THE PENDLETON TIMES

Serving the Community since 1913

\$1.00 Volume 111, Number 35

Franklin, Pendleton County, West Virginia 26807

Thursday August 29, 2024

State Officials Gather To Speak at Fisher Mountain



Roger Dahmer introduces special guests at a dinner held Friday night at the Ancient Oak Restaurant at Fisher Mountain. From left are United States Representative Carol Miller, Robbie Morris, Randolph County Economic Development director, Kris Warner, West Virginia Economic Development Authority executive director, Delegate Bryan Ward from the 86th District, Patrick Morrisey, attorney general for the State of West Virginia, and Dahmer.

By Stephen Smoot

Several statewide and regional leaders gathered at Waterfront Group's Autumn Oak Restaurant at Fisher Mountain last Friday. Although they gathered for the fellowship of the Pendleton County Republican Executive Committee annual dinner, they spoke about service they have performed in their current positions of responsibility.

After the Pledge of Allegiance, Roger Dahmer in his role as master of ceremonies led the assemblage in an invocation. He asked, "We pray for leaders who believe in the greatness of America."

Patrick Morrisey, attorney general for the State of West Virginia, opened by saying, "It's great to be back in Pendleton County."

Morrisey spoke of his work in his elected role. While also fighting for consumer protection and other important issues, he has put a priority on protecting West Virginia and its people from what many would consider intrusive regulatory actions by the federal government. He shared that "farming is very important in Pendleton County," as well as

Morrisey gave an example of his work building coalitions of state attorneys general Continued on Page 2

in most of the state.

Pendleton County Schools Still In Strong Financial Condition

By Stephen Smoot

With excited students making their way back to their schools, the Pendleton County Board of Education found much to buoy its spirits as well.

After attendees recited the Pledge of Allegiance, J.D. Wilkins, board president, led the invocation, praying, "We thank You for the school year starting."

J. P. Mowery, treasurer and financial officer, shared both the treasurer's and financial report soon after the opening of the meeting. He concluded that the system sits "in a very good position with a cash balance of more

Community CALENDAR

Library Friends To Meet Tuesday

The Friends of the Library will meet at 4:30 p.m. Tuesday, in the community room of the Pendleton County Library in Franklin.

All are invited to attend.

Master Gardener **Training Course** To Be Scheduled

Is one interested in becoming an Extension Master Gardener? An online hybrid training program will be held in the winter/spring of 2025. After finishing the training courses, participants are required to complete an initial 40 hours of volunteer work to be named an Extension Master Gardener. From there, EMGs are required to complete 20 hours of volunteer work and 10 hour of horticulture training each year.

If interested or questions, contact the Pendleton County Extension Office at 304-358-2286.

than \$2 million." He said that need a similar sized grant to if the schools went ahead and paid all of its obligations in the near future now, the system would still have more than \$1 million available.

not pay bills early to ensure that they collect the best possible return on account interest. Mowery shared that this year, the school system's account earned more than \$100,000 in interest.

In meetings past, however, Mowery stated that a conservative spending policy must remain in place as pandemic era financial support disappears. Though the school system will have less to work with, its frugality has enabled it to stay ahead of some of the financial problems and tough decisions facing other county school systems across the state.

The board has continually supported a restrained policy as regards spending.

One program that could face problems going ahead is Communities in Schools, championed by First Lady Cathy Justice. CIS puts counselors and other support staff in schools to help with the social and family needs of students. It also organizes attendance boosting events and arranges for school and hygiene supplies, as well as food for the weekends to be available for students who need this.

Another benefit lies in CIS workers spending their time dealing with student nonacademic issues so that teachers can focus on learning.

Mowery said that CIS for the current school year is fully funded, but at a 10 percent cut from last year. He speculated that the program could face even more cuts without Governor Jim Justice serving as its champion. Should state funding for CIS diminish or get cut entirely, Mowery stated that "we'll

continue with that."

Travis Heavner provided the facilities update, saying that workers were "trying to tidy up anything that's Businesses and govern- coming to us," but said that ment entities both tend to he had no updates on the alternative education building at Pendleton County Middle/ High School.

> Betty Kimble, school board member, shared that "I've been looking at the landscaping around the schools. The bushes at Brandywine (Elementary School) are just

The summer drought likely helped to take a huge toll on the school's decorative foliage.

Heavner responded in agreement, saying, "A lot of them just need to be pulled

"I'm thinking mulch and just a few big rocks," Kimble suggested as an alternative to shrubbery, making the point that staff do not have time to tend to decorative plants, saying that "the custodians have enough to do." Heavner added that a lot of the landscaping had lived past its prime.

Next, Mowery shared relevant changes to state code concerning the policy manual. Long-term substitutes after a certain threshold of days worked will qualify for pay, sick leave, and benefits enjoyed by full-time faculty.

The goal of the changes lies in getting qualified substitute teachers performing long term work more pay, more quickly.

Additionally, "days set apart by the president or governor as a holiday of special observance" will be considered as a day of employment when it falls within the employment term.

Board members also received strongly positive reports on the progress of the county system and individual schools in state rankings.



Brandywine Elementary School shines as one of the top 15 of its type in all of West Virginia

Pendleton County Schools Earns Top 10 Academic Ranking Among State Systems

By Stephen Smoot

If a sports team raised its ranking from 23rd to seventh, all of its supporters would bask in the good feelings of accomplishment while determining ways to continue the trend of improvement. Pendleton County Schools has demonstrated that improvement in academics and those who worked to make it happen are taking tremendous pride in it.

The Pendleton County Board of Education members and Charles Hedrick, superintendent, praised parents and students, then faculty and staff during its second regular meeting of August.

Hedrick lauded both students and parents, saying that not every county has a group of parents as dedicated to their children's education. He added that "Travis (Heavner) and Ms. (Barbara) Whitecotton have done a lot of work" to help bring about improvement.

He added that "J. P. (Mowery) pointed out that we're the only small rural county and the only county that's unlevied" to earn a top 10 ranking despite being in both cat-

egories. "Unlevied" refers to the fact that Pendleton County Schools does not enjoy the financial support of an excess levy to support operations.

Pendleton County scored a ranking of seven in the Schooldigger.com rating system, 16 positions higher than last year, also earning a four out of a possible five stars. Putnam County earned the top position, followed by Ohio, Jackson, Hancock, Monongahela, and Wood. Pendleton scored above Ritchie, Marion, and Tyler counties in the remainder of the top 10.

Schooldigger states on its website that it uses "data-driven" comparisons to rate systems and schools.

Pendleton scored better than any other county system in the greater Eastern Panhandle. Jefferson County rated 13, Hampshire 21, Grant 26, Morgan 28, Berkeley 35, Mineral 36, Tucker 42, and Hardy 49.

Hardy's lower ranking almost certainly stems at least partly from having a large and growing number of students for whom English is not their first language.

Additionally, Pocahontas County earned

Continued on Page 2

A Quest for Medicine and Profit: The Return of Ginseng Season Comes to the Mountains



Ginseng has centuries old uses and brings profit to those able to scour the mountains to hunt it. Photo courtesy of the West Virginia Department of Commerce.

By Stephen Smoot

According to Cherokee lore, in the old days animals could speak in the same tongues as the human beings with whom they lived in harmony. "But as time went on," it reads in James Mooney's "Sacred Formulas of the Cherokees," "the people increased so rapidly that their settlements spread over the whole earth and the poor animals found themselves beginning to be cramped for room."

At "the Mulberry Place," the bears first met in council and resolved on war with the human race, but could not come up with an effective weapon with which to fight. Deer, fishes, birds, insects, and reptiles also came together to form a strategy. Eventually "the assembly then began to name and devise various diseases. One after the other, and had their invention finally failed them not one of the human race would have been able to survive."

Mankind did have its advocates in the world of plants. "Each tree, shrub, and herb, down even to the grasses and mosses, agreed to furnish a remedy for each one of the diseases named and each said, 'I shall appear to help man when he calls on me in his need."

One of those herbs carried the name a'tali kuli, which in the Cherokee language means "it climbs the mountain." Today most refer to it by its Chinese name "ginseng."

Starting on Sept. 1 and extending through Nov. 30, many in West Virginia and throughout the Appalachians will climb the mountain in search of this root coveted on both sides of the Pacific Ocean.

Mooney wrote in the 1890s that "the extraordinary medical virtues formerly ascribed to ginseng had no other existence than in the mind of the Chinese."

Extending back centuries into the past,

Continued on Page 2

OBITUARIES



Wilma Louise Boyette

Wilma Louise Boyette, 84, left her earthly home on Aug. 19, 2024, surrounded by her loving family.

She was born on Aug. 23, 1939, in Petersburg, the daughter of the late Raymond and Leah (Dunkle) Cowger.

Mrs. Boyette was a graduate of Franklin High School and a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day

She loved applying her skills as a certified nursing assistant by helping others as a home health care worker for Pendleton Senior and Family Services and Camelot Nursing Home.

She took pride in her family and spent every free moment she had with her

daughter, Christina, and her children. She enjoyed family gatherings, shopping trips, sleep overs and cuddling with her grandkids.

Her husband, William Boyette, preceded her in death on Dec. 21, 2006.

She leaves behind to cher ish her memory two daughters, Christina Chan (Eugene) of Franklin and Diane Betler (Kevin) of Helvetia; a sister, Nancy Nesselrodt; five grandchildren, Shawn (Brittnee), Amber, Chris. Charity, and Victoria Chan; six great-grandchildren, Mariah Crites, Eliza Myers Felicity Chan, Everly Chan, Jordan Chan and Luca Chan; two nephews, Jay and Josh Nesselrodt; and a niece, Tansy Wetmore.

She was also preceded in death by a son, Gary Scott; and a nephew, John Nes-

In honoring her wishes her body has been cremated.

A memorial service was held Saturday at the Basagic Funeral Home in Franklin with Bishop Kyle Apple officiating. Inurnment was at Cedar Hill Cemetery in Franklin.

Memorials may be made to Pendleton Senior and Family Services.

Memories and words of comfort may be left at www.

A Quest for Medicine and Profit

Continued From Page 1

the Chinese have harvested ginseng due to its medicinal qualities. Part of the word "ginseng" includes the Chinese word for "human," due to its loose anthropomorphic shape.

Legends surround the plant and its cultivation in the Middle Kingdom. One features a ginseng fairy who angers her father by marrying a mortal. She further enrages him by spreading seeds around the world as medicine to protect humans from a horrific epidemic. The story of Sun Liang tells of a starving farmer who sailed across a broad bay and climbed high mountains seeking out ginseng, only to die in the effort.

In Chinese folklore, he is seen as a hero and, in their estimation, the quest for ginseng takes on more of the nature of a hunt than a harvest.

A medieval Chinese physician, Li Dong Yuan, one of the Four Great Masters of Traditional Chinese Medicine, was quoted in the medical text Shen Non Ben Cao as teaching that "ginseng drains fire, quiets the spirit, stabilizes the corporeal soul, fortifies the spleen, brightens the eyes, eliminates vexatious thirst, breaks hardness and gathering, and treats vacuity taxation, internal damage, and all blood illnesses." Additionally, Chinese medicine recommends ginseng for curing certain problems inherent in males.

Cherokee shamans found ginseng useful in curing headaches, pains in the side, and problems inherent in females. They also think more in terms of hunting the plant. One formula, described by Mooney, requires the hunter to "address the mountain as the 'Great Man' and assures that he only comes to take a small piece of flesh (the ginseng) from its side."

Modern medicine has opened up to exploring the plant's health benefits. According to Mount Sinai, ginseng could boost the immune system and cognitive function, inhibit tumor growth, and help to control blood sugar in diabetics. Mooney noted that "the Cherokees sell large quantities of

sang for 50 cents a pound, nearly equivalent there to two days wages." Today hunters seek out ginseng in 19 United States states,

including much of the Appalachian region. Ginseng can come in either "wet" or "dry" forms. Dried ginseng carries a much higher value. According to the West Virginia Division of Forestry, in the 2019-2020 season, dried ginseng brought \$550 per pound versus \$160 a pound for "wet."

Prices have certainly risen since then in both the United States and China. Only as the season gets underway will the prices for 2024 emerge.

One pound of dried ginseng requires approximately 300 roots. The enormous number of plants required to form a pound draws large numbers of hunters to the hills to seek the living treasure. China very strictly regulates and monitors its ginseng to prevent overharvesting.

In West Virginia, digging may only be performed during the established season. "Diggers have until March 31," according to the West Virginia Division of Forestry "to sell to a registered West Virginia ginseng dealer or have roots weightreceipted at one of the division of forestry weigh stations."

Only with a weight-receipt from the division of forestry can anyone have possession of ginseng roots between April 1 and Aug. 31.

Also, "Ginseng plants must be at least 5 years old or older and have at least three prongs before they can be harvested. Seeds from the plant must be planted on the site of the harvest. Ginseng must be certified before leaving the boundaries of the state. Only registered dealers can certify ginseng."

Federal laws state that "requirements for the export of wild ginseng out of the country are established by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service. All ginseng plants must be at least 5 years of age and have at least three prongs before being harvested and therefore eligible for export."

Ginseng hunters can seek out plants in the Monongahela National Forest, but must buy a permit and abide by legal restrictions. One may purchase a permit "at the ranger stations in Parsons, Petersburg, Richwood, Bartow, Marlinton or White Sulphur Springs, or the supervisor's office in Elkins, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday to Friday." Permits cost \$20 a piece and hunters must buy a different permit for each forest district. Permits expire as soon as the hunter collects 95 plants from the district, but one may purchase another permit after hitting the limit.

The United States Forest Service also states that "ginseng plants must have three or more prongs and have produced fruit this year to be legal for harvest. When harvesting, plant the fruit on-site and then keep the rest of the plant intact. Harvest no more than 24 plants per day and have no more than 24 plants in your possession while on national

Johnny O. Propst, 82

Johnny O. Propst, 82, of Brandywine passed away Aug. 26, 2024, at Grant Memorial Hospital in Petersburg.

Arrangements, under the direction of the Kimble Funeral Home in Franklin, were incomplete at press time. For arrangements, go to www.kimblefuneralhome.com.



Sunday

September 1

Cave Picnic Shelter Lunch at 1 p.m.

Family and friends, please bring a covered dish and join us there.

Barbecue August 31

Chicken Ready by 11 a.m.

\$500 a half

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To reserve chicken call 304-249-5282

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State Officials

Continued From Page 1

to band together, share resources, and fight regulations such as the proposed "waters of the United States" rule that would give federal agencies broad powers to regulate nearly any area with even part time flowing water.

He discussed plans to fight the electric vehicle mandates, made without reference to the conditions in rural America. Morrisey gave the difficult terrain and extreme temperatures, as well as lack of infrastructure in Pendle ton County, as reasons why the rule is foolish,

After Morrisey came United States representative Carol Miller. Redistricting moved Pendleton County into her district from that of Alex Mooney. Miller apologized for not coming to the area more, explaining its remoteness from both Washington, DC, and her hometown of Huntington.

"We make a lot of hard decisions and you send us there to make hard decisions," she remarked. Miller shared some "inside baseball," telling stories from her time in the West Virginia House of Delegates facing sexism, as well as being a "den mother" figure for new delegates in the West Virginia House of Delegates while she served there and incoming congressmen and women now.

One of the issues that she monitors is the upcoming sunset of the 2017 tax cut act, due to sunset next year. Allowing the tax cuts to die would impose significant burdens on all businesses, especially smaller operations.

Attendees also heard from Kris Warner, West Virginia Economic Development Authority executive director. He spoke of the vitality of fair and free elections, then outlined a plan on how to secure them in an age of digital

Next Robbie Morris, economic development director for Randolph County, discussed prosperity and infrastructure, notably focusing on the need for a safer US 33 on the east slope of Allegheny Mountain and expansion of infrastructure, such as water and broadband.

Finally, Bryan Ward, member of the House of Delegates representing Hardy and Pendleton counties, discussed how he and the county's other delegate, Elias Coop-Gonzales, "tag team" and help each other with constituent service. Few know that helping constituents directly with problems is one of the most important parts of service in the State Legislature.

The event also served as a coming out party for the new restaurant, Autumn Oak, at Fisher Mountain. Many attendees from outside of the area were unaware of the facility, or even that the county had a first class golf course.

Janet Robinson, fiancée of co-owner Mark Adkins, shared that "it's unbelievable to get this recognition from people coming to the area." She added that one of the primary goals of the development lies in getting "more jobs and more people to the county" and to "show people how unbelievably beautiful it is here."

Academic Rankings

Continued From Page 1

a ranking of 17 and Randolph 54.

Just as last year, Brandywine Elementary earned the best ranking of the county's elementary schools. The school leapt 14 spots to 13th best out of 368 in the entire state. Franklin soared 51 spots to take a ranking of 111, still in the top third in the state. North Fork Elementary scored a 154.

Pendleton County Middle/High School enjoyed the most dramatic rise, however, gaining 59 spots to earn a ranking of 38. In the greater Eastern Panhandle, this puts the school only behind Jefferson High School, Washington, Musselman, and Frankfort as the fifth best performing high school in the region.

Last year, the Pendleton County Board of Education and superintendent changed course when confronted by falling scores and rankings. They embarked on a program of change that helped to bring about the results released

Part of the answer came with the hiring of Whitecotton, a former Hardy County Schools superintendent, as School Improvement Coordinator with a mandate of change. She served as a key cog in a system that tracked the progress of every student. Benchmark testing done on a regular basis, as well as other metrics, provided the numbers needed to gauge student achievement.

Whitecotton also oversaw implementing changes brought about by the state in educational policy and practice.

If students fell behind, principals and central office staff could both check with the teacher to see what support they might need. Carrie Nesselrodt, director of student services, also worked closely with Communities in Schools to boost attendance, which helped to improve academic results.

On the West Virginia Summative Assessment Test Scores, Pendleton students again performed well. These scores indicate what percentage of students would not need to take remedial classes in a given subject in college were they to choose to go. These numbers encompass all students in the system.

In mathematics, Pendleton County took a ranking of 11th in the entire state with a score of 40.3 percent. This means that just over 40 percent of students, if all decided to go to college, would not need extra remedial help. In English and language arts, Pendleton earned a sixth place ranking at 52.3 percent. For science, Pendleton also placed sixth with a 34.7 percent score.

Hedrick told the board that the system must "continue to make that movement even higher." J.D. Wilkins, board president, agreed and suggested that the board write up and pass a resolution "to thank students, parents, and staff for the improvements."

The board agreed to do so.

Healthy Saturday

WVU Medicine September 7, 2024

GRANT MEMORIAL HOSPITAL **AUXILIARY ASSOCIATION** 6:00 am - 9:00 am

- Limited to **200** people.
- **Appointment Only** ~ Please contact Julie Kesner at 304-257-5806 by September 5 to register.
- No walk-ins.

Masks are optional.

Profile 1 - \$20 • Profile 11 \$25 • Profile 111 (males only) - \$30

A1C Test (offered by Judy's Drug Store) - \$20.00

Vitamin B12 Test - \$10 Vitamin D Test - \$20

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International Union of Painters and Allied Trades Offers Helmets to Hardhats Program

By Stephen Smoot

In 2023, the rate of veteran homelessness rose a staggering 7.4 percent over the previous year. The National Association of American Veterans reported in 2023 that nearly 12 million veterans contended with a disability. Mental health problems plague just over two million.

With so many American military veterans struggling, sometimes with problems connected to their service, sometimes with the demands imposed by an uncertain and inflationary economy, support programs remain a vital part of protecting those who defended America's

David Bland, governmental affairs director with the International Union of Painters and Allied Trades District Council 53, delivered an informational presentation to the Pendleton County Commission last week. In it, he shared details about the union's "Hardhats to Helmets" program. This opportunity fast tracks veterans through the training process to earn a place with the union and the opportunity for good paying employment.

Bland shared that many of the businesses who employ workers from the trades represented by the IUPAT suffer, like almost everyone else, from staffing shortages. Jobs available through the union include industrial and commercial painting, drywall work, window glazing, floor installation, hydro-blaster technicians, and more, up to a total of 30 crafts.

He added that "we need 500 hydro workers" and are "about 300 short" to perform other types of work.

These opportunities benefit women veterans as well as men. "Though not as many seek our work or careers in the trades," Bland said, 'women are actually better at detail sometimes," and described how that applied especially to painting and drywall work.

The program, according to the union's flier, "trains transitioning members of the military in one of our many trades and assists them in finding a job to immediately begin building a successful career with the International Union of Painters and Allied Trades."

Training for veterans comes at no cost, with veterans encouraged to "save their GI Bill for future courses." The training involves both classroom and also hands-on learning together.

Union membership brings perquisites, such as skills and safety training, eligibility for health insurance, and various retirement savings opportunities. After learning the trade, union members can then take classes on how to lead others in a supervisory role.

Within one year of discharge, the veteran can enter the program, in which the union partners with the United States Department of Labor. The partnership enables the union to waive certain requirements for veteran applicants. Pay comes 60 percent from the union, the rest comes from the federal government. A veteran who wishes to enter the trades, but does not take advantage of this program could miss out on thousands of dollars.

Training takes place at the massive 96,000 square foot facility in Weston. They train union members, but also, for example, "state road bridge inspectors . . . in large numbers.'

When they invited elected officials to learn more, Agnes Queen, Lewis County commissioner, exclaimed, "You need to tell everyone about this."

Apprentices then "take training and apply their skills into actual projects around the jurisdiction all across West Virginia and the surrounding states."

Bland urged that supporting employment through the IUPAT also helps to keep employee jobs in West Virginia. He praised Marshall University for using the union on their projects, but shared that West Virginia University employs workers from Pennsylvania generally. He said, "If you can't hire union, at least try to hire local people . . . (because) if you send all the money out of state, it's gone."

Bland has made it his mission to explain the program to local government officials across the district, which covers West Virginia and parts of Ohio and Maryland to ensure that veterans learn about the opportunities available.

Disaster Assistance Available to Ag Producers Impacted by Drought

Agricultural operations in West Virginia have been significantly impacted by recent drought. The U.S. Department of Agriculture has technical and financial assistance available to help farmers and livestock producers recover from these adverse weather events. Impacted producers should contact their local USDA Service Center to report losses and learn more about program options available to assist in their recovery from crop, land, infrastructure, and livestock losses and

USDA Disaster Assistance

Livestock producers who suffered grazing losses for covered livestock due to drought on privately owned or cash leased land may be eligible for the 2024 Livestock Forage Disaster Program. To participate in LFP producers must own, cash lease, or contract grow eligible livestock, provide pasture or grazing land to eligible livestock on the beginning date of the qualifying drought, certify that they suffered a grazing loss due to drought, and submit an acreage report to the Farm Service Agency for all grazing land for which a grazing loss is being claimed. FSA maintains a list of counties eligible for LFP and makes updates each Thursday.

Meanwhile, the Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees, and Farm-Raised Fish Program provides eligible producers with compensation for above normal costs of hauling water and feed to livestock as well as transporting livestock to forage or other grazing acres. For ELAP, producers are required to complete a notice of loss and a payment application to their local FSA office no later than the annual program application deadline, Jan. 30, 2025, for 2024 calendar year losses.

Additionally, eligible orchardists and nursery tree growers may be eligible for cost-share assistance through the Tree Assistance Program to replant or rehabilitate eligible trees, bushes or vines. TAP complements the Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program or crop insurance coverage, which covers the crop but not the plants or trees in all cases. For TAP, a program application must be filed within 90 days of the disaster event or the date when the loss of the trees,

"Once you are able to evaluate the drought impact on your operation, be sure to contact your local FSA county office to timely report all crop and livestock damages and losses," said John Perdue, state executive director

bushes or vines is apparent.

for FSA in West Virginia. "To expedite FSA disaster assistance, you will likely need to provide documents, such as farm records, herd inventory, receipts and pictures of damages or losses."

FSA also offers a variety of direct and guaranteed farm loans, including operating and emergency farm loans, to producers unable to secure commercial financing. Producers in counties with a primary or contiguous disaster designation may be eligible for low interest emergency loans to help them recover from production and physical losses. Loans can help producers replace essential property, purchase inputs like livestock, equipment, feed and seed, cover family living expenses or refinance farm-related debts and other needs.

Additionally, FSA offers several loan servicing options available for borrowers who are unable to make scheduled payments on their farm loan programs debt to the agency because of reasons beyond their control.

Risk Management

Producers who have risk protection through Federal Crop Insurance or FSA's NAP should report crop damage to their crop insurance agent or FSA office. If they have crop insurance, producers should provide a notice of loss to their agent within 72 hours of initial discovery of damage and follow up in writing within 15 days.

For NAP covered crops, a Notice of Loss (CCC-576) must be filed within 15 days of the loss becoming apparent, except for hand-harvested crops, which should

be reported within 72 hours. "Crop insurance and other USDA risk management options are offered to help producers manage risk because we never know what nature has in store for the future," said Alexander Sereno, director of USDA's Risk Management Agency Regional Office that covers West Virgina. "Times of disaster can be a trying time for producers, and they should stay in close contact with their crop insurance agent. Producers can be assured that the approved insurance providers, loss adjusters and agents are experienced and well-trained in handling these types of events."

Conservation

FSA's Emergency Conservation Program and Emergency Forest Restoration Program can assist landowners and forest stewards with financial and technical assistance to implement emergency water conservation measures, restore fencing, remove debris, replace damaged irrigation system,

land leveling and more.

USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service can help farmers make their operation more resilient in the face of drought in future years. Through conservation planning and practices that will improve soil health and water conservation, farmers can reduce future crop loss due to drought and enhance resiliency to changing climatic conditions. Financial help for implementing conservation practices may be available through the Environmental Quality Incentives Program.

Long-term damage from drought can include forage production loss in pastures and fields and decreased crop yields on fields not protected with soil health practices. Producers can visit their local USDA Service Center to learn more about these impacts, potential recovery tactics and how to take steps to make their land more resilient to drought in the future.

"The Natural Resources Conservation Service can be a very valuable partner to help landowners with their recovery and resiliency efforts," said Jon Bourdon, NRCS state conservationist in West Virginia. "Our staff will work one-on-one with landowners to make assessments of the damages and develop approaches that focus on effective recovery of the land."

Additional USDA disaster assistance information can be found on farmers.gov, including USDA resources specifically for producers impacted by drought. Those resources include the Disaster Assistance Discovery Tool, Disaster-at-a-Glance fact sheet, Loan Assistance Tool, and Natural Disasters and Crop Insurance fact sheet. Additionally, FarmRaise offers an FSA educational hub with LIP and ELAP decision tools as well as farm loan resource videos. For FSA and NRCS programs, producers should contact their local USDA Service Center. For assistance with a crop insurance claim, producers and landowners should contact their crop insurance agent.

Come Out and

chairs

Enjoy the Day!

Featured Music by



Michelina Browder's "Picture Agriculture in West Virginia" poster captured first place in the West Virginia Farm Bureau contest.

Browder Wins WV Farm Bureau's Poster Contest

Michelina Browder earned first place in West Virginia Farm Bureau's state "Picture Agriculture in West Virginia" poster contest. She was awarded \$100 for her winning entry. Her design captured first place in the Pendleton County contest and was among 21 posters judged in the state competition.

Her poster, along with the second place poster by Brynn Carlson of Jefferson County and third place by Caleb Larkin of Mineral County, were on display at the West Virginia State Fair. The posters were printed on placemats which were used at Pendleton County Farm Bureau's annual meeting and will be used at the WVFB annual meeting.

Posters of all county winners will be on display later this fall at the cultural center in Charleston.

Each year, the contest for fourth-grade students is sponsored statewide by the West Virginia Farm Bureau's women's

committee for the purpose of promoting the importance of agriculture in the Mountain

"Each year, the students seem to get more creative at displaying what they think agriculture looks like," stated Pam Hessler, WVFB women's leadership chair, in the West Virginia Farm Bureau News. "Many of these students don't live on a farm, but thankfully, in West Virginia, one doesn't have to drive too far without seeing agriculture and all its beauty."

Hessler continued, "Whether it is their families, having those of us come into the classrooms or the WVFB Mobile Ag Education Science Lab, we need to keep educating our youth about the importance of agriculture and the food, fiber and fuel that feeds us, clothes us and gets us here and there.

Browder was a fourth-grade student at Brandywine Elementary School at the time she designed her poster.



MedicalCenter

Davis

Sunday, September 1 ~ 1 p.m. - 5 p.m.

Free Admission! 7 miles north of Franklin on Rt. 220 Food will be sold starting at noon

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10 Years Ago Week of August 28, 2014

'Gazette' Story Tells Allegheny Problems

The most widely circulated and influential daily newspaper in the state, "The Charleston Gazette," dedicated some of the front page of its Sunday edition to a lengthy story about the perilous stretch of Rt. 33 on Allegheny Mountain.

The article was written by Eric Eyre, the "Gazette's" award-winning investigative reporter.

Quoted in length in Eyre's article are Delegate Isaac Sponaugle and Rick Gillespie, the former State Police captain and current vice-president of the board of education. Sponaugle contacted Eyre about the 21 tractor trailer crashes on the mountain since 2009. Four truck drivers perished in accidents either on Dead Woman's Curve or in or near the Horseshoe Turn.

Eyre credits Gillespie for having begun a campaign for major roadway fixes by the state when he was a State Police officer and Jay Rockefeller was governor.

It was Rockefeller who in 1984 ordered a mandatory stopping place for trucks atop the mountain following an article in the "Gazette" about the sometimes deadly stretch of mountain roadway.

Eyre notes that Sponaugle along with Delegate Allen Evans and state Senators Greg Tucker and Clark Barnes as well as the county commission and the school board have renewed the campaign with the state Division of Highways for roadway improvements on the Pendleton County side of Allegheny.

Eyre points out that recent accidents have involved tractor trailer drivers from out of state who are unfamiliar with the road. Sponaugle observed that GPS devices "are steering more truckers to U.S. Rt. 33. It's the shortest but not the safest—route between Interstate 79 near Clarksburg and Interstate 81 near Harrisonburg, VA.'

"They just follow their GPS tracking system," Sponaugle told Eyre. "They have no clue what they're getting into coming off the mountain. By that time, their tractor trailer's brakes are already overheated from the mountainous trip from Elkins."

"Then," Eyre wrote, "they hit Dead Woman's Curve."

Gillespie pointed out that "to the right is a several-hundredfoot drop off the side of the mountain. I have seen trucks plunge all the way down. They resemble an airplane crash."

In the wake of two recent accidents, DOH officials announced plans to spend \$120,000 on flashing signs on the Pendleton County side of Rt. 33 on the mountain.

Gillespie has asked the administration of Gov. Earl Ray Tomblin to direct DOH to "install a 'CatchNet' system, which uses springs and other metal components that snag runaway tractor trailers," Eyre reported. "They work like the nets on aircraft carriers that slow down fighter jets. Wyoming's highways division has installed the special nets, which cost about \$300,000 each, on several mountainous highways."

Eyre notes that the metal nets "can save trucks that weigh up to 90,000 pounds traveling at 90 miles per hour. The devices can be put back in service just hours after an accident.'

Gillespie also favors erection of a concrete wall that would stop runaway trucks from "vaulting over the mountainside at Dead Woman's Curve." "Enough studying," Gillespie said to Eyre. "The time for action is

Regular Exercise Can Help Kids Do Better in School

Physical activity may not be the first thing parents or teachers think about when they want to boost a child's academic performance, but evidence supports the notion that a bit of exercise for the body is beneficial to the brain

In fact, kindergartners who participated in Build Our Kid's Success (BOKS) a free beforeschool program involving physical activity and nutrition education, had significantly improved memory skills as rated by teachers, compared to their peers who did not participate. A study of the children's performance also concluded that those who participated in the program exhibited good behavior in the classroom.

"A sedentary life and poor eating habits can lower kids performance in the classroom and start a cycle of health problems later in life," says Kathleen Tullie, founder and executive director of BOKS and the director of social responsibility for Reebok. "Simply stated, a healthy body and a healthy brain go hand

30 Years Ago Week of August 25, 1994

SUGAR GROVE

Dog Days Brought 40 Days of Rainy Weather to Area

Dog days came to an end a week or so ago, however, it hasn't been the end of our wet, humid weather. The old saying, "if dog days set in rainy, it will be wet until it ends forty days later" had more than a grain of truth this year. The hot, sticky days of mid summer continue through August. The old saying, "fog on the hill brings water to the mill" is a sure indication of more rain to come. Then as one hears the steady downpour of rain splashing on the roof, that saying, "rain before seven, over before eleven" didn't hold true this past Wednesday tremendously swollen streams flowed through our valley. Then again, some take stock in only one Indian weather sign for rain—"cloudy all around and pouring down in

the middle." We've sure had a lot of rain—and then some! Surely by now the hills have been scrubbed fresh and clean! Yes, and the garden goes on and on, with aggressive growth invading everything.

50 Years Ago Week of August 29, 1974

Get Pennies Into Circulation Says Mint Director

I'm calling on every American, especially young people, to get the penny back in circulation and keep it there, Mrs. Mary Brooks, director of the Mint, said

The price of copper has retreated, closing at \$1.10 per pound on May 24. There will be no aluminum penny. The 62 billion pennies produced during the past 15 years have no numismatic value and because of the huge mintage they will never attain great

Nevertheless, speculators and hoarders of pennies have caused what seems to be a shortage of pennies in certain areas of the country.

But there is no shortage of a supply of pennies.

Creating a shortage where it does not exist can adversely affect every public spirited citizen, taxpayer and conservator of the earth's resources. It is inflationary should merchants start to round off sales to the next nickel due to lack of pennies to make change.

One billion pennies returned to the circulation will save the taxpayers \$10,000,000.

60 Years Ago Week of August 27, 1964

100 YEARS AGO

By LON K. SAVAGE

Editor's Note-The following is one of a series of articles on the Civil War. Each weekly installment covers events which occurred exactly 100 years

Lincoln Loses Hope Of Being Reelected

Abraham Lincoln was in the depths of despair 100 years ago this week. As he admitted frankly—it appeared unlikely that he could be re-elected in

November. The Civil War now had dragged on for more than three years. Thousands upon thousands of young men from the North had gone South with the armies, there to be slaughtered in battle. What was there to show for it? Very

little, many people thought. Down around Richmond, Ulysses S. Grant-Lincoln's great hope for victory appeared to be stymied on the Petersburg defenses. He had gotten to Petersburg only at the cost of more than 50,000 lives, and it appeared as many more men would die before he could crack the line of the wily Confederate Robert E. Lee.

Down around Atlanta, Gen. William Tecumseh Sherman had fought all summer against the army of John B. Hood, but he could claim only that he had won a hundred or so miles of scarcely populated land.

True, the Western campaigns had been victorious, but that did not seem to stop the Confederacy's operations.

In the North, people seemed sick of war. Horace Greeley, editor of the New York Tribune, had written Lincoln August 9 asking that he invite peace proposals from the Confederacy. Nine-tenths of the people, Greeley said, were for peace on almost any

Other newspapers agreed. Political observers in state after state predicted that Lincoln's chances were all but gone. The only hope for Lincoln, many said, was that between then and election day, there be important success in battle.

So far, the Democrats had not nominated an opponent for Lincoln, but already it appeared the nomination would go to George Brinton McClellan, once Lincoln's top general who now favored peace.

On August 23, Lincoln signed a memorandum, admitting his plight. The memorandum reads:

"This morning, as for some days past, it seems exceedingly probable that this administration will not be re-elected. Then it will be my duty to so co-operate with the president-elect as to save the Union between the election and the inauguration, as he will have secured his election on such grounds that he cannot possibly save it afterwards."

Lincoln sealed the memorandum, had it endorsed by several cabinet members and then added that it not be

opened until after election day. But Lincoln's mood and his chances of re-election both were to brighten considerably within the next few days. For word then was coming north of the victory at Mobile Bay, and at Atlanta Sherman was on the verge of capturing one of the South's most important cities. These two events would turn the tide.

Next week: Atlanta falls.

70 Years Ago Week of August 26, 1954

County's 31 School **Busses Ready To Roll** In Big \$60,000 **Operation**

When school begins Monday Pendleton County's fleet of 31 county owned school busses will be ready to roll.

Troopers Cunningham of Franklin and Stout of Elkins placed their stamp of approval on them last Wednesday when all the busses were brought in on the Franklin High School grounds for an inspection by

the state police. At the same time the busses were being inspected, the bus drivers were being given a written examination in the high school building by Cpl. Webley.

O. R. Hammer, director of school transportation, said

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yesterday that approximately 1657 pupils will be transported to and from school in Pendleton County during the next term. This is more than 75 per cent of the total enrollment in the

Mr. Hammer estimated that the busses will travel approximately 242,131 miles during the term, and will consume about 30,000 gallons of gasoline. Mr. Hammer added that school bus transportation in the county during the next year would cost approximately

In addition to the 31 county owned busses, two other routes are operated by drivers who furnish their own busses.

The following is a list of the bus drivers who have been employed for the next school term and the routes which they will cover:

Ward Bowers, Onego to

Circleville; Calvin Borror, Cave Mountain to Upper Tract; Dolph Day, Crummetts Run to Franklin; Russell Day, Harman Hills to Riverton; Warden Hartman, Hunting Ground to Circleville: Stanley Hedrick, Grant County line to Upper Tract; J. James Hevener, Borror to Franklin; Ray L. Judy, Upper North Fork to Circleville; Arlie Ketterman, Onego Community: Glen Ketterman, Grant County line to Circleville; Carl Kimble, Smoke Hole to Upper Tract; Ottis Kimble, Grant County line to Franklin; L. L. Lantz, Elk Mountain to Circleville; Carl Mitchell, Greenawalt Gap to Schmucker; Dewey H. Moyers, Reeds Creek to Franklin; Tommy Nesselrodt, Sweedlin Valley to Franklin; Allen Pitsenbarger, Egypt to Ft. Seybert; Vernon Propst, Jack Mountain to Sugar Grove; H. C. Puffenbarger, Stony Run to Sugar Grove; Owen J. Raines, Germany Valley to Circleville; Allen Rexrode, Corner to Brandywine; Warren Rexrode, Moyers to Sugar Grove; Wilbur Sevier, Moyers to Franklin; Garland Sheffer, Brushy Fork to Sugar Grove; Arvid M. Simmons, Dickenson Mountain to Franklin; Edgar Simmons, E. Dry Run to Franklin; L. Paul Simmons, Dolly to Riverton; Raymond Simmons, Ft. Seybert to Brandywine; William Skiles, Deer Run to Franklin; Eston Smith, Route 220 to Schmucker; Denver Thompson, Reeds Creek to Upper Tract; Ralph Vandevander, Smith Creek to Franklin; and Samuel Vance, Brandywine Community.

279 4-H Projects **Judged Last Week**

One hundred eighty-nine 4-H club members exhibited 279 projects at three community exhibits last week at Franklin, Upper Tract, and Circleville. One hundred fifty-one girls' projects were checked along with one hundred twenty-eight boys' projects.

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

THE PENDLETON TIMES (USPS 425-240)

(ISSN 2833-8979) Michael Showell, Publisher

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

mailing offices.

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

Smith Creek/ Friends Run

by Dave Ellis

This is a very long weekend as Labor Day is Monday. Sunday starts a new month, September. Usually, September is the beginning of cold temperatures and longer nights as the amount of daylight goes away each day.

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, Sandy Washburn, Larry Moyers, Mary Alice Simmons 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, Neal Eye, Margaret Wimer, Donald Burns, Wendell and Darlene Nelson, Ruby Gail Roberson, Ruth Bauer, Anna Mauzy, Linda Maxwell Looney, Leann Britton, Bennie and Mary Alice Evick, Jimmie Bennett, Ruthalene Judy, Wayne Kimble, Wanda Pitsenbarger, Gloria Moats, Jackie Smith, Tim and Dee McCormick, Judy A. Simmons, Nancy Blankenship, Rick Waggy, Frankie Judy, Jim Judy, Jessie Simmons, Lucy and Charlie Westfall, David Berg, Minny Rhoads, Mary and Gary Hess, Phil Downs, Larry Rexrode, Ethel Murphy, Bill Snyder, Troy Bennett, Marcia "Marty" Warner, Tom and Judy Boor, Bob and Brenda Sites, Nancy and Tony George, David M. Hartman, Judy Hott Vance, George Hevener, David M. Parkinson, Jim Fawley and the family of Paul Auville, Jr.

Prayer thought: "Dear Father, thank you for your gifts in my life. Let's ask Him to give us a thankful and generous

heart to give as He leads us." High and low temperatures and precipitation for Aug. 19 through Aug. 25, followed by the same for last year, were as follows: Aug. 19 - 75°, 60° (83°, 46°); Aug. 20 - 67°, 51° (91°, 51°); Aug. 21 – 69°, 43° (87°, 58°); Aug. 22 - 71°, 42° (82°, 63°); Aug. 23 - 80°, 47° (81°, 51°, .01"); Aug. 24 – 86°, 52° (84°, 62°, .45") and Aug.

25 - 85°, 54° (88°, 63°).

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Page 4 - August 29, 2024 - The Pendleton Times

Pendleton County Chamber of Commerce Looks Forward to an Active Fall Season

By Stephen Smoot

After a spring and summer highlighted with fun activities, the Pendleton County Chamber of Commerce has no intention of slowing down as fall and the holiday season looms. Last week, the regular monthly meeting was held to continue work on upcoming events and other organizational business.

This fall, the Chamber will move its annual dinner to Circleville and make some changes to the usual format. Mountain Cajun Getaways, which hosted a Chamber Meet and Greet for the new West Virginia University Extension agent, will host. It will take place at 6 p.m.

"It's a great spot," said Elizabeth Scott, executive

Unlike recent years, the chamber will bring a more family friendly and less formal tone to the annual dinner. Scott said, "It will be more of a family-friendly, laid back, family picnic style event where you can bring your kids.'

Food options will include hot dogs, hamburgers, different prepared salads, and a variety of desserts. While drink tickets will remain available for attendees, nonalcoholic drinks will also be provided. A small podium will be set up for live entertainment and presenting

Scott said "It's going to be in October . . . getting away from the holidays and hunting season" with the hope of expanding turnout even more.

Also, "Tasha and Isaac (Sponaugle) would like to bring their mobile bar," added Scott.

The chamber board also discussed their plans for filling chests with prizes for the treasure hunt at the Treasure Mountain Festival. The grand prize donation has already come from Pendleton Community Bank with others to come. Scott donated items from her own business as well.

Also, the chamber board shared ideas on providing fall-themed decorations to highlight the Welcome to Franklin signs some time prior to TMF.

In other business, Scott reviewed the bingo fundraiser

held the previous Saturday night. She reported that the event "cleared \$700" with approximately 30 playing.

Board members then discussed the success of the Main Street Beautification project, despite damage inflicted on one of the hanging flower baskets gracing the streets of Franklin. They approved a gift certificate to reward Roger and Diana Kimble for invaluable help in maintaining them.

The chamber and Town of Franklin finalized their joint agreement in renting out use of a large stage recently procured by both. Highland County expressed interest in renting the stage for future events, necessitating some changes to the original draft.

She also shared that the chamber continued to enjoy success in membership recruitment. The board set the original goal for memberships at \$10,000, but in the past year blew past that to a current level of \$15,700. The chamber also received its regular grant funding tied to the administration of Trout Fest.

Convention and Visitors Bureau Maintains Momentum through Ongoing Tourist Season

By Stephen Smoot

With the spring and summer tourist season almost history, the Pendleton County Convention and Visitors' Bureau set its sights on upcoming events in fall

Traditionally a fun-filled time for locals, the CVB has worked to promote the Treasure Mountain Festival to a wider area. Annie Humes, who serves on both the CVB and Treasure Mountain Festival boards said "It's coming soon!"

One of the immediate priorities lay in helping to get the soon-to-be available TMF program into the community. Both hard and digital copies are available. The program will include the popular music and entertainment schedule as well.

Humes said, "Please feel free to reshare" information via social media and also that "volunteers are needed everywhere."

Although Mountain State Maple Days next comes in 2025, organizers have already commenced working on ideas for promotion to make Pendleton County the center of the statewide event. Lindsay Kazarick, another member of the CVB board, shared that organizers and others "are already planning Maple Days. Anyone in-

terested in registering for this coming year can do so." They may do so through the West Virginia Maple Syrup Producers Association website.

Kazarick said of the registration process that "it's pretty straightforward."

The group then brainstormed ideas on how to take the two weekends scheduled a month apart and create

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"a maple month" of different events to maintain and expand interest. Kazarick informed the board that "Pendleton County sets the bar for what happens around the state in maple" and that "other people find out what is happening in Pendleton County and then they do it."

Humes said it was good that "everyone's got maple syrup on their brains the whole month."

Business also included the board and its members working together to facilitate the transition to a new executive director.

Prioritization went to maintaining communication with partner organizations during the transition process. Humes took the lead in reaching out. She informed the Appalachian Forest National Heritage Area of the CVB's search and worked with them to make sure that the grant would be unaffected.

She reported that "we're in a good place. We can continue with the project."

Humes also attended a Pendleton County Commission meeting to update local elected officials, as well as meeting with the TMF boards.

Finally, the group heard an update on the executive director hiring process from board member Melinda Brooks. A draft of an advertisement for hiring the position was almost completed.

In the interim, the board would work together to keep the work continuing efficiently and effectively. Kazarick said, "We should continually communicate with each other to make sure that we all have the proper information."

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August 29, 2024 - The Pendleton Times - Page 5

Springhouses Were Early Means of Refrigeration

Sugar Grove

By Paula Mitchell

Long ago, before electricity was brought to these mountains, people were faced with the age-old problem of preserving their food. Many methods were used. Meats were salted, smoked or dried. Fruits and vegetables were either dried, pickled in brine, or canned.

There was still the problem of keeping butter, milk, and cheese cool. They solved this problem by building springhouses. These houses were constructed near or over springs. Cold water runs through them, serving the same function as present day refrigerators.

Not all springhouses were alike. They were built basically of three types...rock, wood, and wood/rock. Even though wood could be constructed quickly, the buildings were more vulnerable to the weather, and did not last long. These mountains supplied a huge amount of wood and

Troughs were built in the springhouse. They were about 1 foot wide and seven feet long. The water would fall about three feet from the pipe into the trough and drain out through a small hole in the trough outside of the springhouse. The springhouse was good all year round. The water would never freeze because it traveled from a deep spring. These springs which would remain cool all summer long.

In the top of the springhouse is an air vent allowing air to enter the house. Were it not for the air vent, water would drip all day long. In addition to the air vent, there was also a window for light, an entrance door, as well as an inner door, to keep out the animals. There were also some shelves on which canned fruits and vegetables were stored.

There remain several springhouses in the county. Perhaps the best known one is on the Annanias Pitsenbarger farm.

Life's little lessons to get one through the day include the following:

- 1. Keep noise down.
- 2. Get regular checkups.
- 3. Remember that the early bird gets
- the worm.

4. Do neck rubs.

5. Hold a baby kitten.

Although there has been no rain to fall in these parts, the weather has been just lovely. The weatherman calls for warmer temperatures...warmer than last week's 39 and 40 degree chilly mornings. Flowers seem to be showing off their beauty whilst the hummingbirds are taking their fill of the sweet juice found in the feeders. Before long, they will be winging their way to the south, many miles away.

This week's quotes are as follows:

"If bees only gathered nectar from perfect flowers, they wouldn't be able to make even a single drop of honey." — Matshona Dhliwayo

"Keep a green tree in your heart and perhaps a singing bird will come." — Chinese Proverb

"August rain: the best of the summer gone, and the new fall not yet born. The odd uneven time." — Sylvia Plath

"In the arithmetic of love, one plus one equals everything, and two minus one equals nothing." — Mignon McLaughlin

"Nobody has ever measured, even poets, how much a heart can hold." — Zelda Sitting on the front porch, fanning one's

self, is the best place to hear the "Talk of

the Grove." Many family members and friends of Jordan Hevener (daughter of Cary and George) motored this past weekend to Chattanooga, Tennessee, to attend the lovely wedding of Jordan to Quinn Ronek. The weather encouraged them all to see

Clickety-clacks for the chin waggers are as follows:

took place Saturday evening.

the sights of the city before the nuptials

• There are more than 60 different types of kangaroos. A baby kangaroo when born is only 2 centimeters long.

·During the Civil War, Chattanooga, Tennessee, was an important area. The Battle of Chattanooga was made up of three different conflicts: the Battle of Orchard Knob, the Battle of Lookout Mountain, and the Battle of Missionary Ridge. ·A group of parrots is a "pandemo-

· More hit songs have the word 'September' in the title than any other month.

•On the average, people get 120 emails

Jordan Hevener and Quinn Ronek exchanged wedding vows Saturday evening in Chattanooga, Tennessee. Pictured are, from left, George and Cary Hevener, Jordan and Quinn Ronek and Nancy and Al Ronek.

Concerns include the following: Bob Adamson, Dyer Anderson, John Ashley, Roger Ashley, Mercedes Aumann, Richard Bennett, "Bo" Boggs, Marie Cole, Christian Dasher, Benny Evick, Isaac Eye, Linda Eye, Marie Eye, Mary Eye, Carl Gant, David Gillespie, Lola Graham, Patsy Green, JC Hammer, Marlene Harman, Missy Harrison, Marvin Hartman, Steve and Armanda Heavner, Grace Hedrick, Jim Hiner, Evan Hise, Tim Hively, George Hevener, Edsel and Mary Ann Hogan, Virgil Homan, Jr., Adalbert Hoover. Donna K. Hoover, Keith Hoover, Myrtle Hoover, Tim L. Hoover, Debbie and Enos Horst, Lisa and Mike Jamison, Jessica Janney, Alice Johnson, Richard Judy, Marsha Keller, Kim Kline, Ginger Knight, Tracie Knight, Laura Kropp, Melissa Lambert, Robert Lambert, Ronnie Lambert, Rex Landis, Roger and Skip Mallow, Yvonne Marsh, Ed May, Gene McConnell,

Gary McDonald, Neil McLaughlin, Rose Miller, Bruce Minor, Tom Mitchell, Barbara Moats, Gloria Moats, John Morford, Bill Mullenax, Helen Nash, Aaron Nelson, Ruth Nelson, Cheryl Paine, Andy Pond, Janice Propst, Eldon "Butch' Puffenbarger, Alda Propst, Janis Propst, the John O. Propst family, Mike Propst, Sheldon Propst, Tom Rader, Brandon Reel, Charles Rexrode, Jason Rexrode, Linda Fay Rexrode, Pam Rexrode, Dennis Riggleman, Mike Roberts, Donna Ruddle, Jenny Ruddle, Mary Sawyers, Brittany Shriver, Annie Simmons, Greg Simmons, Erin Simmons, Eva Simmons, Judy Simmons, Nelson Simmons, Robbie Sites, Mike Skiles, Tina Stuben, Steve Stump, Elizabeth Terry, Linda and Larry Vandevander, Sandra Vandevander, Amy Vaus, Judy Waggy, Estelle Wagner, Mary Louise Waldschlager, Rene White, Norman Wilfong, Judy Williams, Ann and Ed Wimer and Margaret Wimer.

A Look at Moatstown: Past and Present

My aunt asked after reading my previous article what I was going to write about next? I said that I didn't know, and her reply was, "you have lived in Moatstown long enough you should write that story." I do live on the outskirts of Moatstown but not in Moatstown itself. What I am writing is what I have been told by those who lived in this area many years before I came on the scene, and what I have been a part of for the past 63 years.

The first two people I remember knowing from Moatstown were Roscoe Moats and Ralph Anderson. The Hiner ladies who owned the farm we lived on hired them to help my daddy one summer to help with the hay making. Roscoe had a most hearty laugh and was very sociable while Ralph was very quiet. Anyone who knew Ruby Moats, Roscoe's sister, and ever heard her laugh knows

After I married my husband and moved back to Pendleton County, I met and got to know many of his friends and neighbors in Moatstown. Bid and his mother often talked about Alice Anderson and Bid was very fond of her. He talked about how she took care of him. He was seven at the time his sister was born. Alice would bundle him up to keep him warm and slept in the bed with him. This was in the middle of January—and this house was the second coldest house I ever slept in.

My mother-in-law would churn butter and would always save the buttermilk for Noah Moats who lived above our Floyd Meadow. She would put it in a half gallon jar, and I would walk up through the meadow and take it to him. When the hogs were butchered, the family would share meat with the Cam Moats family. He lived on top of the mountain. I don't know if there is a name as all I ever heard it called was the Moats Ridges. He lived there with his family and Roscoe and Ruby were two of

Cam would make baskets and sell them. Our family had one of his baskets that burned when Bid's home burned. Cam also lost his home and all the family owned to a fire. The community came together and built a new house down in the hollow for the Moats family.

I would often visit this house on a regular basis while helping with the kindergarten program at Franklin Elementary as one of our students lived there with the family. His grandmother, Gladys, would be cooking something on the wood stove.

I would drive up the hollow most days, but I did walk straight up the mountain behind my house one time. I mean straight up! I never knew the name for this hollow until the 911 addresses were started, and it was known as Dark Hollow. The view from the top of that mountain is breathtaking. On a clear day you can see the Thorn Creek Valley, both Thorns, all the way south.

One special person to our family was Eliza Jane Moats

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who baby-sat for my late grandson, Derek. She would performing is the Moatstown Choir. The Moatstown come just as we left for work and care for him until evening. She would put him in the stroller and push him up the road and then they would go down the road. Her granddaughter, the late Kristi Jones, would be with her a lot of the time. Eliza Jane would often take the two children to Sinnett Lane Grocery.

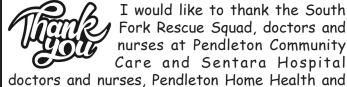
I would visit Melvin and Myrtle Moats—they always seemed to enjoy my visits and I felt very welcome. Myrtle worked on the election board one time, and she said that wasn't for her and didn't work on the board again.

One morning the rest of us working the election board had everything ready to open the polls and no Grace. We didn't have any telephone service, so I came home to call. I didn't get any answer, so I headed back to the youth building. I spotted Grace parked at St. John's Church. She had gone to the wrong place and was wondering where the rest of us were.

Melvin Moats, Jr., (Rat) became like one of our family after he moved back to Moatstown. He would help Mike with the hay making and other farm chores. I used to walk two miles a day and if he was going to Harrisonburg, Virginia, and happened to see me, he would always stop to say hello, ask how I was, and if there was anything he could bring me. That's a friend.

I got to know a lot of the children who called Moatstown home when they were students at Franklin Elementary and through the students, I got to know the parents. Two of those still living in Moatstown, Allen and Sam Moats, both take time to say hello whenever they see me. There aren't many people left in Moatstown, but those who are, remain my neighbors and friends.

Every community, in my opinion, however small, has contributed something of value, and is worth mentioning to those of us still living. Moatstown was once home to a schoolhouse, a teacher, a pastor, basket makers, numerous persons who served in the military, and still



I would like to thank the South Fork Rescue Squad, doctors and nurses at Pendleton Community Care and Sentara Hospital

for the prayers, cards, calls and for visiting me in the hospital and at home. Thank You and God Bless You All.

Tommy Warner and Nathan and Linda Warner



LABOR DAY - SEPT. 2

81 N.Main St., Franklin ~ 304-358-2230 WILL BE CLOSING **AT NOON**

Choir continues to host the annual Moatstown Reunion in August, I believe, and dozens of family members return for that special day.

I can't end this article without mentioning my friends, Noah and Gwen Moats. Noah was a special friend to Bid during his last years. They don't live above the meadow anymore, but aren't far away. This Noah is the grandson of the Noah I would take the buttermilk to all those

This is the Moatstown I have seen and heard about, and home. I know there is probably someone who grew up in Moatstown who could write a wonderful story about this once large, populated community in Pendleton County.

Violet R. Eye

JACOB & ELIZABETH (HEDRCK) KISAMORE

Saturday, September 7 10 a.m. - Eat @ Noon

North Fork Ruritan Building (Rt. 28, Cabins)

Please bring a covered dish to share For more info, Shelby Kisamore, 540-290-7170 (phone/text) shelbykisamore18@icloud.com (email) or Ray Kisamore, 540-290-3710 (call only))



Germany Valley Limestone Rd., Riverton

Sunday Buffet September 1 · Noon - 3 p.m.

Carved Top Round of Beef, Chicken Paprikash, Baked Pork Chops, Spinach Salad, Buttered Egg Noodles, Scalloped Potoates, Snow Peas and Carrots, Steamed Broccoli and Cauliflower, Rolls/Butter and Assorted Desserts

Seafood Buffet

Friday, September 6 · 4:30 - 7 p.m.

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.)

Friday - Monday 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. 3328 Germany Valley Road., Riverton 304-567-2691

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REUNIONS

ALEXANDER & family welcome! 8-29-2p

OLIVER PROPST Reunion Sunday, nity Bank; the Benefici-Everyone welcome.

THE descendants of to-wit: Phillip and Cordelia Caverns. Friends and family welcome.

YARD SALES

MULTI-FAMILY GINNING at a pipe with Yard Sale Saturday, a 2" x 21/2" cap, set, corner of Orville Coffman et als August 31, 9112 of Orvine Commun. August 31, 9112 of (96/408) on the right of Sugar Grove Road, way of the Brushy Fork Jimmy and Linda Road; thence with said Rexrode. Signs will Coffman and leaving said be posted.

ADVERTISEMENT

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING The Region VIII Solid

Waste Authority will hold a public hearing concerning the five-year update of the Comprehensive Litter acres-\$449,000. Call Plan and the Commercial Solid Waste Facility Siting Plan. The hearing will take place in the Region 8 8-8-4c building conference room, Petersburg, WV 26847 on September 30. all public libraries within Clerk's office, and at the Region 8 Planning and Council. Written comments will be accepted until October 10, 2024, and may be mailed

NOTICE OF SALE UNDER DEED OF TRUST

to the Region VIII Solid

Waste Authority, P.O.

Notice is hereby given that under authority of that certain Deed of Trust hereinafter described, the ence: Houses, Barns, undersigned Trustee will by virtue of authority vested in him at the front door of the Pendleton County Courthouse in Franklin, West Virginia,

AT 11:00 A.M. **ON AUGUST 30, 2024**

offer for sale certain property described in that deed of trust executed by Roger Lawrence to Jeffrey S. Reunion Sunday, deed of trust is described Trustee, which September 8, Frank- as bearing date the 3rd lin Town Park. Lunch day of December, 2010, at 12:30 p.m. Bring and of record in the Office of the Clerk of the County covered dish. Friends Commission of Pendleton County, West Virginia, in Trust Deed Book 131, at Page 683, and given to secure Pendleton Commu-September 1, fam- ary, the payment of certain ily pavilion on Thorn indebtedness represented by notes therein described, Creek Road, Rodney of which property is de-Hoover residence. scribed as being situated Lunch at 1:00 p.m. in Sugar Grove District, Pendleton County, West 1p larly described as follows,

That certain real estate, Kisamore Reunion, together with the build-Sunday, September ings and improvements 1, at noon, Seneca thereon located, situated, lying and being in Sugar Grove District, Pendleton County, West Virginia, and 8-22-2c being more particularly described by their metes and

bounds as follows: TRACT NO. 1: right of way N. 49-29 W.

156.83 feet to a 1/2" iron on the U.S. Forest Service pipe, found, corner of the line; thence S. 32 30' W. 50 In the event there are Fed- from time to time, upon same, on line of the Unit- feet to an iron stake and eral Tax Liens against the announcement ed States Forest Service; the North West Corner of property, the United States given verbally, on day thence with line of said a lot containing 0.108 acre; would have the right to re- of sale and any continu-Forest Service N. 35-11 E. thence S. 50 E. 108 feet deem the property within a ance thereof. The secured 112.25 feet to a 1" iron pipe to the point of beginning, period of 120 days from the party reserves the right to in a stone pile, set, corner containing 0.139 acre, of a lot surveyed this day more or less, and being riod allowable for redempfor Thomas Cook et als, the same real estate grant-tion under local law, whichcontaining 0.662 thence leaving the Forest Service and with said Cook dated February 2, 2007, S. 42-12 E. 199.41 feet and of record in the Clerk's passing a 1" iron pipe, set, Office aforesaid in Deed Book 174, at Page 242. at 104.15 feet and passing a pipe with a 2" x 2½" cap The Grantors further at 188.41 feet, to a point in

the Brushy Fork Road, wit-Grantee, his heirs and asness the south end of a 12" corrugated steel culvert which bears N. 41-28 W. the aforesaid real estate. 7.72 feet; thence leaving This sale and the consaid Thomas Cook et als., S. 59-43 W. 91.60 feet to described real property will any and all bids received, the beginning and contain- be by Special Warranty. ing 0.406 acre or 17,342 Environmental warranties square feet, more or disclaimed and subject to less, deducting 359 square all covenants, restriction, feet for the right of way of easements, rights of way West Virginia Secondary and reservations which Route 30, the Brushy Fork may be a matter of record Road, leaves a net acreage in the aforesaid Clerk's of 17,342 square feet, more Office or visible upon the or less, and being the same ground, all prior liens and real estate granted and encumbrances, including, conveyed to the Grantors by that certain Deed dated ject property will be sold August 17, 1998, and reas "AS IS" condition. The corded in the Clerk's Of- Trustee shall be under no fice aforesaid in Deed Book duty to cause any existing

for all pertinent purposes. TRACT NO. 2: The fol-This sale is also made lowing described tract or subject to the rights of tenparcel of real estate, lying ants under the Protecting and being situate on the Tenants at Foreclosure Act West side of and adjoin- of 2009. Neither the Trusing the Brushy Fork Road tee nor the holder of said on Brushy Fork, Sugar note makes any represen-Grove District, Pendleton tation or warranties as to County, West Virginia, and the existence of any leases being more particularly de- or other occupancy agree scribed as follows:

BEGINNING at an iron property. stake and the North East corner of a lot containing 0.139 acres and thence running with the Brushy of sale and any excise tax Fork Road N 57-45 E. shall be paid by purchaser 52.5 feet to an iron stake; as well as recording costs thence N 50 W 157 feet to upon recordation of said a stake and stone on the U.S. Forest Service line; thence S 32-30 W 50 feet to a stake and stone and the North West corner of a lot containing 0.139 acres; thence S 50 E 134.5 feet to the point of beginning, containing .162 acre, more or less, and being the same real estate granted and conveyed to the Grantors herein by Deed dated February 2, 2007, and of record in the Clerk's Office of the County Commission of Pendleton County, West Virginia, in Deed Book

174, at Page 242. TRACT NO. 3: That certain tract or parcel of real estate located on the west side of and adjoining the Brushy Fork Road on Brushy Fork, Sugar Grove District, Pendleton County, West Virginia, and being more particularly de-

BEGINNING at an iron stake and the North Eastern corner of a lot containing 0.108 acres; thence running with the Brushy Fork Road N. 65 30' E. 11.4 feet to an iron pipe; thence N. 57 45' E. 42 feet to an iron stake and the south eastern corner of a lot containing 0.162 acre; thence N. 50 W. 134.5feet to a stake and a stone

acre; ed and conveyed to the ever is longer.

grant and convey to the exceed thirty days. Ansigns, all rights of way and take precedence over any easements appertaining to written notice or advertise-

148, at page 304, to which tenant or person occupying reference is herewith made the subject property to vacate said property

> ments affecting the subject The real property taxes on the above described

will be prorated as of date

special warranty deed

date of such sale or the pe- purchase the property at

hand on day of sale or evi- lin, West Virginia 26807, dence of credit acceptable (304) 358-3333. to the secured party, and balance at closing, not to nouncements made at sale

The undersigned trustee veyance of title to the above reserves the right to reject

such sale

Persons interested in viewing the property may TERMS OF SALE: contact Jeffrey S. Bow-Twenty Percent (20%) in ers, PO Box 849, Frank-

> DATED this 15th day July, 2024.

JEFFREY S. BOWERS, TRUSTEE P.O. BOX 849

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Accounting, Finance, or Business Administration is required. This is an excellent opportunity for a Staff Accountant to contribute to the financial success of our organization and further develop their accounting skills. If you are a detailoriented 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

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 **Staff Accountant Position** PO Box 100, Franklin, WV 26807

jwimer@pcc-nfc.org PCC is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

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Two Pendleton County 4-H'ers, Alex Adams and Easton Boner, were awarded the Best of Show ribbons at the State Fair of West Virginia. For his project exhibit, Adams made a quilt, right, featuring West Virginia's facts and history. Boner designed a unique display of small engine parts and their purpose.

The 2024 4-H project exhibits were on display July 22 - 25 at the Pendleton Community Building in Franklin and July 27 - Aug. 3 at the Tri-County Fair in Petersburg. All of the blue ribbon projects were exhibited Aug. 8 -17 at the State Fair of West Virginia in

Forty-three purple ribbons were awarded to the 4-H'ers with the highest blue ribbon scores above 95 points in each project category. Twelve blue ribbons were awarded to projects with scores between 90 and 95 points. Seven projects with scores between 80 and 89 points received red ribbons. Three white ribbons were given to members with project scores between 70-79 points.

Thirty-two 4-H'ers are enrolled in beef, goat, sheep, swine, and horse projects and will complete record guides after they have shown or sold their

Eleven green Cloverbud ribbons were awarded to Cloverbuds for project com-

To complete a project, a 4-H'er must complete the project book, make an exhibit and fill out an activity record form.

In addition to ribbons, 4-H'ers receive premium money for their efforts in completing projects. They will receive \$4 for each purple and blue ribbon, \$3 for each red ribbon, and \$2 for each white ribbon on the county level and from the Tri-County Fair. All projects receiving blue ribbons and exhibited at the state fair receive \$3.50.

Best of show winners for Pendleton County 4-H at the Tri-County Fair included Vivian Pownell, Scratching the Surface; Carly Kimble, Under Construction (sewing); Ross Pownell, Take the Bait; Jax Bennett, Six Easy Bites; Kenden Champ, Hiking Trails; Zander Adams, Take Your Pick; Tori Heavner,

Self Determined; Easton Boner, Small Engines; Alex Adams, Know Your State; and Gracie Hedrick, This Is 4-H.

To celebrate the 10 days of the State Fair of West Virginia, the 12 Best of Show 4-H exhibits made by more than 3,000 West Virginia 4-H'ers were show-

Alex Adams was awarded the Best of Show ribbon for his "West Virginia Studies Year 1" project featuring a quilt of West Virginia facts and history.

Boner was awarded the Best of Show Ribbon for his "Small Engine Year 3" project featuring a unique display of small engine parts and their purpose.

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UPPER TRACT - Old country home oak paneling on .48 ac. 2 PENDING garages, 2 outbuildin /air, generac generator, 3 BD, 2 BA. **\$225,000** ooo. Call Gene Boggs.

WIC Announces September Schedule

During the month of September, Pendleton County WIC Clinic will be open 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Wednesdays at the Pendleton Community Building in Frank-



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lin. Limited services are also

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pants can receive services in

Petersburg if alternate days

or evening appointments are

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cation and healthy foods to

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closed Sept. 2 and 20.

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SPECIAL \$25,900	\$23,500
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SGR347A 27.82 Acres with 3 Bed 3 Bath odge Home, Well, Septil No The Guer Graye/Shop, Bethel District. NEW LISTING \$449,000.00.

SGR346A 20.998 Acres with a 1-yr.-old 4032 sq. ft. Lodge-like home. 3 Bed, 4.5 Baths, Open Floor Plan, 2 RV Pads, Expansive covered dept & political Bedroom w/ Ensuite and West access to not tub on side deck. Finished basement w/garage access. Sugar Grove Estates. Sugar Grove District. Some Restrictions apply. This is a must see! NEW LISTING \$599,000.00.

SGR342A 5 ACIDS ED 46 ON STRATO Development. Some Restrictions: NEW LISTING \$15,000.00.

SGR339A 1.00 Acre w/3 Red 3 Bath Home, 2 Car Garage. 12 10 DEBa 6 Gilleway Smith Heights Subdivision. Some Restrictions. NEW LISTING \$279,000.00 REDUCED \$269,000.00.

SGR337A 2.79 Acres, w/2 Bed, 1 Bath Cabin. Wood Ceiling, Paneled walls, LP heat. 8'x8' outbuilding. Well, 2 Septics. Sugar Grove District. NEW LISTING \$129,000.00. SGR335A 2.58 Acres w/3-4 Bdrm., 2 Bath, Ranch Home, Maintenance free exterior. Oil heat. Central AC. Public Water, Outbuildings, Franklin District. NEW LISTING \$349,000.00 REDUCED \$329,000.00.

SGR334A 4.25 Acre Lot Sherwood Forest Nice building lot, Electric Wall Electric Republic Resolutions apply, Franklin District. NEW LISTING \$39,000.00.

SGR333A 5.37 Acres w/Cabin. Open Living space, Main floor bdrm, Lagset Part College Living 2 sides, Easy access to property. Located in Buck Ridges, Franklin District. NEW LISTING \$164,900.00.

SGR331A 3.0 Acres w/2 Bed. 1 Bath Cabin, Generator, Brand New Specific Did Rate 6. Septic, located on Kile Knob, Frankin District. \$259,000.00 \$229,000.00 REDUCED \$209,000.00.

SGR330A 3.69 Acres, 2 New 12x24 Buildings w/Metal

Roofs. 1 Building is insulated w/living space, electricity and 2 lofts. The other is used for storage. 200AMP service, Bethel District. Close to National Forest. \$89,900.00

REDUCED \$69,900.00. SGR328A&B 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 \$62,400.00 per unit or purchase both units for \$135,000.00 \$120,000.00.

SGR327A 0.44 Acres w/3 Bed, 2 Bath Rancher. Located in Brandywine, South Fork Crossing. Newly rehabbed. Some Restrictions. \$109,900.00 REDUCED \$104,900.00.

SGR326A 141.74 Acres, Raw Land, Franklin District.

\$399,000,00

SGR318A 14.47 Acres Raw Land, w/Road cut in and

SGR320A 2.75 wooded acres, Lot #13, Yeager Ct. County, WV. \$63,250.00 REDUCED \$59,900.00.

leveled building pad being prepared, Buck Ridges Development, Franklin District. **\$49,900.00**. SGR317A 0.21 Spyre Front, 2 Apartments, Large Storage area, located in Riverton. \$70,000.00.

SGR316A 10.35 Acres, Entry Mountain, Some Covenants & Restrictions. Nice View. \$89,900.00.

SGR309A 0.44 Acres v74 bed, 2 bath home in Franklin. Two car garage whomus room. \$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.

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

SGR258B 3.42 Acres, w/3 Bed, 2 Bath Home. Sugar Grove District, Falcon Lane. \$259,000.00. REDUCED \$229,000.00 REDUCED \$199,000.00.

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 Hoom is Read a Farmhouse on property Hoom wagnificent Views. Conservation Ease-

ment. \$998,700.00. SGR236 World Class View Overlooking Germany Valley

Log Cabin, 70.08 Acres, 2 bed, 2.5 Baths. Seneca Lookout Some Restrictions. \$799,000.00.

SGR223 4 Bed A Ratto 2000 NTT Road Tated in town of Franklin. SGR056 Highland County property. Pasture, several yearround 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 r dywine 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.