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First Cutting Finally Here

As the sun came out and seasonal temperatures returned Pendleton County farmers, like this one near Troublesome Valley, took the opportunity to make hay.

Redeeming Grace Completes First Year of Academy Mission

By Stephen Smoot

“And ye shall teach them your children . . .” says the opening words of Deuteronomy 11:19, promising that education of the young will result in “your days may be multiplied, and the days of your children, in the land which the LORD swore unto your fathers to give them.”

Redeeming Grace in Franklin sees their educational mission embarked upon just this year, as another way to “love the LORD thy God, and keep His charge.”

Joe Boggs serves as principal of the school at Redeeming Grace, fully supported by his son and the church’s pastor, Jason. The school seeks not to compete with or undermine the public school systems, they explain, but to provide an alternative option to those who may learn best in other environments.

Also, the school serves parents who prefer a Bible-centered curriculum. With a small student population, Redeeming Grace can offer an intensive and one-on-one classroom experience. Jason Boggs explained that in other schools “if you fail a test, they fail a test.” At

Redeeming Grace when a student fails a test – and passing requires an 80 percent – the student must return to the beginning of the unit and learn it again.

Joe Boggs described how students progress in different subjects at different levels. “A child,” he said “may be on a 10th grade level in math, but lower in reading . . . you teach that child to grow in that area, but you bring up the other, too.”

Sometimes students “need a little extra help,” Joe Boggs shared, going on to say that “you sit down and you help them to find a different way to look at it.”

The format also allows students “to do their paces at home” when needed, especially when children fall ill or heavy snow falls.

Students work individually with their teachers and students do not know each other’s “levels,” which eliminates unhealthy competition. Students, however, also support and encourage each other and “there’s zero tolerance for bullying.”

When students need discipline, they receive individual attention from Jason Boggs. As the principal said, if “kids cut up . . . Jason would counsel them.” He went on to say that the

students would leave sessions “feeling appreciated.” Joe Boggs also stated that “it’s not that you fail, it’s what you do when you get back up,” teaching that life offers everyone obstacles to overcome.

Rebecca Schlagel, who has since passed from cancer, provided years of educational training and experience to help the education program to get underway. Joe Boggs recalled that Schlagel “had a way of relating to younger children.” Her book, “Trevor the Runaway Turkey,” was inspired by her own fears of battling with cancer.

Jason Boggs described her as “an educator all of her life.” “We would not have had a school opened” without her work. Schlagel also only asked for gas money and a lunch as compensation for advising and guiding the school. Joe Boggs went on to say that the specialist in special education “laid the foundation for the school.”

She passed away on Independence Day, 2023, only weeks before the first day of school.

Joe Boggs related that as the year passed “it wasn’t just the kids learning. We were all on a learning curve.”

One aspect of education that public school cannot offer is to “expose children to Biblical teachings,” as Joe Boggs explained. Games and hands-on, active techniques helped to teach children the words and meaning of important Bible verses. One game involved a box with Biblical verses on it that attached to a child’s or teacher’s head, providing the “frontlet” of knowledge described in Deuteronomy 11.

The educational process at Redeeming Grace is not conventional, but serves as an alternative format for schooling. Giving children an education has remained one of the most important works of the Christian and Jewish faiths, “the basis of why we started the school in the first place,” said Jason Boggs.

He then said, “My biggest way to win people to the Lord is by showing them the love of God.”

Pendleton County State Troopers Honored for Saving Lives



Corporal Jacob M. Hebb receives the West Virginia State Police Life Saving Award for treating in the field, then transporting a seriously injured motorist last September as his wife, Mary Beth Hebb, looks on.

By Stephen Smoot

In the near 100-year history of the West Virginia State Police, countless have risen above the call of duty. With bravery and skill, they help to maintain the public order, protect property, and preserve life.

Recently, the State of West Virginia



Senior Trooper Kevin C. Raymond receives the West Virginia State Police Life Saver Award for his quick response and skilled treatment of a heart attack victim at the Department of Motor Vehicles near Franklin. His wife, Krystal Raymond, joined him.

honored troopers from around the state for meritorious service. Two troopers from Pendleton County were among those honored.

“Not very often that we can come together like this to honor some West Virginia State troopers who have done

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Summer Fest Brings Family Fun to Franklin Next Month

By Stephen Smoot

One of Pendleton County’s best attributes lies in the region’s plethora of picnics, parties, and other events held throughout the summer. For the past four years, Franklin has added to that tradition by holding Summer Fest.

Normally set on the third Saturday in July, the event moved to July 13 this year. Attendees can come as early as 10 a.m. Music, food, and children’s games will be available from then until 9 p.m.

The Town of Franklin puts on the event with the support of generous sponsors. “The reason for the event,” says Elizabeth Scott, an administrator with the town who organizes it every year, “is to provide something for



Tasha Sponaugle, owner of Gulp and Gallop, will be a first time vendor at Summer Fest in Franklin next month.

people to do as a family.”

Sponsors stepped up to provide more cost-free options this year. “We typically have bounce houses for the kids to enjoy,” said Scott. She added that this year Pendleton Family Support Center and Eastern Action sponsored this

so that no fee is required to offset their cost of use. Admission to the town swimming pool that day will also be free, courtesy of a sponsorship from Potomac Hardware.

Other sponsors include

Continued on Page 8

Power Outage Planned Tuesday for South Branch, South Fork Valleys

By Stephen Smoot

Company officials earlier this week released details to Pendleton County officials concerning a planned outage scheduled for Tuesday, June 25.

The Pendleton County Office of Emergency Management shared that the outage will take place from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. and impact approximately 3,500 customers. Towns and surrounding areas that will go without power include Franklin, Brandywine, and Sugar Grove. The area under the outage will extend north almost to the Upper Tract Sub-Station.

Those who live north of that station, including Upper Tract itself, will have power, as will Sherwood Forest and areas along Kiser Gap Road.

The North Fork area will have power as normal and the boundary between areas with or without service will be the top of Snowy Mountain.

Although First Energy has stated that they may postpone the outage if temperatures remain high into next week, they have not yet confirmed that. National Weather Service forecasts at the time of writing do not yet extend to June 25, but the trend until Sunday indicates mid 90s and sun.

Rick Gillespie, Pendleton County Emergency Services coordinator, advises residents in affected areas to plan and prepare as needed. “Make preparation for what is sup-

posed to be a nine-hour outage,” he stated.

Heat can affect those with different medical conditions adversely. “If you have special health care needs reliant on electricity, make plans to have generator power or go somewhere that retains commercial power or has a generator.”

Also “make plans to stay cool if you normally rely on fans or air conditioners and you lack generator capabilities.”

Food stored in refrigerators or freezers may be vulnerable. Gillespie says, “I suggest that residents do their own research and decide whether food can remain safe in their refrigerators and freezers and accordingly.”

“If the high temps prevail,” he added, “we plan to open the large room at the Pendleton Community Building in Franklin as a cooling shelter for anyone needing it.” Since the building has a back-up generator, it can function even in an outage.

The shelter can only offer drinking water, restrooms, and a cool place to sit. They cannot offer any type of food or other amenities.

According to Janice Lantz, executive director of Pendleton County Senior and Family Services, “Our congregate nutrition site will be closed and home bound meal routes will not be operating. However, both congregate and home bound clients will be provided a cold boxed meal on Monday for Tuesday. We also anticipate that our administrative offices will be closed as well.”

Community CALENDAR

Family Support Center in Franklin Sponsors Activity

Upcoming activity sponsored by the Pendleton County Strive to Thrive Family Support Center on Main Street in Franklin is a community baby shower at 4:30 p.m. Friday. For more information, call 304-538-7711.

VBS Is Underway At Christ Central

Christ Central Community Church in Upper Tract is holding its annual Vacation Bible School from 5:30 to 8:15 p.m. today and Friday and from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday for kids ages 4 to 12 years old. Children will have oceans of Fun at Scuba VBS as they dive into the Bible and enjoy games, music and crafts.

TMF Leadership Group To Meet

The Treasure Mountain Festival leadership committee will meet at 5 p.m. Monday in the Town of Franklin office. Everyone is invited to attend.

Events Planned To Meet New Extension Agent

Pendleton County Extension Service staff invites residents to join them to meet Jessica Hoover, the county’s new agriculture and natural resources agent.

The first meet and greet is planned for 7 p.m. Tuesday at the Pendleton Community Building in Franklin. The second greeting will be held at 7 p.m. June 26 at the Mountain Cajun Getaway at 163 Upper Timber Ridge in Circleville.

Attendees are asked to bring ideas, suggestions or comments for making agriculture and the extension programming a continued success in Pendleton County.

How the Mountain State Emerged from the Fog of War Through Lincoln's Lawyering

By Stephen Smoot

On June 20 every year, West Virginia celebrates its independence from the Old Dominion. While most states approach the date of their creation with indifference, West Virginians view it as a holiday and an occasion to feel and express pride in their home state - wherever they happen to live now.

Many times over the history of its creation, West Virginia has seen its share of those criticizing its creation as unconstitutional. In 2002, for example, California Law Review called the process "a classic story of legal formalism in which legal fiction triumphed over reality."

Though a move of desperation by those in Western Virginia and also seen by President Abraham Lincoln as, chiefly, a war measure on the lines of the Emancipation Proclamation, the creation of the state did follow the letter of the law.

The Baron de la Brede et de Montesquieu may have a concern or two about whether it followed the "Spirit of the Law," however.

The story of West Virginia begins at settlement where differences emerged immediately between the Anglican worshipping and ethnically English areas in the Piedmont and Tidewater and the North English/Scottish Lowland peoples and Germans migrating into the Shenandoah Valley (originally called the Euphrates) and points west.

Differences in religion and ethnicity expanded into those of economics and politics by the 1800s.

At the outbreak of the Civil War, the Commonwealth of Virginia had two governments claiming the legal authority to govern the state and represent it in a national government. Leaders favoring the Confederacy controlled the government in Richmond while Unionists gathered first in Clarksburg, then Wheeling, to establish a system that Lincoln and Congress could legally recognize.

Lincoln had larger problems in the first few years of the war, even besides conducting the fighting. In addition to his role as commander-in-chief, the President also functions as diplomat-in-chief. He knew full well that the European Great Powers of Great Britain and France favored any development that would split the rising power and strength of the United States. They were restrained, however, by the presence of slavery in the Confederacy and, more importantly, by international law and tradition that respected a nation's right to handle its own internal affairs.

So long as Lincoln could credibly hold to his position that Southern state governments did not secede from the Union, but were hijacked by criminal organizations, he could hold the Western European empires at bay.

Union Virginia's ability to muster leaders from the western counties and organize a government in Wheeling helped to drive the legal notion that the Old Dominion never left the Union and still functioned fully within the federal system. They maintained their congressional delegation and also contributed men to the Union Army.

Few consider today the fact that Union victory was not inevitable. It certainly did not appear

that way in 1862 and early 1863. Robert E. Lee, Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson, Albert Sidney Johnston, and others gave the Confederacy firm military leadership as Lincoln sifted through his generals to find anyone who met his standard of aggressiveness.

Those in western Virginia understood fully well the penalty for treason against the Commonwealth. Should the Confederacy win, Unionists who remained in place could face the same fate as John Brown, who was hanged at Charles Town. The Wheeling Intelligencer's editor, Archibald Campbell, pled with Lincoln to consider forming a new state.

"The expectation of a new state keeps thousands from falling away" from the Union cause, he told the President.

Supporters of a new state came from every section of the western counties and all walks of life. John Boggs, Jr., an Irish immigrant, represented Pendleton County in the West Virginia Constitutional Convention. His brother, Aaron, led the notorious (to the Confederates, terrified) Swamp Dragon Home Guard unit that terrified Confederates throughout the South Branch region.

Another kinsman of John Boggs, however, served as chief justice on the Pendleton County Court and held a commission as an officer for the Commonwealth of Virginia.

The main debate as delegates forged a new state government lay in how much of "old Virginia" should remain in the new state system. Peter van Winkle, future US Senator from West Virginia, feared that "several gentlemen" in the convention "intend to be Virginians after we have separated from Virginia." These men, van Winkle contended, argued against every innovation that "we are to be told, they did not do so in old Virginia."

At first in seriousness, then in jest as it quickly turned into a cliché, those favoring old ways were said to be "hankering after the fleshpots of Egypt," a line drawn from Exodus 16:3.

In 1863, the final draft of the state constitution looked much like an amalgamation of various Northern state and local political ideas, most of which were jettisoned by the new Constitution of 1872.

The United States Constitution states clearly the limited condition under which a new state may be carved from the boundaries of an existing state. Article IV Clause 1 says no "State may be formed by the Junction of two or more States, or Parts of States, without the Consent of the Legislatures of the States concerned as well as of the Congress."

Although the Union Virginia Legislature, composed mostly of those looking to create a new state, would certainly approve of the creation of West Virginia, Congress and the President still had to approve.

The sticking point lay in the democratic votes that had taken place since May 1861. On May 23, 1861, Pendleton County, for example, voted 696 to 131 to leave the Union. Fairfax County voted 942 to 288 in favor of leaving. Yet Pendleton County elected Boggs to serve as delegate to the State Constitutional Convention 60 to six, all votes

coming from the northernmost district of Seneca. Occupied Fairfax County even voted to join West Virginia by 53 to 25.

Eastern Panhandle counties, such as Berkeley and Jefferson, came in due to the presence of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad. That vital transportation system to Union arms feared being in even a postwar Union Virginia. Thomas Carskadon, delegate from Hampshire County, successfully argued that the new state must include Pendleton County, due to its river borne trade connections with counties downstream and to the north.

Lincoln said of the decision to allow West Virginia that "What I do, I do because I believe it helps to have the Union, and what I forbear, I forbear because I do not believe that it would help

save the Union."

Like a good lawyer, however, Lincoln understood that the legal case for creation had to not only be airtight in itself, but also not contradict the legal basis for the war itself, or any of its other measures. Here, the President showed himself as the greatest American legal mind outside of John Marshall.

The President's entire philosophy on this and other Civil War measures that served the letter of the law, but not always the spirit, was summed up in his communication to Chief Justice Roger B. Taney on another major Constitutional question.

Lincoln wrote to Taney "are all the laws but one to go unexecuted, and the Government itself go to pieces, lest that one be violated?"

Franklin Town Council Addresses Veteran Flag Issue, Hears Tree USA Proposal

By Stephen Smoot

The Town of Franklin Council addressed multiple topics at last week's regular meeting, starting with a concern voiced by area resident Gary Hess.

Mayor Bob Horan suggested, and the council followed it, to move the public comment period to the opening of the meeting to examine the issue Hess brought forward.

"I'm hoping to clarify and resolve an issue, concerning veterans, that came to my attention," he said.

Hess informed the council that he heard from Reggie Kile, brother to a Pendleton County veteran, Jacob "Harold" Kile, lost in the Battle of Normandy. The issue was that the flag carrying Kile's name and face had disappeared from the pole to which it had been affixed.

"His brother . . . had been persistently trying to track it down for a few months," Hess stated. The flag, once found, was eventually taken to the town office. High winds likely tore it from its mounting. "It was very important to Reggie," Hess explained, "to get the flag up." He and his nephew, Mike Johnson, got a ladder and tools to reinstall it themselves before Memorial Day.

Hess shared that he requested "a resolution to take care of these flags. Let people know how you are going to handle this."

Elizabeth Scott, an administrator with the Town of Franklin, shared the history of the veteran flag project. She explained that the project had come through the combined Pendleton County Chamber of Commerce and Convention and Visitors Bureau and did not originally involve the Town of Franklin.

Each flag cost families \$200 for installation, but left nothing for maintenance over time. The project lasted for four years and put up a total of 99 flags. It only stopped when the project ran out of places to hang the flags.

Russ Sasso, Town of Franklin council member, said, "This is absolutely an issue that will be resolved today," then later added that "we can't have a 70-or 80-year-old veteran" work-

ing to maintain the flags or their mountings if damaged. He also said that if it came down to it, he would personally put flags back up that had fallen down.

Frank Wehrle, Town of Franklin administrator, then shared with the council that the second part of a water rate hike approved in 2020 would soon kick in. The initial increase added 25 percent to bills four years ago and will increase bills next month by 20 percent.

Next Alana Hartman and Samuel Canfield, representing the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection, rose to explain to the mayor and council the benefits of taking part in Tree City USA.

Hartman explained that the Chesapeake Bay Program has money to distribute to communities interested in joining the program. She said that it can work to help a community to plant new trees or remove those that have grown into being a problem.

Canfield stated that adding trees and performing other simple measures can help to reduce pollutants flowing into streams via stormwater. It also reduces the amount of free flowing water during storms to cut down on potential flooding.

Participation requires that towns undergo a four part process. First, the town must pass an ordinance that establishes a tree board and sets aside \$2 per town resident for a tree program. The town must also somehow celebrate Arbor Day. Sasso expressed support for the program and suggested a work session "to sit down and focus."

If approved, Franklin would be the only town in the Potomac Highlands to do so. Romney had participated until the individuals running it retired.

Council members also heard unofficial results from the city elections. Mayor Bob Horan received 22 votes, Bruce Minor, town recorder, got 27, and council members Keely Smith 27, T. E. Wimer 24, Kristen Dingess 26, Russ Sasso 26, and Jarred Rawson 25.

Results were made official during a Friday canvas.

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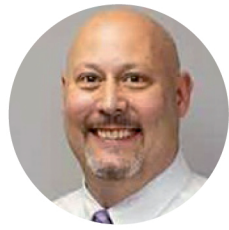
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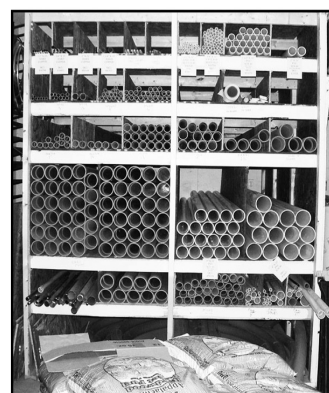
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Beachler and Hedrick Compete in Summer Sports Games for 2024 Seniors

By Stephen Smoot

While baseball and softball ended for most Pendleton County athletes, two recent graduates enjoyed opportunities to play on.

Cam Beachler, who played second base and pitched for Pendleton County baseball, earned an invitation to the Coaches USA All-Star game in Harrisonburg, Virginia. Regional seniors were divided between a Mountain and a Valley squad.

The Mountain All-Star team won the game 11-2.

"It was a huge honor to be selected," Beachler said. "Everyone was given a chance to end off their high school baseball careers with an awesome game on a beautiful field at JMU [James Madison University]."

Brian Bocock, a Harrisonburg, Virginia, native who played for the San Francisco Giants, coached the team. Players received jerseys, hats, and a sweatshirt. Beachler said that "he gave all the players a wonderful message about the Lord and how important it is to follow the path He gives us."

Beachler came up to bat twice, earning a walk and grounding out.

For Beachler, the experience helped him to reflect on his sports careers, saying, "My overall sports experience for high school baseball and golf has been great." He went on to say "I have made new friends and

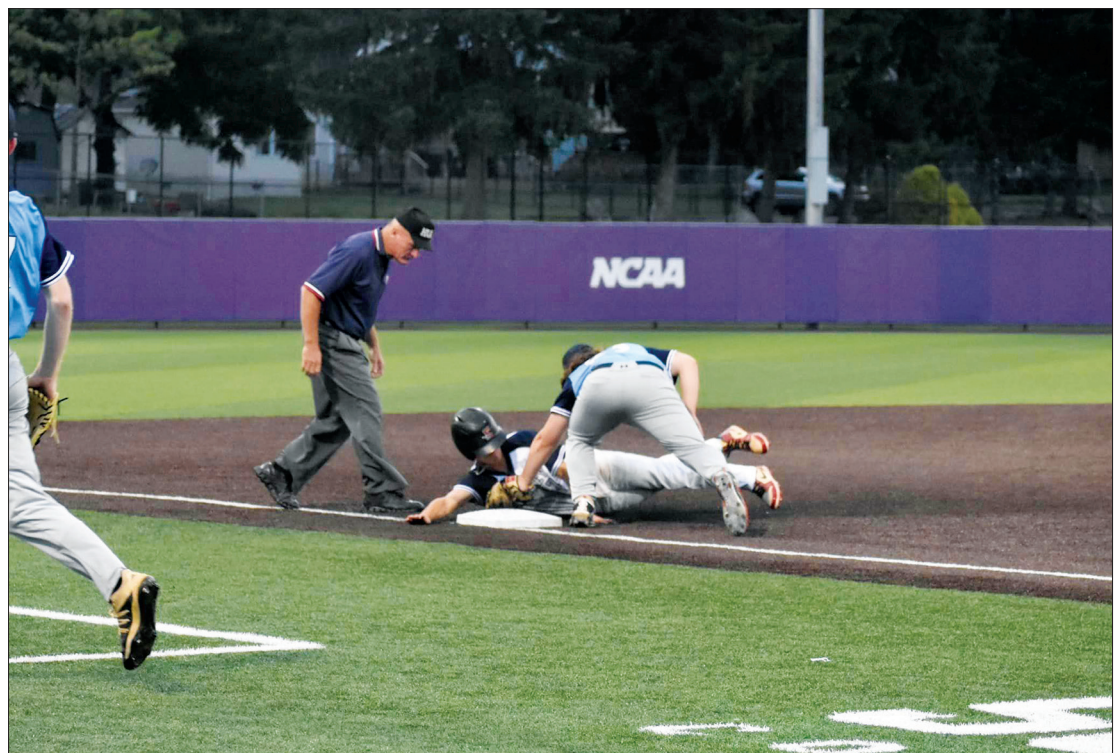


Kate Hedrick, pictured here in a regular season game, hit nine doubles, three home runs, and had 27 runs batted in last season.

met a lot of great people while still being able to play the sports I love and compete."

Kate Hedrick, a power hitting third baseman last season for Pendleton County softball, earned a spot on the Region II team in the North/South softball series. Several West Virginia high school sports allow an opportunity for graduating seniors to play on all-star teams. The softball series took place at Buffalo High School in Putnam County.

"She was absolutely ecstatic to be able to play," said Eric Crites, Pendleton County



Cam Beachler tags a player in the Coaches USA All-Star game. He hit .308 for the Wildcats this season and provided invaluable senior leadership for the young team.

head softball coach, who added that "she is a total team player that enjoys meeting new friends."

Crites got to pitch to Hedrick in the home run derby segment. In that competition, Hedrick displayed the power that has intimidated opponents all year long, tying

for first place.

"It was an exciting time as we look forward to sending more players next year, as we have a great group of seniors," Crites added. He explained also that "special recognition for small schools, like Pendleton County, is by far worthwhile."

63 4-H'ers Attend County Camp



Members of the Cherokee tribe were, from left, front row, Russell Eckard, Kendon Champ, Breyman Keesecker, Callie Judy, Alex Adams, Abby Judy, Ross Pownell, Easton Boner and Owen Champ; and back row, Emma Puffenbarger, Katie Heavner, Reagyn Adkins, McKenna Hedrick, Hannah Bennett and Bodie Cox.



The Delaware tribe consisted of, from left, front row, Addie Miller, Jameigh Miller, Colby Simmons, Caleb Armentrout, Katie Heavner, Jayden Souza, Phoebe Pownell and Sydney Demers; and back row, Aiden Shirk, Alanna Miller, Jax Bennett, Harper Marsh and Sean Waggy.



County 4-H'ers in the Mingo tribe were, from left, front row, Dakota Vandevander, Chevelle Nobel, Cambri Heitt, Tanner Hedrick, Zander Adams, Ty Heavner, Cody Miller, Bryce Propst and Brantly Propst; and back row, Gary Smith, Maycee Woods, Lydia Heavner, Vivian Pownell, Brian Cheeseman and Emma Nesselrodt.



Four-H'ers comprising the Seneca tribe were, from left, front row, Addie Rexrode, Vaylee Harper, Mason Harper, Jacey Thompson, Ty Heavner, Cole Harper, Tori Heavner, Chloe Barkley, Brynleigh Ruddle and Clair Kimble; and back row, Maddie Kirk, Marion Williams, Bella Hoover, Lexi Hedrick, Lorelei Price, Carly Kimble and Reagyn Bergdoll.

Pendleton County 4-H'ers concluded their week of camp at Thorn Spring Park with council circle on June 6. Sixty-three 4-H'ers were enrolled for this year's camp. The week's theme was "Survivor."

Camp classes and instructors included: air pistol - Wes Puffenbarger, air rifle - Rick Pownell, animal investigation services - John Pingley, archery - Brooke Alt, basket making (beginner and advanced) - Janet Hartman and Vicki Skavenski, Dollar Tree crafts - Sue Alt, first-year camper - extension camping instructors, fly fishing - Danny Hartman, Becca Meyers and Trout Unlimited staff, Brick by Brick LEGO engineering - Heather Waggy, My Pledge to Healthy Living - Anna Rexrode, outdoor cooking - Mary and Gary Hess, shotgun - Rick Pownell, STEM - STEM ambassador, summertime drinks and snacks - Heidi Kimble, tribal painting - Sue Alt, and tie dye - Amanda Simmons.

Camp specials highlighted each day. On Monday activities revolving around the "Survivor" theme - knot tying and how to use a compass with Becky Puffenbarger and Nancy Hodges, exploring bugs with Curtis Betty of the West Virginia Forestry Service and AmeriCorp Intern Kacey Shifflett, Leave No Trace with WVYEP Susan Carroll and STEM classes with Taylor Davis, STEM ambassador. On Tuesday, campers traveled to the James Madison University's Adventure course where they participated in team building activities. Wednesday morning, Officer Matt Stover with the West Virginia Department of Natural Resources and his search dog, Luna, visited the camp to speak to campers about what the WV DNR does and job opportunities and a demonstration of Luna's training and skills in the field. The week's festivities wrapped up on Thursday with field day games and a total camp clean up.

During the closing council circle on Thursday evening the following awards were given:

Lucky penny certificates to 14 first-year campers — Russell Eckard, Addie Miller, Colby Simmons, Harper Marsh, Blakey Bennett, Stella Halterman, Emma Nesselrodt, Brian Cheeseman, Dakota Vandevander, Cambri Heitt, Brynleigh Ruddle, Raelynn Bergdoll, and Lorelei Price;

Lucky nickel certificates were given to second-year campers — Brantly Propst, Clair Kimble, Kenden Champ, Maycee Woods, Sean Waggy and Isabella Hoover; and

Miss and Mr. Congeniality — Vaylee Harper, Lexi Hedrick, Ty Heavner, Ty Armentrout, and Breyman Keesecker.

Class awards were presented to the following campers: air pistol - Easton Boner, Vaylee Harper, and Breyman Keesecker, air rifle - Cole Harper, animal investigation services - Russell Eckard; archery - Stella Halterman, Blakey Bennett and Chevelle Noble, basket making beginner - Hannah Heavner, basket making advanced - Vivan Pownell, Dollar Tree crafts - Brynleigh Ruddle, first-year camper - Colby Simmons, fly fishing - Kendon Champ and Aiden Shirk, Brick by Brick LEGO building - Cambri Heitt and Maddie Kirk, My Pledge to Healthy Living - Hannah Bennett, outdoor cooking - Lydia Heavner, Abby Judy, and Jax Bennett, shotgun - Ty Armentrout and Caleb Armentrout, STEM - Sean Waggy and Cody Miller, summertime drinks and snacks - Addie Miller, Lorelei Price and Katie Heavner, tribal painting - Clair Kimble, and tie dying - Phoebe Pownell and Sydney Demers.

Callie Judy was chosen to represent the Head H, Ty Heavner, the Heart H, Alex Adams, the Hands H, and Lydia Heavner, the Health H. Katie Heavner was selected as Spirit of Camp and also received a \$25 scholarship to a 2025 state camp by the Freida Dunkle scholarship.

Sydney Demers was awarded the Outstanding First-Year Camper Girl Scholarship, while Colby Simmons was awarded the Outstanding First-Year Camper Boy Scholarship.

Tribal chiefs, Katie Heavner, Zander Adams, Alex Adams, and Ty Heavner, received a half scholarship to the 2025 county camp from the Judy Memorial Scholarship Fund.

The Andy Guy Memorial Scholarship, a scholarship to 2025 County 4-H camp, was awarded to Cody Miller.

Sean Waggy received the Outstanding Second-Year Camper award, a full scholarship to the 2025 County Camp funded by the McCoy Family in memory of Bill and in honor of Harriet.

Lexi Hedrick received the 4-H's award, which provided a full scholarship to a third-year camper to the 2025 County Camp.

A new award for 2024 was given in Memory of Ralph Dunkle by the Dunkle Family, which was a \$25 return scholarship to the 2025 county camp. Maycee Woods received this award.

McKenna Hedrick received the Clover Scholarship, Ty Heavner, the Leadership Scholarship, and Phoebe Pownell, the Opportunity Scholarship. Each is a full scholarship to a 2025 state 4-H camp of their

choice.

Callie Judy was the recipient of the 4-H Shooting Sports Scholarship, sponsored by Jim Dever, which is a full scholarship to the 2025 Ultimate Outdoor weekend at Jackson's Mill.

Tribal Loyalty certificates were awarded to McKenna Hedrick and Easton Boner (Cherokee), Phoebe Pownell and Sydney Demers (Delaware), Lydia Heavner and Cambri Heitt (Mingo) and Vaylee Harper and Maddie Kirk (Seneca).

Tribal honors were awarded to the Seneca tribe.

Tribes for the week consisted of the following:

Cherokee — Alex Adams (chief), Callie Judy (first sagamore), Abby Judy (second sagamore), Easton Boner, Owen Champ, Kendon Champ, Ross Pownell, Breyman Keesecker, Hannah Heavner, Kynleigh Sponaugle, Reagyn Atkins, Emma Puffenbarger, McKenna Hedrick, Hannah Bennett, and Russell Eckard;

Delaware — Katie Heavner (chief), Caleb Armentrout (first sagamore), Jayden Souza (second sagamore), Sean Waggy, Aiden Shirk, Jax Bennett, Alanna Miller, Phoebe Pownell, Jameigh Miller, Addie Miller, Colby Simmons, Harper Marsh, Sydney Demers, Blakey Bennett, and Stella Halterman;

Mingo — Zander Adams (chief), Tanner Hedrick (first sagamore), Ty Armentrout (second sagamore), Cody Miller, Brantly Propst, Chevelle Noble, Maycee Woods, Gary Smith, Bryce Propst, Lydia Heavner, Vivian Pownell, Lukas Alt, Emma Nesselrodt, Brian Cheeseman, Dakota Vandevander, and Cambri Heitt;

Seneca — Ty Heavner (chief), Jacey Thompson (first sagamore), Cole Harper (second sagamore), Bella Hoover, Chloe Barkley, Lexi Hedrick, Tori Heavner, Clair Kimble, Maddie Kirk, Marion Williams, Carly Kimble, Vaylee Harper, Mason Harper, Addie Rexrode, Brynleigh Ruddle, Raelynn Bergdoll, and Lorelei Price; and

Big Foot — Brooke Alt (camp director), Janet Hartman (West Virginia University Extension Office administrative assistant), Jessica Hoover (WVU Ag Extension agent), Will Behrens, Morgan Griffith, and Dalton Dearth (extension camping instructors), Taylor Davis (WVU STEM ambassador), Amanda Simmons, Mary Hess, Rick Pownell, Wes Puffenbarger, Bobby Keesecker, and Gary Hess (counselors) and Nancy Barkley and Jessica Barkley (food service).

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HELP WANTED

PENDLETON Community Care, Inc., has an immediate opening for an Accounting Assistant who will work in direct support of the Chief Financial Officer at our Franklin, WV, health center. The ideal candidate is team-oriented but also can work alone, self-motivated, forward thinking, with a strong emphasis to detail and the ability to independently evaluate financial activity. A minimum of a bachelor's degree in Accounting, Finance, or Business Administration is required. This is an excellent opportunity for an Accounting Assistant to contribute to the financial success of our organization and further develop their accounting skills. If you are a detail-oriented professional with an interest in investigating and researching data, we encourage you to apply. The position is in-person, full-time with benefits including affordable health insurance, paid-time-off, holidays, and a

401K. If you are interested in this position, please submit a letter of interest and a resume to: Pendleton Community Care, Inc., Attn: Jodie Wimer, HR Coordinator, Accounting Assistant Position, PO Box 100, Franklin, WV 26807, jwimer@pcc-nfc.org. PCC is an Equal Opportunity Employer. 1c

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BISELL CARPET Shampooer for rent. Bowman's Do It Best. Call 304-358-2303. 11-7-tfn

REUNIONS

DESCENDANTS OF Mack and Eva Roberson family reunion will be June 23 at the Ruddle Park. Picnic lunch at 1:30 p.m. All relatives and friends invited. 1c

WILLIAM Pitsenbarger Reunion June 30, Thorn Spring Park Pavilion. Lunch at 12:00. Bring a dish and everyone is welcome. 6-13-3p

CLOSING NOTICES

FAITHFUL Friends Animal Clinic will be closed Friday, June 28, thru Sunday, June 30. Greg Bowers, DVM. 6-20-2c

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Residents Urged to Protect Against Lyme Disease

The West Virginia Department of Health is urging residents to take preventive measures against Lyme disease as ticks are more active this time of year. West Virginia has been designated as a high-incidence Lyme disease state since 2017.

“Lyme disease is a serious issue that could be devastating to your health and well-being if left untreated,” said Dr. Matthew Christiansen, state health officer. “I urge all West Virginians to take precautions against this infection and protect themselves outdoors, in areas where ticks are most commonly found.”

Lyme disease is caused by a bacterial infection following the bite of a blacklegged tick. Common symptoms can include an expanding skin rash (often-times in a target shape), fatigue, headaches, joint swelling, and fe-


ver. If left untreated, Lyme disease could spread to the heart, joints, and nervous system. The best prevention for Lyme disease is to remain vigilant when outdoors and take the proper precautions when returning inside. Early detection and removal of ticks is crucial; Ticks must be attached for 24 hours or more to be able to transmit Lyme disease. To stay protected, the Centers for Disease Control encourages tak-

ing the following steps: check clothing for ticks, examine gear and pets, shower soon after being outdoors and check body for ticks. Ticks can attach to any part of the body, but prefer hard-to-see areas such as the groin, armpits, and scalp. Lyme disease follows up with one's primary care doctor immediately. When seeking medical assistance on Lyme disease, go to <https://www.cdc.gov/disease/about/index.html>.

cal staff in their treatment. Medical treatments are effective in treating tick-borne diseases and can prevent severe complications when given early in the course of infection. If a person suspects or is concerned about Lyme disease, follow up with one's care doctor immediately. For more information on Lyme disease, go to <https://www.cdc.gov/disease/about/index.html>.

HELP WANTED

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- Must have good verbal and written communication skills.
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- Ability to climb, squat and lift.

* Requires a valid driver's license and satisfactory driving record.

- High School Diploma or GED; Associate degree (or equivalent) in Telecommunications and/or Electronics.
- Salary commensurate with experience.

Please send resume no later than June 28
 Spruce Knob Seneca Rocks Telephone, Inc
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