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Thursday December 5, 2024



Pendleton County 4-H poultry judging team represented West Virginia at the national contest in Louisville, Kentucky. Members of the team were, from left, Jessica Hoover (extension agent), Phoebe Pownell, Lydia Heavner, Cole Harper, Vivian Pownell and Brooke Alt (extension agent).

# Pendleton County 4-H Sends Team to National Poultry Judging Competition

By Stephen Smoot

"Poultry is definitely something that Pendleton County is really good at," shared Jessica Hoover, West Virginia University extension agent for the area.

While she could be referring to the raising of top quality chickens and turkeys, Hoover meant the passion, experience, and knowledge of Pendleton County youth who compete in poultry related contests.

On Nov. 20 and 21, Louisville, Kentucky, hosted the National 4-H Poultry and Egg Contest. Those in 4-H who had attained their 14th birthday by Jan. 1 of this year could compete to qualify in competitions against fellow contestants from around the nation.

"The overall objective," said the website for the event, "is to offer national-level activities and contests designed to introduce participants to poultry and the poultry industry."

Many months of preparation and hard work went into their success. Just like the sports teams that earned their way into the postseason this fall, winning starts with practice, practice, and then more practice.

Hoover explained that the team members would regularly hold one to two hour practices which "they tried to have pretty regularly." Practices involved identifying parts, hands-on grading of carcasses, eggs, and live production hens. "They did a lot on their own, too" she added.

The hard work paid off when they carried

mer in Moorefield.

At the time of writing, the results of the competition had not been revealed. Hoover shared that "all felt really confident that they did well and learned a lot."

The team of Lydia Heavner, Cole Harper, and Phoebe and Vivian Pownell is no stranger to regional agricultural competition. Heavner won grand champion bacon at last spring's Future Farmers of America egg, ham, and bacon sale. Vivian Pownell's dozen grade A eggs sold for \$200.

The trip to western Kentucky included seeing other sights. Half of the team went to the state's celebrated horse country around Lexington, Kentucky, and toured an equine hospital. Others visited an alpaca farm. All had the chance to see horse races at the world-famous Churchill Downs, home of the Kentucky Derby.

Like all agriculture related competitions, though, the greatest benefit does not come from winning the awards. Those who compete must have strong social and communication skills, be able to retain tremendous amounts of knowledge, and enjoy the lessons of traveling to a new place and doing new things.

Hoover stated that 10 years ago, she trod in these students' shoes, competing in judging and other contests. Now, she is a successful farmer and extension agent.

These competitions, the mentorship and coaching needed to produce winning teams, and the lessons learned will help to provide away several awards from the West Virginia Pendleton County with its next generation of State 4-H Judging competition held last sum- productive farmers and agricultural leaders.

# Pendleton County volleyball players cheer on teammates during a first round win over Magnolia. Photo courtesy of West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission.

Wildcats Advance at States

# It's Beginning to Look a Lot Like a Pendleton County Christmas on the White House Lawn



Hayley Craig's classes at Pendleton County Middle/High School were selected to represent West Virginia for the National Christmas Tree in Washington, DC. Students whose ornaments were chosen are, from left, front row, Lainey Simmons, Aniayah Spencer, Katelyn Myers and Autumn Harper; middle row, Shayne Clutter, Callie Dunn, Mackenzie Day, Lori Wehrle, Emma Alexander and Weston Boyer; and back row, Ty Armentrout, Dylan Eye, Jonah See, Cameron Wyatt, Katie Heavner, Marleigh Moyers, Danielle Warner, Jasmine Hester, Kya Brogan and Josie Verdoni. Not pictured are Jordyn Gibson, Kallie Keyser, Victoria Chan and Katie Keyser.

#### By Stephen Smoot

The nation's capitol cannot seem to get enough of Pendleton County.

Last year, the United States Capitol Christmas Tree made a visit to Seneca Rocks. This year, West Virginia's entry for the state tree on the White House lawn will feature ornaments crafted by students from Pendleton County Middle/High School.

The White House display is different than the U.S. Capitol Tree. It has a single national tree and smaller trees from every state and territory. President Calvin Coolidge lit the first in 1923 and it has remained a tradition ever since, as the website states "to celebrate the season as a place that symbolizes hope and unity."

According to Hayley Craig, PCM/HS, student art work won the honor for their school. Schools from all over West Virginia compete for the honor of having their ornaments featured on the tree. For the past three years, the prize has gone to Robert L. Bland Middle School in Weston.

She said of Bland Middle School's submissions for 2024 that "they're ornaments were

absolutely gorgeous." Craig shared that the theme this year was what makes your state beautiful. "My class decided to focus on wildlife in West Virginia," she added.

The process started last spring. Three example works were submitted for judging. Based on the work submitted, the PCM/HS students won for their school the honor of having area student work featured on the

After they selected the school, judges picked 24 student creations to hang on the tree. Craig shared that many crafted images for the ornaments portrayed fish common in the state, such as rainbow trout. Others show cardinals, black bears, honey bees, "lots of butterflies," and even the often overlooked opossum who, in this case, is "hanging off a Christmas tree holding a

candy cane. "I've actually been applying for this for some time," revealed Craig, who also volunteers with Friends of the Library.

The ceremony will take place on Dec 5, but due to space concerns, only two tickets go to each school. Craig stated that CBS will stream it on Dec 20. The show will also feature famous performers. Last year was highlighted by Tricia Yearwood.

# Economic and Regulatory Pressures Create Financial Crunch for PEIA

By Stephen Smoot

The West Virginia Public Employees Insurance Agency for more than a half century has served as the main insurance provider for state, local, and education workers employed throughout the state.

PEIA's history since its establishment in 1971 has resembled that of a ship in shallow waters - long periods of quiet punctuated by times where the West Virginia State Legislature and others have worked to guide it past and through most recent crisis in part spurred a tension filled strike by state teachers.

As the Legislature approaches its next general session, PEIA problems loom again as one of the biggest issues that the state's legislative and exec-

utive branches must tackle. This time, a convergence of problems created by the economy of the medical field and the nation at large, federal and state legislation, and the predominant health problems of those covered have com-

obstacles. Prior to 2024, the bined to create a massive expected shortfall this year and potentially a larger one in 2027.

According to a PEIA presentation on its own challenges, some of the problem stems from common health problems in those covered by their insurance plans.

Prescription drug costs have responded to inflation in similar ways to the rest of the nation, by going up. At the same time, the appe tite for some and the need for others for prescription drugs nationwide continues to grow.

For example, the effect of inflation on the prescription drug plan has created a hike in costs. The net plan cost per member, per month, has risen from \$113.58 to \$137.12, a gain of 20.7 percent over the course of a single fiscal year. GLP-1 drugs, which include injected insulin for diabetics and treatments for obesity, accounted for \$52.5 million, or just under 20 percent of the total cost. The same class of drugs accounted for \$10.25, or 43.6 percent, of the net per member per month increase.

PEIA did not anticipate the sharp rise in costs for these drugs, which its audit from Ernst and Young called "exponential" in scope. It added that PEIA

Continued on Page 3

# Senator-Elect Morris Takes on Familiar Role of **Economic Development Promoter in New Office**

By Stephen Smoot

Pendleton County is nestled at the eastern edge of one of the largest and most challenging state legislative districts anywhere. The 11th Senate District covers all of Pendleton, Nicholas, Pocahontas, Randolph, Upshur, and Webster counties, as well as parts of Grant.

As of January, Robbie Morris will take his place alongside Bill Hamilton as one of two state senators from this district

Morris's personal and professional roots in the district run deep. He worked with his father in a consulting firm, then in 2011 became the Randolph County Economic Development Authority executive director. He has also applied his efforts and expertise to service with the Hardwood Alliance Zone, the state broadband council, and as chair of the Corridor H Authority.

He must step down from the broadband council with it being a state executive branch position.

When it comes to the upcoming Legislative session, Morris states that "a lot of that is going to depend on what Governor-Elect Morrisey does." Morrisey has shared ideas on reducing regulatory and tax burdens on businesses in West Virginia with the intention of directly competing with neighboring states.

A more unknown factor will be the next Senate president, who also serves as the Constitutional Lieutenant Governor. The hard-charging Craig Blair lost his race for re-election. The top three contenders for the leadership position are finance chairman Eric Tarr of Putnam County, Majority Leader Tom Takubo of Kanawha County, and energy chairman Randy Smith from neighboring Tucker County.

Continued on Page 3

# Community CALENDAR

#### Post 9666 To Meet

VFW Post 9666 will meet at 6:30 p.m. Dec. 12 at the post home in Sugar Grove.

#### 'Times' To Publish Christmas Memories, Holiday Recipes

Christmas is just around the corner. The Times would like for its readers to share with other subscribers some past Christmas memories, as well as favorite holiday recipes.

Please submit articles or recipes by Tuesday, Dec. 10. Both can be e-mailed to ads@ pendletontimes.com, mailed to PO Box 906, Franklin, WV 26807, or dropped off at the

#### Post 30 To Meet

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

#### **Blood Drive Set** For Monday

A blood drive will begin at noon Monday at Pendleton County Library in Franklin.

#### **UT Producers** To Meet Monday

The Upper Tract Producer's 4-H Club will meet at 6:30 p.m. Monday at the Upper Tract Training Center (old grade school). A holiday party celebrating officers and new members will be held.

# **OBITUARIES**



**Dolan Mallow** 

Dolan Mallow, 88, of Seneca Rocks passed away Nov. 24, 2024, at his home.

He was born on Aug. 7, 1936, in Onego, the son of the late Omar Lee Mallow and Mable (Morral) Hedrick.

Mr. Mallow attended school in the Seneca Rocks and Onego area and retired from the West Virginia Department of Highways in Riverton after 30 years of

He was a former member of the National Rifle Association. In his early years, he enjoyed hunting and working on vehicles. As time went on, he found pleasure reclining in his chair and watching old

He leaves behind a legacy of love for his family. He will be dearly missed by all who knew and loved him. He was married to his bride of 61 years, Patricia

Mary Ellen (Kile) Mallow,

who survives. Also surviving are two daughters, Wendy Riffle (James) of Inwood and Christina Weatherholtz of Middletown, Virginia; four sons, Dolan Scott Mallow of Riverton, Robert Wayne Mallow (Dawn) of Weirs Cove, Virginia, and Joshua Samuel Mallow and Jeremy Dean Mallow (April Thompson), all of Seneca Rocks; two sisters, Sharon Bonner and Donna Zahn; two brothers, Larry and Robert Mallow; 16 grandchildren; 20 greatgrandchildren; and two foster grandchildren.

He was also preceded in death by three brothers, Ray and Ricky Mallow and Chester "Jake" Arbogast; and two sisters, Ruby Kisamore and Grace Corbitt.

Funeral services were held Friday in the chapel of the Basagic Funeral Home in Petersburg with Pastor David Miller officiating. Interment was in the North Fork Mennonite Church Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to the family, c/o the Basagic Funeral Home and Crematory, PO Box 400, Petersburg, WV 26847.

Memories and words of comfort may be left at www. basagic.com or on Facebook at Basagic Funeral Home.

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#### **Raymond's Gymnastics Center**

24 Industrial Park Drive, Upper Tract Saturday, Dec. 7 • 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Vendors • Pony Rides • Food • Games

Crafts • Face Painting • Fariy Hair Mr. and Mrs Claus AND MUCH MORE!

All proceeds go towards the end of the year medals and

our gymnastics program

We invite the community and our gymnastics families to come out and support our business and enjoy a fun day!!



Leslie C. "Bub" Snyder

Leslie C. "Bub" Snyder, 79, of Brandywine passed away on Nov. 27, 2024, at Pendleton Manor in Franklin.

He was born on Aug. 3, 1945, in Brandywine, the son of the late Robert C. and Effie Dorothy (Reed) Snyder.

Mr. Snyder was a kindhearted man who enjoyed spending time with his family and friends.

He attended Pendleton County Schools and Cedar Grove Church of the Breth-He leaves behind to cher-

ish his memory several cousins, including; Judy Snyder, Wanda Brady, Doris Huffman and Jerry Snyder; and a special friend and caretaker, Mary Propst. He was also preceded in

death by three brothers, Paul Simmons, Gene Early "Cracker" Snyder and Carl William Reed; and a sister, Christina Mae Cuellar.

In honoring his wishes, his body has been cremated.

Memories and words of comfort may be left at www. basagic.com.

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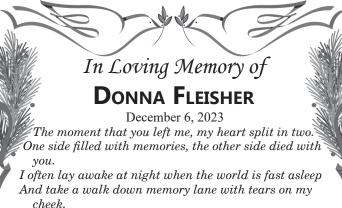
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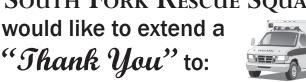


Remembering you is easy, I do it every day. But missing you is a heartache that never goes away.

I hold you tightly within my heart and there you will You see life has gone on without you, but will never be

Loved and Missed By the Family

# South Fork Rescue Squad would like to extend a





- The Community for providing their support, furnishing
- food and money for our dinner, especially the local churches. The Community for their active support in attending the
- All of the EMTs that worked in the planning, preparation
- and cleanup for the dinner. Especially individuals that aided in cleaning the building
- and preparing and serving the food.
- And many, many thanks to Peer's Sanitation in their constant help and support by providing trash service.

### Raffle Drawing Winners:

22-250 - Steve Simmons 30-06 - Steve Varner \$200 - Shaun Bowers \$20

Mike Feronti and Larry Gnagey



The management at Pendleton Manor would like to remind the community of the vulnerability of our elderly residents.

Please be mindful if you are planning on visiting Pendleton Manor to stop and think! Are you having any signs or symptoms of illness including

fever, nausea, diarrhea, or respiratory illness?

Please reconsider if you are experiencing any signs of illness and reschedule your visit for a later date.



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#### **Christ Central Community Church**

**Upper Tract** Sunday, December 15

6 p.m.

The New Valley Four Quartet

Bring our friends for a great night of music and fellowship. Refreshments to follow. Everyone Welcome

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#### **ARMENTROUT AUCTIONS**

**PUBLIC AUCTION** Saturday, December 7 • 10 a.m.

#### **Estate of DONALD LEE NELSON** 7624 Snowy Mountain Rd., Circleville

Antiques and Personal Property: Pie safe, apple butter kettle with homemade stand (nice), handmade apple butter stirrers (made by Mr Nelson), 2 refrigerators, glassware, #13 blue jar, wormy chestnut wall shelves, grain cradle, brass horse hames, 2 metal tractor seats, old buggy seat table, small wooden chest, nice wooden double door gun cabinet, lots of saddles and horse tack, saddle stands, full size bear on stand, deer horns, ringer washing machine, walnut cracker, lots of leather pieces, Pentax & Cannon 35 mm camera with lens, six pane wooden windows, log grabs, Craftsman 10" table saw, 7" inch jointer, 2 floor drill presses, AC welder, lots of hand tools (wrenches, screw drivers, etc), silage forks, chains, roll of barb wire, metal wedges, 3 seed sowers, pieces of coal mine belts, cultivator, double plow, locust fence posts, metal wagon wheels, miscellanous lumber, file cabinets, wood stove, bug zappers, kerosene heaters, picnic table, ceramic tile saw (new), lots of ceramic tile.

Trailers and Equipment: Gooseneck horse trailer with dressing room, bumper pull horse trailer, gooseneck flatbed trailer, 3 other utility trailers, International tractor with front bucket, 10" post driver with hydraulic adjustment, homemade pig pole, 3-point fertilizer spreader, 3point cement mixer with PTO shaft, Amish buggy with extra cab, 2006 Subaru Outback (standard 5 speed), and misc truck parts.

> Terms: Cash or good check with photo ID on day of sale.

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**Auctioneers** Dexter Armentrout, 1420 **Administrator:** Krista Hiner

304-567-2201 Josh Nesselrodt, 2279

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## Senator-Elect Morris

Continued From Page 1

Senate leadership and Morrisey will undoubtedly bring some focus to the major shortfalls coming up in the budget of the Public Employee's Insurance Agency. Premium hikes have offset salary increases, especially with state teachers. Morris says that "a lot of these different topics," which include education, the HOPE Scholarship, homeschooling, and education "are going to come down to the budget."

Many counties also face serious and mounting arrears in the bills they pay to send and keep prisoners in the state regional jail system. He states that a way needs to be found to help the counties facing the most serious problems.

Morris will keep a lot of focus on his field of expertise. He indicated he wants to keep "making sure that West Virginia can continue to be in the game" of attracting investment and developing economic

And West Virginia has surged ahead of many states just in the past year. Morris explained that "the amount of investment in the last 12 months has equaled that of the previous four years." This includes Nucor's \$3 billion steel production complex near Point Pleasant in Mason County. He said that level of success comes from "getting aggressive and getting serious" about selling the state as a superior business environment.

Part of that comes from the tremendous effort of state and local economic development officials and entities. Outside businesses appreciate officials "being helpful" and "not bogging down new programs in regulatory red tape.'

He added that economic development also requires more work to develop and increase the state's active workforce. That includes skills training programs to help older adults qualify for better paying jobs and trades education for young people to get them ready to earn large salaries while some of their peers are still in college.

Challenges to bringing that economic development success to the entire state

start first with those created by uneven infrastructure development and the related problems of topography.

Many communities struggle to maintain and upgrade basic services, such as water and sewer. Morris noted that Elkins still must rely in part on terra cotta pipes in its network. Other areas have "antiquated water plants and over capacity sewer plants." The distinctions within the 11th Senate District can appear quite stark because some parts of it benefited from Chesapeake Bay funding to upgrade fa-

He explained that many parts of the district lack access to public water and still rely on wells. This includes important facilities, such as the Pendleton County emergency management and state police building. Helping public service districts to maintain and expand service will be important to Morris.

A local concern that received a great deal of attention from local emergency management officials also has Morris's attention. While the state had a winning idea to create suggested "routes" of travel for tourists, these routes also have heavy and growing truck traffic. Getting "the DoH [Department of Highways] to fix Allegheny Mountain is very important," he said, referring to the dangerous curves on US 33's eastern slope in Pendleton

Rick Gillespie, emergency services coordinator, has repeatedly blasted double sized guardrails on the worst of the curves as insufficient.

Morris also plans to support efforts to expand high speed broadband internet in the state. Obtaining the match for the BEDE federal funding plan for the state is another step toward more expansion. He shared that expansion of the service will boost the number of high tech jobs while opening opportunities for construction and use of data centers, such as the one being developed in Petersburg by Continent 8.

# Economic and Regulatory Pressures Create Financial Crunch for PEIA

Continued From Page 1

did not anticipate such a major hike in this class of drugs "and the impact has been staggering."

"Drug claims expense increased \$76,803 million compared to last year," the report stated, but added that cost saving programs and expirations of prior authorizations for such drugs will help to bring these costs back into line in the future.

Another cost increase came as a result of the federal Inflation Reduction Act passed at the urging of President Joe Biden. According to the Council for Affordable Health Coverage "the IRA's redesign of (Medicare) Part D is increasing premiums, reducing competition and choice, and raising out-of-pocket costs."

PEIA blames the Inflation Reduction Act for "substantial increases in Medicare Advantage."

Another issue comes from Legislature efforts to strengthen PEIA and protect its customers. Senate Bill 268 first created a legal ratio where 80 percent of premium costs are borne by the employer and 20 percent by the insured. While intended to protect both sides, it has prevented the state from having the option to provide premium relief to customers.

Senator Mike Oliverio (R-Monongalia), in a proposal backed by Dale Lee, West Virginia Education Association president, would change the hard and fast ratio to the employer paying no less than 80 percent and customers no more than 20 percent. That would protect the customer while allowing the state flexibility to provide relief if it could and would do so.

SB 268 also increased the minimum level of reimbursement from 59 percent of what Medicare pays to all providers to 110 percent. While this did help to address the previous issue of providers shying away from PEIA, it also "introduced considerable volatility to the accuracy of the estimated cost increase."

This meant that the estimated medical claims expense budgeted fell short of "actual claims experience" by 55 percent – or \$43.8 million.

These, plus other issues, combined to create a \$113 million gap for PEIA. The agency proposes to use increases in prices and copays to help make up the difference.

If passed, state employees will see a 14 percent increase, local a 16 percent, and retirees a 12 percent hike in premiums. Outpatient copays will rise from \$100 to

\$250, emergency room copays from \$100 to \$300, and prescription drugs from \$10 to \$20 for generic and \$25 to \$50 for name

The spousal surcharge for coverage will

Surpluses in tax revenues over the past year have shrunk considerably and in some cases, disappeared. The timing of this, combined with the unexpected problems faced by PEIA, will force the state Legislature to find relief for those insured by the program while keeping the budget balanced as is required by law.

As for the PEIA, it has pledged "to arrest the trend through cooperative effectiveness initiatives, 340b partnerships, benefit adjustments, and wellness programs. In essence, better deals with providers, more efficiency, and focusing more on preventative programs for good health serve as much of the cost reduction plan.

# Visit Pendletontimes.com





Dean's Gap Food Truck Saturday, Dec. 14 • 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Brisket Melt, Pulled Pork and Chicken Tender Sandwiches, Hotdogs, Grilled Cheese, Chili Soup, Loaded Mac w/Brisket, Pork or Chicken, Mac 'n Cheese, Bread Pudding





Community Chorus to Perform at Main St United Methodist Church at 2:00pm

> Lighted Christmas Parade 5:00 pm (line up starts at FES at 4:30pm)

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Senior & Family Services FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6 Swiss Chicken

Beets, Peas Lime Fruit Salad Monday, December 9 **Baked Steak** 

Cheesy Ranch Potatoes Cauliflower/Cheese Pineapple, Pastry

Tuesday, December 10 Chili Dog Baked Beans, Cole Slaw

**Baked Pears** WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 11 **Chicken Tenders** 

Macaroni & Cheese **Brussels Sprouts** Tropical Fruit THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12

Lasagna, Tossed Salad Garlic Bread **Blueberry Crisp** 

Hello December



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.

10 Years Ago Week of November 27, 2014

**SUGAR GROVE** 

#### Pennsylvania Germans **Were Practical Farmers**

The Pennsylvania Germans settled this area long before the birth of this nation. A large number of the ancestors of the early settlers lived in the Palatinate section of Germany. This fertile region was considered the "Garden of Eden" of Europe and was desired by all the neighboring powers. As a result of continued warfare, the economic conditions were very unsettled, resulting in dire poverty. Anthony Jacob Henkel, progenitor of many of the county's families, was one of 20 Lutheran ministers who signed a petition in 1710 describing the serious conditions in the Palatinate. Seven years later, he migrated to Pennsylvania. The combination of political, religious and economic conditions brought a widespread interest in migration. In the month of June, 1709, 6000 Protestants from Switzerland and the Palatinate and other European areas migrated to England and eventually arrived in the New World.

The migration of Germans in the 18th century is one of the grimmest chapters of American history. These folk, who were seeking hope, were given false promises, impossible guarantees for which they faced the shocking conditions of the immigrant ships, hardship and peril, only to be exploited by unscrupulous promoters and indenturing agents. The people were packed into ships as closely as herring, so to speak. The filth, overcrowding, poor food and sickness and disease on board the ships are well known. One small ship left a Dutch port with 400 passengers arriving in Philadelphia with only 50 in the year 1738. More than 2,000 passengers died during the voyages to America.

Large numbers were without adequate funds to pay their passage. They were sold into services to pay for their price of transportation. This was quite similar to involuntary slavery, and in time it was referred to as the "German Slave Trade." Upon their arrival, the peasants expected to retain their language, agricultural methods, religion, customs, folk beliefs and practices, superstitions, home remedies, architecture, folklore, music and crafts. Indeed, they were distinctly different from the dominant English Quakers, through their social activities and also their German (Dutch) speaking language. The German language was so well established by the late 1700s, followed by decades of bilingualism in public and church affairs. Possibly the decline of the German speaking "Dutchmen" resulted from a recognition of the criticism directed against its use by various non-German

The typical Pennsylvania

German was a farmer who was adept in the practical arts. The goal was a self-sustaining farm and family. He was his own shoemaker, blacksmith, veterinarian, carpenter, distiller and miller, while the woman was a mother, seamstress, gardener, cook, housekeeper, candlemaker, preserver of food, soap maker, midwife and baker. A large majority of German settlers in the county were content with relatively small tracts of land.

Religious freedom, which the German and Swiss migrants sought was found in Pennsylvania, the Shenandoah Valley and this county. Having endured much hardship in their native country, it is with little wonder that the German migrants welcomed the Thanksgiving season. No doubt they were very thankful to have found a country where they could be self-sufficient with their families.

Week of December 4, 2014

#### **Region Is Fourth** In Tourist Visits

Guess which of the nine regions in West Virginia generated the most overnight visitors in 2013?

A Charleston "Gazette" columnist astutely guessed that it might be the New River/ Greenbrier Valley region (the state division of tourism partitions the state into nine regions for purposes of tracking the economic impact of tourism in West Virginia) followed by the Potomac Highlands or the Metro Valley, which encompasses Charleston, Huntington and Putnam County.

Journalist Phil Kaber made a strong case for the Potomac Highlands, noting that it has three of the state's most famous natural attractions— Seneca Rocks, Spruce Knob and Blackwater Falls—along with a major ski resort plus other ski destinations, state parks, Canaan Valley, lots of outdoor recreation in the Monongahela National Forest (including hunting and fishing) and many other attractions.

It turns out that the New River/Greenbrier Valley placed second, with 2.6 million visitors in 2013. The Potomac Highlands finished fourth, with 1.8 million overnight visitors a year ago. The Charleston-Huntington metropolitan area came in

Number one went to Mountaineer Country, consisting of Monongalia, Marion, Preston, Barbour, Taylor, Harrison and Doddridge counties. It had a one considers the big draw sporting events and facilities

The study of overnight visits in West Virginia in 2013 was conducted by Longwoods International, which is the Standard & Poor's of visitor/ travel research for the industry for states such as West Virginia and Colorado.

The overwhelming number of overnight trips in West Virginia is not devoted to skiing or biking or hiking or hunting/fishing or, indeed, any kind of outdoors recreational activity. It is visiting friends/ relatives, and it accounts for 46 percent of all overnight trips in the Mountain State.

20 Years Ago Week of December 2, 2004

**SUGAR GROVE** 

**Old Propst Church** Is Pendleton's 'Mother Church'

Written evidence verifies the tradition that persistently states that the old Propst Church is the "mother church" in the Pendleton County region. In an Augusta County, VA, court record, there is ample proof that the old Propst Lutheran Church was organized by the 1760 date, even before the actual signing of the church deed. The copy of the original deed reads as

"This Indenture, made this eighteenth day of December in the year of our Lord, one thousand seven hundred and sixty-nine, between Henry Stone, Ludwig Wagoner, Mark Swadley and Christian Roleman, of the county of Augusta and commissioners appointed for the congregation of the Lutheran Church of the South Fork of the Potowmack on the one part, and Michael Propst and Catherine, his wife, of the county aforesaid, of the other part.'

Therefore, one can be quite certain that the Propst Lutheran Church is not only the oldest church in Pendleton County, but that she played her important part in the early settlement of the county. The distinction of being the first to preach the gospel in Pendleton County must go to the Moravian missionary, Spagenberg in the year 1748.

40 Years Ago Week of December 6, 1984

#### Sonic Booms Heard In Pendleton County

Two loud blasts that were heard November 24 in Pendleton County and other north central West Virginia counties were sonic booms caused by a military plane en route to search for a missing ship, a Federal Aviation Administration official said.

A duty officer at the FAA's Washington, D. C., headquarters said the Defense Department confirmed that the noises were caused by

overflights of an SR-71 plane which was flying cross-country from Beale Air Force Base in California to the Atlantic

The officer, who asked that his name not be used, said the plane was sent to search for a missing fishing boat. The boat, the Amazing Grace, left its Hampton Roads, Va., port on November 6 with seven crewmen on board. The 87-foot ship was last heard from off Cape May, N.J., on November

Two loud sonic booms occurred in the Pendleton County area at approximately 12:55 p.m. and 3:34 p.m.

Tpr. R. D. Gillespie state that police received several inquiries as to the origin of the booms with some people thinking something had exploded.

Tpr. Gillespie said there was at least one unconfirmed report in Pendleton County of broken windows due to the

50 Years Ago Week of December 5, 1974

> **Snow Storm Closes** Schools, Disrupts **Electric Power**

> > 10-18 Inches Falls in County

The first major snowfall of the season hit Pendleton County early Sunday morning leaving a blanket of snow from 10 to 18 inches deep throughout the county. Snow began falling early Saturday night and continued throughout Sunday.

Although roads were kept open for vehicles equipped with snow tires and chains, many deer hunters and persons spending the Thanksgiving weekend here who were not prepared for snowy highways were forced to remain an extra day to two.

The deepest snow reported in the county was in the Sweedlin Valley area where there was an accumulation of 18 inches. Approximately 14 inches was reported in the Franklin area.

60 Years Ago Week of December 3, 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

100 YEARS AGO

#### The Community Christmas Prayer Tree

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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

#### **Hood's Attack Fails** At Franklin, Tennessee

The Confederacy's Gen. John B. Hood was fighting

It was partly because of his anger—and partly because he figured he could win—that Hood launched a desperate and hopeless attack against a Federal army at Franklin, Tennessee, 100 years ago this week. When the battle was over-after a few short hours of the most bitter fighting of the war-Hood had reason to be still angrier, for the battle served only to deplete his army and to give the Federals reason for rejoicing.

When Hood went into the battle, he was angry, not only at the Federals but at his own staff. In the preceding week, he and Nathan Bedford Forrest had skillfully cut off a Federal's army under Gen. John M. Schofield; they were converging to make the kill when, through a foul-up in the Confederate chain of command, Schofield managed to escape from the trap and beat it safely with his army to Franklin. There, Schofield dug in, and Hood's big chance had been muffed.

In a rage, Hood pursued Schofield to Franklin and there on November 30 threw his army at Schofield's linesdetermined to make up for the preceding week's blunder.

It was a bloody affair. Schofield, his back to the unbridged and unfordable Harpeth River, gave not an inch, and Hood spared nothing in his assault.

It was a pleasant, Indian summer day, and Hood's men had to cross broad, open fields to reach the Union lines. That did not deter them, and by late afternoon, 18,000 Southern infantrymen were sweeping across the fields, their battle flags flying.

With wild Rebel yells, the Confederates came forward at the run, and the smoke of battle rose and spread all along the line. The Southerners fell by the dozens under the Union fire, but they came on. Hundreds of them smashed right on into the

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Union trenches, driving the Federals back. Hand to hand fighting broke out; muskets and artillery boomed and swords slashed.

Confederate Gen. John Adams galloped with his men into the Union line and both he and his horse were shot dead in one fusillade, the horse falling spraddle legged across a Union barricade. Gen. Pat Cleburne, the Irish Confederate, also charged and was shot dead. Four other Southern generals were killed. and 6,000 men were killed or wounded.

Schofield, who watched the battle from across the river. trained his artillery on the Confederates, and the effect was telling. At those spots where the Federal line was broken, other Federals rallied and killed or captured the Confederates who had broken through.

Finally, the day—and the slaughter-ended. During the battle, Schofield's engineers had been working on a bridge across the river. With the bridge completed, Schofield's army filed across the span and headed north to Nashville, under the protection of Gen. George H. Thomas' large Federal army.

Hood, whose initial blunder had now been compounded into two blunders, came limping in northward. A naturally pugnacious man, he still had

plenty of fight left in him. Next week: Nashville.



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sixth, with 1.6 million visitors.

whopping 3.1 million overnight visitors. That isn't a terribly big surprise, however, when that is WVU, with its big-time such as its medical centers.

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# Relish the Simple Custom of Homemade Cultured Butter

#### Sugar Grove

By Paula Mitchell

During pioneer days making butter was primarily a child's job. They would milk the family's cow and let the milk sit in a shallow pan overnight in order for the cream to rise to the top. The next morning, the cream layer would be skimmed with a wooden ladle and left out to sour. The cream was then poured into the butter churn. The dasher would have to be rhythmically pounded up and down (the dasher is a stick with paddles at the bottom). This would take quite a lot of time, and require more than one person to rhythmically pound.

Once the cream has been properly churned (churning breaks up the protein coating surrounding the fat globules in the milk therefore allowing them to stick together), the cream would separate into buttermilk and grain-sized pellets of butter. The buttermilk, which was drained off, could be used to feed the pigs or for baking. The butter pellets were put into a bowl and thoroughly rinsed with cold water.

The butter was squeezed into a nice lump using a butter paddle. It was then sprinkled with salt (to help preserve it) and pressed into a crock to be stored in a cool place.

Life's little lessons include the following: 1. If life hands a person a lemon, make lem-

- 2. Sing a song.
- 3. Call a friend. 4. Smile at strangers.
- 5. Get regular checkups.

Winter seems to have made its royal entrance. Those wishing to participate in the Parade of Lights competition need to catch the warm days forthcoming. Mornings have delivered temperatures in the low 20s, with Monday morning clocking in at 13 degrees, daily temperatures in the 30s. Winds have been quite brisk allowing one to tug the coat a little closer for warmth. The skiff of snow on Saturday morning left by lunch time. Wood furnaces are cranking out the heat, and all is well in Sugar Grove.

Quotes for the week are as follows:

"When you rise in the morning, think of what a precious privilege it is to be alive; to breathe, think, to enjoy, to love." — Marcus Aurelius

"Give thanks for unknown blessings already on their way." — Native American Saying

"Some of the days in November carry the whole memory of summer as a fire opal carries the color of moon rise." — Gladys Taber

"The creation of a thousand forests is in one acorn." — Ralph Waldo Emerson

It is a definite to hear the "Talk of the Grove" that one needs to sit by the fireplace.

The South Fork Rescue Squad held its annual Thanksgiving dinner, Saturday the 23rd. Lots of good eating!

Robert Hodges of Harrisonburg, Virginia, and Carl Larry of Virginia Beach, Virginia, spent the weekend with the Wes and Becky Puffenbarger family. They all attended the South Fork Rescue Squad turkey dinner. This past weekend, Wesley, Becky, Ben, Emma and Nathan motored to Virigina Beach, Virginia, to view the Christmas lights on the boardwalk. They also celebrated Emma's 13th birthday.

Judy Costello of Verona, Virginia. spent several days with her mother, Evelyn Varner. Thanksgiving dinner was at Evelyn's home with all of her family in attendance, enjoying each other's company.

Jim Puffenbarger of Rising Sun, Maryland, and Bob Puffenbarger of Ohio accompanied their brother, K.D. Puffenbarger, to Dayton, Virginia, where they visited with their sister and husband, Loretha and Bryan Bland. On Thursday, K.D. and family enjoyed their Thanksgiving dinner.

Tom and Paula Mitchell held their Thanksgiving dinner with extended family at their

Bob and Judy Grimm spent Thanksgiving with Rodney Kiser and family of Preston County. Weekend visitors of Bob and Judy were Chris Grimm and family of Uniontown, Ohio. A first time volunteer experience for grandchildren, Tiffany, Brody, and Zach, was to ring the Salvation Army bell on Saturday. All in all, Bob and Judy had a blessed Thanksgiving week.

Natalie Nieves and Alex Fattore of Huntington spent several days visiting with Willard and Judy Rader. Natalie, Alex, Judy and C. J. Eckard enjoyed a delicious Thanksgiving dinner at Bennie and Linda Custer's on Thanksgiving Day.

A Thanksgiving dinner was held at St. Paul Independent Lutheran Church where John Bodkin and his family gathered to enjoy the feast. Phil Downs, Cleo Simmons of Staunton, Virginia, and Wanda Pitsenbarger of Franklin were some of those who enjoyed the meal.

Phil Downs visited with K.D. Puffenbarger and family on Thanksgiving Day.

Clickety-clacks for the chin waggers are as

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·The shore line of all the Great Lakes combined equals nearly 44 percent of the circumference of the planet.

·More than 300 different languages and dialects are spoken in Australia, including 45 Indigenous languages. In fact, 21 percent of Australians don't speak English at home.

·There are five Sundays, five Mondays, and five Tuesdays in December. This is quite an unusual happening.

Concerns are for the following: Bob Adamson, Dyer Anderson, John Ashley, Roger Ashley, Mercedes Aumann, "Bo" Boggs, Marie Cole, Stanley Dahmer, Benny Evick, Isaac Eye, Linda Eye, Marie Eye, Mary Eye, Carl Gant, David Gillespie, Lola Graham, Patsy Green, JC Hammer, Marvin Hartman, Steve and Armanda Heavner, Donald Hedrick, Jack and Starr Hedrick, George Hevener, Jim Hiner, Evan Hise, Tim Hively, Edsel and Mary Ann Hogan, Virgil Homan, Jr., 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, Tracie Knight, Laura Kropp, Melissa Lambert, O'Dell Lambert, Robert Lambert, Rex Landis, Roger and Skip Mallow, Yvonne Marsh, Ed May, Gene and Joan McConnell, Gary McDonald, Neil McLaughlin, Rick Linaburg, Rose Miller, Bruce Minor, Barbara Moats, Gloria Moats, John Morford, Bill Mullenax, Helen Nash, Aaron





Devices used to churn butter.

Nelson, Angie Nelson, Ruth Nelson, Cheryl Paine, Terri Parker, Diane Pennybaker, Andy Pond, the Steve Pope family, Janice Propst, Eldon "Butch" Puffenbarger, Alda Propst, Janis Propst, Marilyn Propst, Mike Propst, Sheldon Propst, Tom Rader, Brandon Reel, Jason Rexrode, Linda Fay Rexrode, Dennis Riggleman, Donna Ruddle, Jenny Ruddle, Mary Sawyers, Brittany Shriver, Annie Simmons, Erin Simmons, Eva Simmons, Greg Simmons, Judy Simmons, Nelson Simmons, Robbie Sites, Mike Skiles, Tina Stuben, Steve Stump, Linda and Larry Vandevander, Sandra Vandevander, Amy Vaus, Estelle Wagner, Mary Louise Waldschlager, Rene White, Sherry Wilfong, Judy Williams, Ann and Ed Wimer, individuals and families affected by the natural disasters and the people of Ukraine, Israel, and Palestine.

holiday stress

# Managing Stress During the Holidays

The holiday season can be filled with joy, and it can be exhausting. Here are some tips for managing stress and finding the joy of the season. Set a budget and stick to it.

•If you anticipate conflict, try to address it beforehand. •If you're asked to do something you do not want to do, you can say no. "No" is a complete sentence and the answer to a question. •Instead of trying to avoid thinking about those you've lost, you

can honor and celebrate them by getting together with other

family members and friends and treasuring their life stories.

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# Pendleton County Hews Magnolia in First Round of State Volleyball Tournament

By Stephen Smoot

After a slew of legal issues temporarily delayed the state of the Class A West Virginia state volleyball tournament, girls from eight squads were relieved to take the court of competition instead of the court of law.

Pendleton County took a four seed into the tournament, earning them a game against Wetzel County's Magnolia. The team from New Martinsville featured some star players who brought exceptional athleticism to the contest. Madison Day, Wildcat head coach, preached a strategy of distributing the ball evenly amongst all the players, pitting a team concept against the shining stars.

The teams traveled hours from the two panhandles to tangle at 8:30 on a frosty cold Monday morning on the campus of West Virginia State University in Institute. With only Class A competing on a single court, the tournament had a more intimate and player and fan friendly environment.

And the West Virginia Secondary Schools Activities Commission did its best to provide a special and exciting environment for the

Magnolia took the first serve in the first set. Lizzie Alt fielded the serve, sending it to Emma Hartman. She returned it to Alt, who aimed a shot to the middle of the defense, scoring the first point. A Baylee Beachler block and a Brynlynn Waggy set off an Alt tap gave the Wildcats an early 3-0 lead.

Pendleton County built a 5-1 lead before Magnolia showed its strengths. The Blue Eagles outscored the Wildcats five to two to pull within 7-6, before Emily Poling set up an Avery Townsend spike to set the score at 8-6.

Poling, along with Hartman, Aubree Keiter, and others, patrolled the back line effectively. They did well to adjust to the strong service game of Magnolia and set up other players nicely.

Magnolia pulled within one again at 10-9 by serving an ace, but then Pendleton County scored nine of the next 10. Alyssa Bennett fired two aces off the fists of opposing players



Coach Madison Day and her team celebrates advancing to the second round of the tournament on Monday at West Virginia State.

in the run. On another play, Keiter fielded a ball that Waggy set up for an Alt spike.

Pendleton County went on to take the first Bennett kicked off the second set with a

serve. Beachler scored off of it with a block, followed by a Wildcat ace for a 2-0 lead. Magnolia, however, took the momentum

from there. They combined line drive "feast or famine" type serving that was either tough for the back line to field or sailed out of bounds. Luck favored Magnolia in their serving in this set. The Blue Eagles also got opportunities to

use their style of spiking to great effect. To avoid the height and athleticism on the Wildcat line, Magnolia's front line angled spikes toward the right sideline instead of the middle of the court. Precision power shots for a time got the best of the Pendleton County defense and Magnolia at one point led 20-7.

Interestingly St. Mary's High School, which is not geographically far from Magnolia, used the same tactic to temporarily knock East Hardy off balance before they, too prevailed in the first round.

Magnolia dominated the set, running away with a 25-13 win, forcing Day to make adjustments in position and placement.

Magnolia served first in set number three, but Beachler blocked the play for the first point. Bennett then served to start a volley which ended when Waggy redirected a ball to the back line of the Blue Eagles. Another Beachler block put the lead at 3-0 to start

Once again, the Blue Eagles took flight after an early Wildcat lead. They surged to a 10-9 lead before Beachler and Waggy combined for a block to knot the contest at 10. Bennett took the serve and promptly delivered an ace to seize the lead back for

Magnolia stole the lead back and pushed it out to two, leading 14-12 then 15-13. Waggy took the serve and scored two aces, the second glancing off an opponent's hands. Magnolia spiked for the next score, taking a 16-15 lead, but Townsend came right back with a block at the net to tie the game again.

Townsend shortly after took the serve down 18-17, but tied the game on an ace that barely cleared the net and dropped like a major league curveball. Hartman aimed a shot at the middle to get a 19-18 advantage for her team.

Magnolia continued to fall short late in the set. Bennett closed it out with two straight aces to win it 25-22.

In the fourth set, the teams battled fiercely. This time, the Blue Eagles took an early 2-0, then 3-1 lead.

Callie Judy shortly thereafter stepped up to serve and took the lead for the Wildcats 4-3 after scoring two consecutive aces.

The teams kept punching and counterpunching, a sense of urgency driving both. Magnolia tied the game at seven after a Wildcat error. Pendleton County, however, took the lead back 8-7 with Beachler nearly prone on the floor somehow tapping the ball up and over the net. The stunned Magnolia players watched it drop quickly to the floor.

The Blue Eagles wrested the lead back at 9-8, but Beachler blasted a Waggy set into the heart of the defense to tie the set at nine.

It looked like Magnolia might force the game to a fifth set for a time. They jumped ahead by two at 17-15 on the strength of an ace. Not long after, they took their biggest lead of set number four, 19-16.

Day then called a timeout to settle her squad. Next, Magnolia served but Pendleton County scored when Judy set up a Townsend spike. The next volley ended and the score was tied at 18 when Bennett tapped the ball to the left sideline off the fists of a defender.

Townsend took the lead back for good when she scored a service ace. Beachler extended the lead to two when she spiked the ball off of a defender.

Pendleton County took a commanding 23-19 lead when an Alt return found nothing but floor. Magnolia, refusing to lose quietly, scored two more, but a Waggy shot closed out the set 25 to 23 and the game three sets

East Hardy, after defeating St. Mary's, earned a second round game against the Wildcats at 6:30 p.m. the same day. The Cougars defeated the Wildcats to earn the right to move on and compete for the title

# Wildcats Close Book on a Memorable Football Season

By Stephen Smoot

Pendleton County's football season ended last weekend on a shredded and worn field of muck and mire, but provided much this year to remember and inspire.

cats fell to the Tucker County Mountain Lions. The rough conditions of the field made footing uncertain and kept Wildcat receivers from getting the separation they normally achieve

In the second round of the playoffs, the Wild-

to make big plays. Also, Tucker County had expanded its repertoire since the midseason contest in Franklin, developing a productive passing game to complement their running attack. They used those advantages to move on past the Wildcats 50-0.

All that said, Pendleton County football took giant steps forward as both a team and as a program in 2024.

The squad sent notice to West Virginia Class A that they had taken a giant step forward,

building on last year's 5-5 record. Last year, the Wildcats relied on a power running attack complemented by the steady quarterback play of James Vincell.

This year, the team featured even more speed at the receiver position. With an experienced senior quarterback behind center, Zac Smith, head coach, took the offense into another

A formidable opponent awaited Pendleton County in the first game of the season. Greenbrier West came into Franklin ranked number one. Statewide media crowed about their famous assistant coach, former West Virginia Moun-Owen Schmitt while rarely mentioning the Wildcats.

That changed after the game.

Pendleton County corralled the running game of Greenbrier West partly through big defensive stops from players like Ty Heavner and Bradey Bowers, but also due to the offense jumping out early 21-7. Vincell excelled on both sides of the ball, inspiring Smith to exclaim that he "played with a lot of heart" in the 27-21 upset win.

Vincell said after the game, "We've got to move on from this one," because top 10 ranked East Hardy waited for the Wildcats in Baker the very next week. The Cougars relied on their tough defense and strong running game, but could not muster much offense against Pendleton County. The Wildcats took out the second highly ranked team in as many weeks, winning 14-13.

The next week, a Petersburg team led by a sensational freshman quarterback seemed to have all the answers against the Wildcats and took a 31-20 win.

Pendleton County traveled to Richwood for the next game, coming away with both a big win and a big loss. They outscored the Lumberjacks 50-26, but lost Vincell to injury for the remainder of the season. Not only did the team lose its senior starting quarterback, but also one of its big playmakers in the linebacking corps as well.

Smith has always repeated the mantra "find a way" as the mission statement of the team. They found a way by earning a key first down against Greenbrier West to keep the ball away from their offense in the closing minutes of the contest. They found a way to stop the Cougars high powered run game. Now they had to find a way to continue their

winning ways without a player who formed a huge part of the heart of the team.

Freshman Colton Roberson had played some receiver and even occasional snaps at quarterback. His run for a first down clinched the

Greenbrier West win, and he had settled in as a reliable playmaker on defense. Now he had to take his place behind the

wheel of the high-powered offensive machine that Vincell had steered to big victories. Roberson showed poise and skill in a loss to Tucker County in Franklin, then had three

consecutive games in which he could get accus-

tomed to running the offense. The team domi-

won the first round of the playoffs handily.

and the extremely difficult field conditions in the second round of the playoffs last Saturday.

nated in wins at Tygarts Valley and against Pocahontas County in Franklin.

Then, in probably the most complete performance of the season, Pendleton County dismantled a formerly successful and proud bigger school program in Virginia's Stonewall

Jackson High School, crushing them 54-26. Moorefield loomed large as the season wound down. After Pendleton County's miraculous double overtime victory in Hardy County last season, their players, coaches, and fans had the 2024 date circled as one for revenge. The Wildcats jumped ahead and seemed in control until the fourth quarter. Moorefield, who had moved to Class AA and would make the playoff in that

category, had worn down the Wildcat defense. Then, the Yellow Jackets made their own improbable comeback to put the game into overtime.

Once again, Pendleton County found a way to escape, once again taking a close win in a huge game over the opponent they love to beat.

A setback to Cameron closed out the regular season, but seven wins, including two against bigger schools, earned Pendleton County a home game for the playoffs.

But against who?

Enter the judicial system. End of season lawsuits delayed both the football and volleyball playoffs. When the lawyers were done with their work and the West Virginia State Supreme Court made its rulings, the stage was set for the Wildcats to host ... the Wildcats.

Meadow Bridge traveled from Fayette County with their Wildcat mascot and their blue and white colors. That is where the similarities ended, however.

Pendleton County raced out to a big lead early with Meadow Bridge outgunned. The Fayette County version of the Wildcats used power formations behind a massive offensive line. Pendleton County switched to use goal line defenses to slow their running game considerably. Once the contest became one of passing offenses, the home team accelerated ahead and

Going into next year, Pendleton County has a young, but experienced team. They had a taste of success and will work until next August to "find a way" to take the next step toward the top tier of Class A football.

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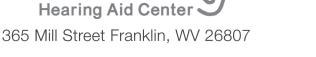






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#### POSTED NOTICES POSTED NOTICE

No hunting or trespassing of any kind on Mongold land located in Sugar Grove without written permission. Not responsible for accidents.

Donald Mongold

POSTED NOTICE **STORAGE** No trespassing or hunting. We are not responsible for or allow the running of 5x10, 10x10, 10x15, 10x20 dogs on property at Dixie Bell Lane in Upper Tract. Thank

> The Moyers Family <u>10-24-9p</u>

#### ADVERTISEMENT

TRUSTEE'S SALE

Notice is hereby given

that by virtue of the authority under that certain deed of trust executed by William E. Wright and Tiffany B. Shirk to Jeffrey S. Bowers and J. Stuart Bowers, II, Trustees dated March 27, 2013, and recorded in the office of the Clerk of the County Commission of Pendleton County, West Virginia, in Trust Deed Book 140, at page 586, by which was conveyed to said Trustee(s) the hereinafter described real estate to secure the payment of a certain promissory note set out and described therein, and default having been made in the payment of said note,

the undersigned Substitute

holder of said note, will sell to the highest and best bidder on December 17, 2024 at 1:40 p.m., at the front door of the courthouse of Pendleton County, West Virginia, the real estate conveyed by said deed of trust and situate in Franklin District, Pendleton County, West Virginia, together with easements, improvements and appurtenances thereunto belonging, and at the time of the signing of the Deed of Trust it was reported that the address was 16 Vealey Cir., Franklin, WV 26807 and being more particular-

pointed Substitute Trustee

by an Appointment of Sub-

stitute Trustee dated June

13, 2023, and having been

requested in writing by the

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

therein as follows:

Beginning at a 5/8" rebar set in the line of a parcel owned by Eastern Allegheny Council for Human Services, Inc. (Tax Map 28A, Parcel 38. Deed Book 149. Page 157) and being South 41° 25' 00" East 110.04 feet from a 5/8" rebar found, corner to said parcel; thence with said line South 41° 25' 00" East 72.77 feet to a 5/8" rebar set; thence with a new division line through the lands of Almost Habitat for Humanity (Tax Map 28A, Parcel 36, Deed Book 190, Page 383) South 489 50' 39" West 107.33 feet to a 5/8" rebar set on the northern right-of-way limits of Vealey Circle (thirty right-of-way); thence with said limits North 42° 56' 39" West 65.06 feet to a rebar set; corner to another parcel owned by Almost Heaven Habitat for Humanity (Tax Map 28A, Parcel 35, Deed Book 191, Page 35); thence with a line of said parcel North 44° 47' 00" East 109.30 feet to the beginning, containing 0.171

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

acres, more or less.

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

Being a part of the lands described in a conveyance by Craig E. Thompson to Almost Heaven Habitat for Humanity Inc. by deed dated May 14. 2012 and recorded in the office of the Clerk of Pendleton County, West Virginia in Deed Book 190, at page 383.

This sale is made sub ject to any special assessments, unpaid taxes, easements, conditions, reservations and restrictions affecting the aforesaid real estate. The property will be

conveyed in an "AS IS" condition by Deed containing no warranty, ex press or implied, subject ly bounded and described to all property taxes, prior Deeds, liens, reservations, encumbrances, tions, rights of ways, easements, covenants, conveyances and conditions of record in the Clerk's office or affecting the subject property.

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

The Substitute Trustees shall be under no duty to cause any existing tenant or person occupying the jurisdiction of this Comproperty to vacate said property, and any personal property and/or belongings remaining at the property after the foreclosure sale will be deemed to constitute ABANDONED PROP-ERTY AND WILL BE DISPOSED OF ACCORD-INGLY. TERMS OF SALE:

Ten percent (10%) of the purchase price as a deposit with the balance due and payable within 30 days of the day of the sale. DATED this 26th day

of November, 2024.

Pill & Pill. PLLC. Substitute Trustee

By: Richard A. Pill, Member 304-263-4971 foreclosures@pillwvlaw.

com

NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION

The administration of the following estates is pending in the Office of the Clerk of the County Commission of Pendleton County, West Virginia, 100 S. Main Street, P. O. Box 1167, Franklin, West Virginia 26807. The names of the personal representatives are set forth below.

ALL INTERESTED PER-SONS ARE NOTIFIED THAT:

All persons on whom this notice is served who have objections that

# Wildlife Artwork Sought

featured in the 2026 edition of the West Virginia Wildlife Calendar have until Feb. 19, 2025, to send their artwork to the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources. Each year, the WVDNR selects 12 paintings for its award-

Artists who want a chance to have their wildlife paintings

winning calendar based on overall composition, quality and anatomical and contextual accuracy. All artists are encouraged to submit their work. A \$200 prize is awarded for each chosen painting. The artist whose artwork is selected for the cover receives an additional \$500. Art must be original color paintings on canvas or another

flat surface and must depict native game and fish species or other wildlife found in West Virginia, such as snakes, frogs, turtles, salamanders, bats, songbirds, small mammals and nongame fish. Photographs and paintings with wildlife not found in West Virginia will not be considered. Paintings depicting hunting or fishing activities may be submitted.

The calendar is horizontal and art should be at least 14.5 inches wide by 11.5 inches high. Artists who want to send art should mail a high-resolution copy to the WV Division of Natural Resources, Wildlife Calendar Art, P.O. Box 67, Elkins, WV, 26241. Artists may send multiple paintings and artwork not

chosen in previous years may be resubmitted. Digital copies of paintings of at least 300dpi may be emailed to Sanya.D.George@wv.gov.

For more information about submitting art, visit WVdnr. gov/wildlife-calendar.

challenge the validity of the will, the qualifications of the personal representative, venue, or mission are required to file their objections with this Commission WITHIN SIXTY DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICA-TION OF THIS NOTICE OR THIRTY DAYS AF-TER THE DATE OF SER-VICE OF THE NOTICE, whichever is later.

All creditors of the decedent(s) and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate(s) must

IN SIXTY DAYS AFTER Marilyn K. Uhl Estate THE DATE OF THE - Helen Markwell, Ex FIRST PUBLICATION ecutrix: OF THIS NOTICE. Joe E. Vint Estate ALL CLAIMS, DE-Wendy Vint, Adminis-

this Commission WITH- ecutrix;

MANDS AND OBJEC- tratrix;

BARRED. The date of the first publication of this No- Executrix. tice is December 5, 2024.

February 3, 2025. Johnny O. Propst Estate - Natalie Propst, Elise M. White, Clerk of Executrix: Margaret R. Wimer Es-

TIONS NOT SO FILED Gary Lee Ferguson Es-WILL BE FOREVER tate - Donna Ferguson Administratrix; Dorothy A. Mohler Es-

Deadline for claims is Subscribed and sworn to before me on November 27, 2024.

the Pendleton County

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#### Thank You For Reading The Pendleton Times



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

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

NEW LISTING - FORT SEYBERT AND DEPORT OF THE CONTRACT dwelling, 2 ponds, borepees set up for glamping. \$350,000. Contact Karny Sponaugle.

SMOKE HOLE INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY - 13.93+/- approx 10 ac. cleared land, rest is wooded acs. that adjoins Nat. Forest, nice 2-story log home, 3 BR, 2 BA, 3 log rental cabins, well water, pasture for horses, 2 large ponds, horse barn. \$975,000. Call Gene Boggs.

#### **GARRY L. SIMMONS** REAL ESTATE

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

NEW LISTING - FORT SEYBERT AREA, 13+ acres, Hinkle Mountain Road, Springhill Properties, all woods, furnished trailer, wood heating stove, propane gas kitchen stove, 2 bunks, great hunting, 2 tree stands, easy access. Buy it now and be ready for hunting season. \$84,000

NEW LISTING - FRANKI CONTROL ood Drive, 3BR, 1.5 bath, brick ranch house. \$2 Under Control \$209,000.

MOYERS - 49.16 acres, mostly cleared, old farm house, good condition log outbuilding, spring and stream. \$289,000.

BLACK THORN MOUNTAIN ESTATES, 6.18 acres, Lot #22, top of mountain, great views, all wooded, HOA applies, west of Doe Hill Road. **\$74,000. REDUCED \$64,000.** 

UPPER TRACT, 16 acres, wooded w/cabin, secluded, no water or electric. **\$98,000.** 

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2021 FORD F-150 SUPERCREW SHORTBED XLT 4X4, 5.0 liter V-8, auto., ldd., burgundy, only 13K miles	\$43,900
2020 JEEP GLADIATOR CREW CAB "MOHAVE EDITION," V-6, auto., Idd., black, 64K miles	\$37,900
2019 GMC 2500 HD CREW CAB L/BED 4X4, Duramax diesel, auto., ldd., white, 121K miles	\$32,900
2018 FORD F-150 SUPERCREW XLT 4X4, 5.0 v-8, auto., ldd., white, 188K miles, ex. cond	\$18,900
2015 FORD F-350 REGULAR CAB 4X4 UTILITY TRUCK, 6.2 gas V-8, auto., ldd., white, 119K miles, ex. cond	\$19,500
2015 TOYOTA TACOMA CREW CAB 4X4, TRD pkg., V-6, auto., Idd., white, 168K miles	\$21,900
2006 FORD F-350 REGULAR CAB 4X4 "ENCLOSED UTILITY TRUCK," 6.0 diesel, auto., air, etc., 246k miles,	
runs excellent	\$14,900
1997 FORD E-350 CONVERSION SUPERCAR DUALLY 4X2, 7.3 diesel auto. Idd. maroon 55K miles	\$13,900

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2024 FORD EDGE SE AWD "BLACKOUT PKG.," 2.0 liter, 4-cyl., auto., ldd., black, only 1,400 miles, new cond	4,900
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2022 NISSAN ROGUE SV AWD, 4-cyl., auto., ldd., charcoal, 104K miles	7,900
2020 NISSAN ROGUE SLAWD, 4-cyl., auto., ldd., leather, moonroof, navigation, etc. silver, only 48K miles	
SPECIAL \$25.900 \$2	3.500 l

2019 DODGE JOURNEY GT AWD, V-6, auto., ldd., 56K miles, black, very sporty 3rd row SUV .. SPECIAL \$24,900 \$21,900 2018 TOYOTA 4-RUNNER LIMITED 4X4, V-6, auto., ldd., pearl white, 110K miles. .\$34,900 2018 FORD TAURUS "POLICE INTERCEPTOR," 3.7 liter V-6, auto., ldd., silver, 150K miles. .\$9,950 2018 DODGE GRAND CARAVAN, V-6, auto., ldd., charcoal, 106K highway miles . SPECIAL \$17,900 \$15,900 2018 FORD ESCAPE TITANIUM AWD, 2.0 4-cyl., auto., ldd, blue 102K miles, very sharp .\$14,900 2015 JEEP WRANGLER 4-DR HARDTOP "SAHARA PKG," V-6, auto., ldd., black, 116K miles, sharp Jeep

.SPECIAL \$19,900 \$18,900 2015 FORD EXPLORER SPORT AWD, Ecoboost V-6, auto., Idd., black, 137K miles, in excellent condition

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SGR355A 0.241 Acres w/4 Bed, 2 Bath 2475 sq ft home SGR326A 141.74 Acres, Raw Land, Franklin District. ered front porch. NEW LISTING \$259,000.00. SGR354A 50.96 Acres w/1 Bed, 1.5 Bath Cabin, Spacious

Loft. Gas FP. Hidden Valley Subdivision. Some Restrictions. Beautiful wooded setting. \$389,000.00. SGR353A 11,365 Acres Cappy Toya Estates, Lot 17. 12x16 Storage May Engar Grove District. \$55,000.00.

**SGR351A** 1.53 Acres w/3 Bed, 1 Bath Rancher. Attached Garage, 16'x20' Unattached Garage. Kellers Ridge, Petersburg. **\$249,000.00**. SGR349A 0.341 Acres, with Commercial Bldg or can convert to Residential. Newly Renovated, 2 Baths,

New Central AC, Commercial Freezers, 2 Septics. Great location along US RT 33 East. \$299,000.00.

SGR344A 1 Bed Cabin w/Loft an 20 weeded acres. Located in JNDER Consum Septic. Some Restrictions. Tremendous View. \$249,900.00.

SGR343A 5 Acres, 2 Bed, 2.5 Bath Log Cabin, Septic, SprIng water. Accessible by 4x4. Some restrictions. Buck Ridges Development. Franklin District. \$283,000.00.

SGR337A 2.79 Acres, w/2 Bed, 1 Bath Cabin. Wood Ceil-

ing, Paneled walls, LP heat. 8'x8' outbuilding. Well, Sugar Grove District. **NEW LISTING** \$129,000.00-REDUCED 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 \$59,900.00 per unit or purchase both units for \$135,000.00 \$115,000.00.

SGR327A 0.44 Acres w/3 Bed, 2 Bath Rancher. Located in Brandywine, South Fork Crossing. Newly rehabbed. Some Restrictions. \$109,900.00 \$104,900.00 REDUCED \$99,900.00.

\$399,000.00.

SGR318A 14.47 Acres Raw Land w/Pood cut in and leveled builth DGR be on the party. Buck Ridges Development, Franklin District. \$49,900.00. SGR316A 10.35 Acres, Entry Mountain, Some Covenants

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

REDUCÉD \$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. \$4,795,000.00

REDUCED \$1,595,000.00. 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 pipe as well as a Farmhouse on property. Pond, Magnificent 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. 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 near Brandywine on Rte 33 East of Franklin. Lots from \$20,760.00. SGR247 Residential lots with town water, sewer & underground utilities. Protective covenants and restrictions

Franklin Airport Development. Lots from \$14,630.00.





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