

# THE PENDLETON TIMES

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September 5, 2024

## Invasive Giant Hogweed Plant Found in Surrounding States Is Serious Threat

By Stephen Smoot

It has been seen in the wild in Pennsylvania, Ohio, Maryland, and Virginia, but not yet in West Virginia. Giant hogweed, however, continues to knock on the doorway of the Mountain State and at some point, will likely arrive in state.

The family of plants that includes carrots also produces multiple plants harmful to humans. Beautiful but potentially deadly giant hogweed, which originated in the Caucasian Mountains and first arrived in America in a New York City garden, poses one of the worst threats from the plant kingdom.

It grows 15 feet tall and resembles the harmless Queen Anne's lace and mildly poisonous cow parsnip. The plant has an unusual, but extremely dangerous, natural defense mechanism. Its clear sap contains toxins called furcoumarins. These invade the body and target strands of DNA by, as Scientific American puts it "scrambling" the basic human genetic code.

It does this by binding to the "bases" that help to construct DNA. In this case, it compromises the affected area's natural defenses against ultraviolet light from both the sun and artificial sources. An affected person's skin will blister and burn rapidly in a process called phytophotodermatitis.

The sap causes extreme burns in humans, but, according to the West Virginia University Extension Service, will not harm livestock. In fact, the Natural Resources Conservation Service identifies livestock grazing as one means of effective control.

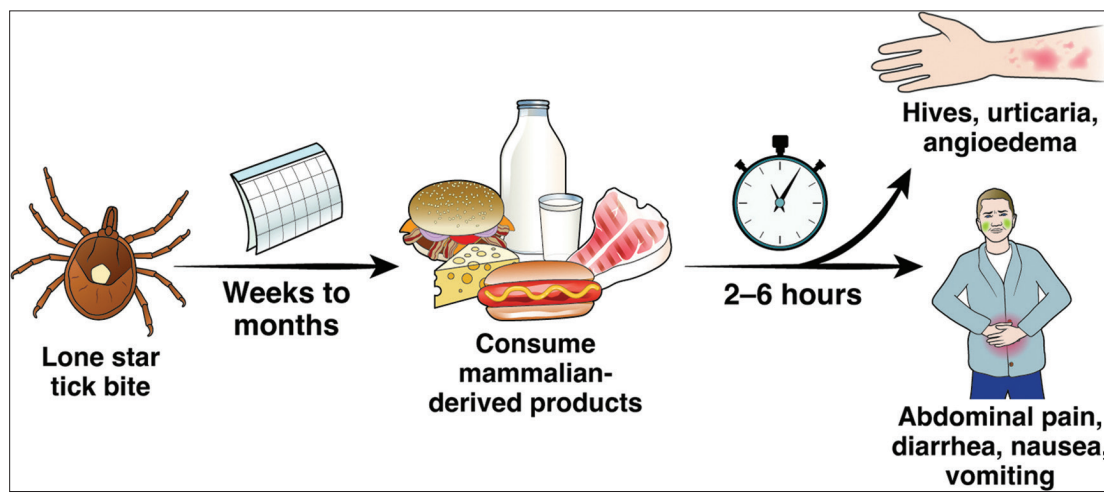
Attempts at mechanical control can help, specifically root cutting and plowing. NRCS states that "best results are obtained if the



Beautiful, but beastly, the sap of the giant hogweed attacks human DNA and stops the skin's natural defenses against ultraviolet light, causing serious burns to develop quickly. Photo courtesy of West Virginia University Extension Service.

established vegetation of invasive hogweed plants are controlled mechanically or chemically (through recommended herbicides) prior to plowing.

Continued on Page 5



## West Virginia State Legislator Spreads Awareness About Little Known Tick-Borne Condition

By Stephen Smoot

Most Americans know about the connections between the miniscule deer tick and Lyme Disease, caused by the insect transmitting a bacterium. More recently, incidences related to a condition spread by the lone star tick have expanded throughout the Eastern United States.

And Delegate Kathie Hess Crouse from Putnam County is on a mission to spread information about the tick and the condition it spreads called alpha-gal.

She told how, "I was here in Buffalo (Putnam County) one Saturday. The next morning, I had a tick attached to me." Crouse took the tick, bagged it, and confirmed her suspicion that a lone star tick had, in fact bitten her.

Though it carries the nickname of Texas, the tick was first described by the Swedish biologist Carolus Linnaeus in 1758. Most ignored it as a threat to human health for a long time because it does not transmit Lyme Disease.

It can, however, spread pathogens that cause ehrlichiosis, rickettsiosis, tularemia, and theileriosis.

More seriously, it also spreads a carbohydrate molecule that can spark allergic reactions ranging from mild to very severe. The most serious cases result in anaphylactic shock, which can result in death.

The resulting alpha-gal syndrome is the 10th most common food allergy in the United States.

Every mammal with the exception of human beings and many other primates carries the alpha-gal molecule in their systems. The lone star tick, and the Centers for Disease Control speculates possibly other ticks as well, picks up the molecule when it ingests blood from a non-human, then transmits it to a person when it bites him or her.

Once in a human body, it can spark a broad range of potential allergic reactions. All of these pertain to food products made from mammals. One could get reactions to some, all, or none of the

Continued on Page 8

## OIG Reports Show Area Postal Service Woes as USPS Intends Slower Delivery to Rural Areas

By Stephen Smoot

Louis DeJoy, Postmaster General of the United States, has ridden the political tiger. Appointed by Donald Trump in 2020, the former Republican donor has continued his role by appealing to the priorities of the Biden-Harris Administration.

USPS operations and changes, however, have earned significant criticism from the United States Postal Service's Office of Inspector General. DeJoy launched a number of transforming initiatives simultaneously, leading to major declines in service quality.

One of DeJoy's signature programs is "Delivering For America," an aggressive transformation that focuses on the creation of Regional Processing and Distribution Center hubs that would be served by local processing centers, then sorting and delivering centers. Implementation is expected to result in slower delivery times for rural customers and expected (but perhaps not possible) faster delivery for urban residents.

He explained, "We're trying to literally save the Postal Service" from the impact of losses that totaled \$7 billion in 2024 so far alone, up from a \$6.5 million shortfall in 2023.

DeJoy blames previous administrations for "letting this place be neglected," but also has seen significant unnecessary costs and waste pile up under his own leadership.

To survive the move from the Trump to Biden presidency, DeJoy turned himself from Republican backer into what Politico called "a critical player in Biden's environmental agenda." In partnership with "the president's green guru, John Podesta," DeJoy and the USPS plan to add 66,000 electric "Next Generation Delivery Vehicles" to the USPS fleet.

At a cost of \$9.6 billion, with \$3 billion coming from the Inflation Recovery Act, the USPS has committed to a large scale replacement of traditional vehicles. That said, serious problems have already emerged.

First, electric vehicles do not perform well in areas of extreme cold, extreme heat, or mountainous topography. According to the USPS Office of the Inspector General, the agency failed to adequately test these same vehicles.

The only testing performed took place at three separate sites - all in Northern Virginia and all in April of 2023. Despite the obvious limitations, the USPS has no plans for further testing, but expects "all Next Generation Delivery Vehicles . . . to be 100 percent electric starting in 2026."

Locally, the Potomac Valley Transit Authority's testing on electric vehicles showed that, for their purposes, electric vehicles cannot run properly in mountainous or cold conditions,

Continued on Page 8



## Giant Killers

James Vincell hugs teammate Nick Rhodes after the Wildcats stunned Greenbrier West, the top ranked team in West Virginia single A.

## Town of Franklin Water Advisory

Due to the current conditions at the southern river crossing, the Town of Franklin is asking all water customers to conserve water. Please refrain from watering yards, gardens, filling pools and washing vehicles. The town does not have a current time when it will be possible to lift the conserve water notice.

## Community Calendar

### Board of Health To Hold Meeting

The Pendleton County Board of Health will conduct a meeting at 5 p.m. on Sept. 12 at the health department in Franklin.

### Recycling Event Scheduled

North Fork 4-H and North Fork Disposal are hosting a community recycling event from 9 - 11 a.m. Saturday at the Clinton Hedrick Community Building parking lot in Riveron. Materials should be cleaned and sorted: cardboard, plastics 1 and 2 and aluminum and tin cans. No trash accepted.

### Family Support Center in Franklin Sponsors Activity

The Pendleton County Strive to Thrive Family Support Center on Main Street in Franklin will sponsor a disaster preparedness training from 5 to 7 p.m. Sept. 12 at the center. For more information, call 304-538-7711.

### Quilters To Gather

The Sew and Sews Quilt Guild will meet at 6 p.m. Monday at Faith Lutheran Church in Franklin. Plans will be finalized for the quilt show at Treasure Mountain Festival. Anyone interested in quilting is welcome to attend.

### Post 30 To Meet

American Legion Pendleton Post 30 will meet at 6:30 p.m. Sept. 11 at the Star Restaurant in Franklin.

### Post 9666 To Meet

VFW Post 9666 will meet at 6:30 p.m. Sept. 12 at the Richard Homan Memorial VFW Park pavilion in Sugar Grove.

### Revival Services To Be Held at Apostolic Church

Revival services will be held at the North Fork Apostolic Church in Riverton. Services will begin at 7 p.m. Friday and Saturday and at 10 a.m. Sunday. Rev. Jodie Wilson will deliver the word and song. The church is located beside the department of highways on Route 28. For more information, call 304-567-2176.

## Drought Conditions Ease in Area

By Stephen Smoot

The long hot summer hasn't bought itself a bus ticket and disappeared, but more moderate conditions have led to an easing of the more severe conditions seen in July and early August.

Pendleton County currently, according to a federal website, is in D2 "severe drought" conditions. This serves as an upgrade from the former status of D3 "extreme drought."

Rains from the remnants of Hurricane Debby proved vital for the region. During the past two months, including the rains, most of Pendleton, except for the southeast third, has seen between 75 and 100 percent of normal rainfall. From Franklin to the east and south, the region saw higher than normal precipitation, up to 150 percent of normal rainfall.

During the past 30 days, almost all the county saw between 100 and 150 percent with small pockets south of Franklin and near Brandywine and Sugar Grove seeing up to twice the normal amounts.

Milder temperatures, likely stemming from an unexpected surge of cold water hitting the North Atlantic, have seen temperatures in the western half of the county at near the normal range, but the South Branch and South Fork valleys seeing temperatures one to three degrees above normal.

The past week or so, however, saw the return of temperatures between four and eight degrees above normal.

Just after the hurricane rains, streams ran above normal, but drier conditions in the past two weeks also had their effect. The South Fork currently runs at normal levels, but the South Branch level fell below normal. The next week, according to the website, should see between a half and a

full inch of rain.

Conditions are expected to improve over the next month, but northern Pendleton County may see drought conditions extend through the rest of the season.

Even if a burn ban is not in effect, officials urge residents to either refrain from burning or practice extreme caution when conducting a burn as dry conditions persist into the fall.

The extreme D3 conditions that plagued the greater Eastern Panhandle for much of the summer have now settled in over much of the state. From the Ohio Valley to Canaan Valley, almost 30 counties suffer from at least D3 conditions. This includes all of Randolph but the eastern mountains, the southwest corner of Tucker County, and almost all of Pocahontas County north of Marlinton.

Jackson County sits in the epicenter of a large area of the most serious drought category, D4 "exceptional drought." Like Pendleton, Jackson County's economy relies heavily on cattle, corn, and hay production.

Exceptional drought, according to the National Weather Service, creates "widespread crop and pasture losses, exceptional fire risk, shortages of water in reservoirs, streams, and wells causing water emergencies."

Governor Jim Justice has declared a drought emergency in all 55 counties. Those areas that have seen D3 drought conditions or higher, including all of Pendleton County, are eligible for federal or state aid.

Federal and state programs are available to help farmers affected by the drought. Contact the Pendleton County Farm Service Agency at 304-358-2285 or the Potomac Valley Conservation District at 304-822-5174.

# OBITUARIES



**James Riley Armstrong, Sr.**

James Riley Armstrong, Sr., 72, was a loving, humble, and hardworking father, grandfather, brother, nephew, uncle, cousin, and friend who left this world unexpectedly on Aug. 13, 2024, in Las Vegas, Nevada.

He was born on May 31, 1952, in Harrisonburg, Virginia, to the late James Heltzel Armstrong and Georgie Snyder Armstrong. He was their first-born son.

Two years after his birth, his father left their "Eagles Nest" farm in West Virginia to pursue an education. Consequently, he lived in five different states and attended four different schools before his family settled in Orem, Utah, where he attended Orem High School and graduated in 1970.

Prior to serving in the California North Mission for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, he attended Utah Technical College, where he played on the school basketball team.

Following his mission, he worked in oil refineries and on oil rigs in Utah and Wyoming, which eventually led him to join the Reno Local 350 Steamfitters Union, where he apprenticed and became a journeyman. In 1979, he became a member of California's Local 342 Steamfitters Union in Concord, California, where he remained active throughout his life. During these years, he also studied and became a licensed general contractor and a licensed plumber.

On March 22, 1980, he married Connie Graham. They were blessed with three beautiful sons and resided in Reno, Nevada, Concord, California, and Las Vegas, Nevada. They divorced in 1994.

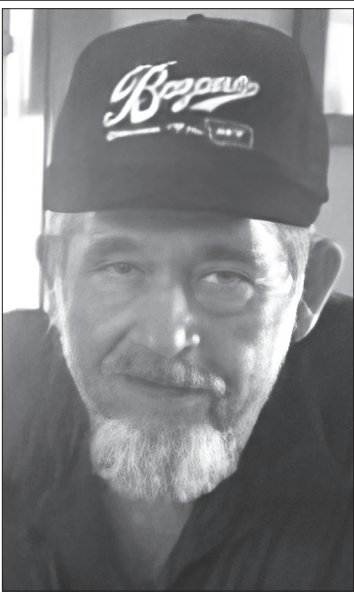
He traveled and lived throughout the United States as he pursued various job opportunities. In whatever capacity he worked, he was exceptional. He was known throughout his union for his excellent work ethic and skills. However, he considered his greatest accomplishment to be his children and grandchildren. In recent years, he restructured his life to give him more time to be with them and more opportunities to actively participate in their lives. He loved creating adventures, making memories, and treasured time spent with them. Being "dad," "grandpa," and "Papa Jim" was his greatest joy. He loved his family, both immediate and extended. They were all in his orbit.

He was known for his loyalty, his big heart, and his generosity to others. He loved a good hard day's work, riding a John Deere tractor, the hills of West Virginia, fishing, sports, watching volleyball, basketball, and football games, preparing a good meal to share with others, and chess. When he came to West Virginia to visit, he enjoyed having a cheese sandwich from the Propst store in Moyers.

Surviving are three sons, James Riley, Jr. (Amy), John Dice (Samantha) and Jack Andrew (Cristina); seven grandchildren, Blake, Addie, Sage, Ella, Evan, Maverick, and Asher; a sister Jane (Craig) Holdaway; and a brother Harry Dice Armstrong.

He was also preceded in death by a brother, John; maternal grandparents, HP and Cora Snyder; and paternal grandparents, Dice and Nina Armstrong.

Funeral services were held Saturday at the Lehi 34th Ward Chapel in Lehi, Utah. Interment was at the Orem City Cemetery in Orem, Utah.



**Johnny Osborne Propst**

Johnny Osborne Propst, 82, of Brandywine passed away peacefully Aug. 26, 2024, at Grant Memorial Hospital in Petersburg surrounded by friends and family.

He was born Oct. 18, 1941, in Brandywine and was the son of the late Rudolph Propst and Lucy Catherine (Bowers) Propst.

Mr. Propst graduated in 1960 from Franklin High School and served in the Army from 1961 to 1963. He was very proud of his service to his country, telling people, "I wouldn't have traded it to do anything else".

After his service in the Army, he worked in a machine shop, helped build interstates and part of Route 50 near Gore, operated equipment for Harold Miller, and ran the landfill in Franklin until its closing. At the Public Service District, he managed water quality and read meters for Brandywine and Upper Tract. He was the owner/operator of Mountain View Trailer Park in Brandywine from the 1980s until his passing.

He enjoyed going for drives around Pendleton County and stopping in to visit friends. He also enjoyed driving around the farmland of Rockingham County on any trip to Harrisonburg, Virginia. He served as a member of the Sugar Grove Lions Club and had a passion for cooking.

As part of his service in the Sugar Grove Lions Club, he cooked his "world famous" white beans and ham at the Treasure Mountain Festival. He also grilled steaks for the annual Lions Club family night each August. Outside of the Lions Club, he was camp cook for groups going on horseback rides. He also manned the fire pit for many chicken barbecues.

In his most recent years, he perfected the pastime of porch sittin'. Anyone who stopped by his house would be asked to join him on the porch, where he would tell good stories while watching hummingbirds, and sipping on a drink.

Surviving are two daughters, Natalie Propst (Robert) of Arlington, Virginia, and Emily Propst (Jake) of Livingston, Montana; a sister, JoAnn Raines of Harrisonburg, Virginia; and two nieces.

He was also preceded in death by an infant brother.

A celebration of his life will be held at a later date.

Memorials may be made to the Sugar Grove Lions Club, 178 Mitchell Mill Gap Drive, Sugar Grove, WV 26815.

Online condolences and memories may be shared at [www.kimblefuneralhome.com](http://www.kimblefuneralhome.com).

Funeral arrangements were entrusted to the Kimble Funeral Home in Franklin.



**Ethel Lambert Brinkley**

Ethel Lambert Brinkley, 85, of Rising Sun, Maryland, passed away peacefully on Aug. 6, 2024.

She was born on Feb. 9, 1939, in Seneca Rocks to the late Otis and Gladys (Harper) Lambert.

Mrs. Brinkley was a cherished daughter, a devoted mother, and a beloved member of her community.

She dedicated much of her career as a procurement agent for the District of Columbia Public School District, where she earned the admiration and respect of her colleagues for her professionalism, dedication, and unwavering commitment. After a well-deserved retirement, she continued to touch lives through her passionate volunteer work with the Special Olympics and The Arc of Maryland. Her generosity of spirit and genuine care for others left a lasting impact on countless individuals and families.

In her leisure time, she found joy in simple pleasures, especially watching her favorite game shows, a tradition she loved sharing with family and friends. Her loved ones will always remember her as an exceptionally caring and devoted mother, grandmother, and friend, whose warmth, kindness, and gentle nature touched everyone she met.

Surviving are her loving children, Cathy Randolph and husband, Ed, Carol Brinkley, and Larry Brinkley. She also leaves behind a legacy of love in her 14 grandchildren, 13 great-grandchildren, and two great-great-grandchildren. Also surviving are her dear siblings, Mona Kisamore, Betty Spradling, Jonny Lambert, Eddie Lambert, and Carl Lambert.

She was also preceded in death by a beloved son, Kenneth Brinkley; and siblings, Katie Smith, Keith Lambert, Harper Lambert, Donna Goins, and Irene Gray.

A celebration of her life will be held at noon Sept. 14, in the R.T. Foard Funeral Home, located at 111 South Queen Street in Rising Sun, Maryland. The family will begin receiving friends at 11 a.m. A reception will follow at the R.T. Foard Life Event Center.



**Curtis Glenn Wimer**

Curtis Glenn Wimer, 78, of Parsons departed this life on Aug. 26, 2024, at his home. He had been in declining health; however, death was unexpected.

He was born Feb. 12, 1946, at Petersburg, a son of the late Willie Clinton "Clint" Wimer and Ethel Jane Wimer.

Mr. Wimer was a graduate of Circleville High School and a graduate of West Virginia University with a degree in agricultural education and science. He was a teacher from 1972 to 1974 at Jefferson High School, from 1975 to 1977 at Parsons High School, and from 1978 until his retirement in 2012, he taught at Tucker County High School. He was a member of the West Virginia Farm Bureau, the Jefferson County Fair board and the Tucker County Fair board. He was an active advisor for the FFA and supported and assisted his wife in her 4-H projects.

He enjoyed farming and would have large crops of potatoes and corn and had even set up a fish farm at Tucker County High School. He was a kind man with a fun sense of humor. He enjoyed spending time with his family and will be missed greatly.

On Nov. 1, 1975, at Summit Point, he was married to the former Sharon Lee Smallwood, who preceded him in death on Aug. 13, 2023. They had celebrated forty-seven years of marriage.

Surviving are a son, Paul Glenn Wimer of Parsons; and two grandchildren, Regan Wimer and Robby Shupp and partner, Mackenzie Lyons.

He was also preceded in death by a son, Philip Clinton Wimer, on Aug. 29, 2019.

A funeral service was held at Wednesday at Kimble Funeral Home with Pastor Mike Luderderm officiating. Interment was in Cedar Hill Cemetery at Franklin.

Online condolences and memories may be shared at [www.kimblefuneralhome.com](http://www.kimblefuneralhome.com).



**Aaron Matthew Judy**

Aaron Matthew Judy, 28, of Moorefield passed away Aug. 31, 2024, as a result of a motor vehicle accident.

He was born on Oct. 8, 1995, in Frederick, Maryland, a son of George Kessel Judy and Mary Catherine Smith Judy.

Mr. Judy was a 2014 graduate of Moorefield High School, a May 2018 graduate of West Virginia University College of Business and Economics with a bachelor of science in business administration, and a May 2021 graduate of WVU Law School. At the time of his death, he was a partner in the law firm of Judy & Judy in Moorefield.

He was a Fellowcraft in Moorefield Lodge #29 A.F. & A.M.

He was active in 4-H throughout his life as a member at county and state camps. He was a 4-H All Star and also was an adult counselor at Camp Pinnacle whenever his work schedule allowed.

Also surviving are his brother and best friend, G. Kevin Judy, II, of South Fork; his girlfriend, Natalie Gray; grandmother, Ila Smith; uncles, David Judy (wife Debbie), Bill Judy, and David Smith (wife Amy); and numerous cousins.

He was preceded in death by grandparents, William and Ruth Judy, and Robert Smith.

The family will receive family and friends from 1 to 2 p.m. today at the Schaeffer Funeral Home in Petersburg. A funeral service will follow in the funeral home chapel with Pastor Chris Whetzel officiating. There will be a private burial in the Judy Family Cemetery at Peru, WV.

Memorials may be made to the Hardy County 4-H Camp Association, 144 Emergency Lane, Moorefield, WV 26836 or charity of choice.



**Paul Warner**

Paul Warner, 88, of Strongsville, Ohio, passed away Aug. 25, 2024.

He was born Oct. 10, 1935, in Hunting Ground.

Mr. Warner was the beloved husband of Pauline (nee Arbogast) for 67 years.

He was the loving father of Paul M. Warner (deceased) and Paula Jean "P.J." Warner; and dearest grandfather of Cooper Schimpff and Charlotte Schimpff. His sister, Priscilla Mullenax (Brooks, deceased), survives. He was a beloved uncle and dear friend of many.

He was preceded in death by his siblings, Mabel Bennett Sponaugle (Jimmy, George), Arlie Warner (Vera), Ollie Johnston (Cletis), Roy Warner (Kathryn), Ray Warner (Nola), Dewitt Warner (Mellie, Norma), Charles Warner (Betty) and Merle "Buck" Warner (Carolyn, surviving).

Funeral services were held Saturday at the Lindsey Funeral Home in Harrisonburg, Virginia. Interment was at Rest Haven Memorial Gardens.

**MENU**  
**Pendleton Senior & Family Services**

**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 6**  
Ham, Cheesy Potatoes  
Carrots  
Pineapple  
Cookie/Punch

**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 9**  
Taco Salad, Corn  
Cobbler

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10**  
Vegetable Soup  
Ham & Cheese  
"Ants on a Log"  
Raisins

**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11**  
Chicken Tenders  
Beets, Slaw  
Pears

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 12**  
Baked Fish  
Rice  
California Blend  
Jello/Fruit

Due to water damage, contact Senior Center to find out if meals are being served.

Meals served daily at the Franklin center from 11:45 to 12:15. Two percent milk served with every meal. Menus are subject to change.

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<b>Golden Seal</b>	<b>Wet \$8.00</b>	<b>Dry \$30.00</b>
<b>Black Cohosh</b>	<b>Dry \$5.50</b>	
<b>Stone Root</b>	<b>Dry \$5.50</b>	
<b>Wild Yam</b>	<b>Dry \$6.00</b>	

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# Pendleton Youth Exhibit Animals at State Fair

Eighteen Pendleton County youth showcased their animals at the State Fair of West Virginia in Lewisburg. Several of the local exhibitors captured top awards.

The Bishoff Brothers Memorial Award was earned by Katie Keyser. She was named second place premier junior lamb exhibitor and fifth overall junior lamb showman. One of her lambs placed second in the mediumweight class with another lamb placing sixth in the heavyweight class.

The Brayden Bishoff Memorial Award was given to Gracie Hedrick. She earned the champion novice lamb showman award and the reserve champion novice goat showman honor and was the fourth place premier junior goat exhibitor and fifth place premier junior lamb exhibitor. Her goat placed fourth in the mediumweight class while her lambs placed fifth and seventh in the lightweight class.

Ryleigh Cook was selected as the recipient of the Pride in Your Project Award for sheep.

Other youth exhibiting animals were as follows:

Reagyn Atkins — Seventh overall novice goat showman, seventh in lightweight goat class, sixth in mediumweight goat class, third in commercial heifer breeding class and third in market heifer class;

Tia Heavner — Champion junior goat showman, reserve champion junior lamb showman, premier junior goat exhibitor, premier lamb exhibitor, third in middleweight goat class, fourth and fifth overall in lightweight lamb division and third in middleweight lamb class;

Tori Heavner — Fifth overall novice lamb showman, third and seventh in middleweight lamb class, third with two Simmental heifers in breeding class and fifth overall mediumweight market steer;

Ty Heavner — Seventh overall intermediate lamb showman, 11th overall intermediate goat showman, third in lightweight goat class, seventh in lightweight lamb class and third in middleweight lamb class;

McKenna Hedrick — Thirteenth in heavyweight lamb class;

Aubriana Holloway — Champion mediumweight market steer and fifth overall junior beef showman;

Bella Hoover — Eleventh overall novice lamb showman, fourth in lightweight goat class, seventh in mediumweight goat class, seventh in mediumweight lamb class and 13th in heavyweight lamb class;

Kallie Keyser — Third overall novice lamb showman, third place senior premier lamb exhibitor and sixth and 10th in the mediumweight lamb class;

Bailee Kiger — Champion halter horse mare and gelding, fifth overall senior pig showman, first in market pig class, second place in draft horse riding class, second place in riding mule class and participation in ladies draft horse team;

Phoebe Pownell — Sixth overall intermediate lamb showman and seventh in heavyweight lamb class;

Brynleigh Ruddle — Second in market pig class;

Adalyn Rumer — Reserve champion senior goat showman, second place premier junior goat exhibitor, seventh overall junior lamb showman, mediumweight champion market goat, third overall market goat and second in the heavyweight lamb class;

Jaelyn Rumer — Seventh overall novice lamb showman, fifth overall middleweight market goat and fourth in the heavyweight lamb class;

Kelby Rumer — Sixth overall intermediate goat showman; and

Aiden Whetzel — Sixth overall junior lamb showman and fourth in heavyweight lamb class.



Gracie Hedrick



Bella Hoover



Kelby Rumer



Reagyn Atkins



Ty Heavner



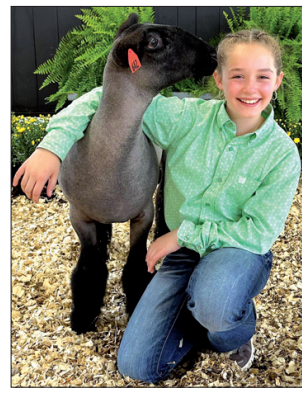
Ryleigh Cook



Tori Heavner



McKenna Hedrick



Kallie Keyser



Tia Heavner



Adalyn Rumer



Bailee Kiger



Aubriana Holloway



Brynleigh Ruddle



Katie Keyser



Phoebe Pownell



Jaelyn Rumer



Aiden Whetzel

## Waddy To Represent State at National FFA Convention

The 96th annual West Virginia FFA State Convention was held July 10 – 13 at Cedar Lakes Conference Center in Ripley. The top regional winners competed in various speaking and agricultural related contests.

William Waddy, V, a Hardy County resident returned for his third consecutive competition. This year, he was competing in extemporaneous public speaking. In this category, participants are given three random general agriculture topics and they are to choose one to prepare a four- to six-minute speech. They are given 30 minutes to research and create their speech. At the conclusion, judges ask questions for



William Waddy, V

five minutes. Finalists are selected based on speech delivery, content, and responses to the questions. More than one person may speak on the same topic. He was selected as one of the top three contestants and earned the opportunity to speak on the second day of competition.

Waddy won the top honor which allows him to return as the state representative for West Virginia at the National FFA Convention in October at Indianapolis.

Previously he placed fourth in the nation for FFA freshman creed contest and earned a bronze star last year for his prepared public speaking entry.

He serves as president of his FFA chapter at Petersburg High School and is encouraged by his advisor, Missy Whetzel.

He is the son of Bill and Norma Waddy of Fisher and the grandson of John and the late Phyllis (Alt) Waddy of Petersburg and Victor and Betty Hardy of Fisher.

## EQIP and AMA Programs Signup Deadline Is Sept. 13

The United States Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service has established the fiscal year 2025 application batching date for the first FY 2025 application evaluation period for the Environmental Quality Incentives Program and the Agricultural Management Assistance Program. Producers interested in being considered for financial assistance need to submit applications to NRCS by Sept. 13.

EQIP is a voluntary conservation program that helps agricultural producers in a manner that promotes agricultural production and environmental quality as compatible goals. EQIP is the flagship conservation program that helps farmers and forest landowners integrate conservation into working lands. Through EQIP, agricultural producers receive technical and financial assistance to implement structural, vegetative and management conservation practices that optimize environmental benefits on working agricultural land.

The AMA program provides financial

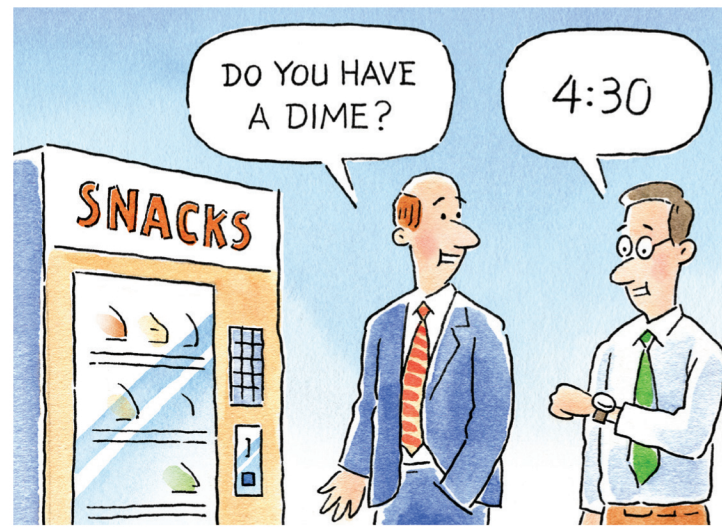
and technical assistance to agricultural producers to voluntarily address issues such as water management, irrigation systems, water quality, and erosion control by incorporating conservation into their farming operation and mitigate risk through production diversification.

EQIP and AMA are open to all eligible agricultural producers and submitted applications may be considered or evaluated in multiple funding opportunities.

While WV-NRCS has set the first FY 2025 application batching date for EQIP and AMA on Sept. 13, NRCS accepts program applications year-round on a continuous basis. Application evaluations only take place during announced ranking periods. Applications received after a batching date will automatically be considered during a future funding cycle. For consideration in the first-round of FY 2025 funding, eligible landowners must submit their application no later than Sept. 13.

For more information, visit a local USDA Service Center or visit the website at <http://www.wv.nrsc.usda.gov>.

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# Writer Notes Passing of Community Stalwart

## Sugar Grove

By Paula Mitchell

Those who were fortunate enough to know John O. Propst would readily agree that he was competent in so many realms. He was very talented as a mechanical engineer, and this served him well during his life-time. He was able to address issues that required maintenance. John was also well read, enjoyed the History and Discovery channels, and in turn this allowed him to show forth his intelligence. At times he would play the “devil’s advocate” during the course of conversations, which could range from religion to medicine and anything in between. He could be quite resolute and unyielding at times about his opinions.

John was born Oct. 18, 1941, to the late Lucy and Rudolph Propst. He attended Brandywine Elementary School, and after graduating from Franklin High School, he joined the Army in July of 1961. A proud patriot allowed him to be knowledgeable in the American lifestyle and politics. The remainder of his life surrounded the mechanical aspect, to which he was gifted...a machinist in Virginia, Hott and Miller Construction, his own Brandywine garage, helping with constructing Route 66 in Virginia and Route 50 at Gore, Virginia, Pendleton County landfill, Public Service District Water Works at Brandywine (Falling Springs) and Smoke Hole, and finally the Mountain View Trailer Park at Brandywine.

He was affiliated with the Brandywine Fire Department, Sugar Grove Lions Club, Pendleton County Farm Bureau, and American Legion. John was very knowledgeable about family connections, and to this he was called upon to clarify questions pertaining to the subject on numerous occasions. He indulged in the local culture, assisting with butchering, farming, horses, and other ways of life.

In the early 1980s, John, Gene Boggs, and Hun Simmons made a notorious RV trip, motoring to the west. The company went as far as Washington state seeing touristy highlights to and fro. The trip took 29 days with 9,000 miles traveled.

John enjoyed sitting on his front porch to observe the hummingbirds, and the traffic going by. Horses which grazed behind his house also kept his hours entertained. Taking motorist jaunts around the county was always a treat for him.

Perhaps his most telling acclaim was that he was a cook. He manned many a barbecue pit for the firemen and Lions, white beans in a kettle for the Lions at Treasure Mountain Festival, meals for hunters, steaks for countless trail rides, food for the cattle buyers from Ohio, Democratic Rallies, and steaks for the Lions August family picnic. His steaks were notorious! He took great pride in the cooking of the steaks. No steak sauce was ever needed and would get highly insulted were one to ask for some!

John loved children and his sense of humor often shone through with them. His daughters, Natalie and Emily, delighted him, and gave him a sense of pride. Natalie and John took a road trip to Montana to visit Emily, and he so appreciated doing this. His latter years brought many doctor visits as he dealt with pain and other health issues.

To Natalie and Emily, sympathy is extended from the many friends and acquaintances, during this difficult time. Lessons to enable one’s daily life to be the best include



John O Propst was the son of Rudolph P. Propst (May 27, 1921 - May, 1986) and Lucy Catherine Bowers Propst (Feb 2, 1920 - Nov 5, 1981).

the following:

1. Take a nap.
2. Walk down a country road.
3. Enjoying old photos in albums.
4. Take time to speak to, and include, an older person in a social gathering.
5. Surprise a neighbor with some baked goods.

A nice Saturday afternoon shower was welcomed by the Sugar Grove residents, with about 8 tenths falling at the writer’s home. In other sections, not too far off, 4.5 inches fell. When pondering the difference, the writer is wondering if they “pay the preacher well!” Several areas on the South Fork were without power and phones due to the Saturday storms. They have been restored since. Although much more is needed, residents will take whatever comes by the way. September’s full moon is the fullest of full moons for the year.

Quotes for the week are as follows:

“Smell the sea and feel the sky. Let your soul and spirit fly.” — Van Morrison

“The ache for home lives in all of us. The safe place where we can go as we are and not be questioned.” — Maya Angelou

“Opportunity does not knock; it presents itself when you beat down the door.” — Kyle Chandler

“I used to love September, but now it just rhymes with remember.” — Dominic Riccitello.

“September tries its best to have us forget summer.” —

Bernard Williams.

Come sit on the porch where the friendship is free, to hear the “Talk of the Grove.”

Ronnie and Christine Bowers welcomed a great-granddaughter to the family. Magnolia Mae Mongold was born Aug. 4.

Kinsley Armstrong celebrated her birthday on Aug. 31.

The 73rd annual Noah Eckard Family Reunion was held Sunday at Oakdale Park in Bridgewater, Virginia. Families and friends enjoyed visiting, sharing memories, and delicious food.

This week’s clickety-clacks for the chin wagers are as follows:

- The Australian Aboriginal culture is the oldest on Earth.
- Polar bear’s skin is black.
- Cats have over one hundred vocal sounds, while dogs have about 10.

• West Virginia is bordered by 5 states — Ohio, Pennsylvania, Virginia, Maryland, and Kentucky.

• Out of all 12 months of the year, September is spelled with the most letters — nine letters of the ninth month.

September birthdays include Loretta Blankenship, first; Eldon ‘Butch’ Puffenbarger and Shirley Sisson, second; Trent Alt, third; Eleanor Simons and Ralph Parker, fifth; Sandy Smith and Mike Eye (Jack Mtn.), sixth; Dawn Frame, seventh; Kelly Sites and Allen Sisson, eighth; Shawn Bowers, Liz Summerville and Lorena Hoover, ninth; Cara Mitchell, 10th; Braxton Grogg, 11th; Mary Simpson, 12th; Laura George, Brenna Mitchell and Barbara Woodward, Tyler Kiser and Carrie Harman, 13th; and Brian Harper, 14th.

Concerns are as follows: Bob Adamson, Dyer Anderson, John Ashley, Roger Ashley, Mercedes Aumann, Richard Bennett, “Bo” Boggs, Marie Cole, Christian Dasher, Phil Downs, 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, Keith Hoover, Myrtle Hoover, Debbie and Enos Horst, Lisa and Mike Jamison, Jessica Janney, Alice Johnson, Richard Judy, Marsha Keller, Tara Kelly, Kim Kline, Ginger Knight, Tracie Knight, Laura Kropp, Melissa Lambert, Robert Lambert, Ronnie Lambert, Rex Landis, Noah Mallow, 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 Riggelman, 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 Wagner, Mary Louise Waldschlager, Rene White, Norman Wilfong, Judy Williams, Ann and Ed Wimer and Margaret Wimer.

# Drivers Reminded to Watch for School Children

The West Virginia Governor’s Highway Safety Program reminds drivers to be on high alert with children back in school.

Law enforcement officers will be targeting motorists who fail to follow all traffic laws, including, but not limited to, speed limits in school zones, yielding to pedestrians in crosswalks, and passing school buses when their lights are flashing and stop arms are extended.

To help keep students safer on West Virginia roadways, the GHSP reminds drivers of these tips:

- Slow down. Watch for children gathering near bus stops.
  - Obey the speed limit around schools. Watch for children walking in the street, especially if there are no sidewalks in the neighborhood.
  - When driving in neighborhoods with school zones, watch for students who may be focusing on getting to school instead of focusing on where they are walking.
  - Be alert. Children arriving late for the bus may dart into the street without looking for traffic.
  - When backing out of a driveway or leaving a garage, watch for students walking or bicycling to school.
  - Yellow flashing lights indicate that the bus is preparing to stop to load or unload students. Motorists should slow down and prepare to stop.
  - Red flashing lights and/or extended stop arms signal that the bus has stopped and that students are getting on or off. Drivers must stop their vehicles and wait until the red lights stop flashing.
- “We encourage motorists to be especially vigilant around school zones and stopped school buses in traffic,” said Jack

McNeely, GHSP director. “Illegally passing a school bus not only carries legal consequences, but it could also be a matter of life and death for a child.

“Please slow down and exercise extreme caution when driving around schools or school buses. Remember red means stop. Be safe and know the danger zone,” McNeely concluded.

New National Highway Traffic Safety Administration data shows that 104 people died in school-transportation-related crashes in 2022. From 2013 to 2022 more than 1,000 people died in school-transportation-related crashes with 198 of those crashes involving children age 18 and younger. Of those children killed, 40 percent were occupants of other vehicles, 38 percent were pedestrians, 18 percent were occupants of school transportation vehicles, 3 percent were bicyclists, and 1 percent was using personal devices such as skateboards, scooters, and wheelchairs.



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# Invasive Hogweed

Continued From Page 1

The large and heavy seeds do not travel far, so the plant tends to saturate a small area. Its large, umbrella shaped flower at the top of the plant causes the giant hogweed to serve as a threat to native plant life due to its thick and broad shade.

If a giant hogweed plant is identified, officials urge that it be reported immediately to the WVU Extension Service for official documentation and response. Any attempt at removal that might cause the sap to spread presents a danger to those attempting the task who are not wearing protective clothing.

Giant hogweed has caused cases of blindness when sap comes into contact with the eyeball. The British Daily Mail reports that dogs brushing up against the plant have carried the sap to human contact.


Contact with the sap also has the potential to cause permanent problems. Some have reported sensitivity to the sun in the affected area months or years later. Recovery from the initial burn can take months.

Doctors suggest that those who come into contact with the sap immediately use soap and water to wash away the toxins, then seek medical help as soon as possible.

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# 'And That's Why They Play the Game' Pendleton County Makes Statement With Major Upset of Top Ranked Greenbrier West

By Stephen Smoot

Legendary ESPN football commentator Chris Berman used to love to set up his audience to hear about a major upset. He would describe the attributes of the favored squad, discuss why they enjoyed dominance, and the challenges faced by the underdog.

Then, after a pause for dramatic effect, he'd say, "But that's why they play the game!"

West Virginia's sports media spoke often about Greenbrier West in the days leading to the game, mostly about the former Mountaineer who serves as their assistant coach. Few of those stories even referred to their opening game in the (as it turned out) not so friendly confines of Franklin.

Pendleton County came off a season last year in which they demonstrated improvement and grit. Last season, they opened at the Cavaliers and battled them hard for a half before succumbing to the highly touted program.

The Wildcats got little respect in the preseason, but they went out and earned some last Friday night.

On a perfect evening with perfect temperatures under a perfect sun flanked with tufts of cirrus clouds, a cascade of Cavalier fans with cowbells greeted both squads as the game commenced.

The Wildcats kicked off to the Cavaliers to open the contest. As one might expect of a team whose coaching assistants include the name Owen Schmitt, Greenbrier West worked to establish dominance in the run game. Early on, they mixed the traditional I formation with the run centered version of the spread option. They relied on their larger line to try to push the Wildcats off the ball and eat up yardage while tiring defenders on the field.

Greenbrier West used their initial drive to methodically bully their way down the field. A 13-play drive seemed to show that they could accomplish that goal. When they sought to drive their way through the middle on fourth and very short at the Wildcat 40, they found out what Moorefield did last year.

Pendleton County rises to the challenge in short yardage situations and in this case, they stood firm and wrapped up the ball carrier short of the line of scrimmage.

Then came the first play of the season for the Pendleton County offense and Wildcat fans hoped that it served as an omen for both the game and the season. Senior quarterback James Vincell dropped back and coolly fired a pass to the right to freshman Colton Roberson at about the Cavalier 45. Roberson took the precision pass in stride and outran the defense 70 yards for a Wildcat touchdown. Gabe Harvey's kick made the score 7-0.

Greenbrier West took the kickoff at about the 20 and took it forward to their own 40. Following their game plan, they once again worked the



Colton Roberson accelerates past a Greenbrier West defender. He had 205 yards in receptions and 84 yards rushing. James Vincell went 16 of 29 for 308 passing, and Josiah Kimble caught two touchdowns and had 68 yards receiving.

run game to try to break the Wildcats through attrition. A 14-play drive helped by an offside penalty on fourth down seemed to right the ship for the visitors when it resulted in a touchdown at the other end.

Pendleton County responded in the next drive. A Josiah Kimble return gave the Wildcats the ball at their own 30. The first two plays netted two yards. On third and eight, however, Vincell rolled right and threw right, once again finding Roberson, who once again blazed down the field for a 70-yard touchdown reception.

Greenbrier West topped off the Wildcats' brilliant play with a 15-yard personal foul penalty that hurt them on the kickoff. Harvey made the score 14-7 with another accurate kick.

Now early in the second quarter, the Cavaliers got back to work on offense. Chase Owens wrapped up the runner on first down for no gain, but the Wildcats gave up five yards on second down with an encroachment penalty. Once again looking for running room, they instead found Roberson who stopped the play for a gain of one.

On third down, Greenbrier West attempted to pass, but Ty Heavner tracked down the quarterback and dropped him for a six-yard loss, forcing a punt from the 20 that angled out of bounds just shy of midfield.

Pendleton County did not squander the opportunity. Vincell hit Nick Rhodes for a five-yard pass to open the drive. He did well all night spreading the ball to different receivers in different areas of the field, keeping the defense off balance. Two plays later, Roberson hauled in a 14-yard completion.

Shortly thereafter, with eight minutes left in the half, Vincell faced a third and 12 from the Cavalier 30. He took the snap, drifted right, then hoisted a pass to the corner of the endzone. Kimble pulled it in to give his team a soon to

be 21-7 advantage over the number one team in West Virginia single A.

Greenbrier West, even with the game still relatively early, shifted their strategy and started to take to the air. They hit a 12-yard pass to get to the Wildcat 30 with seven minutes left, but a wounded duck pass on third down found the hands of Harvey at the 15, giving the Wildcats the ball back.

Both teams showed glimpses of how good they will be later in the season, but also made first game type mistakes. Penalties and turnovers affected both teams throughout the game.

Bradey Bowers helped to snuff out one drive at the Wildcat 29 with 5:30 left in the second when he recovered a fumble. Then, after a penalty negated an apparent Kimble interception, Greenbrier West struck back with a touchdown pass at the three minute mark.

As the game developed, Zac Smith, head coach, and his staff continued to call an aggressive game and make key adjustments. When the Cavaliers adjusted to take away the deep ball, the Wildcats moved to tossing shorter passes to receivers who often were hit in stride. Also, Roberson took an increasing number of snaps at quarterback. Though he did attempt a few passes, he mostly ran the ball from the quarterback position.

Pendleton County started the second half with both the ball and a slender 21-13 advantage, but gave the ball back deep in Cavalier territory. Greenbrier West returned the favor by giving the ball back after a seven play drive put them at the Wildcat 20. Bowers once again made a key play by finding and falling on the ball.

The Wildcats then marched down the field to inside the Cavalier 40, where they committed a turnover of their own. As much as the first half looked like two of the top teams in the state, the

third quarter showed the nerves of the early season on both sides.

At the opening of the fourth quarter, however, the turnovers ceased for a time and Greenbrier West tied the game. They started a long and sustained drive with 4:06 in the third, moving 70 yards in 13 plays to score from the one, followed by a successful two point conversion.

In such games with a heavily favored opponent coming back to tie late, the underdog often comes undone. Not last Friday. Owens took the ball on a strong seven-yard run starting at his own 25. On the next play, Vincell tossed the ball to Roberson, then subsequently found Kimble at the Cavalier 32.

Shortly after, from the opponent's 24, Roberson took a direct snap and pushed forward for a first down, helped by another Cavalier personal foul. Then on first and goal, Vincell rolled out and helped the second freshman of the night score a touchdown, this time Travis Owens. A blocked kick kept the score at an all too attainable 27-21.

Greenbrier West kept hammering away, a possible comeback victory still in their plans. They took the ball once again a long way down the field, this time reaching the Wildcat five. A defender jarred the ball loose, leading to a Pendleton County recovery deep in enemy territory with 3:37 remaining.

Smith put the ball in Roberson's hands again, allowing him to take shotgun snaps and find running room. The freshman showed the poise of a senior as he picked his way through blockers and tacklers, finding crevices to explode through. On first and 10 at his own 20, on the fourth play of the drive at the 1:59 mark, he broke a tackle in the backfield and surged ahead to the 25.

As Greenbrier West desperately sought to extend the game with timeouts, the Wildcat line and other blockers, as they did all night, held off the larger defenders and created opportunities.

The big play came on third and five with 1:33 left as Roberson drove right, found the first down marker, and effectively ended the game.

After the game, Smith was elated and proud of his team's performance, but also said, "Sometimes it's who doesn't make the most mistakes" that wins the game. He added that the game resembled "a war of attrition and we almost ran out of supplies."

Of his quarterback Vincell, Smith said, "James, he played well. He played with a lot of heart," while also giving credit to his "really special athletes" on both sides of the ball.

Vincell remarked that this was his first time enjoying a first game win, and that it was "probably one of the best feelings I've had since the Moorefield win" last year.

But even the experienced senior, Vincell added, "We've got to move on from this one."

The Wildcats travel Friday to East Hardy.

## Local Golf League Champions Named



Area golfers completed their 18th successful league on Aug. 18 at The Highlands. Twenty-eight individuals participated in this year's league with two person teams completing 16 matches during the season. Following the awards banquet, attendees were pleasantly surprised by the appearance of Caylie Simmons, Miss West Virginia USA. Golfers had their pictures taken with Simmons. Pictured from left, are Scott Glover (runner-up), Richie Shreve (champion), Simmons, Bub Simmons (champion) and Bruce Crantz (runner-up).

## Residents Earn Special Tri-County Fair Awards

Pendleton County residents received special awards for their exhibits in the farm products, applied arts, flowers and photography open class divisions at the Tri-County Fair in Petersburg.

In the farm products category, Ty Heavner of Franklin was awarded the hickory nut kernel sweepstakes in memory of Clyde and Cora Davis by Maple Croft Farm.

Alex Adams of Franklin came home with three awards in the applied arts division. He captured the best quilting in show by a junior exhibitor and people's choice quilt award, both sponsored by the Hardy County Community Educational Outreach Service Council, and outstanding youth exhibit sponsored by the Lost River Educational Foundation.

A large plain color dahlia exhibited by Faye Kile of Upper Tract was chosen as best dahlia. Her award was in memory of Imogene Brake by the fair's flower committee members.

Best of show in photography was exhibited by Tyler Cloud of Upper Tract.

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# Season Opener Starts with Struggle But Ends in Triumph

By Stephen Smoot

"It wasn't the start I imagined," said Madison Day, Pendleton County volleyball head coach, after her first game in her new role.

After a strong showing in last fall's state tournament in Charleston and coming back reloaded, giving up the first six points of the season was not expected by anyone.

But the fight, grit, determination, and outcome all looked familiar by game's end.

Moorefield came into Franklin to renew the two schools' rivalry in every sport that both play. Though the Wildcats lost Allie Cooper to graduation and Carolyn Varner's deadly accurate serving to injury, they still retained a number of weapons both experienced and new.

That all said, the Yellow Jackets came to play. They started the first game with five misplayed balls and an ace served against the home squad. Looking rattled, the Wildcats called timeout to reset. From there, they went on a five to one run to narrow the gap considerably.

Avery Townsend helped to both set the table and serve the meal early on. First, she drove a spike into the middle of the Moorefield side to pull her team within two. Shortly after, she provided a perfect set to teammate Lizzie Alt, who spiked the ball herself.

Pendleton County took an 11-10 lead, but precise Moorefield play took them back to a 15-13 advantage.

Later in the set, an Alt ace pulled her team to within one at 20-19, but Moorefield pulled away and took the first set.

Set number two started remarkably similar to the first, but with the key difference being the Wildcats took the first five points. Alyssa Bennett offered the initial serve. On

the return Brynlynn Waggy glided across the net to provide a strong set to Alt, who spiked the ball for the first point.

Waggy serves as one of three different setters for the Wildcats. Day explained that only rarely can a team rely on so many different players to handle the crucial responsibility.

Like Pendleton County did in the first set, the Yellow Jackets stung the Wildcats often enough to climb back into the competition. A 10 to seven run brought them to within two at 12-10. The home team worked hard to hold off Moorefield's charge. Baylee Beachler, who got more comfortable as the game went on, raised the lead to 13-10 with her own spike. She deftly mixed hard spikes and soft taps to confuse the other side.

Pendleton County pushed ahead when a Townsend spike off a Waggy set took the score to 17-13, followed by Waggy outdueling Moorefield at the net to earn a score.

Beachler then took the next seven serves to close the game, earning two aces in the run while Alt scored two spikes. The Wildcats took the set 25-13.

Not until set three did both teams look comfortable, shaking off the rust of the off-season. The Yellow Jackets took an early 3-0 lead, but gave that up quickly. Pendleton County for a time would work to catch up, only to see their opponent pull ahead by one or two scores.

The Wildcats pulled ahead finally at 10-9 on an Alt ace. Moorefield tied on the next serve, but gave up the lead again as a Wildcat in traffic launched a desperate return that gained an 11-10 lead.

Good serving by Emma Hartman, combined with two blocks and other clutch Wildcat plays gave the home team daylight

at 18-13. Unlike the previous set, the Yellow Jackets ripped off a five to nothing run to tie. A Beachler block at the net provided a 19-18 lead.

The set ended when Breena Bowers took the serve with the score 24-22. She delivered a perfect shot, scored an ace, and won the set.

Pendleton County continued to improve as the game went on. Emily Poling, who took over the back defensive position where Cooper played last year, found her form. She hustled back and forth, dove to save plays, and kept the ball alive for her team to find scoring opportunities.

Moorefield slowly built up a six point lead at 18-12, then again at 20-14. A nine to four run gave the Wildcats a shot to take the set and end the game, but a misplay on the backline gave the Yellow Jackets the set.

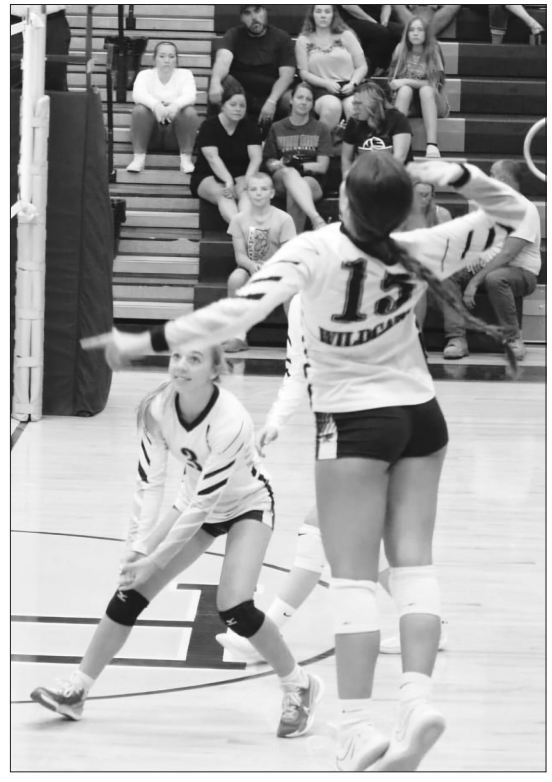
Then came the final set.

Moorefield took an early 2-1 lead, but an Alt spike and a Beachler ace put the Wildcats up by one. Alt then blocked a return and followed that with a spike. Moorefield then hit a spike too hard and it flew over the back line, pushing the score to 6-2 and causing the Moorefield coach to slam his water bottle to the floor.

On the next play, the Wildcats took a 7-2 lead when Waggy's set allowed Alt to hit a crosscourt shot along the net that dropped. Beachler's next ace made the score 8-2.

A five to three run by the Yellow Jackets narrowed the score, but did not allow them to threaten. Bowers took over the serve shortly thereafter and the Wildcats ended the final set at 15-7 and won the game.

Day explained after the game how she has continued to push an aggressive style. She said, "We want to receive at the start of every game." Most teams prefer to serve first,



Lizzie Alt elevates to send across a ball set by Avery Townsend.

but Day says that her team prefers to take the first chance at a scoring opportunity to establish themselves.

She said of the tough start in the initial game that "it's good to face adversity" and that it prepares them for tough games later in the season.

"We're all about facing the adversity and using it to better ourselves," Day said.

The Wildcats were scheduled for a match Tuesday against Keyser and then travel to Union and Petersburg. They will host Highland on Tuesday.

## Wildcats Pull Out Victory over Lady Huskies of North Marion

By Stephen Smoot

Pendleton County volleyball did not have much chance to enjoy their season opening win over Moorefield before taking on a set of heavyweight programs at a tournament in Frankfort last weekend.

The Wildcats defeated North Marion two sets to none, handling the winless double A school.

North Marion took the first score, tapping a Baylee Beachler serve to the middle of the floor. They gave up the lead just as quickly from an Avery Townsend spike.

Shortly after, Emma Hartman helped her team to tie the game again at two by outdueling an opponent at the net. Lizzie Alt then took the ball and served up two aces, followed by a spike set up by Emma Poling. On the next play, the Wildcats took a 6-2 lead when Poling set up an Alt spike.

Alyssa Bennett's soft tap to the middle a little later gave her team a 9-3 advantage. Hartman helped to build on that shortly thereafter with two consecutive aces to build an eight point lead at 12-4.

Pendleton County maintained a commanding lead for the rest of the set. Bennett scored an ace to push the lead to 16-6. The very next play Beachler had another score negated by a call, which motivated the senior into an even more aggressive approach. She uncorked a vicious spike two serves later to give the Wildcats a 18-7 advantage, then followed that with an ace.

The Wildcats did not relent as the set came to a close. Beachler got the 24th point by hammering a spike to the back line, then softly tapped the ball over the net for the final score and the set victory.

North Marion's Lady Huskies showed a little more bite in the second set. In the tournament format, the set series run in a best of three instead of best of five. Also at Frankfort, two games ran side by side simultaneously, which sometimes creates confusion when whistles from different games blow or players are unfamiliar with the configuration of the lines when playing perpendicular to the basketball court.

Beachler started the second set as she ended the first, with a dominant play, spiking the ball at the middle of the net.

Pendleton County raced out to an 11-5 advantage through solid serving and plays at the net, but then North Marion used Wildcat errors to score four straight in the middle of a 10 to two run to seize a two point lead.

Pendleton County knotted the score at 15, then Beachler took over the serve. As she continued to send the ball across, her teammates made big plays to take back momentum. Alt had two redirected shots while Townsend fired a spike. Then, Townsend set up Alt for a return that caromed off a defender's fist for a 21-16 score.

Alt then took the serve with the score 21-18 and scored two aces on the way to a set and a game victory.

In other action last Saturday, Pendleton County also took on double A Frankfort and also Buffalo, the powerhouse that the Wildcats upset as a first seed in the state tournament last year. This serves as part of head coach Madison Day's aggressive scheduling to expose her team to the best competition in the state. Pendleton County fell to both teams.



Emma Hartman skies to send a serve during the victory over North Marion.

PENDLETON COUNTY MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL						September
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2  <b>LABOR DAY</b> NO SCHOOL	3 HS Volleyball Keyser 6:00 (H)	4 HS Volleyball Union 6:00 (A) MS Football Romney 6:30 (H)	5 Travel Club Meeting Auditorium 5:00 V Golf Moorefield (H) HS Volleyball Petersburg 6:00 (A)	6 Club Day HS Football East Hardy 7:00 (A)	7 MS Volleyball Warm Springs 1:00 (H)
8 	9 College Fair 1:30 JV Football East Hardy 6:30 (H)	10 MS/HS Volleyball Highland 4:30 (H)	11 MS Football East Hardy 6:30 (H)	12 Varsity Golf Union 4:00 (H) MS Volleyball Moorefield 6:00 (A)	13 HS Football Petersburg 7:00 (A) <b>Interim Reports</b>	14
15	16 Letter Jackets with Balfour 11:30 V Golf Union 4:00 MS Volleyball East Hardy 6:00 (A)	17 HS Volleyball Tygarts Valley 6:00 (H)	18 MS Volleyball Capon Bridge 6:00 (H)	19 FFA Tractor Driving HS Volleyball East Hardy 6:00 (A)	20 HS Football Richwood 7:30 (A) <b>EARLY RELEASE</b>	21
22	23 Varsity Golf PVC Championship Canaan Valley 9:00 (A) MS Volleyball Petersburg 6:00 (H)	24 HS Varsity Volleyball Tygarts Valley/ Notre Dame 5:00 (A)	25 MS Football Pocahontas County 6:30 (A)	26 HS Volleyball Tucker County 6:00 (H) MS Volleyball Romney 6:00 (A) ← FFA Career Development →	27 Pork Tenderloin Dinner Sponsored by Senior Class of 2025	28
29	30 Varsity Golf Regionals Canaan Valley 9:00 (A)		MS - Middle School HS - High School	Pendleton County Schools is an Equal Opportunity Provider		

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# When Dealing with Drought Damaged Crops, Tested Is Best

By Jessica Hoover,  
Agricultural and Natural Resources Agent, Associate Professor

Drought damaged crops not only result in decreased yields, but also present new risks for producers. One of the biggest risks of drought damaged crops is increased nitrate levels. Under normal conditions, nitrate uptake is a normal process essential in plant growth. However, under drought conditions, photosynthesis slows, which slows the transportation of nitrates to plant leaves for use, which causes an accumulation of nitrates in the lower portion of the stalks and stems of plants. This is further amplified if nitrogen availability is high, such as fields that received a heavy nitrogen fertilizer. Additionally, receiving rain will cause the nitrate level to spike as the new water availability will increase nitrate uptake. As a result, producers are encouraged to wait to harvest when nitrate levels have returned to normal, if possible, especially following a rain.

High nitrate levels in corn and hay present many challenges for producers. Ruminants are susceptible to nitrate

poisoning if elevated levels of nitrates are consumed. This is because nitrate is typically converted to nitrite and used during the protein conversion process, however, at elevated levels, nitrite is unable to be completely used. The excess nitrites then enter the bloodstream and bind to red blood cells, converting hemoglobin to methemoglobin. With hemoglobin in this form, the cells are unable to transport oxygen. At elevated levels of methemoglobin concentration, sudden death of the animal occurs due to oxygen starvation. Other symptoms of nitrate poisoning include weakness; rapid breathing; rapid heart rate; staggering; muscle tremors; brownish discoloration of mucous membranes, blood, or other tissues; and abortions.

When harvesting drought damaged crops, testing is the most valuable tool producers can use to understand not only the nitrate level in the crop, but the nutritional value of the crop. Reductions in yield or grain content may present differing levels of crude protein, fiber, or other nutrients. Raising the cutter bar may result in a reduction in nitrates as most are concentrated in the lower portion of the plant. Ensiling corn for at least 30 days will also reduce the level

of nitrates by a third to a half through the fermentation process, however testing is still important both during chopping, and after ensilage to fully understand the nitrate level and nutritional composition of the feed. Nitrate testing is especially important in hay, as nitrate reduction does not occur during the drying process. The only way to know the nitrate level or nutritional value of any feed with certainty is through testing.

According to the University of Kentucky, safe levels of nitrate are below 5,000 ppm or 0.5 percent of dry matter. If levels are above this, up to 10,000 ppm or 1 percent, dilution with other feeds and slow introduction may be acceptable. Levels above 10,000 ppm or 1 percent are considered unsafe and should not be fed.

The Potomac Valley Conservation District offers a cost share program for nitrate, mycotoxin, and mold testing for forages. More information on this program can be obtained from the Potomac Valley Conservation District office. Additionally, the Pendleton County Extension Service is available to aid producers in navigating management of drought damaged crops.

## Tick-Borne Condition

Continued From Page 1

meats, dairy, and other products.

Unlike Lyme Disease, which is a bacterium that swift use of antibiotics can eliminate, alpha-gal syndrome comes from the body's own defenses

Crouse explained that products of mammalian origin end up in foods that one might not expect. Chicken breast soaked in brine sometimes comes into contact with mammal products. Processed foods often contain dairy or other fats from mammals.

Even more significant, mammal products often make up parts of over the counter and prescription medicines and can also create the same allergic reactions. Additionally, few consider the presence of food products in medication whether they are prescribing or taking them.

Alpha-gal syndrome can bring symptoms from two to eight hours after exposure to the food. Again, it appears that each individual experiences the syndrome in a different fashion.

Three members of the West Virginia State Legislature have contracted the condition. Two, not including Crouse, are asymptomatic. Crouse plans to create a bill based on similar legislation passed in Virginia that mandates the reporting of confirmed cases to the alpha-gal database at the Centers for Disease Control. Crouse explains that this will help the medical community gain more vital information about the disease while also showing the scope of the problem in the Mountain State.

She plans to run a brief bill to establish the mandate in the next legislative session.

The lone star tick's range extends between the East Coast through the Appalachian Mountains to the Midwest. Crouse stated that the disease is prevalent in Ohio and Kentucky but little information exists about its spread in West Virginia.

Additionally, few medical professionals in West Virginia have much knowledge about the condition. Many of the closest specialists practice outside of the state. For her case, Crouse visited an allergist at the University of North Carolina and will undergo treatment in Virginia Beach, Virginia.

Another frustration comes from the fact that the medical community knows very little about the condition, much less about effective treatments.

Crouse emphasizes that in a state like West Virginia with so many outdoor activities, that awareness is key. Taking general precautions when going into the woods or fields with tall grass, as well as body searches for ticks upon return, will lessen the chance of contracting this and other tick-borne conditions.

## USPS Intends Slower Delivery to Rural Areas

Continued From Page 1

spurring their move toward hydrogen powered engines.

Even worse, the OIG stated that the USPS "tested for short-term reliability" but "did not conduct long-term performance monitoring, test with Next Generation Delivery Vehicles, or test the lifespan of the charging stations." Additionally, the USPS stored charging stations in unsecured locations, leading to the theft of "\$67,000 in assets."

The coming boondoggle over USPS electric vehicles and charging stations reflects a pattern that continues to plague the agency. Large scale plans falter over a lack of preparation, organization, and basic understanding of how systems work. Spending on vanity projects such as untested electric vehicles and infrastructure has only deepened the financial hole in which the USPS continues to fall.

Delivering for America's initial forays into transforming mail and package delivery systems have shown even worse problems.

On March 28, the USPS OIG released a blistering report on the progress since the launch of its first Regional Processing and Distribution in Richmond, Virginia. The hub covers most of southeastern Virginia, the northeast corner of North Carolina, and the counties along Interstate 64 to the West Virginia state line.

Its territory does not extend into the Mountain State, but covers some area counties, such as Highland, Bath, Allegheny, Augusta and Rockingham in Virginia.

The first four months alone led to "\$8 million in questioned costs," a "decrease in service performance," and exposure of staff problems from top to bottom. The USPS promised that a \$25.4 million "investment" would bring about \$186 million in savings, but the OIG says "it is uncertain if expected savings will be achieved."

One major problem stems from the fact that, as the OIG states "the postal service did not take action to address known weaknesses before converting the Richmond facility into an RP and DC."

The lengthy list of what the OIG referred to as "challenges" includes:

"Supervisors didn't fully understand new operations and mail flow."

"We . . . observed multiple instances of personnel throughout the facility not engaged in work" including "a mail handler sleeping on a parked forklift," "general inattention

to mail left on or around machines," "mail over two months old left in a container in the truck yard," and more specific examples of the decline in quality at every level.

Despite the reported issues with employees not working while on the job, "83 percent of all overtime hours at the facility since conversion were not authorized."

Costs soared as extra trips rose by 706 percent, late trips rose 30 percent, canceled trips 185 percent, "trips departed, not arrived" up 938 percent, and unrecorded trips up an astounding 35,337 percent.

What changes took place between the March report on the Richmond RP and DC and the review of the Atlanta RP and DC opened later?

Not many. The OIG criticized Atlanta officials for not implementing suggested changes from their review of the Richmond facility, saying they "did not build on lessons learned from the launch of the Richmond RP and DC."

The report also read that "mail service performances in the Atlanta region declined significantly after the launch in February 2024."

Of the employees at the Atlanta facility "most did not receive training or know the operational layout of the facility" and 57 percent of "necessary front line management positions were vacant at launch."

Incompetence has consequences. One of many incidents stemming from the failure of the Atlanta launch saw "mail wrongly delivered to another facility resulting in 500 delayed passports."

The USPS, like private sector businesses, faces serious headwinds from the government sparked inflation, the impact of the pandemic, and more. While DeJoy blamed its problems mostly on his predecessors, other issues occurred during his tenure. This includes the fact that the Delivery for America plans were based on projections created during the pandemic.

Unfortunately, as the OIG reported in its June 21 "State of the United States Postal Service Financial Condition," "the DFA plan and its projections no longer provide a reasonable basis for comparisons to future years' results."

In other words, the USPS plan for reforming itself relies on projections that no longer make sense in the economy of 2024.

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## Highlands Bankshares Declares Quarterly Dividend

Highlands Bankshares, Inc. announced unaudited earnings of \$2,121,000 for the first six-month period ended June 30. This represents an increase of 36.05 percent from the \$1,559,000 earned during the same period in 2023. On a per share basis, net income was \$1.59 for the first six months of 2024, compared to earnings of \$1.17 per share for the six months ended June 30, 2023.

On July 9, the board of directors declared a quarterly dividend of \$0.42 per share to be paid on Aug. 2 to all shareholders of record as of July 26. Based upon the current market price and annualizing the dividends paid to shareholders this quarter, Highlands' current dividend yield is 4.73 percent.

Jack H. Walters, chairman and chief executive officer of the holding company, stated, "We appear to be approaching an inflection point with interest rates as recent data points to the Federal Reserve beginning to ease monetary policy

in the not to distant future. Inflation appears to be cooling and economic data is beginning to show that consumers are feeling the strain of higher interest rates. Locally, economic conditions are stable and we continue to see strength in loan demand, although somewhat less robust than the previous two years. Net interest income for Q2 improved compared to the year ago period due to increases in the loan portfolio, partially offset by higher interest expense on deposits. We have also set aside more money in our allowance for loan losses based on slowing economic conditions compared to the year ago period."

Highlands Bankshares, Inc. operates 12 banking locations in West Virginia and Virginia through its two wholly-owned subsidiary banks, The Grant County Bank and Capon Valley Bank, and offers insurance services through its wholly-owned subsidiary HBI Life Insurance Company.

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# FHS Classes of '54 and '55 Hold Joint Reunion



Franklin High School  
69th Class Reunion  
1955-2024

Franklin High School classmates of 1954 and 1955 gathered July 27 for a combined reunion at the Walnut Street United Methodist Church social hall. Members of the class of 1954, left, attending their 70th class reunion were, from left, front row, Cornelia Hartman Teter, Stanley Simmons and Helen Pennington Eoick; and back row, William Ray Hartman, Betty Jean Warner Hoover, Ruth Keister Heald and Dale Sponaugle. Attending their 69th reunion were members of the class of 1955. Pictured, right, are from left, seated, Elsie Moats Barrow, Patty Judy Sponaugle, Loretta Sponaugle Homan, Jean Sites Hoss, Bernadine Kiser Raney and Patricia Wheaton Sweeney; and standing, Phyllis Burgoyne Rhodes, Carroll Mitchell, James Skidmore, Charles Lambert, Bruce Hoover, Norman Wilfong and Orva Hammer Sponaugle.

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## Propst Family Reunion Held

The Cleveland Propst family held their reunion on Aug. 4 at Ruddle Park. Family members came from several states, including West Virginia, Virginia, Maryland, Florida and Illinois. Lunch, fellowship and games were enjoyed by all. Those in attendance were Leta Kimble, Sheila Torrance, Tom and Debbie Turner, Jeff and Dottie Miller, Lee Miller, Yvonne and Keith Shuck, Chasity Bartley, Danny and Amy VanMeter, Chat Propst, Larry Propst, Brian and Cathy Propst, Brian Propst Jr. and family, John, Raven and Baylor Siciliano, Tyler, Alexis and Kenley Evans, Richard and Pam Smith, John and Nancy Bilheimer, Johnny, Becky, Maggie and John Jesse Bilheimer, Jennifer, Paul and Maverick Marando, Janet and Tony Smith, Chris and Meagan Propst, Roy Midkiff and David Meadows. The next reunion will be held Aug. 3, 2025, at Ruddle Park.

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**UNDER CONTRACT**  
SGR339A 1.00 Acre w/2 Bed, 2 Bath Home, 2 Car Garage, 12'x12' Paved driveway, Smith Heights Sub-division. Some Restrictions. **NEW LISTING \$279,000.00 REDUCED \$269,000.00**

**UNDER CONTRACT**  
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**

**UNDER CONTRACT**  
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**

**UNDER CONTRACT**  
SGR334A 4.25 Acre Lot, Sherwood Forest, Nice building lot, Electric Nearby, Some Restrictions apply, Franklin District. **NEW LISTING \$39,000.00**

**UNDER CONTRACT**  
SGR333A 5.37 Acres w/Cabin, Open Living space, Main floor bdrm, 4th floor bdrm, along 2 sides, Easy access to property. Located in Buck Ridges, Franklin District. **NEW LISTING \$164,900.00**

**UNDER CONTRACT**  
SGR331A 3.0 Acres w/2 Bed, 1 Bath Cabin, Generator, Brand New Solar Panels, Cistern, Septic, located on Kile Knob, Franklin District. ~~\$259,000.00~~ **\$229,000.00 REDUCED \$209,000.00**

**UNDER CONTRACT**  
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. ~~\$69,900.00~~ **REDUCED \$69,900.00**

**UNDER CONTRACT**  
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**

**UNDER CONTRACT**  
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**

**UNDER CONTRACT**  
SGR326A 141.74 Acres, Raw Land, Franklin District. **\$399,000.00**

**UNDER CONTRACT**  
SGR320A 2.75 wooded acres, Lot #13, Yeager Ct., Highland Estates Development, Milroy District, Grant County, WV. ~~\$63,250.00~~ **REDUCED \$59,900.00**

**UNDER CONTRACT**  
SGR318A 14.47 Acres Raw Land, w/Road cut in and leveled building pad being prepared, Buck Ridges Development, Franklin District. **\$49,900.00**

**UNDER CONTRACT**  
SGR317A 0.21 Acre Front, 2 Apartments, Large Storage area, located in Riverton. **\$70,000.00**

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

**UNDER CONTRACT**  
SGR309A 0.44 Acre, 2 bed, 2 bath home in Franklin. Two car garage w/bonus room. **\$229,000.00**

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

**UNDER CONTRACT**  
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**

**UNDER CONTRACT**  
SGR300A 599.19 Acres, more or less, off of Sandy Ridge Rd. Hunting, Food Plots, Timber, Catfish Pond, Mtn. Views, Roads throughout. Franklin District. **NEW LISTING \$1,795,000.00 REDUCED \$1,595,000.00**

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

**UNDER CONTRACT**  
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**

**UNDER CONTRACT**  
SGR246 242.36 Acres, more or less, w/5 Bed, 2-1/2 Bath Country Home, 15.5 A Farmhouse on property. Pond, magnificent Views. Conservation Easement. **\$998,700.00**

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

**UNDER CONTRACT**  
SGR223 4 Bed, 2 Bath, 1500 sq. ft. home located in town of Franklin. **\$299,000.00**

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

**UNDER CONTRACT**  
SGR441 Residential lots, public water, protective covenants and restrictions. Oak Flat Estates near Brandywine on Rte. 33 East of Franklin. Lots from **\$20,760.00**

**UNDER CONTRACT**  
SGR247 Residential lots with town water, sewer & underground utilities. Protective covenants and restrictions. Franklin Airport Development. Lots from **\$14,630.00**

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## The Pendleton Co Historical Society invites all to an encore PRESENTATION & Walking Tour of Franklin in Flames

TMF Sunday, Sept 22 - 2 pm at the Presbyterian Church

Book for Sale! ~ \$40

Because the story is too big to be told in an afternoon, the Society is also offering a book, **Franklin in Flames ~ Apr 17, 1924**

Books can be purchased at Sites Auto Parts, Boggs House Museum or online at [pchswv.com/books/](http://pchswv.com/books/)

Learn about why we were once referred to as the "Independent State of Pendleton"

Tell everyone about the presentation, it was left off the TMF schedule!