

# THE PENDLETON TIMES

*Serving the Community since 1913*

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## A New Day Dawns on a Half-Century Old Facility in Riverton



Dignitaries from Pendleton, Grant, and Pocahontas counties gathered to celebrate the reopening of the historic saw mill.

By Stephen Smoot

“Lumber production is destined to rise in Pendleton County as a result of a new band sawmill which went into operation near Riverton last week.”

That sentence opened an article published in the Pendleton Times on Dec. 13, 1973. It applies just as well to the same publication’s April 3, 2025, edition as well. Last week, dignitaries from Pendleton and Grant

counties gathered to celebrate the opening of operations by Riverton Lumber Products, LLC.

Thomas and Patrick Evelyn, two Virginia businessmen, purchased the facility, which had been the original operation for the now defunct Allegheny Wood Products. They have owned sawmills in Virginia, but have recently expanded their footprint into the Mountain State, also purchasing Kessel Lumber near Keyser in Mineral County.

Patrick Evelyn shared that one of the most convincing reasons to reopen the Riverton mill lay in the reputation of the Pendleton County workforce. “You have good, hardworking people here in Pendleton County,” he praised, then added “some of the hardest working people in the country.”

Riverton Lumber Products, LLC’s Mark Redman, who coordinates the transport of materials and finished products, praised Gerald Sites for playing a key role in

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Eastern Action brought a trailer of information and supplies to the North Fork Baptist Church community lunch last week.

## North Fork Baptist Church Teams Up with Eastern Action To Serve the Community

By Stephen Smoot

Serving the community can take many forms. For example, Jesus fed the multitudes from a basket of bread and fishes. He preached the Gospel,

comforted and healed the afflicted, but also told the truth about salvation and what it takes to achieve it.

Last week, North Fork Baptist Church and Eastern Action teamed up to do a maximum amount of good

through different forms of service, both godly and earthly.

The day started at noon with a community lunch hosted by the church. People came from up and down the North Fork Valley and also from across the mountain to join.

Pastor Mike Clements started off by leading all who came in “a beautiful, beautiful old hymn,” well-known to all, “The Old Rugged Cross.” Almost all joined in as the pastor delivered the hymn in a rich baritone as 10 ladies and gentlemen made the final preparations for the lunch.

After the song concluded, Clements stated, “We’re excited that you are here” because “we get to share Jesus with you also.”

Next, Linda Hedrick rose to deliver a message of praise and hope. She said, “Jesus came for us sinners,” then added, “Salvation is for you today, not tomorrow, not next week. We are not guaranteed tomorrow.”

Hedrick then quoted from 2 Corinthians 6:2, saying, “Behold, now is the day of salvation.” She added, “How do I know it’s for everyone? John 3:16 says whosoever believeth in me shall not perish.”

Clements then spoke again, explaining that “our church has recently been learning about salvation.” He stated that “it’s not a checklist. It’s a relationship with our Lord Jesus Christ.” Those seeking salvation can take comfort in the fact that “every single

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## Heroes Celebrated, Honored, and Supported at Community Building



Franklin Volunteer Fire Department and Pendleton County Emergency Rescue showed off their vehicles to kids of all ages.

By Stephen Smoot

The Family Resource Center of Pendleton County has taken its act on the road during the past two weeks. After a joint community event with Riverton’s North Fork Baptist Church, the FRC invited partners in social services, first responders, and others to undertake a resource fair at the Pendleton Community Building in Franklin.

Representatives from the Pendleton County Office of Emergency Management and the West Virginia Division of Forestry set up tables inside to speak about safety. Children were delighted to find Smokey Bear on hand to help warn about outdoor fire dangers.

Outside of the building, Pendleton County Emergency Rescue Squad and the Franklin Volunteer Fire Department had vehicles on hand for kids to peer into and ask about.

Much of the focus also lay on helping children and supporting families, due to the onset of National Child Abuse Awareness month.

Brenda Witt, who described herself as “one of Edna’s volunteers” manned the Partnership In Prevention table full of brochures for



Smokey Bear helped the West Virginia Division of Forestry teach kids that “only you can prevent forest fires.”

different kinds of people who needed different kinds of help.

That included the SSVF program, which stands for Supportive Services for Veterans’ Families. Eligible families can receive emergency assistance to prevent veterans from becoming homeless or find homes for veterans currently without.

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## ‘We’ll Be in Very Solid Shape, But There Are Concerns’ as Board of Education Hears Budget Forecast for Next Year

By Stephen Smoot

While some school systems across West Virginia have foundered on finances, Pendleton County Schools has experienced relatively smooth sailing. As J. P. Mowery, financial officer, shared in a thorough update last week, however, the system’s financially conservative approach may soon require a further trimming of the sails due to expected cutbacks from both the state and federal levels.

Before Mowery’s presentation, board members heard about Pendleton County being one of two in the state lacking a Head Start program.

Such programs must take place in school-owned facilities. The child care center located in the board central office facility opted to not add preschool type program-

ming.

Wilma Pitsenbarger, board member, questioned why they did not wish to take on that role. It was explained that they would need to meet added requirements and certifications “that our school teachers have.”

She then shared that she is taking a course on preschool education and child care at Eastern West Virginia Community and Technical College. Pitsenbarger noted that “might be something to think about down the road.”

After that discussion, board members heard the roster of newly hired personnel. That included many of the positions needed to run the summer’s Energy Express program, as well as the hiring of Derek Lambert as the new principal of Pendleton County Middle/High School.

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## Community CALENDAR

### Post 9666 To Meet

VFW Post 9666 will meet at 6:30 p.m. April 10 at the post home in Sugar Grove.

### Post 30 To Meet

American Legion Pendleton Post 30 will meet at 6:30 p.m. April 9 at the Star Restaurant in Franklin.

### 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 St. John and Mt. Hope Lutheran churches. The message will be delivered by Paul Schafer, pastor of the Mountain Lutheran Parish.

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

### Bloodmobile To Be Here Monday

The American Red Cross Bloodmobile will be at the Pendleton County Library in Franklin from noon until 5 p.m. Monday.

### Jam Session To Be Held Saturday

Music jam session is scheduled to begin at 6 p.m. Saturday at the Clinton Hedrick Community Building, in Riverton. Everyone is welcome to attend.

### Family Support Center in Franklin Sponsors Activity

The Pendleton County Strive to Thrive Family Support Center on Main Street in Franklin is sponsoring a grounds for discussion program at 9:30 a.m. April 9 at the center.

For more information, call 304-538-7711.

### Gospel Concert Set for Sunday

The New Valley Four Quartet, along with members of the original Valley Four Quartet, will be in concert at 6 p.m. Sunday at Christ Central Community Church in Upper Tract.

Everyone is invited to come out for an evening of great music and fellowship.





Dennis Ray Shirk, Sr.

Dennis Ray Shirk, Sr., 82, of Essex, Maryland, and formerly of Seneca Rocks passed away on March 22, 2025, at Medstar Good Samaritan Hospital in Baltimore, Maryland.

He was born on May 23, 1942, in Seneca Rocks, WV and was a son of the late Homer P. Shirk and Mae (Vance) Shirk.

Mr. Shirk loved his family. He was a private person, honest and hard-working. He never met a stranger.

He loved watching sports and playing cards with his brother and sisters. He enjoyed gardening and tinkering in the yard fixing things.

He will be deeply missed, but the family knows he is at rest with the Lord in heaven, with those he loves.

His wife of 61 years, Dixie Lee (George) Shirk, survives.

Also surviving are four children, Dana Jackson and husband, Evans of Saint Pauls, North Carolina, Tonya Ours and husband, Melvin of Rough Run, Dennis Shirk, Jr. and wife, Katie of Canandaigua, New York, and Derek Shirk of Abingdon, Maryland; four grandchildren, Megan Willis of Saint Pauls, North Carolina, Jordan Ketterman of Rough Run, and Dennis Shirk, III, and Ryan Shirk, both of Canandaigua, New York; three sisters: Mary Shirk of Baltimore, Maryland, Helen Nelson of Belair, Maryland, and Marie Rosario of Quakertown, Pennsylvania; a brother, John Shirk of Sparrows Point, Maryland; and many, many nieces and nephews whom he loved dearly.

He was also preceded in death by a brother, Loy Dale Shirk; and a sister, Betty Jean Cunningham.

Graveside services were conducted at the North Fork Memorial Cemetery in Riverton with Pastor Jim Tompkins officiating. Burial followed in the North Fork Memorial Cemetery.

Online condolences may be made at [www.schaefferfuneralhome.com](http://www.schaefferfuneralhome.com).

Arrangements were by Schaeffer Funeral Home in Petersburg.



Pastor Joseph Byron Embleton, Jr.

Pastor Joseph Byron Embleton, Jr., 78, of Franklin passed away on March 24, 2025, at his home.

He was born on Sept. 11, 1946, in Baltimore, Maryland, the son of the late Sarah (Goodman) Embleton and Joseph Byron Embleton, Sr.

Mr. Embleton was a graduate of Arundel High School and a veteran of the United States Navy.

Later in life, he became an ordained minister and was co-pastor at Redeeming Grace Outreach Worship Center in Franklin.

For fun, he loved working outdoors. He enjoyed hunting, fishing and watching sports. His favorite activity was studying God's word.

On May 28, 1998, he married Janet (Simmons) Embleton, who survives.

In addition to his wife, he leaves behind to cherish his memory a daughter, Dawn Marie Custer (Joseph) of Stevensville, Maryland; three sons, Joseph B. Embleton III (Lolita) of Oakland, Maryland, Christopher Simmons (Victoria) of Franklin and Sean Simmons (Andrea) of Circleville; a sister, Gerri Poist of Catonsville, Maryland; four brothers, William Embleton (Pat) of Bel Air, Maryland, Don Embleton of Glen Burnie, Maryland, Mike Embleton (Kay) of Magadore, Ohio, and Ron Embleton (Pat) of Kentucky; 10 grandchildren, Valerie Marie Embleton, Joseph Byron Embleton IV, Madison Jolie Embleton, Preston Michael Nichols, Joshua Jacob Nichols, Noah Matthew Nichols, Madilynn Grace Simmons, Linley Madison Wyatt, Brennan Lincoln Wyatt and Cameron Riley Wyatt; and a great-grandson, Aiden Young.

Funeral services were held Sunday chapel in the chapel of the Basagic Funeral Home in Franklin with Pastor Jason Boggs officiating.

Memorials may be made to Redeeming Grace Outreach Worship Center.

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



Arlin Dale Jamison

Arlin Dale Jamison, 87, of Franklin passed away on March 28, 2025, at the Pendleton Manor in Franklin, surrounded by his family.

He was born on June 7, 1937, in Moyers, the son of the late Dewey Marcelles and Shirley Ruth (Hoover) Jamison.

Mr. Jamison was known for his incredible work ethic. He was a heavy equipment operator for a number of contractors. He worked on numerous projects for the Soil Conservation Service, where he constructed flood control dams around the area. He took pride in his work and loved pointing out his dams to friends and family whenever possible.

He had three main loves: his wife, Freda, fishing, and hunting. He had tons of "fish stories," but his were actually true. His envious fishing skills earned him several trophy fish, receiving citations for rainbow and brook trout. If he wasn't at the river, he was probably in the woods hunting deer, turkeys, squirrels, raccoons, rabbits, or even bear with his beloved hunting dogs.

His main passion was his family, and he loved Christmas, Sunday dinners, and cookouts with his family. He was delighted to bounce his precious grandchildren and great-grandchildren on his knee, while singing them a song or whistling a catchy tune.

On Dec. 29, 1959, he married the love of his life and

his wife of 65 years, Freda Mae (Moyers) Jamison.

Also surviving are three sons, Dennis Jamison (Sharon) and Steven Lee Jamison, all of Franklin and David Jamison (Terri) of Blue Grass, Virginia; four grandchildren, Savannah Flanigan (Shawn) and Travis Jamison, all of Franklin, Brian Jamison (Kelsey) of Staunton, Virginia, and Tyler Jamison (Nicole) of Waynesboro, Virginia; three great-grandchildren, Sicily and Silas Flanigan, and Nathaniel Jamison; a brother, Gary Jamison of Franklin; nine nephews, Rick Neil, Terry Neil, Michael Jamison, Dustin Simmons, Philip Simmons, James Eye, Terry Eye, Alan Moyers and Timmy Hamilton; and six nieces, Teresa Duncan, Vanessa Moats, Sonya Propst, Melonie Davis, Shawn Moyers, and Jennifer Scott.

He was also preceded in death by two grandchildren, the Jamison twins; five siblings, Delmas Clyde Jamison, Anna Lynn Fleisher, Charles Henry Jamison, Maxine Fae Huffman, and Gearldine Mae Neil; four nephews, Wade Hamilton Neil, Greg Jamison, Charles Reed Fleisher and Erik Harper; a niece, Ella Sue Eye; and a sister-in-law, Jeanette Jamison.

Funeral services were held Wednesday at the Basagic Funeral Home chapel in Franklin with Pastor Paul Schaffer officiating. Interment was at Cedar Hill Cemetery in Franklin.

Memorials may be made to any Pendleton County Rescue Squad or PAWS.

Memories of words and 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*

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William David "Bill" Conley

William David "Bill" Conley, 90, of Sugar Grove passed away on March 21, 2025, at Chesapeake Regional Hospital in Chesapeake, Virginia.

He was born on Feb. 15, 1935, in Detroit, Michigan, the son of the late George W. Conley, Sr. and Hazel (Elkins) Conley.

Mr. Conley was a graduate of Oceana High School and was a United Methodist by faith.

He was dedicated to his country and he had served in the United States Army, U.S. Air Force, and retired from the U.S. Navy. He was a Vietnam veteran.

He had worked as a water engineer for 19 years for the City of Chesapeake, Virginia.

He was a kind-hearted, soft-spoken man, that enjoyed laughter with his friends. He loved fly fishing, hunting, watching Yellowstone, and bird watching. He was a member of the VFW.

He married Mary Jo (Burditus) Conley, the mother of his children and his wife of 31 years, who preceded him in death on Aug. 16, 1988. He was also married to Betty Frances (Hanna) Conley, his wife of 20 years, who preceded him in death on Nov. 1, 2016.

He leaves behind to cherish his memory a daughter, Kim Conley-Phillips (Bruce) of Chesapeake, Virginia; a son, William Conley, Jr. (Sheila) of Chesapeake, Virginia; six grandchildren, Heather Wood (Stephen), Chaz Fowler (Teddy), Skyler Ragsdale (Dani), Brooke Johnson (Austin), Morgan Gardner (Christopher), and Dalton Conley; six great-grandchildren, Kellon Johnson, Abigail Wood, Carter and Caden Garden, Rainey, and Kyle Fowler; and his companion/fur baby, "Tily."

He was also preceded in death by a daughter, Pamela Fowler; siblings, Sally, Conrad, and George; and a companion/fur baby, "Buttercup."

Funeral services were held Saturday at the Basagic Funeral Home chapel in Franklin with Pastor Jerry Smith officiating. Interment was at Pine Hill Cemetery in Brandywine with military honors by the U.S. Navy.

Memorials may be made to Our 5 Boys Post #9666 VFW, c/o George Armstrong.

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

## Thank You For Reading The Pendleton Times

## Volunteers needed to help survey County residents about changing Spruce Knob to Trump Mountain. Reply to Ralph Moyer [wwralph44@gmx.com](mailto:wwralph44@gmx.com)



### 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](mailto: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.

### State Mandated Assessing Underway

The Pendleton County Assessor's Office is doing their state mandated assessing on the real estate starting at Hardy County Line and will be traveling through Ft. Seybert, Oak Flat, Brandywine area and will be heading up to Sugar Grove, Moyers and will finish up this fall at the Highland County line.

They will be checking for any new construction and deletion of buildings. Our two appraisers will be visiting every parcel in these areas. They will be driving a 2024 Ford Ranger Silver in color and have signs that say Assessor's Office on each side of the vehicle doors. Please be courteous to these two county employees who are working diligently for the county and are doing what the West Virginia state code requires them to do for taxation purposes. They are working for you and Pendleton County. If you have locked a gate please call and set up an appointment with us on getting access to your property.

*Please remind your elderly family they will be by for a visit.*

Questions, contact Sandie Smith, Pendleton County Assessor, at 304-358-2563.



# April Is Child Abuse Awareness Month

“Powered by Hope, Strengthened by Prevention” is the 2025 national theme for Child Abuse Awareness Month. Families are at the center of the West Virginia Partners in Prevention team’s vision, creating a world where all children and families are living a purposeful and happy life with hope for the future. By ensuring families have the support they need before challenges become crises, the team can create a future filled with hope and opportunity

Why does prevention matter?  
One in seven children in the United States experiences abuse or neglect, but prevention is possible. Positive childhood experiences, stable relationships and nurturing environments help children thrive and mitigate adverse childhood experiences.

Only 15 percent of the \$33 billion spent annually on child welfare goes toward prevention. Shifting resources to proactive solutions strengthens families and reduces harm. A bold goal for 2050 is to cut child abuse and neglect reports in half, protecting 50 million children by building a primary prevention ecosystem that centers on families.

The PIP team is making a call to action. Prevention is a shared responsibility. Families, communities, policymakers, and organizations must work together to provide the following:

- Economic and social support through

affordable childcare, paid leave, and financial stability.

- Community-based solutions by providing access to local resources and networks.

- Stronger prevention policies that make investments that uplift families before harm occurs.

PIP’s approach is a primary prevention ecosystem in America that is leading the way with three key pillars: shared value for prevention to align mindsets and policies; prevention structures centering families in decision-making; and prevention resources for ensuring leadership, community support, and family strengthening policies become law.

How can a person help? One can advocate for family-centered policies like paid leave and increased prevention funding, raise awareness by share resources, engaging in conversations, and joining Wear Blue Day on April 4, and invest in prevention by supporting programs that empower families before crises arise.

“Powered by Hope, Strengthened by Prevention,” let’s commit to a future where every child grows up safe, loved, and full of hope. Prevention isn’t just about avoiding harm; it’s about creating opportunities for families to thrive. With hope as a person’s guide and prevention as one’s strength, everyone can build a world where every family has what they need to succeed.

# Volunteers Sought for High Knob Tower Preservation Project

HistoriCorps and the George Washington and Jefferson National Forests are seeking volunteers of all skill levels to help rehabilitate the historic High Knob Tower, with multiple week-long volunteer opportunities running from May 25 - June 20. Those interested in volunteering can visit [www.historiccorps.org](http://www.historiccorps.org) to register for the project and learn more about other HistoriCorps volunteer opportunities. HistoriCorps is a national 501(c)(3) non-profit dedicated to engaging volunteer workforces to preserve historic places and provide free mentorship in the preservation trades.

Rising atop the crest of Shenandoah Mountain is the High Knob Fire Tower, a one of a kind stone-constructed lookout tower built in the 1930s that symbolizes a pivotal era of forestry management and labor force cooperation. In 1939, construction began on the High Knob Fire Tower which sits directly on the border line of Virginia and West Virginia, rising just over 4,000 feet above sea level. As with many labor projects sprouting during the 1930s, President Franklin Roosevelt’s New Deal was keen to put out of work men to use, and the forest engaged post-war Veterans of World War I as a labor

force while also partnering with the local Civilian Conservation Corps Camp #2 of North River to build the stone fire tower. This year, HistoriCorps is returning to the rugged hills of West Virginia to engage in preservation work at the High Knob Fire Tower.

More volunteers are still needed to ensure the success of this project. HistoriCorps welcomes but does not require any experience in the trades; mentorship and all necessary tools are provided. Volunteer sessions are scheduled Sunday evening through Friday morning, and volunteers can expect all meals to be provided by expert field staff. Participants will have access to camping accommodations for tents, truck, car campers, campervans, trailers, and RVs 25 feet and under.

Project details: The tower is located on the Virginia and West Virginia borderline 22 miles northwest of Harrisonburg, Virginia. The handrailing around the deck will be rebuilt. The volunteer sessions are scheduled for May 25 - 30 (session one), June 1 - 6 (session two), June 8 - 13 (session three) and June 15 - 20 (session four).

For more information or to register for a volunteer session, visit [www.historiccorps.org](http://www.historiccorps.org), or email [info@historiccorps.org](mailto:info@historiccorps.org).

# Social Security Trustees’ Report Reveals Struggle to Keep Program Solvent in Near Future

By Stephen Smoot

One of the key components of the retirement planning of most Americans lies in the Old Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance program. Old Age and Survivors Insurance provides what many think of as Social Security benefits paid to those at or above the retirement age. The second component lies in the Disability Insurance program.

Financial operations of both annually come under the review of a board of trustees established by the Social Security Act. This board includes the United States Secretary of the Treasury serving as managing trustee, the U.S. Secretary of Labor, the U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services, and the U.S. Commissioner of Social Security.

Two other positions on the board are appointed and confirmed by the United States Senate, but as of last December, President Joe Biden had not filled those positions.

One of the most important functions of that board takes place every December. For 84 years, it has provided annual reports “on the actuarial status and financial operations of the OASI and DI Trust Funds.”

These reports come based on assumptions about the economy, demographics, and other factors set in the previous December. Assumptions tell much about the state of the nation in some key areas.

First, the report established the conditions under which Social Security operated as of 2023. Approximately 67 million received benefits from either of the two OASDI sources. Of that, 53 million received retirement related benefits, six million received payments because they survived deceased workers, and nine million received benefits for being disabled or the dependent of a disabled person.

“The DI program continued to have low levels of disability applications and benefit awards through 2023,” the report shared, then explained that “disability applications have declined since 2010 and the total number of disabled-worker beneficiaries in current payment status has been falling since 2014.

That said, the report assumed that “disability applications are expected to rise gradually from current low levels,” which takes a (nonpolitical, but financially speaking) conservative approach to estimating future trends.

In 2023, the total cost of Social Security totaled about \$1.392 billion while it took in a total income of \$1,351 billion. The report added that “asset reserves held in special issue U.S. Treasury securities declined from \$2,830 billion” in January 2023 to \$2,788 at the close of the year.

The report indicates that Social Security’s serious troubles have already started. “Under the trustees’ intermediate assumptions,” it states, “Social Security’s total cost is projected to be higher than its total income in 2024 and all later years.” Costs started to exceed income in 2021 and it has exceeded its income not counting interest accrued since 2010.

Reserves will start dropping sharply in the next eight years, according to the board. The \$2,788 billion held in January 2024 will shrink to \$551 billion by 2033, the end of what Social Security regards as the short-term future for the purposes of reporting and planning.

In 2030 reserves will drop to 84 percent of costs, then 25 percent in 2033,

if all conditions remain the same. When reserves drop below 100 percent of cost, “the combined OASI and DI Trust Funds fail the trustees’ test of short-range financial adequacy.” Taken separately, DI’s finances show much more stability than OASI, even in the long-term.

Reserves will be completely depleted by 2035 under current conditions.

Social Security regards “long-range” as extending through 2098.

“OASDI cost has generally increased much more rapidly than taxable payroll since 2008 and is projected to do so through 2040,” states the report. It goes on to explain that “the retirement of baby boom workers is increasing the beneficiaries much faster than the increase in number of covered workers.”

Part of the problem lies in lower birth rates. The board of trustees lowered the expected fertility rate from 2.0 to 1.9 as birthrates drop. After 2040, the trustees predict that the growth of the cost rate will gradually drop as the growth rate of new beneficiaries also declines.

This all adds up to a predicted shortfall of \$22.6 trillion in January 2024. Trustees state that, assuming conditions remain as predicted, “revenue would have to increase by an amount equivalent to an immediate (as of January 2024) 3.33 percentage points to 15.73 percent” and “scheduled benefits would have to be reduced to an amount equivalent to an immediate and permanent reduction of 20.8 percent applied to all current and future beneficiaries effective in January 2024.”

Should officials wait until the “drop dead” year of 2035, the payroll tax would have to rise just under 17 percent while benefits would have to drop by almost one quarter.

Conditions can change, however. If the attempted reorientation from a service economy to one centered on manufacturing under President Donald Trump succeeds, it will bring higher paying jobs, and thus more revenue. Younger generations may choose to have a stronger family orientation going forward. More children means more workers and more revenues.

Although a common accusation, neither the United States Congress nor any federal agency “raided” Social Security. The law allows lending between the OASI, DI, and the Medicare Trust Funds so that each fund can help the others, when needed, get through short-term cash flow issues.

Social Security’s problems stem mainly from demographics trends, such as the post World War II surge in births, that its creators could not have anticipated in the 1930s. Additionally, its original design saw it as supplemental income for retirees, not a sole source of post employment income for anyone. For many Americans, however, it has developed into the main or only income source for the household.

The slowly developing crisis in Social Security represents a canary in the federal government coal mine. Earlier this year, economic expert Stephen Moore wrote in the New York Post that “in the last 12 months the debt rose by another \$2 trillion. It’s as if borrowing is Congress’ crack cocaine habit” and stated that “both parties are addicted.”

He explained that such a condition could “trigger a financial crisis, or runaway inflation, due to its rivers of red ink.”

## 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.

**Physical signs of child abuse:**

- Unexplained injuries
- Poor growth
- Pregnancy
- Injuries that don’t match the explanation
- Sexually transmitted infection
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# Rituals of the Deceased Have Modified through the Years

## Sugar Grove

By Paula Mitchell

The writer has noted the number of deaths each week in The Pendleton Times. This means only one thing — that the population dynamic of the county is fast changing. The rite of the deceased has certainly changed from the seventeenth, eighteenth, and nineteenth centuries.

In those days of yore, communities assisted families with the burial of the deceased, often washing and dressing the body, and holding wakes to ensure the deceased hadn't "woken." This ritual, along with the funeral, often took place in the home.

Funeral practices had some detailed processes.

After washing, dressing, the deceased was laid out in the home. The body was usually prepared in a simple robe after which the body was kept in the home for several days before burial.

The mourning period varied. The widow might mourn for two-and-a-half years, with some choosing to wear black for the rest of their lives. A husband or wife might mourn from one to two years while a parent or grandparent from six months to a year. A child mourned their parents for a year, and a mother mourned their child for a year. Brothers and sisters mourned from six to eight months, and the mourning for uncles, aunts and cousins was six weeks to three months.

Services were often held in the home or church, with minimal ceremony and no sermons or eulogies. Burials would take place in the family yard, family cemetery (usually on a hill), or in a local graveyard.

Pallbearers, often younger men, carried the coffin, sometimes with elders walking alongside holding the pall.

Grave markers were initially simple, often wood or engraved stones, but later became more elaborate. Men would dig the grave, often taking a day or two, depending on the soil/rock encountered in the process. Oftentimes, river stones served as a headstone for those unable to afford a memorial with writing inscriptions.

As always, time changes. The Civil War led to the widespread use of embalming to preserve the soldiers' bodies for transport home. With the rise of embalming and funeral arrangement complexities, "undertakers," who later were known as funeral directors, began to take on the responsibility of taking on the funeral and arrangements. Funeral homes then arrived on the scene. Services such as casket selection and embalming became an everyday choice with funerals taking place either at the funeral chapel or in the place of worship.

Today, families are encouraged to incorporate unique elements to the service, such as video tributes, virtual funerals, online tributes, and themed services. Funerals are increasingly seen as a celebration of the deceased's life, rather than a somber event. Memorial donations are often given to the deceased wishes of the charity of choice, and sympathy cards sent to the family.

Life's little instructions include the following:

1. Flush toilets in public restrooms.
2. Give up one's seat to someone who needs it more.
3. Respect the line...no cutting.
4. Knock before entering a closed door.



*Pictured, from left, are Ada May Wilfong, Fred Moomau Simmons, and Carrie Elizabeth "Lizzie" Wilfong. Ada (March 25, 1896 - Dec. 16, 1978) married Martin Luther Moyers (June 14, 1893 - Oct. 11, 1971) and they had seven children. Fred (April 30, 1890 - Sept. 25, 1978) married "Lizzie" Wilfong (April 20, 1900 - Nov. 13, 1987) and they had six children. Fred and Lizzie lived in Possum Trot where the late Virgil and Jeanne Homan home is located.*

5. Don't gossip about someone who isn't present.

Although Earth Day is celebrated April 22. Trash pickup can be anytime, but most especially during the month of April before snakes arrive on the scene. Taking a stroll in the evenings with a Walmart bag is a great way to clean up around the home vicinity.

Quotes for the week are as follows:

"The biggest adventure you can take is to live the life of your dreams." — Oprah Winfrey

"Never interrupt someone doing something you said couldn't be done." — Amelia Earhart

"In any moment of decision, the best thing you can do is the right thing, the worst thing you can do is nothing." — Theodore Roosevelt

"When you win, nothing hurts." — Joe Namath

"Nothing is secret once you tell anyone. If you want to keep it quiet, don't tell a soul." — Richard Chamberlain.

Outside in a lawn chair is the best place to hear the "Talk of the Grove."

St. John Lutheran Church hosted a youth sleepover this past Friday. Sleep was the last thing on their minds as they enjoyed playing games, crafts, jumping in the bounce house, and eating pizza.

Friendly hummingbirds should make their appearance anytime in April. Filling their feeders with sugar water (not colored) is a sure way to welcome them back to the neighborhood.

Jim and Linda Rexrode's forsythia bushes are a golden sight to behold. One can motor around to behold the beauty of spring. Pidge Anderson has her vegetables and flowers planted and soon ready for those wishing to have a garden and do the beautification of one's yard. The "happy smile" is all set to welcome the motorists who travel to Sugar Grove.

Tom and Paula Mitchell have returned from visiting their daughter, Janelle, Destiny, and Jace in Charlotte, North Carolina.

Wesley, Becky, Ben, Emma and Nathan Puffenbarger, and Robert, Nancy, Matt and Robby Hodges spent the weekend at Lane Anna along with Andrew, Natalie and Bach Hodges celebrating

Andrew's 50th birthday.

Motoring to Northern Virginia to attend a friend's funeral on Friday was Phil Downs.

Brenda Fisher and Judy Rader joined the senior citizens on a bus trip to Washington, D.C., to see the Cherry Blossoms and other sights.

Attending the Bryan Bland funeral on Monday were Phil Downs, K.D. Puffenbarger, Ronnie Pitsenbarger, Wanda Pitsenbarger, Joanne Moyers, and Evelyn Varner.

Rita and John Todd enjoyed the wedding of their daughter, Sara, to Steve Tichnor, Saturday. The couple plans to make their residence in Rainelle.

Wanda Pitsenbarger of Franklin has reported that she has enjoyed several messes of dandelion that she harvested from her garden. She says that the dandelion is everywhere.

This week's clickety-clacks for the chin waggars are as follows:

- The space between a person's nostrils is called columella nasi.
- Honey never spills.
- The longest walking distance in the world is 14,000 miles.
- The bat is the only mammal that can fly.
- The Netherlands has no official capital city. Although Amsterdam is the most well-known and serves as the country's cultural hub.

Concerns are for the following: the Elizabeth Alt family, Charles Anderson, John Ashley, Roger Ashley, Mercedes Aumann, Dave Basagic, Allen Beachler, the Bryan Bland family, Liz and Mick Bodkin, "Bo" Boggs, Patty Chapman, Marie Cole, the Robert Cook family, Stanley Dahmer, the Thomas DeByl family, Phil Downs, Jennifer Errett, Isaac Eye, Marie Eye, Mary Eye, Carl Gant, the "Buck" Geary family, David Gillespie, the Lola Graham family, Patsy Green, JC Hammer, Steve and Armanda Heavner, Donald Hedrick, Hannah Hedrick, Jack and Starr Hedrick, George Hevener, Jim Hiner, Evan Hise, Tim, Edsel and Mary Ann Hogan, the Virgil Homan, Jr. family, Keith Hoover, Myrtle Hoover, Debbie Horst, the Arlin Dale Jamison family, Linda Jones, Richard Judy, Marsha Keller, the Ralph "Pete" Keplinger family, Tom and Kim Kline, Tracie Knight, Laura Kropp, Melissa Lambert, O'Dell 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, Angie 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 Ruddie, Mary Sawyers, Brit-tany Shriver, Annie Simmons, Erin Simmons, Eva Simmons, Greg Simmons, Judy Simmons, Natalie Stephenson, Nelson Simmons, Tonya Simon, Robbie Sites, Mike Skiles, Ed and Carolyn Smith, Natalie Stephenson, Tina Stuben, Steve Stump, Gary, Carol, and Jon Swecker, the Turner family, 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.

## Wildcats Pick Up Win in Cross-Border Competition

By Stephen Smoot

With four games under their belt, Pendleton County baseball has started well. Though the team took two losses to large school programs they also won two on an early season road trip into the Old Dominion.

After dropping the opener to Keyser, who afterwards pounded Putnam County's Poca and Nitro, the Wildcats ventured south to challenge Highland in Monterey, Virginia.

In the first two innings, the pitchers controlled the game. In the top of the first, Pendleton County mounted a threat when Caleb Armentrout singled to lead off the game. Travis Owens followed with a walk, followed by a single from Chase Owens. The ball hit to center was not deep enough to allow a run to score.

Highland's pitcher then settled in and got the next three hitters to pop out, then strike out twice.

Cashton Kisamore started for the Wildcats and pitched the first inning, using his defense to retire the side in order. In the subsequent inning, he walked three, but then took control, and got his team out of the inning with no damage.

Wildcat hitters got productive in the third. Travis Owens hit a single to left. As Chase Owens worked the pitcher, Travis Owens stole second and put himself in scoring position. Chase Owens then hit the ball to the opposite field. Putting the ball in right field gave Travis Owens a clear path home to score his team's initial run.

Chase Owens also stole second while Cole Harper was at the plate. Harper hit a ground ball to second, which gave the fleet of foot Chase Owens his chance to get home and double the lead.

Highland County answered in the bottom of the third. With one out, they belted two one-out singles. A sacrifice fly followed by a single helped the home team to knot the game at two, but from there the Wildcat pitching and defense would hold the line.

Pendleton County picked up a third run in the top of the fourth. Cooper Smith singled to left field, then Spencer Hartman picked up his teammate with a single to center. An error allowed Smith to score and put his team in the lead 3-2.

In the bottom of the fourth, Pendleton County changed pitchers again, calling on Caydan Boone. In the bottom of the fifth, Boone's shifty pitches bewildered Highland, leading him to strike out the side. In the sixth, Boone walked the leadoff hitter, but got the next batter to hit into a six-four-three double play executed by Hartman, Armentrout, and Harper.

The top of the fourth saw the Wildcats deliver at the plate repeatedly. With one out, Jonas Turner drew a walk. Armentrout followed with a blast to left field that put him on second and scored Turner. Travis Owens followed that with his own extra base hit, scoring Armentrout and pushing the advantage to 7-2.

The top of the seventh saw the Wildcats build on their commanding lead when Kisamore picked up a leadoff home run by hitting the pitch over the left field wall. Brody Sites followed

with a single. A Colby Simmons single put runners at first and third for Mason Harper, who singled to second and scored Sites for his team's ninth run.

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# Successful Opening Season Enjoyed by Wildcat Wrestlers and Program



Gabe Harvey emerged as a vital senior leader who performed well and also mentored his teammates.

By Stephen Smoot

“Wrestling is a tough sport,” says Jacqueline Propst, Pendleton County Middle/High School athletic director.

She could be referring to the hard work, conditioning, and physical and mental toughness required to compete.

But she could also be talking about all of the effort to get a program approved, recruit coaches and competitors, put together a schedule, and a thousand other details to address before and during the season.

With the high quality of the coaching staff and the work ethic of the team, however, the team had numerous little victories to savor as it progressed through the first wrestling season ever at PCMHS.

“We’d go to these places and the coaches

and parents are like ‘how long has he wrestled?’” shared Shannon Hartman, who served as “team mom” while her husband coached. She added that they were often in awe when she responded “about six months.”

The team opened up with the Kiwanis tournament in Keyser, immediately facing wrestlers from University High School, one of the most dominant big school programs in the state.

In her estimate of how the team performed, Propst said “They did well. I’m really impressed with them.”

She praised the coaching staff, calling them “incredible.” Jasper Hartman served as head coach, aided by James Woods, P. J. Combs, and Jed Hartman. “All of the coaches had their roles,” said Propst.

Propst also explained that Shannon Hart-



The inaugural season for Pendleton County wrestling exceeded all expectations and set the stage for a bright future.

man “was the backbone of that team this year,” helping to arrange rides, making sure they had food, drinks, and anything else needed.

Every successful team requires senior leadership. Propst explained that Gabe Harvey, who wrestled in the 165-weight class, was “tough and took a leading role and did well,” including scoring a pin against Frankfort in January.

“If he had another year, he’d go far,” said Propst of Harvey. She added that “he wants to get his coaching certification and come back to try and help a little bit.”

The future looks bright indeed. In the relatively new category of girls’ wrestling, Taylor Rexrode placed second in the state as a seventh grader.

With so much left to fall into place prior to

the start of the season, the program had to, in many ways, “wing it.” For example, the team had few matches scheduled at the start of the year. As they progressed through the season, they received invitations to compete in different areas and also held a match at home.

Since the program was in its inaugural season, Propst stated that many tournament organizers “were so kind. They waived fees since we were just starting the program.”

Propst also called a collaborative relationship with Grant County Schools “a real asset” for loaning Pendleton County mats. “They helped in any way they could,” she explained.

Expansion of the athletic programs’ numbers remains a priority for Propst. She said, “My goal is to get as many kids as possible into something” so they are “not doing drugs and alcohol.”



Jessica Parker caught the honorary first pitch at Go Mart Park in Charleston, which was delivered by a West Virginia National Guardsman.

## Speak Softly and Carry a Big Stick: the Pendleton County Bomb Squad Returns

By Stephen Smoot

It is said that March comes in like a lion and rolls out like a lamb.

The humble, yet hungry Pendleton County Wildcats, have roared like a lion as the month has come to a close. Playing seven games in six days, mostly against schools in larger classes, the team scored 93 and allowed 13.

On March 26, the Wildcats hosted Luray, Virginia. Isabella Lockard picked up the win as she scattered five runs over three innings. Pendleton County did not wait to take command in this matchup. Avery Townsend led the game off with a walk, then advanced to second quickly on a wild pitch to the subsequent batter, Baylee Beachler. Beachler then drove Townsend home with a single.

Two batters later and with two on base, Lizzie Alt blasted a home run into right field to push the score to 4-1. Parker then walked and scored on an error.

In the bottom of the second, Alt again picked up her teammates. With two outs and two runners on, Alt scored Beachler and Molly Rowe (courtesy running for Jenna Smith) on a line drive shot to left field. A Parker single and a Susan Vincell double pushed the advantage to 9-2.

A Townsend inside the park home run that drove in Lexi Tingler and Lockard ended the game with a 14-6 win for the Wildcats.

Next, the Wildcats took a long road trip to Richwood to face the Lady Jacks. Townsend opened up the game with a single. Beachler doubled on a one ball and no strike count to drive her in for the first run. With two outs and Smith and Tingler (who was running for Beachler) on, Vincell drove a sharply hit ground ball to left field. Two runs scored, making the score 3-0.

Julia Mongold then followed, driving Vincell home on a fielding error.

Beachler pitched the first two innings and struck out six, allowing no hits or walks.

In the top of the second, Rowe led off

with a walk. Townsend drove a pitch to deep right, sending Rowe in to score first, then reaching home plate herself for an inside the park home run. Beachler followed in the next at bat by hitting a home run in the more conventional fashion, over the left field fence.

In the top of the next inning, Townsend repeated the feat, driving in Madison Arbaugh who had led off the inning with a single.

Later in the inning with two outs, Smith hit a triple. This was followed by an Alt single that batted in Smith. Two batters later, Vincell hit a single that scored Lockard and Marleigh Moyers (a courtesy runner). A Mongold single scored Moyers and pushed the lead to 13-0.

The score ended in a 20-3 win for the visitors.

During the West Virginia National Guard event in Charleston, Pendleton County battled East Fairmont in double header action.

The first game saw Beachler and Vincell combine to deal a no hitter. Beachler struck out five and Vincell one as they silenced the Bee bats.

Pendleton County scored four in the first inning. Townsend led off with a double, followed by Beachler reaching second on her hit as well, sending the runner home for the first run.

Smith, then Alt, hit singles to push the score to 3-0. Later in the inning, Chesnee Colaw drew a walk with the bases loaded to add to the run total.

The Wildcats then scored four in the second and won the game 15-0. Pendleton County took the subsequent game 14-6.

The month ended with a 14-3 win over Lewis County and a 16-1, a two and a half inning win over the Warriors of Pocahontas County.

The schedule gets more local as the season moves into April. Tuesday, Pendleton County took on Moorefield, then will play at Petersburg today, and home against Tygarts Valley Friday. The Wildcats travel to Moorefield on April 9.

## Wildcats Storm into Keyser and Shut Out Golden Tornadoes

By Stephen Smoot

One does not simply walk into a Class AAA home field, take on a school whose entire sports program motto is “pride,” and walk away with a resounding victory.

Yet last Tuesday, Pendleton County did just that.

Keyser’s sports facilities in March generally give anyone in attendance a tough time. The wind there in that month can reach relentless speeds, driving down the feel of already chilly temperatures. Simply standing on the field represents a test of endurance.

The Pendleton County High School Wildcat softball team came off an 8-0 loss to a Frankfort team supercharged by transfers under the relatively new, and also unfortunate, rules that free up the process. Keyser had annihilated Hampshire in the opening game for the team at 13-3 while also recording a narrow loss to Allegheny in Maryland.

Baylee Beachler took the mound for the Wildcats, facing off against the very capable Leighton Johnson who hurled for Keyser.

In the bottom of the first with one out, Riley Felton poked a Beachler pitch through the middle of the infield for a base hit.

This was notable in that it represented the Golden Tornadoes’ only hit of the contest.

Pendleton County approached Keyser’s pitcher with patience. They forced Johnson to go deep into counts and throw a lot of pitches, which affected her control going into the middle innings.

Wildcat hitters got going in the third inning. With one out, Avery Townsend knocked a ground ball into center field, but sped into second on a stand up double. During the next at bat, she stole to third base. With two outs, Jenna Smith drove a pitch into right field, allow-



Jenna Smith watches a pitch land low in the strike zone during the win over the Golden Tornadoes.

ing Townsend to score easily.

Lizzie Alt and Jessica Parker drew walks to load the bases. Susan Vincell swung and missed at her first pitch. She connected on the second pitch and sent a towering fly ball over the center field fences for a grand slam. The half inning ended with the Wildcats building a commanding 5-0 advantage.

In the fourth and fifth innings, the pitchers resumed their stranglehold on scoring. Keyser hitters struggled to muster the bat speed to catch up with Beachler’s velocity, either missing completely or fouling to the first base side.

Wildcat hitters found the basepaths, but clutch pitches by Keyser shut down opportunities until the sixth inning. Jaiden Mitts led off with a four-pitch walk. A Townsend sacrifice sent her to second. Beachler, with two outs, drove the ball into centerfield and ran into second base. Mitts scored the run, making the lead 6-0.

Smith followed with a screaming line drive toward right that found the extended

glove of the Golden Tornado second baseman.

Pendleton County threatened again in the seventh as Vincell singled with two outs. Bella Lockard followed with a ground ball single to left that kept Vincell from moving past second. Golden Tornado pitchers shut down the inning with a ground out by the next hitter.

Vincell came in to pitch the seventh inning. Compared to the right-handed Beachler’s fireball style, the southpaw Vincell provides almost a complete contrast as she mixes different pitches. The contrast between the two is designed to frustrate and fool opposing batters.

She got the first batter to ground out, but the second lofted a ball to shallow left field. Mitts charged hard, dove, and came up with the out.

Vincell got the third batter to strike out swinging on three pitches, and ending the game in favor of the Wildcats, 6-0.

Pendleton County batters picked up five hits and eight bases on balls in the contest.

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# A New Day Dawns

*Continued From Page 1*

ensuring that the mill's operations were re-established and provided the right start for long-term success.

Redman said that he approached Sites "to get the ball rolling" and that "he's done nothing but help us since then."

Sites took pride in his role in restoring the mill to operation, saying "There's always been a sawmill here. I'm from Pendleton County. I've done everything I can to get them up and running . . . I'm from Pendleton County. I have my roots in Pendleton County."

That role includes working closely with George Ford, president of Grant County Bank. Sites stated that "he really stepped up to the plate."

Ford added that "we want to see this county prosper. It's good to see it back, good for the region, good for the businesses in this area."

One business that has reaped immediate benefit has been nearby Hinkle Trucking. Said Gary Hinkle of the expected business, "It's going to be a lot."

The original mill churned out 20,000 board feet per day of lumber with a workforce of 25. Currently, the mill produces 30,000 board feet per day, according to the facility manager Daniel Kessel. He added that "they would like to see 45,000 feet," but stated that "if you get more than that, you sacrifice quality and run into safety issues. We don't want that."

A major asset to operations comes in the fact that many who signed on to work had already worked on site under previous ownership. In a number of cases, multiple generations from the same families supported their households with paychecks from this mill.

Now they have the chance to do so again.

Patrick Evelyn stated that he hopes "to put another shift on" which would provide jobs for "another 25 guys."

Charles Wilfong, director of the West Virginia Farm Bureau and a Pocahontas County resident, was on site and described the ripple effect for suppliers. "It's about the same here as in Pocahontas County," said Wilfong, who went on to add that "one-third to one-half of a given farm is timber land."

He explained that farmers in such areas develop financial strategies based on resources available, sharing that "you pay your bills with farm income and the extras can come from timber."

Angel Rasel, the chief financial officer of the company, added that "we're shipping about everything we're making to somewhere in West Virginia." She went on to states that the company has "put a lot of loggers back to work" and also has conducted business with area machinists, welders, and more.

Carl Hevener, Jimmie Bennett, and Roger Dahmer, all Pendleton County commissioners, attended to show their support.

Bennett said, "It gives loggers a place to sell their logs locally. It's good for local people."


"I'm glad it's back," said Hevener. "It helps out the economy and families on the North Fork."

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# Board of Education

*Continued From Page 1*

Mowery started with a discussion of levy rates, explaining the four separate classes of property recognized under the law, three of which are subject to taxation. The total assessed value of property in this century has jumped from a little more than \$200 million to almost \$750 million.

Local taxes totaled about \$3,780,990, an increase of about \$125,000 from the previous year's assessment.

He then shared that the school system received \$7,737,960 in state aid.

Last year, the system received \$77,000 in national forest land money from Secure Rural Schools. Though expected to be funded, Congress has not yet passed the proposed three-year renewal. Mowery adjusted the expected amount from that program down to \$50,000 in the interest of maintaining fiscal restraint in budgeting.

Sonny O'Neil, board member, inquired about a bill currently under consideration in the West Virginia Legislature that would enable school system personnel to "buy back" unused sick days. That would have the effect of reducing their use.

Mowery shared that "I don't know if it will pass" but "we will have to find a way to fund that if it passes."

"Where do I expect to end up a year from now?" Mowery asked, rhetorically. He stated that the schools should exceed the desired reserves rate of \$1.187 million "pretty handsomely."

Mowery then explained the history of "carryover" from one budget to the next in this century. Since 2020, Pendleton County Schools has carried over at least \$500,000 from the preceding year into the succeeding year's budget. In both 2021 and 2025 that amount has exceeded \$1.7 million.

Much of that has come through good stewardship of COVID era funding. Pendleton County Schools followed a strategy of not funding ongoing expenses, especially new hires, with COVID funds. Upshur County used such funds for inappropriate purposes, which brought a state rebuke. Other counties used the funds to hire new faculty and staff, only to have to face difficult choices between laying off personnel and closing schools.

Pendleton County Schools reserved COVID funds for one-time expenses and other special projects, which has prevented talk of layoffs, school closings, or reduced services.

Later in his update, Charles Hedrick, superintendent, referred to "seeing other issues with county schools" and stating that "we need to be proactive and we have been" concerning the changing economic and financial landscape.

Hedrick cited the Biblical story of "seven fat cows eaten by seven skinny ones" and applauded the board and staff "for financial soundness." He said the system needed to remain "strategic to make sure we don't get into a panic."

Prior to 2020, Pendleton County Schools experienced much less carryover. In 2009, the system had \$218,660 left over for the following year, but in 2012 and 2019, that dropped to less than \$8,500 and \$4,200, respectively.

One program currently facing reductions is Communities in Schools, established by former First Lady Cathy Justice as a support system for students facing challenges. The current budget of \$300,000 per year will slowly reduce until "phased out to zero within several years."

Travis Heavner, who also resigned as Pendleton County Middle School girls' basketball coach, provided a facilities report. He said workers were "still working on window replacement" at Brandywine Elementary School and expected to complete that by April 22 at the latest.

He then reported on the malfunction of the sign at PCM/HS and explained that the school will install a wi-fi bridge to connect the sign better to school systems.

Later in the attendance report, he announced that the seventh grade at PCM/HS achieved 100 percent attendance in a recent day and added that the "March Madness" incentive is "making a big difference."



We would like to thank each and everyone that sent us cards for our 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary. They were greatly appreciated. Again Thanks!

Randy and Anna Simmons

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# Heroes Celebrated

*Continued From Page 1*

Another program focuses on helping low-income households lower their climate control costs through identifying and repairing leaks, adding insulation, and more.

Wendy Niceler from The Health Plan and Sherry Kuhl from Aetna shared information on how their companies provide assistance and support. Both companies have programs that work with those qualifying for Medicaid or the Children's Health Insurance Plan.

Both companies operate as "Managed Care Organizations." This refers to their use of business models that try to hold down health care costs. One major way in which they do this is through strong utilization of prevention programs. For example, with some MCO organizations, successful completion of a tobacco cessation program can lead to monetary incentives.

The Pendleton County Office of Emergency Management had a table as well, manned by both Rick Gillespie and Bruce Minor. The table had special refrigerator magnets upon which people can list valuable emergency information in case paramedics have to respond to the home, as well as a children's puzzle and game sheet that also teaches safety tips.

"It's pretty important to get that information to the right people," said Minor about the safety information provided by the Pendleton County OEM. Of the event itself, he stated that "it's a tremendous asset to have these organizations in the county."

Also promoting the sharing of vital safety tips was Isaac Bergdoll, representing the West Virginia Division of Forestry. He serves as the Grant County service forester. Curtis Betty, Pendleton County's person in that position, had a different assignment that day.

Even with the prevalence of wildfires in the past two years, Bergdoll shared that "a lot of people have no idea what the burn laws are." State code imposes restrictions on outdoor burning to reduce the risk of blazes escaping control.

He added that they wanted to "give everyone a chance to meet Smokey the Bear. We like to spread his message that 'only you can prevent forest fires.'"

Others offered resources and opportunities for seniors. Sarah Blake, from the Aging and Disabilities Resource Center, offered materials that help seniors to identify attempts to defraud them.

For example, seniors often receive a number of calls for "fly by night" style health insurance plans or supplements. The caller states that the call will be recorded, then asks a series of questions designed to elicit an answer of "yes." Once they have that call on record, they will edit the recording to make it seem as if the senior approved being added to the plan.

Blake stated that some seniors receive up to four or five scam calls per week.

Help is available for those who have questions about offers of insurance and also for those trapped into plans that charge much and provide little.

Jenny Rogers represents the AmeriCorps Seniors Grandparents program. She shared that "since 1965, we are the best kept secret."

Most do not know that AmeriCorps also operates three senior programs. These are the Retired Senior Volunteer program, Senior Companion Program, and Foster Grandparent Program.

"What we do is attempt to find people 55 and older, usually to go into schools to help the children that are falling behind," explained Rogers.

Rogers went on to state that teachers with full classrooms to guide and teach do not always have the time or the ability to reach a child one on one "to give them the attention they are needing."

While sometimes, a child's academic problems come from an inability to understand the subject matter, in most cases the problems run much deeper.

Rogers stated that some families struggle to provide the support that children need to excel in school. That could take the form of a single parent or both parents working multiple jobs to make ends meet. They enjoy neither the time nor the energy to help with school or other problems because they are exhausted and overwhelmed themselves.

In other, sadder, examples, the parents, parent, or guardian has developed substance abuse, mental health issues, or a combination of both. In extreme situations, this can lead to child abuse or even a situation where the child must act as the responsible "adult" to take care of siblings, other children, or even the actual adults in the home.

"So many times, there's nobody there to help the kids," Rogers noted.

Fortunately, the Family Resource Center of Pendleton County has many ways to help everyone from kids to seniors.

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# North Fork Baptist Teams with Eastern Action

*Continued From Page 1*

one of us . . . has fallen short of the glory of God.” Hedrick concluded the pre-lunch message through speaking of the cup described in Matthew 26:39, which reads that Jesus “fell on His face, and prayed, saying O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless, not as I will, but as thou wilt.” She went on to use the cup of agony served to Christ as a metaphor for the cup of struggle that each person must partake. “We all have our struggles,” She shared, listing “finances, family, health.” Then she paused briefly and added, “addiction.” “God knows about your life struggles,” she implored, and went on to say “God was with Jesus and God is here with you.” Clements then informed all that the church had a closet of clothes for anyone in need. He invited attendees to bring clothes to donate or take clothes as needed. Lunch consisted of fried chicken, mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans, sliced and buttered Italian bread, applesauce, and a variety of desserts. In the parking lot outside, as attendees concluded their meal, representatives from different social service agencies welcomed those in need. Becky Yokum from Eastern Action greeted those who approached the trailer with big smiles and sometimes also happy hugs. Her agency sought to help different groups, including veterans in need of assistance and anyone in need of pantry staples for home.

## LEGAL ADVERTISEMENTS

Continued from Page 9

NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION	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.	TIONS NOT SO FILED WILL BE FOREVER BARRED.
The administration of the following estates is pending in the Office of the Clerk of the County Commission of Pendleton County, West Virginia, 100 S. Main Street, P. O. Box 1167, Franklin, West Virginia 26807. The names of the personal representatives are set forth below.	All 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.	The date of the first publication of this Notice is April 3, 2025. Deadline for claims is June 2, 2025.
ALL INTERESTED PERSONS ARE NOTIFIED THAT:	ALL CLAIMS, DEMANDS AND OBJECTIONS of the personal	Charles Bennie Evick Estate – Mary Alice Evick, Executrix; Christopher Lee Wimer Estate – Lucy Wimer, Executrix; Hazel L. Simmons Estate – David Perry Simmons, Executor.
All persons on whom this notice is served who have objections that challenge the validity of the will, the qualifications of the personal		Subscribed and sworn to before me on March 28, 2025.
		Elise M. White, Clerk of the Pendleton County Commission

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
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
Personal Property	69,157,250	536,664
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
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 Commission Levy Estimate (Budget) 2025 - 2026 Fiscal Year			
PENDLETON COJNTY, WEST VIRGINIA REGULAR CURRENT EXPENSE LEVY FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2025 - JUNE 30, 2026			
Current Year	Certificate of Valuation Assessed Value for Tax Purposes	Levy Rate/\$100	Taxes Levied
Class I			
Personal Property	\$ 0	14.30	\$ 0
Public Utility	0		0
Total Class I	0		0
Class II			
Real Estate	\$ 408,788,670	28.60	\$ 1,169,136
Personal Property	1,960,852		5,608
Total Class II	\$ 410,749,522		1,174,744
Class III			
Real Estate	\$ 85,265,920	57.20	\$ 487,721
Personal Property	69,157,250		395,579
Public Utility	152,970,837		874,993
Total Class III	\$ 307,394,007		\$ 1,758,293
Class IV			
Real Estate	\$ 12,522,050	57.20	\$ 71,626
Personal Property	6,027,381		34,477
Public Utility	2,714,846		15,529
Total Class IV	\$ 21,264,277		\$ 121,632
Total Value & Projected Revenue			\$ 3,054,669
Less Delinquencies, Exonerations & Uncollectable Taxes		5.00%	152,733
Less Tax Discounts		2.00%	58,039
Less Allowance for Tax Increment Financing - (if Applicable)			0
Total Projected Property Tax Collection			2,843,897
Less Assessor Valuation Fund		2.00%	56,878
(Subtracted from regular current expense taxes levied only)			
Net Amount to be Raised by Levy of Property Taxes			\$ 2,787,019

The agency also offered information on weatherization assistance for homes. “One of the most important reasons we are here is food and fellowship,” Yokum shared. She handed clear bags loaded with items such as noodles, apple juice, cans of vegetables, and more. Yokum also stated that “our veterans program is amazing.” From the Pendleton County Family Resource Center in Franklin came its executive director, Edna Mullenax. The FRC offers support for families struggling with the challenges life often brings to the door. Sometimes the challenge is that a family cannot afford basics for a child, so the table Mullenax manned offered a number of children’s books and other items. It also had brochures for working parents or guardians needing childcare and transportation assistance, as well as for drug recovery, suicide prevention, and more. Serena Redman, a State Opioid Response Family Coordinator for Potomac Highlands Guild, shared that “I’m bringing some behavioral health resources.” That included a nearly 40-page guide listing agencies and programs operating throughout the region. She added that her presence was part of greater efforts to combat problems specific to rural areas, explaining that despite the significant differences in culture in the Potomac Highlands areas, many problems cross those political and cultural boundaries and desperately need attention and support.

Pendleton County Commission Levy Estimate (Budget) 2025 - 2026 Fiscal Year
STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA County of: Pendleton, West Virginia

In accordance with WV Code § 11-8-10, as amended, the Pendleton County Commission proceeded to make an estimate of the amounts necessary to be raised by a levy of taxes for the current year, and doth determine and estimate the several amounts to be as follows:

General Fund	Estimated Revenues
Fund Balance .....	\$ 4,300,000
Property Taxes Current year .....	2,787,019
Prior Year Taxes .....	73,000
Tax Penalties, Interest & Publication Fees .....	40,000
Property Transfer Tax .....	75,000
Gas and Oil Severance Tax .....	30,000
Wine & Liquor Tax .....	3,000
Hotel Occupancy Tax .....	135,000
Building Permits .....	500
Federal Grants/Federal Payment in Lieu of Taxes.....	1,941,000
State Grants .....	10,227
Sheriff's Service of Process .....	5,100
Sheriff's Earnings .....	150
County Clerk's Earnings .....	20,000
Circuit Clerk's Earnings .....	6,000
Accident Reports .....	300
Clerk Deed Fees .....	1,300
Franchise Agreement.....	5,000
IRP Fees (Interstate Registration Plan) .....	35,000
Regional Jail Operations Partial Reimbursement .....	6,000
Interest Earned .....	85,000
Miscellaneous Revenue .....	8,000
Sheriff's Commission .....	15,000
Gaming Income .....	45,000
Filing Fees.....	1,000
Video Lottery .....	3,000
Refunds/Reimbursements (External Sources).....	408,660
Dog & Kennel Reimbursement.....	700
General School Reimbursements .....	20,000
Payroll Reimbursements .....	790,000
Transfers Assessor's Valuation Fund .....	186,933
<b>Total Estimated General Fund Revenues.....</b>	<b>\$ 11,036,889</b>
<b>Coal Severance Tax</b>	<b>Estimated Revenues</b>
Assigned Fund Balance .....	\$ 4,500
Coal Severance Tax.....	23,000
<b>Total Coal Severance.....</b>	<b>\$ 27,500</b>

<b>Total Estimated General Fund Revenues.....</b>		<b>\$ 11,036,889</b>
<b>Coal Severance Tax</b>		<b>Estimated Revenues</b>
Assigned Fund Balance .....	\$	4,500
Coal Severance Tax.....		23,000
<b>Total Coal Severance.....</b>		<b>\$ 27,500</b>
<b>Pendleton County Commission Levy Estimate (Budget)</b>		
<b>2025 - 2026 Fiscal Year</b>		
	<b>General Fund</b>	<b>Coal Severance Tax Fund</b>

<b>PUBLIC SAFETY</b>	<b>General Fund</b>	<b>Coal Severance Tax Fund</b>
Sheriff-Law Enforcement .....	784,868	-
Sheriff-Service of Process .....	5,100	-
Regional Jail.....	250,000	-
Emergency Services .....	317,593	-
Communication Center.....	790,000	-
Fire Department .....	41,250	-
Ambulance Authority.....	221,250	-
Flood Control.....	10,000	-
<b>TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY .....</b>	<b>2,420,061</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>HEALTH &amp; SANITATION</b>		
Local Health Department.....	35,000	-
Mental Health .....	500	-
Water .....	303,691	-
<b>TOTAL HEALTH &amp; SANITATION .....</b>	<b>339,161</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>CULTURE &amp; RECREATION</b>		
Parks & Recreation .....	22,500	-
Community Center .....	1,551	-
Visitor's Bureau .....	67,500	-
Library .....	36,000	-
<b>TOTAL CULTURE &amp; RECREATION .....</b>	<b>127,551</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>SOCIAL SERVICES</b>		
Public Transit.....	5,000	-
<b>TOTAL SOCIAL SERVICES .....</b>	<b>5,000</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>CAPITAL PROJECTS</b>		
General Government .....	2,965,346	-
<b>TOTAL CAPITAL OUTLAY .....</b>	<b>2,965,346</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total Expenditures .....</b>	<b>\$11,036,889</b>	<b>\$ 27,500</b>

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA, PENDLETON COUNTY
I, Elise M. White, CLERK OF THE COUNTY COMMISSION OF SAID COUNTY, DO HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE FOREGOING ARE TRUE COPIES FROM THE RECORD OF ORDERS MADE AND ENTERED BY SAID COMMISSION ON THE 18th DAY OF MARCH 2025.
3-27-2c
Elise M. White

# Old Fashion Butchering — A Dying Art

I have a nephew who asked me to write down what I remember about butchering years ago. Things have changed greatly from my memories of butchering day years ago. Years ago, a “pig pole” was used to raise/lower the pig into a barrel of scalding water. There was a swivel on top of the pole that would rotate around while moving up/down. I have never seen one of these used but my son said the old pole is here on the farm. Getting ready to butcher took several days to get ready. Good dry wood was piled near the kettles and the scalding pan. The scalding pan and two large kettles were filled with water. The wood for the fire under the scalding pan would be made ready for starting the fire early next morning. Butchering day was usually in November as the weather was colder and keeping the meat from spoiling was of great importance. A lot of butchering was done on Thanksgiving Day. Daddy would start the fire under the pan and kettles around 4:00 a.m. The scalding water would be hot enough, just at dawn if the wind behaved. I believe there are chains that are used to get the pig in/out of the scalding pan. As soon as help was assembled and the water ready, the first hog would be killed. The women and children weren’t allowed to be out during the killing. The hog was dipped into the hot water, and rotated until all areas were scalded. It would be taken out of the pan and placed on a table where the hair was all scraped off. Hog scrapers were used. After the hair was removed, the hog would be hung between three wooden poles that are shaped like a triangle. Two men with very sharp knives would cut the hog down the middle of the stomach to let the intestines drop out into a wash tub. These intestines would be placed on a table where some of the women would remove the fat for lard, along with the stomach and sweet bread. The stomach was emptied and turned inside out and scraped until clean and white. The sweet bread would be cooked in the kettle with the lard or put in water for cooking later. Several people would be waiting for the sweet bread to come out of the kettle. I would never eat that part of the hog myself. The killing/scalding process would start over once the first hog was hanging and continue until all the hogs were cleaned and hanging. This allowed the meat to cool before starting the cutting up process. The cutting of the meat started by removing the head—which was hung against a building to be cut up later. Using sharp knives and a hand saw, the pig was cut into two halves down the back—the front was already open. The loins, liver, heart and other organs were removed and a half at a time would be carried to the cutting table. A portion of loin and one of liver would be cut off and taken to the kitchen where the ladies preparing lunch would slice it, hammer it and fry it. Onions would be fried with the liver. This fresh meat was always a part of the lunch served on butchering day. Sweet potatoes, sauerkraut, mashed potatoes, green beans, homemade bread with butter and pumpkin pie would round out the meal. The men and women working outside would come in shifts to eat to allow for the butchering process to continue. There was usually a kettle of lard on by the time lunch was ready. The cutting of the meat would start with the feet/legs being removed and then the hams, bacon (sides), and shoulders would be cut away from the backbone and ribs and trimmed. This trimming supplied the lean meat for the sausage, and canning meat, and fat for the lard. The loins, fishes, heart along with the head meat would be canned—no freezers back then. The ribs and backbone were cut as small as possible to allow for canning. The shoulders, the hams, and the bacon were placed in a box with a screen lid in the smokehouse and salted down for curing. After weeks of curing, the meat would be placed in clean, cotton bags and hung on nails that were in the rafters. In the 1960s a new curing method was started at my home and at my in-laws. Brown sugar, black pepper, and salt were mixed, and rubbed into the meat of the hams, shoulders, and bacon and then each piece was wrapped in brown paper that had been doubled and tied with twine. It would then lay on a table until cured enough that it could be hung. The sausage would be ground using a hand grinder. This grinder was positioned over a large tub so the ground meat would drop into the tub. My granddad Smith, as long as his health would allow, mixed the sausage after grinding was completed. Mom used salt and pepper to season the sausage. After a thorough mixing, granddad would take a small bit on his finger and taste it to see if there was enough salt in the sausage. That would be frowned up today for sure. On rare occasions a small sausage cake would be fried to check the seasoning. The sausage would be put into crocks, covered and put on the shelf in the smokehouse until mom was ready to can it. Mom would shape the sausage into balls and put them in the large bread pan, then put the pan in the oven and cook until done. The sausage was then put into clean jars and covered with some of the hot grease. The can lids, a metal top and a rubber ring were placed on the jars and the sausage was canned. This process took her most of a day to complete. The fat for the lard was placed into a kettle, a small portion at first to get the cooking started and then more was added. The kettle would be filled half full. The person keeping the fire under the kettle had a big responsibility as the fire was not allowed to burn too hot. A wooden paddle was used to stir the lard, and this was done often pushing the fat from the bottom of the kettle up to keep it from roasting. The chunks of fat would be cooked until the skins were crisp and brown. If not cooked enough, the lard wouldn’t set and if roasted or burned, the lard had a burned taste destroying the flavor. The lard press was attached to a board that was placed across the kettle with the spout to the outside above a waiting lard can. The cylinder would be filled with the hot lard and the top fastened down. Using a handle, you would turn the top down until no more grease ran from the cracklings. The cracklings would be poured into a box and this process continued until the kettle was empty. I remember times that we had three or more kettles of lard to render. The lard cans each held five gallons of hot lard and were carefully carried into the smokehouse where the lids would be placed on top but not pressed down until the lard was cool. This lard would stay good for months, but once it got strong, it was no longer used for cooking. Old lard was/is used to make soap. This soap was used for laundry, dish washing, scrubbing walls and yes, our baths. The last time I tried to purchase a lard can in Franklin, many years ago, they couldn’t get them. Maybe things have changed since then. Getting the meat canned and put away took several days. As we didn’t have a freezer, everything that couldn’t be salted down and cured, needed to be canned as soon as possible. The older family members, made “pon hoss” and “pudding” out of things that wouldn’t do to can. I don’t eat either one of these! There was very little if any of a hog that wasn’t used in one way or another. Butchering day was a long often cold, hard day, and required the strength and skills of hard working men and women. Unlike today, we didn’t have a heated building, electric tools, vacuum sealing and such. I remember well cutting sausage meat and lard while my fingers were like ice cubes! Gone are the days when you could go to the smokehouse and take down a piece of meat, slice off what you wanted, soak out most of the salt, and fry until nice and brown. Fried country ham, mashed potatoes and gravy, a favorite meal of mine. I have people who read my articles ask where I get my information or how I remember all this. I give a lot of credit to mom and daddy for all that they shared with me until I was old enough to remember it for myself. Simply put, I have lived this. The old saying goes, “a life well lived is a life worth remembering!” So true!

Violet R. Eye  
Jan. 11, 2025



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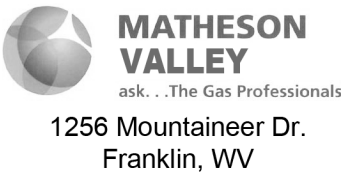
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**10x20**

#### TNT SELF STORAGE Upper Tract

**304-257-1421 or 304-703-3054**  
**NEW SELF STORAGE UNITS**  
**5X10 • 10X10 10X20**

### 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

### LIVESTOCK

**REGISTERED ANGUS BULLS** 15 months, Balanced EPD's, Great Temperament, Good feet & legs, Fertility Tested, Free delivery, Good Bulls @ a Fair Price. GINSENG ANGUS (540) 474-5137.

### FOR RENT

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

### HELP WANTED

**SOMEONE TO operate** two chicken egg laying houses. Call for details (304) 249-5023 or (304) 902-0512. 4-3-4c  
**PENDLETON Community Care, Inc.** 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).

### 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

### LAWN PARTY

**NORTH FORK Church** of the Brethren Lawn Party, June 7, 2025, starting at 4 p.m. Save the date. More info later. 1c

### LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT

**Amendment to Ordinance 83, Section 10**  
AN ORDINANCE CONTROLLING AND IMPOSING LIABILITY FOR THE CONSTRUCTION, MAINTENANCE, AND REPAIR OF SIDEWALKS  
**SECTION 10 AMENDMENT:**

**A: Sidewalks Free from Dirt, Refuse, Debris, or Plant Overgrowth:**

The owner or owners of real property abutting on any public street, alley, or roadway where there is a sidewalk shall keep the sidewalk adjacent thereto in a clean, safe, and sanitary condition, free from dirt, refuse, debris, or plant overgrowth. In the event the owner or owners of any real property shall fail to keep the said walk adjacent to such real property in a clean, safe, and sanitary condition, free from dirt, refuse, debris, or plant overgrowth, the Mayor is hereby empowered and authorized to

give written notice to such real property owner to clean said sidewalk of dirt, refuse, debris, or plant overgrowth and to put said sidewalk in a clean, safe and sanitary condition, such notice to be mailed to the property owner or owners address or written notice posted on the residence of the property if applicable. Upon the failure or neglect of said real property owner or owners to correct said conditions and place said sidewalk in a clean, safe, and sanitary condition, free from dirt, refuse, debris, or plant overgrowth within twenty-four hours after such notice has been given, the Mayor may cause the same to be done, and the cost thereof shall be assessed against such real property owner and owners, and after thirty days of non-payment of said costs, the Mayor shall secure a lien against said real property.

**B: Sidewalks Free from Snow and Ice**

The owner or owners of real property abutting on any public street, alley, or roadway where there is a sidewalk shall keep the sidewalk adjacent thereto in a clean, safe, and sanitary condition, free from snow and ice. It shall be unlawful for the owner or owners of real property abutting on any public street, alley, or roadway where there is a sidewalk adjacent thereto to permit snow of six (6) inches or less to remain along the front or side of such premises longer than twenty-four (24) hours, and permit snow of six (6) inches or more to remain along the front or side of such premises longer than thirty-six (36) hours after the snow has ceased to fall. The same requirements shall exist with respect to ice or sleet on sidewalks; except, that when the ice or sleet cannot be removed without injury to the sidewalk, it shall be covered within the period of time specified, with appropriate material that will render the sidewalk safe for travel.

If the owner or owners of the real property fails or refuses to clean or remove the snow or ice in accordance with this section, the Mayor is hereby empowered and authorized to give written notice to such real property owner or owners to clean said sidewalk of the snow and ice with such notice to be mailed to the property owner or owners of said real property or written notice posted on the residence of the property if applicable. Upon the failure or neglect of said real property owner or owners to correct said conditions and place said sidewalk in a safe condition, within twenty-four hours after such notice has been given, the Mayor may cause the same to be done, and the cost thereof shall be assessed against such real property owner(s), and after thirty days of non-payment of said costs, the Mayor shall secure a lien against said real property.

The provisions of this Ordinance are severable, and if any clause, provision or section hereof shall be held void or unenforceable by West Virginia or any court of competent jurisdiction, such holding shall not affect the remainder of this Ordinance. Upon the effective date hereof, all ordinances, resolutions, orders or parts thereof in conflict with the provisions of this Ordinance are, to the extent of such conflicts, hereby repealed, and to the extent that the provisions of this Ordinance do not touch upon the provisions of prior ordinances, resolutions, orders or parts thereof, the same shall remain in full force and effect.

**The above ordinance amendment will come before the Town Council of Franklin on April 8, 2025 at 6:00pm at the Town Hall for a final vote. Copies of the amendment can be requested at the Town Office Monday-Friday 8:00am-4:30pm. Interested parties may appear at the meeting and be heard with respect to the proposed ordinance amendment.** 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 an "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) 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 War-

ranty 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, Esq. Geary & Geary Special Commissioner**  
**106 N. Main Street,**

**Petersburg, WV 26847 (304) 257-4155**

**G. Isaac Sponaugle, III, Esq. Special Commissioner Sponaugle & Sponaugle**  
**223 Chestnut Street, Franklin, WV 26807 (304) 358-2337**

**Nathan H. Walters, Esq. Special Commissioner, Walters, Heishman & Vance, PLLC**  
**PO Box 119 Moorefield, WV 26836 (304) 530-6618**

**I, SHALEE WILBURN,** do hereby certify that bond with approved surety, as provided by said Court, has been executed before me by the said Special Commissioners.

**Shalee Wilburn Clerk of the Circuit Court of Pendleton County, West Virginia** 4-3-2c

Ordinance #128

### Municipal Garbage Collection, Service, Fees, Limitation Penalties and Definitions.

1. The Municipality of Franklin may provide trash and garbage collection services to citizens and businesses within the corporate limits and to citizens and businesses outside the corporate limits. Nothing herein contained, however, shall be construed to compel the Town to collect garbage or trash in Town trucks or by Town personnel and the Town Council may contract with any person for the collection, transportation or disposal of garbage and trash.

2. All subscribers to trash and garbage collection services provided by said Municipality shall pay for such services as follows:

Households inside corporate limits.....\$20.00  
Households outside corporate limits...\$29.00  
Business inside corporate limits..... Minimum trash customers - \$40.00  
Customer Rate - \$10.00/cu yd  
Business outside corporate limits..... Minimum trash customers - \$41.48  
Customer Rate - \$10.37/cu yd

The Town Council shall have the right to establish and authorize the Business Manager to collect such special charges and rates as may be proper for services to any person or business whose refuse requirements are sufficiently abnormal or different, in the opinion of the Maintenance Supervisor and the Mayor, as to justify special or unusual handling or refuse. This shall include those buildings or dwellings not readily accessible to refuse collection, and cases where refuse is not found in standard containers, and where there is high volume.

3. The Municipality reserves the right to discontinue service when any subscriber is 45 days in arrears in payment for service. A 10% penalty shall be added to the subscriber's bill if payment is not made within 20 days from the date of billing.

4. It shall be the duty of all landlords to immediately report to the office of the Town Business Manager, the number of tenants.

5. The Town Business Manager may collect all delinquent fees under the provisions of this ordinance by civil action of other appropriate legal and equitable procedure.

6. The following limitations shall apply to all services provided herein:  
A) Minimum business rate shall apply to collection of one (1) to four (4) bags per week; Bulk Item customers rate shall apply to customers whose trash is composed primarily of boxes or bulky items.  
B) A household shall not deposit for collection more than four (4) bags. If the household habitually deposits more than four (4) bags, extra charges will be incurred.  
C) All trash and garbage, except cardboard boxes as hereafter mentioned, must be placed in plastic bags with a weight limit not to exceed 40 pounds per bag.  
D) Empty cardboard boxes shall be folded flat and tied in bundles with a weight limit not to exceed 40 pounds per bundle.  
E) Metals, ashes, petroleum products, non-edible greases, tree limbs, tires, televisions, computer, monitors, etc., shall not be collected pursuant to this ordinance. Large items, such as household appliances shall not be collected as regular trash items.

7. Any person who is not a subscriber to said service who shall deposit trash or garbage for collection or otherwise within the Corporate limits shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction therefore shall be subject to a fine of not less than \$25.00, nor more than \$100.00 for each violation.

8. Any customer requesting one-time bulky goods collection; refrigerators, stove, air conditioners, mattress, etc., will be charged a fee of \$20.00 (limit two large appliances per pick-up).

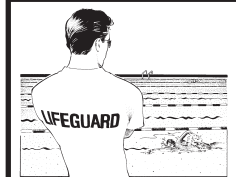
9. The following definitions shall apply to this ordinance:  
A.) A household shall mean a separate family unit occupying any house, mobile home, house trailer, apartment or any other structure.  
B.) Business shall include any person, persons, firm, partnership, association, or corporation performing or providing any service or the sale of any product to the public at any one location.

10.The rates, fees, charges and delayed payment penalty charges provided herein shall be effective 45 days after the enactment hereof.

11.The provisions of this Ordinance are separable, and if any clause, provision or section thereof be held void or unenforceable by any court of competent jurisdiction, such holding shall not affect the remainder of this Ordinance. Upon effective date of the fees, rates, charges and delayed penalty charges as herein set forth, all resolutions, orders or parts thereof in conflict with the provisions of this Ordinance are, to the extent of such conflicts, hereby repealed; and to the extent that the provisions of this Ordinance do not touch upon the provisions of prior resolutions, orders or parts thereof, the same shall remain in full force and effect.

The above ordinance will come before the Town Council of the Municipality of Franklin on April 8, 2025 at 6:00pm at the Town Hall for a final vote. Copies of the amendment can be requested at the Town Office Monday-Friday 8:00am-4:30pm. Interested parties may appear at the meeting and be heard with respect to the proposed ordinance. 1c

Legal Advertisement Continued on Page 8



### Town of Franklin is accepting applications for part-time seasonal park employees/lifeguards

- Applicants must possess a current life saving certificate or be able to acquire one by the beginning of the pool season.
- Duties include park cleaning, as well as all pool duties.
- Must be 15 years or older.
- All applications may be obtained from the town office and will be accepted until 4:30 p.m. April 29.
- If you are interested in sponsoring a lifeguard, call Elizabeth Scott at the town office, 304-358-7525.
- The Town of Franklin is an Equal Opportunity Employer.



April is National HUMOR MONTH  
**National Humor Month**  
*was founded in 1976 by comedian and best-selling author Larry Wilde. Not only does humor make a person feel good, but laughing is actually good for one's brains and it reduces stress levels.*



# Sponaugle Shares Her Life Span of 100 Years

Penned by niece Frances (Warner) Morgan

Has anyone ever wondered what life was like living 100 years ago? Yes, we have read history books, and heard stories passed down to us what life was like in the olden days by our ancestors, but few of us can boast of reaching the age of 100. This story is about my aunt, Jessie Elizabeth (Warner) Sponaugle, who was actually born one century ago on Dec. 2, 1924, and has lived to tell about it.

Jessie was born in a log house on the Hunting Ground to parents Amby and Surrilda (Waybright) Warner. She was the sixth child, but shortly after, there was a big surprise awaiting when her twin sister, Bessie, also made an appearance, and brought the number up to seven. Most babies at that time were home-births, as was Jessie, and the birthing mother was attended by mid-wives.

On the Hunting Ground, which is situated in the shadows of Spruce Knob, the highest point in West Virginia, winters were very cruel. Due to the cold temperatures and high elevation, several feet of snow usually remained on the ground most of the winter. With excruciating frigid temperatures and forceful winds, snow drifts usually could be seen in places as late as June. Sheep sometimes had to be dug out of the snow.

The log house where Jessie spent her early years, was no mansion. Snow blew inside between the cracks of the logs and laid on the floor. There was no running water, no electricity or telephone, and no indoor plumbing, but there was an unheated "outhouse."

In today's world, not much remains the same as 100 years ago. If our ancestors were to come back, they would not recognize the advancements of the new age. High technology has profoundly changed the way we live. If someone would have told them some-day man would be taken by a spaceship to

outer space and land on the moon, they would have taken this as a big ridiculous

fairy tale.

Jessie's birth and youth was during very hard times. She was born prior to the Great Depression. Her father had worked in the lumber woods for \$0.50 a day. He eventually acquired several tracts of land and farmed. Her father owned four work horses and two riding mares. Most all the food was homegrown and preserved, and a hog was butchered. The sugar maple trees were tapped and the sap was used for making maple syrup and maple sugar. Nothing was wasted. After the breakout of World War II, sugar was rationed due to a supply shortage and required food stamps for purchase. One stamp could purchase one pound of sugar.

Transportation was by horse and wagon, or horse and sled during winter months, or on foot. Since it was a family of nine, they milked seven cows. Jessie was allowed one pair of shoes per year, meaning she went barefoot most of the year to preserve her shoes, including during frost on the ground. When she would go back of the hill on the property to bring the cows in to be milked, due to the frost and she without shoes, she climbed on a cow's back and rode it to the barn. The cow knew where to go, and the others followed. Her mother sewed her clothing. Many times, decorative feed sacks were used to make clothing.

One hundred years ago, the cost of living was significantly lower than it is today. A new house was \$5,800.00; new car \$265.00; gallon of gas \$0.21; loaf of bread \$0.10; Milk, one-half gallon, \$0.29; butter \$0.58/pound; bacon \$0.48/pound; a dozen of eggs \$0.58; and postage stamp \$0.02. The average income was \$3,481.00 per year. I dare say her family's income was probably well below the average.

Calvin Coolidge was president when Jessie was born. In her lifetime she has seen 17 different presidents hold office. Probably one of the most significant accomplishments during her time was July 21, 1969, when an astonishing feat was successfully accomplished when astronaut Neil Armstrong was the first to step foot on the moon.

In 1946, Jessie married her high school



Jessie Sponaugle celebrated her 100th birthday last November. She is pictured with her four children from left, seated, William; and standing, Danny, Patricia and Lonnie.

sweetheart, Cranston Sponaugle, and they had 73 years together when he passed in 2019 at the age of 94. They were blessed with four children, Danny, William, Lonnie, and Patricia. Their family also includes eight grandchildren, 16 great-grandchildren, and

five great-great grandchildren.

Jessie's 100th birthday was celebrated Nov. 30, 2024, with her family and a host of other relatives and friends at the beautifully decorated Tygart Valley Baptist Church reception room in Beverly.

## Correction Regarding National Radio Quiet Zone Testing:

Last week's article stated that testing on the NRQZ could affect mobile phone service, that was an error. Testing will affect mobile satellite internet service, such as Starlink, not cell phone service.

## WIC Announces April Schedule

During the month of April, Pendleton County WIC Clinic will be open 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Wednesdays at the Pendleton Com-

munity Building in Franklin. Limited services are also available from 2 to 4 p.m. on other days of the week. Call for details.

Pendleton County participants can receive services in Petersburg if alternate days or evening appointments are desired. The office will be closed April 18 at the Moorefield site only.

WIC offers nutrition education and healthy foods to pregnant, breastfeeding and postpartum women, infants to age 1 and children to age 5. Either parent or a designated guardian can bring a child to appointments.

For more information or to schedule an appointment, call 304-358-3088 or 304-257-4936.

**MENU**  
**Pendleton Senior & Family Services**  
**FRIDAY, APRIL 4**  
BBQ Chicken  
Parsley Potatoes, Peas  
Blueberry Salad  
**MONDAY, APRIL 7**  
Baked Potato  
w/Chili & Cheese  
Broccoli, Peas  
Coffee Cake  
**TUESDAY, APRIL 8**  
Pizza, Corn  
Tossed Salad  
Applesauce  
**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9**  
Chicken Tenders  
Mac N Cheese  
Beets  
Apricot Fluff  
**THURSDAY, APRIL 10**  
Breaded Fish Sandwich  
Baked Beans  
Cole Slaw  
Melon

  
**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.**

**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

**GARRY L. SIMMONS**  
**REAL ESTATE**  
540-810-3379 **BROKER** 304-902-9119  
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**

**61 Chestnut St., Franklin, WV 26807**  
Broker George Sponaugle - 304-358-2714  
Agents: Kathy Sponaugle - 304-668-3283  
Gene Boggs - 304-668-2982; Angie Nelson - 304-358-8150

**FORT SEYBERT - ROUGH RUN** - WVPT2000818; \$150,000; 11.87 ac. Level wooded land adjoining National Forest, excellent hunting/fishing. Cleared bldg. Site. Road frontage. Call Gene Boggs.  
**FRANKLIN - DRY RUN** - WVPT2000800 \$225,000; 8 acs. 3 BR mobile home, deck, pool, lg garage. Call Gene Boggs.  
**PETERSBURG** - WVGT2001048 \$239,900; 4BR 1 ½ BA, heat pump/AC, new cabinets. Call Kathy Sponaugle.  
**SMOKE HOLE** - WVGT2000894 \$975,000 \$899,000; 13.93 +/- ac., 2 Story Cabin, 3 rentals cabins, 2 ponds, electric hookups for campers. Call Gene Boggs.

  
**GREAT FINANCING RATES NOW AVAILABLE**

**TRUCKS**  
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.....**"WINTER SPECIAL" \$64,900 \$59,500**  
2022 FORD F-250 CREW CAB S/BED 4X4, XLT pkg., 6.7 diesel, auto., ldd., white, 81K miles.....\$46,900  
2022 FORD 3-450 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

**PASSENGER VEHICLES**  
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.....**SPECIAL \$25,900 \$23,500 \$22,900**  
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.....**SPECIAL \$24,900 \$21,900**  
2018 FORD ESCAPE SE AWD, 4-cyl., auto., ldd., Ruby red, 82K miles.....\$14,900  
2018 TOYOTA 4-RUNNER LIMITED 4X4, V-6, auto., ldd., pearl white, 110K miles.....**SPECIAL \$34,900 \$32,900**  
2018 DODGE GRAND CARAVAN, V-6, auto., ldd., charcoal, 106K highway miles.....**SPECIAL \$17,900 \$15,900**  
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.....**SPECIAL \$17,900 \$15,900**  
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

Visit [Pendletontimes.com](http://Pendletontimes.com)

  
**39 Maple Ave**  
**PO Box 999**  
**Franklin, WV 26807**  
**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.SUGARGROVEVW.COM**

**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 \$349,900.00 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** 29.8 Acres, mostly wooded, located in Hammer Run, Septic, Public 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, mostly wooded, located on Big Stony Run, Sugar Grove District. **NEW LISTING \$139,900.00.**  
**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, New 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. **\$249,000.00 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.**  
**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. **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. **\$409,900.00 \$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.**















