

# THE PENDLETON TIMES

*Serving the Community since 1913*

\$1.00

Volume 112, Number 15

Franklin, Pendleton County, West Virginia 26807

Thursday  
April 10, 2025



For more than a decade numerous efforts have gone into finding a tenant or tenants to use the former Navy Base in Sugar Grove.

## Former United States Navy Base May Soon Undertake New Mission to Support the Disabled

By Stephen Smoot

"I am writing to formally submit this Letter of Intent to the West Virginia Health Care Authority (WVHCA) regarding our proposal to establish a new Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (IDD) to become an IDD service provider."

Ladale Jackson of Liberty Community

Programs WV LLC submitted this letter on March 14 for a proposed "IDD Group Home in Sugar Grove, West Virginia."

The address listed, 133 Hedrick Drive, confirms that the company intends to use the former Navy Base at Sugar Grove for its purposes. Currently, the company has submitted a Certificate of Need waiver application for

*Continued on Page 7*

## PCM/HS Welcomes Community to Career Day



Junior and senior students browsed job and career opportunities last week at Pendleton County Middle/High School.

By Stephen Smoot

Last week, businesses, non-profits, government agencies, and others seeking out skilled and talented workers gathered at the Pendleton County Middle/High School gymnasium to pitch their workplaces to seniors and juniors.

Students in each class had a sheet with all those participating on it. They went from table to table, speaking to those who could answer questions and steer them toward success.

James and Pat Alt came from the family-owned Alt Welding. James Alt has worked with high school students in trades training programs in years past.

He stated that welding and other trades offered today's students some of the best op-

portunities in terms of both pay and being in demand.

According to the American Welding Society, the trade leads students to "a career that's in demand" and lists a number of different fields that need those with welding knowledge and/or skills. Career explorer lists the average salary for a welder in West Virginia at \$46,240 with a high end at over \$78,000.

Anne Silvester came with Jessica Alt to represent the West Virginia Department of Transportation and recruit people to work in District Eight. Silvester noted that a lot of students that she spoke with already had plans to either go to college or directly enter the workforce.

"The ones not going to college here, for the most part, already have a plan," Silvester stated, adding that they do not see that in

*Continued on Page 7*

## Pendleton County Emergency Rescue Celebrates a Year of Saving Lives

By Stephen Smoot

"I'm happy to see this large crowd," said Tina Eye, president of the Pendleton County Rescue Squad, as she addressed a crowd of slightly less than 100. They came out to share food, fellowship, and just a few shenanigans as they celebrated another year of working together and providing service to Pendleton County.

After asking PCER members of all categories to stand and be recognized, Eye invited attendees to make their way to the buffet-style dinner.

Most of the food came from Buffalo Snow catering. They satisfied the hunger of those in attendance with grilled chicken breast, breaded pork with gravy, green beans, salad, rolls, and other items, including a selection of desserts.

Dr. Justin Spratt also contributed to the bounty, adding to his "Medical Director" hat one of brisket smoking.

Two state level emergency services officials came as well. Those included Joseph "Jody" Ratliff, keynote speaker and director of West Virginia Office of Emergency Medical Services.

Ratliff rose through the Roane County Rescue Squad to assume his current role. Mike Alt, training officer for PCER jokingly stated that he "didn't know what to think when he rolled in on a Harley-Davidson," but all agreed that Ratliff has served as a tremendous advocate and asset for rural emergency services since he took the position in 2022.

Ratliff stood and said, "We don't have a spotlight in our county, so when it comes to rural EMS, this is what I know." He added that he always keeps in mind those who run calls in the middle of the night and in the middle of nowhere and work on their needs.

"I don't know how to be a city medic. I never was one," he shared.

David Wellard represent-



Joseph "Jody" Ratliff represented WV OEMS at the Pendleton County Emergency Rescue annual dinner, offering support for and understanding of rural EMS challenges.

ed the West Virginia Public Service Training office. He shared that his agency had worked to introduce more efficiency into the process for those needing certificates quickly after completing classes.

"If you see something you don't like or don't understand . . . just call me," shared Wellard. He went on to add that many issues that cause frustration stem originally from government regulations.

Both Wellard and Ratliff urged those in attendance to call any time of any day or night if they needed assistance.

Spratt also echoed that sentiment when he rose to speak.

The centerpiece of the evening revolved around recognizing service.

First, Eye expressed appreciation for a set of personnel who covered shifts while others went to Pipestem State Park Resort for training.

Those receiving five-year service pins included Michael Caltibiano, Ruby Crown, Robert Davis, and Thomas Faust.

John Mullens received a pin for 10 years of service.

Those who have given 20 years include Jeremy He-

drick, Richard Nelson, and Wes Puffenbarger.

Sue Alt has provided 25 years of service, and Clinton Bowers was shown tremendous appreciation for the 45 years he has spent helping to save lives in Pendleton County.

Eye then shared the number of calls run per person in 2024.

Crown had 51, Amberley Bennett 52, Dennis Knicely 61, Doug Rupe 71, Amanda Mowery 94, James Ryan 95, Eye 172, Mark Verdoni 179, Alt 186, Bob Grimm 203, and Will Hedrick 207.

Kim Hulmes topped the list with service on 375 calls.

Eye herself received a special award as her fellow PCER personnel gently joked with her about a mishap on a call that caused more hilarity than harm. She was slowly and carefully outfitted with repelling equipment by colleagues who thoroughly enjoyed the fun.

At the close of the evening, all went out into the night as darkness fell on a gray evening with powerful storms on the approach.

Some prepared for an evening's rest. Others prepared to answer whatever call might come.

## Community CALENDAR

### UT 4-H Club To Meet Monday

The Upper Tract Producer's 4-H Club will meet at 6:30 p.m. Monday in the club room at the Upper Tract Volunteer Fire Department's training center.

The theme is visual presentations and demonstrations and sundaes, celebrating the club's 2025 graduates.

### Family Support Center in Franklin Sponsors Activities

The Pendleton County Strive to Thrive Family Support Center on Main Street in Franklin is sponsoring the following two events at the center:

Brunch with the bunny at 10 a.m. on Saturday; and MountainHeart at 6 p.m. on Tuesday.

For more information, call 304-538-7711.

### Quilters To Meet

The Sew and Sews Quilt Guild will gather at 6 p.m. Monday at Faith Lutheran Church in Franklin. A presentation on the different kinds of needles and batting will be given. Anyone interested in quilting is welcome to attend.

### Lenten Lunches Continue Today

The annual Lenten Lunches hosted by the Pendleton County Ministerial Association continue at noon today at Walnut Street United Methodist Church in Franklin.

A meal, consisting of soups, sandwiches, desserts and drinks, will be served at noon. The message will be delivered at 12:30 p.m.

This week's meal will be provided by Mountaintop Ministries. The message will be delivered by Mike Loudermilk, pastor of Mountaintop Ministries

Next week's meal will be provided by Circleville, Seneca Rocks and High Rock churches. The message will be delivered by Gary Cecil.

## Science Project Winner Presents to BOE

By Stephen Smoot

"Bless us tonight so that we can do good for Pendleton County Schools, said J. D. Wilkins, president of the Pendleton County Board of Education, as the first meeting in April kicked off.

The first order of business lay in a presentation by eighth-grade student Lauren Williams. She won first place honors in the county and regional, then third in state competition.

Her project, "Plantastic Growth," measured the growth of plants using different types of liquids, including plain water, sugar free soda, and others. Her experiments revealed that the sugar free soda proved best in promoting plant growth and theorized that the carbonation was a factor.

J. P. Mowery provided an update on the school's financial status, sharing that the system paid out \$66,921.01 in bills for the month of March.

He noted that one of the bills, \$66,250 to Experience Learning for STEM instruction, was actually a "pass through" for a state grant. Also, a \$50,000 safe schools grant applied for by Travis Heavner arrived and will soon be put to use in implementing planned improvements. Mowery predicted that the school system would still have \$1.5 to \$1.7 million on hand at the end of the school year.

Additionally, Mowery discussed the school lunch program. He explained that Pendleton County remained eligible for providing free school meals to all. "It's a good thing for the county," he stated, adding, "We don't have to

chase the money around." School lunch bill collection has become much more difficult for all systems in recent years as central offices have little leverage to compel payment.

He added that "our participation rates (in the lunch program) have gone up because everyone eats for free."

Next, Mowery discussed the impact of recent state legislation that bans certain food dyes in the state by 2027 and in the school system next year. "It probably is a good thing that these dyes are not in foods," he said, then added that some fundraisers may be affected, but the schools can make different purchasing decisions.

"A lot of things are colored so we buy more of them I guess," he said.

Mowery next shared that the federal E Rate program that provides "heavily discounted internet" for schools and libraries appeared safe from budget cuts. It adds up to \$60,000 - \$90,000 per year in costs that the school does not have to cover. He then said that in approximately 30 years that the school system received around \$1.4 million from E Rate.

Heavner next provided his facilities report. Franklin Elementary School will soon receive repairs on lighting and HVAC. The latter repairs will address areas of different pressurization on campus that has sparked complaints.

He described an issue arising with refueling buses on the North Fork. Bringing buses back and forth over the mountain for refueling is too costly and River Mart, the last gas station in the valley that offers

the fuel the buses need, is out of business. Heavner discussed with the board the option of placing storage tanks near North Fork Elementary School and purchasing fuel for them from Southern States in Moorefield.

The board approved a memorandum of understanding with the West Virginia Family Nutrition Program. This six-weeks program takes nutrition information and education directly into the classroom for six weeks, focusing on food, nutrition, and physical activity. Pre and post class assessments will measure what the students learned.

Carrie Nesselrodt then shared a program starting up soon that also required an MOU to work with the school system. Home Base Inc, as she stated, provides mental health services to students. Though they prefer working in the home, they also assist clients in school settings or via telehealth as well.

"I'm really excited," she said, adding that "we struggled for a while to find mental health services."

Sonny O'Neil, board member, queried whether this would cost the school system money. Nesselrodt answered no, that payment would come from families' insurance. "It's not a complete solution," she said, but it moves the needle in the right direction."

She then reported that a rash of illnesses in recent weeks had caused attendance to dip somewhat, but not too far.

Finally, Charles Hedrick, superintendent, thanked the Town of Franklin for its \$500 donation to school music programs.

Wilkins added, "That was very nice."





Curtis J. Burns

Curtis J. Burns, 92, of Riverton passed away April 2, 2025, at Pendleton Manor in Franklin.

He was born Sept. 27, 1932, in Riverton and was the son of the late Don Lester Burns and Mary Catherine Kile Burns.

Mr. Burns attended Circleville High School.

He was a United States Army veteran, having obtained the rank of sergeant while serving in the Korean War and in Germany.

He retired from Valspar Paint Company in Baltimore, Maryland, and was a member of the Pendleton County Honor Guard.

He enjoyed hunting and fishing.

He was the last surviving member of his immediate family.

His wife, Shurline Burns, survives.

Also surviving are a son, Terry Burns (Cheryl) of Mt. Airy, Maryland; and a granddaughter, Cara Willis (Josh) of Finksburg, Maryland.

He was also preceded in death by seven brothers, Charles, Richard, Tommy, Donald, Joseph, Carl and Paul Burns; and four sisters, Pauline Bennett, Mildred Higgins, Sandra Burns and Jean Simpson.

A funeral service was held on Sunday at the Kimble Funeral Home in Franklin with Pastor Larry Hakes officiating. Interment was at North Fork Memorial Cemetery with military honors accorded by the U.S. Army Honor Guard.

Memorials may be made to Pendleton Manor, PO Box 700, Franklin, WV 26807 or any local volunteer rescue squad.

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



Carol Lee Pennington

Carol Lee Pennington, 78, of Onego passed away on April 7, 2025, at the Grant Rehabilitation and Care Center in Petersburg.

She was born on Sept. 12, 1946, in Mouth of Seneca, the daughter of the late Lester Brown Vance and Evelyn Marie (Raines) Vance Wiley.

Mrs. Pennington was a 1964 graduate of Circleville High School and had been a member of the Onego Seneca United Methodist Church since 1954.

She had worked at the Hanover Shoe Company and the Sewing Factory in Franklin, but she especially loved working at the Onego Post Office. She enjoyed helping all the people she met there and was known as a trustworthy, hardworking friend of the community.

For many years, she shared her musical talents by playing the piano at church and was fond of gardening and canning the fruits of her labor to share with her family.

On Aug. 10, 1968, she married her loving husband, Ronald Keith Pennington, who survives.

In addition to her husband, she leaves behind to cherish her memory a daughter, Lora Bennett (Terry) of Petersburg; a son, Robert Pennington (Nicole) of Seneca Rocks; five grandchildren, Michaela Alt (Dan), Madison Moss (Nick), Mariah Goldizen (Casey), Joshua and Ashley Pennington; and two great-grandchildren, Noah Alt and Miley Kate Moss.

She was also preceded in death by a grandson, Miles Eli Bennett.

In honoring her wishes, she has been cremated.

A celebration of life will be held at 3 p.m. Saturday at the Onego Christian Church with Pastor Mike Lambert officiating. Inurnment will be at a later date at the North Fork Memorial Cemetery in Riverton.

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



Kathryn Vandevander Ruddle

Kathryn Vandevander Ruddle, 92, of Franklin passed away peacefully at her home on April 1, 2025, cared for by her loving family and dedicated caregivers.

Born on July 14, 1932, in Osceola, she was the daughter of the late Edward and Willa (Armentrout) Vandevander.

As a child, Mrs. Ruddle had a special fondness for making mud pies, dressing up her cat, indulging in meringue, and catching fireflies. She often recalled how the fireflies would light up the jars she captured them in, just as she brightened the long roads she walked to get to school in the Sinks of Gandy. She always held the Sinks of Gandy close to her heart, a feeling she kept alive with the song she sang through the years: “Going up Gandy Creek, going up the run, going up to Gandy Creek to have a little fun.”

In her young adult years, she worked as a waitress at Thompson’s, where she had the pleasure of meeting many wonderful people. It was there in December 1949 that she met her future husband, Reed. They married on July 14, 1951, and together built a life and family on the Buffalo Hills Farm in Ruddle, where they lived for nearly 60 years. She worked alongside her husband as the bookkeeper at Ruddle Saw & Equipment, while also nurturing her family and tending to their homestead with unwavering love and devotion.

Her tenacity, first seen in her childhood, remained with her throughout her life. Though some might have called her strong-willed or a bit stubborn, she was a woman of remarkable resolve, always standing

her ground. And her sense of humor? That never left her, providing laughter and joy to those around her up until her final days.

A woman of deep faith, she was a long-time member of Ruddle Presbyterian Church, where she was an elder, and served as clerk of session for a time. She will be remembered for her kind heart, her devotion to her family, and her steadfast commitment to her church community.

She is reunited in heaven with her beloved husband, Reed Ruddle, and her siblings — brothers, Paul Jr., Sanford, Boyd, and Harry, and sisters, Wanda Lee, Pauline and Ethel, and her grandson, Joshua Ruddle.

She leaves behind a loving family, including her two daughters, Pamela Miller and husband, Dennis of Broadway, Virginia, and Melissa Weaver and husband, Mike of Brandywine; three sons, Bill Ruddle and wife, Rachel, Eddie (Ed) Ruddle and wife, Kim, all of Franklin, and Mark Ruddle and wife, Tracy of Brandywine. Her enduring legacy lives on through her 16 grandchildren, 26 great-grandchildren, and two great-great-grandchildren. She is also survived by her brother, Delbert Vandevander, and his wife, Loretha.

The family expresses deep gratitude to all those who took the time to visit with her, providing her with comfort and love. One’s presence was a blessing. Additionally, the family extends special appreciation to her caregivers, Brenda, Donna, Frankie, Edith, Jennifer, and Cassie, for their unwavering care, compassion, and kindness during this time. Through their devoted care, she experienced the comfort and respect of a queen in her final moments.

Funeral services were held Saturday at the Ruddle Presbyterian Church with Pastor Deborah Beam officiating. Interment followed at Ruddle Church Cemetery.

Those wishing to honor her memory with a memorial donation may do so to Ruddle Presbyterian Church or any Pendleton County Rescue Squad.

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



Donald Lee Hedrick

Donald Lee Hedrick, 59, of Franklin passed away on March 31, 2025, at Harrisonburg Health and Rehabilitation Center in Harrisonburg, Virginia, after a courageous battle against cancer during the last year.

He was born on Nov. 21, 1965, in Harrisonburg, Virginia, the son of Zelda M. (Legg) Butterworth and Thomas of Sugar Grove and the late Edward Paul Hedrick

Mr. Hedrick was a 1985 graduate of Franklin High School and was a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Franklin. He was also a member of the Teamsters Union and a former member of the Franklin Moose Lodge #769.

He was a valiant veteran of the United States Army and National Guard and reflected his lifelong dedication to the military. He served in the U.S. Army as an M1A1 Armor Crewman from 1986 to 1992, and was full-time active duty, stationed in Germany. Following his discharge from the Army, he served with the Virginia Army National Guard, serving as a team leader, squad leader, and a platoon sergeant from 1997 to 2013 and proudly worked as a recruiter from 2004 to 2005. During his duty in the Army National Guard, he was deployed to Kosovo, Bosnia, Afghanistan, and

Guantanamo Bay.

After his military retirement, he had worked various jobs including Tencoco Automotive, Graham Packaging Corporation, two-term Pendleton County Sheriff, Artisian Packaging, and most recently employed by Danone.

He enjoyed many things in life, including hunting, fishing, and playing video games. But, his true passion was his family, especially his girls. He was honored to be called dad and was dedicated to providing and supporting them in everything they were involved in, particularly being a devoted sports dad. His legacy of love will be embedded in their hearts forever.

On June 5, 1999, he married Amber Lee (May) Hedrick, who survives.

In addition to his wife and mother, he leaves behind to cherish his memory two daughters, Emilee Brooke Hedrick and Katelyn Grace Hedrick, both of Franklin; a sister, Sharon “Sherry” Hedrick; two brothers, Edward Paul Hedrick, Jr. and Charles Vernon Hedrick (Lisa); mother-in-law, Linda May; and aunts, uncles and cousins.

He was also preceded in death by his precious son, Matthew Lee Hedrick (Feb. 24, 2003).

Funeral services were held Sunday at the Basagic Funeral Home chapel in Franklin with Bishop Jed Hartman officiating. Interment was in Cedar Hill Cemetery with military honors conducted by the U.S. Army.

Memorials may be made to The Potomac Highlands Wounded Warrior Outreach, PO Box 1225, Buckhannon, WV 26201 or to WVARNG Resilience, Risk Reduction and Suicide Prevention (R3SP) Program.

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

## ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

### Seneca Rocks Regional Development Authority is accepting sealed bids for renovation on the

### Franklin Innovation Hub

Located at 53 Walnut Street, Franklin

The project must follow all ADA codes.

Contractors can contact the Seneca Rocks Regional Development Authority office at 304-358-2074/304-668-4900 to coordinate/schedule a visit or with questions.

Sealed bids will be accepted

until 2 p.m. on Thursday, April 10, 2025.

Sealed bids shall be delivered to the SRRDA, Attn: Sherry Mongold, PO Box 602, Franklin, WV 26807 and must be postmarked by March 27, 2025, or the SRRDA office located at 47 Maple Avenue, Franklin.

*The Seneca Rocks Regional Development Authority has the right to reject any or all bids. EOE*



302 Golf Club Drive Franklin  
[www.fishermountain.com](http://www.fishermountain.com) 304-358-2261

### \*\*April Events\*\*

•Thursday, April 10, 6 p.m.

*Easter Cookie Decorating Class*

•Saturday, April 12, 7 p.m.

*Team Trivia at Fisher Mountain*

•Wednesday, April 16, 6:30 p.m.

*Team Bingo at Fisher Mountain*

•Saturday, April 19, 6 - 9 p.m.

*Live Music w/Kelsey Jeffries*

•Sunday, April 20, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

*Easter Brunch Buffet*

•Saturday, April 26

*PCHS Prom (Clubhouse CLOSED)*

**Restaurant Hours: Fridays – 4 - 8 p.m.**

**Saturdays – 11 a.m. – 8 p.m.**

**Sunday Brunch – 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.**



Germany Valley Limestone Rd., Riverton

## Sunday Buffet

**April 13 • Noon - 3 p.m.**

Grilled Flank Steak, Baked Pork Chops,  
Chicken w/Mushroom Sauce, Mixed Green Salad,  
Wild Rice, Roasted Red Potatoes,  
Mixed Vegetables, Peas and Mushrooms,  
Rolls/Butter and Assorted Desserts **\$24<sup>95</sup>**

### RESTAURANT HOURS:

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

Sunday Noon - 5 p.m.

(Sunday Buffet Noon - 3 p.m.

Menu Items Available All Day.)

## Seneca Caverns Open

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

3328 Germany Valley Road., Riverton

**304-567-2691**



**STOCKYARD LLC.**

*formerly Monterey Livestock Sales*

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16**

**Regular Sale - 2 p.m.**

**Graded Sale**

**To Follow**

(take up begins at 6 a.m.)

**HAULING IS AVAILABLE!**

**Regular sales scheduled for first and third Wednesday each month.**

Sale details/consignment highlights on Facebook.

**Contact Barry Wilkins 540-607-6032**

**Rt. 220 / 1367 Jackson River Road • Monterey, VA**



# Sites-Woods Designs Winning Math Poster

For the third time in history, the state math poster contest winner is from Pendleton County High School.

Laney Sites-Woods won with her poster themed “Math Will Take You Far.” Her theme will be the theme for next year’s state math conference. She will receive a \$100 gift card, as well as a banner that will be hung at the entrance to next year’s conference.

Pendleton County High School also had

two other finalists that each received a \$20 gift card. Kaylee Simmons’ poster was titled “Math: It is all fun and games until someone divides by zero.” Emma Hartman’s entry was “Soar to New Heights with Math.”

Franklin Elementary School also had two winners. Mia Dudley, a third-grade student, and Layla Dudley, kindergarten student, both received third place. Both received a \$20 gift card.



Pendleton County High School students placing in the state math poster contest were, from left, Emma Hartman, Laney Sites-Woods and Kaylee Simmons.

## Local Students Take Projects to Regional Fair



County students participating in the Regional Social Studies Fair were, from left, Declan Shane, Ross Pownell, Tori Heavner and Ava Bowers.

Four Pendleton County Students competed in the Regional Social Studies Fair March 22 in Martinsburg.

Ross Pownell, placed first in the Division 2 Sociology category with his project, “Lights, Community, Action! The Impact of Community Theater.” A student at Franklin Elementary School, he advances to the state competition.

Two North Fork Elementary School students

exhibited their projects. Tori Heavner’s project, “Team Simmental,” competed in the Division 2: World History category. “The History of Nintendo” was the title of Declan Shane’s Division 1: World History project.

In the Division 2: State and Local Studies division, Ava Bowers, a student at Pendleton County Middle School, titled her entry “Murder, Convicted by a Ghost.”

## ‘Friends’ Honor Library Staff

Communities and libraries celebrate National Library Week April 6 - 12. National Library Week, sponsored by the American Library Association, draws attention to the ways that libraries of all sizes and locales bless their communities.

The local Friends of the Library carried that message of appreciation and support to staff at Pendleton County Library on National Library Workers Day, April 8.

“We wanted to take this opportunity to thank library director Walt Johnson and his creative, hard-working staff for making the library and its resources a fun and welcoming space for all,” commented Rhonda Nash, Friends president.

Continuing a tradition in recent years, the group delivered home-baked goodies and “lunch on us” gift certificates to area restaurants. Recipients included Johnson and current staff members Wendy Putz, Linda Hedrick, and Destiny Keplinger.

The Friends also provided flyers, bookmarks,

a poster, and a proclamation to mark the event.

Millions of people across the country visit their libraries every week. What’s the draw? Everything. From pre-school classes stopping in for story time, to students sketching out their next creative project with library resources, to seniors seeking tech help and everyone in between, libraries of all kinds help patrons explore possibilities and navigate life’s journeys.

Chart one’s next literary adventure with a visit to Pendleton County Library, open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday. Browse the stacks for intriguing books and DVDs. Ask about children’s programs, poetry events, room rentals, and the genealogy room. Make one’s mark and get involved with the local library by volunteering or spreading the word.

Whatever draws a person in, the library has something for everyone. Celebrate National Library Week, April 6 – 12 and support the library all year long.



Pendleton County Math Field Day Winners

## County Math Field Day Winners Announced

Pendleton County Schools held its county Math Field Day on Feb. 28.

The winners were as follows:

Fourth grade — Darek Greathouse, North Fork Elementary School, first; Thomas Connor, Brandywine Elementary School, second; Trevor Redman, BES, third; Addie Miller, Franklin Elementary School, first alternate; and Elizabeth Wheeler, BES, second alternate;

Fifth grade — Harley Bowers, BES, first; Macie Mitchell, BES, second, Riley Hawk, FES, third; Bella Kimble, FES, first alternate; and Corina Simmons, BES, second alternate;

Sixth grade — Owen Champ, BES, first; Landon Bowers, BES, second; Eli Boyer, FES, third; Chevelle Noble, FES, first alternate; and Ally Jameson, NFES, second alternate;

Seventh grade — (Pendleton County Middle School) Beckett Aumann, first; Alayna

Huffman, second, Noah Kobetic, third; Vaylee Harper, first alternate, and Lainey Simmons, second alternate;

Eighth grade — (PCMS) Laney Bowers, first; Isabella Jameson, second; Caleb Hunt, third; Abigail Judy, first alternate, and Lily Brogan, second alternate; and

Ninth grade — (Pendleton County High School) Katie Heavner, first, Albert Ramos-Rivera, second, Ben Puffenbarger, third, Mason Harper, first alternate, and Ty Armentrout, second alternate.

The top three winners in each grade level advanced to the regional contest held March 10 at Shepherd University in Shepherdstown.

Pendleton County had two students placed in the regional contest. Titas Nulph placed ninth alternate in the 10-12 division. Harley Bowers was the second alternate in the fifth-grade division.

## Rhodes, Vincell, Bowman Named PCM/HS Students of the Month



Pendleton County Middle/High School February students of the month are, from left, Nick Rhodes, James Vincell and Anthony Bowman.

Nick Rhodes, James Vincell and Anthony Bowman have been named outstanding students of the month for February at Pendleton County Middle/High School.

Rhodes, a senior, is the Academic Student of the Month. He is the son of Jefferey and Victoria Rhodes of Franklin. He is a member of National Honor Society and the PCHS football team. He is on the A Honor Roll, Deans List for Eastern Technical College and has been nominated for the West Virginia Leadership Academy. His plans are to study kinesiology at West Virginia University and pursue a career in physical therapy.

Vincell is the James Huffman Responsible Student of the Month at PCHS. He has been a starter for both baseball and football all four years of his high school career at PCHS. He has received All-State Baseball for two

years and All PVC linebacker for one year. He likes lifting weights, hunting and fishing. He plans to play baseball at Concord University while pursuing a degree in English education. He is the son of Joe and Allison Vincell of Franklin.

Seventh grader, Bowman, is the Pendleton County Middle School Student of the Month. His guardians are Jessica and Katie Bowman. He resides in Brandywine with his family. He participates in the Trivia Club at school. He enjoys playing video games and playing with his four dogs. His future plans are to go to college.

These students receive a T-shirt, \$50 from Pendleton Community Bank, and movie, bowling and ice cream passes courtesy of South Branch Cinema 6 & South Branch Potomac Lanes.

## Achieving Better Hearing & Improving Lives Since 1985

**JASON KAPOSY, BC-HIS**  
Owner, Board Certified  
Hearing Instrument Specialist

**STACIA DEMOSS, AU.D., CCC-A**  
Doctor of  
Audiology

**TODD ELLIFRITZ, HIS**  
Hearing Instrument  
Specialist

### Heritage

Hearing Aid Center

## CALL US AT (304) 935-5830

365 Mill Street Franklin, WV 26807  
Also in: Keyser • Moorefield • Petersburg • Romney  
[www.heritagehearingwv.com](http://www.heritagehearingwv.com)

© 2025 Acuity Marketing

**WVUMedicine**

GRANT MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

## WOUND CARE

Accepting New Patients

### Halie Swick, NP

- Comprehensive wound assessment and management
- Acute and chronic wounds
- Debridement
- Synthetic skin substitutes
- Negative pressure wound therapy/Wound VAC
- Arterial/Ischemic ulcers
- Venous ulcers
- Diabetic/Neuropathic ulcers
- Pressure injuries
- Abscesses
- Trauma/Accident/Injury Wounds
- Superficial burns
- Pyoderma Gangrenosum
- Lymphedema

**WVUMedicine.org/Grant**

**304.257.4331**



# PENDLETON HOME HEALTH SERVICES

Offering In-Home: • **Skilled Nursing**  
• **Physical Therapy**  
• **Occupational Therapy**  
• **Speech Therapy**

*Serving Pendleton County Residents*

For more information call  
**1-304-358-2320, ext. 3450**

*Pendleton Home Health Services is managed by*



PENDLETON  
MANOR



# Time Has Seen Variations of Wedding Nuptials, Venues

## Sugar Grove

By Paula Mitchell

By the 1900s, marriage venues often took place in the home of the bride's parents or at the parsonage. (Sheldon and Judy Waggy were married at the Sinnett's Lane parsonage with Rev. Siki Kulman officiating. The first church wedding was at Calvary Lutheran Church with Rev. Henry Schulz officiating for Paul and Carrie Schulz's marriage.)

Next to the wedding dress, the biggest part of a wedding was the ceremony itself, taking place around noon. Usually, it was a short affair with scripture being read by the minister in most cases, the couple joining hands and reciting vows, followed with a wedding reception and dancing afterwards.

Marriage was a significant event in any young woman's life. This would mark her transition to adulthood and her role as a wife. There were strong social pressures urging men and women to marry. The average age to marry for males was 27.6 and for females was 23.6. Eighteen of the 45 states required marriage licenses.

For many couples, marriage was a working partnership, and families were the basis of many businesses. Social stability and moral behavior allowed secure transfer of property within the family which was the way marriage was seen. It was seen as a strong religious meaning...a joining of two people by God.

The focus of weddings during this era was more on the ceremony and the exchange of vows with less emphasis on elaborate receptions and pre-nuptial parties. The bridal flowers that were popular at this time were orange blossoms, white roses, lilies of the valley and white orchids. The groom would pay for these bridal flowers and this wedding tradition is still going on today. The procession of the wedding stayed with the old tradition of the flower girls leading the way, followed by the father of the bride and the bride herself. Most of the formal weddings of the time would have the bridesmaids and the groomsmen walk separately in the procession, pairing up and following the bride and groom in the recessional.

The writer and husband, along with the Jennifer and Tim Hoover family and the Brandon and Cara Mitchell family, motored to Charlotte, North Carolina, where they met family and friends from Iowa, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina,



Janelle, daughter of Tom and Paula Mitchell, and Jace, son of the late Don Walter and Denise Sroka, exchanged wedding vows in Charlotte, North Carolina.

Tennessee, West Virginia, Texas, Maryland, Georgia, Alabama, Pennsylvania, and California to attend the wedding ceremony/reception weekend for daughter, Janelle Mitchell, and husband, Jace Sroka. Adding to the gorgeous weather were the beautiful spring array of flowers and blossoming trees to make a picture-perfect setting for the occasion.

Early Sunday morning found Jace and Janelle entertained by a proper West Virginia "belling."

Life's instructions include the following:

1. Share a person's thoughts, feelings, and needs openly and honestly with one's spouse.
2. Be gentle with the earth, be gentle with one another.
3. Don't leave trash in someone else's car.
4. Always signal when changing lanes.
5. Don't hog the armrest on planes.

The lovely weekend was followed by gentle rains falling. Tulips and daffodils tossed their heads in the

winds; however, following the gentle rains, the forecast of temperatures dipping into 20s and 30s may make changes to that lovely spring scene. The weather is definitely fickle.

This week's quotes are as follows:

"Spring, March bans it, April christens it, and May puts on its jacket and trousers." — Henry David Thoreau

"Humanity is a parade of fools, and I am at the front

of it, twirling a baton." — Dean Koontz

"April hath put a spirit of youth in everything." — William Shakespeare

"I must have flowers, always, always." — Claude Monet

"A successful marriage requires falling in love many times, always with the same person." — Unknown

Sitting by the fireplace is where one can learn of the "Talk of Sugar Grove."

Evelyn Varner and Wanda Pitsenbarger attended the Douglas Smith family reunion Saturday at Traditions in Harrisonburg, Virginia. Jerry and Julie Smith also attended, and they were all happy to see Carolyn and Eddie Smith of Staunton, Virginia, among other family members.

Christ Central Church was where music lovers came Sunday evening to hear the Valley Four perform. Attending from this area were Evelyn Varner, Rose Brackman, Geneva Mongold and Roger and Reda Shrewsberry.

Good to hear that George Hevener had successful hip surgery in Charlottesville, Virginia.

Clickety-clacks for the chin waggars are as follows:

- A person can buy a square watermelon in Japan.
- Before alarm clocks, people would pay someone to knock on their window and wake them up.
- Otters have a pocket in their skin to keep their favorite rock in. Some keep the same rock their entire lives.
- There is only one letter that doesn't appear in any United States state name, "Q."
- Arithmophobia is the fear of numbers.

Concerns for this week are for the following: Charles Anderson, John Ashley, Roger Ashley, Mercedes Aumann, Dave Basagic, Allen Beachler, Liz and Mick Bodkin, "Bo" Boggs, the Patty Chapman family, Marie Cole, Stanley Dahmer, the Thomas DeByl family, Phil Downs, Jennifer Errett, Isaac Eye, Marie Eye, Mary Eye, Carl Gant, David Gillespie, Patsy Green, JC Hammer, Steve and Armanda Heavner, the Donald Hedrick family, Hannah Hedrick, Jack and Starr Hedrick, George Hevener, Jim Hiner, Evan Hise, Edsel and Mary Ann Hogan, Keith Hoover, Myrtle Hoover, Debbie Horst, the Arlin Dale Jamison family, Linda Jones, Richard Judy, Marsha Keller, Tom and Kim Kline, Tracie Knight, Laura Kropp, Melissa Lambert, Robert Lambert, Rex Landis, Donna Mallow, Roger and Skip Mallow, Audree Marsh, Ed May, Gene and Joan McConnell, Gary McDonald, Neil McLaughlin, Rose Miller, Bruce Minor, Tom Mitchell, Barbara Moats, Gloria Moats, Jim Moats, Helen Nash, Rick Neil, Aaron Nelson, Ruth Nelson, Cheryl Paine, Terri Parker, Wilma Pitsenbarger Rexrode, Andy Pond, Janice Propst, Alda Propst, Janis Propst, Marilyn Propst, Mike Propst, Sheldon Propst, Tom Rader, Willard Rader, Brandon Reel, the Cheryl Reichard family, Jason Rexrode, Jimmy Rexrode, Linda Fay Rexrode, Dennis Riggelman, Jenny Ruddle, Mary Sawyers, Brittany Shriver, Annie Simmons, Erin Simmons, Eva Simmons, Greg Simmons, Judy Simmons, Nelson Simmons, Tonya Simon, Robbie Sites, Mike Skiles, Ed and Carolyn Smith, Natalie Stephenson, 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, Christians persecuted around the world, people of war ravaged countries and families affected by natural disasters.

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

**FRIDAY, APRIL 11**  
Country Steak  
Cheesy Potatoes  
Mixed Vegetables  
Apple

**MONDAY, APRIL 14**  
Taco Salad w/Nacho Chips  
Corn, Peach Cobbler

**TUESDAY, APRIL 15**  
Vegetable Soup  
Italian Sub w/Lettuce,  
Tomato, Onion  
Fresh Fruit

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16**  
**SPONSORED EASTER MEAL**  
Turkey/Dressing & Gravy  
Mashed Potatoes  
Carrots

Strawberry Pretzel Salad


**THURSDAY, APRIL 17**  
Navy Beans  
Stewed Tomatoes  
Corn Bread  
Banana

**FRIDAY, APRIL 18**

**CLOSED** 



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.




## Happy Birthday in Heaven R.C. Nash

April 9, 1937 -  
January 22, 2015

*We miss you every day!*

Love From  
All of Us





## SKSRT ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP

Spruce Knob Seneca Rocks Telephone, Inc. will award a \$500 scholarship to two graduating seniors whose parents or legal guardians are current customers of Spruce Knob Seneca Rocks Telephone, Inc.

Applicant must be a member of a current graduating class, must achieve a minimum 3.0 GPA or in the upper 1/3 of the class, and must be accepted as a full-time student in an accredited two- or four-year college, university or vocational-technical school.

Applicant must have character that is respectful of students and teachers in a manner that shows leadership, honesty, integrity and consideration of others.

Further information on eligibility and criteria can be obtained by calling 304-567-2121, M-F from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., or by e-mailing jmiller@sksr.com.

Applications are available at the telephone office in Riverton or can be downloaded online at [www.sksrt.com](http://www.sksrt.com).

Deadline for submission of application is April 18, 2025.



## Pendleton County FFA Greenhouse

### Opening April 18

Wide Variety of

- Hanging Baskets
- Flowers •Vegetable Plants

Open Daily 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.



## FISH DAY!

*IT'S TIME TO STOCK YOUR POND!*  
Delivery Will Be:

**Tuesday, April 22**  
Romney 12:00-12:45  
@ Southern States

**Wednesday, April 23**  
Keyser 9:45-10:30  
@ Burgess Farm Service  
Moorefield 11:30-12:15  
@ Southern States  
Petersburg 1:00-1:45  
@ Freedom Ag & Energy  
Franklin 2:30-3:15  
@ Hott's Ag Service

"LIKE" us on Facebook!

## FISH WAGON

To Place an Order Call  
1-800-643-8439 [www.fishwagon.com](http://www.fishwagon.com)



A little prevention goes a long way when it comes to protecting your car against breakdowns. Bring your vehicle to us for affordable and reliable maintenance and repair service you can trust.

Free Estimates • All Work Guaranteed

## BOWERS GARAGE & BODY SHOP

304-249-5154 Sugar Grove • 304-249-5900 Brandywine

PROUD TO BE SERVING THE AREA FOR 45 YEARS

## April Is Child Abuse Prevention Month

**What is Child Abuse?** Child abuse means that a child's health and well-being is being harmed or threatened.

**Emotional and behavioral signs of child abuse:**

- Anxiety •Attempts at suicide •Attempts to run away
- Changes in behavior • Defiant behavior •Depression
- Frequent school absences •Hiding food
- Sexual contact with other children •Self-harm

•Reluctant to leave school or activities outside the home

•Sexual behavior not appropriate for child's age

*If you suspect a child is being abused or neglected, please call 1-800-352-6413.*

\*No patient denied services because of inability to pay!

## PENDLETON Community Care, Inc.

Franklin (304)358-2355 • Riverton (304)567-2101  
Harman (304)227-4134  
[www.pccnfc.org](http://www.pccnfc.org)



# WE ARE HIRING!

APPLY NOW!

## Customer Service Representative

- Full-time position with benefits in our Franklin front office.
- This position would work an Evening and Saturday rotation.
- Must have attention to detail and strong communication skills.
- Medical knowledge is a plus!
- Must be a team player.

For more information or to apply, email [jwimer@pcc-nfc.org](mailto:jwimer@pcc-nfc.org)

PENDLETON Community Care, Inc.





Travis Owens sets up to make a play against East Hardy. Photo courtesy of Light in Motion.

# Wildcat Baseball Battles Brutal Schedule Early On

By Stephen Smoot

Pendleton County baseball fears no team and takes on schools that range in size from Tygarts Valley's 420 from sixth through 12th grade to Musselman and its more than 1,700 students between their freshman and senior years.

The goal is to learn through adversity and build both skills and resilience in preparation for the postseason fight to see which teams will represent the region in Charleston this May.

Pendleton County 11 Bath County 6  
Late last month, Pendleton County traveled to Bath County, Virginia, playing their second Old Dominion based school in a row after their triumph against Highland County, Virginia.

The Wildcats jumped in front first. Caleb Armentrout drew a walk to start off the game, but was called out at second when Travis Owens grounded into a fielder's choice. Chase Owens, however, drove a double into right field to send the baserunner home and stake out the initial lead. Cole Harper's single put runners on first and third for Will Smith.

Smith hit a fly ball to right for the second out of the inning, which allowed Chase Owens to tag from third and score. A precise throw to third, however, caught Harper as he attempted to tag up and advance.

Bath responded in the bottom of the inning as their leadoff batter drew a walk, then stole second. A line drive to center scored the home team's first run of the game. Harper used his defense to sit the next two batters down, but a single and a walk loaded the bases. The pitcher then went after the Bath batter, getting him to swing on a two ball and two strike out to quash the threat.

In the top of the second, the Bath pitcher set down the side in order. With two on and two outs, however, Bath drove in two runs on a single to right. They picked up a fourth run in the bottom of the third.

Pendleton County hit back in the top of the fourth. Chase Owens earned a walk on four straight pitches to lead off the inning. Harper drove a hit through the middle of the infield to score the baserunner and cut the home squad's advantage to one. Two errors helped to load the bases with two outs, but Bath's pitcher struck the Wildcats out to end the inning.

In the bottom of the fourth, Bath tried to hold off Pendleton County's push to gain the lead. They gained two runs with one out to set the lead at 6-3. Travis Owens then induced a ground out and a strike out to close the fourth.

Bath County opened the top of the fifth with three gifts in the form of errors to load the bases with Wildcats. Harper then hit a ground ball to the right side, resulting in one out on a fielder's choice, but sending in Armentrout and Travis Owens, closing within a single run of the lead once again.

Chase Owens took the mound for Pendleton County in the bottom of the fifth and struck out the side in order on only 13 pitches.

After that, the deluge.

Cooper Smith singled to open the top of the sixth inning. Two batters later, with one out, Josiah Kimble dropped a short bunt in front of the catcher and used his speed to leg out the play and send Cooper Smith to scoring position.

Shortly after, with two outs and the bases loaded, Chase Owens drove an infield single to short. Cooper Smith scored and nailed down the tie score that had eluded Pendleton County since the opening innings. Harper then knocked in three runs on a two ball, two strike count with two outs.

Two walks reloaded the bases, but a relief pitcher scored a strikeout to end the run.

Two more runs in the top of the seventh put away the game for Pendleton County  
Musselman 7 Pendleton County 1

In the next game, the Wildcats took a 7-1 loss against quad A Musselman. The Applemen had convincing wins over Hampshire and Berkeley Springs in their opening weeks and defeated the Wildcats in Berkeley County.

Pendleton County 16 Tucker County 7  
The Mountain Lions traveled to Franklin and experienced the explosiveness of Pendleton County's hitting.

All year long Caleb Armentrout has played the first inning waiter, setting the table for subsequent batters. In this game, he opened the first with a single to left, followed by a Travis Owens walk. The first run came through on a Chase Owens sacrifice.

Harper singled with one out, putting runners at the corners for Cashton Kisamore, who also

hit a sacrifice to score a run, but this time to left field.

In the subsequent inning, the Wildcats benefited once again by putting the lead off runner on, this time via a walk pitched to Spencer Hartman. Mountain Lion pitching walked the second batter, Kimble. This set up Travis Owens with one out as he singled to left to score both Hartman and Kimble.

Singles by Harper and Cooper Smith pushed the lead to 7-0 as the Wildcats cruised through the end of the second.

That cruise hit turbulence in the top of the third as Tucker County battled almost all the way back. They picked up six runs in the top of the third to nearly draw even. Kisamore then stepped in to pitch and shut down the side.

The Mountain Lions followed that by setting down Wildcat batters in order in the bottom of the inning, but would enjoy no such results in the fourth.

Kisamore allowed two singles, but no runs in the Mountain Lion half of the inning and Travis Owens commenced the bottom of the fourth with a single. Chase Owens singled to right and scored the baserunner. The next batter, Harper, hit a ground ball sacrifice that enabled Chase Owens to cross home plate and pick up the ninth Wildcat run of the contest.

Later in the inning, with two outs and Kisamore on third, a Will Smith single set the score at 10-6.

The final score came when Broty Sites drove a ball to right field on a sacrifice to score Travis Owens.

East Hardy 15 Pendleton County 1  
On the very next night, Pendleton County hosted East Hardy. On some nights, a pitcher has everything going their way and momentum can carry them to a special performance. That performance, unfortunately, came from Shayne Sisler of the Cougars who struck out 16 in a two hitter performance. Sisler showed significant command of location and speed throughout the windy, cold, and, sometimes, drizzly contest.

This was Sisler's second performance for the state Class A semifinalists after defending state champion Frankfort rocked him in their initial game of their season.

Elkins 9 Pendleton County 7  
The Elkins Tigers looked as grrrreat as Tony the Tiger in their first game of the season, beating Notre Dame 11-0. Since then, Elkins has lost several to class AA and AAA competition until hosting the Wildcats last weekend.

The battle of predatory felines opened with Elkins scoring the first run in the bottom of the first, then building a 6-1 lead through the end of the fourth inning. The sole run to that point came on a Sites single to center, which drove in Kisamore.

In the top of the fifth, Kimble dropped a bunt for a single, but was caught stealing second during an at bat that also resulted in a line drive out.

With two outs and no one on, Travis Owens singled to left. Chase Owens followed by earning a walk. The next hitter, Harper, also drew a base on balls, loading the diamond.

Kisamore, the next up at the plate, worked a three balls and one strike count with the bases loaded. All baserunners took off on the third strike, enabling Travis Owens to reach home plate and add the second run of the game for the Wildcats. Cooper Smith followed with an RBI single, driving in Chase Owens.

A Will Smith walk with the bases loaded brought Pendleton County closer and the inning ended with a 6-4 disadvantage.

Elkins scored three in the bottom of the fifth and weathered a Wildcat threat in the fifth.

With one last opportunity in the top of the seventh, Pendleton County put their bats to work again. Colby Simmons drew a one out walk, followed by Noah Lockard drawing a walk when a one ball and two strike pitch hit him.

Armentrout, with two on and one out left to mount a comeback, singled and scored Simmons. After a Travis Owens infield single to the pitcher loaded the bases, Chase Owens tapped a two ball and two strike pitch back to the mound, scoring Lockard. Tucker Smith, exercising patience, walked on five pitches to close the score at 9-7.

The Wildcats got the tying run on second, but Elkins managed to record the final out and close the game.

Next up for the Wildcats was a Wednesday road trip to Baker to face East Hardy, then a Saturday home stand against Pocahontas County.

# Ranking First Place in Class A, Pendleton County Punishes Its Way Through Early Schedule

By Stephen Smoot

From any angle, reviewing Pendleton County's softball team by the numbers brings up eye-popping results.

The team opened its season on March 22 against a fully loaded Frankfort squad who is currently 7-0 and ranked fourth as the sole undefeated team in Class AAA. Including that game, the team competed in 12 games within 12 days.

Normally such a grueling stretch would wear down a team. The Wildcats, however, have won 11 straight. The closest margin of victory came over Keyser with a score of 6-0. Twice, the team posted 20 or more runs.

As far as total team scoring is concerned, Pendleton County 154/opponents 36.

The Wildcats have earned respect across the state for their opening month. Along with Wahama, whose campus is within shouting distance of the Ohio River in Mason County, Pendleton County has taken first place in the West Virginia Metro News rankings.

Pendleton County 7 Moorefield 1

April opened with a battle against an old nemesis as Pendleton County hosted the Yellow Jackets of Moorefield, ranked 10 in Class AA by West Virginia Metro News. Recent seasons saw Moorefield able to sting the Wildcats here and there as both squads fielded strong teams.

Baylee Beachler opened the game by striking out three of four batters in the first inning. The Wildcats then opened the bottom of the first with a barrage, starting with Avery Townsend hitting a single to left. Beachler came up next and was sent to first courtesy of being hit by a pitch.

Jenna Smith came to the plate with Beachler on first and Townsend (very temporarily) on second. Townsend stole to third on the initial pitch while Callie Judy, inserted as a courtesy runner for Beachler, took second. Smith drove the ball to shallow center, sending Townsend over the plate for the first run of the game.

Judy then scored on a sacrifice by Lizzie Alt.

Shortly thereafter, with two outs, Smith scored on a passed ball and the first inning ended with the Wildcats up 3-0.

The Moorefield pitcher settled in after the initial flurry and allowed no runs over the next two innings. In the fourth, however, Chesnee Colaw reached on a single. Later in the inning with two outs, Beachler drove a one strike pitch into center field for a double to extend the lead to 4-0.

The Yellow Jackets answered with a run in the top of the fifth. Pitching and defense helped them to stay in contention until the bottom of the sixth.

Julia Mongold doubled with one out, to be batted in shortly thereafter by a Townsend double, pushing the lead to 5-1. Beachler followed by clearing the bases with a home run to center. Beachler and Townsend currently tie for the team lead in that category with five a piece.

Susan Vincell then shut down the Yellow Jackets in the last inning, striking out



Madison Arbaugh charges around the bases on a rainy day game against Tygarts Valley. Photo courtesy of Light in Motion.

the first hitter and inducing the next two to fly out.

Pendleton County 9 Petersburg 1

In two days, two top 10 and area rival teams in from Class AA presented little problem for Pendleton County.

Last Thursday, the Wildcats stalked the Vikings in their home lair and started strong as the first three batters reached base. Townsend singled, followed by walks from Beachler and Smith. As Smith drew the walk, Townsend stole home, giving her 18 on the season so far.

Two batters later, a Parker single scored Smith for the second run of the contest.

In the bottom of the first, Petersburg singled, then saw their lineup set down in order. Beachler did not allow a Viking to reach base in the bottom of the second.

Scoring started again in the third. Beachler belted a line drive to left field for a solo home run, extending the lead to 3-0. In the bottom of the fourth, the Vikings answered on a double RBI to right for their first and only run.

Pendleton County built onto their lead in the top of the fifth. Molly Rowe led off the inning with a clutch two strike pitch bunted softly down the third base line. Bunting on a two strike count carries risk as fouling while bunting in that situation gets the batter out. Mongold followed that with a single.

With one out Beachler took an intentional walk to load the bases, the Vikings trying to avoid her power while giving their defense a chance to end the inning on a double play. Instead, Smith grounded to third base and reached on an error. Rowe scored to extend the lead to 4-1.

Alt then battled through eight pitches to earn a walk and send Mongold home for the fifth run. Parker picked up an RBI by grounding into a fielder's choice to score Judy, in as a courtesy runner. In the next at bat Vincell was hit by a pitch, sending in the seventh run.

Beachler used her defense to work her way through a one-two-three inning in the fifth, leading to another productive inning offensively for the Wildcats. Alt smashed a triple to center field, scor-

ing Judy and Smith for the eighth and ninth runs, respectively.

Pendleton County 17 Tygarts Valley 1

Pendleton County 22 Tygarts Valley 6

On a muddy, rainy, dreary Friday, all was sunny in Franklin Town Park. The Bulldogs crossed Allegheny and North Mountains to play two games, totaling five and a half innings, and allowing 39 runs to seven scored.

In the first inning of game one, the Wildcats posted 11 runs. Up 2-0 with no outs, Isabella Lockard got down in the count two to nothing, but fought her way back to earn a walk. During her at bat, a wild pitch scored Smith to set the score at 3-0. Shortly after, Jayden Mitts took a walk on four pitches to load the bases.

This set up another bases loaded situation in which a Mongold base on balls led to Lockard scoring. Three batters later, a Beachler walk enabled Mitts to score.

In the second inning, with Mitts at third and Mongold on first, a Townsend infield single to short scored Mitts. Later in the inning Smith picked up her first home run of the year, a grand slam to push the score to 16-1. Alt scored the final run on a bunt which led to errors that ended up with Alt reaching home plate.

The second game started off with a smash as Townsend's shot to left field sent her all the way around the bases. Beachler then walked on four pitches and scored when Smith belted a triple to right.

Parker walked, followed by Lockard taking a base on balls due to being hit by a pitch.

In the third inning, Rowe took the mound for the Wildcats. In her first varsity action pitching she battled the Bulldogs fiercely, giving up some scoring, but also completing the inning with three strikeouts total.

This week, Pendleton County traveled to Moorefield on Wednesday, hosts Richwood today, then returns to Moorefield on Friday and Saturday for the Bub Rigglesman Tournament. Friday, they play Williamsport, Maryland, at noon and Hedgesville at 4 p.m.

Check Out Our Website  
www.pendletontimes.com



# US Naval Base at Sugar Grove PCM/HS Community Career Day

*Continued From Page 1*

consideration by the West Virginia Health Care Authority.

According to the Health Care Authority, “In West Virginia, all health care providers, unless otherwise exempt, must obtain a CON before (1) adding or expanding health care services, (2) exceeding the capital expenditure threshold of \$5,803,788, (3) obtaining major medical equipment valued at \$5,803,788 or more, or (4) developing or acquiring new health care facilities.”

It goes on to state that “The statutorily mandated CON review process primarily includes the determination of need, consistency with the State Health Plan, and financial feasibility.” The state uses certain metrics and measurements to make those determinations.

Due in part to both Republican and Democratic federal administrations finding state CON laws counterproductive in almost every presidency since Ronald Reagan, Governor Patrick Morrisey made repealing such laws a centerpiece of his legislative program. The West Virginia Legislature, however, declined to pass the proposed repeal.

Otherwise, Liberty Community Programs would not need to take such a step.

The West Virginia based operation, which received its business license from the West Virginia Secretary of State’s office on Feb. 10, has a parent company based out of Culver City, California, near Los Angeles. The parent company, Liberty Behavioral and Community Services, has a stated mission to “empower and enrich the lives of adults with autism and developmental disabilities.”

The company website adds that “we are committed to providing comprehensive and personalized services that promote independence, personal growth, and community integration.”

Liberty Behavioral and Community Services also proclaims a vision, which “is to be a leading provider of behavioral services for adults with autism and developmental disabilities, recognized for our exceptional quality of care and positive outcomes.”

Additionally, the company envisions “a future where every individual with autism and developmental disabilities has access to evidence-based, person-centered interventions that support their unique needs and foster their growth and development.”

While the applications for paperwork list a Morgantown address for the company, the business registration certificate itself lists the Navy Base as its professional street address.

A CON application includes detailed information about the intended goals, such as “specific services to be provided.”

At Sugar Grove, Liberty Community Programs plans start with establishing a licensed group home that features “24/7 assistance tailored to each individual’s needs, focusing on personal care, skill development, and daily living activities.” It will also provide “Behavior Support Professional Services” that include “specialized interventions to address challenging behaviors and develop positive coping strategies.”

Other proposed services include nursing,

“physical, occupational, and speech therapies as needed,” crisis intervention, transportation services, and “modifications to the home or vehicle to enhance accessibility and safety.” Services should “assist consumers to meld into their community while allowing them to build skills for independent living.”

Basic skills taught will include “personal hygiene, dressing, environmental health functions, feeding, health related tasks, nutrition, and use of assistive devices.”

Part of the project will include “group homes” with “up to four individuals per home.” Those in the program have typically shown symptoms of autism, traumatic brain injury, cerebral palsy, spina bifida, and/or “any condition, other than mental illness, found to be closely related to intellectual disabilities.”

The company will need to hire staff “that provide supervision, training, and professional support to IDD Waiver participants. Services will be rendered in home settings, the community, and at job sites.”

The application also states that the geographic range of services will include Pendleton, Hardy, Grant, Pocahontas, and Randolph counties.

Liberty Community Programs articulated the need for its programs in the Mountain State. It shared that in 2019, the West Virginia Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities Waiver program served 3,867 adults, but that “there were 1,068 individuals on the IDWW waitlist as of December 2019” and that “staffing challenges have impacted service capacity in specific regions.”

For example, “in 2022, EnCircle operated seven group homes in Martinsburg, serving 27 individuals, but faced difficulties due to staffing shortages.”

According to a state agency website, West Virginia’s Intellectual and/or Developmental Disabilities Waiver (IDWW) “program is for children and adults with disabilities. The program provides services that help to teach, train, support, guide and assist members reach the highest level of independence possible in their lives.”

One of the primary goals lies in fostering life skills “in homes and areas where the member lives, works, and shops instead of in Intermediate Care Facilities for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities.”

The program focuses on individuals from three years of age and up who demonstrate difficulties in three of these six fundamental areas: self-care, language and communication, learning, the ability to move around freely, the ability to make good decisions about themselves, or the ability to live alone.

Since its closure approximately a decade ago, much has been made of the potential of the base to provide service in some area. Previous proposals have included a women’s prison, a foster care education center, a veterans’ care facility, mental health facility, and even a holding area for illegal immigrant children.

Some of these proposals attracted some controversy due to concerns over the populations potentially served there. Liberty Community Programs’ proposal, however, should not stoke concerns due to the nature of the population it proposes to serve.

## PCM/HS Community Career Day

*Continued From Page 1*

most other schools. They focused on promoting the summer work program that employs people on a temporary basis during the summer until they go to college, basic training, or a job already arranged.

Many of those planning on attending college have plans to go into teacher education, especially English, elementary education, and art. Many of those not planning to attend college expressed an attendance in welding.

Some expressed an entrepreneurial mindset. One student shared plans to go into tattoo artistry. Those plans included not only practicing her craft, but also earning a business degree and studying art. This

## Online Circuit Court Records System Launched

The Supreme Court of Appeals of West Virginia has announced that a new online system to search and access circuit court records in all 55 counties is available to the public.

The West Virginia Public Access Search System will provide online access to all publicly available circuit court documents dating back to 1999. Registration to use the new system is free to the user and documents can be downloaded for a small charge.

“The court is proud to announce the launch of this long-awaited system that will bring county circuit court records into the digital age,” said Chief Justice William R. “Bill” Wooton. “This launch is the culmination of an extended, monumental effort on the part of the Supreme Court’s Administrative Office, our outside vendor and staff from all 55 county courthouses. Online access to court records is an essential public service, and I want to thank all parties involved for their commitment to making this a reality.”

Access to the new system

will be available on the court’s website, [www.courtswv.gov](http://www.courtswv.gov).

This online circuit courts record system follows last year’s launch of the court’s Magistrate Case Record System, which is currently available on the court’s website. An additional records system for the appellate case level is also anticipated in the near future.

“The WVPASS circuit courts records search system demonstrates our court’s commitment to make West Virginia’s judicial system as transparent and accessible to the public as possible,” said Justice C. Haley Bunn, who has taken the lead on the project for the court in recent years. “Beginning next month, our citizens will be able to search and download public civil and criminal case information dating back to the turn

of the century from the convenience of their computer or mobile device – bypassing the need to go to a courthouse and search for records in person.”

The WVPASS search function will be free for registered users. There will be a 25-cent-per-page charge plus a nominal credit/debit card processing fee for regular public users to download documents. Attorneys will be able to use the new system to access and download files for cases in which they are counsel of record for free.

The new system will provide access to publicly available criminal and civil case files; filings made under seal and juvenile cases will not be available.

The supreme court contracted with i3 Verticals to allow access to public circuit court records.

## HARTMAN'S SERVICE STATION

502 LEE AVE • FRANKLIN, WV 26807  
304-358-2574


 <b>Chain Saws • Trimmers</b> <b>Bars • Chains • Oil</b> <b>Trimmer Line • Blowers</b> <i>Been in Business over 50 Years!</i>	<b>STATE INSPECTIONS</b> <b>OIL CHANGE ~ GREASE JOBS</b> <b>SELL NEW TIRES ~ BATTERIES</b> <b>AC WORK ~ BRAKES</b> <b>ROTORS ~ TIE RODS</b> <b>SCANNER HOOKUP DIAGNOSIS</b> <u>GET YOUR VEHICLE CHECKED OUT TODAY,</u>
--	--

 **Pocahontas Producers Livestock Market**  
Marlinton Stockyards  
**Spring Sale Schedule**  
**SPECIAL SPRING CALF SALE**  
**Friday, April 11 - 7 p.m.**  
**REGULAR SALE**  
**Saturdays**  
**April 12, May 17 and June 14 - 2 p.m.**  
For more information, call:  
Sherry Sullenberger (PPCA manager) at 540-499-2718  
Pocahontas County Extension Office at 304-799-4852

**TRI-STATE MEMORIAL CO.**  
Piedmont, WV **1-800-924-6701**  
Compare our prices and **SAVE**  
*Granite – Marble – Bronze*  
*Memorials – Markers – Mausoleums*  
**Final Date Engraving Service**  
**Available - CALL TODAY**  
**Home Consultations Available**  
**EXPERT DESIGN AND SUPERIOR WORKMANSHIP**  
**Area Representative: Dave Sponaule**  
Circleville, WV **1-304-668-6716**


**OPENING for the Season**  
**APRIL 12**  
**TREASURE MOUNTAIN**  
**MARKET**  
BARGAINS • BARGAINS • BARGAINS • BARGAINS • BARGAINS • BARGAINS  
Confederate Road, Franklin  
(blue building across from Potomac Highlands Rec Center)  
**Open Saturdays ONLY - 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.**  
*Something For Everyone*  
*Come Out and Support Your Community*



 **H&R BLOCK**  
**15 N. Main St. — Franklin, WV**  
**• Tax Preparation • Bookkeeping**  
**• Payroll • Advice**  
**• Business Service**  
**• Prepare All State Tax Returns**  
**• Prepaid Emerald Card**  
**“We Welcome ALL of Our Old and Will Take New Customers”**  
**M-F 8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.**  
**Sat. 8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.**  
**or By Appointment By Calling**  
**304-358-2501 or 304-358-7338**

**JAMES (GAR) HARPER**  
and his twin brother,  
Charles (deceased)  
were born April 2, 1930, in Onego  
to George and Bertha Harper  
*James’ three daughters, Cynthia, Dottie and Karen, and his extended family would like the community to join them in wishing him*  
**A Happy Belated 95<sup>th</sup> Birthday**  
Cards may be sent to him at  
1726 Brushy Run Rd., Seneca Rocks, WV 26884

 **HOP to COUNTRY**  
*Decor & More*  
**To Get Your Easter Flowers**  
**• Easter Lilies • Potted Tulips • Hyacinths**  
**• Hydrangeas • Hanging Baskets**  
**• Fresh Cut Arrangements**  
**• Plush • Balloons • And More**  
**~ Scavenger Hunt ~**  
*Follow Us on Facebook or Look for Posts at Local North Fork Stores for Hints*  
13804 Mountaineer Dr., Riverton  
**304-567-6673**  
**Open:** Mon. - Fri. 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.; Sat. 9 a.m. - Noon  
Weekend/Evenings by Appointment  
*Delivery Available*

*60<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary*  
**Card Shower**  
**DALE AND SHIRLEY HARPER**  
**April 17**  
Cards may be sent to them at  
8939 Lower Timber Ridge Rd., Riverton, WV 26814

**92<sup>nd</sup> BIRTHDAY**  
**Card Shower**  
**GLENN DAHMER**  
**April 17**  
Cards may be sent to him at  
4391 Kiser Gap Rd., Franklin, WV 26807

 **Our Heartfelt Thanks**  
We would like to extend a sincere thank you to each of you for the prayers, Bibles, visits, phone calls, food, flowers, cards, memorial gifts and all acts of kindness extended to us during the loss of Pete. Special thanks to the Bridgewater Retirement Community, Pastor David Morris and Basagic Funeral Home. Thanks to the men of Pendleton Lodge #144 for honoring Pete with the special Masonic service, members of the Order Of The Eastern Star #138 and members of the military for their meaningful service. Also, thanks to our church family at Friends Run Church of the Brethren for the delicious meal following the service. We thank God for the time we had with Pete and the support of family and friends that are helping us through this difficult time.  
*May God richly bless each of you as He has blessed us.*  
**The Pete Keplinger Family**  




# County Commission Recognizes Community Action Month

By Stephen Smoot

On April Fools’ Day, Carl Hevener, Pendleton County Commission president, called the meeting to order, then looked at his colleagues and said, “May I have a motion to adjourn?” After the chuckling subsided, Roger Dahmer, commissioner, delivered the customary invocation, praying, “We just thank You and praise You today.”

After the prayer, the Commission welcomed representatives from Community Action. April serves as an official month for a number of worthy causes, including Community Action.

Matt Hinkle addressed the commission first, sharing that Dahmer sat on the Community Action Board. He then explained that the organization and its work dates back to March 6, 1967.

He then introduced Becky Yokum, who recently joined Eastern Action from Summit Community Bank, saying that she “just did a resource day at North Fork Baptist Church just so folks know what we offer.”

Also present was Edna Mullenax. Hinkle shared that in her Family Resource Center based in Franklin, Mullenax “does a lot of life coaching type skills.” He added that those included cooking, parenting, budgeting, and much more.

Dahmer read the proclamation for Community Action, which called the organization “a robust state and local force” serving “99 percent of America’s counties.” The commissioners passed the proclamation in part to help Community Action celebrate 61 years of service to the nation.

Next, Karen Pitsenbarger gave a maintenance report, stating that HVAC had been installed in the community building. Also, some lighting issues at the Pendleton County Health Department building “had been taken care of.”

From Pendleton 911, Diana Mitchell reported that April also features National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week between the 13th and 19th. Rick Gillespie, emergency services coordinator for Pendleton County, suggested that the Commission pass a proclamation for it.

Hevener replied that “if anybody knows that stuff is coming up, please let us know.” He explained that the county commission wants to honor and recognize such groups, but that keeping up with the various official weeks and months is difficult.

Gillespie also noted that the office of emergency management had a “very bright light” installed on Elk Mountain to illuminate the area shown by the new traffic camera there.

Crews also installed a safety light near the Pendleton County Courthouse that produces a strong light that, along with a light moved closer to Main Street, better illuminates the area around the building.

A representative from P.A.W.S., the Pendleton County animal welfare organization, came to thank the commission for its support during the years. She stated that “last month was spay and neuter awareness month,” and that remains part of their mission. Their operations could be affected by a state measure that could cut funding from a source derived from pet food sales in West Virginia.

“We are very grateful for the community that pitches in,”

she finished.

Pitsenbarger spoke next concerning the impending commencement of construction of the new courthouse annex. “Lantz moved their office trailer out there,” she said, then added that once final paperwork gets completed “we’re finally moving forward.”

Hevener said, “Keep your fingers crossed.”

Commissioners next passed a proclamation for National Library Week, which is April 6 - 12.

Commissioners got to meet two new field appraisers for the county, Ryan Maloy and Patricia Ruddle. Sandie Smith, Pendleton County assessor, said, “I think they’ll represent the county very well.”

From Pendleton County Emergency Rescue, Mike Alt provided a report, saying that March was “one of the busiest months we’ve had.” He added that 1,500 and more had signed up to urge the state to take care of the EMS salary enhancement fund. That fund had supported EMS compensation across the state, but the funding was mysteriously depleted even though established by statute.

Alt then stated that PCER was currently negotiating the purchase of a new ambulance, which is expected to cost around \$300,000, but would not be ready for delivery for two years or so.

At the close of the meeting, commissioners agreed to prepare something for telecommunicators week. Dahmer made a motion to donate \$500 to the school system to help with the music program. It was approved.

## Convention and Visitors Bureau Capitalizing on Events in the County

By Stephen Smoot

Last month, Backroads of Appalachia made the North Fork their final destination in their ride across the state. Off road enthusiasts drove from Point Pleasant to the stopping point at Seneca Rocks, then a hot and fresh meal at North Fork Elementary School.

“They’re going to do it the other direction next year,” stated Annie Humes. This would be the third year in a row that Pendleton County has served either as the jumping off point or the destination. “We’re already talking to the Circleville Volunteer Fire Department,” she added.

She said that they fit the bill of an organization that could meet the needs of a group of 300 people in terms of providing both food and a place to eat.

Back Roads of Appalachia will return in September, but not for a ride. They will come back as part of their community service day initiative to give back.

Another upcoming development is a Potomac Highlands regional motorcycle map. The map represents a collaborative effort among Pendleton, Grant, Hardy, Hampshire, and Mineral counties to take advantage of the growing recreational possibilities in individual or group motorcycle rides.

The effort was led by Michele Moure-Reeves, Hardy County CVB director. The map will build on previous editions to ensure that motorcyclists have routes of varying lengths that expose them to the best that the region has to offer. It will be released this May and include sites for food, recreation, scenery, historical interest, and more.

A Civil War themed map with similar purposes will come out toward the end of the summer.

Humes supported the purposes of the maps, saying, “No one is going to stop a motorcycle ride at the Pendleton or Hardy County line.” Visitors tend to ignore local political boundaries when enjoying the scenery.

## Grant Memorial Hospital Earns Awards

WVU/Grant Memorial Hospital has earned several prestigious awards in recent months, starting with a 5-Star Rating from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services in overall quality and patient experience. This rating reflects the hospital’s excellence in safety of care, mortality rates, patient experience, readmission rates, and timely and effective care. GMH was among just 381 hospitals nationwide to achieve the 5-star rating from CMS.

The hospital also earned 5-star ratings for staff responsiveness and cleanliness. The staff responsiveness rating, based on questions from the Hospital Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems survey measures how quickly patients felt they received assistance after calling for help or needing assistance with the restroom or bedpan. The cleanliness rating highlights GMH’s commitment to maintaining a safe, hygienic, and welcoming environment for both patients and visitors.

In addition, GMH was recognized as one of the best hospitals in the country by Money Magazine. This distinction is awarded based on the facility’s ability to provide safe, high-quality care and excellent patient experience scores. The rankings for 2025 also consider financial transparency and the costs associated with a patient’s stay.

Other hospitals on this prestigious list include the Mayo Clinic, Mass General, Duke, and Cleveland Clinic. John Sylvia, president and CEO of Grant Memorial Hospital, remarked in an email

to employees, “While we may not offer the extensive services of these large national providers, the services we do offer are delivered with excellent quality and patient interactions.” He added, “It’s wonderful to see that the caring and dedicated staff and providers at the hospital have been recognized by CMS with a 5-Star quality and patient satisfaction rating, and now this honor. It is truly well deserved.”

The list of the top 75 hospitals in the United States was compiled using more than 30,000 data points from more than 1,000 hospitals, with GMH ranking number 27. It is the only hospital from West Virginia included in this ranking.

Most recently, GMH was named to the Chartis 100 Top Critical Access Hospitals list. Chartis, a leading healthcare advisory firm, announced the 2025 top 100 critical access hospitals and the 2025 top 100 rural and community hospitals, based on results from the Chartis Rural Hospital Performance INDEX®. This annual program honors outstanding performance among the nation’s rural hospitals.

Michael Topchik, executive director of The Chartis Center for Rural Health, stated, “The top 100 award program highlights the best performers and serves as a guide for those striving to improve financial and operational performance while continuing to care for the communities they serve.” GMH was one of only two hospitals in West Virginia to receive this prestigious recognition.

LEGAL ADVERTISEMENTS Continued from Page 9		
<b>NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION</b>	<b>representative, venue, or jurisdiction of this Commission are required to file their objections with this Commission WITHIN SIXTY DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR THIRTY DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF THE NOTICE, whichever is later.</b>	<b>TIONS NOT SO FILED WILL BE FOREVER BARRED.</b>
<b>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.</b>	<b>All creditors of the decedent(s) and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate(s) must file their claims with this Commission WITHIN SIXTY DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE.</b>	<b>The date of the first publication of this Notice is April 3, 2025. Deadline for claims is June 2, 2025.</b>
<b>ALL INTERESTED PERSONS ARE NOTIFIED THAT:</b>	<b>ALL CLAIMS, DEMANDS AND OBJEC-</b>	<b>Charles Bennie Evick Estate – Mary Alice Evick, Executrix; Christopher Lee Wimer Estate – Lucy Wimer, Executrix; Hazel L. Simmons Estate – David Perry Simmons, Executor.</b>
<b>All persons on whom this notice is served who have objections that challenge the validity of the will, the qualifications of the personal</b>	<b>Elise M. White, Clerk of the Pendleton County Commission</b>	<b>4-3-2c</b>

PENDLETON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION SCHEDULE OF PROPOSED LEVY RATES REGULAR CURRENT EXPENSE LEVY 2025 - 2026			
The following is a true copy from the record of orders entered by PENDLETON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION on the 25th day of March, 2025.			
Charles F. Hedrick Secretary of the Board of Education			
Column E Certificate of Valuation Assessed Value for Tax Purposes	Levy Rate/\$100	Taxes Levied	
<b>Current Year</b>			
Class I			
Personal Property	\$ _____	19.40	\$ _____
Public Utility	_____		_____
Total Class I	\$ _____		\$ _____
Class II			
Real Estate	\$ 408,788,670	38.80	\$ 1,586,100
Personal Property	1,960,852		7,608
Total Class II	\$ 410,749,522		\$ 1,593,708
Class III			
Real Estate	\$ 85,265,920	77.60	\$ 661,664
Personal Property	69,157,250		46,772
Public Utility	152,970,837		1,187,054
Total Class III	\$ 307,394,007		\$ 2,385,378
Class IV			
Real Estate	\$ 12,522,050	77.60	\$ 97,171
Personal Property	6,027,381		46,772
Public Utility	2,714,846		21,068
Total Class IV	\$ 21,264,277		\$ 165,010
<b>Total Value &amp; Projected Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 739,407,806</b>		<b>\$ 4,144,096</b>
Less Delinquencies, Exonerations & Uncollectibles Taxes	5.00%		207,205
Less Tax Discounts	2.00%		78,738
Less Allowance for Tax Increment Financing - see worksheet (Subtracted from regular current expense taxes levied only)			_____
<b>Total Projected Property Tax Collection</b>			<b>3,858,153</b>
Less Assessor Valuation Fund	2.00%		77,163
(Subtracted from regular current expense taxes levied only)			_____
Net Amount to be Raised by Levy of Property Taxes For Budget Purposes			<b>\$ 3,780,990</b>
4-3-2c			

### Pendleton County Board of Education Provides Meals to Children During the Summer

The Pendleton County Board of Education announces their sponsorship of the federally funded Summer Food Service Program.

Breakfast and Lunch is open to all children, ages 18 years and under, who would like to participate.

Meals will be served at the following sites: Franklin Elementary School, 67 South Branch Street, Franklin, WV 26807.

Breakfast will be provided from 8:30 AM to 9:00 AM and lunch 12:00 PM to 12:30 PM starting June 16th, 2025 and ending on July 25th, 2025. We will be closed on WV day, June 20th, 2025 and July 4th.

A nutritious meal is important for children to learn, play and remain active during the summer months. Remember, Hunger Doesn’t Take a Summer Vacation!

For more information about the Summer Food Service Program, please call Holly Walker at 304-358-2207 ext. 99329

**In accordance with federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation), disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity.**

**Program information may be made available in languages other than English. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication to obtain program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotope, American Sign Language), should contact the responsible state or local agency that administers the program or USDA’s TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.**

**To file a program discrimination complaint, a Complainant should complete a Form AD-3027, USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form which can be obtained online at: <https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/USDA-OASCR%20P-Complaint-Form-0508-0002-508-11-28-17Fax2Mail.pdf>, from any USDA office, by calling (866) 632-9992, or by writing a letter addressed to USDA. The letter must contain the complainant’s name, address, telephone number, and a written description of the alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of an alleged civil rights violation. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted to USDA by:**

**mail:**  
**U.S. Department of Agriculture**  
**Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights**  
**1400 Independence Avenue, SW**  
**Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; or**  
**fax:**  
**(833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or**  
**email:**  
**[program.intake@usda.gov](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov)**

**This institution is an equal opportunity provider**



# CLASSIFIEDS

Buy, Sell or Trade! Place Your Ad Today.

## CLASSIFIED BUSINESS DIRECTORY

### AUTOMOTIVE

**Aumann's**  
*Custom Auto*

- Custom Paint Mixing
- Complete Body Work
- Frame Straightening
- Insurance Work

Accepted



OPEN Monday - Friday 8-5

358-7758

53 Mill Road ~ Franklin

### CLEANING

**J&L's RECONDITIONING**

- Detail Vehicles
- Steam Clean Carpets & Furniture
- Contract Cleaning

Joyce Moates, owner

304-249-5480

BBB Accredited

### CONTRACTORS

**JERRY L. LAMBERT**  
Construction, LLC

- Stick Built Homes
- Additions & Garages
- Decks
- Remodeling & Repairs
- Replacement Windows

1-304-358-2500

WV 027848

### HEATING/COOLING



HEATING, COOLING & SERVICES  
WV051083

Josh Owens, owner

Brandywine, WV


Heil Dealer

Service & Installation

Heat Pumps, Oil & Propane

Furnaces & Commercial Refrigeration Units

304.249.5420 304.668.9616



Heating & Cooling L.L.C.

Franklin

•Installations

•Custom Duct Work

•Service on All Brands

Trane, Carrier & Heil

Serving the area for more than 30 years

Here Today and Here To Stay

Tyler Scheibner

304-668-9296

License # WV 062818

### ELECTRICAL

**MALLOW ELECTRIC, LLC**

- Residential
- Commercial
- Standby Generators

304-668-9885

304-358-7515

Brandon Mallow

Licensed and Insured WV057572



### FUEL

**PROPANE PROMISE.**

- Automatic Fill Plan
- Budget Payment Plan
- Small Tanks Filled
- Heating Systems - Sales

(304) 358-2307

Service Heatline

1-800-287-3494

**MATHESON VALLEY**  
ask. . . The Gas Professionals™

1256 Mountaineer Dr.

Franklin, WV

### STORAGE SPACE

**FOX DEN** MINI STORAGE LLC

Storage Units

5x10, 10x10, 10x15, 10x20

24-Hour Accessibility

Call 304-358-3514

6.7 MILES SOUTH OF BRANDYWINE

ON ROUTE 21 IN SUGAR GROVE, WV

just south of Navy Base

Storage Spaces

Available Now

Spaces for Vehicles

Also Available

Call Julie VanMeter at 304-358-7492 (after 6 o'clock)

Very Reasonable Prices

**E-ZEE SELF STORAGE**

Glover Dr. - Franklin

304-358-3651

Inside Units

7x10

10x20

**TNT SELF STORAGE**

Upper Tract


304-257-1421 or 304-703-3054

NEW SELF STORAGE UNITS

5X10 • 10X10

10X20

APRIL 10 HAPPY



SIBLINGS DAY!

National Siblings Day, is a day to recognize and celebrate the unique bond between siblings, both living and those who have passed. The day was founded in 1995 by Claudia Evart to honor her siblings.

### FOR SALE

**GUNS! GUNS! GUNS!** You want them. We got them. Hundreds in store, even more online. Buy. Sell. Trade. Pendleton County Outdoors, Franklin, WV 26807, 304-358-3265, [www.pencooutdoors.com](http://www.pencooutdoors.com), [www.facebook.com/pencooutdoors](http://www.facebook.com/pencooutdoors), 10-12-tfn

**FOR RENT**  
**BISSELL CARPET** Shampooer for rent. Bowman's Do It Best. Call 304-358-2303.

**FOR SALE:** 1956 International 2-Ton Cabover Truck, needs restored. \$1,500.00. Phone: 1-304-358-7891. 1p

### WANTED

**KIMBLE'S Painting** Steven D. Kimble, Home: 304-358-3794, Cell: 1-540-405-9695. Please call me if you had spoken to Sherwin Kimble (Dad) about work. Thanks! In Loving Memory of Sherwin Dale Kimble. 3-27-4p \* P A I N T I N G \* 35 years experience: Houses, Barns, Roofs, Churches, Outbuildings, Poultry House Roofs, Log Homes, etc. Call Ronnie Kimble, 358-7208 WV03545. 2/6-11/6p

### PUBLIC NOTICE

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA  
Department of Environmental Protection  
Division of Water and Waste Management  
601 57th Street SE  
Charleston, WV 25304  
Telephone: (304) 926-0495  
Fax: (304) 926-0463

Public Notice No.: BS-034-2025  
Publication: Statewide/  
West Virginia Press Association  
Publication Date: April 10, 2025

The West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection's (WVDEP) Division of Water & Waste Management is proposing to reissue the West Virginia National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) General Water Pollution Control Permit WV0116025, which covers discharges to waters of the state from small municipal separate storm sewer systems (MS4s). The agency is proposing that the General Permit be issued for a five-year term.

An MS4 is a conveyance or system of conveyances that is:

- Owned by a state, city, town, village or other public entity that discharges to waters of the U.S.
- Designed or used to collect or convey stormwater (e.g., storm drains, pipes, ditches)
- Not a combined sewer
- Not part of a sewage treatment plant, or publicly owned treatment works (POTW).

This General Permit regulates storm water runoff from MS4s and is designed to prevent stormwater runoff from washing harmful pollutants into local surface waters.

The draft permit and fact sheet are available on the WVDEP website at: <https://dep.wv.gov/WWE/Programs/stormwater/MS4/Pages/default.aspx>.

The public comment period for the Draft General Permit begins April 17, 2025 and ends on May 17, 2025.

During the public comment period, any interested person may submit written comments on the draft permit and/or request a public hearing. Any interested

person may submit written comments on the draft permit. Comments and/or a request for a public hearing shall be made in writing and can be sent via email to Billy Shirley at [Billy.T.Shirley@wv.gov](mailto:Billy.T.Shirley@wv.gov) or by regular mail to:

Attention: Billy Shirley  
West Virginia  
Department of Environmental Protection  
Division of Water and Waste Management  
601 57th Street SE  
Charleston, WV 25304

All comments received by the end of the comment period will be considered prior to the agency making its final decision on the draft General Permit. Comments and/or requests for a public hearing should include the name and contact information of the writer and a concise statement of the nature of the issues raised.

Hard copies are available for review at WVDEP headquarters in Charleston or any of the agency's regional field offices and can be mailed upon request. For more information, contact Billy Shirley at (304) 926-0499, Ext. 43893 or Billy.T.Shirley@wv.gov. 1c

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA  
Department of Environmental Protection  
Division of Water and Waste Management  
601 57th Street SE  
Charleston, WV 25304  
Telephone: (304) 926-0495  
Fax: (304) 926-0463

GENERAL WATER POLLUTION CONTROL PERMIT  
STORMWATER ASSOCIATED WITH OIL AND GAS RELATED CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES  
WV PERMIT NO. WV0116815

Public Notice No.: BS-029-2025

Publication: Statewide/  
West Virginia Press Association

Publication Date: April 10, 2025

The State of West Virginia, Department of Environmental Protection, Division of Water and Waste Management is proposing to reissue the West Virginia General Stormwater Associated with Oil and Gas related Construction Activities. The General Permit will authorize discharges associated with industrial activity from oil and gas to surface waters of the state for construction activities.

It is proposed that this General Permit be issued for a five (5)-year term. All facilities covered under the existing general permit within thirty (30) days of the effective date of the reissued general permit will be required to submit a new registration form to obtain coverage under the new Stormwater Associated with Oil and Gas related Construction Activities Permit.

The Draft Permit and Fact Sheet are available on the WVDEP website at: <https://dep.wv.gov/WWE/Programs/stormwater/ogcsw/Pages/default.aspx>.

The comment period for the Draft General Permit begins April 10, 2025, and ends on May 10, 2025.

During the public comment period, any interested person may submit written comments on the draft permit and/or request a public hearing. Comments and/or a request for a public hearing shall be made in writing and addressed to:

Director  
Division of Water and Waste Management  
601 57th Street SE  
Charleston, WV 25304  
Attention: Billy Shirley  
Phone: (304) 926-0499, Extension 43893  
E-mail: [billy.t.shirley@wv.gov](mailto:billy.t.shirley@wv.gov)

The request shall state the nature of the issues proposed to be raised in the hearing and must be received within the comment period. The Director shall hold a public hearing whenever he or she finds there is a significant degree of public interest in issues relevant to the draft permit.

For more information, contact Billy Shirley at the email address or phone number listed above.

Hearing impaired individuals having access to a Telecommunication Device for the Deaf (TDD) may contact our agency by calling (304) 926-0489. Calls must be made between 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. 1c

### SPECIAL COMMISSIONER'S SALE OF VALUABLE REAL ESTATE

By virtue of the authority vested in the undersigned Special Commissioners, namely, James Paul Geary, II, G. Isaac Sponaugle, III and Nathan H. Walters, by virtue of that certain *Supplemental Order Appointing Special Commissioners and Sale of Real Estate*, dated February 19, 2025 and entered within Pendleton County, West Virginia Civil Action No. 24-C-14, by the Honorable John H. Treadway, Jr. Pendleton County Circuit Court Judge, on March 4, 2025, and styled as Marissa Nichole Champ, by her next friend, Joyce Champ, her mother, Plaintiff v. Steven W. Champ et al., Defendants. Your undersigned Special Commissioners will offer for sale at public auction to the highest bidder(s) at the Courthouse steps of the Pendleton County Courthouse, located at 100 South Main Street, Franklin, West Virginia 26807, on

**FRIDAY, APRIL 25, 2025 AT NOON—12:00 P.M.**

**the following described tract or parcel of real estate:**  
"All that certain tract or parcel of real estate containing **1.37 acres**, more or less, lying and being situate in the **Mill Run District, of Pendleton County, West Virginia**, and being designated as Parcel 27 on Tax Map 19 of the said aforementioned Mill Run District, in Pendleton County, West Virginia Assessment records.

**The aforesaid 1.37 acres tract of real estate is more particularly described as follows:**

"All that certain tract or parcel of real estate containing 1.37 acres, more or less, by calculation of the Pendleton County, West Virginia Assessment records, together with any and all rights, rights-of-way, structures, minerals, easements, improvements and appurtenances thereunto belonging, lying and being situate in Mill Run District, Pendleton County, West Virginia, and being considered as the residue of an original tract or parcel of real estate containing 4 acres, with said 4 acre tract or parcel of real estate being more particularly described by metes and bounds in that certain Deed from Carl M. Bowers and Beverly Alt Bowers, his wife, unto Coy A. Champ and Shirley M. Champ, his wife, with said Deed dated August 29, 1967, and of record in the Office of the Clerk of the County Commission of Pendleton County, West Virginia in Deed Book 86, at Page 259; **LESS HOWEVER**, a 2.63 acre out-conveyance unto Steven Wade Champ, by that certain Deed from Coy A. Champ and Shirley M. Champ, with said Deed dated August 24, 2000, and of record in the aforesaid Clerk's Office in Deed Book 154, at Page 178; and with said 2.63 acre out-conveyance being more particularly described by that certain Description of Survey and Plat of Survey of record in the aforesaid Clerk's Office in Deed Book 154, at Page 178 and Page 179, respectively.

There is also a residence situate upon the above referenced tract or parcel of real estate, and this sale is considered to be in-gross and same is sold in a "as

is" condition. Said tract or parcel of real estate will be conveyed subject to any and all restrictions, reservations, covenants, conditions, easements, or rights-of-way granted, reserved, or provided for in any and all prior instruments in the chain of title.

The real estate taxes associated with the aforementioned tract or parcel of real estate will be prorated as of the closing date and will be thereafter paid by the purchaser(s) of the above referenced tract or parcel of real estate. The highest bidder(s) shall also be responsible for the excise tax on the transfer of the subject real estate and for the cost of the preparation of the Deed conveying the aforementioned real estate to the highest bidder(s). The sale of the real estate is expressly subject to the confirmation of the Circuit Court of Pendleton County, West Virginia.

The above tract or parcel of real estate offered for sale herein will be conveyed unto the highest bidder(s) by Special Warranty Deed from your undersigned Special Commissioners.

**TERMS:** A five-thousand-dollar (\$5,000.00)

MUNICIPAL		Re		FISCAL	
Certific		Assessed Value f			
<b>CLASS I</b>					
Personal Property					
Public Utility					
Total Class I					

<b>CLASS II</b>					
Real Estate	\$ 23,236,710	25.00		\$	58,092
Personal Property	26,682				67
Total Class II	\$ 23,263,392				\$ 58,158

<b>Class IV</b>					
Real Estate	\$ 12,522,050	50.00		\$	62,610
Personal Property	6,027,381				30,137
Public Utility	2,714,846				13,574
Total Class IV	\$ 21,264,277				\$ 106,321

<b>Total Value &amp; Projected Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 44,527,669</b>			<b>\$</b>	<b>164,480</b>
--	----------------------	--	--	-----------	----------------

Less Delinquencies, Exonerations, & Uncollectable Taxes. ....5.00%

Less Tax Discounts (use Total Projected Revenue to calculate) .....2.00%

Less Allowance for Tax Increment Financing (if Applicable).....

**Total Projected Property Tax Collection..... \$ 153,131**

Less Assessor Valuation Fund .....2.00% 3,063  
(Subtracted from regular current expense taxes levied only)

**Net Amount to be Raised by Levy of Property Taxes..... \$ 150,068**

**2025-2026 Fiscal Year**  
**LEVY ESTIMATE — BUDGET DOCUMENT**

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA  
MUNICIPALITY OF FRANKLIN

In accordance with Code 11-8-14, as amended, the Council proceeded to make an estimate of the amounts necessary to be raised by levy of taxes for the current fiscal year, and does determine and estimate the several amounts to be as follows:

The amount due and the amount that will become due and collectible from every source during the fiscal year INCLUDING THE LEVY OF TAXES, is as follows:

<b>REVENUE SOURCE</b>		
Assigned Balance (July 1).....	\$	25,000.00
Property Taxes .....		150,068.00
Gas and Oil Severance Tax .....		6,000.00
Excise Tax on Utilities.....		45,000.00
Wine and Liquor Tax .....		25,000.00
Animal Control Tax .....		250.00
Hotel Occupancy Tax .....		20,000.00
Fines, Fees & Court Costs .....		1,000.00
Licenses .....		5,000.00
Building Permit Fees .....		2,000.00
Franchise Fees .....		3,000.00
IRP Fees .....		35,000.00
Refuse Collection.....		121,550.00
Gaming Income .....		12,000.00
Interest Revenue .....		2,500.00
Video Lottery.....		500.00
Miscellaneous Revenue.....		5,000.00

**TOTAL ESTIMATED REVENUE (GENERAL FUND).....\$ 458,868.00**

### COAL SEVERANCE TAX FUND

**REVENUE SOURCE**

Unassigned Balance (July 1) .....	\$	50.00
Coal Severance .....		2,500.00
Interest Income .....		70.00

**TOTAL ESTIMATED REVENUE (COAL SEVERANCE FUND) .....\$ 2,620.00**

### ESTIMATED CURRENT EXPENDITURES

	General Fund	Coal Severance
Mayor's Office.....	5,700.00	
City Council.....	10,500.00	
Recorder's Office.....	3,480.00	
City Clerk's Office.....	97,000.00	
Dues to Regional Council.....	800.00	
Elections .....	1,200.00	
City Hall.....	177,870.00	
Fire Department .....	1,000.00	
Emergency Services .....	1,000.00	
Streets & Highways.....	16,000.00	
Street Lights.....	20,000.00	
Garbage Department .....	103,318.00	
Parks & Recreation .....	10,000.00	2,620.00
Visitor's Bureau .....	10,000.00	
Library.....	1,000.00	

**TOTAL ESTIMATED EXPENDITURES ..... 458,868.00 \$ 2,620.00**

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA  
COUNTY OF PENDLETON  
MUNICIPALITY OF FRANKLIN  
I, CHARLES FRANKLIN WEHRLE JR, CLERK OF SAID MUNICIPALITY DO HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE FOREGOING ARE TRUE COPIES FROM THE RECORDS OF ORDERS MADE AND ENTERED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE SAID MUNICIPALITY ON THE 18TH DAY OF MARCH, 2025.

CHARLES FRANKLIN WEHRLE JR. 4-10-2c

deposit in cash, cashier's check, certified check, or any other means acceptable to the Special Commissioners, on the above referenced day of sale will be required with regard to the tract or parcel of real estate offered for sale herein, with the balance thereof to be paid in full upon the delivery of the Special Warranty Deed, which said delivery shall take place not more than thirty (30) days, subsequent to confirmation of the sale by the Circuit Court of Pendleton County, West Virginia. Failure to close within the applicable time frame will cause a forfeiture of the deposit paid.

Prospective bidders are invited to contact Special Commissioner, James Paul Geary, II, (304) 257-4155, Special Commissioner, G. Isaac Sponaugle, III (304) 358-2337, or Special Commissioner, Nathan H. Walters, (304) 530-6618 to view and/or inspect the real estate and to make any inquiries related thereto. Please contact either of your aforesaid Special Commissioners for any additional information and/or pictures depicting the real estate offered for sale.

**James Paul Geary, II,**

**MUNICIPALITY OF FRANKLIN, WEST VIRGINIA**  
**Regular Current Expense Levy**  
**FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2025 - JUNE 30, 2026**

Certificate of Valuation for Tax Purposes		Rate
\$	0	1
	0	
\$	0	

<b>CLASS II</b>					
Real Estate	\$ 23,236,710	25.00		\$	58,092
Personal Property	26,682				67
Total Class II	\$ 23,263,392				\$ 58,158

<b>Class IV</b>					
Real Estate	\$ 12,522,050	50.00		\$	62,610
Personal Property	6,027,381				30,137
Public Utility	2,714,846				13,574
Total Class IV	\$ 21,264,277				\$ 106,321

<b>Total Value &amp; Projected Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 44,527,669</b>			<b>\$</b>	<b>164,480</b>
--	----------------------	--	--	-----------	----------------

Less Delinquencies, Exonerations, & Uncollectable Taxes. ....5.00%

Less Tax Discounts (use Total Projected Revenue to calculate) .....2.00%

Less Allowance for Tax Increment Financing (if Applicable).....

**Total Projected Property Tax Collection..... \$ 153,131**

Less Assessor Valuation Fund .....2.00% 3,063  
(Subtracted from regular current expense taxes levied only)

**Net Amount to be Raised by Levy of Property Taxes..... \$ 150,068**

**2025-2026 Fiscal Year**  
**LEVY ESTIMATE — BUDGET DOCUMENT**

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA  
MUNICIPALITY OF FRANKLIN

In accordance with Code 11-8-14, as amended, the Council proceeded to make an estimate of the amounts necessary to be raised by levy of taxes for the current fiscal year, and does determine and estimate the several amounts to be as follows:

The amount due and the amount that will become due and collectible from every source during the fiscal year INCLUDING THE LEVY OF TAXES, is as follows:

<b>REVENUE SOURCE</b>		
Assigned Balance (July 1).....	\$	25,000.00
Property Taxes .....		150,068.00
Gas and Oil Severance Tax .....		6,000.00
Excise Tax on Utilities.....		45,000.00
Wine and Liquor Tax .....		25,000.00
Animal Control Tax .....		250.00
Hotel Occupancy Tax .....		20,000.00
Fines, Fees & Court Costs .....		1,000.00
Licenses .....		5,000.00
Building Permit Fees .....		2,000.00
Franchise Fees .....		3,000.00
IRP Fees .....		35,000.00
Refuse Collection.....		121,550.00
Gaming Income .....		12,000.00
Interest Revenue .....		2,500.00



# County Students Place in Regional Science Fair



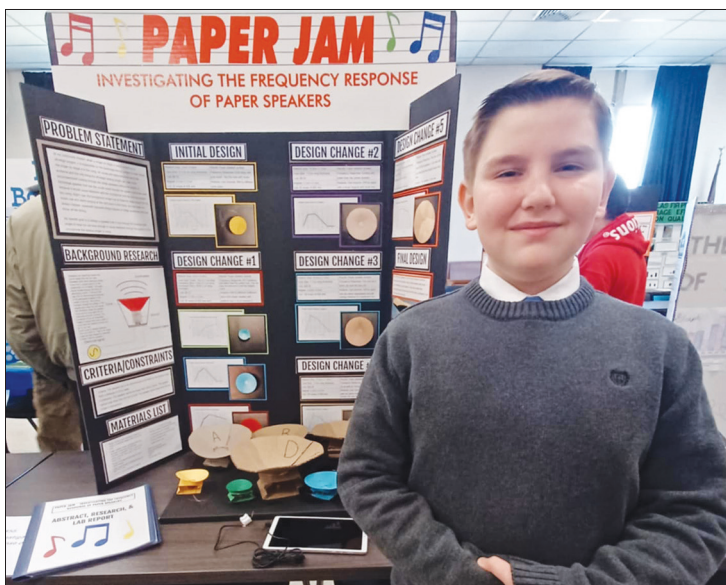
Lauren Williams

Three Pendleton County students took their projects to the Regional Science Fair and came home with winnings. The fair was held Feb. 7 at the West Virginia School for the Deaf and Blind in Romney.

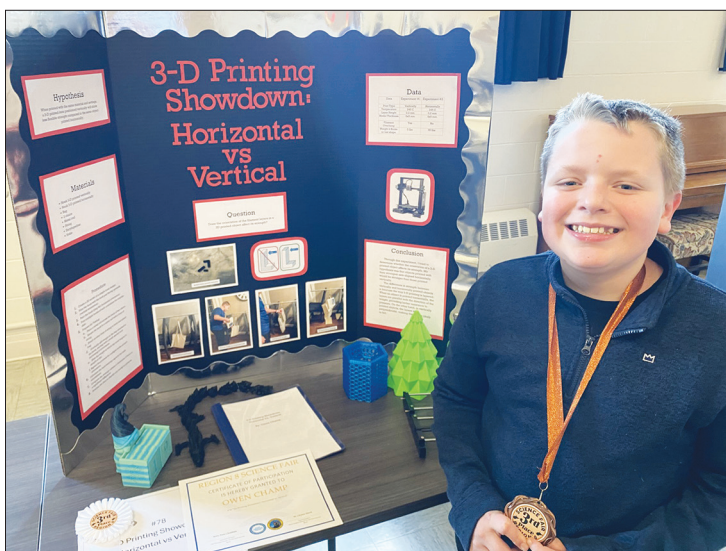
Lauren Williams, earned first place with her project, “Plantastic Growth” in the plant science division. A Pendleton County Middle School student, she advanced to the state competition on March 10 where she placed third in her division.

Owen Champ, a Brandywine Elementary School student, placed third in his technology division. His project was titled “3-D Printing Showdown: Horizontal or Vertical.”

“Paper Jam: Investigating the Frequency Response of Paper Speakers” was the title of Ross Pownell’s entry. A student at Franklin Elementary School, he placed third in his engineering category.



Ross Pownell



Owen Champ

# Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program Announced

The West Virginia Department of Agriculture is pleased to announce the return of the West Virginia Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program.

The SFMNP is designed to help low-income senior citizens access fresh, local fruit and vegetables. Seniors sign up for the vouchers at their county-level senior center. Applications will be available after June 1.

Farmers wishing to participate in the program should note that applications are currently available and due no later than April 15. Information and applications can be found at Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program: West Virginia Department of Agriculture (wv.gov).

For more information, contact SeniorFarmersMarket@wvda.us or Amanda Kittel at akittel@wvda.us or 304-558-2210.

# SIDS Discovery Could Identify Babies at Risk

New research from the University of Virginia School of Medicine in Charlottesville, Virginia, reveals that fingerprints of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome within blood samples could open the door to simple tests to identify babies at risk.

The findings also represent an important step forward in unraveling the causes of SIDS, an unexplained condition that is the Number 1 killer of babies between a month and a year old.

The UVA researchers analyzed blood serum samples collected from infants who died from SIDS and were able to identify specific biological indicators that were linked to — and potential causes of — the babies’ deaths.

Tests to identify such signs in infants could ultimately help save lives, the researchers say.

“Our study is the largest study to date that has attempted to detect how these small molecules in the blood may serve as biomarkers for SIDS,” said researcher Keith L. Keene, PhD, founding director of UVA’s Center for Health Equity and Precision Public Health and now at East Carolina University. “Our findings support a role for multiple key biological pathways and provide insight into how those biological processes may contribute to increased risk or serve to diagnose SIDS.”

The new research speaks to the potential of “metabolomics,” the analysis of substances called metabolites produced by cells, for better understanding and treating complex diseases, the scientists say.

In their SIDS work, the UVA researchers analyzed blood serum samples collected from 300 babies included in the Chicago Infant Mortality Study and the National Institutes of Health’s NeuroBioBank. The researchers assessed levels of 828 different metabolites in key biological processes such as nerve cell communication, stress response and hormone regulation — processes that could be contributors to SIDS.

After adjusting for factors that could bias the results, such as the infants’ age, sex, and race and ethnicity, the researchers identified 35 predictors of SIDS. These “biomarkers” included ornithine, a substance critical to the body’s ability to dispose of ammonia in urine. The amino acid has already been identified as a potential contributor to SIDS.

Another predictor was a lipid metabolite that is critical for brain and lung health. This metabolite is already considered a potential indicator for the development of fetal heart defects during the first trimester of pregnancy.

“We found differences in specific fats, called sphingomyelins, which are critical for brain and lung development,” said researcher Chad Aldridge, DPT, MS-CR, of the School of Medicine’s Department of Neurology. “Differences in these fats may disrupt these critical processes, placing some infants at risk for SIDS.”

The UVA scientists caution that further research is needed to determine if the metabolites are contributing to SIDS. But the findings lay an important foundation, they say, for unraveling the mysteries of SIDS and developing blood tests that could potentially save new parents from heartbreak.

“The results of this study are very exciting — we are getting closer to explaining the pathways leading to a SIDS death,” said researcher Fern R. Hauck, MD, MS, a family medicine physician at UVA Health, director of the Chicago Infant Mortality Study and a leading expert on SIDS. “Our hope is that this research lays the groundwork to help identify — through simple blood tests — infants who are at higher risk for SIDS and to save these precious lives.”

## Commercial Real Estate for Sale

- 4000+ square foot building on 1.74 acres with an additional concrete pad and has some riverfront property. Building has been approx. 80% renovated.
  - Working poultry farm currently in operation with Perdue located in Upper Tract, WV. Two 300' chicken egg laying houses adjoined by the workroom on 3.84 acres.
- Call for details - (304) 249-5023 or (304) 902-0512

## MARTIN'S NATIVE LUMBER

Dayton, VA

**Trusses • Lumber**

**Building Materials**

**Fencing Materials**

**All Your Decking Needs**

**Metal Roofing and Siding**

**Call toll free 888-879-2518**

**Fax 540-879-2510**

**“We Deliver To Grant, Hardy, Pendleton and Randolph Counties”**

## GARRY L. SIMMONS

### REAL ESTATE

540-810-3379 BROKER 304-902-9119

[garrysimmons38@yahoo.com](mailto:garrysimmons38@yahoo.com)

**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. **\$84,000**

**FRANKLIN**, Birchwood Drive, 3BR, 1.5 bath, brick ranch house. **\$229,000 \$209,000 REDUCED \$198,000.**

**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.**

*Licensed in West Virginia - Virginia - Florida*

**278 Maple Ave., Franklin, WV 26807**

## Spring Into Savings

## TED DAVIS AUTO SALES

Rt. 33 East, Riverton

**304-567-2999 • 1-800-547-2999**

**Pictures and Full Description of ALL Our Inventory**

**Online at [teddavisautosales.com](http://teddavisautosales.com)**

### GREAT FINANCING RATES NOW AVAILABLE

TRUCKS	SALE
2023 CHEVY SILVERADO 2500 HD CREW CAB S/BED 4X4, Z-71 pkg., diesel, auto., ldd., white, only 30K miles.....	\$54,900
2023 RAM 2500 CREW CAB SHORTBED 4X4 “BIGHORN EDITION,” 6.7 Cummins diesel, ldd., white, only 3K miles.....	<b>“SPECIAL” \$64,900 \$59,500</b>
2022 FORD F-250 CREW CAB S/BED 4X4, XLT pkg., 6.7 diesel, auto., ldd., white, 81K miles .....	\$46,900
2022 FORD E-450 CUTAWAY UTILITY TRUCK, 7.3 gas, auto., refrigerated enclosed body, only 38K miles .....	\$24,900
2021 FORD RANGER CREW CAB S/BED STX 4X4, 2.3 liter, auto., ldd., blue, 95K miles .....	\$27,900
2019 FORD RANGER XL CREW CAB S/BED 4X4, 2.3 liter, auto., ldd., 51K miles, ex. cond.....	\$28,500
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
2017 NISSAN FRONTIER SV CREW CAB 4X4, V-6, auto., ldd., blue, 85K miles.....	\$19,900
2016 FORD F-250 LARIAT CREW/CAB S/BED 4X4, 6.7 diesel, auto., ldd., white, 173K miles, Texas truck.....	\$29,500
2012 FORD F-350 REGULAR CAB 4X4 UTILITY TRUCK, V-8 gas, auto., air, etc., on-board compressor, diesel fuel tank, hydraulic liftgate, etc., 147K miles, runs excellent .....	\$16,900
PASSENGER VEHICLES	SALE
2022 FORD BRONCO 4-DR HARD TOP 4X4, Saquatch pkg., 6-spd., ldd., green, only 22K miles.....	\$39,500
2022 NISSAN ROGUE SV AWD, 4-cyl., auto., ldd., charcoal, 104K miles .....	\$17,900
2020 NISSAN ROGUE SL AWD, 4-cyl., auto., ldd., leather, moonroof, navigation, etc. silver, only 48K miles .....	<b>SPECIAL \$25,900 \$23,500 \$22,900</b>
2019 FORD EXPLORER XLT AWD, V-6, auto., ldd., white, one owner w/111K miles, ex. cond.....	\$21,900
2019 FORD EDGE SEL AWD, 2.0 liter, 4-cyl., auto., ldd., charcoal, 131K miles .....	\$17,900
2019 DODGE JOURNEY GT AWD, V-6, auto., ldd., 56K miles, black, very sporty 3rd row SUV .....	<b>SPECIAL \$24,900 \$21,900</b>
2018 TOYOTA 4-RUNNER LIMITED 4X4, V-6, auto., ldd., pearl white, 110K miles.....	<b>SPECIAL \$34,900 \$32,900</b>
2018 DODGE GRAND CARAVAN, V-6, auto., ldd., charcoal, 106K highway miles .....	<b>SPECIAL \$17,900 \$15,900</b>
2016 FORD EXPLORER XLT AWD, 2.3 liter, auto., ldd., leather, moonroof, etc., charcoal, local trade w/only 33K miles.....	\$14,900
2016 FORD EXPEDITION PLATINUM 4X4, Ecoboost V-6, auto., ldd., black, 152K miles .....	\$17,900
2015 FORD EXPLORER SPORT AWD, Ecoboost V-6, auto., ldd., black, 137K miles, in excellent condition .....	<b>SPECIAL \$17,900 \$15,900</b>
2013 JEEP WRANGLER 4-DR HARD TOP “SPORT PKG,” V-6, auto., ldd., black, 147K miles, ex. cond.....	\$16,900
2005 FORD ESCAPE LIMITED AWD, V-6, auto., ldd., one owner w/85K miles .....	\$7,995
1997 FORD MUSTANG COBRA CONVERTIBLE, V-8, 5-spd., ldd, leather, etc., only 49,000 actual miles .....	\$19,900
1968 PLYMOUTH BARRACUDA 2-DR HARD TOP, built 318 V-8, auto., p. steering, p. disc brakes, etc., very sharp car .....	<b>FOR ONLY \$26,900</b>

## Sugar Grove Realty, Inc.

39 Maple Ave  
PO Box 999  
Franklin, WV 26807

[sugargrovewv.com](http://sugargrovewv.com)

304.358.3332/3337 304.358.3334 (fax)

Jeffrey S. Bowers, Broker C **304.668.0002**

Stuart Bowers, Sales Agent C **304.668.1147**

Tommy A. Roberson, Sales Agent **304.358.7610**

Penny K. Lambert, Sales Agent C **304.668.2975**

Jennifer Raines, Sales Agent **304.851.3522**

Kelly Roby, Sales Agent **304.257.8859**

### FOR PHOTOS AND MUCH MORE ABOUT THESE PROPERTIES VISIT [WWW.SUGARGROVEWV.COM](http://WWW.SUGARGROVEWV.COM)

**SGR367A** 2.75 Acre wooded building lot at end of Highland Estates Subdivision, Lot 13, Grant County, Perk approved. Some restrictions. **\$59,999.00.**

**SGR366A** 5 Acres w/Cabin, Buck Ridges Development. Panoramic View. Lots of upgrades: New Vinyl Siding, New flooring throughout, New Solid Surface Countertop, Freshly Painted, New Door. Two bed, Two Bath, Large Loft. Finished walkout basement. Hot Tub conveys. 1000 gallon Cistern supplies water to cabin. New 8x12 storage shed. New 1 car garage. **NEW LISTING \$320,000.00.**

**SGR365A** 0.84 Acres, Public Water access. Road Frontage along RT 33E, Bethel District. **NEW LISTING \$29,900.00.**

**SGR364A** 2.65 Acres w/2006, 3 Bed, 2 Bath Ranch Modular, Hardwood floors, New Metal Roof, Well, Septic, 2 Car Garage & separate 30'x40' Steel 2 Bay Garage w/concrete floor. Located in Riverton. **NEW LISTING \$349,000.00 REDUCED \$299,000.00.**

**SGR363A** 3 Bed, 1 Bath Home located in Franklin Corp., Heat Pump, Propane Wall Unit, Electric Baseboard and Central AC, Town Water & Sewer, Double Pane Windows, Deck, One Car Garage & Storage Shed. **NEW LISTING \$169,000.00.**

**SGR362A** 29.9 Acres, mostly wooded, located in Hammer Run. Septic, Electric, Franklin District, Pendleton County. **NEW LISTING \$199,999.00.**

**SGR361A** 1.32 Acres w/4 currently rented residences located in Brandywine, Bethel District. Public Water. **NEW LISTING \$134,900.00.**

**SGR360A** 0.98 Ac. in Brandywine, w/2 Unit Apartment Bldg. and a 3 Bedroom Mobile Home. All units occupied. **NEW LISTING \$129,900.00.**

**SGR359A** 4.35 Acres w/3 Units, located on Big Stony Rd., Sugar Grove District. **\$199,000.00.**

**SGR357A** 0.44 Acres w/4 Bed, 2 Bath Home, circa 1937. Charming home with lots of character. Newly sealed metal roof, Public Water, Sewer, AC, Window units, Oil furnace, 2 car unattached garage. Unfinished basement with half bath. **\$249,000.00.**

**SGR355A** 0.241 Acres w/4 Bed, 2 Bath 2475 sq ft home located in the town of Franklin. Finished basement, covered 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.**

**SGR351A** 1.53 Acres w/3 Bed, 1 Bath Rancher. Attached Garage, 16'x20' Unattached Garage. Kellers Ridge, Petersburg. **\$349,000.00 REDUCED \$239,000.00.**

**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.**

**SGR343A** 5 Acre lot w/Log Siding Cabin, Buck Ridges Development. Great View. 2 Bed, 2.5 Baths. Walkout Basement with newly remodeled bath. New carpeting in Basement. Expansive covered deck provides even more outdoor living space to enjoy. Wood floors upstairs. Spring Water. **\$283,000.00.**

**SGR340A** 327.98 Acres, with 4 Bed, 3.5 Bath Home w/2 car garage and Barn. Property adjoins lands owned by Fisher Mtn. Golf Course. Expansive view of Shenandoah Mountain and Fisher Mountain Golf Course. Year round spring-fed creek w/several other Springs and nice bldg. sites. **NEW LISTING \$2,250,000.00.**

**SGR337A** 2.79 Acres, w/2 Bed, 1 Bath Cabin. Wood Ceiling. Paneled walls, LP heat. 8'x8' outbuilding. Well, Sugar Grove District. **NEW LISTING \$429,000.00 REDUCED \$149,000.00 REDUCED \$99,900.00.**

**SGR327A** 0.44 Acres w/3 Bed, 2 Bath Rancher Fixer Upper. Selling “AS IS”. New Flooring, New Appliances, New AC Mini Split Unit. Located in Brandywine, South Fork Crossing. Newly rehabbed. Some Restrictions. **\$409,000.00 \$404,900.00 \$99,900.00 REDUCED \$89,900.00.**

**SGR326A** 141.74 Acres, Raw Land, Buffalo Hills. Excellent Hunting. Franklin District. **\$379,000.00.**

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

**SGR302A** “The Hollow” Restaurant, fully furnished, at the corner of US RT 220/US RT 33W, Franklin. Property adjoins neighboring motel. **\$425,000.00 \$320,000.00 REDUCED \$299,000.00 REDUCED \$229,000.00.**

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

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

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

# Check Out Our Website

# Pendletontimes.com