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Franklin, Pendleton County, West Virginia 26807

Thursday
June 11, 2026

Gillespie Warns of Continued Dangers on Allegheny Mountain

By Stephen Smoot



A tractor-trailer accident occurred on US 33 with the vehicle caroming off the guardrails and into the oncoming lane. Fortunately, the lane had no traffic at the time. Photo courtesy of Bucky Evans, Seneca Rocks Volunteer Fire Department.

US Route 33's eastbound lanes coming off the summit of Allegheny Mountain toward Seneca Rocks remain a point of danger, according to Rick Gillespie, Pendleton County Emergency Services coordinator.

"Once again, we have witnessed a runaway tractor-trailer crash on US 33/ Allegheny Mountain in Pendleton County," began Gillespie's letter to Governor Patrick Morrisey.

Nine years ago, the state agreed to put a $17.5 million "catch net" system on what local officials described in 2023 as "the most dangerous little stretch of roadway in West Virginia." Funding would have come from then-Governor Jim Justice's "Roads to Prosperity" $1.6 billion bond issue.

Preliminary acceptance of that project helped to generate Pendleton County support for the governor's initiative.

The project would have included a quarter mile escape ramp and a "catch net" system similar to the equipment and methods used to safely decelerate fighter jets landing on aircraft carriers.

Catch net systems use a series of nets to slow the momentum of and stop runaway trucks or other large vehicles. According to a past edition of the Jackson Hole News and Guide in Wyoming, tests showed that the system had no trouble slow-

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The Brownfields, Abandoned, and Dilapidated Building program has been working with a team in Franklin on identifying problem structures and creating a redevelopment plan.

Brownfield, Abandoned and Dilapidated Buildings to be Addressed in Franklin Area

By Stephen Smoot

One characteristic shared by cities and towns almost everywhere in the United States is that almost all have houses that once sheltered families, storefronts that once housed businesses, or other structures that once had a significant purpose. These buildings, once in disuse, start to break down over time as water, fluctuations in temperature, wind, or even damage from vandalism or illicit use render them unusable, unattractive, and, worst of all, unsafe.

West Virginia University's BAD Buildings program helps municipalities and other rural communities statewide with this issue because it "provides technical assistance, research, and other resources to rural communities to address abandoned and dilapidated properties."

Representatives from the program came to Franklin last week. The Town of Franklin, Mon Forest Towns, and other entities have come together in partnership to examine where Franklin could need help in addressing such structures.

Attendees gathered in the new office of emergency management conference room at the old Franklin Elementary School, now the Pendleton County General Services Building. Michelle Connor, representing Mon Forest Towns, pointed out that the building itself represented a success story.

"It's the perfect example of identifying a . . . vacant building (with) a handful of things that make it unattractive to private investment," explained Connor, who added that the renovation came as a result of a convergence of vision and community need.

Ray Moeller, from the WVU BAD Buildings program, noted that "any rescue of an old school is a win."

Buildings in a state of blight tend to produce negative ripple effects in a community. They create health and safety hazards that can include toxic materials in the structure itself, water accumulation attracting vermin and noxious insects, and

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Pendleton County Schools Remains Fiscally Strong

By Stephen Smoot

With all of the news of different school systems financially faltering in recent years, as the fiscal year enters its final month, Pendleton County Schools has a healthy balance sheet.

The first regular meeting of the month featured statements about Nicole Hevener, superintendent, as well as a proposal for a nearly-free athletic facilities solution presented by Derek Lambert, outgoing principal and incoming Randolph County Schools superintendent. Coverage of those lies in other articles.

J. D. Wilkins opened with the invocation, praying, "We thank you for the people here today."

Hevener during student recognition praised the recently graduated class of 2026.

One of the first orders in business lay in rescinding the "reduction in force" or "RIF" of Dolly Rexrode, job exploration coordinator for Pendleton County Schools. Hevener explained that the grant funding her role came through, allowing PCS to retain her services in this particular job.

Next came the announcement of hirings, including Dayne Davis as boys middle school basketball assistant coach, Robert Fisher as middle school golf coach, and Kelli Martin for middle school cheerleading.

Nonpaid assistant coaches approved were Erin Eye for golf and Ryan Boggs for football.

J. P. Mowery, Pendleton County Schools treasurer, provided the cash balance at the end of May as $3,372,207.23. A month earlier, that balance sat at $3,226, 562.75. Mowery explained that tax receipts coming in helped to edge the balance higher over the previous month despite $626,267.95 in bills paid last month.

Also notable, at the end of May 2025, the balance sat at $3,178,259.78.

As Mowery typically explains, the increasing unpredictability of federal and state funding sources combined with rising costs means that Pendleton County Schools must keep a fiscally sound finance and budget policy. One example he often cites is the always precarious Secure Rural Schools funding that Congress is generally tardy on renewing and occasionally considers reducing or dropping altogether.

This sometimes means difficult choices in the short-term that prevent major issues, such as mass layoffs and/or school closures, that other districts have had to endure in recent years.

He provided examples of bills paid in May, including $3,000 for Pendleton County Emergency Rescue to have a presence at football games, and $15,815.60 for occupational therapy and sign language services to students.

Of note in Mowery's presentation lay a new contract for copier leasing and services

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Lambert Proposes Plan for Cost-Free Facilities Upgrade for PCMHS Athletics



Derek Lambert provided an artificial intelligence crafted mock up of what the proposed new locker room would look like if approved. Though it will provide better facilities for athletes, Lambert emphasized that all students would have access to it.

By Stephen Smoot

Last year, Krista Owens came to the Pendleton County Board of Education to offer her family's help and expertise in constructing improved facilities for high school athletics. She cited the poor conditions of aging locker rooms, the weight room, and other issues, proposing a new "fieldhouse" as a solution.

This proposal ran up against specific state requirements for school construction as well as the rising costs of materials and other inputs. Though not off the table, this proposal was seen as a more long-term solution.

Enter Derek Lambert just as he had resigned to accept his new role as superintendent of Randolph County Schools.

"I know there has been a lot of talk for a lot of years for making a fieldhouse for the football team," shared Lambert, clad in a Wildcat football T shirt for the occasion. He then explained that he "came to the board for permission . . . to provide our own in-house fieldhouse for the football team."

He provided two artificial intelligence created mock-ups of what the new facilities might look like, and explained how the school could do this at no cost save "sweat equity." Lambert asserted, "There is just not enough money to go around for a fieldhouse."

The first step came in Liberty Community Programs offering to donate to PCM/HS good condition weight room equipment from the former United States Navy Base at Sugar Grove. LCP has established a series of programs to assist in treatment of autism, drug addiction, and other behavioral health needs and has actively donated a large slate of items into the community.

Lambert's innovation centered around moving the current library to a large classroom being vacated for next year to group high school social studies teachers in the same general part of the complex. His AI image showed the weight room equipment in that space for the benefit of the board and Nicole Hevener, superintendent.

To address questions about the library, Lambert stated that most of the books have grown obsolete, noting that decades-old World Book encyclopedias still occupy a lot of shelf space. He added that almost the only time the library is used is for various meetings and when teachers want to have extra space for special projects.

The new library would have an updated collection while still providing ample space for small meetings and projects. He added that larger gatherings, such as local school improvement council meetings, could use the auditorium.

Lambert described the current library as "the biggest space in the building" and also "the most underused."

Additionally, this would create a ripple effect where chronic problems with restricted locker room space and the need for game officials to use Janice Heavner's classroom to shower (a West Virginia Secondary Schools

Continued on Page 5

Community CALENDAR

Balance, Exercise Class To Continue

The balance/exercise class will continue from 5:15 to 6 p.m. every Wednesday at the Franklin Town Pool.

Worship in the Park Planned for Sunday

Summer Worship Nights in the Park will be held at 6 p.m. Sunday at Ruddle Park. Starting at 5:30 p.m. free hot dogs, chips and drinks will be available. Guest speaker will be Stacy Meyerhoeffer with music by The New Valley Four. Bring a lawn chair and a friend and enjoy an evening of faith, fun and fellowship.

High Rock Church To Host VBS

High Rock Church Vacation Bible School will begin at 6 p.m. Sunday. Come for Emerald Crossing where one will learn about the 23rd Psalm. Each evening, there will be a meal, class, crafts, games, music and science and wait until one meets the highland cow, Paddy.

After five nights of VBS, a celebration with a carnival will be held at the Clinton Hedrick Community Building.

If a child hasn't been regisered, call 304-567-2213 and leave the name and grade level for this fall.

Senior Sponsored Meal Scheduled

Aumann's Custom Auto, along with Greg and Mary Bowers, will be sponsoring a congregate lunch for seniors aged 60+ on June 18 at the Franklin Senior Center. The meal will be served from 11:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. To reserve a meal, call the senior center at 304-358-2421 by 2 p.m. on June 16.

VBS Scheduled At Franklin UMC

All children and youth in the community age 4-14 are invited to attend Emerald Crossing Vacation Bible School at Franklin United Methodist Church on Main Street from 6 to 8:30 p.m. June 14 - 18. Pre-register at franklinwvumc.org or call or message Barb at 304-668-3300.

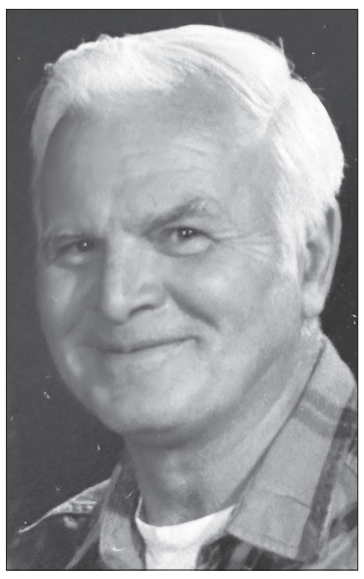
Family Support Center Sponsors Activities

The Pendleton County Strive to Thrive Family Support Center on Main Street in Franklin is hosting the following events.

- Fridays, June 12 and 19. Goodbye School and Hello Pool! Celebrate the start of summer vacation with free pool days.
- June 10, 9:30 to 11 a.m. Grounds for Discussion, a time for fellowship and a cup of coffee with local parents, caregivers and grandparents.

For more information, call 304-538-7711.

Obituaries



Carroll Lee Sponaugle

Carroll Lee Sponaugle, 93, of Franklin passed peacefully at home on June 4, 2026.

He was born on March 10, 1933, in Franklin to the late Marvin L. Sponaugle and Argyle Wimer Sponaugle.

Mr. Sponaugle attended Franklin High School and graduated from Augusta Military Academy. He then married his first wife, Phyllis Crigler Sponaugle, the mother of his children, who survives.

He was a veteran, having served in the United States Army, and was co-owner and operator of Sponaugle Farms. He worked at the family auto dealership, Pendleton Motor Sales, and lastly at Franklin Florist.

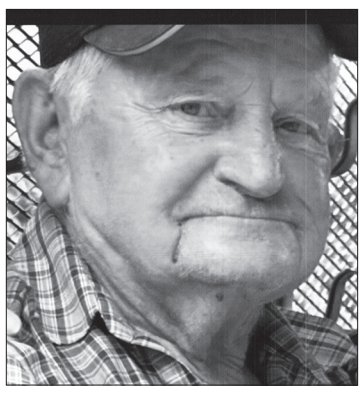
His wife of 50 years, Karen Sue Sponaugle, survives.

Also surviving are a sister, Loretta Homan of Shepherdstown; a son, David Lee Sponaugle (Janet) of Nutter Fort; two daughters, Diane Paden (Jerry Snyder) of Brandywine and Brenda Kaye Sponaugle (Mark Boyer) of Linville, Virginia; grandchildren, Joshua Paden of Brandenburg, Kentucky, Michelle Paden of Morgantown and Jonathan Sponaugle of Nutter Fort; great-granddaughters, Madeline Paden and Morgan Paden of Brandenburg, Kentucky; a brother-in-law, Danny Mallow (Linda) of Franklin; two sisters-in-law, Carol Dice and Rhonda Mallow (Carl Thompson) of Riverton; two nephews, Brandon Mallow (Katie) and Justin Mallow, all of Franklin; a niece, Melinda Kimble (D.J.) of Cabins; five great-nephews, Devin Kimble, Isaac Kimble, Landon, Colt and Owen Mallow; Lawrence Puffenbarger, who was like a son to him; and special friends, Dinah Mitchell and Todd Hartman.

He was also preceded in death by a brother, Marvin L. Sponaugle, Jr.; infant brother, Herbert Sponaugle; four sisters, Lorraine Harper, Ruth Bowers, Betty Lou Sponaugle and Lucy Louise Sponaugle; a daughter, Stephanie Lynn Sponaugle; mother and father-in-law, Calvin and Irene Mallow; brother-in-law, Orlando Dice, Sr.; and nephew, Orlando Dice, Jr.

A funeral service was held Monday in the chapel of Kimble Funeral Home with Pastor Jerry Smith officiating. Interment was at Cedar Hill Cemetery in Franklin.

Online condolences and memories may be shared at www.kimblefuneralhome.com.



Harry Junior Grogg

Harry Junior Grogg, 94, passed peacefully June 2, 2026, at his home in Rawley Springs, Virginia, surrounded by the place he loved and had called home for 70 years.

He was born May 15, 1932, in Stoney Run, the youngest son of the late William Harry Grogg and Caddie Waggy Grogg. He was the last surviving of their five sons.

Mr. Grogg was a true West Virginian at heart and often said he felt most at peace when he reached the top of Shenandoah Mountain.

He was a devoted family man, a proud veteran who served in the 101st Airborne and as a military policeman in the Army, and a man whose quiet strength carried his family through the years. After returning home from service, he married the love of his life, Lucille Maxine Joseph, on Feb. 19, 1955. Together, they built a life centered on family, hard work, and love, raising their six children until her passing on Nov. 6, 1997. Even after her death, he would often say he would never find another to marry, a reflection of the deep love he carried for her all his life.

He found joy in the simple, honest things of life. He loved animals and cared for ponies, cows, chickens, rabbits, and many coon dogs during the years. He kept big gardens that helped feed his wife and the children, and he never shied away from hard work.

Throughout his life, he worked many jobs, including tire work for Doug Pearce, timber cutting and hauling, and construction for OL Mathias and VW Nesselrodt.

In his later years, one of his greatest passions was building and restoring antique tractors. He loved bringing old things back to life and often said he had never seen a tractor he couldn't make livable again. To his family, he was one of the hardest workers they had ever known, and the lessons he gave his children stayed with them: "Show up for work, do what you're told, and do it right."

Along with restoring tractors, enjoying breakfast at L&S Diner, and keeping up with everyone's business in his own way, he especially loved spending time in West Virginia with his dear friend, Dover Harper, on his farmland. Many Saturdays were spent there together, checking on the farm, tending the cows, making hay, and working on tractors. Those days were some of the moments he cherished most.

He leaves behind a loving family who will miss him dearly, his children, Theodore Keith Grogg (Lori Grogg), Dawn Thomason (Daren Thomason), Kevin Grogg (Cathy Grogg), Denise Custer (Jimmy Custer), Dana Hiles (Jimmy Hiles), and Dorenda Brooks (Tommy Brooks); 17 grandchildren; 33 great-grandchildren; and a great-great-grandchild.

The family would like to offer their deepest and most heartfelt gratitude to his daughter, Dana Hiles, and son-in-law, Jimmy Hiles, with whom he made his home, for the love, devotion, and tender care they gave him during the past 30 years. The selfless commitment, compassion, and constant presence were a true blessing in his life and a gift to their entire family. Dana Hiles not only cared faithfully for her dad but also had a special way of bringing the family together to love and support him. His memory will live on in the stories, values, and love he shared with all who knew him.

He was also preceded in death by four brothers Curtis, Russell, Otis, and Everette; a grandson, Matthew Burkett, and two nephews, Ricky Grogg and Mike Grogg.

A funeral service was held Monday at McMullen Funeral Home chapel in Harrisonburg, Virginia. Burial followed in the Rawley Springs Cemetery.

Online condolences may be made to the family at www.mcmullenfh.com.



William Allen "Bill" Turner

William Allen "Bill" Turner, 84, of Franklin passed away peacefully on June 7, 2026, at Sentara RMH in Harrisonburg, Virginia.

He was born on April 5, 1942, in Covington, Virginia, the son of the late Durward Clement and Mary Elizabeth (Persinger) Turner.

Mr. Turner began his career at an early age, delivering newspapers in Covington, Virginia, proudly delivering 300 newspapers per day. He had also worked for the local paper mill in Covington, Virginia, before enlisting in the United States Navy, at the age of 17, where he served with distinction for 30 years. He rose to the rank of chief petty officer and was a skilled baker within the Navy ranks. His service included a year in Vietnam, exemplifying his commitment and courage. His military affiliations continued beyond active duty as a proud member of the American Legion, VFW Post #9666, and the Navy Memorial, honoring his enduring loyalty and pride in his service.

Following his Navy career, he contributed significantly to his community as the head custodian for 14 years at John Waylon Elementary School in Bridgewater, Virginia. He also worked at the Walker Plant and Lee Jeans Plant, demonstrating a strong work ethic across multiple roles.

His intelligence and kindness shone through in every aspect of his professional and personal life. He led a life marked by dedication, service, and kindness that deeply touched all who knew him.

A devoted family man, he treasured traveling with his family, creating lasting memories that brought joy and connection. He was particularly proud of his role as a husband and father. His greatest accomplishments were becoming a Navy chief petty officer and providing unwavering support and happiness to his wife and their two daughters.

Beyond his family and career, he found joy in watching television favorites like "Let's Make a Deal," "The Price is Right," and WHSV news. He had a passion for building and flying model airplanes and took great pride in competing and winning car shows with his antique car. These hobbies highlighted his intelligent and creative spirit, reflecting a man who valued simple pleasures and cherished time spent with loved ones.

His passing marks the loss of a man who was both deeply respected for his service and beloved for his warmth and generosity. His legacy lives on through his family and the many lives he enriched with his kindness and steadfast presence.

On Dec .11, 1962, he married the love of his life and his wife of 53 years, Rebecca Lee "Becky" (Varner) Turner, who preceded him in death on April 26, 2016.

Surviving are daughters, Tamara Sue "Tammy" Bodkin (Terry) of Franklin and Tracy Lynn Quackenbush (Tobin) of Bryan, Texas; grandsons, William Bodkin of Harrisonburg, Virginia, and Conner Allen Quackenbush of College Station, Texas; sisters, Patricia Goss and Mary Alice Turner, both of Texarkana, Texas.

He was also preceded in death by a grandson, Nathan Zane Bodkin.

Mr. Bodkin's family will receive friends from noon until 2 p.m. today the Basagic Funeral Home in Franklin. Funeral services will follow in the funeral home chapel with Rich Gardner officiating. Interment will be in Arlington National Cemetery at a later date.

Memorials may be made to VFW Post 9666 or Wounded Warriors.

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Keep up-to-date at WarnersDriveInWV.org
or Facebook.com/WarnersDriveInWV
3169 Petersburg Pike, Franklin, WV

MENU
Pendleton Senior & Family Services

Friday, June 12
Pork Chop
Mashed Potatoes
Green Beans
Tropical Fruit

Monday, June 15
Pork BBQ
Baked Beans
Cucumber Salad
Mandarin Oranges

Tuesday, June 16
NATIONAL FUDGE DAY!
Chicken Broccoli Casserole
Mixed Vegetables
Apple Crisp

Wednesday, June 17
Stuffed Peppers
Corn, Peaches

Thursday, June 18
Sponsored Meal
Ham
Sweet Potato Casserole
Peas
Pineapple Upsidedown Cake



Meal times are from 11:45 to 12:45. All meals served with 2% milk & a bread. Reserve your meals. Reservations served first. Menus are subject to change.
304-358-2421

Lawn Party
Mt. Zion U.M. Church
Deer Run
Saturday, June 20, 5:00 'til ?
Homemade Ice Cream
Country Ham Sandwiches
Homemade Pies and Cakes
Good Eats
Sponsored by Deer Run Youth Bible School

Huge Gun & Ammo Auction
Oak Summit Auction Gallery
Sunday, June 14
2 p.m.
132 N Main St., Moorefield
304-530-6403
Online bidding & previewing available at Oaksummit.hibid.com.
Auction will consist of a wonderful collection of collectors' firearms including a Ruger 10/22 Gatling Gun
This is one you absolutely do not want to miss!
Auctioneer: Michael Thomas licensed and bonded in favor of the state of WV #2151

South Fork Vol. Fire Dept.
FIREFIGHTERS' PARADE
Saturday, June 27 • 6 p.m.
Registration will start at 5 p.m. at the firehouse in Brandywine.
Line-up at the Cinder Bin on Rt. 33 following registration
Parade will end at the fire department on Rt. 21
Trophies Will Be Awarded!

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NFES Recognizes Top Accelerated Readers



The top Accelerated Reader winners for the year at North Fork Elementary School were, from left, front row, Noah Goldizen (107 points) first place, Takota Kimble (89 points) second place, and Ivy Huffman (88 points), third place, all first graders, and Cambrie Ours (160 points) first place, Waylonn Bell (116 points) second place and Timber Tingler (110 points) third place, all second graders; middle row, Ellie Huffman (231 points) first place, Benaiah Glover (131 points) second place and Oakley Dahmer (115 points) third place, all third graders, and Vera Selmon (228 points) first place, Oliver Cook (150 points) second place and Jace Ours (148 points) third place, all fourth graders; and back row, Darek Greathouse (260 points) first place, a fifth grader and Declan Shane (354 points) first place and most points in the school, Kimberly Sponaugle (147 points) second place and Dakota Vandevander (127 points), third place, all sixth graders.



Pendleton County High School May students of the month are, from left, Arianna Alt and Cashton Kisamore.



Ali Barbour is the Pendleton County Middle School May student of the month.

Alt, Kisamore, Barbour Named PCM/HS Students of the Month

Arianna Alt, Cashton Kisamore and Ali Barbour have been named outstanding students of the month for May at Pendleton County Middle/High School.

Alt of Franklin is the May Responsible Student of the Month. A junior, she is on the all A honor roll and is a track and field athlete. She works as a certified nursing assistant at Pendleton Manor and volunteers at Cunningham Greenhouse. She plans to attend James Madison University to become a history teacher. She also plans to coach track and field so kids and teens get the opportunity to participate in the sport they love. She is the daughter of Brian and Ashley Alt.

A senior, Kisamore of Seneca Rocks is the May Academic Student of the Month. He is a member of the PCHS basketball and baseball teams, the Technical Honor Society and his church youth group. He is on the honor roll and received second place in State Skills USA. He plans to move to Ohio and join the IBEW electrical union. He is the son of Kevin and Wendy Kisamore.

Eighth-grade student, Ali Barbour, is the May Student of the month for the middle school. She is the daughter of Laura Brown of Franklin. She is an honor roll student, cheerleader, and math field day participant. She attends Raymond's Gymnastics and Axis Tumbling. Her plans are to attend college and become a nurse.

Quilters Make Port Pillows for Cancer and Infusion Center

The Sew and Sews Quilt Guild has a new service project. Guild members have been busy making chemo port seat belt pillows for Grant Memorial Cancer and Infusion Center in Petersburg. The pillows are designed to be a cushion between the seat belt and the patient's infusion port. At the April meeting the ladies went to work and made several small and large pillows. The following day Jamey Wimer, guild member, delivered 20 pillows to the center.



Port pillows designed to serve as a cushion to protect the chest from friction were donated to the Grant Memorial Cancer and Infusion Center by the Sew and Sews Quilt Guild. Jamey Wimer, guild member, center, delivered the pillows to Allison Kenyon, RN, left, and Brooklyn Vetter, the center's nurse manager, right,

The members of the guild are thankful to be able to help their community. Their last project was Comforters of Valor for the veterans of Pendleton County. More than 400 quilts were made and presented to veterans. In the past they have made quilts for children, which were donated to the local rescue squads. Next on their agenda is fidget quilts, which will be donated to the memory care section of Pendleton Manor.

BES Students Excel in Academics

Ryan Lambert, Brandywine Elementary School principal, has released the following honor rolls for the fourth nine-week's grading period.

Principal's Honor Roll

First grade — Gwen Bodkin, Wyatt Cook, Alyssa Deavers, Luke Eason, Madelyn Lambert, Mia Mahoney, Brantley Marston and Carly Mitchell;

Second grade — Dylan Hensley, Braxton Kimble, Nathan Puffenbarger, Wyatt Ruddle and Titus Simon;

Third grade — Geneva Mongold, Colton Turner, Ben Weaver and Cooper Wimer;

Fourth grade — Hunter Bowers and Bethany Teagarden;

Fifth grade — Vianca Henderson; and

Sixth grade — Harley Bowers, Harper Marsh, Macie Mitchell and Addison Williams.

A-B Honor Roll

First grade — Aubrey Blankenship, Elizabeth Perry, Cohen Propst, Alexander Rawson and Hadley Reel;

Second grade — Carter Braham, Miner Hedrick, Cayson Hevener and Demakleez Wood;

Third grade — Lucas Cruz, Gaige Eye, Wyatt Hevener, Nicholas Jameson, Lukas Kiser, Annabelle Lockner, Carter Mahoney, Amari Maldonado, Alani Shockey, Jacob Wheeler and Bentley Whitlock;

Fourth grade — Lucas Hanna, Faith Hough-Lachica, Carson Mitchell, Vencen Rawson and Brody Whitlock;

Fifth grade — Logan Bowman, Thomas Connor, Trevor Redmond, Elizabeth Wheeler and Mysty-Rayne Wood; and

Sixth grade — Bryce Kimble.

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Times Past

10 Years Ago
Week of June 9, 2016

Blue Heron Visits Hartman Residence

Franklin resident, Maggie Hartman, had a visit recently in her backyard from a Blue Heron. The bird hung around for two hour last Wednesday and then returned for approximately three hours on Thursday morning. While visiting the Hartman residence, the bird ate bird seed from Maggie's hand, and drank from a bucket of water. Maggie's husband, Gene, was able to capture several photographs of the encounter.

20 Years Ago
Week of June 8, 2006

Traveler Returns to Where Journey Began

It has been a journey of epic, perhaps even Biblical proportions, and it began in Franklin on Jan. 31, 2002.

From Franklin, it was on to Staunton, VA, to board a Greyhound bus bound for Tucson, AZ.

From there, it was walking, while carrying a backpack weighing an average of 70 pounds, across the continental US—walking for the Lord.

The peripatetic soul who returned last Thursday to his journey's starting point is Don Vermilyea.

"Day one," he said, "was here in Franklin. Now, I'm back, and it's day 1,583."

Thirteen pairs of high quality New Balance sneakers later, he has walked over 19,400 miles.

Vermilyea's walk is sponsored by the Brethren Church, and it is chronicled on the church's website at www.Brethren.org.

He is a self-described "full-time, long-term" member of the Brethren Volunteer Service, and it was in 1998 that the idea of walking across America and "planting seeds of faith" took hold with Vermilyea.

He pointedly describes himself as an "ordained farmer" rather than as an ordained minister, but he has been "preaching all along the way."

Indeed, he has delivered sermons in approximately 200 Brethren churches—almost one-fifth of all the Brethren congregations in this nation—as part of his walk across America.

30 Years Ago
Week of June 13, 1996

40 Pendleton Students Receive Vocational School Diplomas

Forty Pendleton County students were among 170 vocational students from the Tri-County area who received diplomas at the 21st annual diploma night ceremony at the South Branch Vocational-Technical Center at Petersburg May 23.

Propst Volunteer of the Year

At the Pendleton Nursing Home's Annual Volunteer Recognition, Nellie Propst was selected Volunteer of the Year for her faithful and dedicated service.

For the past 15 years, Nellie has volunteered one day a week for six-eight hours. She mends clothes and sews name labels in the residents' clothes, helps with crafts, visits with the residents and helps with other activities when needed.

While Nellie was a resident at Pendleton Nursing Home recuperating from a fractured hip, she continued to mend and sew.

Other volunteers receiving awards were Rev. William Rickard and Pastor Peggy Hurlbutt, who received special awards, and Green Hedrick and Mary Hedrick, who received outstanding awards.

DAHMER

Dahmer Farm Hosts Pendleton Pioneers 4-H'ers

Pendleton Pioneers 4-H Club, Amy Vandevander, president, held their spring meeting and outing in the country on the farm of Amy's great-uncle, Johnny Arvin Dahmer, June 8. Harriet McCoy, a 4-H leader, assisted in the business meeting. Harriet's wisdom and words of praise, along with a nice personality, does much to encourage others!

Club members and adults were divided into three groups, alternating them about every 40 minutes. Lynn Vandevander showed and explained the use of early farm machinery, tools, even down to a grave axe and a grab hook used in fishing.

Amy Vandevander had a scavenger hunt and then went to the cemetery where her great-great-grandparents, John G. and Eliza Dahmer, were buried and told some ghost stories.

Johnny Arvin Dahmer showed them a replica of a one-room cabin with a ladder to climb to the loft. The idea was to show the simple life John and Estella Dahmer lived with five children until more rooms were built.

Onego Native Graduate of University of Hard Knocks

A college "sheepskin" doesn't hang on his wall, but the life experience and achievements of retired machinist and business owner Elvin David Huffman have earned him a diploma from the renowned University of Hard Knocks.

A resident of Elkins and a native of Onego, Pendleton County, Huffman was nominated for the honor by the late Jim Comstock, the editor of the West Virginia Hillbilly, who died Thursday, May 23, 1996. Comstock founded the "university" which honors individuals throughout the state who have been successful without the benefit of a college degree.

Huffman, 75, graduated from Circleville High School and said he gained his "hard knocks on-the-job experience" by working under the guidance of factory-trained technicians as well as through correspondence courses and technical manuals. He worked at The Pendleton Times as linotype operator during WWII.

An employee of The Inner-Mountain for 28 years, he served as a linotype operator and machinist, and later as composing room foreman and liaison between the editor and composing room.

In his career, Huffman also provided machine maintenance service for weekly newspapers and commercial shops in the region including the Hampshire Review, The Pendleton Times, Barbour Democrat, Weston Democrat, Buckhannon Delta, Buckhannon Record, McClain Printing and the Moorefield Examiner.

The University of Hard Knocks was founded more than 30 years ago when Comstock presented his business partner Bronson McClung with a handmade diploma emblazoned with "The University of Hard Knocks."

"Soon I was sending them out to every non-college person who, according to my own judgment, had amounted to as much or more than the average college man," Comstock said.

"Graduates" of the University of Hard Knocks met sporadically until 1976 when the honorary society became housed at Alderson-Broaddus College in Philippi.

40 Years Ago
Week of June 12, 1986

15,000 Canning Jars Given to County Flood Victims

Within a period of only two weeks, some 15,000 canning jars were distributed to persons in Pendleton County who had lost jars in the November 4 flood.

"About 12,00 jars were distributed in the first two days," said Rev. Charles Erzkus, pastor of Faith Lutheran Church in Franklin where the distribution is taking place."

"We knew there would be a need for canning jars in the county, but we were very surprised at how great the need actually is," Erzkus said. "This project may put a dent in the problem, but it does not solve the problem for families who depend on canning but lost hundreds of jars."

Some 120 families in the county have picked up jars so far, with each family receiving five dozen canning jar and additional mayonnaise jars if they wanted them. The project was made possible through the efforts of Rev. G. P. Whiteley and his wife, Nancy of Rockbridge Baths, Va.

The project began not long after the November 4 flood when Cindy Erzkus and Nancy Whiteley were both students at JMU. Nancy asked what could be done to help and Cindy shared the concern about canning jars. Nancy and G.P., who is a retired Presbyterian minister, let several Presbyterian churches in Virginia know of the need and then proceeded to collect these jars from the churches. The result was some 17,000 jars which were collected and driven to Franklin by Rev. Whiteley and Nancy.

American Elm Tree To Make Comeback

The American elm tree that once graced parks and streets throughout the eastern United States, may soon make a comeback if ongoing research proves successful.

Dutch elm disease has taken a heavy toll on this tree, causing its virtual disappearance in many areas. Recently, however, the National Arboretum in Washington, D. C., has released two new elm cultivars, "Homestead" and "Pioneer," that are resistant to this disease. And, Nursery Crops Research in Delaware, Ohio, is studying cuttings from a few surviving wild American elms that appear to be naturally resistant to the disease.

50 Years Ago
Week of June 10, 1976

5-Day Plan Helping 12 To Stop Smoking

Twelve would-be non-smokers attended the first group therapy session of the Five-Day Plan to Stop Smoking held in the galley at the Sugar Grove Naval Station last Sunday night.

Richard I. Byrd of the pastor-physician team conducted the Five-Day Plan for Pendleton County citizens, reports a genuine interest on the part of participants. Some have been chain smokers, and nine have been smoking for ten years or more. The entire group has been smoking a total of 166 years.

The participants are mainly Navy personnel and housewives, the pastor says. "They all have a common bond—a desire to break a habit that has crept into every waking moment."

Similar to the program followed by Alcoholics Anonymous, those attending the Five-Day Plan were assigned buddies, "to help them over the rough spots," the pastor explains.

DAHMER

A smile is a curve that can straighten out many troubles.

Due to freezing temperatures and a dry spring, the first cutting of orchard grass is a light one here in the mountains. Russell Propst is again an early bird to begin the hay harvest here.

The common milkweed or a local name of cotton weed, makes a tasty dish when eaten in the early stage and fixed with eggs.

Johnny Arvin Dahmer had a thrill while working when he noticed a flower, the large Twayblade, blooming and a shrub, the buckthorn or Indian cherry, in full bloom. Despite the common name, buckthorn, all species found in West Virginia are thornless.

60 Years Ago
Week of June 9, 1966

Giant Hemlocks To Be Preserved

A land of great trees resembling the redwood forests of coastal California are being preserved in eastern West Virginia.

This forest sanctuary being preserved by The Nature Conservancy is 59 acres of virgin timber near Spruce Knob. The giant hemlock, spruce, oak, maple, pine, cherry, ash and birch trees are considered by some foresters to be the most impressive stand of virgin timber in the eastern United States.

70 Years Ago
Week of June 7, 1956

295 Vote Tuesday In Franklin's Biggest Municipal Election

Citizens of Franklin set a new record Tuesday in the number of persons voting in a town election.

An all time high of 295 persons went to the polls to register their choices for a mayor, recorder and five councilmen. This number compares with 101 that voted in the last town election two years ago.

EDITORIALS

More Civic Interest – – –

More citizens of Franklin voted in the election this week than ever before. This is a good sign because it indicates that a greater number of our town folk are taking a more active interest in community affairs.

This should be encouraging to our newly elected town officials, because the more interest the people take in their town, the more cooperation the officials can expect of them. And it is hard to accomplish anything without the cooperation of the public.

But in addition to being encouraging, the big vote also serves as a mandate to the new town fathers. It means that people are interested in their community and want to see it progress, and they will be looking to the elected town officials to produce the leadership that will insure continued improvement for the town. Personal and selfish desires and opinions should be forgotten, and the touchstone for decisions should be, "Will it help to make a better Franklin?

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Smith Creek/ Friends Run

by Dave Ellis

It is that time of the year when baby fawns are in the road following their mom. Be careful in or near the woods as the snakes are out of their dens. With these warm days, they are out.

Smith Creek and Friends Run Churches of the Brethren: shut-ins — Bucky Moyers, Pam Riner, Anna Tesi, Larry Moyers, Sandy Washburn, Mary Alice Simmons, Anna Lee Mitchell and Carol Propst; prayer list — Richard Campbell, Joshua Shirk, Ava George, Kenny Williams, Ruth Bauer, Rick Waggy, Gloria Moats, Jim Fawley, Ruthalene Judy, Jessie Simmons, Minny Rhoads, David Berg, Troy Bennett, Danny Nelson, Tom and Judy Borror, David M. Parkinson, Cleo Simmons, Jimmie Bennett, Tom Butterworth, Sherry Hedrick, Bobby Parsons, Robert Bennett, Rick Phares, Virgil "Bub" Yokum, Hannah Hedrick, John Moyers, Norma Auville, Shana Johnson, Bruce Lambert, Sherry Chambers, Donald Burns, Glenn Sites, Shirley Bland, Wayne Simmons, Jennifer Scott, Brian Calhoun, Bobby Bodkin, Chris Phares, Robin Gery, Nancy George, Grace Hammer, Paul Borror, Holly Beachler, Cameron Beachler, Marcia C. Warner, Keith Kimble, Lisa Dingess, Kitty Waggy, Gretta Pope, Mary Lou Wagoner, Lucy Westfall, Donna Bennett, Peggy Pitsenbarger, Amy VanMeter, Lynwood Pennington, the family of Jim Warner, the family of Wayne Reel and the family of Pauline Sponaugle.

Prayer thought: "All knowing God, nothing I do, think, say or feel is hidden from you. Thank you for your mercy and grace."

High and low temperatures and precipitation for June 1 through June 7, followed by the same for last year, were as follows: June 1 - 72°, 47° (68°, 37°), June 2 - 73°, 48°, .04" (75°, 38°), June 3 - 78°, 43° (81°, 42°), June 4 - 82°, 46° (85°, 52°), June 5 - 84°, 53° (86°, 62°), June 6 - 86°, 57° (83°, 61°, .06") and June 7 - 86°, 63° (81°, 63°, .38").

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"Enriching Lives"
NOW SERVING PENDLETON COUNTY
Commercial & Residential Plumbing Services
Hot Water Jetting and Drain Cleaning


We Can Clear ANY Clogged Drain!
Harrisonburg Office (Headquarters)
911 Chicago Avenue
Harrisonburg, VA 22802
(540) 434-2589
www.blauchbrothers.com

Rainforest Falls
Exploring The Nature of God
Your friends from Mercer, PA, hope to see you at Vacation Bible School this summer!
Circleville Presbyterian Church
June 22 - 26
9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Ages 4 to 18
NO Cost. Lunch will be provided daily.
Van pickup at 9 a.m. at the following locations:
Base of Big Mountain • Brethren Church
Big Run Chapel • Riverton Store
(Van drop off will be at the same locations at 12:45 p.m.)
Parents may also drop children off at 9 a.m. and pick them up at 12:30 p.m. at Circleville Presbyterian Church
Questions, call Miss Nancy at 724-977-1610.

PENDLETON HOME HEALTH
SERVICES
Offering In-Home:
• Skilled Nursing
• Physical Therapy
• Occupational Therapy
• Speech Therapy
Serving Pendleton County Residents
For more information call
1-304-358-2320, ext. 3450
Pendleton Home Health Services is managed by
Pendleton Manor

Multiple Factors Portrayed Parts in Religious Practices

Sugar Grove

By Paula Mitchell

In the 1700 and 1800s, many religious congregations did not have a building in which to worship. Congregations did worship outside when the weather got warmer. During the colder months, the congregations met at the homes of members. In time, one-room log structures were built and worship then took place there. Traveling preachers were heavily relied on, due to the fact that the population was sparse and towns were just forming along the frontier. Therefore, services were usually held when the circuit riders, or traveling preachers, would arrive in the area.

Simple hewn-timber buildings with crude benches and dirt floors were erected. At times, the church building frequently doubled as a school until schoolhouses could be built in that community. It is interesting to note that these early log churches featured two doors, with men sitting on the left and the women on the right.

The latest of the site's church buildings, the present Old Propst Church, was built c. 1887 to the specifications and plans of Eugene Keister (1850-1925), a noted Pendleton County builder, contractor and carpenter. Keister built many of the county's finest frame residences, schools and churches. The Old Propst Church has been updated since that period of time. Among the many specifications for Pendleton County buildings produced by Keister, those for the Old Propst Church are known to have survived to the present day.

The writer received some church signage which she wishes to pass along to the readers.

The Best Vitamin for a Christian is B1.

Whoever is praying for snow, please stop.

Church Parking. Trespassers will be baptized.

Where will you be sitting in eternity...Smoking or Non-smoking?

Every day above ground is a good day.

Aspire to inspire before you expire.

What is missing from CH CH? UR.

Honk if you love Jesus, text while driving if you want to meet him.

Try our Sundays. They are better than Baskin-Robbins.

Under same management for over 2,000 years.

Life's instructions to have a great week include the following:

1. Don't believe all you hear, spend all you have, or sleep all you want.
2. Don't judge people by their relatives.
3. Don't let go of one's values.
4. Never interrupt when being flattered.
5. Share one's knowledge. It's a way to achieve immortality.

Ninety-degree temperatures for the latter part of the week, seems awfully early for the month of June. But then, the weather has been quite different this year, hasn't it? Several farmers have gotten into the act of making hay. And, lawns continue to be mown with this ritual being carried through to the fall season.

Quotes for the week are as follows:

"We all keep dreaming, and luckily dreams do come true." — Katie Holmes

"June is the gateway to summer." — Jean Hersey

"Be nice to people on the way up because you may meet them on the way down." — Jimmy Durante

"Think of all the beauty around you and be happy." — Anne Frank

"If you want happiness for a lifetime, help someone else." — Unknown

Sitting on the porch swing is the best place to hear the "Talk of the Grove."

Saturday evening, Donna Arrington enjoyed her 50th class reunion of 1976. She enjoyed visiting with her friends.

Sunday, a crowd of folks brought a covered dish to the VFW Pavilion and enjoyed music. Groovin' in the Grove by Monkeyshine entertained the audience with many familiar songs.

Saturday luncheon guests of Tom and Paula Mitchell were Raegan and Jim Drefoos of Connecticut and Susan Mitchell of Fort Seybert.

Returning from a week's vacation at Disney World were Brandon, Cara, Macie, Carson, and Carly Mitchell. Flights were on time, weather was wonderful, and a lot of fun was had.

This week, several youth from the community are attending the 4-H camp at Thorn Spring Park.

Clickety-clacks for the chin waggers are as follows:

•The Calico cat with tri-color fur is almost exclusively female.

•America's first national park is Yellowstone National Park.

•In 1939, The first "Batman" comic book was published.

•Delaware was the first state.

•The Empire State Building is 1,250 feet (without the spire and antenna).

June birthdays include Junior Evick, 16th; Jaylee Brubeck, 18th; Kathy Lambert, 20th; Alda Propst, 22nd; Jerry Wimer, 23rd; Lester Propst, 24th; Donna Rader and Sheila Lambert, 25th; Marshall Harper and Mike Johnston, 26th; Amanda Kiser, 27th; Sunette Propst, 28th; Jeanie Koontz, 29th; and Walt Pitsenbarger, 30th.

Concerns are for Charles Anderson, Roger and Joan Ashley, Mercedes Aumann, Dave Basagic, "Bo" and Dora Boggs, Larry Byers, Jeff Craig, Stanley Dahmer, Isaac Eye, Carl Gant, the family and friends of Junior Grogg, Sue Hall, Clyde Hamilton, Armanda Heavner, Starr Hedrick, Keith Hoover, Cynthia Hurry, Gary Jamison, Mike and Lisa Jamison, Tara Kelley, Lori Ann Lambert, Melissa Lambert, Roger Mallow, Yvonne Marsh, Dave McConnell, Jamie Mitchell, Willa Nelson, Alda Propst, Sheldon Propst, Eldon Rexrode, Bernie and Margaret Sasscer, the family of Nancy Sims, Robbie Sites, the family and friends of Carroll Lee Sponaugle and Edwin Wimer.

Abandoned and Dilapidated Buildings

Continued From Page 1

that they may attract curious children or criminal elements to explore or hide inside.

Effects radiate from blight that depress property values, reduce tax revenues, and hamper economic growth, according to information provided by the program.

Jared Stewart, also representing the BAD Buildings program, explained that the program differs greatly from zoning and code enforcement efforts. Municipalities and counties may pass zoning or dilapidated structures ordinances that identify such structures and impose punitive sanctions, such as fines, for buildings and properties whose condition falls below legally established standards.

Stewart shared that BAD Buildings program operates on "community buy-in to keep the effort sustainable."

In Franklin, the effort has nearly completed phase one. That entails forming and training a BAD Buildings team. The team then travels the area and identifies potential problem structures. Franklin's team formed a list of just under 40 properties "that may be vacant in your community." Then, according to a document about program progress in Franklin "the next step is to prioritize the properties" with "an objective process for addressing one property over another."

It then explained the rating system volunteers will use to analyze each property and the priority that should be placed on maintaining and/or redeveloping it.

Those properties are placed on a spreadsheet that allows for the rating of its health and safety level, historical value, visibility, whether or not the property owner wants to work with the team, the potential for successful redevelopment and reuse, and costs and resources that can go toward repairs or demolition.

Ensuring community buy-in, explained Stewart, means keeping participation voluntary. He informed the group that "if you don't want your property on the list, contact us and we can take it off. If you don't want a building demolished, it won't be."

Success also comes when the teams "meets property owners where they are at."

Phase two focuses on creating a redevelopment plan, then implementing it. This includes plans to howe to redevelop and reuse both structures and vacant lots. This "varies from site to site and is often based on community needs."

Of course, funding remains one of the biggest needs in redevelopment and reuse projects. Technical assistance from the BAD Buildings program helps to pull together funding and other assistance to complete the project. This assistance can include site reviews, grant writing assistance, community engagement and vision creation, completing an inventory of brownfield sites, resource identification, and education.

Athletic Facility Upgrade

Continued From Page 1

Activities Commission requirement for hosting games) would end. "It would create a third locker room, convenient for when the facility hosts two athletic events at once," Lambert said.

His continual theme throughout was that the football team deserves updated facilities, students deserved a "more purposeful" library, and reiterated that the change could cost no money at all. That said, Lambert continually emphasized that the weight room would be for use by all students.

One potential cost could lie in replacing a window in the current library with a new door to the outside, but stated that if that was not possible "it's not a do or die" for the project.

That would be "in theory, the only expense" in the entire project, saying the heavy lifting would involve him, the football coaches, and other volunteers.

Board members posed questions, starting with J. D. Wilkins asking about weight room shower facilities. Lambert said, "They don't shower," in part because the current weight room showers are caged shut and used for storage.

Wilma Pitsenbarger, board member and subject matter expert in reading in education, asked about how the library collection would be updated, to which the resigning principal stated that a committee of English teachers would take on the task.

Then came the question of various aromas that can come from workout rooms, to which Lambert cited the opinions of Josh Owens and Dan Miller, the two varsity basketball coaches. Both stated to him that two or three air purifiers would tackle the issue and also be easily installed.

Sonny O'Neil, board member, inquired if the proposal is "in lieu of us ever building a fieldhouse." Lambert replied that issue "has been under discussion for a lot of years" and shared the numbers, $20,000 to pay an architect and $1.3 million, at current costs, to construct the structure.

"I don't see that ever happening," shared Lambert.

Our Sincere Thanks

We would like to thank the staff of Pendleton Manor for the excellent care and compassion shown to our loved one during her stay. We would also like to thank Basagic Funeral Home for their kindness and assistance, Pastor Mike Lambert for the beautiful funeral service, Billy Nelson and Charlie George for the grave preparation, and the members of Mountain View Church and Circleville Presbyterian Church for providing the meal. We are also grateful to the pallbearers and to everyone who sent flowers, food, gifts, cards, prayers, and expressions of sympathy during this difficult time.

Your kindness and support will always be remembered.

The family of Pauline Sponaugle

Thank You

We would like to express our sincere gratitude to everyone who offered their love, prayers, support, cards, visits, flowers, calls, food, and acts of kindness during the passing of Wayne Waggy. Your compassion and generosity have been a great comfort to our family during this difficult time.

We extend a special thank you to his devoted caretakers, Carolyn Warner and Terri Grogg, for the compassionate care, friendship, and dedication they provided throughout Wayne's journey. Your kindness and support meant so much to him and to our family.

We are deeply grateful to Pastor Mike Lambert for his prayers and message of comfort.

Our sincere appreciation also goes to Basagic Funeral Home and its staff for their professionalism, compassion, and care in helping us honor Wayne's life and memory.

A special thank you to Jerry Kimble for providing the meal and for his thoughtfulness and generosity to our family and friends.

To all who shared in our sorrow and helped us celebrate Wayne's life, please know that your kindness will always be remembered and appreciated.

With sincere gratitude,

Rettie Mae Waggy and Family

92ND Birthday Card Shower

JUNE 13

Betty Hartman
49 Broad Run Road
Brandywine, WV 26802

Happy birthday!

The descendants of
Noah and Rebecca Teter Warner
ANNUAL REUNION
Sunday, July 5 • 1 - 4 p.m.
Clinton Hedrick Community Building
Riverton
Please Bring Covered Dish and Your Family Photos
Everyone is welcome!

Annual
EYE FAMILY REUNION
Sunday, July 5
Thorn Spring Park Pavilion
Franklin
Program begins at 10:30 a.m.
Potluck Lunch To Follow

Annual
MORRAL
Family Reunion
Will Be Held
Saturday, June 13
11 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Smoke Hole Resort
8290 North Fork Highway
Cabins
(Parking behind resort building)
Bring a covered dish and join us!

Asbury's
FAMILY RESTAURANT
Germany Valley Limestone Rd., Riverton
Carnivore Buffet
Friday, June 12 • 4:30 p.m. - 7 p.m.
Carved Prime Ribs, Grilled NY Strip Steak, Rotisserie Style Chicken, Pan Seared Pork Chops, Macaroni and Cheese, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Glazed Carrots, Mixed Green Salad, Rolls/Butter and Assorted Desserts $40.00
Saturday Night Music on the Porch With Zach Propst
Saturday, June 13
Sunday Buffet
Sunday, June 14 • Noon - 3 p.m.
Mixed Green Salad, Roasted Pork Loin, Citrus Chicken, Beef Burgundy, White and Wild Rice, Scalloped Potatoes, Peas and Mushrooms, Tex Mex Corn, Rolls/Butter and Assorted Desserts $30.00
RESTAURANT HOURS:
Friday and Saturday 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Sunday Noon - 5 p.m.
(Sunday Buffet Noon - 3 p.m.
Menu Items Available All Day)

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pendleton County Building Permit

Residents of Pendleton County are reminded that a building permit must be obtained before beginning construction on any of the following:

- New homes or cabins
- Farm buildings or poultry houses
- Single-wide or double-wide homes
- Residential or prefabricated buildings
- Additions to existing homes or structures

Permits may be obtained at the Pendleton County Assessor's Office, located in the County Courthouse. Failure to secure a permit prior to construction may result in penalties or fines as mandated by the County Commission.

There is no fee for obtaining a building permit.

Additional requirements may apply:

- If your property is located in a flood zone, please contact Floodplain Coordinator Bruce Minor at 304-358-3889 prior to construction.
- If constructing a dwelling that requires a septic system permit or well drilling, contact County Sanitarian Brooke Hott at 304-358-7565.
- If adding electrical service to a structure, contact Mon Power at 1-800-686-0022.

For questions or further information, please contact the Assessor's Office or Sandie H. Smith, Assessor of Pendleton County, at 304-358-2563.

This notice is provided to help ensure compliance with county regulations and to assist residents in planning their construction projects accordingly.

Pendleton Humbles Lincoln in State Playoffs Tune Up Game

By Stephen Smoot

Pendleton County's baseball squad put in the work and overcame numerous obstacles to claw their way into the state tournament this year. After years of climbing the mountain each May and not taking the summit, the Wildcats took their place as the seventh seed in Class A.

Prior to the trek to Huntington, Sam Yokum, head coach, arranged for two tune up games against Jefferson and Lincoln (Harrison). These had the intention of exhibitions, but also count toward the regular season records of each team. Pendleton County took on the fifth seed in Class AAAA, Jefferson, early in the week and fell 9-2 in a competitive game.

Last Wednesday night, they entertained the Lincoln Cougars of Shinnston in Harrison County. They held the seventh seed for the Class AA playoffs, posting wins during the season over Elkins, Moorefield, East Hardy, and splitting a season series with Petersburg. Like Pendleton County, the Cougars played a robust slate of squads to forge a team resilient enough to take on the best in the state.

Both games played by the Wildcats last week took place at Garrett College in Maryland with representatives of that school's coaching staff on hand to watch a commit to them from Lincoln and also to scout for future talent.

A.J. Bart took the mound for the Cougars and got a battle from the leadoff batter Travis Owens, who also qualified and competed in the West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission state track meet. He continued guarding the plate for nine pitches before flying out to left. The next batter, Jaxon Simon, earned a walk, but a ground ball out and a baserunner caught between bases closed the first half of the inning.

Pendleton County rested their big game pitcher Chase Owens and opened with Mason Miller, a freshman with a four and four record and a 5.09 ERA. He walked 26 and struck out 38 on the season. Colton Edwards led off with a line drive single on the second pitch to him. Anthony Belcastro drove a single past second into shallow right center and Lincoln seemed to have momentum early.

Max Abruzzino, who hits .323, grounded to second. Travis Owens fielded it, tossed it to Chase Owens at second, who relayed it to first, but could not quite secure the out there. The first inning concluded when Edwards was picked at third and the batter flew out to left.

In the top of the second, the Wildcats got Cashton Kisamore on with a single and Cole Harper on via a base on balls, but the infield defense of Lincoln helped them to escape without damage. Lincoln similarly put two on base in their half of the second, only to see Pendleton County's infield in turn use defense to get their pitcher out of potential problems.

Wildcat bats came alive in the top of the third. Christopher Mazzei took the mound in this inning. The exhibition aspect of the game saw each coach using his pitchers for limited innings to get arms ready, but not too used up, for the coming week. Mazzei had a two and one record on the year with a 4.24 ERA and a team leading three saves.

Noah Lockard led off for the Wildcats and got plunked in the helmet by the first pitch tossed to him. Wyatt Haynes stepped in to pinch run for him. Travis Owens came next. The first and third pitches came high and inside, but the second was a foul hit straight back. He singled on a ground ball, putting runners at first and second.

Simon stepped to the plate. He has enjoyed a strong freshman campaign with a .289 batting average, 26 runs batted in, 10 doubles and two home runs. One of those doubles



Mason Miller on the mound pitched as cool as the evening was warm, setting the tone for a big win over Class AA state tournament bound Lincoln (Harrison).

he sent over third base on a line drive into left field, sending Haynes home, Travis Owens to third, and putting the Wildcats up 1-0.

Chase Owens sent a drive between the right and center fielders to the wall, reaching third and sending in two runs for a 3-0 advantage.

Miller stepped in and went down one ball and two strikes, but Chase Owens stole home on a passed ball during the at bat. Miller on the fourth pitch to hit walked into second. Mazzei then gathered himself and got the next three Wildcats in turn to close out that half of the inning.

Lincoln fired back in their half of the third with Edwards doubling to left to lead off. Belcastro worked the pitcher to two balls and no strikes, then grounded to second. Travis Owens saw the ball bounce out of his glove, but reached back, snagged the ball from the air, and tossed Belcastro out. The sacrifice put Edwards at third with a single out.

Abruzzino followed by lofting a fly ball to center, deep enough for the runner to tag and put Lincoln on the board.

Cohen Hiett then entered the game in relief of Miller. He has done well when handed the ball, earning a one win and no loss record and also a 1.31 ERA. He has allowed in seven appearances six hits and six walks, but struck out 17. Brycen Moore faced him first, bringing a .298 average with him. He drove his pitch to the opposite field wall, but the Wildcat defense recovered quickly enough to keep the hard-charging runner at third.

Hiett picked up the third out on the next at bat to get his team back to the plate.

Mazzei looked at five batters with his infielders picking up two outs and striking out Chase Owens to conclude the top of the fourth.

Lincoln came to the bottom of the fourth with work to do. With one out, Jacob Holt earned a walk, having 17 on the year. Chasen Sipher came to the plate later with two outs. During his at bat, Holt swiped second to get into scoring position. Sipher took advantage, singling to shallow second, bringing in Holt and setting the score at 4-2 in favor of the Wildcats.

Jacob Bart came to pitch for Lincoln in the top of the fifth. He posted a six and five record on the season with a 4.84 ERA. Miller sent a two balls and two strikes pitch up the middle for a base hit. Kisamore, a .346 hitter on the season, directed a bunt down the third base side. Mazzei at third made a tremendous effort to secure the out, but the batter reached safely with Miller halting at second.

Mason Harper earned a walk on six pitches to load the bases with no outs. Jacob Bart dug in against the left hander Cole Harper and struck him out swinging. Hiett then drove the first pitch to him to left field, scoring one, the bases remaining loaded with Wildcats.

Lockard then hit a ground ball to third that got Mason Harper out, but scoring Kisamore on the fielder's choice. Travis Owens took a base on balls on four straight pitches with Haynes running for Lockard and Barrett Cook stepping in to run for Hiett. Simon went down no balls and two strikes, watched a ball, then launched the next pitch over the left fielder's head to the wall. Three runs came in, breaking the game open for Pendleton County 9-2.

Pendleton County sent Caydon Boone to pitch in the bottom of the fifth. The senior has two wins and no losses on the season with a 2.62 ERA. He dealt nine pitches to retire the Cougars' side in order.

Alex Greene, with a three and one record, went on to pitch for Lincoln in the top of the sixth. He struck out Miller on four pitches, but his third pitch plunked Kisamore in the shoulder. Mason Harper grounded out, but moved the lead runner to scoring position on the sacrifice. Cole Harper's ground ball, plus an errant throw, brought the run in and put the batter on third base for a 10-2 mark. Greene then struck out Landon Davis to close the inning.

Travis Owens appeared in the bottom of the sixth, but Greene reached second on an error to get the Cougars going in the inning. A. J. Bart pushed a seeing eye single into left to put runners on the corners with no outs. Holt sent a fly ball to deep right, allowing the runner on third to tag and score the Cougars' third run.

Two batters later and with two outs, Sipher came to the plate. He patiently waited through the first three pitches, all balls, as A. J. Bart made his way via steals to second, then third. Bart scored when Sipher lined to right, making the score 10 to four.

For the top of the seventh, Colton Edwards assumed the mound. In nine appearances he has one win and no losses with a 4.50 ERA. With maximum efficiency, he went through the Wildcats in order using only five pitches to get to the bottom of the seventh.

With the score not out of reach, but still presenting a mountain to climb, Belcastro and Abruzzino got on with no outs. On the next at bat, Moore grounded to Chase Owens, who kicked off a double play and sent Belcastro to scoring position at third.

Travis Owens then earned the last out with a ground ball rolled back to himself. He ran, applied the tag, and closed out the game.

Pendleton County thus entered the state tournament will all pistons firing as they awaited a rematch with area rival East Hardy.

At Last! Pendleton County Prevails Over East Hardy in Huntington

By Stephen Smoot

Last Wednesday and three days before entertaining reigning state champion East Hardy, Pendleton County scored 10 runs on Class AA state tournament qualifier Lincoln (Harrison County). As Sam Yokum, head coach, explained, that performance helped the team to see the potential of what they could accomplish in Huntington.

"Some of our guys are baseball guys, others are three sport athletes," he said, but shared that the common denominator is toughness and the constant desire to keep getting better." Yokum added that "we're playing a lot of young guys," but also that they have stepped up all season long, made plays, and contributed more and more.

The Wildcats did not face just any team in the first round; the schedulers pitted them against a Cougar squad that combines tremendous experience and championship swagger.

Shayne Sisler took to the mound for East Hardy to face Wildcat batters in the top of the first. While he earned three outs in short order, the manner in which the Wildcat batters made outs foreshadowed how the game would progress.

Each of those who came up, Travis Owens, Jaxon Simon, and Chase Owens, hit solid line drives directly back up the middle, but right at the centerfielder. This indicated that they came into the game with a bead on the pitcher and had him already timed up.

The Cougar half of the first opened with Chase Owens getting leadoff batter Evan Hamilton to swing at the third strike, but the next man at bat hit a line drive to center. After Mason Hamilton took first, then stole second during Levi Price's at bat, an errant play allowed a run to score.

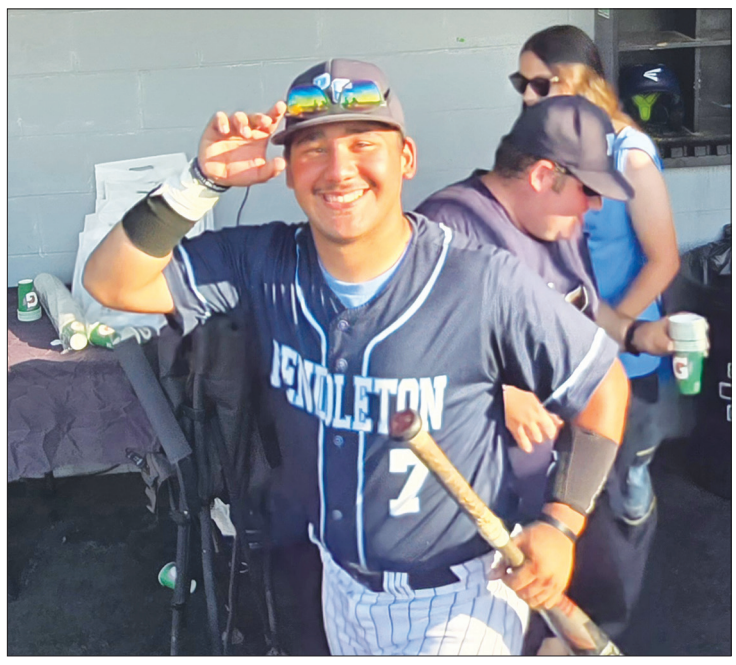
While the Wildcats went to the top of the second down 1-0, that changed rapidly. Cashton Kisamore created another rumbling of thunder by driving the ball nearly to the warning track in center for a loud out. Then Mason Miller hit the first pitch to him towards short, reaching second base after an error. Two batters later and with two outs, Cole Harper pulled a nine iron shot to the right field corner, sending Miller home and evening the score at one run a piece.

Chase Owens retired the side in order in the bottom of the second and the Cougars returned the favor in the top of the third. Noah Lockard singled to lead off, but a double play and a fly out, once again to center, closed down the inning.

In the bottom of the third, two quick ground outs did not deter the boys from Baker. Evan Hamilton singled, followed by a line drive single by Mason Hamilton to right. When Price came to bat with runners on the corners, East Hardy executed a daring double steal that put them up by one again. Price grounded out to end the inning after.

To start the fourth, Chase Owens earned a walk on four pitches with the heart of the order coming up for his squad. Kisamore came to the plate next. During his at bat, Chase Owens stole himself into scoring position.

Kisamore hit a soft bouncer back to the pitcher. Chase Owens pulled away from the base just enough to distract the pitcher who overthrew first base. That scored a Wildcat run and put



Noah Lockard can't hide that Pendleton County Wildcat pride. Photo by Regina Smoot.



Chase Owens turned in a dominant performance to top the defending state champion area rival Cougars. Photo by Regina Smoot.

Kisamore on second. With one strike to him in the next at bat, Miller drove a double to left and put his team up 3-2.

Still in the top of the fourth with no outs, Mason Harper hit a single that sent in Miller and set the score at 4-2. Two batters later with one out on the board, Landon Davis chopped a ball hard to short, then hustled hard down the line to beat the throw to first.

Later in the inning and with two outs, Travis Owens came to bat with runners on second and third, pushing a seeing eye single into centerfield, breaking open the game for the Wildcats 6-2.

After the offensive explosion in the top of the fourth, Chase Owens needed to keep the door closed on Cougar run production. Sisler and Dayton Dove each singled, leaving runners at the corners with no outs, a perfect spot for East Hardy to counterpunch after the big Wildcat inning. Chase Owens then brought his senior experience to bear, striking out Greg Dove with a wicked fast ball, then getting Eli Combs to strike out swinging as well. The third out came on a ground ball to short.



Late in the game, Wildcat coaches gather the team to keep them focused as East Hardy looked to battle back. Photo by Regina Smoot.

In the top of the fifth, East Hardy put Mason Hamilton on the mound. He faced first the hot hitting Simon who hit a stand up double to left field. A bloop single to shallow right by Chase Ow-

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An Italian Motorcycling Tradition Makes a Pit Stop at Thorn Spring Park

By Stephen Smoot

If one heard a little thunder in the mountains recently, that did not come from the endless influx of much-needed and much-appreciated rain. That came from a legion of well-crafted sounds emanating from classic antique motorcycles with riders sporting Carolina blue vests traversing the backroads of Pendleton County.

They came as part of the increasingly popular Moto Giro competitions in the United States, based on road rallies and competitions held in Italy for decades.

Jeff Munn, fellow enthusiast and also co-owner of Dry Run Distillery and Historic Annanias Pitsenbarger Farm, explained "I was volunteered to host one in West Virginia."

The Moto Giro is about as old as motorcycles themselves. About two months before the guns of August opened up in Europe, a cadre of enthusiasts riding the recently invented motorcycle searched for ways to show off both riding skill and machine performance. They organized the first Giro Motociclisto d'Italia in 1914, then developed it into a national tradition in the 1950s.

Almost 20 years ago, the excitement of motorcycle performance competition, crossed over into the United States. In 2008, the first competition in America took place in California.

As Munn and others emphasize, however, please don't call it a race. Moto Giro is not The Cannonball Run so much, as it is a test of the skill of the rider and the precision performance of his or her machine. Courses run over tar and gravel and dirt roads to test skills and capabilities, as well as to steer competitors free of major highways as much as possible.

As Munn explains, "There's no advantage to going fast" because the riders must average 25 miles per hour.

Motorcycles must come from the year 1968 or earlier with engines between 199cc and 305cc. All riders should follow the rules of the road and also accepted etiquette among competitors. Riders must follow competition guidelines in speed. Points are tallied from time trials, agility tests, and other aspects of the competition, but as in golf, lowest score wins.

What does the winner get? Munn said, "No cash. Just bragging rights." Other prerequisites include a commemorative T-shirt, keeping the numbered identification vest, and whatever amazing memories and stories one accumulates along the way.



Moto Giro competitors do agility testing for their classic motorcycles during the lunch stop at Thorn Spring Park. Franklin Ruritan fed the hungry riders and gave out hot drinks on a cold, rainy day.

Furthermore, part of the challenge comes from following the "road chart" that lays out the roads on which the route runs. No GPS or other electronics are allowed, just good old fashioned "figure it out."

Competitors form teams to take on the challenging 220-mile course. On this day, riders stopped at Thorn Spring Park halfway through their day to perform agility tests and take a well-earned break from the road.

One of the first motorcycles to pull into the park was run by Steve Aretz and Deb Welch from Smyrna, Virginia. They sported a gleaming and new looking 1963 Triumph with a 200cc engine. Aretz smiled and explained, "These are mostly small displacement, weird motorcycles."

He noted that he and his fellow riders plowing through a total of 20,000 feet in elevation changes "are happily insane." Thus far during the day, they had experienced Dolly Sods, Smoke Hole Canyon, and Sugar Grove. On their way towards Canaan Valley they would travel through Circleville.

Not long after came Brianne Rolph, a native of Ohio who had won a recent event. She related that her father and godfather had learned of the event about 13 years ago. They started competing and "invited me to come along. I started riding on the team." She affirmed that following the road charts is part of the challenge, saying, "Don't get lost!"

Rolph also noted that the appeal lies more in travel, seeing new places, and camaraderie on the road than winning, but "it's sure nice when that happens."

Helping Munn and his wife, Theresa, welcome the Moto Giro riders was the Franklin Ruritan Club. They laid out a lunch of hot dogs with homemade sauce, homemade macaroni salad, and hot coffee and hot chocolate for the unusually cold and wet conditions.

"Jeff called us and asked us if we could do the meal," said Angie Hedrick from the Franklin club. Also on hand was Becky Hedrick, Diana Mitchell, and Nancy Bowers. Angie Hedrick shared that while the dedication remains as strong as ever to work in the community, "we need to get the word out about all the clubs in the community."

The decline in volunteerism and joining service clubs has hit every community. Angie Hedrick noted, "There's a lack of interest. Younger people just aren't interested anymore." That said, the Ruritans continue to support local events, provide scholarships to young people, and support community organizations such as volunteer fire departments and 4-H.

George Ellis rode in from Albany, New York. "I've been to 24 of these." he shared. "Now I help to put them on." Ellis described one of the great benefits of hosting a Moto Giro, saying, "You'll find riders back in the fall just to visit the places they've seen."

But one common theme prevailed, outside of having a great time. All agreed that the beautiful examples of original manufacturing design and the loving craftsmanship of owners looks far better on the country roads of West Virginia than simply sitting merely admired, but otherwise unused in a garage.

Dangers on Allegheny Mountain

Continued From Page 1

ing and stopping a 60,000-pound truck traveling at 60 miles an hour. They are designed to stop a 90,000-pound vehicle.

Then James Rossi, head of the department of transportation, removed the project from consideration, downgrading first to an escape ramp, then approving a more robust version of guardrails, which is now in use on the mountain. Though West Virginia officials cited system failure as the reason to pass, three Rocky Mountain states feature it on their dangerous roadways.

Recent accidents have once again raised the question of safety on that section of US 33, on which come increasing numbers of trucks and tourists annually.

The state put in place TL 5 barriers that serve as doubly reinforced guardrails. Pillars from them extend deep into the ground and do make them sturdy enough to keep vehicles on the roadway if control is lost.

As Gillespie stated in his letter, however, "As I and others predicted, it did deflect off the barriers and encroach to a large degree into oncoming lanes of travel." He explained that "had a vehicle been approaching from the opposite direction, it would have been crushed by the rig."

Referring to the situation as "Russian roulette," Gillespie posited a situation where a runaway truck could strike a bus loaded with passengers, creating "a mass casualty event."

Commodity flow studies conducted by the state share that the most frequent chemical trucked over Allegheny Mountain is anhydrous ammonia. This substance, according to Airgas, a specialty chemical products company, is "a hygroscopic compound that seeks out moisture from any nearby source," which is used in agriculture. It stated further that "the moisture-rich tissue from our bodies is at risk" when in close contact with the substance. Both superchilled and with a tendency to rapidly draw moisture from tissues, it represents an extreme danger to both crash victims and first responders.

Even worse, Gillespie reported that the accident compromised the guardrails to the point that they will need extensive work to regain their effectiveness, necessitating another long closure of one lane of the highway. The rails originally cost $600,000 in funds and months of time to install. The state now faces the likelihood of having to repair the guardrails on a regular basis if they cannot be strengthened further to withstand the impacts more effectively.

He added that "while Corridor H is a great and needed highway, it will NEVER eliminate the truck traffic on US 33."

Pendleton County Prevails

Continued From Page 6

ens put runners at the corners for the Wildcats, who did not waste the opportunity to add distance between themselves and the Cougars.

Kisamore drove the ball deep, over the head of the centerfielder to the wall. The seventh and eighth runs came over the plate, giving the underdogs an 8-2 advantage going into the Cougar half of the fifth. Patrick Mills led off and hit a screaming line drive that looked to be trouble until Travis Owens leapt high into the air to pull the ball down for the first out.

As the game progressed after the five o' clock start time, the blinding summer sun gradually dropped lower in the sky behind third base. Evan Hamilton lofted a fly ball to deep right which dropped to the turf as the right fielder lost it in the glare of the sun. Mason Hamilton came to the plate with Evan Hamilton on third. He reached safely on a fly ball as well, knocking a run in and closing the score to 8-3.

The defense, however, recorded two outs in succession to end the threat. In the top of the sixth, East Hardy held the line and set down the three Wildcat batters in order. At times during his career, a fireball strikeout artist, Chase Owens, relied on the solid execution of his infielders and outfielders behind him to keep the Cougars quiet.

East Hardy pitching continued to keep the Cougars within a dangerous distance of Pendleton County's lead. Simon grounded out to lead off the top of the seventh.

As Pendleton County batters tried to extend the lead late, Travis Owens went to the bullpen and started warming up.

Still in the top of the seventh, Chase Owens tried to sneak a bunt against the Cougar defense. He softly popped it into the no-mans-land between pitcher and catcher. It could have been trouble, but the English on the spinning ball put it directly into the glove of the catcher, who threw him out easily.

One hour and 45 minutes after the first pitch, Chase Owens took the mound three outs away from eliminating the state champions and moving within two games of a title matchup. East Hardy's dugout jockeys made a shrill noise trying to distract the indefatigable senior.

In this inning, he started working the batters first with high fastballs, locating them in places where the batter would either swing under and miss or pop it up harmlessly. By and large, the Cougars did not fall for this gambit. They continued to force the pitcher to confront them in the strike zone.

He got the leadoff batter to ground out to short. Mills up next grounded the ball to second. First baseman Cole Harper had to kick his right leg out as he extended to catch the throw while keeping his left foot rooted firmly on the base.

Pendleton County was one out away from advancing, but East Hardy never stopped grinding away.

Leadoff hitter and all-around playmaker Evan Hamilton came through for the Cougars, doubling to left. With first base open, Yokum opted to intentionally walk the dangerous Mason Hamilton to put force outs on all three bases. Then Levi Price drew a walk on four pitches to load the bases.

Armed and ready, Travis Owens stepped into the game to save one of the most important wins of his elder brother's life. With two balls and no strikes, the next pitch hit Simon's foot, but he swiftly corralled it to keep the runners in place. The batter, Sisler, earned a walk, getting an RBI for the fourth run, and bringing the tying run to the plate in Dayton Dove.

But there would be no dramatics in this at bat. With one strike recorded, Dove hit an easy grounder to short. Chase Owens gathered in the ball, looked to second, and tossed the ball to second as gently and carefully as if it was grandma's favorite antique vase. The out secured an 8-4 win over the Cougars, advancing the Wildcats in tournament game.

Evan and Mason Hamilton accounted for four of East Hardy's six hits and all of their runs scored. The Wildcats had remarkably even production with each player who appeared in the game recording a single hit. Travis Owens and Kisamore each led the team with two RBIs Chase Owens pitched six and two thirds innings, allowing only two earned runs and striking out four.

Today, the Wildcats will take on the Sherman Tide and their 25 and nine record. Sherman has also played up against higher classification schools during their season, including two decisive late season wins against Class AAA South Charleston.

The two teams will meet 50 minutes after the conclusion of the 10 a.m. contest at Jack Cook Field in Huntington.

County Schools Fiscally Sound

Continued From Page 1

that reduces that cost by about $40 per month for the life of the contract. He described a number of copiers in the schools of various ages and capabilities, most of which would get replaced. The old contract charged $2,970 per month while the new 60-month contract will charge $2,930.

He added that PCS generates "about two million copies per year."

Wilma Pitsenbarger, board member, inquired if the faculty senate still had some obligations to help to pay for copies, to which Mowery replied, "No, we took that over. No need for faculty senate to contribute to that anymore."

He concluded his report by saying that they continued to monitor meetings in Charleston concerning the state funding formula and proposed changes or alternatives to it.

Mowery then responded to praise given by Hevener to he and his staff in treasury and finance, saying, "I appreciate the congratulations, but it is very much a team effort."

Next came up a section of new policies for review on second reading. Four new policies up for adoption are addressing professional workforce issues, the leave policy, establishing a "share table," and also one addressing pranks by either students or school system employees.

Pitsenbarger asked why pranks are "suddenly an issue" and described them as a "time-honored tradition." She inquired, "What brought this on?"

Hevener stated that the new policy suggestion came when transitioning to a new policy manual and added "so that instructional time is not lost and items are not damaged." The original impetus my have also been sparked by a tragic prank attempt in Georgia last March in which a teacher with four decades of service was accidentally killed, although that incident was off school time and property.

Pitsenbarger pointed out that in Highland County, Virginia, a policy on the books stated that pranks had to be approved by administration.

Hevener agreed that policy could be tabled for further discussion and refinement, but urged that a final version apply to both students and school system employees. Pitsenbarger related that a teacher she worked with would generally find other teachers removing the door to his classroom as a prank, all in good fun, of course.

She said, "The kids have to know their limitations. It has to be approved by somebody. It's too vague."

A motion to accept the other policies on second reading, but table the one referring to pranks, passed.

As the board discussed approving textbooks, Pitsenbarger inquired if any reading education specialists were on adoption committees. When she was answered in the negative, Pitsenbarger replied that those committees should include a reading specialist.

June Is Elder Abuse Awareness Month

Elder abuse is an intentional act or failure to act that causes or creates a risk of harm to an older adult (age 60 or older).

Elder Abuse Can Be Prevented By:

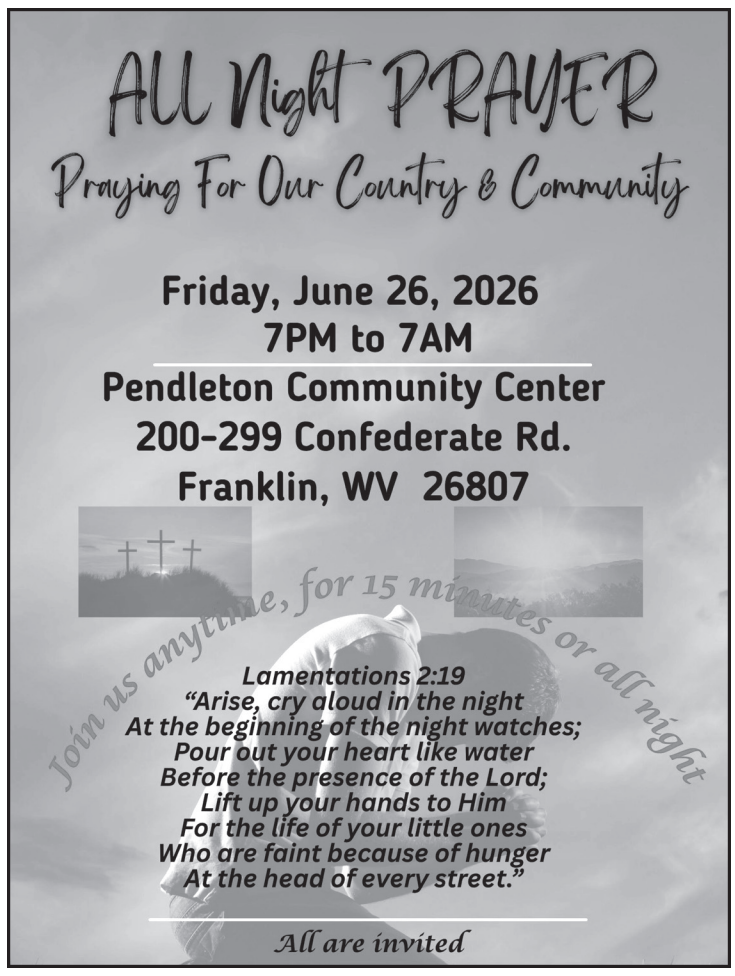
•Taking care of your health •Planning for your own future
•Seeking professional help for drug, alcohol and depression concerns
•Learning about domestic violence services •Having your own phone
•Posting and opening your own mail •Knowing your rights
•Not giving personal information over the phone
•Using direct deposit for all checks
•Staying active in the community and connected with friends and family

Elder abuse can be reported by calling Adult Protective Services at 800-352-6513.

*No patient denied services because of inability to pay!

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Public Gets Their Say on PCS Superintendent at Meeting

By Stephen Smoot

Social media rang the tocsin for the public to show and share their thoughts on Nicole Hevener, Pendleton County Schools superintendent.

Most speakers voiced support for Hevener, completing her first year in office after the retirement of Charles Hedrick from that position, but not from education advocacy overall.

J. D. Wilkins, board president, opened the meeting, then went to the public comment period. With great diplomacy, as befits the role of board president, Wilkins explained the nuances of West Virginia State Code in regards to public meetings.

This is generally a point of misunderstanding when citizens come before public bodies in official meetings.

"Public comment," Wilkins stated, "is an important part of the meeting." He then stated that he would go over the laws and rules because "it can be very frustrating" to address officials and not have a response. Wilkins stated that not only could the board of education not answer questions or engage the public, it could also not act on items not already placed on the official meeting agenda.

"We shouldn't even be asking questions about what people are saying," he clarified, because the board did not want to "guide" and "shape" the public discussion.

The laws are also in place to protect the public's right to speak freely within the set guidelines, in recognition of the fact that some public bodies might try to shout down or intimidate citizen speakers.

A member of the public inquired if topics raised could be placed on future agendas. Agendas are made at the discretion of the board.

Johnny Hevener rose to speak first. He thanked faculty, staff, administrators, and central office employees for their hard work and tough decisions. He then praised Hevener for making "very tough decisions on complex problems" while facing "complete lies, slander, gossip . . . nothing short of pure evil" directed against the superintendent.

"You show love to these instigators by praying for them every day," he added, then recited the first Psalm, New Standard Version.

Jamie Mitchell came next, saying, "I'm here tonight because I've been told things. I've heard things" and stated she was at the meeting "to find out what the truth is" because "you don't know what's true and what's not."

She then made a series of accusations against the superintendent, including that Hevener "retaliated against Lambert." That referred to the recent resignation of Derek Lambert as principal of Pendleton County Middle/High School and his acceptance of the job of both leading, and restoring to good working order, the troubled Randolph County School system. Mitchell demanded that the board put the superintendent on leave and then investigate her.

Mitchell stated that she had sent letters to the West Virginia Department of Education and other agencies about her concerns.

Mark Detlefson spoke next and asked about the quick turnaround on the posting and closing of the principal position at PCM/HS.

Amy Rexrode, 26-year veteran teacher at Franklin Elementary School, provided a passionate defense of Hevener.

"I was not asked. I was not invited. I come as a citizen and as a parent," she shared, then noted that Pendleton County Schools values had always reflected kindness, politeness, and respect.

Rexrode pointed out that those with concerns about schools have opportunities to work to help improve them. She emphasized numerous ways in which citizens could volunteer in the schools. They could come to Parent Teacher Organization monthly meetings or Local School Improvement Council sessions.

She then addressed the question over whether Hevener "forced out" Lambert, who was seated directly behind Rexrode at the meeting and present for a PCMHS related purpose.

"Some think that a superintendent can just run off a principal," she asserted, adding "that's not giving credit to this gentleman right here" she said, gesturing to Lambert. "He is capable of making his own adult professional decisions." While "it's sad he's leaving," she noted that Pendleton County should be proud that one of their own will be righting the ship of a neighboring county system that needed his expertise.

"If we truly cared about Lambert, we'd be celebrating," Rexrode said.

She related times in which she had come to Hevener's office with significant disagreements in policy and described those meetings as respectful. Rexrode stated that sometimes Hevener would agree, sometimes not, but direct discussion gave positive outcomes.

Finally, Rexrode recalled her own decade-long advocacy of replacing the old Franklin Elementary School, describing a campaign of polite persistence that got results, as opposed to social media.

The final speaker indicated, "I'm just here for support," and left it at that.

Once public comment period concluded, the board moved next to hear the presentation on athletic facilities at PCMHS from Lambert.

Emergency Energy Assistance Available to Eligible Residents

West Virginia Department of Human Services has announced applications for the Emergency Low Income Energy Assistance Program will be accepted through June 26, or until funds are exhausted.

The federally funded program assists eligible state residents in paying home heating or cooling bills. Residents whose primary heating and cooling source is gas or electricity must provide a termination notice or a past due utility bill when applying for ELIEAP. Households using other primary heating sources or bulk fuel may qualify for assistance if their heating fuel levels are critically low during the application period.

Households that received a direct payment through the regular Low Income Energy Assistance Program must verify that the benefit was used for home heating expenses. Applicants must submit a current receipt equal to the amount of LIEAP assistance received along with their ELIEAP application. Failure to provide verification of payment will result in denial of the application.

Eligibility for ELIEAP is based on household income, household size, and responsibility for paying home heating or cooling costs. To qualify, households must meet all program requirements and be experiencing an energy emergency that could disrupt their primary heating or cooling source if assistance is not provided.

The income limit for Fiscal Year 2026 is 60 percent of the State Median Income. The maximum allowable gross income levels for ELIEAP Fiscal Year 2026 are as follows: household size and monthly allowable income: one, $2.454; two, $3,209; three $3,965; four, $4,720; five, $5,475; six, $6,230; seven, $6,372; eight, $6,769; nine, $7,456; 10, $8,144; and for each additional household member add $688.

Households whose countable income exceeds the maximum allowable amount are not eligible for assistance. Certain types of income may be excluded when determining ELIEAP eligibility.

Residents must apply in person at their local DoHS office. A directory of local offices is available at dohs.wv.gov/field-offices. Applications will be processed while funding remains available.

Photos of Century Farms Signs Sought for Celebration

To celebrate the nation's 250th anniversary on July 4,he West Virginia Century Farm Program wants to celebrate farmers by collecting photos of participants' Century Farm signs across the state.

The "Here's Your (Farm) Sign" coordinators ask that participants email, no later than June 22, a photo of one's already posted Century Farm, Sesquicentennial Farm, Bicentennial Farm, or Sestercentennial Farm signs to Ken Brown at retiredtch20023@yahoo.com and/or Davin White at dwhite@wvca.us. Please write in the email subject line "Century Farm sign photo."

Submitted photos will be used to make a photo collage of the farm signs around the state, as well as a video celebrating the farms. The video will be shared widely on social media to celebrate July 4th and the 250th anniversary.

Photos can include family members gathered around the sign, or the sign alone. Brown also welcomes a scenic photo or two of the farm to accompany the primary Century Farm sign photo. Please limit submissions to no more than four photos. Historical photos contrasted with current (before and after) photos of the farm are welcome, too.

"Just as we are celebrating our nation's 250th birthday, we also want to celebrate the birthdays of our West Virginia family farms across the state," Brown, a Guyan Conservation District supervisor who oversees the Century Farm Program, said. "Farmers, we want to see pictures of your sign and your farm."

Brown of Cabell County also said that interest in the Century Farm program and in obtaining farm signs has increased tremendously this year.

The West Virginia Century Farm Program is designed to recognize those families who have been farming the same tract of land for at least 100 years. Century Farms, Sesquicentennial Farms, Bicentennial Farms and Sestercentennial Farms are recognized annually.

A Century Farm is one that has been in continuous operation by the same family for at least 100 years. A Sesquicentennial Farm (at least 150 years), a Bicentennial Farm (200 years) and a Sestercentennial Farm (250 years) has been in continuous operation by the same family for at least its minimum number of years.

For more about the Century Farm program, visit https://www.wvca.us/education/century_farms.cfm.

Pendleton County Native Celebrates 102 Years

How does one remember and share with others what living to be 102 years old has been like. Cleo Linwood (Smith) Simmons can tell anyone who asks and will listen to what her years have been like. She was born on April 11, 1924, the fourth oldest of 12 children born to Gordon and Lula Smith.

The early years were spent helping her parents and three older sisters do what was needed to simply survive. The Smith family had little, if any, money, and basically all the food they had was raised in the gardens.

There was no electricity, running water, or telephone. The washing was done a washboard and hung outside on a line to dry. Imagine that much washing of dirty clothes. The irons were heated on the wood stove before they could iron. With that many children, that was a lot of ironing!

Cleo's mother would make most of their clothes and these would be handed down from one child to the next.

The only way of travel was walking as granddad never did drive or own a car. These were hard and difficult times for sure.

As the family grew so did the workload of the older children. Schooling was important and Cleo and her siblings would walk down through the fields to the Stony Run School, about a mile from the house. They went to school regardless of what the weather was like.

Granddad would take the older children and together they would walk through the fields and woods to St. Michael Church, located on the Sugar Grove Road. I have no idea how far that was.

On April 12, 1937, Cleo's mother passed away, 26 days after her twin sisters were born and one day after her 13th birthday. What a tragedy for this husband and 12 children. I can hardly imagine what this time in their young lives must have been like.

Granddad was determined to keep his family together and raise them to adulthood, and he did. Helping with new babies was easy for Cleo, as there were seven siblings younger than her. So when older sisters, Jane and my mom, needed help, she was there.

Cleo met the love of her life, Vernon Simmons, and they were married on June 8, 1946, and they would share their lives together for 76 years. They moved to Staunton, Virginia, in the late 1940s.

Cleo continues to live in the house that her three brothers built for them. She loves flowers and the large flower bed in the backyard sported a dress of many colors from early spring until the killing frost of fall.

The garden was filled with a variety of vegetables that were canned for the winter and to share. Vernon loved to mow his lawn and care for the apple trees and the plum and peach trees that stood in a row below the garden.

There was a large pecan tree and a chestnut tree above the garden. The sour cherry tree was beside the carport. Bushel upon bushels of fruit were canned and given away. None of these trees remain in the yard.

Cleo was happy taking care of her home and raising her children and never had a public job. She would sew for her family, extended family and friends. She would babysit several children and should they not adjust to her way of doing things, she would ask the parents to find another sitter. Cleo believed in teaching right from wrong and I believe we all know that is a hard lesson for many to learn.

Cleo's children hosted an open house for her on April 11 which was her 102nd birthday. She said it was a beautiful day with family members, extended family members, church family, and friends and neighbors—dozens of them—visiting with her for more than six hours. There were 71 people that visited that day.

What does one give as a gift? Cleo received a lot of flowers, and some arrived two days before her birthday. Candy and her favorite soft drink, Dr. Pepper, were also gifted.

Cleo told me there were people everywhere she looked. They shared memories of old times when they were together and the things they had done. This celebration started on April 9 when Wanda, her remaining sister, and a first cousin visited and then on April 10 her three oldest nieces, the daughters of Glenna and Sheba, visited. These ladies are all in the mid 80s or beyond, and one might say this was a gathering of the old girls!

This is a glimpse of the life of Cleo Simmons. If you want to know more, just stop by for a visit and you will be welcomed. She still has a sharp mind and enjoys talking about the early days and her life in Stony Run.

Cleo spends her days reading, doing word searches, and just sitting in her chair. When it is warm outside, she likes to sit out on the carport. Her physical health no longer allows her to help with the cooking or doing the house cleaning or taking care of her flowers.

Aunt Cleo is a very special lady, and she has been a blessing in my life every day of my 85 years. We will see what 2026 has in store for this remarkable person.

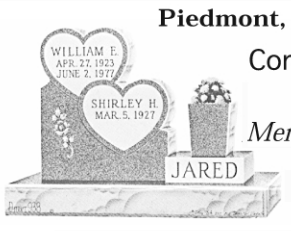
Jenna and Larry, her children, are seeing to her care and doing their best to see that she remains in her home the rest of her life, however long that might be.

By Violet R. Eye

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Park, Stop, Look, Lock: Be Aware of Hot Vehicle Deaths

Vehicular heatstroke is the leading cause of non-crash, vehicle-related deaths for children 14 and younger in the United States. The West Virginia Governor's Highway Safety Program is partnering with the United States Department of Transportation's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration urging parents and caregivers to learn and share critical information about the dangers of leaving children alone in hot vehicles. Please help spread the word: Once You Park, Stop, Look, Lock.

Since 1998, vehicular heatstroke has killed more than 1,000 children. On average, one child dies from heatstroke every 10 days in the United States from being left in a vehicle or getting into an unlocked vehicle. While hot vehicle deaths can happen in any month, there is typically an increase from May through September.

Hot vehicles are deadly. Internal vehicle temperatures can quickly rise up to 50 degrees warmer than outside temperatures. Because a child's body temperature increases three to five times faster than an adult's, even a cool day outside may still pose a threat to a child.

In 2025, 31 children died due to vehicular heatstroke, a decrease from the 39 children in 2024. On average, 37 children die each year as a result of vehicular heatstroke. Every hot vehicle death is preventable.

Toddlers and young children are more likely to climb into a vehicle and become trapped, unable to get out. Children "gaining access" to a vehicle account for nearly one-quarter of hot vehicle deaths. It is important for a parent or caregiver to teach children that the vehicle is not a playground and playing in and around one is dangerous.

"Parents and caregivers think this sort of tragedy could never happen to them," said Jack McNeely, director of the GHSP. "Sadly, 'never' does happen. Anyone can forget no matter who is taking care of the child, what their background is, or where they come from: Routines are often upended. It is during these moments of hurriedness and change in routine that many of these tragedies occur. Once You Park, Stop, Look, Lock."

Parents and caregivers are urged to take three simple steps to help prevent hot vehicle deaths:

- First, when getting out of a vehicle, make it a habit to check the entire vehicle, especially the back seat, every time.
- Second, never leave a child in a vehicle unattended, even for one minute.
- Third, always lock the vehicle, and put the keys out of reach.

For more information on vehicular heatstroke, visit NHTSA.gov/Heatstroke. For current data, visit noheatstroke.org.





More Uses for White Vinegar...

•Coffee pot: Every month, bring a solution of 1 cup of vinegar and 4 tablespoons of baking soda to a boil in teapots and coffee pots to rid them of mineral deposits. To clean drip coffee makers, fill the reservoir with white vinegar and run it through a brewing cycle. Rinse thoroughly by brewing two cycles with water before using.

•Stovetop: A solution of vinegar and baking soda will easily remove cooking oil from the stovetop.

•Microwaves: Pour white vinegar into a bowl of water and microwave for a few minutes, then wipe out.

— *The Old Farmer's Almanac*

Tossed Salad Word Search

D	H	I	R	Y	H	M	L	I	N	O	I	N	O	P	A	E	U	P	H
S	N	A	E	B	T	U	O	G	K	B	B	E	E	T	S	D	D	P	T
L	G	S	C	A	L	U	G	U	R	A	C	B	B	T	K	Y	D	S	O
G	R	V	R	B	I	V	R	A	D	I	S	H	E	S	P	O	O	A	M
H	L	A	I	H	V	P	D	S	R	M	Y	S	D	L	O	V	P	T	A
I	B	O	C	U	K	E	E	P	L	P	E	Y	G	U	A	U	S	P	T
L	N	I	P	U	O	P	T	D	E	V	Y	E	Y	V	C	K	M	K	O
V	O	A	P	G	P	P	N	P	I	V	C	H	C	A	N	I	P	S	E
L	I	C	V	K	M	E	R	L	E	U	M	C	L	V	D	M	B	I	S
M	L	N	N	O	P	R	O	Y	T	C	H	T	T	H	N	C	U	I	M
L	S	R	E	Y	C	S	G	T	O	I	V	E	E	D	N	T	C	H	A
V	P	G	H	G	O	A	E	S	C	H	P	U	M	S	L	H	C	L	A
T	R	N	N	V	A	L	D	K	Y	O	I	S	E	K	O	C	T	N	E
N	O	D	H	O	P	R	P	O	O	U	D	I	R	G	R	C	S	P	E
P	U	I	C	R	T	E	O	P	G	E	R	P	E	O	L	C	T	C	Y
B	T	M	S	T	A	I	B	B	E	R	N	Y	U	T	T	C	B	E	M
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AVOCADO
BEANS
BEETS
BERRIES
CELERY
CHICKEN
CHICKPEA
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KALE
LETTUCE
NUTS
OIL
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ONION
PEPPERS
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Writer Wants More Emphasis Placed on Sacrifices that Led to Memorial Day

To the Editor, The Times:

As I read the articles in The Pendleton Times from May 28, I was particularly struck by the article concerning Memorial Day remembrance.

We have much to be proud of in this country and much honor to give to those who have sacrificed, and in many cases given "their last full measure of devotion".

There was, however, no mention of the reasons these brave young men and women sacrificed so much. Here in Franklin, we know some of their names as we walk down Main Street and see their names and pictures on our lamp posts.

I remember my time in the military and how as I joined the army and signed my oath to defend the Constitution, I thought about what I was committing to, remembering that my father, my aunt and my uncle had made this same commitment. My father serving in the Pacific, my uncle being part of the D-Day invasion, and my aunt in the Coast Guard off the coast of the Hawaiian islands.

I felt like part of a chain of our history, each link of which strengthens the great enterprise of democratic, representative self-government.

Throughout our history, we have committed to uphold our Constitution. That means upholding the whole framework: freedom of speech, due process, equal protection under the law, civil liberties, separation of powers, all of it, the culmination of human thought through the ages on how to govern ourselves for the common good.

This is what our servicemen and women honor and defend. This essential piece is what I felt was missing from the article. As we gather this summer to celebrate 250 years of working together on this great effort, I hope we will recommit to it, each one: read our founding documents, think about what it means to be an American, and participate in our collective governance.

And while the Constitution prohibits our government from endorsing any religion or imposing any religious test, it gives us liberty always to ask that "God bless America."

J King Seegar

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Card of Thanks

The family of Jeffrey H. Mitchell (Pickle) would like to express sincere gratitude to friends and family for the flower arrangements, gifts, cards, prayers and support during Jeff's illness and passing.

A special thank you to Pastors Sherri and Paul Schaefer, Angela Lambert, Kimble Funeral Home and the folks at St. John Lutheran Church for the delicious food after the service.

Your thoughtfulness during difficult time will forever be remembered.

God Bless You,
Diana, Grace and Abby Mitchell

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SGR416A 5.12 Acres w/2 Bed, 1 Bath Cabin w/Spacious Loft area. Cistern, Septic, Shed. New Metal Roof, New Sliding Door, Newly Sealed Deck. Access to 9 acre Common Area. Located Kile Knob Subdivision, Franklin District. **$239,000.00.**

SGR413A 3.0 Acres w/2 Bed, 1 Bath Cabin w/Loft. Off grid, Solar, generator. Access to 9 acre Common Area. Located Kile Knob Subdivision, Franklin District. **$289,000.00.**

SGR412A 5.69 Acres, w/1 Bed, 1 Bath Cabin, built in 2010. Loft for overflow sleeping, Septic, 1800 Gallon Cistern, Washer/Dryer, Year-round access, Outbuilding, Wood Shed. Very well maintained. Located in Dry Run area. Shared ROW. Franklin District, Pendleton Cty. **$180,000.00.**

SGR409A 0.04 Acres w/3 Bed, 2 Bath Home located on 18 Spruce St., Franklin Corp. New Hot water heater w/expansion tank, New stainless steel appliances, New guttering system, Cement driveway, Hard wired Ring cameras with motion lights. Mini-Splits and new window installation in 2021. **$175,000.00.**

SGR408A 7.88 Acres w/3 Bed, 2 Bath Log Siding Cabin, Fully & Tastefully Furnished, Large Decks, Full Finished basement, Screened in Porch, Spring Water. Higher clearance vehicle recommended. Buck Ridges Development. Some Restrictions. **$285,000.00.**

SGR407A 8.26 acre Off Grid, one room cabin on Kile Knob. Solar panels. No septic. Cistern water. Property joins 9.48 acres Kile Knob Common area. Hiking trails. Gated. **$189,000.00.**

SGR406A World Class View at 3017 ft, overlooking beautiful Germany Valley & Spruce Knob. Located in Seneca Lookout Development. 70.00 Acres w/2 Bed, 2.5 Bath 1.5 Story Log Cabin. Baseboard Elec & Wood Heat, Well, Septic, Outbuilding, Joins National Forest. **$749,000.00.**

SGR404A CABIN W/CAVE ACCESS! 5 Acres w/1 Bed, 2.5 Bath Log Siding Cabin, Loft sleeping area, Primary bdrm has access to private balcony. Fully furnished. Laundry on main floor. Spring water, Septic. Sleeps 6 people. Buck Ridges Development. Some Restrictions. **Preapproval required and Cave Entry Waiver must be signed prior to showing. $195,000.00.** PENDING

SGR403A 15.38 Acres, w/4-6 Bed, 2 Bath Contemporary Home. Make it your Residence or it would make a great Retreat Center. Great views, surrounded by mountain ranges. Double Kitchen, dual W/D Hookups, 2 Heat Pumps, 37KW Generac backup generator, Spacious workshop/garage. Large Spring Fed Pond. Franklin District, Pendleton Cty. **$929,000.00.**

SGR402A 0.62 Acres w/3 Bed, 1.5 Bath Ranch Home located in Upper Tract, WV. Brick exterior, Metal Roof, Carport, Unfinished Basement, Septic, Public Water. Nice level lot. Mill Run District, Pendleton Cty. ~~$269,000.00~~ **REDUCED $229,000.00.**

SGR400A 5 Bed, 3 Bath home located in Franklin District on 2.5 acres offers privacy in peaceful, wooded surroundings while being near schools and all town amenities. Attached 2 car garage, partially finished basement, fenced yard, Heat Pump & Central AC, 3 Fireplaces, Well, Septic and Water Filtration system. ~~$549,000.00~~ **REDUCED $525,000.00.**

SGR393A 14.5 Acres w/2 Bed, 1 Bath Cabin with very efficient use of space. Located on Dry Run Rd. 1900 gallon Cistern. Wood & Electric Heat. ~~$249,000.00~~ **REDUCED $239,000.00.**

SGR392A Custom Canadian White Cedar Log Home. 4 Bed, 2 Bath, 3,088 sq. ft. Cabin on 119.45 acres located in Hidden Valley. Red Oak and Mexican Tile flooring. Two Car Garage & partial basement. Mature plants and trees. Some Restrictions apply. Franklin District. ~~$919,000.00~~ **REDUCED $899,000.00.**

SGR382A 45 Ac. w/1 Bed, 1 Bath Cabin, Solar powered, no restrictions, Cistern & Septic, Shooting Range, Excellent Hunting, Franklin District. ~~$399,000.00~~ **REDUCED $379,000.00.**

SGR382B 35 Acres, Strauter Rd, Ruddle area. Year-Round Spring. Building Lots. Utilities. Excellent Hunting. Life Estate on 6 Acres. Franklin District. **$169,000.00.**

SGR380A Building Lot, 5.62 Acres, Lot #3, Dry Run Rd, Sharps Ridge, Franklin District. Electric nearby. **NEW LISTING $39,000.00.** SOLD

SGR379A 5994 Mount Freedom Drive, Cherry Grove 14.70 acres, 2 bed/1 bath house; one room w/loft cabin, several other buildings and outbuildings, adjoins National Forest, very unique property. ~~$279,000.00~~ ~~$264,000.00~~ **REDUCED $250,000.00.** SOLD

SGR374A Spectacular View! 2.81 Ac w/2 Bed, 1 Bath Cabin w/Loft, located on Kile Knob. Propane cook stove & lighting. Propane & Wood Heat. On site Septic, Cistern Water Source. **NEW LISTING $299,000.00.**

SGR369A 15.17 Acres w/1 Bed, 1 Bath cabin, Electric & Propane Heat, Cistern, Septic (unapproved). Located in North Fork Flats. Perfect for hunters, fisherman or outdoor enthusiasts. ~~$189,000.00~~ ~~$179,000.00~~ **REDUCED $159,000.00.**

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

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~~ ~~$299,000.00~~ ~~$229,000.00~~ **REDUCED $219,000.00.**

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 **$22,836.00.**

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

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2018 FORD F-250 S/CAB LONGBED 4X4, 6.7 diesel, auto., air, etc., white, 275K VDOT highway miles	$21,900
2018 CHEVROLET 2500 HD CREW CAB S/BED 4X4, 6.0 V-8, auto., ldd., white, 203K miles	$19,500
2015 FORD F-450 CREW ALUMINUM FLATBED 4X4, 6.7 dsl., auto., ldd., white, ex. cond.	$34,900
2011 FORD F-150 REGULAR CAB LONGBED 4X4, V-6, auto., air, etc., white, 180K miles	$9,450
2008 FORD F-550 4X4 UTILITY TRUCK, w/ mechanic's crane and auger, 6.4 dsl., auto., air, etc.	$26,900
2003 FORD F-550 REG CAB 4X4 FIRE TRUCK, 6.0 diesel, auto., red, ldd w/accessories, only 45K miles	SPECIAL ~~$49,500~~ $44,500
1987 CHEVROLET SILVERADO SHORTBED 2-WHEEL DRIVE, 350 F.I. auto., ldd., only 96K miles	$18,500

PASSENGER VEHICLES	SALE
2022 SUBARU LEGACY 4-DR SEDAN "Premium Pkg.," ldd w/options, perfect condition, charcoal, 111K miles	$19,900
2021 KIA SELTOS S 4-DR FWD, 4-cyl., auto., ldd., white, 96K miles, great MPG	$12,900
2021 LINCOLN CORSAIR AWD SUV, 4-cyl., auto., ldd., silver, 82K miles, very sharp	$24,900
2020 SUBARU OUTBACK AWD WAGON, 2.5 liter, 4-cyl., auto., ldd., olive green, 114K miles	$19,500
2020 NISSAN MURANO S AWD, V-6, auto., ldd., silver, only 75K miles	$18,900
2020 CADILLAC XT4 SPORT AWD, 2.0 liter, auto., ldd., pearl white, only 58K miles	SPECIAL ~~$29,500~~ $27,500
2019 INFINITI QX60 LUXE AWD, V-6, auto., ldd., pearl white, 94K miles	$19,500
2019 FORD EDGE SEL AWD, 2.0 liter, 4-cyl., auto., ldd., charcoal, 131K miles	SPECIAL ~~$17,900~~ $15,900
2018 FORD EXPLORER XLT "SPORT PKG" AWD, 2.3 4-cyl., auto., ldd., dark cherry, 115Kmiles, very sharp	SPECIAL ~~$18,900~~ $17,900
2017 JEEP WRANGLER 4-DR SPORT 4X4, V-6, auto., ldd., white, 89K miles	$18,900
2017 JEEP WRANGLER SAHARA 4-DR HARDTOP 4X4, V-6, auto., ldd., charcoal, only 81K miles	$21,900
2017 FORD EXPLORER XLT AWD, V-6, auto., ldd., copper color, 118K miles, sharp	$14,900
2014 FORD E-250 CARGO VAN, 5.4 liter V-8, auto., ldd., white, 140K miles	$12,900
2013 FORD EXPLORER XLT AWD, V-6, auto., ldd., sage, 143K miles	$7,995