



# THE PENDLETON TIMES

Serving the Community since 1913

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Volume 111, Number 16

Franklin, Pendleton County, West Virginia 26807

Thursday  
April 18, 2024

## Solar Eclipse...



Various phases of the solar eclipse on April 8 were captured by Gary Wendell Photography from upon a mountain near Charleston. The path coming over West Virginia only offered approximately 90 percent totality with lots of cloud cover. Submitted by Kathy Hunter, Mountain Media, LLC.

## Town of Franklin Forges Agreement for Event Stage

By Stephen Smoot

The Franklin Town Council tackled several issues in its regular meeting held last week.

Before examining its agenda, the council heard from resident Kevin Smith. He expressed disappointment that the town had not responded to his requests for improvement of his road. His residence sits on a gravel and dirt road within town limits.

Smith explained that he struggled to get both mobile homes and even his own vehicles from the road to his driveway without risking significant damage. He also stated that he was dissatisfied with the response to his inquiries. Smith suggested that the town should pursue grant opportunities to repair or pave the road in question.

He said that, at the very least, he would like to see the road graded. Mayor Bob Horan replied that grant searches are ongoing, but that money for infrastructure "is next to nothing."

Council member Keely Smith asked Smith if he had received much communication from city officials.

He had not.

The mayor responded that a breakdown of communication "seems to be a big part of the problem." He then stated that the town "will try to make something happen in the near future."

Elizabeth Scott added that she recently attended a grant workshop in Charleston and that what she learned could help her to locate and apply for more funding.

Smith thanked the council for its attention, stated that "if there is anything I can do on my end, I am more than happy to help." Then he said he would return for the next meeting.

Next, the council discussed the ongoing water project. First, it approved the monthly draw down to pay the bills due on it. Then a representative of Thrasher shared his progress report on the project. He started by saying that the project was 86 percent complete, but finishing the job "may get pushed just a little bit." The representative noted that "major work is being completed."

One area of concern lay in a potential leak that

loses the town 90 gallons per minute. Thrasher's representative described how they could identify the source of the leak and what to do to address the problem. He added that he would submit the issue to the infrastructure council for grant consideration, Should the town get turned down, declaring an emergency, he said, would likely help with the approval process.

The council then heard a proposal from Scott. In her role as executive director of the Pendleton County Chamber of Commerce, she described the issue with obtaining a stage for festival and other events.

In the past, Pendleton County organizations rented a portable stage from the Grant County Chamber of Commerce. They rented their stage out to recoup the cost of its original purchase. Recently, they informed the chamber that they would no longer rent out the stage.

Scott proposed that the chamber and the town partner up to acquire and administer their own portable stage. She noted that she had found a stage for

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The Franklin Volunteer Fire Department's new slate of officers for 2024 receive the oath of office from Curtis Crigler, a previous member of the fire department. New officers include, from left, Evers Turner (hidden), Warren Hedrick, Bobby Murphy, Terry Hedrick, Richard Nelson, Andrew Bodine, Mary Ann Nelson and Brian DiFalco. Photo by Gil Taylor.

## Franklin VFD Breaks Bread at Annual Dinner After Four Calls in 24 Hours

By Stephen Smoot

A very tired and very hungry band of brothers filed into Franklin's community building Saturday night after responding to four calls in 24 hours. They came to celebrate another year of hard work and success in protecting the community, while honoring those who serve.

The first call from Friday evening came at 6:59 p.m. and Franklin Volunteer Fire Department's rapid response likely saved a home. According to the FVFD's Facebook page, the call referred to smoke coming from a residence. The "apparatus responded and found there was no fire," but did locate a potentially dangerous situation where a space heater plugged into a power strip caused an overload.

"As a reminder, electric heaters are not to be used with any power adapters," the page stated.

Three hours later, FVFD responded to a vehicle accident on Petersburg Pike that, fortunately, produced only minor injuries.

The next morning, FVFD joined South Fork Volunteer Fire Department to contend with

a chimney fire at a residence on Pitsenbarger Road. Three hours later, they worked with Pendleton County Emergency Rescue on an EMS assist.

More than 100 people came to the event as social hour opened at 5:30 p.m. Saturday evening. They were greeted by a table loaded with appetizers ranging from fruit and vegetables, to several types of sliced sausages, cheeses, and crackers.

At about 6:30, attendees took their seats and joined Allen Sisson in prayer as he prayed "bless each of them and everything that they do" for the first responders present.

Next Terry Hedrick, president of FVFD, started dismissing attendees to enjoy the sumptuous buffet provided by Buffalo Snow. They rolled out a spread of roast beef, Italian grilled chicken, mashed potatoes and beef gravy, macaroni and cheese, salads, homemade rolls, and a variety of desserts, including homemade red velvet cake, cookies, and more.

As guests finished their dinner, David Basagic

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## All Hail Broke Loose



A major thunderstorm with quarter sized hail, heavy rain, and strong winds hit Pendleton County on Monday afternoon. Photo by Natasha Dyer

## Community CALENDAR

### TMF Committee To Gather Monday

The Treasure Mountain Festival leadership planning committee meeting will be held at 6 p.m. Monday at the Town of Franklin office.

Everyone is welcome to attend.

### Reddish Knob Road Closed Until April 26

Reddish Knob Road (Forest Service Road 85-5) will be closed until April 26, to gravel and grade the road. This is continuation of the work that was started in the fall of 2023.

Depending on weather conditions, all road work is expected to be completed by May. After repairs are finished, the road will resume normal operating hours.

### Senior Sponsored Meal Scheduled

Two senior sailors will be sponsoring an evening "Lunch on Us" meal for seniors aged 60+ at 5 p.m. on April 25 at the Franklin Senior Center. To reserve a free meal, call 304-358-2421 no later than 2 p.m. on April 24.

### Family Support Center in Franklin Sponsors Activities

Upcoming activities sponsored by the Pendleton County Strive to Thrive Family Support Center on Main Street in Franklin are parent advisory council meeting at 4:30 p.m. and "Pull it Together, Girl!" from 5:30 to 7 p.m. on April 23. An air fryer cooking class will be held at 5 p.m. April 25. The center will be closed April 29 - May 1.

For more information, call 304-538-7711.

## Pendleton County Historical Society Tells a Tale of Tragedy and Tenacity in Remembering the Franklin Fire of 1924

By Stephen Smoot

"I appreciate the crowd that we have today," beamed Paul Clayton, president of the Pendleton County Historical Society. "It's kind of overwhelming."

More than 180 filled the fellowship hall of the Franklin Presbyterian Church on Sunday to learn about one of the great defining events that shaped the town and surrounding areas. The presentation brought residents, visitors, some who had moved away, and community leaders.

Clayton gave a few words about the historical society, noting that it too would celebrate its centenary this year. He also shared that the organization now boasts more than 300 members, "more than for most historical societies around the state."

He then asked for, and received, permission to waive the customary business meeting and go straight into the presentation. Before he ceded the podium, Clayton thanked many who had helped to make the event a reality, including Brenna Mitchell, Richard Ruddle, Eddie Sites, Julie Taylor, Sherry Crigler, and others.

Mitchell then went to the front of the room to give the hour long talk. She used a power point presentation filled with photos, maps, and other explanatory slides to accentuate her talk, stating that the group had found much more information than it could present that afternoon.

One of the first slides held a line from after the fire that

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Brenna Mitchell presented a history of the Franklin Fire of 1924 to a standing room only crowd of more than 180.

# OBITUARIES



**Virginia Louise "Jinny" Sheetz Byers**

Virginia Louise "Jinny" Sheetz Byers, 98, beloved mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, passed away April 8, 2024, at her home in Franklin, with her son and daughter-in-law by her side. She was the last surviving member of her immediate family.

Born Sept. 17, 1925, in Keyser, she was the daughter of the late Charles Harry and Anita (Read) Sheetz.

Mrs. Byers graduated from Keyser High School in 1943. After her marriage to Harry Byers, the couple lived in Morgantown while he attended West Virginia University, then in the Washington, DC, area while he attended George Washington University, moving to Franklin in 1954.

Following the passing of her husband, she was employed by Kline Motor Sales from 1959-1998 as bookkeeper/secretary and then for Dr. H. Luke Eye for a few years.

Although living with much tragedy she remained a strong woman, raising her sons and serving them and her mother and father-in-law. Her church, friends and community were most important, as well.

She was an active member of the Franklin Presbyterian Church where she adorned the sanctuary in the summer with beautiful flower arrangements, served as a ruling elder and had financial responsibilities, as well as serving on various committees. She was the moderator of the Hope Circle, and in 2005 was awarded an honorary life membership of the Presbyterian Women.

Also in serving her community she was a 4-H leader of the Pendleton Builders, and in 2007 was given the Past Outstanding 4-H Leader Award.

In addition, she willingly and joyfully served others by chauffeuring many friends to appointments and students to school chorus concerts and on field trips.

She and several of her high school friends continued to enjoy time together until they were physically unable to do so. They enjoyed meeting at O'Neills in Moorefield for lunch and going to camp on the Potomac River near Romney. She often talked of how they would sit around playing cards into the wee hours of the night.

Other fun and recreational activities in which she participated include Treasure Mountain Swingers square dance club, bird watching, participating in wildflower pilgrimages and camping with Carolyn Ruddle, Juanita Slusher and Lorraine Sponaugle, skiing with her

son, Chuck, and the Hubbs family, vacationing with family and friends, reading, knitting dishcloths, watching Mountaineer sports, and in earlier years ice skating on the river in Franklin.

Mrs. Byers was such a hospitable lady opening her home to many for meals and overnight stays. Her Thanksgiving and Christmas turkey dinners were most delicious, and at Christmas she baked a variety of cookies, including her famous sandtarts, which she delivered to several neighbors and friends. At beach time and Christmas her Chex mix, nicknamed "chicken feed," was a staple. In the later years when she chose to not leave the house because of health issues, her family and friends enjoyed hosting birthday parties and various meals in her home in order that she could be blessed by the fellowship. She loved visits from her family and friends, along with her children and grandchildren's friends, and her open door of welcome was loved by music students and their families as well.

Above all activities, though, she will be most remembered for her love of swimming. She absolutely loved being in the water. When her boys were growing up, along with other family members and friends, two weeks would be spent each summer at Rehoboth Beach in Delaware. She was a matriarch of the Franklin Town Pool, swimming during breaks and in the evenings, which was the highlight of her summers until she could no longer comfortably walk down the steps into the pool. She loved the water and atmosphere teaching many to swim, including her grandchildren.

On Aug. 30, 1946, in Alexandria, Virginia, she was married to Harry Lawrence Byers, Jr. who preceded her in death on March 17, 1957.

Surviving are a son, Harry Lawrence, "Larry" Byers, III and his wife, Lois; four grandchildren and spouses and nine great-grandchildren: Joshua (Kennedy), Emerson and Ezra Byers, Elijah (Casey), Micaiah and Karli Byers, Joel (Kasey), Braydon, Aurora, and Arialle Byers, Rebekah (William), Jaxon and Titus Simon; a niece, Anne Lamar (Sheetz) Cooper; and a "bonus" family, David and Holly Hubbs, Cassie, Kendal and families.

She was also preceded in death by two sons, Jefferson Read Byers, (April 27, 1957 - Feb. 9, 1973) and Charles Richard Byers (Dec. 30, 1955 - May 15, 2008); and two brothers and their wives, Dr. Charles Harry "Snitz" (Thelma) Sheetz, Jr and Richard Read (Cathy) Sheetz

Funeral services were held Saturday at the Franklin Presbyterian Church with Pastors Brad Mitchell and Debbie Beam officiating. Interment was at Cedar Hill Cemetery in Franklin.

Memorials may be made to Franklin Board of Parks, Swimming Pool Fund, PO Box 483, Franklin, WV 26807.

Memories and words of comfort may be left at [www.basagic.com](http://www.basagic.com).



**Mary Louise Harman Bowers**

Educator, entrepreneur, and colorful member of the North Fork community, Mary Louise Harman Bowers passed away April 8, 2024, at her home at Seneca Rocks.

She was born Jan. 4, 1931, at Macksville, the daughter of Ivan and Gae Vance Harman.

Mrs. Bowers attended the one room schools in the Harman Hills before graduating from Circleville High School with the class of 1948. She then went to Davis and Elkins College where she became certified to teach K-12, as well as obtaining a bachelor of science in business.

Upon graduation she began teaching in a small two room school at Doe Hill. Part of her job each morning was to light the hanging kerosene lamps, and she practiced until she was able to hop from chair to chair and light them all with one wooden match. Parents would donate food so she would put the roast on to boil when she got to school. Students would peel potatoes, and a parent would come before lunch to help get everything ready. She also taught at Short Gap and other schools before joining the staff at Circleville High School in 1957 to teach typing and shorthand. Over the years she trained students who were recruited for the Federal Bureau of Investigation and Central Intelligence Agency because of their clerical skills and students who served as court reporters for the United States Supreme Court. In 1969 she and her student, Shirley Weese Sherman, were honored in Chicago as the National Touch Shorthand Teacher and Student of the Year.

She received her master's degree in counseling and when the South Branch Vocational Center opened, she began a second career in education serving as the center's counselor. When she retired from education, she and her husband built and opened Skate World, Bowers' Woodsedge Trailer Park, and Macksville Mart.

A staunch Republican, she was a member of the Pendleton County Republican Committee, West Virginia Education Association, Pendleton County Education Association and West Virginia Association of Retired School Employees, and was a 62-year member of Franklin Chapter #138 Order of the Eastern Star. In 1950, she joined the West Virginia University Extension Homemakers Onego-Seneca Club in order to drive her mother and her friends to meetings. She continued with the Dixie CEOS club, making her a 73-year participant of the extension program. Although she was a member of High Rock Church, she taught Sunday School as long as she was able at Valley Chapel Church in Riverton.

She loved to travel — first with her friends, Ivan and Debbie Jirak, and then later with the school groups that explored other countries. Some of her favorite trips were to Italy, Egypt, Israel, Australia, and Germany.

On Dec. 24, 1952, she married Ward Conley Bowers. This marriage lasted 47 years until her husband passed away in 1999. Along the way they had two daughters Mary Christine and Suelinn.

Surviving are a daughter, Suelinn; a sister, Dottie Harman Roy; a brother, John Verzhich; five grandchildren, Kyle Mahluo and Kaela, Keenen, Patrick, and Miles Bowers; a special niece, Vickie Skavenski; three special nephews, Sonny O'Neil, Kevin Roy, and Carl Bowers; two nieces, Jeanne O'Neil and Angie Nestor; a goddaughter, Deana Jirak; a godson, Jonathan Jirak; her angel of a caregiver, Caroline Hoffman; her nighttime companions, Sherry Hedrick, Nancy Watson, and Sally George; four special friends, Patsy Hedrick, Dona Bennett, and Neil and Mary Robinson; and many great-nieces and -nephews.

She was also preceded in death by a daughter, Mary; and a sister, Juanita.

Funeral services were held Sunday in the High Rock Church at Seneca Rocks with Pastor Robert Baer officiating. Entombment was in North Fork Memorial Cemetery at Riverton.

Memorials may be made in honor of Mrs. Bowers to North Fork Memorial Cemetery, Maintenance Fund, c/o Jack Bennett, 390 Harper Gap Road, Seneca Rocks, WV 26884.

Memories and words of comfort may be left at [www.basagic.com](http://www.basagic.com) or on Facebook at Basagic Funeral Home.



**Rubert Dale "Squirt" Adamson**

Rubert Dale "Squirt" Adamson, 88, a resident of Job, departed this life April 3, 2024, at his residence.

He was born April 13, 1935, in Onego, a son of the late Vernon Adamson and Pearl Morral Adamson, and a foster son of Hurl and Bessie Butcher.

Mr. Adamson was in the U.S. Army in the 1950s. He attended the schools of Pendleton County.

He was a member of the Teamsters Union and worked construction. He also worked on the pipeline and for Kermit Butcher and West Virginia Department of Highways. He attended the Job United Methodist Church.

He enjoyed helping others and loved to hunt, fish, and farm. He enjoyed spending time with his grandchildren. He will be sadly missed by his family and friends.

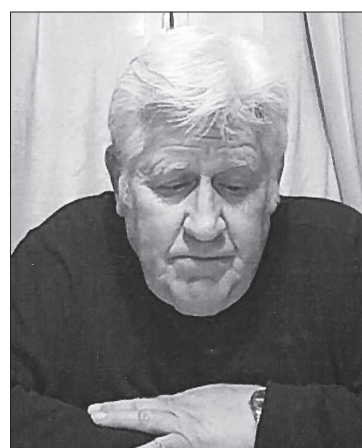
On April 16, 1960, he married the former Margaret Mullenex who survives. They were united in marriage for 64 years.

Also left to cherish his memory are two sons, Patrick and Matt of Job; two daughters Amanda and companion, Will Turner of Job, and Rebecca Propst and husband, Jeff of Onego; three grandchildren, Roxanne Nelson and Lance Adamson, both of Job, and Aaron Propst and wife, Kelsie of Petersburg; four great-grandchildren, Brenden, Collenna and Madeline Lewis and Lettie Nelson; two sisters, Phyllis Ruddle of Upper Tract and Shirley Fields of Ohio; and several nieces and nephews.

He was also preceded in death by four sisters, three brothers, four foster brothers and two foster sisters.

His request for cremation was honored. A celebration of life was held April 8 at the Job Methodist Church.

Memorial contributions can be made in his name to St. Jude, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105 or [www.stjude.org](http://www.stjude.org).



**Michael Vernon Blankenship**

Michael Vernon Blankenship, 75, of Franklin and formerly of College Park, Maryland, passed away April 15, 2024, at his home.

He was born on Sept. 22, 1948, in Portsmouth, Virginia, the son of the late Alice Perthenia (Black) Blankenship Millan and the late Leonard Douglas Blankenship.

Mr. Blankenship was a 1966 graduate of Franklin High School. He furthered his education and graduated from Potomac State, Northern Virginia Community College, and Columbus Institute of Technology. He retired from James Madison University in 2013, after 29 years of service.

He was a member of Christ Central Church.

On June 28, 1969, Michael married Nancy Ruth (Mitchell) Blankenship, who survives in Franklin.

In addition to his wife, he leaves behind to cherish his memory two sons, Michael Vernon "Mick" Blankenship, II (Teresa) and Nevin Jason Blankenship (Vickie), all of Harrisonburg, Virginia; two granddaughters, Jerica and Alexia; and a grandson, Jathan.

He was also preceded in death by a brother, Larry; and a sister, Patricia.

Funeral arrangements were incomplete at press time.

Memories and words of comfort may be left at [www.basagic.com](http://www.basagic.com).



## LAND, HOME & PERSONAL PROPERTY AUCTION

**Saturday, April 20**

**Brick Rancher  
Hardwood Floors  
35 Acres**

Estate of Esther Parker  
**11932 Old Rt. 55, Baker, WV 26801**  
(Moments from Corridor H)

**Personal Property Sold at 10 a.m.  
Land & Home Sold at Noon**

FOR MORE INFO & PICTURES: Visit [AuctionZip.com](http://AuctionZip.com) and enter auctioneer ID# 46934 or call Michael at 304-257-6403  
Michael Thomas, Auctioneer, WV2151 \ Jimmy See, Auctioneer, WV 1101

**Oak Summit Livestock & Auctioneering - A Full Service Auction Company!**  
Announcements on sale day take precedence over any advertising.

**Asbury's**  
FAMILY RESTAURANT

Germany Valley Limestone Rd., Riverton

**Ramp Dinner**

**Friday, April 19 • 4 - 7 p.m.**

Carved Ham, Ramp Pasta, Ramp, Bacon and Cheese Frittata, Mixed Green Salad/Ramp Vinaigrette, Scrambled Eggs w/Ramps, White Beans, Fried Potatoes w/Ramps, Pan Seared Ramps, Biscuits, Ramp Cornbread, Ramp Butter and Assorted Desserts **\$20<sup>95</sup>**

**Sunday Buffet**

**April 21 • Noon - 3 p.m.**

Roast Pork Loin, Chicken Picatta, Spinach Salad, Buttered Potatoes, Saffron Rice, Glazed Carrots, Steamed Green Beans, Rolls/Butter and Assorted Desserts **\$24<sup>95</sup>**

**RESTAURANT HOURS:**

Friday, Saturday and Monday 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Sunday Noon - 5 p.m.

(Sunday Buffet Noon - 3 p.m.)

Menu Items Available 3 p.m. - 5 p.m.)

**Seneca Caverns Open**

**Friday - Monday 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.**

3328 Germany Valley Road., Riverton

**304-567-2691**

**FUNDRAISER** April 27  
2:00 p.m. till sold out

**Ham Pot Pie \$10.00**

&

**White Beans \$7.00**

**Selling By The Quarts**

Drive-Thru at Sugar Grove Rescue Squad

All proceeds will go only towards

medical expenses for Raymond Varner.

All donations will be greatly appreciated.

All monies will be in the order of Judy Costello.

# Franklin Fire of 1924

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Michelle Sites led more than 100 persons on the walking tour of Main Street, explaining the fate of downtown homes and businesses.



Jared and Katie VanMeter's William McCoy house served as both an exhibit and reception venue.

was printed in the Pendleton Times. It read, "The great fire of Thursday night, April 17, 1924, swept through the heart of the town of Franklin and will live as long as memory lasts in the minds of the eyewitnesses."

This statement remains poignant for the fact that the last eyewitness to the day of the fire, Woodrow Hartman, recently passed.

Mitchell also noted that keeping such memories alive even beyond the days of the eyewitnesses served as a key mission of the historical society.

The presentation showed the structures that burned, both before and after. Numerous shots of different buildings and streetscapes appeared throughout the presentation. Mitchell's stories about families and individuals, business owners and residents, sadness, but also frivolity, gave the presentation true depth, even more so because so many relatives of those named had come to the church that day.

Though the buildings were lost, the strength of the town lay in the people who doggedly came back from tragedy. Some even found reason to dance by the river to the music from a rescued phonograph to celebrate their survival as the ruins still smoked.

Mitchell related the anecdote of a store owner

who raced into his business to unscrew the light bulbs and bring them out. She also shared that residents hurriedly cut down a tree to purposefully crush the Grover Evick ice cream shop, to prevent flames from leaping an alley to burn what is now the William McCoy House.

After the inside presentation, Michelle Sites led approximately 100 attendees down Main Street. The historical society had placed explanatory signs and black bunting in areas affected by the blaze. As they listened to more details of buildings and residents, members of the society set up a reception in the William McCoy House.

Jared and Katie VanMeter had issued the invitation to hold the reception there. Guests enjoyed a buffet of hors d'oeuvres, including cheeses, prepared foods, sausages, fruits and vegetables, and a range of desserts. All were served in the recently renovated front rooms of the historic mansion.

The Pendleton County Historical Society will hold two more public events this year. On May 26, it will host a presentation in Sugar Grove on "Our Five Boys," about the loss of five sons in World War II. On Aug. 11, a talk on "Old World Traits in Early Appalachian Architecture" will take place in Circleville.

# Franklin VFD

Continued From Page 1

made a toast to first responders present. He started by stating that "100 years ago was the great fire of Franklin," then asked "could you imagine fighting a fire 100 years ago with the equipment they had then?"

He closed with "I for one want to thank you very much . . . you do your part to keep our families safe."

Basagic then introduced guest speaker Mark Stewart, deputy state fire marshal and director of the Plan Review Division of that agency's office.

Stewart, who has given 42 years to the fire service, opened by giving "insight on what the State Fire Marshal does," especially beyond the purview of arson investigations, which represents only part of its set of tasks.

Other jobs of the agency lie in investigating schools, prisons, day cares, hospitals, and other entities that provide similar public services. His office reviews structural plans, while others review complaints.

Stewart explained that the fire service must continue to focus on bringing on the next generation of firefighters. "I was born in the fire service," he said, noting that his father and grandfather had also served. "That's the secret," he stated, adding that "we have to make our own firefighters," especially from the families of those already serving.

Finally, Stewart shared stories about his work with legendary Phoenix fire chief Alan "Bruno" Brunacini. He told that Brunacini, whose guiding principles were "prevent harm, survive, and be nice," came repeatedly to West Virginia to train and mentor.

"He was a great instructor," Stewart remembered, adding that "he taught once for 16 hours off of one business sized card."

Stewart closed with words of advice for younger firefighters. He said, "I challenge you to find a mentor in your field. Their job is to train you to take their positions," then finished with "hang out with good people."

When Stewart concluded his remarks, Hedrick took to the podium again to ask that previous members please stand. After the guests recognized their contributions through applause, the installation of officers took place.

For 2024, Hedrick will serve as president. Vice president will be Bobby Murphy, secretary is Evers Turner Jr, Mary Ann Nelson is treasurer, and Doug Rose will be bugler. Richard Nelson will be chief with Andrew Bodine as assistant chief, Brian DiFalco as captain, Doug Hartman as first lieutenant, Warren Hedrick as second lieutenant, and Darren Hedrick as safety officer.

Next, Terry Hedrick recognized those who had earned recognition for special achievement in years of service, including Paul Mallow with 57, Noah Mallow with 56, and Bruce Minor who has given 54 years. Additionally, Evers Turner Jr has worked 45, Richard Nelson 30, Darren Hedrick 25, Susan Hartman 10, and T. J Bogan for five.

Winner of the Outstanding Achievement Award was Warren Hedrick, who "came forward and helped the community a lot," as Terry Hedrick shared, adding that he helped the fire department considerably, including through the recruitment of six new members.

Doug Rose won Firefighter of the Year award, while a new recognition, Officer of the Year, went to Turner. Terry Hedrick noted of the officer that "he keeps things straight for us." He then recognized Jared Kimble of T&K Markets and Jason Kimble of Pendleton County Outdoors as significant community supporters.

Of T&K Markets, Terry Hedrick explained that "we call on them and they come running," while Pendleton County Outdoors steps up to help with raffles.

On the schedule of events handed out before the dinner, one section read "Special Presentation" and included the names Gene Boggs and Austen Whetzel, but gave no further indication of what might take place. Attendees burst into laughter and clapping when they learned that Whetzel had volunteered to temporarily sacrifice his lengthy full beard to help raise funds for the department.

Terry Hedrick quipped that Boggs would have an opportunity to exhibit his barber skills.

Originally, Whetzel had set \$1,000 as the benchmark for money raised to sacrifice his years of work growing it. By the evening of the dinner, however, the amount raised exceeded \$1,300. Jared Kimble then leapt up and exclaimed that the room should help to put the total about \$1,500 and took a hat around to collect.

Attendees added \$422 for a grand total of \$1,767.


Whetzel took a chair in the rear of the room as Boggs carefully shaved his facial locks. A crowd gathered to cheer, and in some cases film, the event.

After the fun of watching Whetzel's face emerge clean shaven for the first time in many years, Chief Richard Nelson closed the night with a few serious points. He said, "2023 was a rough year for us. We learned a lot of things about ourselves." Nelson discussed the impact of the brush fires, saying they were "a real learning experience for us" then praised neighboring regions for effective mutual aid.

But the bulk of his remarks went to thank those who provided vital support. "Our community has come out and supported us," he said, saying also that "we have gained the community's trust back." Also, he noted that the department had gained seven total new members, saying "We need that desperately."

Nelson saved his last statement of appreciation for the spouses, children, and other family members of volunteers. He reminded all that "without support at home, we couldn't give time to the community."

"Thank you all," he concluded.

**Happy Birthday!**  
**Ardath Murphy**   
 Is Having a Birthday  
*This special lady will be 89 years young*  
*Making her a Queen on April 23 would be great*  
*So let's send her a card to help her celebrate.*  
 Her address is  
 3100 Upper North Fork Road, Circleville, WV 26804

**Sugar Grove Lions Club & VFW Post 9666**  
**Will Be Selling Roscoe & Spooey's**  
   
**Saturday**  
**April 20**  
 7 a.m. - ?  
**Chicken Available at:**  
**VFW Park in Sugar Grove**  
**Pendleton Crossing (at the stoplight) in Franklin**  
**Brandywine Family Dollar Parking Lot**

**NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER**  
 Thursday, May 2, 2024  
**JOIN US TO PRAY FOR NEIGHBOR AND NATION**  
**Meeting @ 4 p.m.**  
**Community Center**  
**200 Confederate Road**  
**Franklin**  
 Contact  
 Mark Derby 972-365-5210 or  
 Margie Derby 214-417-4320



**Pendleton County FFA Greenhouse**  
**Opening April 19**  
 Wide Variety of  
 •Hanging Baskets  
 •Flowers •Vegetable Plants  
**Open Daily 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.**



**JOIN US FOR AN AFTERNOON OF FUN AND GAMES TO HELP US RAISE FUNDS FOR A COUNTY PORTABLE STAGE!!**  
**BINGO**  
**SUNDAY, APRIL 21ST**  
**DOORS OPEN AT 1PM**  
**GAMES BEGIN AT 2PM**  
 AT THE COMMUNITY BUILDING IN FRANKLIN, WV  
**20 GAMES | RAFFLES | 50/50**  
 TO GET ON PRESALE CALL ELIZABETH AT 304-358-7525 OR COMMENT ON THE POST TO BE ENTERED INTO A PRESALE DRAWING!!  
 HOSTED BY THE PENDLETON COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



**OPENING > Friday • April 19**  
**RED LICK FARM GREENHOUSE**  
 Bedding Plants / Vegetables  
 Landscaper Annuals  
 Geraniums  
 Hanging Baskets  
 Perennials • Herbs  
**Circleville, WV 26804**  
*(beside the Post Office)*  
**Mon-Fri: 9-5 Sat: 9-4 Sun: 12-4**  
**Now processing credit cards!**  
**(304) 567-2203/2599**



**From Maintenance To Tune Up To Body Work**  
**BOWERS GARAGE & BODY SHOP**  
**Can Provide All of Your Automotive Needs**  
**304-249-5154 (Sugar Grove)**  
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**20 Years Ago**  
**Week of April 15, 2004**

**Three Veterans Receive Circleville High School Diplomas**

Henry Ford Ruddle, Melvin Clyde Ruddle and Jack Dempsey Warner are U.S. Armed Services veterans.

In fact, they were students at Circleville High School who left their schooling behind to serve their nation during times of war.

Henry Ford Ruddle served in the U.S. Army during World War II. A U.S. Air Force veteran, Melvin Clyde Ruddle served in Korea. Warner was in the Air Force for 26 years and saw action in Korea and Vietnam.

Diplomas were presented to the veterans by Bob Thompson, a graduate of the class of 1950 and the last principal at CHS before the school was lost to consolidation, and by Ken Price, the current Pendleton County superintendent of schools.

"Melvin Clyde Ruddle drew laughter from the crowd when he observed, "It took me so long to get my diploma because my wife home-schooled me."

Not to be outdone, Warner said, "Well, I got my college degree 33 years ago, and tonight I finally received my high school diploma."

**30 Years Ago**  
**Week of April 14, 1994**

**World War I Vet Ona B. Propst Receives Medal**

World War I veteran Ona B. Propst of Brandywine was surprised on his 98th birthday last week when he received a remembrance of his military service during the 75th anniversary of the secession of hostilities in World War I.

Propst was presented a 75th Anniversary of World War I Commemorative Medal provided by the Robert R. McCormick Tribune Foundation and the Department of Veterans Affairs. The presentation was made by Senior Chief Neil Senatroy of the Naval Radio Station Sugar Grove.

Propst, now 98 years of age and clear of mind and memory, remembered that he celebrated his birthday 75 years ago by taking a boat ride down the Rhine River to Cologne. The war had ended and he had stayed on in the Army of Occupation.

**DAHMER**

**Town of Franklin Burned Seventy Years Ago**

Seventy years ago on a Thursday just before Easter in the evening of April 17, 1924, was the night Franklin burned. Most of the folks in this small town of Franklin were calling it quits for the day and heading for supper. It was just an ordinary day, nothing more than a typical day—or so people thought.

By midnight that night, the entire business section of Franklin was devastated by

a fire that raged through the four main blocks of Franklin. According to accounts, the blaze started in the Pendleton County Times Office when a gasoline engine to run the printing press exploded. The fire that followed destroyed just about all of Franklin's businesses and left 19 families homeless. Both banks were gone and all of Main Street retail stores were leveled. Daugherty and Florentine Hotels were reduced to crumbling walls and the Pendleton Courthouse was the last to burn.

**40 Years Ago**  
**Week of April 19, 1984**

**A VIEW FROM SENECA Littering Spoils West Virginia's Beauty**

By: Raymond Blum

Spring is a beautiful and refreshing time of year—a time to rejoice in the many happenings of nature and enjoy our slowly greening landscapes. There is one thing that spoils the view, though, and that's trash and litter.

I have to admit that I do not feel comfortable writing on the subject. One reason is that I really don't think I can change the problem. Those of you who don't litter might read this column and agree that litter is a problem that needs to be corrected, but others will likely disregard the message. There has been much written on the subject, especially on the cost to the taxpayer; but will that modify or change behavior? I don't think so! Let's face it, litter clean-up costs West Virginians a considerable sum of money. But would it bother you if I told you it costs \$100,000 a year or even \$100,000,000? Probably not, since you don't feel the cost personally. If the state sent each household a bill for \$100.00 for litter clean-up—now, that might strike a nerve! You would see \$100.00 of your hard earned money go towards cleaning up after irresponsible people. You would be personally involved whether you wanted to be or not.

We have heard about how important tourism is in West Virginia. Should we clean up our act so that visitors will come to our state, enjoy the experience and spend money? If you own a motel or restaurant you might think so, but it probably doesn't mean much to the rest of us. So why should we keep West Virginia clean? Pride—pride not only in the land, but in ourselves. How we maintain our property reveals much about what we think of ourselves. I happen to love West Virginia and am proud to be here. West Virginians have always been proud, but until recently have been quiet about it. Not long ago, people voiced their opinions concerning a proposed landfill at Mount Storm from the Washington, D.C. area. The project was stopped. Why? Pride in wanting to maintain our mountain state's reputation for beautiful country.

Before the problem of littering can be solved, attitudes will have to change. I've heard several folks comment that the road crews will clean up the trash, so there's really no incentive to stop littering. This is an irresponsible and lazy attitude similar to a child who won't clean up the dinner table or room because "mom" will always clean up after him. The days when road crews will pick up after us is quickly coming to an end as budgets become more restrictive. The roads might get cleaned up once a year, but what happens in between those times? We can either watch the trash build up or we can get involved and at least clean up along our property lines. If we all did that, then litter would probably not be a problem. I used to litter without even thinking about it until I picked up trash daily for four years. That broke me of the habit. I'll get off my soap box now, but this is a subject that really bothers me. Let's make a personal commitment to improve the place in which we live. Let's take pride in West Virginia and show everyone WE CARE!

**76 Years Ago**  
**Week of April 15, 1948**

**Franklin's Dastrous Fire 24 Years Ago This Week**

On Thursday evening, April 17, 1924, occurred the great fire which devastated so much of Franklin's business district. We reproduce herewith, word for word, an account of the fire as it appeared in the April 25 issue of The Times, which was published in Harrisonburg. We reprint the article because we think it will be interesting not only to those who lived through this catastrophe, but also for the benefit of the younger people.

**FRANKLIN NEARLY WIPED OUT BY VERY DESTRUCTIVE FIRE**

The great fire of Thursday night, April 17th, that swept the heart of the town of Franklin, will live as long as memory lasts in the minds of the eye witnesses.

The fire started at 6 o'clock by backfire from the gasoline engine in the plant of The Pendleton Times. The regular weekly edition of the paper was being printed, about all of the usual number having been completed and the mail for the town had been placed in the post office.

The fire could have been controlled within the limits of the printing office had the town had any water system at all, but as the reservoir had been practically worthless for many months and gradually growing worse during the winter and spring, there was absolutely no pressure and when the hose was turned on proved futile and flames spread throughout the two-story building, the second floor being occupied by the family of the editor. From the building it spread to the Simmons Brothers garage,

formerly occupied by Fleming's Restaurant on the one side and the store of Arlie C. Byrd and Company and the feed store and pool room of R. M. Hiner in the rear.

It spread rapidly in both directions and from Back street to Back Alley, this taking in and consuming everything on either side of Main Street from the court house on the south to the homes of Byron and Mason Boggs on the north, except the old Presbyterian church, the homes of Early Ruddle and S. G. Judy. There was a steady gale from the south which made it exceedingly hard to keep the fire from burning the entire north end of town. A most determined fight was made at the home of Byron Boggs, and the south side of this building now shows the heat to which it was subjected. In fact it is burned almost to coals. But for the heroic effort that was made at this point, it is doubtful if the ravages of the flames could have been stopped until they reached the extreme northern limits of the town, and this would have wiped out practically the entire residence section.

In addition to the many buildings totally burned, probably as many as twenty other buildings were on fire one time or another, several of them being in flames many times. Valiant fighters with pails of water were to be seen on housetops throughout the town, and but for this, the fire could not have been controlled.

It is seldom that every place of business in a town is destroyed, but it seems in this instance that every single one was wiped out except the drugstore. Among places of business destroyed we may mention Dr. Thacker's dental parlors, the stores of Bowman Bros., R. M. Hiner and Byrd, all of the law offices except one, Dr. Lambert's medical office, both banks, including the building of the Farmers Bank that was not yet completed, both garages, the Florentine and the Daugherty hotels and the restaurant, movie hall, both blacksmith shops, both barber shops, James Skidmore's cabinet shop, the post office, the office of the Sheriff, Superintendent of Schools, Town Council, and Board of Education, the lodge rooms of the Masons, Odd Fellows and Modern Women, besides rendering homeless nineteen families.

While the Court House was totally destroyed, the records had previously been removed, and thus our records, which are one hundred and thirty-six years old, remain intact.

It is impossible to estimate the property loss, and while some parties are fairly well protected by insurance, yet many are totally without insurance, and not a few of the sufferers find themselves at middle age compelled to start life over.

The one happy thought is that no one was seriously hurt and no lives lost, and when one thinks of that terrible night and the experiences that cannot be described, it is hard to realize that there are no casualties to report.

Many hundreds of people from nearby and far away have visited the ruins day after day and continue to pour into town, all expressing deepest sympathy for the suffering. Petersburg and other nearby places immediately tendered aid, but our people were in position to take care of the situation themselves.

A citizens meeting was held in the Methodist church Monday morning at eight-thirty and lasted about two hours. The outstanding features of the meeting, coming as echoes of the fire, were that the town council was requested to immediately take steps to furnish the town with an adequate and complete water system that could act as protection and as a guarantee against a future conflagration like this one; the appointment of a committee on building permits; and a resolution appointing a committee to contract with Paul R. Priest to furnish lights for a period of five years from the termination of his present contract, which carries with it the implied notice that the people of the meeting were not in favor of spending any more money on the dam in the gap.

At this meeting, Dr. Dyer and Mrs. W. B. Anderson donated \$1,500 toward the necessary water works.

The numerous business people who have been burned out have practically all resumed business and the principal ones are quartered as follows: The Franklin Bank, in the Methodist parsonage; Farmers Bank, post office and H. M. Calhoun in the Frank Anderson house, M. K. Boggs and Co., first floor of the E. P. Simmons shop; Grover Evick, building in Frank Anderson house, M. K. Boggs and Co., first floor of the E. P. Simmons shop; Grover Evick, building in Frank Anderson's yard; Fred Calhoun, Mason Boggs' garage; Fleming Restaurant, under canvas in the court yard; the Clerk's office, is the jail; B. H. Hiner, in home of Mrs. Moomau; R. M. Hiner's feed store in C. D. Bowman's barn; and Dr. Thacker at his home.

Many of the parties are planning to rebuild this year and some of them will do so at once. R. M. Hiner commenced work on his feed store Tuesday.

Following is a list of families whose homes were destroyed: Forrest Hammer, J. E. Mullenax, Arlie Mullenax, L. R. Byrd, Russell Dice, Ernest C. Bowman, John Lambert, M. Mauzy, D. M. Byrd, William Fleming, Fred Calhoun, Van M. McMains, A. M. Lukens, T. W. Pennybacker, William Crigler, William McCoy, Ed Simmons, Sam Simmons and Eston Simmons.

Joe and Max Rubin, whose store was completely destroyed by fire, arrived here from Baltimore Monday and arranged to resume business in the store of J. E. Moyers, and expect to have a stock of goods here next week.

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**Smith Creek/Friends Run**

by Dave Ellis

One year ago this week, starting on April 18, was the fire that got out of control for several days. Starting in Hidden Valley, the fire spread to Entry Mountain and to U.S. Route 33 west of Franklin. Many nights the firefighters were out with emergency medical services crew members and other help from the community. Overall, there was great team work from everyone.

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 and Sandra Vandevander; 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, 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, Sheldon Bowers, Wayne Kimble, Stanley Propst, Leann Britton, Patsy Bennett, Jimmy Mitchell, Kathy Puffenbarger, Wanda Pitsenbarger and Tm and Dee McCormick.

Prayer thought: "Let's call out to our Father in heaven every day and ask Him to help us find the beauty and order He alone provides."

High and low temperatures and precipitation for April 8 through April 14, followed by the same for last year, were as follows: April 8 - 71°, 37° (50°, 32°); April 9 - 72°, 47° (60°, 25°); April 10 - 71°, 51° (66°, 29°); April 11 - 63°, 50°, 1.88" (61°, 30°); April 12 - 52°, 45°, .45" (77°, 51°); April 13 - 58°, 46°, .12" (86°, 49°, .01°) and April 14 - 78°, 53° (78°, 43°, .01°).

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# April Adorns the Earth in an Abundance of Colors

## Sugar Grove

By Paula Mitchell

Spring is here. Just look around! All at once the flowering trees have bust into full bloom, decorating the landscape with their beauty.

The Bradford pear trees with their billowing white dresses, and the forsythia showering gold spreading fronds of yellow have delighted the viewer. Now it is the flowering crab apple trees, and the sweeping cherry trees bowing gracefully. The showy lavender-pink flowers of the redbud trees with their twigs covered with flowers are so beautiful. The flowers are edible and can be eaten raw in salads. Soon to bloom will be the dogwood trees with their cross-shaped white petals with the crown of thorns in the middle of the blossom.

Dandelions magically appear through the new grass, bright polka dots that reflect sunbeams. Tiny blue violets are peeping through the green grass as well. Mushroom hunters are searching the woods in search of the delicate morels. Leisurely walk through the woods to notice the wood anemones, the yellow fawn lily, trout lily, trillium, wild asparagus, and the Jack-in-the-pulpit.

This used to be marble season during the one/two room school days. Each person had a favorite shooting marble, called a "shooter" which was guardedly kept. Mothers must have surely looked back on the marble games with mixed emotions, for they took their toll in the knees of the blue jeans. Hopscotch was a great game to play, also. All one needed was a piece or two of glass to mark the squares, some pebbles, and perfect balance. (Don't know if any children play marbles or hopscotch today.)

This month is a pink and dainty month. In the early Indian days, the April moon was called Pink Moon, Sprouting Grass Moon, Egg Moon, and Fish Moon. With April coming in on the strings of April Fool's Day, the day reminds one to have a sense of humor. A sense of humor is necessary in all walks of life and in every area of life. The ability to laugh at one's self relieves a stressful moment, and keeps a person humble. One can never become conceited when one can laugh at one's own foibles. In tense serious situations, someone with an optimistic attitude is a joy to be around. Laughter can bring an end to a dispute, clear the air, and banish the anger dregs. One can't stay mad when laughing.

So, to the reader, enjoy April. May all your days be "sunshine days."



Members of the Frank and Ella Michael Mitchell family were, from left, Beulah Florence (Feb. 17, 1896 - July 2, 1980) married Ernest Frank Rader (Feb. 3, 1893 - April 6, 1979), Franklin (July 20, 1865 - Feb. 8, 1905) married Ella Virginia Michael (Dec. 9, 1871 - Sept. 6, 1965); Eva E. (May 5, 1893 - Nov. 30, 1918...died of the Spanish influenza) married H. Boyd Hoover (Aug 8, 1890 - Oct. 7, 1934), Ella Virginia and Flora Jane (Aug. 16, 1898 - Feb. 18, 1973) married James Luther Pitsenbarger (Aug. 22, 1893 - March 24, 1961).

Life's little lessons to make one's day better include the following:

1. Massage tense muscles.
2. Count to 10.
3. Cry if necessary.
4. Keep noise down.
5. Sing a song.

Sugar Grove is sure a pretty sight to behold. The redbud, as well as the apple trees, are in bloom. (Interested in a showing of redbud? Travel Interstate 81 south all the way to Wytheville, Virginia.)

The colorful variety of phlox at the late Junior and Clinton Ann Bowers' house welcomes the visitors to the Sugar Grove community. Even the "smile" which is situated on Route 21, (past Bruce and Bill Hoover's home) is in the same mode. Residents are preparing their hummingbird feeders in anticipation for the arrival of the tiny birds.

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

- There are more sheep than people in New Zealand.
- Egyptian civilization is one of the oldest in the world, with recorded history dating back more than 5,000 years.
- There are 1 million camels that roam wild in Australia's deserts, the largest number of purebred camels in the world.

They are exported to the Middle East.

• All of the four other Great Lakes, plus three more the size of Lake Erie, would fit inside Lake Superior.

• Hummingbirds are the only birds that fly backwards.

Sitting outside to enjoy the surrounding beauty is a good place to hear the "Talk of the Grove."

A Brushy Fork report from the Roger and Reda Shewsbury home states that 3 inches of rain fell in the area. The creeks, streams and river have swollen in a muddy wrath. Winds have been part of the mixture, blowing quite blustery.

Bennie and Linda Custer of Verona, Virginia, were Saturday visitors of Willard and Judy Rader. They all enjoyed a delicious meal at Gateway Restaurant and going to Smoke Hole Caverns.

Justin, April, Colby, and Chloe Simmons enjoyed the weekend in Morgantown for the Pendleton County Wildcat baseball games. They also stopped in to watch a West Virginia University baseball game.

On Friday evening, Leslie and Shaun Bowers celebrated their daughter's, Ava's, 13th birthday with friends and family.

Phil Downs had spent several days this past week with his aunt, Wanda Pitsenbarger.

The lawn mowers have been brought back from their winter habitats. Lawn

mowing has been moving at a pretty fast past. Homeowners are tidying up their lawn landscaping and removing twigs and branches brought down during the winter months. Cutting of brush has also improved the efforts.

Jack and Cindy Bowers have begun the volunteer efforts of highway pick-up. Many volunteers are planning to follow suit. The highway department has cleaned out the ditches, and the Sugar Grove community, far and wide, is taking on a much more dignified look.

Quotes for the week are as follows:

"No rain, no flowers." — Haruki Murakami

"April is a reminder that life is a beautiful, ever-renewing cycle." — E.E. Cummings

"April, dressed in all its trim, hath put a spirit of youth in everything." — William Shakespeare

"April is the sweetest month of the year, the mellow season of rebirth and renewal."

— Mary Sojourner

"April is a moment of joy for those who have survived the winter." — Samuel Johnson

Concerns for this week are as follows: Bob Adamson, Rick Adkins, John Ashley, Roger and Joan Ashley, Mercedes Aumann, Lynn Beatty, "Bo" Boggs, Jane Conrad, Marie Cole, Christian Dasher, Benny Evick, Isaac Eye, Linda Eye, Marie Eye, Mary Eye, Neal Eye, Carl Gant, Lorealee Gordon, Lola Graham, Patsy Green, JC Hammer, Marlene Harman, Marvin Hartman, the Woodrow Hartman family, Steve and Armanda Heavner, Grace Hedrick, Jim Hiner, Tim Hively, Edsel and Mary Ann Hogan, Virgil Homan, Jr., Doris Hoops, Adelbert Hoover, Keith Hoover, Myrtle Hoover, Debbie and Enos Horst, Lisa and Mike Jamison, Jessica Janney, Alice Johnson, Richard Judy, Ruthaleen Judy, Marsha Keller, Kim Kline, Ginger Knight, 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, John Morford, Helen Nash, Aaron Nelson, Ruth Nelson, Cheryl Paine, Wanda Pitsenbarger, Alda Propst, John O. Propst, Kathy Propst, Mike Propst, Sheldon Propst, Stanley Propst, Tom Rader, Brandon Reel, Charles Rexrode, Jason Rexrode, Jerold "Jerry" Rexrode, Pam Rexrode, Dennis Riggleman, Donna Ruddle, Jenny Ruddle, Brittany Shriver, Annie Simmons, Phyllis Simmons, Erin Simmons, Eva Simmons, Robbie Sites, Mike Skiles, Donnie Smith, Stanna Smith, Tina Stuben, Elizabeth Terry, Rosa Tichenor, Sandra Vandevander, Raymond Varner, Amy Vaus, Estelle Wagner, Rene White, Judy Williams, Ann Wimer and Margaret Wimer.

**APRIL 15<sup>th</sup> - APRIL 19<sup>th</sup>**

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# MEET THE CANDIDATES

## Board of Education



**Charles Burgoyne**

Charles Burgoyne is a candidate for the Pendleton County Board of Education.

He previously served three years on the board of education and resigned in 2022 when Carole Hartman asked him to complete her term on the county commission.

He has lived in Pendleton County most of his life and currently resides in Franklin with his wife, Joyce. His mother, Maxine Burgoyne, was the secretary and "extra grandmother" at Upper Tract and Franklin Elementary schools for many years. He regularly hears stories about the way she helped children and hope that he can be of help in similar ways.

He is a graduate of Franklin High School, Ferrum College, and James Madison University. He has three daughters who currently work as dedicated teachers/administrators. Their passion for education and the way they are a positive influence in the lives of their students has inspired him to show the same dedication to the students in this community. Pendleton County deserves people that are committed to its future. He is willing and able to work hard with the staff and students in this beautiful county.

Burgoyne enjoys working with student athletes, so he officiated basketball, baseball, softball, and volleyball for approximately 25 years. As an official he would tell captains before the beginning of each game, "Remember, you are representing your team, your team is representing the school, and the school represents our county." Sports are a great way to train students in good sportsmanship, resulting in members of the community that are responsible, respectful, team players. About six years ago he became a certified coach and was able to restart a golf team at Pendleton County High School. It has been a very rewarding experience, and the team has expanded to the middle school as well. It is his personal philosophy to try to help friends and neighbors because volunteerism is so important in the country and world. Over the years he has been involved in supporting the community through Relay for Life, sports boosters, Pendleton Manor, and the local emergency services.

He and his wife faithfully attend Walnut Street United Methodist Church and enjoy spending time with friends, family, and their two grandchildren.

He looks forward to the opportunity to serve the citizens and students of Pendleton County for the next two to four years.



**Jamie DiFalco**

Dear Residents of Pendleton County,

Jamie DiFalco is excited to announce her candidacy for the position of school board member. She is a 20-year resident of Franklin, a Navy Veteran, and a mom of two students at Pendleton County Middle/High School. She has a longstanding commitment to the Local School Improvement Councils at both Franklin Elementary School and PCMHS, and a deep concern for the students' well-being. She is driven to bring about positive change and work towards every child in this district receiving the quality education they deserve.

As a parent and an engaged member of the community, she deeply understands the challenges the county's schools face. She appreciates the impact of decisions made at the board level, reinforcing her belief in the necessity of a representative who truly listens to the concerns of parents, students, teachers, and administrators alike.

DiFalco's platform rests on three fundamental pillars:

1. **Advocacy for Educational Equity:** She firmly believes that every child, regardless of their background or socioeconomic status, deserves access to a great education. She is dedicated to championing policies and initiatives that foster equity and inclusion within the county's schools, ensuring every student has the resources and support necessary for their success.

2. **Transparent and Accountable Leadership:** If elected as a school board member, she will prioritize transparency and accountability in all decision-making processes. She is committed to fostering open communication with the community when possible and seeking feedback and input to inform her decisions on matters affecting the schools and the children.

3. **Collaborative Problem-Solving:** Addressing the diverse challenges the schools encounter requires a united effort. She pledges to collaborate closely with parents, teachers, administrators, and community stakeholders, fostering an atmosphere of teamwork and innovation to develop effective solutions that benefit every student.

Together, there is the power to build a stronger school district that equips the county's students for success in an ever-evolving world. She is genuinely excited about the opportunity to serve as one's advocate on the school board.

Together, let's ensure that every child in this community can reach their full potential.



**Pat Godfrey**

As a teacher for 35 years, Pat Godfrey hopes to bring a knowledge of how to improve the school system from every facet of the day-to-day operations to the long-term planning that will positively change the system.

He will be guided by accountability, transparency, and, when necessary, brutal honesty.



**Betty Kimble**

Betty Kimble is a lifelong resident of Pendleton County and is seeking candidacy for her fifth term on the Pendleton County Board of Education. She and her husband, Ronnie, reside in Brandywine. She is an active member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints.

Kimble graduated from Franklin High School and had been a business owner for the past 32 years, operating Fox's Pizza Den in Brandywine. She recently retired, turning the business over to her son, Darren, and his family. She hopes that retirement offers her more time to volunteer in the school system and the community.

The Kimbles are the parents of four children and 10 grandchildren.

Her outlook is in making a positive difference in the life of a child. Having raised four children who obtained an education in the local school system and currently having three grandchildren enrolled in Pendleton County Schools, she has a deep concern for the children and staff that are affected by decisions made by the local school board.

While serving the past 16 years on the board of education, she has seen a lot of good things happen in the county schools. There have also been a few trials. The years of covid were stressful for all involved, but everyone made it through.

If elected there are a few more things she would like to see accomplished in the next four years.

One of her favorite sayings is "Prepare a child for the road of life, not prepare the road of life for a child." Education is important in preparing a child for the road of life.

Kimble believes that if given the opportunity to serve on the Pendleton County Board of Education, she will strive to implement the very best wisdom when making decisions that affect the lives of the children and staff of Pendleton County Schools.



**Sonny O'Neil**

Sonny O'Neil is running for a seat on the Pendleton County Board of Education. He lives on the family farm in Seneca Rocks with his wife, Paula, a retired preschool teacher. They are members of High Rock Church where they rotate as Sunday School teachers, and they have two grown children who graduated from Pendleton County Schools.

Having served on the board of education for 22 years, he is currently serving as vice president and as the county representative on the Epic Council. During these 22 years, he has received hundreds of hours of state and local training on various educational issues. In the past he has served on the boards of the North Fork Clinic, Pendleton Community Care and Spruce Knob Seneca Rocks Telephone Company, and was a founding member of the North Fork Community Council which secured the funding to build the Harold K. Michael Community Building in Circleville. He has enjoyed being a high school referee for volleyball, having just retired after 35 years as a basketball official.

During his tenure on the board, O'Neil has collaborated with many different people who had the best interests of the students in mind. He believes that the county has one of the best staffs (central office, principals, teachers, and service personnel) in the state. A new Franklin Elementary School has been built, and the board has upgraded or is in the process of improving all county schools. This includes new roofing, HVAC units, and windows that will open at North Fork Elementary, and upgraded cameras and security systems at various schools. Members of the board work hard to stay ahead of the students' needs, and as a result, the county's facilities rank near the top in the state. This is the result of great financial planning (special thanks to the central office), and the wise and correct use of COVID monies.

O'Neil's main reason for running again is to continue improving education in Pendleton County. There is always room for improvement, and he wants to be a part of that improvement. The shortage of teachers is always a concern, even though dental and vision insurance have been added for all employees. He wants the county's superintendent to work with the legislature to raise teacher pay so that more young people will get education degrees.

He feels blessed to live here, to have served this county for 22 years, and looks forward to continually serving the people of Pendleton County.



**Wilma Pitsenbarger**

Wilma Pitsenbarger is a candidate for one of the three school board positions. A lifelong resident of Pendleton County, she graduated in 1972 in the top 10 of her class from Franklin High School. Graduating on Sunday night, she began her work life with an orthodontist the next day.

She and her three siblings were raised with a strong work ethic by their parents, Theodore and Rachel Pitsenbarger. She worked three jobs year-round for 10 years. After that, she decided to consider college. In 1980, she applied to James Madison University. In 1983, she graduated Cum Laude with a bachelor's degree in special education. She chose the field of special education because she wanted to help those students who needed extra help, and who she believed were often neglected in the regular classroom.

In 1984, she was employed by Pendleton County Schools for a special education position. During her early years of teaching, she was chosen as a part of a select group of educators to begin a middle school concept for this county.

While employed, she continued her education, eventually earning a master's degree in special education for learning disabilities and behavior disorders from West Virginia University. She also acquired an additional master's degree in reading from Marshall, plus 45 more hours.

Looking back, Pitsenbarger realizes that as a student, she had many great teachers at Franklin High School. One who stands out is Galen Warner, who proclaimed on the day of his first test in a history class that nobody could achieve 100 percent on his test, but she accepted the challenge and proved him wrong by scoring the "impossible" grade. Impressed, he acknowledged her feat in a graduation speech he made many years later.

It takes a special person to believe all students can learn. She has strived to be that person throughout her teaching career which spanned 33 years as a full-time teacher, five years as a long-time substitute after officially retiring, and she has two and one-half years in Virginia schools.

A fellow teacher wrote the following about her: "During her teaching career, Wilma was one of the most conscientious and industrious educators who could always use every resource available to help her students succeed. She continually involved the parent or guardian in any or all decisions, as necessary. As a result, she enriched the lives of those in her classroom."

Many of her former students still appreciate what she had done for them and affectionately called her "Momma Pits."



**Wesley Puffenbarger**

Wesley Puffenbarger is announcing his candidacy for the Pendleton County Board of Education.

As a father of three and a lifelong resident, the safety and mental well-being of the county's students is a top priority. They are the future of Pendleton County.

Puffenbarger has 10+ years experience serving on the Rockingham County/Massanutten Technical Center advisory board for the automotive program and has volunteered on the South Fork Rescue Squad for 21 years. He serves the county's youth as a 4-H club leader and a shooting sports instructor. He has also been involved in Pendleton County Little League as a coach.

As a career he is a master automotive technician/shop foreman. He interacts with the public on a daily basis and has gained great customer service skills.

In his spare time he enjoys spending time with his family, hunting, and assisting on the family farm.

## County Commission



**Roger Dahmer**

Roger Dahmer lives on Smith Heights just outside of Franklin. Two years ago, he was elected to serve the last two years of Carole Hartman's unexpired term on the county commission from the Central District. Now he is running for reelection for a full six-year term. He ran then and is running now because he wants to serve the people of his home county by helping to solve its problems and shape its future.

Two years ago, he said he would always listen to the people of Pendleton County. He has done that. People have called him and stopped him on the street to talk about an issue they are concerned about. He always takes time to hear them out. The commission itself has been very good about giving people time to speak and hearing them out.

As a county commissioner, he has tried to be guided in his words and actions by his Christian values. He has tried to act with honesty and integrity. He is not ashamed to be a Christian and he is not ashamed of his Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. He tries to conduct himself in a way that brings Him honor and glory and he opens the county commission meetings with prayer.

As a county commissioner,

*Continued on Page 7*

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# Meet the CANDIDATES

## County Commission Continued

Dahmer has tried to conduct himself with conservative values, making decisions and casting votes with compassionate and responsible conservative values in mind. He is not a Liberal and he is not a Socialist. He is awake, but he is not awoken.

He believes in private property rights. There are those who want the county commission to put itself in position to pass ordinances telling people what they can and can't do on their own property. He doesn't want to do that. Does a person want the government dictating that to one? He thinks one's private property rights need to be protected.

During the, roughly, year and a half that he has been on the county commission, he has tried to conduct himself with compassion, responsibility, honesty, and integrity. He has not made promises he could not keep. He has made it a point to listen to anyone who wanted to talk to him about a concern they had, and he has tried to take actions and cast votes with the good of the people in mind and that moves the county forward.



**Travis Moyers**

Travis Moyers is a Republican candidate for the office of county commissioner in Pendleton County. He now lives and has always lived on Upper South Branch Road in Franklin.

He has had many chances during the years to find good paying jobs in other areas, but Pendleton County is home to him and he never plans on living anywhere other than right here.

He is sure many residents remember his grandmother, Bertha Dice. She started Cave Country Store and Campground many years ago, and she worked long and hard to build the business to the best of her ability. After her passing a couple of years ago, he took over the business and is striving to make it successful the way she did. She was an inspiration to him to do his best to serve all the campers and also the citizens of the county who stop in for many of their needs.

If Moyers is fortunate enough to receive the voter's support and get elected to serve in this important position, he will do his very best to keep the best interest of the citizens at heart. He also believes that he would be able to work with the two other commissioners to do what is best for the majority of the people.

He can also tell everyone that his door will always be open, and his phone will always be available for anyone to voice their concerns to him. He will listen, observe and ultimately make the best decision that he can.

The commissioners have an important and very serious position when elected to this office. Many times it is often impossible to make everyone happy with a decision that is made, but a person can always rest assured that any decisions that he may make

will be in the best interest of the county and its citizens alike.

God Bless You and also Pendleton County.

## Magistrate Division 1



**Morgan Basagic**

Hello, Morgan Basagic is a candidate for magistrate in division 1. He has a strong sense of pride for the community he lives in as a resident of Pendleton County. He is proud to call Pendleton County his home.

He is the son of David Basagic of Franklin and the late Twila Burton of Maysville. He currently is the chief tax deputy in the Pendleton County Sheriff's office and has held that position for the past seven years. He lives in Deer Run with his wife, Jessica, and their two children, Bryce and Tinley. As a spouse and parent, he has invested in seeing the community grow, and he wishes to see the county prosper and move forward.

He brings a distinct viewpoint to the table because of his experience in the local community and sheriff's department. For the past 30 years, one may remember seeing him around the funeral business helping his father. Seeing the impact he could have during someone's time of need is humbling and has directed him to further his investment in the community. He has dedicated his summers to working at the Warner's Drive-In snack bar since 2016. It brings him great joy to pledge his commitment to keeping the historic Warner's Drive-In theater thriving as a local hub for visual and performing arts education and entertainment.

As he previously stated, he has served as the chief tax deputy in the Pendleton County sheriff's office for the past seven years, and his strong sense of judgement, honesty and knowledge will help him be an excellent magistrate.

Basagic promises to be a fair and unbiased magistrate, and he will evaluate each case on its own merits. His decisions will be supported by the testimony and information that he has been given, allowing him to make decisions that are compliant with West Virginia law. He firmly thinks that the Constitution should be upheld, and everyone should be treated equally and fairly.

He pledges to serve as one's magistrate with dignity, integrity, and respect for every Pendleton County resident if elected.

As a new magistrate, he promises to provide the required leadership, skill, and justice in the capacity of a new magistrate. He recognizes the significance of fairness and integrity. He is committed to improving mental health, increasing public safety, and streamlining the legal system so that everyone can use it more effectively. It would be his privilege to serve this community.



**Jeremy Bodkin**

Hello, everyone! Jeremy Bodkin is a candidate for Magistrate, Division I, in Pendleton County.

Some of the county's residents know him, and some do not, so he gives a brief background. Born and raised in Pendleton County, he grew up on the family farm in Upper Tract. He attended Franklin and Brandywine Elementary and graduated from Franklin High School. While in high school, he earned a basketball scholarship to attend West Virginia University. This opportunity took him away from Pendleton County, and in his many travels with basketball he learned a lot of life lessons. One of the lessons he learned is to never forget where one came from. Over the years, he has felt that Pendleton County is home, no matter where he is.

For 22 years, he sold ambulances in West Virginia, Pennsylvania and Maryland. That business was sold in 2020, and he has been selling insurance for the past four years. He has been coaching for the past seven years, the last three in Pendleton County. He has two children, Jordan and Dakota, and three grandchildren, Bentley, Sutton and Myleigh.

If elected magistrate, Bodkin will uphold the statutes of the State of West Virginia to the fullest. He will bring a fresh set of eyes to the magistrate office. He is hardworking, diligent, outgoing, humble, fair, and will bring those traits and more to this position. He was a high school basketball official for 19 years, which has its own set of rules and penalties. These rules and penalties, which are not as severe as those in life, are to be learned, enforced and penalized, at the moment it happens. He will use the same common sense and judgement that he learned during those 19 years.

His family has served this community for several decades — Annie Eye, librarian at the old library, Richard and Betty Hevener, business owner and bank teller for Pendleton Community Bank, Joe and Joan Bodkin Jr, county commission, deputy assessor and receptionist for her brother, Dr. Luke Eye, and Darrell and Elizabeth Bodkin, teacher, coach, and secretary for Dr. Mallow and extension office. These are some of my family members and their contributions to this community have been great. If elected, he looks forward to serving this great community, and vows to keep Pendleton County a safe place, along with, continuing his family's service.

Always in one's court!



**Reverend James Young**

A native born West Virginian, Reverend James Young has always committed himself to serving the public.

His understanding of being a West Virginian runs deep. He lost his grandfather (a coal miner) to black lung at

age 48.

His outreach services offer assistance to families in need. Since January 2024, the church gave away 59 UPS boxes of food (over 40 pounds each) and 36 boxes of new blankets, toiletries, clothing, and untold amounts of coats and winter wear for children and homeless shelters.

At age 12, Young started ministering and has ministered at most all denominations that are Christian and Holy Trinity oriented.

He is open minded, a good counselor, listens to others, and believes in fairness under the law. He worked with the military, agencies, corporations and politically established individuals, counseling, representing and aiding them throughout his career.

He aided the FBI in helping to reestablish security clearances for those involved in sting operations that included improperly assessed taxes on monies recovered from criminals while agents worked undercover for the FBI.

He started out working at the age of 12 to support himself, paying for his sporting activities and other school needs since his family could not afford to.

He was one of the only individuals allowed to represent a major corporation in Federal District Court to protect their constitutional rights and won.

He entered unelected radical Islamic countries with military backing that were under Martial Law, removing and arresting the illegal existing government, while helping to establish a legitimate backed western government through legal elections, leading to the first female president democratically elected in a West African Country.

He was guest speaker at the 13 Member States of the African National Union.

During his travels in West Africa, he uncovered and dismantled a child and female sexual slavery ring whose victims were sold to the highest bidder, encompassing hundreds of computers located in the upstairs of a mall.

He met with African Heads of State including Liberian vice president, The Honorable Moses LeBlah, in closed door meetings to help reestablish diplomatic ties between countries.

He was sponsor of the Humanitarian Clean Water Project to West Africa, using state of the art technology to purify with 99 percent accuracy, 10,000 gallons of water per day for less than \$1.

He has been host of Christian radio, broadcasting live in 47 countries and 186 cities.

## Magistrate Division 2



**Kevin Puffenberger**

Kevin Puffenberger is running for re-election for the office of magistrate (Division 2).

He is the son of the late Virgil and Betty Puffenberger.

Puffenberger resides in Upper Tract with his wife, Heather, and is the father of Kole and the late Kyle Puffenberger. He also has a 7-month-old grandson, Kason.

He is a 1988 graduate of Franklin High School and

attended Potomac State College. He was a volunteer football coach at Pendleton County Middle/High school for 15 seasons and had been involved in coaching youth sports since graduating high school.

Puffenberger had more than 13 years of experience in law enforcement, all with the Pendleton County Sheriff's Department. He began serving Pendleton County as a deputy sheriff in 2000 and graduated from the 109th Basic Class of the West Virginia State Police Academy. In 2008, he was elected as sheriff of Pendleton County and served four years in that capacity.

He is currently in his third term as Pendleton County Magistrate, having been elected to his first term in 2012 and then re-elected in 2016 and 2020. While serving as magistrate he has gained valuable experience presiding over cases dealing with criminal, traffic, juvenile, mental health and domestic related matters, as well as civil cases under \$10,000. He has also been temporarily assigned to preside over numerous cases in other magistrate courts within the 26th Judicial Circuit.

Puffenberger believes the experience and knowledge he has gained during his career will be very valuable in allowing him to continue to serve the citizens of Pendleton County as magistrate.

## Sheriff



**Bradley Kimble**

Bradley Kimble is honored to stand before the voters and introduce himself as a candidate for the position of sheriff. He grew up in Upper Tract and is the son of Carlos "Cod" and Dorothy Kimble. He graduated in 1998 from Franklin High School. He is the proud father of four girls and proud grandfather of a granddaughter.

He has six years of experience in law enforcement. The past two years, he has worked for the Pendleton County Sheriff's Department and has served as sheriff since December of 2023. Previously, he was employed by West Virginia Corrections for four years and before that Hinkle Trucking for 18 years.

Kimble has a deep commitment to the serving this community. He would love the opportunity to continue leading with integrity, compassion and dedication.

This community is the heartbeat of everything one holds dear, and as sheriff, his foremost commitment is to ensure safety, security and prosperity for all.

In the face of evolving challenges, he brings a vision of proactive and community-centered law enforcement. Together, a partnership will be forged that bridges the gap between law enforcement and the community, fostering trust, understanding and mutual respect.

His experience in law enforcement has taught him that effective policing goes beyond arrests. It's about transparency and accountability that will be the cornerstones of his administration. His administration will engage in open dialogue, listen to one's concerns and take decisive action to address

them. Every member of the community deserves to feel heard, valued and protected.

As sheriff, Kimble pledges to uphold the highest standards of integrity, professionalism and ethics. Together, let's build a safer, stronger and more united community for generations to come.

God bless this community.



**Josh Nesselrodt**

In Pendleton County, where family, faith, and community weave the fabric of daily life, Josh Nesselrodt emerges as a sheriff candidate who embodies these core values. Having been an integral part of this county for 15 years, he has shown a profound commitment to the principles that define the residents' way of life.

His campaign is not just about taking on the role of sheriff but about reimaging what it means to serve and protect Pendleton County. He envisions a sheriff's office that prioritizes community engagement, crime prevention, and a transparent, accountable approach to law enforcement. He believes in working together with residents to create a safe, supportive environment that honors the values of Pendleton County.

His platform emphasizes the importance of family, faith, and community — values that resonate deeply in Pendleton County. He understands that effective law enforcement must be rooted in trust and respect, and he is committed to building and maintaining strong relationships between the sheriff's office and the community.

In the heart of Pendleton County, where the roots of family, faith, and community run deep, he stands out not just as a candidate for sheriff but as a bearer of a legacy that spans over a century. While he has only lived in Pendleton for 15 years, his family's history in the county stretches back generations, imbuing his campaign with a profound sense of heritage and commitment.

Nesselrodt's connection to Pendleton County is deeply personal. Here, he has nurtured his family, embedding himself and his loved ones in the community's rich tapestry. His life in this county is a testament to the value he places on family, seeing it as the cornerstone of a strong and vibrant community. His dedication to his family reflects his dedication to Pendleton County, understanding that safeguarding the community means safeguarding a place where families can thrive. His actions and decisions are guided by a moral compass rooted in spiritual values, driving him to serve with integrity, compassion, and respect.

As the election approaches, Nesselrodt offers more than just a candidacy for sheriff; he offers a commitment to preserve the essence of Pendleton County. As sheriff, he would be a supporting leader who not only respects residents' values but lives them every day.

Embrace the opportunity to reinforce the values that make Pendleton County a special place to call home.

# Wildcats Avenge Season's Only Two Losses as They Post a Second Place Finish at Bub Riggleman Tournament to Complete Wild Week

By Stephen Smoot

Last week, Wildcat softball hit the meat of the season. Partly due to early season rescheduling, Pendleton County played nine games against seven different opponents in six days. The marathon series of contests saddled the team with their first three losses.

But the team avenged its initial two setbacks.

Monday, the Wildcats (as described elsewhere) powered their way through Pocahontas County, using five home runs to post 17 runs.

Tuesday: Pendleton County 12 Tucker County 3

Tucker County has roared like the Mountain Lions they are in most sports this year, but when they hosted Pendleton County in Parsons last week, they mewed like kittens. Baylee Beachler and Sarah Vincell each pitched three innings, holding Tucker County to six hits while striking out a total of seven.

Beachler opened action in the first, coming up with Jenna Smith on third, originally getting on base via a single to center. Beachler drove a home run to center to set the score at 2-0.

In the top of the second, Lizzie Alt doubled, followed by a Vincell walk and Nataley Hedrick entering as a courtesy runner. Ally Vance knocked a two ball and two strike pitch to short, scoring Alt.

In the next at bat with Julia Mongold at the plate, Hedrick and Vance executed a double steal, but Hedrick was caught later trying to steal home. Vance shortly after advanced to third and Mongold deftly collected a run batted in off a sacrifice bunt.

In the top of the third, Beachler led off reaching on an error, followed by a Jessica Parker walk. During the at bat, Beachler stole second and was lifted as a runner in favor of Jaiden Mitts, who promptly stole third. Kate Hedrick then followed, belting a double to center that scored both base runners. Later in the inning, Vance drove a shot over the wall in left, scoring herself, Alt, and Kate Hedrick.

Tucker County would score three runs to temporarily evade application of the mercy rule, but the Wildcats took the game in six innings, 12-3.

Petersburg 2 Pendleton County 1

Last Wednesday, the Wildcats traveled to Petersburg to face the team ranked second in the West Virginia Metro News coaches' poll.

The game featured an old fashioned pitchers' duel with Beachler hurling for Pendleton County.

Through five complete innings, both teams put runners on base, but timely pitching and defense prevented scores. The Wildcats struck first in the top of the sixth. With one out, Parker and Kate Hedrick hit back to back singles, followed by an Alt walk. Vance came up with the bases loaded and hit into a fielder's choice to score Parker.

Petersburg in the bottom of the seventh with one out gave their team life as they singled in a runner to tie the game. The



Pendleton County earned a second-place finish to Jefferson in the Bub Riggleman Tournament. Baylee Beachler, Avery Townsend, and Kate Hedrick earned all tournament. Beachler won the Most Valuable Player award.

game ended when Petersburg loaded the bases in the bottom of the eighth and a ground ball sent in the winning runner.

Pendleton County 14 Berkeley Springs 5  
On Friday, Pendleton County played Berkeley Springs in the first game of the Bub Riggleman Memorial Tournament in Moorefield.

The Indians played from behind from the start. Smith reached on an error, then scored on an error during an at bat where Avery Townsend drew a walk. Beachler then knocked in the base runner Townsend to set the score at 2-0.

An error allowed Jessica Parker to reach safely and she scored on the next at bat as Kate Hedrick drove a ball to right field for a double. Two batters later, Kate Hedrick went home on a Vincell single.

In the bottom of the second, after Pendleton County posted three more runs, Berkeley Springs answered with a four run explosion capped by a home run to left. With the score 8-4 in the bottom of the third, Beachler came up with Mitts, Smith, and Townsend on the bases . . . and drove all home with a shot over the left field wall.

Later in the inning with one out, Parker scored from second on a Kate Hedrick single. The final run came in the bottom of the fourth. Smith reached on an error and was lifted as a runner for Mongold. Mongold hustled to second, then third, on two steals, then scored when Townsend hit into a fielder's choice.

Phillip Barbour 3 Pendleton County 2

In the second game of the day, the Wildcats faced a strong Phillip Barbour team, as well as high winds and occasional spits of rain. Beachler took the mound.

In the duel between the pitchers, neither team could get their hitting going. Beachler continually fooled the Colts by switching pitch speeds while the Phillip Barbour pitcher used outstanding control and placement to keep Wildcat batters off balance.

Pendleton County scored first in the

contest. Townsend led the game off with a walk then later, with two outs, took home on a passed ball. The next score came in the top of the third. Once again, Townsend set the table by earning a walk. She then stole second during Beachler's at bat and scored on a single to center.

The bottom of the fourth proved fatal for the Wildcat cause, as they gave up three runs in the frame. Beachler struck out seven and only allowed two hits in the complete game effort.

Saturday opened up the tournament with the Wildcats knocking off Tucker County in the first game 13-5.

Pendleton County 16 Petersburg 8

The pitching duel from earlier in the week turned into a Pendleton County slugfest on Saturday. Townsend and Smith both earned walks to open the game, with a sharply hit ground ball by Beachler sending in the first run. Two batters later, a double by Kate Hedrick sent two runs in to give their team a 3-0 lead in the first.

The Vikings launched their own attack in the bottom of the inning as their hitters drove in five runs to take a 5-3 lead. Petersburg then set the Wildcats down in order in the top of the second and added a sixth run in the bottom of the frame.

Pendleton County answered in their half of the third. Beachler hit a one out triple, setting up Parker, whose double drove the runner in. Kate Hedrick's shot to short was mishandled, allowing another run in. Alt took a base on balls before Vance came up. After Hedrick advanced to third, Vance drove a sacrifice fly to right, bringing home the run and tying the game.

Vincell allowed a walk to open the third, then set the next three batters down. The top of the fourth saw Mongold earning a leadoff walk, followed by a Townsend single. Smith then reached, loading the bases for Beachler, who singled to left field, driving in two. Parker followed with a single that allowed Smith to score. Singles from

Alt and Vance pushed the lead to 12-6.

Later in the same inning, Vincell and Mongold reached safely, followed by a Townsend walk to load the bases. Smith then launched the ball into right field where a Petersburg error allowed three more Wildcat runs.

A Vance single drove in Parker for the final run and an impressive 16-8 victory.

Pendleton County 7 Phillip Barbour 3

These two squads played an exact rematch of the day before, right down to the same starting pitchers.

This time, however, the Wildcats won the war of attrition.

Just as in the first match up, the Wildcats scored first. With two outs, Beachler reached first safely, then stole second to get into scoring position. A Parker single drove Beachler home for the initial run.

Beachler got the Colts to go in order in the first, but gave up an inside the park home run in the next inning to tie the game. Pendleton County responded in the top of the third, starting with Mongold hitting a lead off single. A Smith triple sent Mongold home, then Smith scored herself on a fielder's choice to extend the lead to 3-1.

Phillip Barbour tied the game in the bottom of the next inning, but promptly gave up the lead. The top of the fourth saw Kate Hedrick lead off with a double. Alt came up next and hit a single to drive home the runner.

Later in the inning, after Vance was hit by a pitch and Mongold earned a walk, Townsend drove home a run after a hard hit to second. A Smith double scored two runs and set the final score at 7-3.

Beachler retired the next six batters in a row. The Colts got base runners in the next two innings, but none reached home.

Championship Game: Jefferson 15 Pendleton County 2

Jefferson came into the game ranked fourth in triple A by West Virginia Metro News. Pendleton County has approximately one fifth of the Cougars' student population.

The first two innings saw Jefferson take a 5-0 advantage, but then Vance settled in and blanked the Cougars for the next two innings.

In the bottom of the fifth, a Smith walk and a Beachler home run brought the Wildcats close, but Jefferson put the game away after that.

This was a week in which Pendleton County learned a lot about itself, especially coming back to beat two power teams to whom they had lost recently. Against Jefferson came weary Wildcats who never backed down, but simply hit a wall.

Head coach Eric Crites, after the loss to the Colts, spoke about his team needing to fine tune its execution in close games. A pitch here or a play there can mean the difference in winning and losing.

Three players brought home hardware as members of the all-tournament team. Hedrick and Townsend earned spots on the list. Beachler earned the Most Valuable Player award.

# Pendleton County Bomb Squad Unloads on Visiting Pocahontas County in Senior Night Win

By Stephen Smoot

The Warriors of Pocahontas County served as the latest opponent to get a taste of the potent Pendleton County pairing of power and pitching last week. On Monday night, when the Wildcats honored their seniors, they

quickly dispatched the visitors.

Pocahontas County opened the top of the first by seizing a 2-0 lead.

Jenna Smith, however, would answer immediately. She led off the bottom of the first by driving the first pitch to the wall in center field. The speedy Smith raced around the

bases for an inside the park home run to cut the Warrior lead in half.

Avery Townsend came up next and the first pitch hit her, putting her on base. She subsequently stole second. Baylee Beachler sacrificed to move Townsend to third. Jessica Parker lofted a high fly ball to deep center to send in Townsend and take a 3-2 lead.

Later in the inning, with two outs, Lizzie Alt poked a seeing eye single past third to earn a double and Sarah Vincell picked up a run batted in with a fly to left.

Vincell took control in the second. She got the first batter to line out to her, then struck out the next two batters on four pitches each.

In the bottom of the second, Julia Mongold set the table with a leadoff walk. She stole second during the next at bat. Townsend followed with a walk. With two runners on, Beachler on the first pitch swinging belted a line drive home run to center to set the score at 7-2.

Still in the second, and with one out, Parker hit a double to right field. Kate Hedrick followed with a single that sent the lead runner to third. Alt's sacrifice fly to center sent in Parker and scored the eighth run for the Wildcats. Vincell followed with an RBI single to left for the final run of the inning.

In the top of the third, Vincell continued to dominate the Warriors, showing deft command of a variety of pitches and setting down the batters in order.

Smith led off the bottom of the third by reaching second safely. Townsend followed by launching a shot past the right fielder to the wall. Smith scored, followed by Townsend as she hustled around the bases to help her team take an 11-2 advantage.

Next, Jaiden Mitts clubbed the ball to left and was safe on a stand up double. Madison Arbaugh then came up to bat and put the ball in play. Mitts scored and an error allowed Arbaugh to reach second. Hedrick drew a walk on a full count.

Alt came to the plate with runners on first and second. She took the first pitch over the wall into center field for a 15-2 lead.

In the top of the fourth, head coach Eric Crites put Smith in the game as pitcher to relieve the sharp Vincell. Smith hit the first batter, then gave up a bunt single. The next batter grounded to Hedrick who alertly threw the ball home to catcher Nataley Hedrick, getting the lead runner out and preventing the run.

Two batters later, with the bases loaded, the Warriors walked in a run. Smith, however, didn't flinch. She struck out the next batter and relied on her defense to close out the inning.

In the bottom of the fourth, Smith led off with a double. Later, with two outs, Arbaugh smacked a single to left. After a series of errors, Smith scored and Arbaugh moved to third. Kate Hedrick then knocked Arbaugh home on a single to center.

In the final frame, Smith put two runners on, but Nataley Hedrick fired a throw to catch a runner stealing for the first out. The Warriors picked up two runs in the inning, but once again, Smith pitched her way out of trouble.

Five players hit home runs for the Wildcats. Townsend, Beachler, Smith, Alt, and Parker. Vincell was perfect in her two and a third innings, striking out six, but allowing no hits or bases on balls.

## April Is National Donate Life Month

**Know the Facts:**

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# Wildcats Take on Strong Competition in McDonalds Invitational

By Stephen Smoot

Last week, after the Moorefield victory, the Wildcats took on a tough slate of opponents, first in Randolph County, then in the McDonalds Invitational, played in Harrison, Marion, and Monongalia counties.

First, the team struggled on the road against a Tygart Valley squad that featured a pitcher who threw in the 80s. Then extreme weather forced the cancellation of planned tournament games on Friday.

Pendleton County players enjoyed a treat that night as they watched West Virginia University rally to score three in the final inning to upend Big 12 Conference rival, the University of Central Florida 7-6.

In their first game on Saturday, the Wildcats faced a powerful Fairmont Senior squad. They brought an eight and one record into the contest with big wins over conference foes. The Polar Bears took a 12-1 victory from the Wildcats.

Head coach Sam Yokum acknowledged the strength of Fairmont Senior, but said, "We didn't play real well." Polar Bear pitching adjustments helped to tame the Wildcats. Yokum explained that "we hit pretty well in the first two innings. Then he started throwing some off speed stuff. We weren't very patient at the plate."

Their speed on the base paths also proved challenging. Assistant coach Joe Vincell said that the Wildcats played a "pretty well-contested game" for the first four innings, only falling behind three to one. Chase Owens had been keeping the Polar Bears within reach, but had to be subbed out. Fairmont Senior pitching, however, was dominant.

Pendleton County closed out on a high note on the day, defeating double A Berkeley Springs 9-3. The Wildcats scored two in the third, and three in the fifth before the Indians responded with a two run fifth.

Yokum shared that "we started with a lot of fly ball outs." He added that "we helped them early," but "then had a little more patience" at the plate. Vincell added that

"we started off really slow offensively," due to the opposing pitcher's reliance on breaking pitches.

The key for the Wildcats came in the top of the fifth, once the hitters became accustomed to a style of pitching they do not often see. The top of the order came up. Allden Rexrode hit a single, then Owens a double, followed by singles from James Vincell and Cashton Kisamore

James Vincell started the game, but showed arm fatigue so the team turned to Rexrode. "Allden needed to be able to come in and throw strikes. And he did," Yokum said. Vincell pitched three shutout innings while Rexrode performed well the rest of the way.

The team learned from adversity. Assistant coach Vincell explained that the pitchers faced over the week "were not throwing 70 mile per hour batting practice pitches." The Wildcats learned how to take a better approach to higher velocity, breaking, and also off-speed pitches.

"We took some strides. I saw the kids adjust," Joe Vincell shared.

## Musselman Powers Through Pendleton County in Franklin

By Stephen Smoot

After earning a win against Petersburg and dropping a loss to regional power Keyser in the Legends Tournament, the Wildcats faced another tough test. The Musselman Applemen, a school with more than 1,700 students, traveled to Franklin to tangle with the home team.

The game took place under sunny skies and warm temperatures, a welcome reprieve after games played in 30s and 40s with stiff winds. Prior to the game, the Pendleton County players each shook the hand of coach Rick Wagoner, a continuation of the respectful tribute he received during the Legends Tournament.

Musselman faced James Vincell on the mound in the first inning. They singled off of him in the first at bat to right field, then dealt a walk. The runner made it to third base on a steal, then an error. He scored on a sacrifice fly.

Vincell then shut down scoring in the first by getting a fly ball out, followed by a ground out to second.

Pendleton County responded quickly. Chase Owens drew a one out walk on five pitches. Vincell followed, falling behind on a one ball and two strike count. He fouled two off to get a bead on the pitch, then launched a rocket to deep right field to put the Wildcats up 2-1.

Musselman did not stay down long. In the top of the second, the Applemen drew a leadoff walk, then the next batter belted a homerun to left field to give them a 3-2 lead.

Later in the inning, with the bases loaded and two outs, the Applemen hit a full count pitch to the wall in left field, sending three runs in and giving the visitors a 6-2 lead.

Musselman brought a six and five record into the game with wins racked up against good Eastern Panhandle competition. Wins against Hedgesville and Berkeley Springs showed their offensive prowess.

Pendleton County responded in the bottom of the inning. Caleb Armentrout drew a one out walk on five pitches. Then Dusty Smith executed a sacrifice bunt to push

Armentrout into scoring position. Josiah Kimble rewarded the team's good execution of "small ball" style offense by putting the ball in play, reaching first safely, and seeing Armentrout score the third run of the game for the Wildcats.

In the top of the third, head coach Sam Yokum brought left handed pitcher Cole Harper in to take the mound. Harper battled the first batter, getting behind three balls and one strike before rallying and racking up a strikeout. Later in the inning, with two outs on the board, Harper dove for a sharply hit ground ball, snagged it, took the time to compose himself, and tossed out the runner at first.

Musselman got the first batter on via a single to right field in the top of the fourth. The runner stole second and reached third on a sacrifice fly. With one out, the next Appelman batter hit a shot to center to drive in the seventh run. Harper and the defense, however, shut down Musselman and closed out the inning with limited damage.

Over the rest of the game, Pendleton County focused on getting pitchers experience as Musselman's hurlers halted Wildcat scoring. Allden Rexrode appeared for Pendleton County in the top of the fifth. The Applemen added a run, then loaded the bases with two outs. Rexrode threw ball one, but then placed three straight strikes to close the inning.

With the game only theoretically in reach by the top of the sixth, the Wildcats brought in Will Smith, another left handed pitcher. He earned the first out by getting the batter to hit into a ground ball out. After he earned two outs, Kimble came in with the bases loaded to get the final out.

Down 13 to three, the Wildcats tried to put more runs on the board. Dillon Smith led off and outran the throw to first. Tucker Smith followed as a pinch hitter. A throwing error during his at bat moved Smith to second. Armentrout sacrificed to move the runner to third. Dusty Smith drew a walk, but Musselman shut down the inning and the game by getting the final batter to fly out.

## Wildcats Pull Away to Defeat Yellow Jackets 8-3

By Stephen Smoot

Moorefield has spent the 2024 season looking to establish consistency from one game to the next. Their squad boasts of offensive explosions over Notre Dame, whom they beat 24-2, and Berkeley Springs, who fell to the Yellow Jackets by 14 runs.

The Yellow Jackets also fell to Strasburg 10-0 and lost to cross-county rival East Hardy 9-3.

Pendleton County cruised through the early weeks of the season and has had to step up lately as they have faced improved competition. Moorefield always provides the Wildcats with a good indicator of where they stand in any given sport and in any given season.

The Wildcats faced them before traveling to the Interstate 79 corridor to face powerhouse competition in the McDonald's Invitational.

Pendleton County went to bat in the top of the first. Allden Rexrode earned a leadoff walk and James Vincell legged out an error, but Moorefield shut down the threat. Chase Owens took the mound for the Wildcats and set down the Yellow Jackets in order to complete a scoreless first inning.

The top of the second saw the first Wildcat score. Caleb Armentrout drew a one out walk, followed by a well-executed Dillon Smith sacrifice bunt to move the initial runner into scoring position. Josiah Kimble then drew a free pass.

With Kimble on first and Armentrout on second, a wild pitch put the lead runner on third. This set up Rexrode, who put the ball in play to third. An error let him reach first safely while Armentrout scored the Wildcats' first run.

Yellow Jacket batters tried to answer in the bottom of the second. With one out, they hit a line drive single to center. The next batter accomplished the exact same play, putting runners on first and second. Owens then walked the next hitter on four pitches to load the bases, but struck out the final two batters to end the threat.

In the bottom of the third, however, Moorefield knotted the game at one run a piece. With two outs and runners at the corners, the Yellow Jacket lead runner scored on a fielder's

choice to ensure the score.

Pendleton County opened the game up in the top of the fourth. With two outs and Kimble on first, courtesy of a single hit to left field, Owens hit him to third on an error. Vincell came to the plate and hit the ball past third, helping Kimble to score and putting Owens on third.

The Wildcat run continued with Cashton Kisamore taking his base after being hit by a pitch. This allowed Smith to come to the plate with bases loaded. He took advantage, driving the ball to left field, scoring Vincell and Owens and leaving runners at second and third. Next, Cole Harper came up and drew a walk. A wild pitch during his at bat secured the fifth run by giving Kisamore an opportunity to sprint home.

In the bottom of the fourth, Owens kept the door shut on the Yellow Jackets, setting them down in order. Pendleton County remained mostly quiet in the top of the fifth.

The bottom of the fifth saw Moorefield cut into the Wildcat lead. With two outs and a runner on third, a Yellow Jacket batter tripled to center to set the score at 5-3. Pendleton County answered in the next half inning. Owens led off with a triple to right, followed by a Vincell walk. Later in the inning, Smith reached on an error as Owens crossed the plate.

Yellow Jacket hitters had no answer for Owens in the bottom of the sixth. He used his defense effectively to keep Moorefield off the base paths. Then in the top of the seventh, Pendleton County loaded the bases with one out for Vincell. He drew a walk to bring home a run.

A subsequent walk issued to Kisamore scored the final run and set the game score at 8-3. Owens then had his last one-two-three inning to end the contest.

Owens scattered three hits and two walks through his seventh inning complete game, also striking out eight. He helped his own cause by going two for four with a triple and also drawing a walk.

Vincell, Kisamore, Smith, and Kimble each collected one hit, but patience at the plate was the order of the day for Pendleton County. Rexrode earned three walks, Vincell two, and Owens, Kisamore, Harper, Armentrout, and Kimble each received one.

## Town of Franklin

Continued From Page 1

sale for approximately \$8,700 that would require a trailer for transport that would cost about \$6,800.

She proposed a 50/50 split to pay for the cost of the stage and trailer, but also offered to raise money to cover the costs, either through fundraisers or renting the stage.

Frank Wehrle, town administrator, explained that the proceeds would be split 60/40 in favor of the chamber because that organization would shoulder the marketing, billing, and administrative aspects of ownership. "That will all be for the chamber," he explained. Furthermore, the revenue for the town would go to boost the revenues of the parks and recreation department.

Kristen Dingess, town council member, stated that "if Elizabeth's fundraisers do as well as normal, it will be paid for soon."

Additionally, a citizen who came to observe the meeting offered to have his business pay for the trailer and donate it back to the town and chamber. The newspaper will not identify him at this time because he must check to make sure that the purchase and donation would follow business ethics and protocols.

The town council unanimously approved the partnership.

Scott also explained that anyone can rent the stage, provided they have an insurance policy that would cover liability. Renters would also have to sign a legal contract promising to pay for repairs of any damage caused in their possession.

Next, the council opened a discussion on how to spend Franklin's share of the statewide opioid settlement engineered by West Virginia Attorney General Patrick Morrissey. The town received \$972.94.

Wehrle explained that the fund "must serve a purpose" approved by the state. He also said that the amount of money, while not insignificant, is too little to start any serious new programs. He said, "We have to spend the money by the end of the fiscal year."

Though several possibilities came up, the council tabled the discussion until more research could take place on how best to use the funds.

Finally, the council passed the annual Fair Housing Resolution that keeps Franklin eligible to participate in bonds and most grants.

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# Cleo Linwood Smith Simmons Celebrates 100TH Birthday

April 11, 1924 –

This Story Is For You Aunt Cleo

To live a hundred years is hard to imagine but this special lady has done just that. We don't know what the weather was like on April 11, 1924. We know no one older to ask, but we will think spring. On this day Gordon and Lula Smith welcomed baby girl number four and she would begin a journey spanning 100 years thus far. Cleo has outlived 11 of her siblings and has one sister still living, Wanda Pitsenbarger, who was the last of the 12 to be born.

Cleo has lived longer than her great-grandparents (William Smith, age 61, and Mary Ann Smith, age 56), her grandparents (Martin Smith, age 95, and Maggie Smith, age 82), her parents Gordon and Lula Smith, and 11 siblings. That's a time span of 199 years with William's birth in 1825 until today, April 2024. That is a lot of Smiths! Two of Cleo's family members made it close to 100, both living to age 95, grandfather Martin and sister, Sheba.

Cleo married the love of her life, Vernon Simmons, in June 1946, and together they worked raising their children and making a loving and successful home. This partnership continued every day for over 76 years, an accomplishment in itself. She never worked a day on a public job but was happy to be home taking care of her children, seeing to her garden, and babysitting for family and friends.

Age, along with health concerns, has slowed this once active lady down but she

is still blessed with a clear mind. Things that happened in her early life if they were part of her family's life are right there. If you ask Cleo a question dealing with family history or her life, you will get an answer 99 percent of the time. She loves to share.

Cleo was honored and celebrated by family and friends on April 6 in the fellowship hall of her home church, the Staunton Church of the Brethren. The reception was hosted by her son, Larry (Debi), and daughter, Jenna, along with her daughter-in-law, Phyllis, her four grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren. Also attending were 11 nieces, eight nephews along with extended families, and two sisters-in-law. Several of her friends and church family members were also in attendance.

Larry addressed the crowd and spoke very eloquently of his mother's early life in Stony Run. He talked of the hardships and struggles the family had after her mother died the day after Cleo turned 13. He spoke about how the three oldest girls became the mother figure for the other nine and about how they helped their dad keep his family together. Larry said that his mom carried the things she had learned from her parents into her life with Vernon and their family.

There are probably few, if any, that celebrated with Cleo will ever see a 100th birthday. I have been very blessed to have this special lady in my life since day one. I am so proud to call you Aunt Cleo—you are a very special person.

Your niece,  
Violet R. Eye



Shriners education outreach specialist, Debbie Harrell, provided information to first responders and medical professionals on how to treat a burn injury. Pictured are, from left, Jack Hedrick, Arlie Ashby, Harrell, David Blazak and Eugenia Blazak.

## Shriners Strive To Help Educate First Responders How To Help Burn Patients

By: Erin Camp  
The Grant County Press

Approximately 25 first responders and medical professionals from all over the county came together last month to receive additional training on how to respond when a patient is injured by a burn.

Debbie Harrell, an education outreach specialist with the Shriners Children Ohio Hospital, traveled to Grant County to provide current, evidence-based, best practice in stabilization of a burn injury.

Harrell explained that burns are difficult to handle, especially in children. "You don't see large burns very often, but when you do it is a very serious emergency," Harrell said. "I have done surveys for multiple years and most people haven't received updated burn information in over 10 years. So, as medicine changes if you haven't received education in the past 10 years, you may not know the best practices."

Harrell explained that the information given to participants allows them to remain medically informed on handling serious burn incidents. She also explained that children are at a greatly increased risk of scalds.

"A good example of this, is that you should never use ice on a burn," Harrell said. "Most people at home or some first responders, would think that they can use ice as a burn treatment in the

moment. However, what actually happens is the patient's temperature can drop too low and that will greatly affect their outcome, including mortality. If you don't know to keep them warm and dry at the scene, if you use cold water or ice and they are dropped off at the hospital, that responder will have not known that it caused a complication."

Harrell encouraged anyone interested in learning more about Shriners Hospital's pediatric burn care unit, to contact 855-236-9944 or to visit [www.shrinerschildrens.org/en/pediatric-care/burn-care](http://www.shrinerschildrens.org/en/pediatric-care/burn-care).

"At Shriners Hospital, we are a pediatric hospital, so we take new patients up to the age of 18. And one of the biggest benefits of Shriners is that it comes at no financial impact to the family. It's all taken care of for them," Harrell said. "We also provide wrap-around care, which means we take care of a patient until they don't need our services anymore. We also provide transportation support, usually from the really great people who already live in the community and are Shriners."

For information on Shriners, patient care or to get involved or support their local efforts, contact Arlie Ashby at 304-257-7506 or the Osiris Shrine in Wheeling at 304-242-2911.

A second educational event about treating and stabilizing a burn will be held in May at Grant Memorial Hospital in Petersburg.

## Mitchell Competes in American Farm Bureau Event

Cody Mitchell of Upper Tract recently traveled to Omaha, Nebraska, to represent West Virginia in the American Farm Bureau Collegiate Discussion Meet Competition.

Throughout the discussions, he was able to sit down with several other competitors from across the country to thoroughly analyze and find solutions to many pressing issues impacting American agriculture today. Though he didn't advance, Mitchell says that he is thankful not only for all that he was able to learn throughout this experience, but also for the amazing people he was able to work and connect with along the way.

While there, he was also able to take in other sights as well, such as the Lauritzen Gardens and the Joslyn Castle. This was definitely a memorable event for him, and he is excited to see what else he will be able to do through the farm bureau in the future.

Mitchell is a member of the Pendleton County Farm Bureau.



Cody Mitchell

## Registration Is Open for State Junior Conservation Camp

The West Virginia state Junior Conservation Camp has lowered its age requirements to allow 10-year-olds to register for the five-day, overnight camp at Cedar Lakes in Ripley.

Sponsored by the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection's Youth Environmental Program, this year's camp is set for June 17-21 and is open to youth ages 10 - 14.

Until this year, campers had to be at least 11. There is a cost for the camp, but scholarships, which cover the entire cost, are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

The deadline to register for the camp is May 1.

A day at camp includes classes on topics such as recycling, forestry, hunter safety, wildlife, water study and much more. Other activities include archery, canoeing, swimming, hiking and various sports. Instruction is provided by professionals from the WVDEP, West Virginia Division of Natural Resources, West Virginia Division of Forestry, West Virginia University Extension and other volunteers.

For scholarship information or to obtain a camp registration form, contact Annette Hoskins, camp director, at 304-414-9759, or email [Annette.L.Hoskins@wv.gov](mailto:Annette.L.Hoskins@wv.gov). Registration forms also are available by going to the WVDEP website and typing "Junior Conservation Camp" into the search bar.

## NFES Announces Honor Rolls, Attendance Records

North Fork Elementary School has released the following honor rolls and attendance records for the third nine-weeks grading period.

### A Honor Roll

First grade — Nathalie Carroll, Oakley Dahmer, Gaige Eye, Benson Harper, Ellie Huffman, Blake Long, Mason Simmons and Delaney Thompson;

Second grade — Oliver Cook, Jace Ours, Vera Selmon and Hannah Sponaule;

Third grade — Andelyn Vance, CJ Carroll, Darek Greathouse and Haley Warner;

Fourth grade — Declan Shane;

Fifth grade — Skye Dahmer; and

Sixth grade — Kinley Bennett, Alayna Huffman and Kathryn Raines.

### A/B Honor Roll

First grade — Makenna Bell, Lyndi Clements, Easton Johnson, Ashton Kimble, Israel Martin and Hurricane Thompson;

Second grade — Karlee Arbaugh, Jayson Jameson and Kinsley Shane;

Third grade — Noah J Nededog, Brooklyn Vint and Taylor Arbaugh;

Fourth grade — Emilee Morris-Hedrick;

Fifth grade — Jakob Dove, Tori Heavner, Addy Huffman, Ally Jameson, Callen Kisamore, Nolin Nededog and Elaina Raines; and

Sixth grade — Miley Kimble, Ava Sherman, Jacob Thompson and Azalea Waddell.

### Perfect Attendance

First grade — Makenna Bell, Benson Harper and Mason Simmons;

Third grade — Andelyn Vance;

Fourth grade — Dakota Vandevander and Tommy Waybright;

Fifth grade — Elaina Raines; and

Sixth grade — Alayna Huffman and Kathryn Raines.

Faithful Attendance Kindergarten — Wayl-

onn Bell, Cambrie Ours, Jayden Swain, Gracie Thompson, Jason Thompson and Timber Tingler;

First grade — Oakley Dahmer, Gaige Eye, Ellie Huffman, Nicholas Jameson, Ashton Kimble, Allison Nelson, Delaney Thompson and Hurricane Thompson;

Second grade — Karlee Arbaugh, Jayson Jameson, Leland Dove, Kaden Kimble, Vera Selmon, Hannah Sponaule, Layla Warner and Gavin Hedrick;

Third grade — Haley Warner;

Fourth grade — Levi Arbaugh, Aaliyah Martin, Declan Shane, Kimberly Sponaule, Keaton Swick and Allison Warner;

Fifth grade — Jakob Dove, Nick Harper, Tori Heavner, Chelsea Hedrick, Addy Huffman and Ally Jameson; and

Sixth grade — Kyley Hedrick, Miley Kimble and Aubree Simmons.

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**EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY: Eastern WV Community & Technical College**—Accounting/Fiscal Coordinator – Regular Full-time; Benefit eligible. This position performs essential accounting functions with limited supervision in order to prepare financial reports for the college according to GASB regulations. Bachelor's degree in Accounting (or Minor in Accounting) preferred. At least two (2) years accounting experience required. \$38,000 – \$52,000, commensurate with experience and education. For more info, visit https://easternwv.edu/employment-opportunities/ or email jaenna@snyder@easternwv.edu. 4-18-2c

### WANTED

**WANTING TO BUY** more mushrooms. 304-668-5334. 1p

**HUNTING LAND** to lease for deer hunting, small group of experienced and respectful hunters from the Dayton, Virginia, area. 540-830-2812. 3-14-12c

\* **PAINTING** \* 34 years experience: Houses, Barns, Roofs, Churches, Outbuildings, Poultry House Roofs, Log Homes, etc. and Pressure Washing, Interior Painting. Call Ronnie Kimble, 358-7208 WV03545. 2/22x10/17c

### CLOSING NOTICES

**F A I T H F U L FRIENDS Animal Clinic** will be closed Saturday, April 27. Greg Bowers, Sarah Bowers, DVM. 4-18-2c

### LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT

#### PUBLIC NOTICE

A public testing & inspection of the electronic voting systems, i.e., the vote marking devices and tabulating equipment, for the Primary Election to be held on May 14, 2024, will be performed by the Clerk of the Pendleton County Commission on April 25th, 2024 beginning at 10:00 A.M. at the Pendleton County Courthouse. 1c

#### Public Notice

Please take notice that the Pendleton County Board of Health, during the March 14, 2024, Board of Health Meeting, approved a revision to the Fees for Permit Schedule to be effective July 1, 2024, contingent upon West Virginia Legislative Rule 64CSR30 being repealed. The fees are to be used for the purpose of conducting the public health programs for which the fees are collected, and no portion of these fees will be used for any purpose outside the authority of the Pendleton County Board of Health. There will be a thirty (30) day comment period beginning April 11, 2024, and ending May 10, 2024. Copies of the regulation can be obtained at the Pendleton County Health Department, 273 Mill Road, Franklin, WV, during regular business hours Monday through Friday 8:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. Any person who wishes to make verbal comments may contact Amber Herdick, Administrator, to be included on the Board of Health meeting agenda for May 16, 2024, at 5:00 p.m. THIS NOTICE IS REQUIRED BY LAW TO BE IN THE FORM OF LEGAL NOTICE. 4-11-4c

### NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

Notice is hereby given that by virtue of the authority under that certain deed of trust executed by William E. Wright and Tiffany B. Shirk, to Jeffrey S. Bowers and J. Stuart Bowers, II, Trustees dated March 27, 2013, and recorded in the office of the Clerk of the County Commission of Pendleton County, West Virginia, in Trust Deed Book 140, at page 586, by which was conveyed to said Trustee(s) the hereinafter described real estate to secure the payment of a certain promissory note set out and described therein, and default having been made in the payment of said note, the undersigned Substitute Trustee(s) having been appointed Substitute Trustee by an Appointment of Substitute Trustee dated June 13, 2023, and having been requested in writing by the holder of said note, will sell to the highest and best bidder on April 25, 2024 at 1:00 p.m., at the front door of the courthouse of Pendleton County, West Virginia, the real estate conveyed by said deed of trust and situate in Franklin District, Pendleton County, West Virginia, together with easements, improvements and appurtenances thereunto belonging, and at the time of the signing of the Deed of Trust it was reported that the address was 16 Vealey Cir., Franklin, WV 26807 and being more particularly bounded and described therein as follows:

All that certain tract, lot or parcel of land and premises situate, lying and being in the Franklin District, Pendleton County, West Virginia and being more particularly described as follows:

Beginning at a 5/8" rebar set in the line of a parcel owned by Eastern Allegheny Council for Human Services, Inc. (Tax Map 28A, Parcel 38, Deed Book 149, Page 157) and being South 41° 25' 00" East 110.04 feet from a 5/8" rebar set, corner to said parcel; thence with said line South 41° 25' 00" East 72.77 feet to a 5/8" rebar set; thence with a new division line through the lands of Almost Heaven Habitat for Humanity (Tax Map 28A, Parcel 36, Deed Book 190, Page 383) South 48° 50' 39" West 107.33 feet to a 5/8" rebar set on the northern right-of-way limits of Vealey Circle (thirty foot right-of-way); thence with said limits North 42° 56' 39" West 65.06 feet to a 5/8" rebar set; corner to another parcel owned by Almost Heaven Habitat for Humanity (Tax Map 28A, Parcel 35, Deed

Book 191, Page 35); thence with a line of said parcel North 44° 47' 00" East 109.30 feet to the beginning, containing 0.171 acres, more or less.

Reserving to other for the right of ingress and egress is an easement over a fifteen foot common driveway and an eleven foot common driveway.

The above described parcel and easements are shown on a plat dated January 10, 2013.

Being a part of the lands described in a conveyance by Craig E. Thompson to Almost Heaven Habitat for Humanity, Inc. by deed dated May 14, 2012 and recorded in the office of the Clerk of Pendleton County, West Virginia in

Deed Book 190, at page 383.

This sale is made subject to any special assessments, unpaid taxes, easements and restrictions affecting the aforesaid real estate.

The property will be conveyed in an "AS IS" condition by Deed containing no warranty, express or implied, subject to all property taxes, prior Deeds, liens, reservations, encumbrances, restrictions, rights of ways, easements, covenants, conveyances and conditions of record in the Clerk's office or affecting the subject property.

Pursuant to the terms of said deed of trust, the Substitute Trustee(s) may postpone the sale by public announcement at the time and place designated for the sale. The West Virginia Housing Development Fund or its designee may purchase the property at

any sale.

The Substitute Trustees shall be under no duty to cause any existing tenant or person occupying the property to vacate said property, and any personal property and/or belongings remaining at the property after the foreclosure sale will be deemed to constitute ABANDONED PROPERTY AND WILL BE DISPOSED OF ACCORDINGLY.

**TERMS OF SALE:** Ten percent (10%) of the purchase price as a deposit with the balance due and payable within 30 days of the day of the sale. **DATED** this 7th day of March, 2024.

Pill & Pill, PLLC, Substitute Trustee

BY: Richard A. Pill, Member 304-263-4971  
foreclosures@pillwvlaw.com 4-11-2p

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**Office Data Entry Clerk**

Part Time: Not over 1,030 hours per year.  
Work Days are flexible except for July, August, September which will be 5 days each week.

Primary duties will consist of helping with entering documents such as deed transfers, farm applications and reappraisal data in the IAS system, along with waiting on customers, taking personal property assessments and farm applications, collecting Dog Tax fees, answering phone and taking messages.

Applicant must have basic computer skills, able to operate office equipment, have a positive attitude, well organized, trustworthy, and have a great personality to work with the public.

Starting hourly wage will be depending on experience. No benefits offered for this position.

The successful applicant is hired as an "at will" employee.

**Application deadline for position is May 3, 2024.**

Applications available at the Assessor's Office located in Pendleton Courthouse or by emailing Sandie Smith at ssmith3@wvassessor.com. Questions call 304-358-2563 ask for Sandie or Kim.

Equal Employment Opportunity

## Spring Word Search

D	G	S	M	F	S	Z	W	O	O	R	E	V	O	S	S	A	P	B	N
E	L	N	U	G	S	R	O	O	D	T	U	O	C	E	Y	O	H	I	O
B	L	E	I	M	N	S	V	T	L	L	U	M	M	B	W	Y	S	M	S
U	C	O	I	K	B	I	E	B	S	U	N	S	H	I	N	E	R	B	A
D	N	V	P	F	I	R	R	I	U	F	T	R	A	V	E	L	E	U	E
G	S	H	M	D	D	H	E	P	G	L	K	L	L	D	B	D	W	T	S
R	A	I	N	Y	A	D	T	L	S	R	B	C	Z	I	V	P	O	T	S
S	U	C	O	R	C	T	M	A	L	R	E	S	O	L	O	E	H	E	L
Z	R	E	B	I	R	T	H	I	P	A	N	L	L	L	R	S	S	R	A
O	R	G	A	N	I	Z	A	T	I	O	N	N	L	U	A	Z	F	F	M
L	L	A	B	E	S	A	B	W	M	R	C	V	T	A	S	M	E	L	I
T	H	G	I	L	Y	A	D	Y	O	I	D	A	W	G	P	U	S	I	N
S	T	C	E	S	N	I	Y	B	Z	R	R	T	A	A	C	R	M	E	A
F	L	K	F	F	Z	N	L	K	A	E	M	A	M	R	L	S	P	S	R
H	L	N	E	L	L	O	P	Y	P	L	E	S	B	D	E	O	O	W	R
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I	A	M	W	M	B	C	E	S	G	N	S	N	B	N	N	U	C	K	T
V	H	H	I	E	A	T	Y	N	V	R	O	B	R	I	I	W	P	N	S
P	P	N	C	B	R	N	F	Y	N	E	U	Z	I	N	N	V	L	N	A
E	G	F	H	L	D	S	G	E	S	V	M	C	I	G	G	A	I	M	E

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

- ALLERGIES
- ANIMALS
- BACKYARD
- BASEBALL
- BLOOMING
- BREEZY
- BUD
- BULBS
- BUTTERFLIES
- CLEANING
- CROCUS
- DAYLIGHT
- EASTER
- FIELD
- FLOWERS
- GARDENING
- HIKING
- INSECTS
- ORGANIZATION
- OUTDOORS
- PASSOVER
- POLLEN
- RAIN
- REBIRTH
- SEASON
- SHOWERS
- SOIL
- SPRING
- SUNSHINE
- TADPOLE
- TEMPERATURE
- TRAVEL
- UMBRELLA
- VERNAL
- WORMS

# Vandals Strike County Courthouse And Sidewalk



A person or persons unknown left this cryptic message on the courthouse ramp and the Main Street sidewalk in front of the building.

# Circleville High School Alumni Celebrate 71 Years

The 71st annual alumni banquet of Circleville High School, now the Historic Circleville High School, was held March 30 in the school's beautifully decorated auditorium. A color scheme of green and white, the colors of the Circleville Indians, was carried out. Ninety-five attendees were present for the occasion.

A beautiful memorial tribute was given for Dot Nelson Bennett, who had departed this life since last year's banquet. Her class of 1954 was instrumental in organizing the first banquet, and she had been heavily involved in its success throughout the years.

Another highlight of the evening was the recognition and celebration of another special alumni, a member of the class of 1945. Jessie (Warner) Sponaugle was present to accept accolades on being the most senior member present. She is approaching the young age of 100 years. She was crowned queen of the Circleville High School Alumni Banquet 2024.

Idelta (Sponaugle) Lambert, a second member of the class of 1945 was also recognized. A bit younger than Sponaugle, she is only 98 years young. Both ladies were presented a spray of fresh-cut flowers.



Frances (Warner) Morgan, class of 1960, proudly places a tiara on her aunt, Jessie (Warner) Sponaugle. Also pictured are Sponaugle's daughter and son-in-law, Patty and Irvin Daniels.

# North Fork 4-H'ers Hide Easter Eggs



On March 30, the North Fork 4-H Club, in partnership with Pendleton County Strive to Thrive Family Support Center, hosted a community Easter egg hunt at the North Fork Elementary School in Circleville. The 4-H club members stuffed and hid around 2,000 eggs. Members participating were, from left, front row, Brynleigh Ruddle and Tori Heavner; and back row, Callie Judy, Abby Judy, Aubriana Holloway and Jasper Nelson.

## MENU

### Pendleton Senior & Family Services

**FRIDAY, APRIL 19  
SPONSORED MEAL**

Spaghetti/Meatsauce  
Tossed Salad  
Garlic Bread  
Peaches

**MONDAY, APRIL 22**  
Turkey & Dressing Supreme  
Corn, Peas/Carrots  
Apple

**TUESDAY, APRIL 23**  
Pork BBQ  
Baked Beans, Slaw  
Pears

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24**  
Meatballs  
Cheesy Potatoes  
Collard Greens  
Jello/Fruit

**THURSDAY, APRIL 25**  
**EVENING MEAL  
AT 5 P.M.**

Open Faced Turkey  
Mashed Potatoes  
Green Beans  
Peach Cobbler/Ice Cream

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.

# MARTIN'S NATIVE LUMBER

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Gene Boggs, Associate Broker 304-358-7982  
Kathy Sponaugle 304-668-3283 Angie Nelson 304-358-2524

**NEW LISTING - UPPER TRACT** - Old country home w/original oak paneling on .48 ac, 2 garages, 2 outbuildings, city water, central heat/air, generac generator, 3 BD, 2 BA. **\$225,000. Call Gene Boggs.**

**HARMAN** - 57 acres +/- . Open fields/woodland. **Under Contract**

**NEW LISTING - CHERRY STREET, FRANKLIN** **SOLD**

**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.**

**FRANKLIN** - 4 BR/2 BA rancher on 1.5 ac. **\$299,900. Call Angie Nelson.**

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The Pendleton Times**

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garrysimmons38@yahoo.com

**SUGAR GROVE**, 30.88 acres, mostly cleared, gently rolling, small stream, paved road, **SOLD** and workshop. **\$189,000.**

**DRY RUN ROAD**, 49.16 acres, mostly cleared, old farm house, good condition log outbuilding, spring and stream. **\$249,000.**

**UPPER TRACT**, 16 acres, mostly cleared, **Under Contract** bin, secluded, no water or electric. **\$98,000.**

**CIRCLEVILLE AREA**, 66.05 acres +/-, approximately 12 acres pasture, 51 acres woods, **Under Contract** easy access, stream and dug well, old homestead. **\$249,000 REDUCED \$229,000.**

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**USED CAR Specials**

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**TRUCKS**..... **SALE**

2021 RAM 1500 CREW CAB SHORTBED 4X4 "Bighorn Pkg.," E-Torque V-6, auto., ldd., red, 55K miles, like new ..... **\$34,900**  
2020 JEEP GLADIATOR 4X4 CREW CAB TK., V-6, auto., ldd., silver, 39K miles, very sharp ..... **SPECIAL \$44,900 \$37,500**  
2018 CHEVY COLORADO Z-71 EXTRA-CAB 4X4, 3.6 liter V-6, auto., ldd., white, 60K miles ..... **\$26,900**  
2017 FORD F-150 SUPERCREW XLT 4X4, 5.0 liter V-8, auto., ldd., silver, 106K miles, sharp truck ..... **\$23,900**  
2016 FORD F-550 4X4 CREW CAB UTILITY TRUCK, 6.7 diesel, auto., ldd., white, ex. cond. .... **\$39,900**  
2015 FORD F-250 SUPERCREW SHORTBED 4X2, 6.2 liter gas V-8, auto., ldd., white, 175K miles, ex. cond. .... **SPECIAL \$19,900 \$17,500**

2014 FORD F-250 CREW CAB SHORTBED LARIAT 4X4, 6.7 diesel, auto., ldd., black, ex. cond. .... **\$26,900**  
2011 FORD F-250 REGULAR CAB LONGBED 4X4, XL pkg., 6.2 liter gas V-8, auto., ldd., 168K miles, custom fiberglass cap ..... **\$18,900**  
2007 FORD F-150 SUPERCREW SHORTBED 4X4, V-8, auto., ldd., black, rust free and a sharp truck ..... **\$7,995**  
2004 FORD F-350 CREW CAB LARIAT DUALY 4X4, 6.0 diesel, auto., ldd., maroon, only 79K miles ..... **\$34,900**  
1997 FORD E-350 CONVERSION SUPERCAB DUALY 4X2, 7.3 diesel, auto., ldd., maroon, 55K miles ..... **\$13,900**  
1996 FORD F-250 S/CAB LONGBED 4X4, 7.3 diesel, auto., ldd., bronze, 154K miles ..... **SPECIAL \$28,900 \$26,900 \$23,900**

**PASSENGER VEHICLES**..... **SALE**

2021 CHEVY EQUINOX AWD 1LT PKG., 4-cyl., auto., ldd., dark blue, 85K miles, very clean ..... **\$19,500**  
2021 FORD BRONCO SPORT "FIRST EDITION" AWD SUV, 2.0 Ecoboost, auto., ldd., sharp cyber orange color w/only 8,900 miles ..... **SPECIAL \$39,500 \$37,500**  
2021 KIA RIO S 5-DR HATCHBACK, 1.6 4-cyl., auto., ldd., white, only 7K miles, like new cond. .... **SPECIAL \$19,900 \$18,500**  
2020 NISSAN ROGUE SL AWD, 4-cyl., auto., ldd., leather, moonroof, navigation, etc. silver, only 48K miles ..... **\$25,900**  
2019 DODGE JOURNEY GT AWD, V-6, auto., ldd., 56K miles, black, very sporty 3rd row SUV ..... **FOR ONLY \$24,900**  
2018 DODGE GRAND CARAVAN, V-6, auto., ldd., charcoal, 106K highway miles ..... **SPECIAL \$17,900 \$15,900**  
2018 FORD ESCAPE TITANIUM AWD, 2.0 4-cyl., auto., ldd., blue 102K miles, very sharp ..... **SPECIAL \$19,900 \$17,500**  
2015 FORD EXPLORER SPORT AWD, Ecoboost V-6, auto., ldd., black, 137K miles, in excellent condition ..... **\$17,900**  
2014 TOYOTA CAMRY LE 4-DR., 4-cyl., auto., ldd., green, local trade w/89K miles ..... **\$13,900**  
2014 FORD EXPLORER XLT AWD, 3.5 liter V-6, auto., ldd., blue, 132K miles ..... **\$12,900**  
2007 FORD MUSTANG GT PREMIUM, V-8, 5-spd., ldd., blue, only 56K miles, super clean car ..... **\$15,900**

**Sugar Grove Realty, Inc.**  
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sugargrovewv.com  
304-358-3332/3337 304-358-3334 (fax)

Jeffrey S. Bowers, Broker C 304.668.0002  
Stuart Bowers, Sales Agent C 304.668.1147  
Tommy A. Roberson, Sales Agent 304.358.7610  
Penny K. Lambert, Sales Agent C 304.668.2975  
Jennifer Raines, Sales Agent 304.851.3522

**FOR PHOTOS AND MUCH MORE ABOUT THESE PROPERTIES VISIT  
WWW.SUGARGROVEWV.COM**

**SGR330A** 3.69 Acres, Raw Land, 2 New 12x24 Buildings w/Metal Roofs, Rain Gutters, 200AMP service, Bethel District. Close to National Forest. **NEW LISTING \$99,900.00.**

**SGR328A** 0.30 Acres w/Duplex. 2-1 bed, 1 bath units w/shared laundry. Newly Rehabbed. Located at South Fork Crossing. Some Restrictions. Purchase separately at **\$69,900.00 per unit** or purchase **both units for \$135,000.00.**

**SGR327A** 0.44 Acres w/3 Bed, 2 Bath Rancher. Located in Brandywine. Newly rehabbed. Some Restrictions. **\$109,900.00.**

**SGR326A** 141.74 Acres, Raw Land, Franklin District. **NEW LISTING \$399,000.00.**

**SGR323A** 35.31 Acres w/1289 sq. ft. 2 Bedroom, 1 Bath Log Cabin, Mountain View, Electric Baseboard & Wood Heat. Cistern, Septic. Hidden Valley. **NEW LISTING \$249,000.00.**

**SGR322A** 49.07 Acres, more or less, located in Mill Run District. **NEW LISTING \$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 acres located in Upper Tract, Metal Roof & Gutters 2020. Franklin District, Pendleton County. **\$255,000.00.**

**SGR313A** 7.46 Acres in Upper Tract, Mill Run District, Pendleton Cty. **SOLD** on property. **NEW LISTING \$35,000.00.**

**SGR309A** 0.44 Acres w/4 bed, 2 bath home in Franklin. Two car garage w/bonus room. **NEW LISTING \$229,000.00.**

**SGR308A** 10.04 Acres, Raw Land, Lot #26, Blackthorn Mtn. Estates, Sugar Grove Dist. Great View Potential. Perc tested. **\$60,000.00.**

**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. REDUCED \$239,000.00.**

**SGR302A** "The Hollow" Restaurant, fully furnished, at the corner of US RT 220/US RT 33W, Franklin. Property adjoins neighboring 220. **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 \$1,795,000.00.**

**SGR295A** 1.5 Acres w/3 Bed, 1.5 Bath home located Franklin District. **SOLD** & Well. Some covenants & restrictions. **NEW LISTING \$249,000.00.**

**SGR271A** 1.84 Acres, Potomac Heights, Franklin District. **UNDER CONTRACT**

**SGR258B** 3.42 Acres, w/3 Bed, 2 Bath Home. Sugar 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. **\$988,700.00.**

**SGR236** World Class View Overlooking Germany Valley! Log Cabin, 70.08 Acres, 2 bed, 2.5 Baths. Seneca Lookout. Some Restrictions. **\$799,000.00.**

**SGR223A** 4 Bed, 2 Bath, 2000 sq. ft. home located in town of Franklin. **\$299,000.00.**

**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.**

**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.**

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