chance to reach children more personally by speaking to small groups or individuals.

Perez brings life experience to the role. She described herself as "an ex-addict" who recently celebrated five years of sobriety. People start using drugs to fill a void, she explained, adding that drugs help them to feel numb, escaping from whatever problems afflict them. Many of those problems originate in childhood.

"I discovered a lot about myself in rehab," Perez shared. She said that those who fall into addiction may lack full "knowledge of what these drugs are and what these drugs are doing. They don't understand how fast they are taking their own life."

Perez also recorded an 80 second public service message that WELD radio will broadcast, along with others. She referred to drug use as "a deadly game of roulette that you have no chance to win."

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50 Years Ago Week of March 7, 1974

> Fast Waters Carry More Silt

WHOSE WOODS ARE THESE . . .

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

Perhaps it is premature to talk now of spring. Such talk might bring the heavy snows. Nevertheless, the spring days approach when streams are swollen and rivers are full. This week this column considers what happens when rivers flow full. Next week we consider the consequences, the mechanism of erosion. The week following we will consider how these rivers form our West Virginia valleys.

When rivers flow full, they are obviously not only wider and deeper, but also faster. The speed of rivers is interesting. Look at them, streams look to be moving faster up in the mountains where the water tumbles around rocks and foams over little falls. Down in the valleys, the water is not so excited—rivers often seem flat, yet the water is moving faster than it was up in the mountains.

A simple check of a river's speed is done by putting dye (a water hose paint is good) into a mountain stream and seeing how long it takes to move a hundred yards. Compare this time to the time it takes dye to move a hundred yards downstream later after the stream joins the larger river in the valley.

Rivers move faster lower down for two reasons. First, downstream they have the weight of the upstream water weighing down upon them. This works like an enormous water tank. The water, hanging above, is trying to flow forward pushing the water on ever faster downstream.

Second, there is less friction downstream against the riverbank and obstacles. Relatively little water in a large river touches the bank; most of the water just touches other water. The passage of water as it flows around boulders and rubs against the bank slows it down.

As is easy to see, fast moving rivers pick up more silt and sand, carrying these downstream making the river look muddy. A muddy river is, interestingly, a fairly fast moving river. For instance during the spring, rivers and streams are muddy, not because the water level is higher and hence rubbing dirt off that before was too low to rub off, but rather, the water is muddy because in the spring, with more water, it is moving faster. The fast movement does not give the mud a chance to settle out, in fact, it picks up material and carries it along.

One way of comparing how fast a river flows was to use a dye as suggested earlier. Nature provides her own dye however. This dye is the mud, silt and sand in a river. Compare the amount of mud, silt or sand in it when it was a

mountain stream. The water at the river's mouth is moving so fast it is usually very muddy. A mountain stream (as we who live in West Virginia well know) is clean and pure. Although bubbling and falling over boulders, a mountain stream is moving more slowly. In fact, it is because of these boulders and bubblings that it is moving more slowly; they act as roadblocks, or perhaps more accurately, stream blocks.

County Residents Donate Historical Papers to West Virginia University

Miss Elizabeth Boggs of Franklin and Richard Ruddle, Jr. of Ruddle, two residents of Pendleton County, recently donated materials of significant historical value to the West Virginia Collection at West Virginia University.

Miss Boggs presented the library with nearly twenty complete years of The Pendleton Times, and with several issues of The Herald for the years 1929-1933. After West Virginia University Library microfilms these newspapers in order to permanently preserve them, other state libraries may obtain copies.

Miss Boggs made the gift in honor of her mother, Elsie Byrd Boggs, a Pendleton historian who wrote The Hammers and Allied Families and A History of Franklin.

Mr. Ruddle, who is presently an undergraduate at West Virginia University, donated several complete volumes of the South Branch Review, a newspaper published in Franklin from 1894 to 1912. Until now, the library had only scattered issues of this periodical. Ruddle also gave to the collection several old photographs of Pendleton, a family history, a history of the Ruddle Church, and several old deeds and land grants.

John Taylor, a Pennsylvania State University student, alerted Rodney Pyles and George Parkinson of the University to the existence of these materials. When not attending classes Taylor resides in Pendleton County where he collects materials for his planned history of Pendleton County.

Residents who own old photographs, letters, diaries, newspapers, ledger books, or legal documents are urged to donate them to the University Library where they can be preserved for posterity. If the owner desires, the original material can be copied and returned.

60 Years Ago Week of March 12, 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.

Grant Arrives In East

To Take Over Armies

Ulysses S. Grant, summoned to Washington to take command of all Federal armies in the Civil War, arrived in the nation's capitol 100 years ago this week and immediately showed the stuff of which he was made.

Within the first days of his arrival, he showed his full character—his humility, his modesty and, above all, his ability to go directly to work on the task at hand with little waste of time.

When he arrived in the capitol city, it was like the arrival of any nondescript army officer. With little fuss, he went to his hotel and asked for a room.

The hotel clerk eyed the unprepossessing figure before him and said, "I have nothing but a room on the top floor."

"Very well, that will do," said Grant. And he registered his name.

The clerk glanced at the name; his eyes bulged, and he nearly fell across the counter in trying to arrange the best room his hotel had for Grant.

Soon, Grant was en route to the White House, and he made the visit with nonchalance, wearing a rather seedy uniform and pulling on a cigar. It so happened, President and Mrs. Lincoln were holding their weekly reception when Grant arrived.

Word of Grant's coming preceded his arrival, and when he stepped into the White House, a hush fell, and the crowd parted as the man of the hour—the hero of Shiloh, Vicksburg and Chattanooga—approached the President of the United States.

For the first time in their lives, the two men shook hands, and Lincoln said, "I'm glad to see you, general."

Then, as the two entered the East Room, the crowd burst out with cheers. Grant, in what he later described as a hotter spot than any he'd had in battle, soon found himself bowing, waving and strolling through the White House, Mrs. Lincoln on his arm, beads of perspiration glistening on his brow.

Next day, March 9, President Lincoln formally presented Grant with his commission in a short ceremony at the White House, and the following day, Grant went to work.

Crowds all over Washington tried to see him, and, invitations came in from all directions. But Grant spent his time touring the city and inspecting fortifications, and on the 10th, he left Washington for the headquarters of the Army of the Potomac at Brandy Station in Virginia.

There, he met General George Gordon Meade; Meade offered to relinquish his position to any man Grant would name, and Grant, pleased with Meade's spirit of cooperation, assured Meade that no such change was contemplated. He returned to Washington.

On March 12, orders were published announcing Grant's assumption of command, but Grant was nowhere to be seen in Washington. On the night of the 11th, he had taken a train for the West, where he planned to set things straight once and for all before tackling the Confederates in Virginia.

Next week: Sherman gets Grant's old job.

70 Years Ago Week of March 11, 1954

Soldiers Jump In Airborne Exercise

Three local boys, Pvt. Robert R. Crigler, Pvt. Gerald Smith and Bobby Gene Eye, took part in two mass parachute jumps made by the 511th Airborne Infantry Regiment at Camp Carson, Colorado, recently.

Airborne Infantry Officers applauded the two mass jumps as "one of the best parachute operations ever conducted by the 511th Regiment."

The first wave of Globemasters flew over the high plains east of the Rocky Mountains and dropped 498 men into sub-freezing weather. Shortly after sunup the second wave of men jumped three hours later.

The jump, involving some 1200 men, was termed as routine as the men have been training there for the past several weeks.

This jump was made by fully equipped men including skis and ski poles.

The 511th flew back to its base at Ft. Campbell, Kentucky, upon completion of the exercise.

EDITORIAL

We Salute Our 4-H'ers---

This week 235 boys and girls in Pendleton County are joining with over 2,000,000 other youths across the country in observing National 4-H Club Week. The 4-H Club program has done a great deal for boys and girls who live in rural counties such as Pendleton. Many of our progressive farmers and homemakers are quick to tell us that they first became interested in improved methods of agriculture and better homemaking practices through the 4-H Clubs to which they belonged in childhood.

Essentially, 4-H Club work is a nation-wide educational program sponsored by the Agricultural Extension Service to teach rural boys and girls the economics, including the fine and significant things in rural life. Through the projects which they carry the members learn the latest methods of farming, livestock raising, cooking, sewing and homemaking. Also the members participate in social meetings, camps and community projects where they make new friends and develop a zest for living and a sense of commu-

nity responsibility.

The 4-H Clubs have been particularly active in Pendleton County in recent years. Of the eleven clubs in the county, two of them, the "Wide-Awake 4-H Club," of Fort Seybert, and the "Upper Tract Producers" were blue ribbon clubs last year. Some of the requirements that a club must meet to be a blue ribbon club are the following: 100 per cent of

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the members must complete their projects, 30 per cent must attend county camp, they must hold a community meeting, and they must sponsor a worth-while community activity. These requirements are examples of the wide range of activities in which the 4-H Clubs participate.

We have also had some outstanding individual 4-H'ers who have brought state and national recognition to Pendleton County recently. Last year Naomi Ruth Judy won the state home improvement contest and was awarded a trip to Chicago and a \$300 scholarship to West Virginia Wesleyan College. Neil Hedrick won the Standard Oil Scholarship last year which is presented to one outstanding 4-H Club member in the state. It is worth \$100 per year for four years.

Our livestock and poultry boys have been doing all right too. In 1952 the Pendleton County 4-H livestock judging team, composed of Arlin Kile, Paul Mallow, Neil Hedrick and William Hevener won the regional contest at Petersburg, and then went on to win the state livestock judging contest at the state fair. They were awarded an all-expense paid trip to Chicago where they participated in the 4-H livestock judging contest at the International Livestock Show and attended the National 4-H Club Congress.

The 1952 4-H poultry judging team composed of Jed Conrad, Ralph Dunkle, Raymond Mallow and David Dyer were also outstanding. They won the state 4-H poultry judging contest at the state fair and were awarded a trip to the northeastern poultry show in Boston where they placed ninth in the judging.

While the 4-H members have the fun and get the recognition, the adult leaders are really the keystone in the 4-H Club work. Pendleton County has been fortunate to have accomplished club leaders. Mary Gay Dyer is the dean of the club leaders in the county with 17 years' service. Pink Bowers has almost caught up with her with 15 years in the harness, and Mrs. Jasper Adamson is not far behind with 13 years. These three leaders are members of the "West Virginia 4-H All-Star Organization," which is made up of the state's leading 4-H Club workers.

mrs. W. P. Hevener has been an assistant leader for nine years and the Rev. S. Kullman has been an assistant for eight years. Other leaders of shorter duration are Macie Phares, John Hevener, Bonnie Harrison, Leonard Hedrick, Mrs. Raymond Hedrick, T. J. Clayton, Mrs. Bardon Harper and Louise Mullenax.

We think our 4-H boys and girls are doing a great job, and so long as they continue to have leaders like they have had in the past, we will be expecting even greater accomplishments in the years ahead.

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Smith Creek/ Friends Run

by Dave Ellis

Get ready to lose an hour of sleep as the clocks are moved up one hour Sunday morning. That will mean less daylight in the morning and the sunset will be later than usual.

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, Donald Burns, David Bowers, Wendell and Darlene Nelson, Ruby Gail Roberson, Ruth Bauer, Anna Mauzy, Linda Maxwell Looney, Bennie and Mary Alice Evick, Gloria Moats, Martha R. Kimble, Jimmie Bennett, Ruthalene Judy, Wayne Kimble, Stanley Propst, Leann Britton, Patsy Bennett, Kathy Puffenbarger

and Wanda Pitsenbarger.
Prayer thought: "For all who are struggling, our heavenly Father offers a place of refuge in His strength and

tenderness."

High and low temperatures and precipitation for Feb. 26 through March 3, followed by the same for last year, were as follows: Feb. 26 - 61°, 31° $(54^{\circ}, 23^{\circ})$; Feb. 27 - 52°, 37°, .12" $(46^{\circ}, 31^{\circ}, .02")$; Feb. 28 – 55°, 33°, .46" $(58^{\circ}, 34^{\circ})$; Feb. 29 - 44°, 21°; March 1 - 47°, 19°, .05" $(63^{\circ}, 47^{\circ})$; March 2 - 61°, 38°, .15" $(61^{\circ}, 41^{\circ})$ and March 3 - 64°, 37° $(41^{\circ}, 41^{\circ})$

37°, .79").
Rainfall for February was 1.79", compared to 2.03" in February of 2023.

Year-to-date rainfall is 5.71", compared to 2.87" for

the same time period in 2023. February's snowfall was 4", compared to .5" in February

of 2023.

The year-to-date snowfall

The year-to-date snowfall is 15.5", compared to 1.5" in the same time period in 2023.

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Upper Tract 4-H kids took a cool, learning field trip to celebrate Maple Days. Touring M & S Maple Farm in Upper Tract were, from left, front row, Everette Boner, Gracie Hedrick, Hallie Hedrick, Jonah Seymour, Harper Hedrick, Olivia Seymour and Brielle Raines; middle row, Easton Boner, Sean Waggy, Connor Raines, Mason Mowery, Claira Kimble and Thor (farm mascot); and back row, Mark Kimble, Isabella Hoover, Kallie Keyser, Katie Keyser, Addie Rexrode, Carly Kimble and Chevelle Noble. Attending, but not pictured, were Branson Smith, Cody Miller, Levi Miller, and Madalyn Griffin.

Upper Tract 4-H Members Celebrate Mountain State Maple Days

The Upper Tract Producers 4-H Club members recently celebrated Mountain State Maple Days by touring the M & S Maple Farm, LLC located in Upper Tract. Mark and Sarah Kimble own and operate this unique maple sugar farm on Mozer Road. They have about 2,000 taps currently collecting sugar water. Typically, they keep tap lines running for eight weeks. The sugar water is collected then heated, cooked, processed, and packaged.

Older members went on a walking field trip, and they were taught how to tap a tree properly. All members were given a tour of the facility and were able to taste several different maple products that are processed and packaged on the premise. It takes 72 gallons of sugar water to make one gallon of maple syrup. Once syrup has been heated and ran through a filter, it is graded by the color it is. Syrup that is made earlier in the season is typically lighter in color, and syrup made near the end of the season is darker. All syrup has the same sugar content of 67 percent after being cooked.

The Kimbles make maple syrup, maple candy, maple crème, maple cotton candy, maple sugar, and maple apple butter. Their products are sold from the farm in Upper Tract, as well as, several retail stores, and they travel to festivals and sell items as a traveling vendor.

Submitted by Katie Keyser, club reporter

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4-H Members Support Local Senior Center



The Upper Tract Producers 4-H Club members recently participated in a community service project by collecting and donating items to the Pendleton Senior and Family Services pantry in Franklin. They also designed and made placemats for the seniors to use. Pictured are club members, from left, Lydia Heavner, Addie Rexrode, and Hannah Heavner, who hand delivered the donations and placemats to the senior center. Submitted by Katie Keyser, club reporter.

Upper Tract Producers Extend Hands to Serve



The Upper Tract Producers recently helped serve the West Virginia Extension Service winter farm dinner meeting. A delicious meal was prepared, and many energetic club members helped serve the meal and clean up. It was an enjoyable and learning activity for all those that attended. Four-H members helping with the meal were, from left, front row, Branson Smith, Kallie Keyser, Lexi Hedrick, Hannah Schell, Gracie Hedrick, Katie Keyser and McKenna Hedrick; and back row, Tanner Hedrick, Alex Adams, Zander Adams, Emily Schell and Ty Heavner. Others that attended and helped throughout the evening but are not pictured were Easton Boner, Addie Rexrode, Lydia Heavner, Kate Heavner, Hannah Heavner, Jacob Ferrell and Sean Waggy. Submitted by Katie Keyser, club reporter.





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Wildcats Survive Dogfight to Claim Sectional Title in Franklin



 $The\ Pendleton\ County\ Wildcats\ savor\ a\ hard-fought\ sectional\ title\ against\ Tygarts\ Valley.\ Members\ of\ the\ team\ are,\ from\ left,\ front\ row,$ Wyatt Franklin, Justus Kuykendall, Caleb Armentrout, Dusty Smith, Josiah Kimble, Bradey Bowers and Dillon Smith (manager); and back row, Matt Sites (assistant coach), Jaydon Hess, Chase Owens, Henry Warner, Jeremy Bodkin (coach), Cashton Kisamore, Tyler Day (assistant coach) and Zykijah Wright.

By Stephen Smoot

"Coach Wamsley's got a well-coached team," said Pendleton County head coach Jeremy Bodkin, if anything understating the discipline and effort brought to the sectional title game by Tygarts

A little more experience and a little better execution helped the home team prevail in an aggressively, but cleanly, played contest. Scores from all games played by the Wildcats against the Bulldogs this year belie the difficulty in defeating the team from Randolph County. They play with intensity, execute fundamentals extremely well, and bring pride to every contest.

Tygarts Valley also bused in enough fans to fill the visiting bleachers, bringing a true postseason atmosphere. Their students even loudly sang along to the Miley Cyrus songs played during warmups.

Valley almost went up 7-0 after a steal, but a Wildcat stepped in to take a charge and get the ball back.

With a few seconds less than three minutes remaining in the first, the Wildcats got on the scoreboard as Chase Owens took a pass from Dusty Smith and sank a three-point basket. Tygarts Valley answered with a layup, followed by a 10-foot shot from Josiah Kimble.

Pendleton County took the lead at 10-9 when Wyatt Franklin and Kimble combined on a steal which led to a Cashton Kisamore layup. Another Owens three set the first quarter score at 13-9.

Great defense on both sides made points a premium through much of the first half. The Bulldogs came within one at the 6:47 mark by hitting a three, but a Franklin reverse layup set up by a Jaydon Hess drive and pass put the score at 15-12. At the five minute mark, the Bulldogs wrested away the lead with a steal and a layup. But once again Smith found Owens, whose three gave his

From midway through the second, the Wildcats carefully constructed a lead. With 4:11 to play in the first half, Hess again found an open Franklin near the basket. His layup gave his team a 20-16 advantage. With 1:25 left, Franklin found Kimble, who hit from greater than 20 feet.

The Wildcats took a 26-18 lead into the half.

Pendleton County opened the second half with a big play as Kimble passed the ball nearly the length of the floor to Owens cutting to the basket giving them a 10 point lead.

Just when the Wildcats seemed about to take control of the game, Tygarts Valley roared back. Over the next four minutes, they outscored the home team 11 to two.

Now only down 30-29, Tygarts Valley seemed to have momentum, but they fouled Kisamore, then Kimble shortly after. The two con-



Dusty Smith celebrates the win by cutting down part of the net, a celebratory tradition.

verted two of four free throws. Franklin then found Owens open in the right corner to hit a three to extend the lead back to six.

Over the remainder of the third and through the early minutes of the fourth, Owens put the team on his back in every way he could. Between 2:20 in the third and 5:30 in the fourth, he scored 10 points, blocked a shot, and scored on an offensive rebound. During the same time frame, the Bulldogs only scored four for their cause.

Pendleton County enjoyed a 47-36 lead at this point, but never played as if they believed the game lay in their hands. Bradey Bowers got a key steal at the 4:35 point, followed quickly after by a Kimble three. Combined, Kimble and Owens would account for the final five points scored by Pendleton County on the night.

What failed to make the statistics was the effort needed to prevail in the game by the entire team. Zykijah Wright played outstanding defense and hauled down rebounds. Hess also gave the team a high energy performance, handling the ball and defending well.

After the game, Bodkin stressed that "we have been working all year on how to overcome adversity." He told them as the third quarter opened that "it's zero to zero" and to play accordingly."

Of the Bulldogs, Bodkin said, "They'll be a devil for Tucker County

"I couldn't be more happy with them," he concluded.

Mountain Lions Press Wears Down Wildcats in Regional Exit

By Stephen Smoot

Tucker County jumped on top early and did not let up until well after the score had decided the contest. The onslaught ended a season of both struggle and success for the Wildcats as the young squad ended a season where they exceeded expectations tremendously.

Pendleton County won the initial tip, but Tucker County took the first score with a layup only 25 seconds into the game. They then hit a three-point shot at the seven minute mark, answered by a long range make from Avery Townsend to cut their lead to 5-3. The Mountain Lion offense roared into life as they

hit five three-point shots and scored 23 in the first quarter, showing the reason for their position in the top of the rankings all year long.

Jenna Smith and Townsend tried to answer with three-point shots to slice into the Tucker County lead. Smith's accuracy has improved tremendously over the past month, especially from long range, despite a nagging injury.

Besides their high percentage shooting, Tucker County's main weapon lay in a difficult to break press that harassed the Wildcats up and down the court. With the exception of steams from Townsend and Smith, they also maintained good control of the ball in the first half.

By the close of the second quarter, Tucker County had taken a 45-18 advantage.

As coach Donnie Kopp repeated all year, however, Pendleton County played proudly and never quit. Townsend opened the second half with an athletic move and finger roll to give her team its 20th point. She followed that up shortly thereafter by taking a pass from Jameigh Miller and hitting a short range

By the three minute mark in the third period, Tucker County had amassed a 61-22 lead.

Yet they continued to press Pendleton County until 1:54 remaining in the quarter.

Conversely, when the Wildcat boys in their sectionals played a Pocahontas County squad that had struggled to perform against Pendleton County squad all year, the head coach did not employ the full court press once and substituted early and often out of respect for the other team and to teach their own players the right way to play.



Olivia Gonshor prepares to make a move in the regional contest against Tucker County.

By that point, the Wildcats had already started to roll back the home team's advantage. Townsend hit a three-point shot and followed that with a length of the floor drive for a layup. Susan Vincell followed an offensive rebound with a layup of her own. Smith then hit a three early in the fourth.

The team continued to go after Tucker County on defense too. Gabby DePue registered a blocked shot in the fourth. Nataley Hedrick, Julia Mongold, Kiera Heavener, and Olivia Gonshor all worked aggressively on defense and slowed down the Mountain Lions over the fourth quarter.

The close of the game saw a score of 77-40, which halved the margin of defeat suffered in the last outing.

Pendleton County has fought uphill all season long against considerable adversity, winning big games and making memories in the process. The young team gained a great deal of experience against tough competition, forged a new identity, and saw a cadre of leaders emerge.

There is much to get excited about when looking forward to Wildcat basketball in the coming years.

The Bulldogs bit first, taking the opening tip and quickly drawing a foul from Pendleton County. They hit one of two free throws, followed by two jump shots to push out to a 5-0 early lead. Tygarts

Cashton Kisamore corrals a Warrior player as Chase Owens and Bradey Bowers prepare to help.

Wildcats Make Powerful Statement In Sectional Success over Warriors

By Stephen Smoot

"There's no answer for it."

So said a game attendee from Pocahontas County who made the hour or so trek through occasionally tropical storm force winds to watch the sectional game against first seeded Pendleton County.

The comment came a quarter and a half into the game as they watched Pendleton County players drive effortlessly to score layups time and time again.

Pendleton County took the opening tip and took the lead 19 seconds into the action. Bradey Bowers, in his first start of the year, bounced a pass to a cutting Chase Owens, who deftly laid the ball in for a 2-0 score.

For the first four minutes and five seconds, the Wildcats did no wrong and the Warriors little right. Cashton Kisamore executed a drop step post move to score a layup. Shortly afterward, Dusty Smith drove past his man to the basket, then kicked out a pass for an Owens three-point shot.

Owens, exactly 40 seconds later, took a Kisamore pass from down low to knock down another three. That was followed by an Owens assist to a cutting Wyatt Franklin and then an Owens drive and layup.

That set the score at 14-0.

The Warriors finally drew a cheer from their fans when they knocked down a threepoint shot to end the drought, but Kisamore quickly answered at the 2:50 mark with a

With a little less than two minutes in the first, Justus Kuykendall drew a foul and made one of two to set the lead at 22-4. A minute later, Jaydon Hess drove from the right wing to the left post, floating past the defender and laying the ball in with his left hand. A Franklin three ended scoring in the first at 27-9.

Head coach Jeremy Bodkin refrained from using his team's highly effective press in this matchup. He also substituted early and liberally, both moves part of an apparent effort to prevent a blowout.

Once the Wildcats pushed the lead out to 20, Pocahontas County kept pace. The Warriors found openings at times to hit long range shots that temporarily edged into the lead. Pocahontas County also executed in bounds plays on their offensive end of the court with incredible precision and, usually successful results.

Pendleton County effectively ran a motion style offense for a time, until Warrior coaches urged their defenders to move in the way of Wildcat cutters to disrupt their timing.

Late in the second quarter, a Pocahontas County three sliced the lead back to 16. Henry Warner, shortly thereafter, answered by taking a Bowers pass at the foul line extended and hitting a jump shot.

Pendleton County enjoyed a 17-point advantage at halftime.

The Warriors scored first in the third quarter, setting the score at 39-24, the closest gap since the middle of the first. Owens then scored twice, first on a baseline drive, then on another layup, extending the lead to 43-24 with 5:21 remaining in the period.

Pocahontas County hit two free throws, but then gave up two consecutive offensive rebounds and layups to Zykijah Wright. With Kisamore getting in early foul trouble, Wright assumed the role of keeping the Warriors off the boards, which he and the rest of the Wildcats generally did most of the night.

Franklin served as a constant disruption to the Warriors, taking a number of steals. With 3:07 left, he took the ball quickly up court on a fast break. He bounced a pass to Smith, who quickly returned it to Franklin for a layup. Almost a minute later, Smith exploded past

his man, scoring a layup and giving his squad a 52-28 lead. Smith and Owens drove at will against the Warrior defense, much too quick for their defenders to stop. Kuykendall led off the final stanza with

a layup, setting the lead at 20. Pocahontas County answered with a layup, but Smith hauled in an offensive rebound and scored to restore the advantage of 20. No let up came from the Wildcats. At the

3:16 point, Warner drove the ball to the basket, picked up a foul, and completed both free throws. Over a minute later, Kuykendall drove into the lane, used a Eurostep move to get past a defender, and laid the ball in.

Pocahontas County hit a three in the final seconds, placing the final score at 66-49.

Pendleton County next faced the always dangerous Tygarts Valley on Friday night. The Bulldogs gained a solid win over the Notre Dame Fighting Irish 62-50.

Young Wildcats Earn Championship Title



 $Pendleton\ County\ seventh-\ and\ eighth-grade\ girls\ won\ the\ Grant\ County\ All-Star\ tournament\ this\ past$ weekend in Petersburg. The Lady Wildcats were 4 and 0 in the tournament, defeating Petersburg 31-21 in the title contest. They also posted wins over Highland and Moorefield. Members of the team are, from left, front row, Lexy Tingler, Shayne Clutter, Vaylee Harper, Laney Bowers and Alayna Huffman; and back row, Lauren Williams, Jordyn Gibson, Chesnee Colaw, Katie Heavner, Lily Brogan, Tia Heavner and Kinsley Price. The team is coached by Dave Eason, JD Heavner and Travis Heavner.

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Many Superstitions and Customs Are Linked to a Leap Year

Sugar Grove By Paula Mitchell

Feb. 29, a date that plays hide and seek with everyone and appears only once every four years, was just celebrated. With that there are historical twists and cultural oddities.

A dark chapter in history, the Salem witch trials kicked off the accusations of witchcraft which led to tragic ends for Sarah Good and Sarah Osborne.

The Honor Society of Leap Year Day Babies is a global community for leaplings, advocating the recognition of their unique birth date.

In some cultures, this day is considered unlucky for weddings, with a belief that marriages on this day are doomed. In Scotland, there is a saying that goes, "Leap year was never a good sheep year," hinting that conditions for livestock and possibly wool production were less favorable, with farmers seeing the day predicting bad for crops. In Germany, "Leap year will be a cold year" casts a chilly prediction for the entire year, warning of harsher weather which could impact agriculture. For many cultures, folklore suggests the weather always changes on a Friday. Leap years bring the quirky tradition of women proposing to men.

Anthony (which straddles the Texas-New Mexico border) earns its title as the Leap Year Capital with a festival celebrating the day.

There have been significant moments in history. Christopher Columbus first set eyes on the Americans on Feb. 29, 1493. In 1940, Hattie McDaniel broke barriers by becoming the first African American to win an Oscar for her role in "Gone with the Wind." In 1944, the island of Eniwetok was captured by American forces during World War II, playing a crucial role in the Pacific theatre.

The year that entertains Leap Day also includes the Summer Olympics, and the presidential election. So, the 2024 year proves to be quite a conversation piece.

Life's little instructions may prove to be in one's favor this week if heeded.

- 1. Marry only for love.
- 2. Call one's mother.
- 3. Stay humble
- 4. Take responsibility for every area of one's life.
- 5. Sing in a choir.

A duke's mixture of weather has been had in this neck of the woods. There has been thunder, sleet, snow, sunshine, and snow — all needed, especially for conversation!

Quotes for the week are as follows:

"I always prefer to believe the best of everybody; it saves so much trouble." — Rudyard Kipling

"Nobody has ever measured, even poets, how much

a heart can hold." — Zelda Fitzgerald "We can complain because rose bushes have thorns,

or we can rejoice because thorn bushes have roses." — Abraham Lincoln.

"To forgive is to set a prisoner free and to discover the prisoner was you." — Corrie Ten Boom

"They who give have all things; they who withhold have nothing." — Indian saying

Sitting in a recliner to hear the "Talk of the Grove'

would be most helpful.

On Saturday, Charles and "Pidge" Anderson enjoyed their first mess of dandelion.



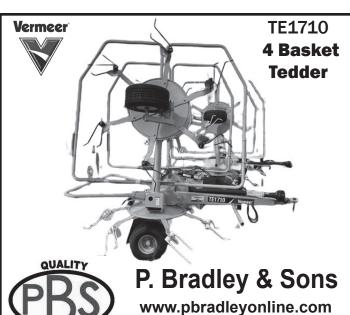
LAWN CARE

Mowing, weed eating, hedge and small tree trimming. Both commercial and residential can benefit

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Members of the Charles and Cora Lambert family, were, from left, Roy Moomau (Sept. 14, 1905 - Sept. 1, 1990) married to Ona Alice Warner, Charles (Oct. 11, 1881 - Jan. 2, 1946), Robert Mahlon (May 26, 1903 - Sept. 14, 1978) married to Martha Louella "Mattie" Pitsenbarger (April 5, 1905 - March 2, 1991), Cora Maude Eye Lambert (April 5, 1882 - Oct. 17, 1954) and Iva Jane (April 4, 1907 - Jan. 27, 2007) married Russell McClure Sponaugle.

Marion Wiliams was attending the Science and Engineering Fair at the Coliseum and Convention Center in Charleston. She represented Franklin Elementary with her project, "Taste the Rainbow: Can we taste it?" Mario is the daughter of Martha Williams and Jason Smith.

Ava Bowers, daughter of Leslie and Shaun Bowers, was the February Student of the Month at the Pendleton County Middle High School. Congratulations, Ava! The youngsters in this community have been busy with the various basketball tournaments.

Emma Puffenbarger, daughter of Becky and Wesley Puffenbarger, and her team members were 2024 Potomac Valley Conference Cheerleading Champions. Congratulations, Emma!

Rose Brackman is a proud grandmother to Demi Arbaugh who competed in the Miss Moorefield pageant.

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

- •Large doses of coffee can be lethal.
- Roy C. Sullivan of Virginia was struck by lightning seven times in his life.
- •In Milan, Italy, there is a law on the books that requires a smile on the face of all citizens at all times.
- The first country to abolish capital punishment was Austria in 1787.
- •Napolean's hemorrhoids contributed to his defeat in Waterloo.

Concerns for this week are many. They are as follows: Bob Adamson, Rick Adkins, John Ashley, Roger and Joan Ashley, Mercedes Aumann, Lynn Beatty, "Bo" Boggs, Jane Conrad, Marie Cole, Norma Propst



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Saturday, March 30 Social Hour 5:00 • Dinner 6:00 p.m.

Historic Circleville High School Gym

Baked Steak Dinner Catered by Tasty Impressions of Maysville

Price per person = \$23.00 Make checks payable to: CHS Alumni Association

Send reservations to: Patti Bennett 22 Orange Blossom Lane #1, Elkins, WV 26241 RSVP by Thursday, March 21

Spouse/Guest

Class of: 2955 John Wayland Hwy., Dayton, VA 22821

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Cunningham, Christian Dasher, Isaac Eye, Linda Eye, Marie Eye, Mary Eye, Neal Eye, Loralee Gordon, Lola Graham, Jordan Greathouse, Patsy Green, Rosalee Grogg, JC Hammer, Marlene Harman, Marvin Hartman, Steve and Armanda Heavner, Grace Hedrick, Edsel and Mary Ann Hogan, Virgil Homan, Jr., Adelbert Hoover, Keith Hoover, Myrtle Hoover, Debbie and Enos Horst, Lisa and Mike Jamison, Jessica Janney, Alice Johnson, Richard Judy, Marsha Keller, Kim Kline, Tracie Knight, Melissa Lambert, Robert Lambert, Ronnie Lambert, Rex Landis, Roger and Skip Mallow, Yvonne Marsh, Ed May, Gary McDonald, Neil McLaughlin, Rose Miller, Bruce Minor, Tom Mitchell, Barbara Moats, Richard Morrison, Aaron Nelson, Ruth Nelson, Cheryl Paine, Wanda Pitsenbarger, Alda Propst, John O. Propst, Kathy Propst, Mike Propst, Sheldon Propst, Tom Rader, Brandon Reel, Charles Rexrode, Jason Rexrode, Jerold "Jerry" Rexrode, Pam Rexrode, Dennis Riggleman, Donna Ruddle, Annie Simmons, Phyllis Simmons, Erin Simmons, Eva Simmons, Kent Simmons, Robbie Sites, Mike Skiles, Donnie Smith, the Sarah Smith family, Stanna Smith, Steve Stump, Rosa Tichenor, Sandra Vandevander, Evelyn Varner, Raymond Varner, Amy Vaus, Judy Williams, Ann Wimer

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March 25, 2024 9 am-3:30 pm Pendleton Manor 304-358 2322 EXT 3440

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Pendleton Students Advance to State SkillsUSA Competitions



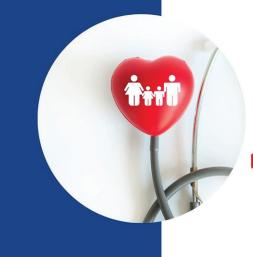
Five Pendleton County High School students, who attend the South Branch Career and Technical Center in Petersburg, earned first place in the local SkillsUSA competitions held at the vo-tech center. Winners in their respective categories were, from left, Nataley Hedrick in beginner cosmetology, MaKayla Tinger in first aid, Lucas Vandevander in construction tool identification, Andrew Mowery in basic residential wiring and Dillon Poling in technical computer applications. The students will be traveling March 23 and 24 to Fairmont State University where they will compete in the state SkillsUSA competitions.

Bridge To Replace Water Crossing Students of the Month On Greenawalt Gap Road

A project to replace a low-water crossing in Pendleton County with a new bridge is among 19 construction projects included in a bid letting conducted by the West Virginia Division of Highways on Feb. 13. The project will be paid for with bond funding through Gov. Jim Justice's \$2.8 billion Roads to Prosperity program.

The project will replace a low water crossing over Mill Run on Greenawalt Gap Road in Pendleton County with a 50-foot bridge.

The current low water crossing partially washed out in 2021. WVDOH work crews made repairs to reopen Greenawalt Gap Road, but Tommy Collins, P.E., WVDOH District 8 engineer, said the crossing really needed to be replaced. The new bridge will be better for the environment than the low-water crossing, allow better water flow on Mill Run, and provide a better long-term transportation solution for local residents.



Did you work at **Allegheny Wood Products and now** need help with next steps for **Health Insurance?**

Come see us on March 14th at the North Fork Primary Care Clinic in Riverton!

We will have staff on site to help you with:

- Pendleton Community Care Sliding Scale Program. Our sliding scale can be used at all of our locations - Franklin, Riverton, Harman, Franklin Pill Box Pharmacy, Harman Pill Box Pharmacy.
- Marketplace Insurance
- Medicaid
- Medicare We will have a Main Street Health Medicare Broker on site to help those 65+ years of age to select Medicare and Prescription Plans.

If possible, please call Angela Sterne at 304-358-2355 Ext. 1120 to make an appointment so she can let you know what you may need to bring.



Pendleton County Middle/High School January Students of the Month are, from left, Addie Rexrode,

Hartman, Rexrode, Warner Named PCH/MS

Emma Hartman, Addison Rexrode and Danielle Warner have been named outstanding students of the month for January at Pendleton County High/ Middle School.

Hartman is the January James Huffman Responsible Student of the Month. She is an 11th grader and is on the track and varsity volleyball teams. She is also a member of National Honor Society and vice president of the junior class. She is a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, where she is the organist. After graduating in 2025, she plans to attend college. She is the daughter of Jay and Kimberly Hartman of Franklin.

The January Academic Student of the Month is Rexrode. She is the

daughter of Jason and Amy Rexrode of Upper Tract. She is an 11th grader on the All A Honor Roll and is a member of National Honor Society. She also participates in Raymond's Gymnastics and the Upper Tract Producer 4-H Club. When she graduates in 2025, she plans to attend college and study radiology.

Warner is the Pendleton County Middle School Student of the Month. The daughter of Aric and Jennifer Warner of Bartow, she is in the eighth grade and participates in the Board Game Club. Outside of school, she enjoys walking her dog. At this time, she plans to become a veterinarian in

AWANA Attendees Earn Award



AWANA participants receiving a perfect attendance award were, from left, Tori Heavner, Addy Huffman, Elle Huffman, Ivy Huffman, and Karlee Arbaugh.

The High Rock Church Approved Workmen Are Not Ashamed program (known as AWANA) recently celebratdelayed Christmas celebration.

This year for the first-time perfect attendance was rewarded with a donation from Melissa Lambert. Recognized with the Melissa Lambert Perfect Attendance Award were Addy. Elle, and Ivy Huffman, Tori Heavner, and Karlee Arbaugh. The girls were

given a perfect attendance medal, a certificate, and an M&M candy cane.

AWANA is a Bible-based, Christed the end of the first semester with a centered program for children ages 2 to 18. It is an international Bible centered youth ministry club whose primary goal is to teach boys and girls the Gospel of Christ and train them to serve Him. The program gives children the opportunity to know, love and serve Jesus, no matter their background.



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I will begin this story by telling what was happening when these memories came back to me.

My son raises broiler chickens, and his flock was scheduled to move to slaughter. They were to go out on Tuesday but due to snow showers, the schedule was changed to Friday. Snow was forecast again on Friday, so they decided on Thursday night. Extra food was delivered on Wednesday and by Thursday evening they were out of food again.

I got up at 3:15 to go to the bathroom and saw that something was going on in Mike's driveway and I thought they had finished loading the chickens. I couldn't go back to sleep, so I took my blood pressure and sugar reading and did my devotions for the day. This is my schedule each day when I get up. I made a cup of coffee and sat down in my chair. As I sat there enjoying my coffee my mind went back to when I was a young girl. For some reason trips to Franklin came to mind. I don't recall going to Franklin until I was eight- or nine-years old. We started going to the dentist about this time and a few of the houses and buildings along the way always caught my attention.

The first house that got my attention is on the front Thorn about halfway between St. Paul Church and Moyers. It wasn't painted and I don't recall seeing anyone outside. I learned that two older ladies, sisters, lived there. On down the road was Harvey Pitsenbarger's home and he had a cider mill behind his house. My mom told us that Mrs. Pitsenbarger had fallen off the porch roof, killing herself. I thought how sad that was.

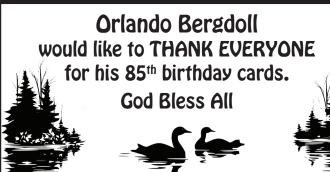
There was another house across the road just before you crossed the bridge at Moyers. This house was also unpainted, and I never saw people there either. An older lady lived there. The house either fell down or was taken down. Large rocks from the foundation were there for a long time. Wilbur Sevier lived just across the bridge and his girls had a tiny playhouse and I always thought how nice it would be to play in your own small house! There was another cider mill down the road close to the Will Harper home. I never saw anyone working there either and the building was starting to fall apart. Parts of that cider mill remained there along the river for years and I can't say for sure, but the last pieces of the building probably washed away in the 1985 flood.

The house I thought most about was across a creek, on the bank just before Moatstown. This was a big house, and it was painted white and well kept but I never saw

Thank you so much!

I would like to thank everyone who made my 101st birthday so great. Thanks to all who congratulated me in person, by telephone and with so many beautiful cards, as well as flowers and balloons. Thanks to my family for the delicious meal and all they did to make this

a great day! Virginia Propst





ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Seneca Rocks Regional **Development Authority** is accepting bids for the making of hay at Pendleton County Industrial Park

Upper Tract

Sealed bids will be accepted until 4 p.m. on Thursday, March 21, 2024. Sealed bids shall be delivered to the SRRDA, Attn: Sherry Mongold, PO Box 602, Franklin, WV 26807 or the SRRDA office located at

47 Maple Avenue, Franklin. The Seneca Rocks Regional Development Authority

has the right to reject any or all bids. EOE

VACANCY NOTICE

PENDLETON COUNTY Schools

is seeking contracted services for

Speech Therapist

35 hours per week \$60/hour

For additional information, contact:

Ms. Nicole M. Hevener, Associate Superintendent Pendleton County Board of Education P.O. Box 888 Franklin, WV 26807 Telephone: 304-358-2207, x9322 Email: nhevener@k12.wv.us

people there either. Little did I imagine that one day I would live in this house for a brief time. This house belonged to my future in-laws and was the home of my husband to be. His parents had moved to Wisconsin, but he stayed behind to live with his grandparents and to see to whatever needed to be done at home. That house would burn to the ground one cold, icy, below zero March night. Thank God only earthly treasures were lost!

One of my favorite places in Franklin was Ms. Sylvia Boggs' store. The jewelry case was my favorite spot as it had the prettiest rings this little girl had ever seen in there. She was so kind and would let us look as long as we wanted. We only had a few pennies and would get a little candy and be on our way. Mom did a lot of her shopping at the H.P. Store getting shoes, socks, and boots if we needed them and occasionally a piece of clothing. They sold beautiful material for making dresses and everything needed to make quilts and comforters. We would also shop at Johnson's Drug Store, but I don't recall what for. Mr. Johnson would always give us a piece of candy.

Dr. Boggs was the dentist we would see, and his office was on the second floor of the building where Sites Parts is located. He would numb our jaws and then would look out the window to see what was happening on Main Street until our jaws were numb. I can still see the sign that hung on the wall in the waiting room. Painless dentist it said! I've often thought how untrue that was as it hurt to numb the jaws and when the numbing wore off, the insides of your cheeks had been chewed and cut simply because you didn't feel anything until that numbness wore off. Oh, the picture was of a child with a bandage covering one jaw and side of the face and tied on top of the head. Very painful to my thinking.

Mom would sometimes visit her friend, Beulah Boggs, who lived in a house behind what is Kimble's Funeral Home now. They both grew up in Stony Run and had been friends for most of their lives. With business completed we would return home, passing by again houses and buildings that so interested me.

I find it interesting how a happening or situation in this present time can trigger a memory of things and happenings so long ago. I can't explain why these memories came to mind as I had my coffee and watched as the state road scraped the snow off the road almost every half hour until daylight. It was as if they knew those chickens needed to be moved and the trouble those truck drivers, and Mike, were having getting those trucks up the hill to be loaded. Mike said it took 12 hours, but the job was completed!

> Violet R. Eye February 15, 2024

Wishing this wonderful man **Billy Arbaugh** A Happy & Blessed 80th Birthday!

You are a Blessing to us all!

Love, your family



ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Seneca Rocks Regional **Development Authority** is accepting bids

for mowing and trimming grass at •Pendleton County Industrial Park Shell #1

Upper Tract

(Bidder must provide the mower, trimmer and gas.) Sealed bids will be accepted until 4 p.m. on Thursday, March 21, 2024. Sealed bids shall be delivered to the SRRDA, Attn: Sherry Mongold, PO Box 602, Franklin, WV 26807 or the SRRDA office located at 47 Maple Avenue, Franklin.

The Seneca Rocks Regional Development Authority has the right to reject any or all bids. EOE

> North River Ruritan Club 44th ANNUAL

EQUIPMENT AUCTION Saturday, March 23-10 a.m.

Sangerville Towers Ruritan Grounds

38 Emmanual Church Rd., Mt. Solon, VA 22843

EARLY CONSIGNMENTS:

JD 4100 4WD tractor with 410 loader, 420 hours, diesel and 54" belly mower; Vermeer bale wrapper; squeeze type bale handler for loader; NH grinder mixer, enclosed trailer, 5 x 10 trailer, 3500 lb single axle; McCullock backpack leaf blower; 3-point hitch 15" potato plow; 5 foot wide 6 shank cultivator; 3-point Bush Hog tiller RTC 48; 1 ton chain hoist; 2100 PSI 6HP pressure washer; kerosene Reddy Heater; JD Z425 23HP zero turn mower; JD Sabre mower with grass catcher, 285 hours; 30 x 48 dump lawn cart, 32 inch Agrifab lawn sweeper; Troy Built Selfpropelled push mower; 8 horse power, Troy Built Horse tiller with electric start; Craftsman generator, 3000 watt; Poulan chain saw, 2025, 14 inch bar; Chicago portable generator, 800 watt, new in box; 2005 Ford Taurus, 50,000 miles; New Holland 275 square baler w/ kicker; 4 post cattle mineral feeder; utility trailer; Vicon PF04 fertilizer spreader, gravity wagon; 1000 gal. tank w/motor & pump on tri axle trailer; (2) 3 point post hole augers with bits

Low Commission/Ribeye Steak Sandwiches Please visit North River Ruritan Club Mt. Solon Facebook page for pictures of items.

> To Consign Equipment Call 540-280-3646 Auctioneer: Allen Zimmerman #4371

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My Trips to Franklin as a Child I See JESUS

The new day starts, and I can see Jesus in things surrounding me. Birds at the feeder, a meal do find, a picture of

beauty, its own special kind. The mountain in a robe of white fog has dressed

her overnight. The dandelion that grew in my yard despite the cold and snow, two beautiful, golden blossoms did

The trees standing silent and still inside, those bodies a new job to fill.

work of Jesus, not humans, my friend. The sap from the maple tree is running free and

A tree that is started from beginning to end is the

soon sweet maple syrup will be. The wind great things can do like bring the smell of maple syrup right to you.

Cedar trees all dressed in white dancing to the music of the wind left and right.

A flock of birds in flight, so small, so fragile yet

Jesus in nature all around me I see, and in my

As winter gives way to the coming of spring, I must be alert to the blessings He will bring. The grass becomes greener and the flowers most

heart feel Him walking with me.

bright for God crafted and fashioned each thing just right. Black storm clouds are lifting, and the wind is

passing by, and the golden sun is shining down from high in the sky. I don't need to look hard—Jesus to see, He sits

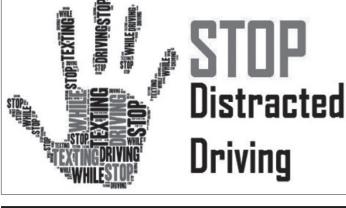
right beside me as I look at the trees. Look out at nature, it's a gift and it's free, only

God could create this beauty we see. A friend who is faithful and true to the end—look

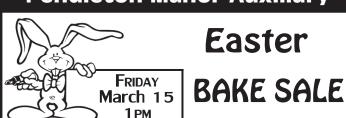
out and see Jesus—the one and only True Friend. Written after Pastor Jerry suggested we look for

Jesus in nature.

Violet R. Eye February 2024



Pendleton Manor Auxiliary



Proceeds benefit the residents patio furniture fund. All are welco

Birthday Card Shower KIM KLINE March 13 Cards may be sent to her at Morgantown Health and Rehab Room 142, 1379 Van Voorhis Road

PENDLETON COUNTY **SCHOOLS** is now hiring

Morgantown, WV 26505

Substitute Bus Drivers

Paid Training Provided

Pendleton County Schools will compensate applicants for completing the required 72 hours of mandatory Substitute Bus Operator Training at the following rates:

- 1. \$25 per hour, for 72 hours, if training is completed
- 2. \$20 per hour, for 72 hours, if training is completed in 9 weeks.
- 3. \$15 per hour, for 72 hours, if training is completed in 10 weeks.
- 4. \$10 per hour, for 72 hours, if training is completed within 11 weeks to 6 months

Applicants must apply by March 29.

Call Nicole Hevener if you would like assistance applying for the position as all applications must be submitted online.

Job description and application link are located

on the Pendleton County Schools website: https://www.pendletoncountyschools.com/o/pcs/page/employment

Contact Information

Ms. Nicole M. Hevener, Associate Superintendent Pendleton County Board of Education P.O. Box 888, Franklin, WV 26807 Telephone: 304-358-2207, x9322 Email: nhevener@k12.wv.us

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Highland County Maple Festival Begins Saturday Virginia's sweetest event of the year is almost here again. "A Prairie Home Companion" fame will take place at 5 p.m. At 10

Nestled in the peaceful, rural mountains on the western border of the Commonwealth, travelers can take a step back in time for a cultural and culinary adventure at the county-wide 64th annual Highland County Maple Festival March 9-10 and 16-17.

Since 1959, tens of thousands of visitors have been drawn to Highland County, Virginia, to celebrate the "opening" of the trees and to observe the process of making delicious, pure maple syrup. Free "sugar camp" tours provide a unique and educational experience for the entire family to learn how the golden delicacy is made from tree to bottle, ranging from traditional to modern techniques. Local sugar camps have even expanded to include syrups infused with fruits and spices or even aged in spirit barrels. Other tree syrups can be found at the festival as well, including hickory, birch, and black walnut. Ten local sugar camps will be open on Saturdays and eight on Sundays this year.

Local civic clubs and organizations will be bringing back their delicious food offerings. Food vendors on North Water Street and Main Street in Monterey, Virginia, offer expanded options for savory and sweet meals for visitors.

More than 100 juried arts and crafts vendors will be available in Monterey and McDowell, Virginia.

Each day of the festival will feature at least two live shows at The Highland Center. At 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. on March 9, enjoy the popular bluegrass band Southern Rail Express. A special performance from popular folk duo Robin and Linda Williams of

a.m. and 2 p.m. March 10, listen to local favorite Alice Shumate and The Sounds of Highland play folk, bluegrass, and ole time music. During the following weekend at 10 a.m. on March 16, put on one's dancing shoes with old time band Mudhole Control and stay to hear their heel stomping tunes for a 2 p.m. square dance with callers Ellen and Eugene Ratcliffe. Finish up the festival with two clogging performances on March 17 with the Hi-Horse Cloggers performing at 10 a.m. and the homegrown Little Switzerland Cloggers entertaining audiences at 2 p.m. For more entertainment, visitors can listen to bluegrass music at noon on Saturdays at Southernmost Maple in Bolar, Virginia. There are several new organizations to enjoy this year in the

scenic community. Hazy Hollow Farm, just east of McDowell, Virginia, will feature working cattle farm tours. The Charles Pinckney Jones Museum on Main Street in Monterey, Virginia, will be open, and just down the street, The 3rd Space and Art on Main will host art demonstrations along with juried art from the county. Close by, children can also enjoy gemstone mining for treasures while parents browse local artisan goods at The Rock Shop. At the intersection of Rt. 220 and 250, enjoy open house tours of the newly renovated Ernie's Market that is now called The Highlander, or view The Barn event space behind the Monterey Inn's lodging and dining experiences.

Also new this year will be a pilot program to help reduce traffic congestion on March 9. B & L's Mountain Safe Transportation will be providing a complimentary shuttle service. The shuttle plans to run from approximately 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Visitors can park for free at the Monterey Stockyard at 1367 Jackson River Road just south of Monterey, Virginia, off of Rt. 220. From there, a 12-14 passenger shuttle will transport visitors north up Rt. 220 with a drop off/pickup area at the entrance to the pool so they can take the Community Trail to either the Highland County Public Schools or downtown. From there, the shuttle will travel to Spruce Street for a drop off/pickup area at The Highland Center, and then continue on back to the Monterey Stockyard on a continuous loop.

In 1999, the Library of Congress designated The Highland County Maple Festival a "Local Legacy," and in 2014, the Governor of Virginia signed a bill into law designating the festival as the "official maple festival of Virginia." More recently, the festival has earned several user-voted awards, including the winner of Best Unique Festival in the Best of the Blue Ridge 2024 Reader's Choice Awards from Blue Ridge Outdoors Magazine and 2023's first-place place winner for Best Festival of the Shenandoah Valley Region in Virginia Living's Best of Virginia. An economic impact study in 2023 revealed that the festival generated \$2.4 million in direct spending in Highland County.

Traditional hours of the festival include Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sundays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Full details on all the festival happenings can be found at www.highlandcounty. org/maple-festival, with posts highlighting the festival available at www.facebook.com/HighlandCounty and www.instagram. com/highland_county_va.

Unused SMART529 Funds Can Be Rolled into Roth IRAs

State Treasurer Riley Moore informed West Virginia residents of recent changes in federal law that now allow beneficiaries to roll over certain unused SMART529 funds into a Roth IRA to help boost their retirement savings.

"We've always told people, 'It's never too early to start saving for your child's future," Moore said. "Now, thanks to recent changes in federal law, families can not only ensure they're preparing for their child's future education, but potentially their child's future retirement as well."

The change was included in the SECURE 2.0 Act of 2022 that was passed by Congress and signed into law at the end of that year. The SECURE Act, which stands for "Setting Every Community Up for Retirement Enhancement," contained dozens of reforms to improve and encourage additional use of retirement savings plans. Its provisions allowing tax- and penaltyfree 529 plan rollovers into Roth IRAs under certain conditions went into effect Jan. 1.

"This change will allow SMART529 beneficiaries who may not spend all of their funds such as students who receive scholarships or those pursue lower-cost community college programs - to roll over those savings into something they can use for their future retirement once certain criteria are met," Moore said.

A Roth IRA is a tax-advantaged type of individual retirement account that normally allows after-tax contributions to grow taxfree and be withdrawn tax-free after the age of 59-and-one-half, provided the account has been open for more than five years.

The new 529-related provisions will allow families to benefit from the tax deductions provided for their contributions to the SMART529 plan while also providing the beneficiary the tax-free income when they retire later in life.

"This new rollover option helps families who sacrifice and save early for their child's education the ability to avoid certain taxes and penalties on unused SMART529 funds, should their child find an alternative way to pay for college or pursue more affordable education pathways," Moore said.

The SECURE 2.0 Act does lay out certain criteria the funds must meet before they are eligible to be rolled over into a Roth IRA. Those

 The 529 account must have been open for more than 15 years.

•The eligible rollover amount must have been in the 529 account for at least five years.

• The annual rollover limit is subject to Roth IRA annual contribution limits (currently \$7,000 a year for individuals under 50; \$8,000 for individuals age 50 and older).

•There is a lifetime rollover limit of \$35,000 for each 529 account beneficiary.

•Rollovers can only be made to the Roth IRA account owned by the named 529 account

beneficiary. The law also provides that Roth IRA income limits do not apply for this type of contribution. SMART529 is a qualified tuition program

issued by the board of trustees of the West

Virginia College and Jumpstart Savings Programs and administered by Hartford Funds. The SMART529 WV Direct Plan has consistently been ranked among the top in the nation in five- and 10-year performance

SavingForCollege.com. Complete information about SMART529 is available at www.SMART529.com.

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SENECA ROCKS REGIONAL **DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY SENECA ROCKS**



Executive Director Job Description

This position reports to:

The Seneca Rocks Regional Development Authority Board of Directors

The Executive Director position is responsible for attracting new business opportunities and encouraging the expansion and retention of existing businesses, agriculturebased enterprises, and a recreation-based economy to promote a stronger economic base for Grant and Pendleton counties. This position provides overall leadership of the Grant and Pendleton counties economic growth in marketing and public relations through the county, region and state and works under the policy direction of the Seneca Rocks Regional Development Authority Board of Directors, which is composed of members appointed by Grant and Pendleton County commissions. The Executive Director provides oversight to the overall financial operations of the organization and establishes, implements, and maintains policies and operating reporting procedures to achieve the overall mission of the Authority.

Job Description:

- Plan, organize, coordinate, direct, and evaluate economic development within Grant and Pendleton counties.
- Coordinate and encourage the development of strategies that maintain and enhance the long-term viability of Grant and Pendleton counties. Recruit industry and commercial investment and work with prospects to encourage the
- creation of new jobs.
- Oversee and coordinate the SRRDA's marketing effort for the counties.
- Manage the negotiation of sales and leasing of property of the SRRDA and organizations.
- Retain and support existing industry in Grant and Pendleton counties by providing assistance that ensures continued success and expansion. Represent the SRRDA on boards and in the regional and state levels to ensure visibility and
- Review and development, alongside the Board, long range strategic economic development marketing plans.
- Prepare, write, and administer grant proposals related to economic development and work with other entities on the development and administration of grant proposals.
- Communicate with, respond to, and resolve complaints, conflicts, concerns, and questions from citizens, contractors, customers, developers, business owners, and public and private agencies concerning SRRDA, regional and state services, activities, and programs.
- Communicate with the SRRDA Board of Directors, other Department Heads, the County Commissions, county elected officials and others regarding policy issues and matters of economic development concern.
- Supervises all employees of the SRRDA.

Recommended Minimum Qualifications:

Education and Experience:

- Bachelor's degree is preferred but not required.
- Two years prior work in a job closely aligned with this job description is preferred but not required. Non-profit experience is preferred.

Knowledge, Abilities and Skill:

Knowledge:

Workforce issues, statistics, finance, real estate, marketing, communications, common policies, practices and procedures of the department and office operation, laws and regulations pertinent to position functions. Working knowledge of social media and other electronic communications in support of department operations.

Abilities: Strong interpersonal and leadership skills. Ability to manage an office staffed by employees, ability to work with a Board, ability to interact effectively and appropriately with the public and other

personnel, perform multiple tasks, and maintain confidential information. Proficient personal computer skills, record-keeping and clerical skills, mathematical skills, written

and oral communication skills, public speaking, outstanding interpersonal skills, and attention to

The Seneca Rocks Regional Development Authority will be accepting resumes for the position of 'Executive Director' for the Seneca Rocks Regional Development

Resumes along with a cover letter must be received or hand delivered, mailed or emailed to: Pendleton County Commission, Attention Karen Pitsenbarger, 100 South

Any questions may be addressed to Karen Pitsenbarger at 304-358-7573. Seneca Rocks Regional Development Authority is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Main Street, PO Box 187, Franklin, WV 26807, karenp@pencowv.com.

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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 Franklin, Street,

of administration is being terested in being considmade pursuant to the pro- ered for this project must visions of law but that a foreign will or affidavit of detailing been filed with the Pend- experience. The proposal leton County Commission, must also provide hourly and is of record in the fees for services. The ob-Pendleton County Clerk's ject of the competitive

foreign will or affidavit or objecting to the absence of qualifications and experiappointment or adminis- ence will be weighed heavtration being made in this ily. Selected respondents state must be filed with the 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

First Publication Date: Thursday, March 7, 2024

Claim Deadline Date:

Monday, April 29, 2024

Decedent: Alejandro Cabana Medellin, Shenandoah County, VA Filed by: Miquela Medellin, Daughter, Seattle, WA

before me on February 29,

the Pendleton County Commission 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 PER-

SONS ARE NOTIFIED 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

OR THIRTY DAYS AF- al Conference of the Unit-TER THE DATE OF SER- ed Methodist Church will VICE OF THE NOTICE. whichever is later.

All creditors of the decedent(s) and other of High Rock Church all of persons having claims their right, title and interor demands against de-12-7-eow cedent's estate(s) must lot or parcel of real estate file their claims with IN SIXTY DAYS AFTER County, West Virginia, dethem. We got them. THE DATE OF THE Hundreds in store, FIRST PUBLICATION even more online. ALL CLAIMS, DE-

> WILL BE FOREVER The date of the first publication of this No-

tice is March 7, 2024.

Deadline for claims is

MANDS AND OBJEC-

Kenneth Brison Judy, Sr. Estate - Gina Michelle Davis & Kenneth Brison Judy, Jr., Co-

Executors Miranda Nicole Henderson Estate - Tamara D. Mitts, Administratrix; Carroll "Skinner" W. Hedrick Estate - Karen M. Murray, Executrix; French A. Moates Estate - Michael E. Moates,

tate - Travis Aaron Smith, Executor.

Elise M. White, Clerk of 358-7208 WV03545. the Pendleton County

2/22x10/17c Commission NOTICE OF REQUEST FOR ACCOUNTING SERVICES FOR THE TOWN OF

FRANKLIN'S SEWER

PROJECT

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE WEST The Town of Franklin, VIRGINIA ANNUAL Pendleton County, West CONFERENCE Virginia is in the process of OF THE UNITED obtaining ACCOUNTING METHODIST service for its sewer sys-CHURCH tem improvement project Procurement for services By: Robert N. File, shall be in accordance with Chancellor 2 CFR 200. Contracts are 130 Main Street to be awarded on an hourly Beckley, West Virginia 25801 $(304)\ 253 - 3358 \quad 2-29-2c$

fee basis. All interested That no appointment firms and individuals insubmit a letter of interest heirs of the decedent has expertise, and related prior select the firm/individual The Town of Franklin, Any interested person who will provide the highobjecting to the filing of the est quality of service at a

may be interviewed. Pendleton County Commission within 60 days Please submit all requested information to Kim Ruddle, Project Assistant, Region 8 Planning and Development Council, 131 Providence Lane, Petersburg, WV 26847 no later project must submit a letthan 4:00 p.m., March 14,

Attention is directed to ence. The proposal must the fact that the proposed project is to be undertaken with Federal and State funds and all work will be performed in accordance with the regulation issued provide the highest quality by those agencies and the State of West Virginia. The selected firm will be and experience will be required to comply with weighed heavily. Selected Title VI of the Civil Rights respondents may be inter-Act of 1964, Executive Order 11246, Section 109 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1974, Subscribed and sworn to Section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968, Conflict of Interest Statement and Ac-Elise M. White, Clerk of cess to Records provisions.

The Town of Franklin will afford full opportunity for minority business enterprises to submit a show this invitation and will not discriminate against any interested firm or individual on the grounds of race, creed, color, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, handicap, or national origin in the contract award. This contract will be

awarded to the responsible responder whose proposal be the most advantageous to the Town of Franklin's price and other factors con-NOTICE OF PROPOSED

METHODIST CHURCH PROPERTY (High Rock United Methodist Church) Notice is hereby given

CONVEYANCE

OF THE UNITED

on or after March 7 2024 QUITCLAIM, GRANT and est in and to that certain situate, lying and being in Union District, Pendleton 2-29-2c

> FOR LEGAL SERVICES

the rocks on the North side of a run, PROJECT Aaron Bogg's corner, thence due South to The Town of Franklin,

said run thence up Pendleton County, West the same with the meanders thereof to Cyrus Harman's line, and with the same to two spruce pines (cut down) Bogg's corner, and with said Bogg's line to the place of beginning, containing One Acre be the same more or less. And being the same

property conveyed from Charles A. Hedrick and Hattie B. Hedrick to Trus tees of the United Brethren Church in Christ by Deed dated January 1st, 1892 and recorded in the Office of the Clerk of the County Commission of Pendleton County, West Virginia in Deed Book 31, at Page 138, reference to which is here

by made. Said High Rock United Methodist Church was declared closed effective on December 31, 2024 by a majority of the District Superintendents of the West Virginia Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church.

scribed as follows

BEGINNING

Dated the 23rd day of $February,\,2024.$

NOTICE OF REQUEST FOR PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION ATTORNEY SERVICES FOR THE TOWN OF FRANKLIN'S SEWER PROJECT

Pendleton County, West Virginia is in the process of obtaining PSC AT-TORNEY service for its sewer system improvement project. Procurement for services shall be in accordance with 2 CFR Contracts are to be awarded on an hourly fee basis. All interested firms and individuals interested in being considered for this ter of interest detailing qualifications, expertise, and related prior experialso provide hourly fees for services. The object of the competitive process is to objectively select the firm/individual who will of service at a realistic fee Accordingly qualifications

Please submit all requested information to Kim Ruddle, Project Assistant, Region 8 Planning and Development Council, 131 Providence Lane, Petersburg, WV 26847 no later than 4:00 p.m., May 14,

Attention is directed to the fact that the proposed of interest in response to project is to be undertaken with Federal and State funds and all work will be performed in accordance with the regulation issued those agencies and the State of West Virginia. The selected firm will be required to comply with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Executive Order 11246, Section 109 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1974, is within the competitive Section 3 of the Housing range and determined to and Urban Development Act of 1968, Conflict of Interest Statement and Access to Records provisions.

afford full opportunity for minority business enterprises to submit a show of interest in response to this invitation and will not discriminate against any interested firm or individual on the grounds of race, creed, color, sex, sexual orientation, gender THE FIRST PUBLICA- that the Board of Trustees identity, age, handicap, or

The Town of Franklin will

contract will be awarded to the responsible responder whose proposal is within the competitive range and determined to be the most advantageous to the Town of Franklin's price and other factors con-

NOTICE OF REQUEST

FOR THE TOWN OF FRANKLIN'S SEWER

Virginia is in the process of obtaining LEGAL 2024 service for its sewer sys tem improvement project. Procurement for services shall be in accordance with 2 CFR 200. Contracts are fee basis. All interested be performed in accordsubmit a letter of interest The selected firm will be

experience. The proposal Act of 1964, Executive Or must also provide hourly fees for services. The object of the competitive process is to objectively select the firm/individual who will provide the highest quality of service at a qualifications and experi-

Please submit all request-Region 8 Planning and Providence Lane, Peters- of race, creed, color, sex, burg, WV 26847 no later sexual orientation, gender than 4:00 p.m., March 14, identity, age, handicap or

may be interviewed

Attention is directed to the fact that the proposed This contract will be project is to be undertaken awarded to the respon with Federal and State sible responder to be awarded on an hourly funds and all work will proposal is within the firms and individuals in- ance with the regulation determined to be the most issued those agencies and advantageous to the Town ered for this project must the State of West Virginia. of Franklin's price and qualifications, required to comply with

expertise, and related prior Title VI of the Civil Right der 11246, Section 109 of the Housing and Urban Section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968, Conflict of Interest Statement and Ac

ence will be weighed heav- The Town of Franklin will ily. Selected respondents afford full opportunity for minority business enterof interest in response to ed information to Kim this invitation and will Ruddle, Project Specialist, not discriminate against any interested firm or in-Development Council, 131 dividual on the grounds national origin in the con-

competitive range and

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Director. The successful candidate should have a minimum of an Associate Degree in accounting or a related business field and at least two years of experience working in a business environment. Additional years of work experience may be substituted for a degree. This is a full-time position with health insurance, paid

The finance officer will work closely with the Executive

holidays and leave time.

If you are interested in this position please complete an application by picking one up at our office at 365 Mill Road. Franklin or visit our website at www.psfsi.org and complete an application and submit to our office.

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Seneca Rocks Inspires Youth Art, Takes Third Announces Dividend



Ashton Bailey of Harrison County's Lincoln Middle School earned third place in Governor Jim Justice's Almost Heaven Art Contest. She submitted an abstract impressionist interpretation of Seneca Rocks at night that is somewhat reminiscent of Vincent Van Gogh.



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SGR322A 49.07 (SCEEDING OF RIACOGO IN MIII Run District. NEW-LIST NEW \$129,000.00.

SGR320A 2.75 wooded acres, Lot #13, Yeager Ct., Highland Estates Development, Milroy District, Grant County, WV. **NEW LISTING \$63,250.00**.

SGR318A 14.47 Acres Raw Land, Buck Ridges Development, Franklin District. \$49,900.00. SGR316A 10.35 Acres, Entry Mountain, Some Covenants

& Restrictions. Nice View. \$89,900.00.

SGR315A 3 Bed, 2 Bath Ranch on 2.02 agres located in Upper Tradt Monthal Colon Circan 2020. Franklin

District, Pendleton County. \$255,000.00. SGR313A 7.46 Acres in Upper Tract Mill Pun District, Pendleton CUNDER CONDER ACEW LISTING

\$35,000.00. SGR311A 1 acre 2/2 beth 2 bath home located in Franklin. Public Water & Well-Cell Service & Internet avail. Franklin

District. NEW LISTING \$269,900.00. SGR309A 0.44 Acres w/4 bed, 2 bath home in Frank-

lin. Two car garage w/bonus room. NEW LISTING

SGR308A 10.04 Acres, Raw Land, Lot #26, Blackthorn Mtn. Estates, Sugar Grove Dist. Great View Potential. Perc tested. \$60.000.00.

SGR306A 6.38 CACLES Raw Land, US RT 220N. Nice Building Site. NEW LISTING \$69,000.00.

SGR303A 18 Acres w/Unfinished 3-Story Cabin, another

Older cabin and Hunting Bunkhouse w/Spectacular View of Dolly Sods. Located in Roaring Creek area, Union Dist. Septic avail, but not hooked up. Spring, Electric, Phone/Internet. NEW LISTING \$279,000.00. SGR302A "The Hollow" Restaurant, fully furnished, at the corner of US RT 220/US RT 33W, Franklin. Property

adjoins neighboring motel. NEW LISTING \$425,000.00 REDUCED \$320,000.00.

SGR300A 599.19 Acres, more or less, off of Sandy Ridge Rd. Hunting, Food Plots, Timber, Catfish Pond, Mtn. Views, Roads throughout. Franklin District. **NEW LISTING**

SGR296A 0.90 Apres V/1 Bedroom Townhouse w/Loft, Riverbend Gardens, Common area, HOA fee, Corner Unit. **NEW LISTING \$64,900.00.**

SGR295A 1.5 Acres w/3 Bed, 1.5 Bath home located Franklin District. Spring & Well. Some covenants & restrictions. **NEW LISTING \$249.000.00**.

SGR290A 0.82 Acres and located in Bethel District along US RT 33 East. Public Water available. \$15,000.00.

SGR323A 35.31 Acres w/1289 sq. ft. 2 Bedroom, 1 Bath SGR287A 0.20 Acres w/3 Bed, 1.5 Bath Doublewide Log Cabin, Mountain View, Electric Baseboard & Wood Home, close SGE287A 0.20 Acres w/3 Bed, 1.5 Bath Doublewide Home, close SGE287A 0.20 Acres w/3 Bed, 1.5 Bath Doublewide Log Cabin, Mountain View, Electric Baseboard & Wood at. Cistern, Septic. Hidden Valley. **NEW LISTING** leton County. **NEW LISTING REDUCED \$100,000.00** REDUCED \$89.900.00.

SGR282A 0.75 Some Store Front/Residence located in Brandywine. Needs some TLC. \$85,000.00 \$69,000.00. SGR277A 17.81 Acres w/4 Bed, 3 Bath Home, 2-4 Car Garages, Hikirs Marial, Well water w/deeded access to Spring, Sugar Grove District. Covenants & Restrictions apply. \$499,900.00 REDUCED \$469,900.00.

SGR271A 1.81 A TERO CONTRACT INKlin District. \$14,000.00

SGR258B 3.42 Acres, w/3 Bed, 2 Bath Home.

Grove District, Falcon Lane. \$259,000.00. REDUCED \$229.000.00. SGR252A 81.01 Acres, more or less, Lot 7, Seneca

Lookout, adjoins National Forest. Spring on property. North Fork hiking trail crosses. Union District. Covenants & Restrictions. \$519,000.00. SGR246 242.36 Acres, more or less, w/5 Bed, 2-1/2

Bath Contemporary Home as well as a Farmhouse on property. Pond, Magnificent Views. Conservation Easement. \$998,700.00.

SGR241 60.24 Acres w/Cabin. Exceptional Views, cellent Hunting high in place. Bathhouse, Electric Nearby, Cistern, Small pond. Close to National Forest. NEW LISTING \$289,000.00 REDUCED \$259,000.00.

SGR236 World Class View Overlooking Germany Valley! Log Cabin, 70.08 Acres, 2 bed, 2.5 Baths. Seneca Lookout. Some Restrictions. \$799,000.00. SGR223 4 Bed, 2 Bath, 2000 sq. ft. home located in town

of Franklin. \$299,000.00. SGR156 15.97 Acres, Rolling Hills Estate, Electric nearby, Water available Solly County. \$95,000.00. REDUCED

\$89,900.00. SGR128 2-3 Bedroom Ranch w/Full Basement on 0.6386 Acres, more or lescolors Gap Rd, Sugar Grove District.

NEW LISTING \$169,000.00 REDUCED \$149,900.00 REDUCED \$145,000.00.

SGR056 Highland County property. Pasture, several year-round Springs, Hunting, High Speed Internet, Electric, 1.3 miles of public Road Frontage. Awesome view of Blue Grass Valley. \$2,973,000.00.

SGR042 Five Unit Townhouse property located in Brandywine. Each unit has 2 Bdrms, 1.5 Baths, LR and Large Kitchen Large Kitchen and Large Kitchen and Large Kitchen Large Kitch fishing. Perfect for retirement income, live in one and rent the others! \$399.000.00.

SGR441 Residential lots, public water, protective covenants and restrictions. Oak Flat Estates near Brandywine on Rte 33 East of Franklin. Lots from **\$20,760.00**. SGR247 Residential lots with town water, sewer & underground utilities. Protective covenants and restrictions Franklin Airport Development. Lots from \$14,630.00.

Summit Financial Group

Summit Financial Group, Inc. announces its board of directors recently declared a first quarter 2024 dividend of \$0.22 per share payable on March 29 to common shareholders of record as of the close of business on March 15.

Summit Financial Group, Inc. is the \$4.6 billion financial holding company for Summit Community Bank, Inc. Its talented bankers serve commercial and individual clients throughout West Virginia, the Washington, DC, metropolitan area, Virginia, Kentucky, Eastern Shore of Maryland and Delaware. Summit's focus on in-market commercial lending and providing other business banking services in dynamic markets is designed to leverage its highly efficient operations and core deposits in strong legacy locations.



61 Chestnut Street, Suite 2 P.O. Box 579 Franklin, WV 26807 304-358-2714 George I. Sponaugle, Broker www.ODRWV.com

Gene Boggs, Associate Broker 304-358-7982 lle 304-668-3283 Angie Nelson

Angie Nelson 304-358-2524 Kathy Sponaugle 304-668-3283 NEW LISTING - CHERRY STREET, FRANKLIN Under Contract

NEW LISTING - JAKE HILL ROAD, UPPER TRACT Under Contract

NEW LISTING - CAMP RUN SOLD

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

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

MENU Pendleton Senior & Family Services

FRIDAY, MARCH 8 Fish Sandwich Potato Wedges, Slaw **Spiced Pears**

Monday, March 11 Chili Soup, Cornbread **Tossed Salad** Cottage Cheese Peaches

Tuesday, March 12 Chicken Pot Pie Mixed Vegetables **Brussels Sprouts** Fruit Cup

Wednesday, March 13 Chili Dog French Fries, Slaw Apple Dessert

Thursday, March 14 Beans, Mustard Greens Potatoes/Onions Cornbread Orange



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.

.\$17,900

\$12,900



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2024 FORD MAVERICK LARIAT "TREMOR PKG." 4X4, red pepper color, Idd. w/options, only 100 miles 2021 RAM 1500 CREW CAB SHORTBED 4X4 "Bighorn Pkg.," E-Torque V-6, auto., ldd., red, 55K miles, like new SPECIAL \$44,900 \$37,500 2020 JEEP GLADIATOR 4X4 CREW CAB TK., V-6, auto., ldd., silver, 39K miles, very sharp .. 2018 FORD F-150 SUPERCREW LARIAT 4X4, 5.0 V-8, auto., ldd., white, 137K miles, ex. cond. \$26,900 2018 CHEVY COLORADO Z-71 EXTRA-CAB 4X4, 3,6 liter V-6, auto., ldd., white, 60K miles. \$26,900 2017 TOYOTA TACOMA SR EXTENDED CAB 4X4, 4-cvl., auto., ldd., charcoal, 82K miles \$23,900 2017 FORD F-150 SUPERCREW XLT 4X4, 5.0 liter V-8, auto., ldd., silver, 106K miles, sharp truck. 2015 FORD F-250 REGULAR CAB 4X2 UTILITY TRUCK, 6.2 liter gas V-8, auto., air, etc., 129K miles

w/only 8,900 miles 2021 KIA RIO S 5-DR HATCHBACK, 1.6 4-cyl., auto., ldd., white, only 7K miles, like new cond. 2020 NISSAN ROGUE SLAWD, 4-cyl., auto., ldd., leather, moonroof, navigation, etc. silver, only 48K miles.. 2019 FORD EXPLORER 4-DR XLT AWD, V-6, auto., ldd., black, 78K miles.... 2019 DODGE JOURNEY GT AWD, V-6, auto., ldd., 56K miles, black, very sporty 3rd row SUV .. FOR ONLY \$24,900 .<u>SPECIAL</u> \$28,900 \$26,500 2019 SUBARU CROSSTREK PREMIUM AWD, 4-cyl., auto., ldd., blue, only 47K miles, ex. cond. 2018 DODGE GRAND CARAVAN, V-6, auto., ldd., charcoal, 106K highway miles ... \$17,900 2018 FORD ESCAPE TITANIUM AWD, 2.0 4-cyl., auto., ldd, blue 102K miles, very sharp .. \$19,900

1997 FORD MUSTANG COBRA CONVERTIBLE, V-8, 5-spd., ldd., white, tan leather, only 49K miles, ex. cond. ..<u>SPECIAL \$29,500 \$27,500</u> \$26,500 1987 CHEVY MONTE CARLO SS, V-8, auto., ldd., silver, one owner w/46K miles, ex. cond.

2015 FORD EXPLORER SPORT AWD, Ecoboost V-6, auto., Idd., black, 137K miles, in excellent condition

2013 JEEP WRANGLER 4-DR. UNLIMITED 4X4 SPORT PKG., V-6, auto., ldd., orange, 132K miles...

2014 FORD EXPLORER XLT AWD, 3.5 liter V-6, auto., ldd., blue, 132K miles ..

2015 FORD F-250 SUPERCAB SHORTBED 4X2, 6.2 liter gas V-8, auto., ldd., white, 175K miles, ex. cond. SPECIAL \$19,900 \$17,500 2011 FORD F-250 REGULAR CAB LONGBED 4X4, XL pkg., 6.2 liter gas V-8, auto., ldd., 168K miles, custom 2009 FREIGHTLINER M106 SINGLE AXLE HD UTILITY TRUCK, dsl., 6-spd., mechanic's crane, welder, air . <u>SPECIAL</u> \$29,900 \$26,500 2004 FORD F-350 CREW CAB LARIAT DUALLY 4X4, 6.0 diesel, auto., ldd., maroon, only 79K miles. .\$34,900 SPECIAL \$28,900 \$26,900 1996 FORD F-250 S/CAB LONGBED 4X4, 7.3 diesel, auto., ldd., bronze, 154K miles.....

event Child Abuse



Our local chapter is having a meeting!

Come out and participate! April is Child Abuse Awareness Month

March 11th @ 1 PM at the Pendleton County Family Support Center

Partner with us to support our kids and community!



GARRY L. SIMMONS REAL ESTATE

540-810-3379 BROKER 304-902-9119 garrysimmons38@yahoo.com

SUGAR GROVE, 30.88 acres cleared, gently rolling, small stream, paved road United and workshop. \$189,000. DRY RUN ROAD, 49.16 acres pared, old farm in a stream. \$249,000.

UPPER TRACT, 16 acres, wooded w/cabin, secluded, no water or

CIRCLEVILLE AREA, 66.05 acres to approximately 12 acres pasture, 51 acres wording Contracts access, stream and dug well, old homestead. \$249,000 REDUCED \$229,000.

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