

THE PENDLETON TIMES

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92 Years and Going Strong: The Alt and Kimble Reunion



For more than nine decades, Alt and Kimble families have celebrated another year of fun and fellowship. Political figures, such as U.S. Senator Robert Byrd, U.S. Congressman Alex Mooney, and many others, have made the reunion a traditional campaign stop, as well. The day opens with a traditional church service in the Old Judy Church, then food, live music, and togetherness.



WarnerFest Caps Off August with A Day of Family Friendly Fun

By Stephen Smoot

Near Clarksburg, a drive-in movie theater died out. It was connected to a restaurant that burned to the ground. When Harrison County purchased the property, it was decided to scrap the theater part of the property. One official stated that no one goes to drive-in theaters anymore.

Someone should get those folks to Franklin. In recent years, Warner's Drive-In has steadily worked to expand its venue's capability to entertain. Grant funding came through last year to cover the construction of the Starlight music and theater stage. Meanwhile, the showing of a balanced mixture of family and "grown-up" films along with the widely-heralded reputation of the concession stand, has kept the theater well-attended on movie nights.

The mixture of an atmosphere from a nostalgic past combined with modern amenities and multiple entertainment options has made Warner's Drive-In a "must see" for many. As Katie VanMeter, a board member, has explained, "The theater is a piece of local history preserved, but also maintained and continually tweaked to ensure it will entertain well into the future."

With concerts added to the slate of entertainment for 2026, the next logical step to Warner's Drive-In lay in putting together a big community party. WarnerFest will welcome the community from 1 to 8:30 p.m. Saturday. "The idea for WarnerFest actually took root shortly after we unveiled the Starlight Stage in September 2025," said Jessica Basagic, who serves as chair for Warner's board of directors. She went on to relate, "We wanted to create an end-of-season celebration that would bring people together to enjoy live music, local vendors, great food, and, most importantly, one another."

While tourists rave over the "retro" feel of a drive-in theater in a uniquely beautiful setting, the venue has remained popular with locals and those in neighboring counties as well.

Whether one brings the kids to an animated blockbuster or a date to a scary or action type of film, Warner's works hard to entertain a broad spectrum of fans.

"For Warners' lovers of both types, we wanted it to be something like a true celebration of everything that makes our community special," added Basagic.

Headlining the day is a return visitor, the Soda Pop Gypsies. Their site describes them as "a vibrant four-piece jam band from Barbour County" that spans different genres popular in West Virginia with high-energy performances.

They played Troutfest in May and have performed for audiences in Charleston, Martinsburg, Grantsville, Parsons, and elsewhere during the summer.

Rain Crow and the Jesse Milnes Band will perform as well. In case of inclement weather, a large tent will be available for protection from sun or rain.

The event will welcome children for free, but charge \$5.00 for adults. Said Basagic, "We considered this event a fundraiser . . . because every \$5 adult admission goes directly toward helping us maintain and improve Warner's Drive-In." Funds support specifically the maintenance of the grounds, facilities, "and being able to bring you fantastic entertainment during the summer months."

Basagic explained that Warner's could not have succeeded without tremendous support from the broader community. "Seeing local businesses, neighbors, musicians, and community members jump in to help us build something new has reminded us that Warner's Drive-In is about so much more than movies," she said.

VanMeter shared that "we want people to make their own memories here and feel like Warner's is a place they can truly call home."

"The support we've received from the community has been incredibly moving," said Basagic. "We are incredibly grateful to everyone who has helped bring this vision to life and we can't wait to celebrate with everyone at WarnerFest."



Energy Express Thanks Pendleton County Commission for Support

By Stephen Smoot

On a gray and drizzly Tuesday morning, the Pendleton County Commission held its second regular meeting for the month of August. Roger Dahmer, commissioner, gave the customary invocation that, in part, thanked God "for the rains we are getting."

The light agenda first addressed courthouse work. Karen Pitsenbarger, county administrator, replied that shrubbery was going in this week. While they hoped to complete the paving, weather could delay that until next week. Inside "there are a few details we have to straighten up" as work comes to a close on the complex.

Mike Alt, training officer for Pendleton County Emergency Rescue, shared that the letter had come informing of funds from the salary enhancement program for EMS coming soon. Since 2023, local governments have had to adjust over and over to changing conditions. First, the West Virginia State Legislature passed the bill authorizing the fund in 2023, but funds from the program were withdrawn in 2025.

The Pendleton County Commission stepped in to backfill what the state would have provided for 2025, but could offer no guarantees of permanently being able to do that. In the fall of 2025 West Virginia Governor Patrick Morrisey in Franklin, just prior to the Treasure Mountain Festival parade, gave assurances that the fund would be addressed in 2026. Again, the state legislature passed a funding plan, but not until now has word come on the arrival of funds.

While EMS agencies used the funds in different ways, PCER applied theirs to raise the stipends given to volunteers for calls made. This added incentive had a salutary effect on response times. Because Pendleton County has no hospital, often volunteer ambulance crews go out for six to eight hours or more on a single call.

As the meeting continued, the commission was informed that the sheriff's commission doubled this year to \$30,000. According to West Virginia State Code 11-A-1-17,

It states that "The Legislature finds that it has, since July 1, 1955, consistently and

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Pendleton County Schools Boosts CIS Funding

By Stephen Smoot

With Communities in Schools serving a vital function, but slated to lose



Library Friends

To Meet Tuesday

The Friends of the Library will gather at 4:30 p.m. Tuesday in the community room of the Pendleton County Library in Franklin.

All are welcome to attend.

Senior Sponsored Meal Scheduled

Aumann's Custom Auto will be sponsoring a congregate meal for seniors aged 60+ on Sept. 4 at the Franklin Senior Center. Lunch will be served from 11:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. If one would like a lunch, call the senior center at 304-358-2421 by 2 p.m. Sept. 1 to reserve a meal.

state funding, Pendleton County Schools found a creative way to financially bolster the program.

The meeting started with the customary invocation by J. D. Wilkins, board president. He prayed, "Bless this year. Let it be a great year all around."

At the close of the meeting, Nicole Hevener, superintendent, announced that Pendleton County Schools had secured outside grant support for CIS. This program, launched by former First Lady Cathy Justice and supported by Jim Justice, former governor and current United States Senator, provides support for students who struggle for a variety of reasons.

Part of the program helps to ensure that students have sufficient food and toiletries, as well as someone with whom to talk about problems in life.

When applying for a truancy diversion grant, PCS inquired if funds awarded could go to support CIS.

The grantor answered in the affirmative, and PCS won an award of a little more than \$26,000 to support CIS work. The West Virginia State Legislature passed full funding at one point, but that was always scheduled to gradually taper off each year with school systems expected to pick up the cost, which includes salaries for personnel as well as supplies to distribute to children in need.

Hevener shared at the opening of the meeting that Pendleton County Schools rose in the Schooldigger rankings from 15th to 10th and added that it scored in the top 10 statewide in English and English. "We're very proud of all of them," noted Hevener. Pendleton County scored in the top 20 percent statewide in English, mathematics, and science. The system also outperformed most counties in the achievement levels of "economically dis-

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West Virginia Department of Education Releases Yearly Assessment of Systems and Schools

By Stephen Smoot

The West Virginia Department of Education's yearly report on the performance of school systems and schools came out this month with praise of progress. It opened with "West Virginia continues to see improvements in student achievement in most grades, as demonstrated by the 2026 student assessment results." It went on to share that "due to the hard work of administrators, educators, and students, the 2026 proficiency rates in math and English language arts now exceed 2019 pre-COVID proficiency rates over all and at most grade levels."

Math proficiency increased overall from 38 to 39 percent, much of the growth seen in elementary and middle school grades. ELA proficiency remained the same at 48 percent. Science dropped from 30 to 29 percent, the 2024 level.

Since 2021, according to a WVDE chart, science has remained in the high 20s in percentile. ELA has improved in that period from 40 to 47.8 while math has jumped from 28.1 percent to 39.4 percent.

Despite a strong focus in recent years from the state and most local systems, "chronic absenteeism impacts student outcomes with a distinct correlation between" high absenteeism and poor student performance by 15 percent in ELA and 20 percent in math.

West Virginia's prime challenge remains at second in the nation status "for most underprivileged children." The breakdown of the traditional family, the ripple effect

of high rates of drug addiction, and other social issues have made home lives of children more difficult, making education a more difficult focus for them.

The most efficient manner to review results of the yearly assessment comes in the "Balanced Scorecard." This provides charts showing where systems and schools lie on progress toward, and the maintenance of, standards. Different tests measure progress in different subjects in different grades.

Red means "does not meet standard." Yellow indicates partially met standards. Blue shows that a school or system meets a standard while green indicates that they exceeded standards. However, how much of a bar is filled by the specific color indicates how close the school or system lies to the next tier.

Elementary schools are judged in three categories: academic achievement, academic progress, and student success.

Brandywine Elementary School met standards in both areas of academic achievement, English language arts and mathematics. Under progress, BES met standards in ELA and exceeded in math. Students met standards in attendance and exceeded them in behavior.

Franklin Elementary School fell slightly short of meeting standards in ELA and math under achievement, but met them in ELA in the progress category and partially met in math. FES met standards in behavior and attendance.

North Fork Elementary School fell un-

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Jimmy Lee Bowers

With broken hearts and fond memory, the family announces the passing of Jimmy Lee Bowers, 43, of Seneca Rocks who left his earthly home on Aug. 22, 2026, at WVU Medicine JW Ruby Memorial Hospital in Morgantown.

He was born on April 5, 1983, in Elkins, the son of Jerry and Tammie (Kisamore) Bowers.

Mr. Bowers was a 2001 graduate of Pendleton County High School and South Branch Vocational Center.

He worked in the laboratory at Greer Limestone Company in Riverton. He completed basic training for the United States Army and was a member of the Bible Missionary Church in Onego.

His life was a reflection of loyalty, service, and compassion. While many may have known him for his quiet strength and sheepish smile, those closest to him were touched by his sincerity and steadfast care.

From the young age of 13, he demonstrated a passion that would come to define much of his adult life through his dedication to the Seneca Rocks Volunteer Fire Department, serving as second lieutenant and his 30 years of commitment to Company 7 as firefighter #706. To him, this was not just a volunteer role, this was his life and was self defined through his sacrifices for his brotherhood. It was a testament to his bravery, selflessness, and unwavering dedication to helping others in times of need. In addition to the fire department, he was also loyal to Pendleton County Emergency Rescue for eight years. His pledge to serve the community was rewarding to him, and his value was immeasurable.

He enjoyed assembling models and Legos, hunting, fishing, and camping with his family. He loved his fur babies (dogs, cats and guinea pigs) and treasured making memories with his family.

On Nov. 1, 2014, he married his wife of 11 years, Kimberly (Pultz) Bowers, who survives.

In addition to his wife and parents, he leaves behind to cherish his memory his grandmothers, Ruby Ann Kisamore of Seneca Rocks and Joy Ann (Waybright) Shenk of Port Republic, Virginia; mother and father-in-law, Nancy and David Pultz; brother-in-law, Matthew Pultz; and several aunts, uncles and cousins.

He was preceded in death by his grandfathers, Clifford Kisamore and Stover Bowers; and his step-grandfather, Kenneth Shenk.

The family will receive friends from noon until 2 p.m. on Saturday at the Basagic Funeral Home in Franklin. Funeral services will follow in the funeral home chapel, with Pastor Sam Harper officiating.

In honoring his wishes, his body will be cremated and a celebration of life will be held at a later date.

Memorials may be made to Seneca Rocks Volunteer Fire Department, c/o Jerry Bowers, 72 Hickory Lick Ln., Seneca Rocks, WV 26884 or Lauren Cooney, 2342 Allegheny Dr., Seneca Rocks, WV 26884.

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



John “Jack” Bowers Vellines

John “Jack” Bowers Vellines, 83, of Richmond, Virginia, passed away on Aug. 4, 2026.

Born on July 28, 1943, in Charleston, he was the son of the late Wesley Elmore Vellines, Jr of Hinton and Edna Kathryn Bowers Vellines of Franklin.

Mr. Vellines grew up in Richmond, Virginia, where he attended the University of Richmond majoring in history, a subject he dearly loved. At the university, he served as entertainment chair for his fraternity, Theta Chi, a role that suited him perfectly.

From 1966 to 1970, he served in the U.S. Navy, training in sonar, and as a crew member, he flew many helicopter missions to locate submarines and mines. He served his country with honor and distinction and deeply loved America and the freedoms he served to protect.

In 1976, he moved to Roswell, Georgia, where he raised his two children. In the early 1990s, he returned to the Richmond, Virginia, area where he reconnected with his high school sweetheart, Mary. Together they built a devoted and loving life. Their mutual love of travel took them on cruises and flights to all corners of the world.

As a successful businessman he founded and later sold two Richmond, Virginia, businesses, Trident National and Health Savings Administrators. His career was marked by integrity, fairness, and loyalty to his customers and employees. All of his children and stepchildren worked with him in various roles, and he took pride in giving them early

experiences and successful starts.

His greatest passion was boating. His final boat, a beautifully cared for motor yacht, was called Lovin’ Life, a name that characterized his style of living. It was the setting for adventurous trips along the East Coast exploring and savoring the rich history of the Chesapeake Bay. Many of those happy days were unselfishly shared with the people he loved most, creating warm and vivid memories for everyone aboard.

He will always be remembered for his extreme generosity, his gift for creating “Big Fun,” and his devotion to his family and friends. Laughter, smiles, and stories worth repeating many times (and they were) were hallmarks of this time aboard “Lovin’ Life.”

His loving wife of 32 years, Mary Pendsulo Vellines, survives.

Also surviving are children, John Rogers Vellines (Beth) of St. Petersburg, Florida, and Karen Vellines Buelter (Scott) of Asheville, North Carolina; stepchildren, Tracey Goodsell (Patrick), Marc Lee (Cat) and David Lee; seven grandchildren, Ava Vellines, Sebastian and Anabel Buelter, Brooke and Lauren Lee, and Chloe and Sam Goodsell; sister-in-law, Nancy Vellines; niece, Beverly Caldwell; sister, Joan Ashley (Roger); nephew, John Charles Ashley (Amy); grandnieces, Erika, Samantha and Olivia Ashley; and a sister-in-law, Nancy Vellines.

He was also preceded in death by a brother, Wesley “Bo” Vellines, III; first wife, Rosalind “Ros” Rogers Vellines; local grandparents, Clint and Byrdie Virginia Bodkin Bowers; aunts, Luna Harold (Daten), Etta Margie Swadley (Edwin), and Virgie Lee Simmons Propst; and uncles, Zellie (Jenny Dahmer) Bodkin, and Joe Bodkin (Nellie Painter).

A memorial service was held Thursday at Bliley’s Central Funeral Home in Richmond, Virginia. A reception followed the service.

Memorial contributions can be made to the Parkinson’s Foundation at <https://www.parkinson.org/>.



Nettie Lou Losh

Nettie Lou Losh, 92, of Brandywine passed away on Aug. 22, 2026, at the Pendleton Manor in Franklin.

She was born on May 3, 1934, in Durbin, the daughter of the late Arthur and Mary Jane “Janie” (Smith) Townsend.

Mrs. Losh attended Durbin Elementary School and had worked at various poultry plants.

She enjoyed attending church at Cedar Grove Church of the Brethren in Brandywine.

Her husband, Jacob Charles Losh, preceded her in death in 1977.

She leaves behind to cherish her memory two sons, Billy Losh and Denny Losh (Veronica) all of Brandywine; a daughter-in-law, Judy Townsend of Grottoes, Virginia; three grandchildren, Nancy, Chris, and Chasity; a number of great-grandchildren; and several nieces, nephews, and cousins.

She was also preceded in death by a son, Wilmer “Wink” Townsend; a brother, Arthur “Buddy” Townsend; a sister, Thelma Simmons; and three half sisters, Mary Townsend, Jearlene Lambert and Mabel Simmons.

The family will receive friends from 1 to 2 p.m. today at the Basagic Funeral Home in Franklin. Funeral services will follow in the funeral home chapel with Pastor Daryl Ritchie officiating. Inurnment will be in Pine Hill Cemetery at Brandywine.

Memorials may be made to the Pendleton Manor, PO Box 700, Franklin, WV 26807.

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



French Timothy “Tim” Mines

French Timothy “Tim” Mines, 66, a resident of Rockingham, Virginia, passed away on Aug. 21, 2026, at his home.

He was born on June 14, 1960, in Harrisonburg, Virginia, and was a son of Helen “Maw” Moates Mines and the late James L. Mines.

Mr. Mines graduated in 1978 from Turner Ashby High School where he was involved in the FFA, which took him to being a member of Young Farmers.

He had a love of farming which he developed at a young age. He enjoyed taking things apart and putting them back together. His career started as Mill Manager at Rockingham Milling Feed Mill, during which time he was a vital part of the construction of the new feed mill on Route 42 in Dayton, Virginia. He later worked as a farm manager for 20 years.

He was an integral part of the Rockingham County Fair, serving in the capacity of registering farm crop entries and building of the horticultural building.

He was an emergency medical technician and often worked with the Singers Glen Rescue Squad. If a person lived in Rockingham County, Virginia, and were involved in agriculture and farming, one knew him. Story has it that when he became available for employment, it wasn’t long before his phone was “blowing

up” with job opportunities. To know him was to have a friend for life, even if one didn’t get to see each other often.

On June 19, 2010, he married Janet Lavinda Campbell Mines, who survives.

In addition to his mother and wife, he is survived by a son, John Oliver Scudder; a granddaughter, Alivia Rose Scudder; a bonus son and daughter, Andrew and Megan Campbell and their daughter, Anna Mae; siblings, Jeanne (Claude) Reedy, Patsy (Bill) Gray, Jackie (Karl) Slye and Tammy (Bobbie) Mongold; and numerous nieces and nephews.

He was also preceded in death by his children, Justin Curtis “J.C.” Mines and Jessica Lynn Mines; a brother, James A. “Tony” Mines; and grandparents, French and Fannie Moates and Brock and Annabell Mines.

Pastors Jerry Ruff and Karl Slye conducted a funeral service Wednesday at the McMullen Funeral Home Chapel in Rockingham, Virginia. Burial was held privately.

Memorial contributions may be made to Totten Chapel Independent Church, c/o Tom Kimble, 7107 Upper South Branch Road, Franklin, WV 26807.

The family kindly requests time to grieve their loss and asks that visits be postponed until a few weeks following the service.

In lieu of food brought to the family, they ask that all food donations be made to a local food pantry in his memory.

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

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IMPORTANT DEADLINES
FOR ALL PENDLETON
COUNTY TAXPAYERS

The Pendleton County Assessor’s Office reminds taxpayers of the following important 2026 deadlines:

SEPTEMBER 1, 2026

- **Business/Commercial Personal Property Forms** — Report inventory, machinery, office equipment, vehicles connected to business.
- **Farm Use Land Discount Applications** — No applications will be accepted after September 1.
- **Managed Timberland Discount Applications** — Initial contract must be completed before July 1, 2026, with application filed by September 1 through the West Virginia Division of Forestry.
- **First-Half Property Tax Payment** — First half is due September 1, 2026.

OCTOBER 1, 2026

- **Personal Property Forms** — Report licensed personal property as required. Do not report vehicles with X-license plates or leased vehicles.

FARM USE DECALS

Farm Use Decals are **\$2.00 per decal**. You must be actively farming to qualify.

DOG TAGS

- **Pendleton County:** \$3.00 per dog
- **Town of Franklin limits:** \$6.00 per dog

Dogs must be licensed beginning at six months of age, including hunting dogs owned by county residents.

HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION

Apply July 1–December 1, 2026.

Applicants must meet eligibility requirements, including being at least 65 years old by June 30, 2027, providing proof of age, owning and residing in the home, having the applicant’s name on the deed, and meeting residency requirements.

DISABILITY EXEMPTION

Apply July 1–December 1, 2026.

Applicants must provide proof of total and permanent disability, be a Pendleton County resident, and own their home.

Please note: These exemptions do not make your property completely tax exempt. They reduce the assessed value of the home by **\$20,000** and do not apply to the land value.

PROPERTY TAX PAYMENTS

Tax statements were mailed by the Pendleton County Sheriff’s Office on July 15, 2026. Taxpayers receive one statement. Taxes may be paid in two installments:

First Half: Due September 1, 2026

Second Half: Due March 1, 2027

Online payments are available at WVPropertyTaxes.com.

MENU
Pendleton Senior & Family Services

FRIDAY, AUGUST 28
Italian Chicken
Cheesy Ranch Potatoes
Green Beans, Orange
Cherry Cheesecake
NATIONAL CHERRY DESSERT DAY!

MONDAY, AUGUST 31
Cheeseburger w/
Lettuce, Tomato & Onion
Baked Beans, Pasta Salad
Jello w/Fruit
Birthday Cake

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1
Baked Potato
w/Chili & Cheese
Broccoli, Apple Crisp

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2
Baked Chicken
Roasted Red Potatoes
Peas, Tropical Fruit

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 3
Baked Fish
French Fries
Cole Slaw
Strawberries

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.

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WARNERFEST

START AT 1:00 PM
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AUG 29

WARNER'S DRIVE-IN
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warnersdriveinwv.org

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New School Employees Announced



Pendleton County Schools new employees for the 2026-2027 school year are, from left, front row, Sydney Tennant (third-grade teacher at Brandywine Elementary School), Kelsey Armentrout (occupational therapist), Mahala Alt (long-term PreK/PreK special needs teacher at Franklin Elementary School), Raven Pazucha (custodian at BES) and Ryan Sites (third-grade teacher at North Fork Elementary School); and back row, Patrick (Mac) McGregor (principal at Pendleton County Middle/High School), Zachary Tennant (agricultural teacher at PCM/HS), Laura Brown (English language arts and yearbook advisor at PCM/HS), Brittany Place (physical education/health teacher at FES), Brandy Bowers (PreK/PreK special needs teacher at NFES), Michael Warf (math and physics teacher at PCM/HS) and Cameron Kisamore (special education teacher at FES). Not pictured are Danielle Sisson (executive secretary at central office), Amy Wimer (transportation/classroom aide at PCM/HS) and Lilly Phillips (transportation/classroom aide at NFES).



Ashton Hess (aide at NFES)



Jesse Johnston (bus operator)

Energy Express Thanks Commission

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annually imposed upon the sheriffs, as treasurers in each county, new and additional duties by the enactment of new provisions and amendments to this code. The new and additional duties imposed upon the aforesaid sheriffs, as county treasurers, by these enactments are such that they would justify the increases in commission.”

The West Virginia State Legislature went on to state in the statute that those would increase after July 1, 2026. In counties where taxpayers pay on time 85 to about 90 percent of the time, the sheriff gets \$20,000. From 90 to less than 95 percent, it rises to \$25,000. When 95 percent or more of residents pay taxes on time, as Pendleton County has in 2025 and 2026 so far, the Sheriff receives \$30,000.

Commission money comes out of taxes collected.

Carl Hevener, county commission president, took issue with the state legislature over the bill. He shared that he did not mean to disparage the Sheriff, but stated that “the legislature has no idea what county commissions have to deal with.” He went on to argue

that they’re giving out money right and left and county government must contend with the consequences of that. He stated that “taxpayers should get the tax money back” and questioned what incentive the county had for taxpayers to pay on time.

Trish Sponaugle attended, representing Potomac Highlands Guild. She shared that she was looking for data on different aspects of drug issues in the area so that she could develop a plan to promote drug abuse prevention.

Pitsenbarger then read a letter of thanks from Energy Express, the nutrition and learning program operated by the Pendleton County WVU Extension Service at Franklin Elementary School earlier this summer. It stated in part “Thank you for being a community partner of Energy Express . . . we are truly grateful for the partnership and the difference you make in the lives of our children.”

At the conclusion of business, it was shared that the first meeting of the new planning commission will take place in September.

Pendleton County Schools

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advantaged students.”

The board approved a series of memorandums of understanding. The first allowed for automatic admission to Marshall University for students who qualify, another engaged Pendleton County Emergency Rescue to have a presence at football games, while the third was for the renovation of a Ford van for school use.

A proposed MOU with SP Photography and Light In Motion to cover games was tabled until the first meeting n September.

J. P. Mowery delivered the treasury reports for June and July, as well as the financial report. Board members learned that the June 30 ending fund balance, showing PCS’ cash position at the end of the fiscal year, was \$2,142,494.28 in 2026 and \$1,580,501.08 in 2025.

“We gained a bit from 25 to 26, but we are basically breaking even,” said Mowery. He added that the fiscal year just ended also saw a little less than \$120,000 earned from interest in various accounts.

He stated that July 30 numbers would see the balances come closer together. At the close of July 2026, the balance was \$2,386,804.15 while the end of July 2025 saw a mark of \$2,397,821.12.

Department of Education

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der the partially met tier in ELA and math achievement, as well as ELA progress. Under progress, however, NFES fell just shy of meeting the “partially meets standards” tier. Attendance partially met standard, but behavior exceeded it.

The measure of high schools uses the categories of academic achievement, graduation rate/cohort, and student success. Student success metrics showed that Pendleton County Middle/High School met standards for students on track to graduate. While PCM/HS did not meet standards in “Post Secondary Achievement,” officials have expressed frustration in the past that the state has been vague on what that means or how to improve one’s standing in it.

In mathematics achieve-

ment, PCM/HS did not meet standards, but came very close to achieving the partially met standards tier. When looking across West Virginia, only the top tier of academically recognized schools even partially met standards. The vast majority of the state high schools were in the red.

Some of the top schools statewide, including Bridgeport High School in Harrison County, Hurricane and Winfield High Schools in Putnam County, and George Washington High School in Charleston, only score half of the bar on “partially meets standard.”

At the same time, measures seem to indicate from the elementary and middle grades that students have learned arithmetic adequately well. Numbers there progressed during last year.

West Virginia’s top ranked system on School-digger, which focuses only on metrics, is Jackson County. Neither Ripley nor Ravenswood, both ranked high among state high schools overall, met standards in math.

Sheena Van Meter has served as superintendent of Hardy County Schools since 2017 and recently accepted an offer to hold the same role in Harrison County. She states that the standard of assessment of mathematics uses the wrong metric to measure progress.

The state relies on the Scholastic Aptitude Test as the measure of mathematical proficiency, which was

“My concern will be the funding at 1,382 rather than 1,400,” he stated.

Mowery also mentioned a lawsuit filed in Lincoln County over school funding. A state court case from decades ago called upon the state to ensure proper funding for each school district to ensure that children from less affluent districts enjoyed similar opportunities.

The decision ruled that education was “a fundamental, Constitutional right,” but set a high standard. While it spurred hundreds of millions in improvements in past years and has driven policy and lawmaking, critics state that it was never fully implemented. In 2003, Judge Arthur Recht closed the case and ended his circuit court’s jurisdiction over the matter.

The current school aid funding formula was part of the effort to even out funding differences. On the lawsuit, Mowery said, “We will see. I have no idea what impact it will have to the state legislature.” Almost concurrently with the day of the meeting, West Virginia Governor Patrick Morrisey laid out his outline for how to reform state school funding, focusing on making the process easier to understand, among other priorities.

originally designed to show the level of preparation of a student for college. Van Meter asserts that using the SAT for math provides an inaccurate idea of the future success of a student.

She explained that “30 percent of students in Hardy County go on to college” but that many others find success in other routes. They attend career and technical schools, receive workforce trainings at community and technical colleges, go straight into the workforce, or join the military.

Superintendent Van Meter illustrated that a trades student demonstrates their knowledge and capacity for growth already when they take the NOCTI exam. That for welding, for example, tests for safety, weld fit-up and quality, welding symbols and blueprint reading, and other tests of technical knowledge and also applied science. Yet all have to show knowledge on a college entrance exam even if they have earned Level 1 Certification in their chosen field.

Testing in the trades “is very different than taking the SAT,” she explained.

That does not mean that schools should pull back on math education, however. “We have used so much technology that we’ve gotten away from high-level thinking skills,” said Superintendent Van Meter. She urged that school systems need “to pull back on tech, bring the pencil and paper back. Teach math the old-fashioned ways.”



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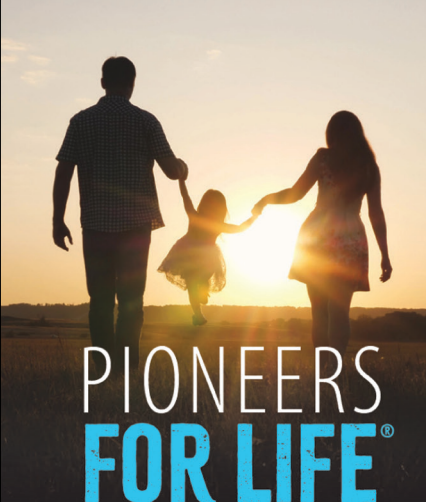


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Formation of New Hope Lutheran Church Involved the White Family

Sugar Grove

By Paula Mitchell

There are five churches in the Mountain Lutheran Parish charge. They are Mt. Hope, New Hope, Faith, St. John, and Calvary Lutheran churches.

New Hope is located at Minnehaha Springs. This congregation came to this location with the “White family.” In 1876, Henry White and his wife, Sabrina, and their eight children moved from Crabbottom (Blue Grass), Highland County, Virginia, to Pocahontas County. They left their home, nine years after the Northern Army burned their home and while Sabrina was pregnant with their seventh child, Henry Lee, who was born in January in the springhouse.

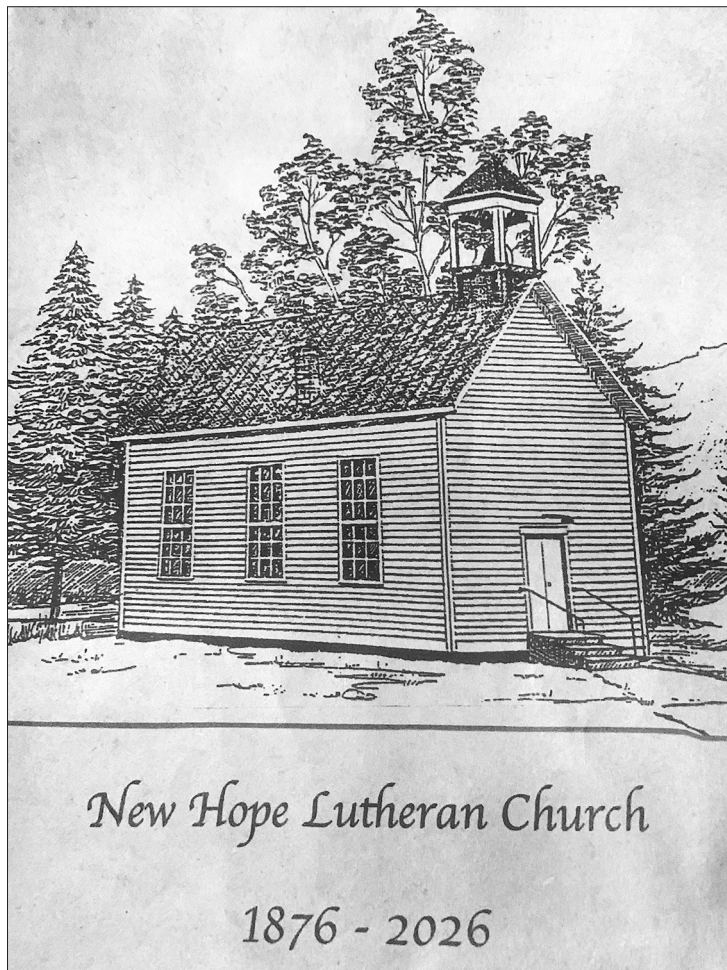
They had purchased about 2,100 acres of farm and timberland and moved into an existing house. In that home, they reared their children in the Lutheran faith, holding church with itinerant pastors who rode through on horseback, forming a congregation in 1876 with the family of William and Ida Rexrode Palmer, a cousin of Sabrina. For several years, Rev. A.A. Hahn and Rev. William Sibert ministered to the White family, where services were held in homes, in school buildings, and other churches until construction began on their own church.

The church was built with the cornerstone laid on July 9, 1893, by Rev. J.F. A. Lautenschlager. The “Mission” was first part of the Crabbottom Charge, then of the South Branch Parish. Pastors who served there included Dr. Krause, Pastor Lautenschlager until 1938, and Pastor Kuhlman until 1946. It was in 1954 that the church was joined in the Franklin Parish, which included Franklin and Mt. Hope in Upper Tract under the pastorate of Orville Lueck.

Services were held every other Sunday until the 1990s when Pastor Neal Weltzin began weekly services. Membership increased and community activities were embraced by the parishioners.

Since 2001, the Franklin parish became the Mountain Lutheran Parish and was extended to include St. John Lutheran Church in Moyers and Calvary Lutheran Church in Brandywine. Serving the five-point parish have been Jess and Jason Felici, with the current pastors being Paul Schafer and Angela Lambert.

From 1876-2026 makes it 150 years to celebrate. Pastors serving this congregation were A.A. Hahn, William Sibert,



F.F. A. Launtenschlager (1881-1887 and 1891-1895), E.A. Young (1888-1889), M.A. Ashby (1895-1897), P.L. Snapp, S. H. Puffenbarger (1901-1906), Paul Lautenchlager (1928-1938), Siegfried Kuhlman (1936-1946), Orville Lueck (1946-1954), F.C.H. Scholz, Robert Brown, Andrew Ballas, Cecil Bradfield (1964-1970), Joseph Bartczak (1971-1977), Charles Erzkus (1978-1990), Neal Weltzin (1991-1997), Mary Posten (1998-2004), Craig and Wendy Richter (2004-2012), Jessica and Jason Felici (2012-2023) and Paul Schafer and Angela Lambert (2024-present)

On Aug. 16, this milestone was celebrated with a worship service at New Hope with members from the five-point parish and persons from the surrounding community. Dinner on the grounds followed. This is quite a milestone to celebrate!

Life’s little instructions include the following:

1. Listen to the chattering of a brook.
2. Enjoy the smell of fresh baked bread.
3. Hold a baby kitten.
4. Catch raindrops with one’s tongue.
5. Smell flowers in bloom.

Cows are spending a good bit of time under trees. Perhaps they are having a meeting to discuss the weather. Showers

ARBAUGH Family Reunion

Sunday, September 6

Cave Picnic Shelter

Lunch at 1 p.m.

*Family and friends, please bring
a covered dish and join us there*

MURPHY REUNION

Sunday, September 6

12:30 p.m.

Clinton Hedrick
Community Building
Riverton

Family and Friends Welcome



Thank You

The family of Ruthalene Judy would like to thank each of you for your many acts of love and kindness shown to our dear wife, momma and grammy. A special thanks to the staff at Pendleton Manor for their loving care for the past several months. You became a family to us. Many thanks to Dave Basagic and Lori for their tremendous support, and to all the people who remembered our family with your thoughtful cards, food and visits. Your kindness will never be forgotten. And Pastor Steve Teter, thank you for your love and prayers for our family. We are so grateful to you for the beautiful service and words of comfort. You and your family have always been so special to us. Thanks to Twisted Irons for the delicious meal, and Tammy and Debbie for all your help.

Once again, we are so thankful for everyone who remembered our family with your love and kindness.

Jack, Jackie, Greg and Family

PUBLIC AUCTION

Saturday, August 29
10 a.m.

ESTATE OF DAVID & PATRICIA SWECKER
Take 220 South from Franklin for 10 miles, go past Cave Country Store. Auction on right. Watch for auction signs.

HOUSEHOLD & ANTIQUES: Clarks spool cabinet, crocks, stone pitchers, brass bucket, lots of metal toys, glassware - depression-sponge-milk-china-crystal-pressed-stone, several coverlets, lots of local advertisements and political buttons, powder horn, lots of tins, vapo-cresolene, mantle clock, Smokey Bear, secretary desk, Longaberger baskets, stamps, Harper family history book, ceramic Snoopy, Avon, lunch box, US saddle bag, Highland County Proud book, 1959 license plate, JFK items AND MANY OTHER ITEMS TOO NUMEROUS TO MENTION.

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For more information contact auctioneers Bruce “Icky” Hyre Jr. WV#494 304-257-3134 or pma@frontiernet.net; or Larry Thompson WV#1613 304-668-9650 or Richard Swecker 937-673-2637.
Photos on auctionzip.com

continue to come through, with every drop well received in this community.

Quotes for the week are as follows:

“Wunnerful, wunnerful!” — Lawrence Welk

“Crying is cleansing. There’s reason for tears, happiness or sadness.” — Dionne Warwick

“Think and wonder. Wonder and think.” — Dr. Seuss

“Unless you show off, you’re not going to get noticed.” — Elton John

“Talk low, talk slow, and don’t say too much.” — John Wayne

The best place to hear the “Talk of the Grove” is on the patio.

Schools opened this week, with the beginning on Monday. Everyone is in the excitement mode. Students wore their new clothing, and wore their best smiles to greet the principals, teachers, bus drivers, and school personnel. May each student endeavor to make it their best year of learning.

This week’s visitors of Evelyn Varner were Janet Judy, Terry Harper and Roger and Reda Shrewsberry.

Geneva Varner spent Monday night with Joyce and Robi Marshall at McGaheysville, Virginia.

Recent visitors of Tom and Paula Mitchell were Roy and Gloria Wilfong, John Hughes of Mineral, Virginia, Cynthia Hughes and Tim and Jennifer Hoover, all of Harrisonburg, Virginia, Morgan Hoover of Boston, Massachusetts, Allison and Damian Morris of Mt. Crawford, Virginia, Roger and Donna Hoover, Cary and George Hevener, Norm Wilfong, and Dan Wheeler.

The annual Sugar Grove Lions Club family night was held Thursday at the VFW pavilion. Grey Jones, district governor, was the special speaker at the bountiful dinner meeting. A nice turnout was had with members, their families, and volunteers attending the function.

On Saturday, Tom Mitchell attended his 69th high school class reunion. Many classmates gathered at the Walnut Street United Methodist Church in Franklin where the ladies catered a very delicious array of food. Plans were made to meet again in a year.

Clickety-clacks for the chin waggors are as follows:

• Candy corn was originally known as “chicken feed.”

• Ketchup was once sold as a medicinal cure for diarrhea.

• China uses approximately 4 billion miles of toilet paper a year.

• In 1995, eBay was founded.

• A single strand of spaghetti is called Spaghetto.

Concerns are for Roger and Joan Ashley, Mercedes Aumann, Dave Basagic, “Bo Boggs,” family and friends of Jimmy Bowers, Jeff Craig, Stanley Dahmer, Isaac Eye, Carl Gant, Sue Hall, Clyde Hamilton, Chip Harper, Armanda Heavner, Starr Hedrick, Keith Hoover, Mickey Huffman, Cynthia Hurry, Gary Jamison, Mike and Lisa Jamison, Tara Kelley, Stanley Kile, Keith Kimble, Lori Ann Lambert, Melissa Lambert, the family and friends of Nettie Losh, Skip and Roger Mallow, Yvonne Marsh, Dottie Mitchell, Helen Nash, Willa Nelson, Ronald Pitsenbarger, Alda Propst, Sheldon Propst, Willard Rader, Jimmy Rexrode, Robbie Sites, Kitty and Curtis Waggy Jr. and Edwin Wimer.

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**Saturday, August 29**
2 p.m.

132 N Main St., Moorefield
304-530-6403

This auction will consist of a wonderful collection of firearms, a motorcycle, nice vintage collectible knives, ammo, designer bags and coins.

Online bidding & previewing for both of these auctions is available at Oaksummit.hibid.com.

Auctioneer: Michael Thomas licensed and bonded in favor of the state of WV #2151

SEALED BID VEHICLE FOR SALE

The Pendleton County Commission will offer for sale the following surplus vehicle.

2014 Ford Explorer AWD
gas engine, 147,277 miles, running condition, Sold AS-IS (included is a 2013 Ford Explorer “PARTS ONLY” car)

See photos on Pendleton County Sheriff’s Department Facebook page.

Bids will be accepted until 4:00pm on August 31, 2026. Bids will be opened on September 1 at 9 a.m. Highest bidder will be notified.

Mark Envelopes “Cruiser BID ENCLOSED.” Mail to Pendleton County Commission, PO Box 187, Franklin, WV 26807. Or, drop-off at the County Administrator’s Office at the Courthouse.

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Outside of two players, every Wildcat in this photo taken in the big opening season win over Class AAA Keyser last year is back for Zac Smith, head coach.

‘This Is a Great Group We Have’ — Coach Smith Previews Wildcat Football

By Stephen Smoot

“Unfinished business is a good way to put it.”

No one involved in Pendleton County Wildcat football felt any satisfaction with last year’s deep playoff run, except as a step up to greater accomplishments. The team lost to Wheeling Central and their powerful running game and stout defense in the playoffs last year. Under the current head coach, it was the program’s fourth time in the semifinals.

“We’re getting back 10 starters on each side of the ball,” said Zac Smith, head coach. He noted that the one loss was pretty significant. “We’re losing one key man in Chase Owens, I don’t think we can fill his role with just one person, either. Everybody’s going to have to work harder this season.”

Owens had 75 receptions for 1,140 yards, was first on the team in catches and second to his brother, Travis, in yardage. He was also third on the team in tackles with 48 and picked off two passes.

Opponents this year will continue to have to keep focus on juniors Colton Roberson and Travis Owens. Remarkably, the areas that Roberson did not lead the team in, Travis Owens pretty much did. Owens led in every pass reception statistic except catches. Roberson led in passing, rushing, tackles, interceptions, rushing touchdowns, and fumbles, both caused and recovered.

Those statistics earned

Roberson the unofficial player of the year award in Class A, being named all-state team captain. He also earned an offer from Marshall University, whose offensive coordinator, Rod Smith, should be familiar to Wildcat followers. Smith played at Glenville State under Rich Rodriguez before serving as Franklin High School offensive coordinator.

Rod Smith has experience with fast, smart, physical, and strong-armed quarterbacks, having coached Pat White at West Virginia University and Denard Robinson at Michigan.

In front of that quarterback stands the foundation of any team, the offensive line. Rarely does a school-based team get to return every starter on an offensive line. “We’ve got some strength up front, guys who have been here playing,” Zac Smith said.

Coach Smith noted that Ty Heavenr “has been a two and a half year starter.” Also “Albert (Ramos-Rivera) has been another one starting for two years.” Bryce Basagic has between two and three years of starting experience. The young pup, Sam Eason, “only” has a year and a half of starting experience “under his belt.”

Roberson’s style of play resembles at times Major Harris, a former West Virginia University quarterback. Like Harris, he will have multiple downfield options to complement his ability to run past or over would-be tacklers. In Owens, he has a tall receiver with great speed and even greater leaping ability. In last year’s opener, Owens helped to dissect the Class AAA Keyser Golden Tornado defensive backfield.

Smith shared that Brit-

ton Lough and Cam Wyatt “looked good in the offseason.” Lough led the team in yards per catch among those who played more than 10 games with an average of a little more than 20 per game. Wyatt played bigger as last year’s season progressed, catching 30 for 622.

The coaching staff would likely prefer to see another player lead the team in rushes and rushing yards, however. Coach Smith shared “Braylon will have to step up a little bit more from the backfield.” Braylon Willis stood in and performed well when senior Kam Redmon fell to injury. He brought production to the backfield with 5.8 yards per carry and 421 yards in 11 games, but coaches will expect him to bring more balance to the offensive attack.

Last week, the team played Greenbrier West in a scrimmage. “It looked like a first scrimmage,” noted Smith. He stated that the defense allowed a big play to open the game, but controlled the opposition most of the contest.

“They got mind fried a little bit,” said the head coach. He explained that the team “lost” fundamentals and techniques practiced all summer. “There were more mental mistakes than physical,” he said, adding that “we can correct that.” The team also committed to weight training in the offseason and has returned bigger and stronger.

“There’s plenty to work on, both sides of the ball,” he added.

Pendleton County faces a front-loaded schedule this season with four of the first five games coming against perennially tough rivals Petersburg, East Hardy, Moorefield, and Tucker County. State powerhouse Cameron also once again serves as the regular season’s coda.

Pendleton County Volleyball Seeks Another Strong Season



Kinsley Price spikes the ball as Alyssa Bennett (#6) is ready to back her up. Both are expected to be a big part of Wildcat success this year.

By Stephen Smoot

During the past several seasons, Pendleton County volleyball has remained in the top tier of West Virginia Class A volleyball powers. A simple formula has guided each squad, regardless of player name. This consisted of excellent teamwork in the back and middle lines to set up dominance at the net combined with efficient and consistent serving.

Each graduating class of stellar performers has made way for rising talent with volleyball IQ and athleticism combined with determination. Each team has huge shoes to fill, then finds a way to do it.

The 2025-2026 edition of Wildcat volleyball won 20 against 11 losses and went undefeated in the Cumberland Valley. It went 12 and four at home, three and two in neutral sites, and had an even road record with five wins and five losses. Much of that senior class, Breena Bowers, Carolyn Varner, and Clara Raines, formed a core of middle and back row players who received the shots and set up the big plays on the front line. Brynlynn Waggy also remained a dominant performer on the front line.

Last year also saw the quick development

of the players who will form the new core of experience, looking to continue the Wildcat winning ways. All gained a great deal of seasoning against stout competition. While only three have reached the 12th grade, the varsity squad, as a whole, played with discipline and composure most of the time, regardless of age or experience.

Alyssa Bennett returns as the top player in all of West Virginia high school volleyball last season in terms of aces. She racked up 129, 16 more than in her sophomore season. Bennett also was third in kills and blocks, as well as second in digs last season for the Wildcats.

Senior Callie Judy served as a mainstay, placing second in assists last season. Her role lay in setting up the front line for their scoring plays, and she rated third on the team in aces per set. Olivia Gonshor, another senior, brings athleticism and experience to the court as well.

In the junior class, Chesnee Colaw brings yet another steady hand in service. She ranked second on the team last season with 68 and was third in receptions, helping to corral shots from the other side to give her own team more opportunities.

BOE Receives Update on PCM/HS Athletics, Discusses Hudl

By Stephen Smoot

During last week’s Pendleton County Board of Education meeting, officials learned more about the Hudl sports streaming platform while hearing an athletic department update from Jacqueline Propst.

J. D. Wilkins, board president, suggested that the meeting agenda adjust to allow Propst to speak first. Nicole Hevener, superintendent, stated that “we had a question . . . what does the cost of Hudl entail.” She then added that this was “a good time to present to us an update on athletics” as well.

Hudl serves the teams, players, and those who follow Pendleton County Middle/High School athletics. For individual games or a season pass, followers of the sports teams can watch games through online streaming. Coaches record the games to use as game films and also have access to opponents’ films as well, if they use Hudl.

Coaches can share game film with their teams to watch and analyze on their own time if they wish. “It’s an important coaching tool for coaches and players to improve their game over the season,” said Propst. Players can also create individual profiles and highlight reels

that college and (in baseball) professional scouts seek out as part of evaluating talent at that level. Hudl helps athletes in smaller communities break through the larger city media filters that may overlook talent in those areas. Additionally, the school sells advertisements for \$500. Revenues from all go back into the athletic program. Originally the cost of Hudl for the school was \$10,000, but that has risen to \$13,000. Pendleton County Schools pays \$5,000 of that while PCM/HS pays the remaining \$8,000 out of its revenues and other fundraising.

The split was originally 50/50, but when the price rose, the athletic department decided to cover that instead of asking for additional funds from PCS.

Sonny O’Neil, board member, asked, “Do you think it hurts ticket sales when the games are broadcast on Hudl?” Propst stated, “I think it’s helped,” adding that people who live farther away watch the teams online, then want to come later and see them in person.

Not every high school uses Hudl. Some use the streaming service of the National Federation of State High School Sports while others post on YouTube. Propst stated that streaming and posting on YouTube cost nothing, but that the school loses ownership of the im-

ages. They can be edited and used by anyone, anywhere, for almost any reason.

“Eight of 11 teams this year went to state,” shared Propst. “That’s growth,” she said, then stated that “wrestling is thriving.”

She added that Kelson Thorne returned to the school and painted a Wildcat on the gymnasium floor and on the baseball dugout walls, as well as adding “Wildcat Baseball” to the press box. “Miss Dolly (Rexrode) has done everything possible to paint” different parts of the athletic facilities that needed some care. Pendleton Community Bank, Highlands Bank, and Burke and Herbert have donated to upgrade the scoreboards on campus and at the softball field.

“We got new bleachers. Mr. [Ron] Hudson’s class put them up for us,” Propst said. “Josh Owens performed work on moving equipment and addressing an HVAC issue. Central Tie donated a great deal of supplies to spruce up the dugout, as well.”

“You got us the paint robot,” she then mentioned, also saying that using it was “a lot of fun.” The device paints football, baseball, and softball field lines, eliminating the need for personnel to perform the tedious and time-consuming work.

O’Neil stated that “you guys do a great job with the sports program. We’re well thought of around the state.” J. P. Mowery, chief financial officer, weighed in and said that the office gets phone calls regularly stating, “We just want to call and tell you that you have great kids.”

Hevener added that when she and Kristy Tritapoe, assistant superintendent, were unloading food from a car for the “back to school breakfast,” a group of football players on their own initiative went to help them. Propst noted that the football team also volunteered their labor to help clean out athletic facility rooms for use.

JV Wildcat Football Schedule	
Sept. 21	Petersburg..... 6:00 (H) <i>(Shades at Sunset)</i>
28	Frankfort..... 6:00 (H) <i>(Business Appreciation Night)</i>
Oct. 5	Hampshire..... 6:00 (A)
12	Bath County.. 6:15 (A)
19	Elkins 6:00 (A)

PCHS Wildcat Volleyball Schedule	
Aug. 27	Tygarts Valley..... 7:30 (A)
31	Buckhannon-Upshur..... 7:30 (A)
Sept. 1	Moorefield..... 7:00 (H) <i>(Youth Night)</i>
3	Tri-Match @ Petersburg .. 5:00 (A) <i>(Pendleton and Martinsburg)</i>
8	East Hardy 7:30 (H) <i>(White Out)</i>
10	Pocahontas County..... 6:00 (A)
15	Tucker County..... 7:30 (H) <i>(Luau Night)</i>
22	Paw Paw 7:15 (H) <i>(Community Heroes Night)</i>
28	Bath County.. 7:30 (A)
29	Tygarts Valley..... 6:00 (H) <i>(Teacher, Staff Appreciation Night)</i>
Oct. 1	Moorefield..... 5:00 (A) Tri-Match at Moorefield ... 6:00 (A)
5	Highland..... 6:00 (A)
6	Petersburg..... 7:00 (H) <i>(Pink Out)</i>
8	East Hardy 7:30 (A)
13	Paw Paw 7:15 (A)
15	Pocahontas County..... 6:00 (H)
19	Bath County.. 7:30 (H)
20	Tucker County..... 6:00 (A)
22	Union..... 6:00 (H)
29	Elkins 6:00 (A)

PCMS Wildcat Football Schedule	
Sept. 9	Capon Bridge. 6:30 (A)
23	Petersburg..... 6:30 (H) <i>(Glow Night)</i>
30	Moorefield..... 6:30 (A)
Oct. 7	Pocahontas County..... 6:30 (A)
14	Romney..... 6:30 (H) <i>(Pink Out)</i>
21	Tygarts Valley..... 6:30 (H) <i>(8th Grade Night)</i>
29	Tucker Valley..... 6:30 (A)

PCHS Wildcat Cross Country Schedule	
Sept. 5	Buckhannon-Upshur Invitational Girls 9:00 (A) Boys..... 9:45 (A)
8	Broadford Invitational Oakland, MD..TBA (A)
12	Frankfort Invitational Girls 10:00 (A) Boys..... 10:45 (A)
26	Forest Festival Jack & Jill Relay at Beverly or Paul Clovis Invitational at Romney
Oct. 3	Charlie Kuh Invitational at Keyser Girls 10:00 (A) Boys..... 10:45 (A)
6	Tucker County Invitational at Parsons.....TBA (A)
13	PVC at Hampshire High School, Romney
24	Region II Meet at Frankfort MS Girls 11:30 (A) Boys..... 12:15 (A)

PCHS Wildcat Golf Schedule	
Aug. 27	@ Highlands4:00
Sept. 1	@ Valley View.....4:00
3	@ Highlands4:00
7	@ The Raven.....4:00
10	@ Highlands4:00
15	@ The Raven PVC TourneyTBA
17	@ Highlands4:00
22	@ Canaan.....4:00
24	@ Highlands4:00
Oct. 5	@ Canaan Regional Tourney, TBA
14/15	State Tournament @ Wheeling.....TBA

PCMS Wildcat Volleyball Schedule	
Aug. 27	Tygarts Valley..... 6:00 (H)
Sept. 1	Capon Bridge. 6:00 (A)
2	East Hardy..... 6:00 (H)
7	Highland..... 6:00 (H)
10	Petersburg..... 6:00 (A)
14	East Hardy..... 6:00 (A)
15	Moorefield..... 6:00 (A)
17	Romney..... 6:00 (H)
21	Warm Springs..... 6:00 (H)
29	Tygarts Valley..... 6:00 (A)
Oct. 1	Petersburg 6:00 (H)
5	Highland..... 5:00 (A)
8	Moorefield..... 6:00 (H)
12	Capon Bridge. 6:00 (H)
13	Paw Paw..... 6:00 (A)
20	Warm Springs..... 6:00 (A)
22	Romney..... 6:00 (A)

PCHS Wildcat Football Schedule	
Aug. 28	Petersburg..... 7:00 (A)
Sept. 4	East Hardy 7:00 (A)
18	Moorefield..... 7:00 (H) <i>(One Wildcat Family: Past, Present, Future)</i>
25	Tygarts Valley..... 7:00 (A)
Oct. 2	Tucker County..... 7:00 (H) <i>(Camo Night)</i>
9	Bath County.. 7:00 (H) <i>(Homecoming)</i>
16	Pocahontas County..... 7:00 (H) <i>(Pink Out)</i>
23	Stonewall Jackson 7:00 (A)
30	Thomas Jefferson 6:00 (A)
Nov. 6	Cameron 7:00 (H) <i>(Senior Night)</i>

PCMS Wildcat Cross Country Schedule	
Sept. 5	Buckhannon-Upshur Invitational Girls 11:16 (A) Boys 11:45 (A)
12	Frankfort Invitational Girls 8:00 (A) Boys..... 8:30 (A)
26	Forest Festival Jack & Jill Relay at Beverly or Paul Clovis Invitational at Romney
Oct. 3	Charlie Kuh Invitational at Keyser Girls 1:00 (A) Boys..... 1:30 (A)
22	Region II Meet at Frankfort MS. TBA (A)

According to the American Library Association, the “Maker Movement” places emphasis on teaching individuals to live better by “making” for themselves, becoming “makers instead of consumers.” The ALA goes on to explain that “makers take advantage of technology and traditional craft tools, improved communication between community members, and new pathways to the marketplace.”

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Opening day is set for 11 a.m. on Sept. 5. They will offer food giveaways, a raffle

Pendleton County youth selling market beef were the following (name, weight, price,

Pendleton County youth selling market goats were the following (name, weight, price, buyer): Ty Heavner (heavyweight champion), 86, \$1,900, Rockingham Cooperative; Gracie Hedrick, 94, \$2,100, Burke and Herbert Bank; Breymann Keesecker, 79, \$2,100, South Branch Valley Stockyards; Kelby Rumer, 65, \$1,900, Wayne Crites; Lydia Heavner, 77, \$2,400, James River, Harrisonburg; Levi Miller, 72, \$1,700, Wayne Crites; and Cody Miller, 89, \$2,000, Wayne Crites.



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9:00 a.m.Horse Show (Grandstand)

4:00 p.m.***NEW*** 75th Annual KICKOFF Event

4 - 6:00 p.m..***NEW*** Accepting Specific Exhibit Entries & Pre-Registration (Elementary School Gym) Arts & Crafts, Art & Photography, Preserved Foods (Not Baked Goods) and Hunter-Fisher Entries; Pre-registration for Parade, Kiddie Show and Dog Show (No dogs permitted on grounds during pre-registration.)

Tuesday, September 1

7:00 - 10:00 a.m.4-H & FFA Weigh-in and Entry of Livestock (Barns)

4:00 - 8:00 p.m.Accepting All Exhibit Entries (Elementary School Gym)

Wednesday, September 2

"Family Night" - Valley Amusements rides at reduced rates

8:00 - 9:00 a.m.Accepting Flower Exhibit Entries

9:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.Judging Exhibits (Gym CLOSED)

10 a.m.4-H & FFA Goats & Sheep Livestock Show (Livestock Show Barn)
Goat & Lamb Pet Contest, Following Livestock Show

6:00 p.m.Parade (Spruce St., Main St., Myers-Moon Rd.)

7:00 - 9:00 p.m.Kimberly's Kreations Face Painting

7:30 - 10:30 p.m.***NEW*** High Carbon Steel, Classic Country Music (Under Big Tent)

9:00 - 9:15 p.m.***NEW*** Orion Skys Drone Show (West Side of the Grounds)

Roaming the Grounds Throughout the Evening.....*NEW* Ariana Does Stilts

Thursday, September 3

10 a.m.4-H & FFA Hogs & Beef Livestock Show (Livestock Show Barn)
Calf Pet Contest, Following Livestock Show

Noon & 2:00 p.m.***NEW*** Sunflower Hours

3:00 & 5:00 p.m.***NEW*** Gospel Harmony Boys (Under the Big Tent)

7:00 p.m.***NEW*** Begoon Brothers Bucking Bulls LLC, Rodeo (Grandstand)
Show includes: Mutton Bustin, Junior/Mini Rodeo, Barrel Racing, Rodeo Clowns & Bull Riding

9:00 - 9:15 (approximate time)***NEW*** Orion Skys Drone Show (West Side of the Grounds)

Roaming the Grounds Throughout the Afternoon.....*NEW* Brian B. Magic

Friday, September 4

10:00 a.m.Kiddie Show (Under Big Tent)

4:30 p.m.Livestock Costume Contest & Obstacle Course (Livestock Show Barn)

5:30 p.m.Rabbit Race (Livestock Show Barn)

6:00 - 7:00 p.m.Little Switzerland Cloggers (High School Gym)

6:00 p.m.Power Wheels Derby, Thomas Motorsport LLC (Grandstand)

7:00 p.m.Demolition Derby, Thomas Motorsport, LLC (Grandstand)

9:30 - 9:45 (approximate time)***NEW*** Orion Skys Drone Show (West Side of the Grounds)

Roaming the Grounds Throughout the Afternoon....*NEW* Wishing Well Entertainment

Saturday, September 5

9:00 a.m. - NoonDog Show (Grandstand unless raining)

11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.***NEW*** The Conner Family and Caleb Bailey & Paines Run,
Bluegrass Music (Under Big Tent)

1:00 - 8:00 p.m.Kimberly's Kreations Face Painting

1:30 - 3:30 p.m.***NEW*** Jacob Tolliver, Multi-Genre-Rock & Roll Pianist (Under Big Tent)

2:00 p.m. ..Commemorative Quilt Auction & 4-H & FFA Livestock Sale (Livestock Show Barn)
Cornhole Tournament (High School Gym)

4:00 - 4:45 p.m.***NEW*** David King, Tribute to Elvis 1950's-1960's (Under Big Tent)

5:00 p.m. ..Truck, Tractor & Diesel Truck Pull by ***NEW*** Dragon Motorsports Inc (Grandstand)

5:15 - 6:00 p.m.***NEW*** David King, Tribute to Elvis 1950's-1960's (Under Big Tent)

10:00 - 10:15 p.m. (approximate time) ..***NEW*** Orion Skys Drone Show (West Side of the Grounds)

Roaming the Grounds Throughout the Afternoon....*NEW* Wishing Well Entertainment

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PHG to Use Evidence-Based Program to Identify Potential Substance Issues in Pendleton Youth

By Stephen Smoot

Potomac Highlands Guild in recent years has turned to evidence-based programming to identify risk factors and related substance abuse in young people. Unlike many programs, this one starts with the perspective of the young people themselves, what they see around them, and grows from there.

After seeing success in Hardy County with the program Patricia Sponaugle, a Partnership for Success Coordinator with Potomac Highlands Guild, would like to see the work

replicated in Pendleton County.

“I’m just starting in Pendleton,” she shared. “Everything is private and it is all science-based.”

Sponaugle started by examining data, noting, for example, that Narcan use has increased in Pendleton County in the past three years, although what for and who on is not available to know.

The first direct step lies in getting a group of young people together to take part in an assessment. Participants will be asked 10 questions that inquire if they have experienced a certain

major stressor in their lives, such as parental divorce or abuse. “Every time you have dealt with that, you put your finger up,” she explained.

Sadly, “so many kids out there have a score higher than four,” she stated. Higher scores often can indicate a higher probability of trouble. Chances of substance abuse or serious emotional disturbance is high among children with elevated scores.

Once the risk factor level is established, then young people get to report what they see and what they know about substance use among their peers. This helps to identify a target behavior to address collectively.

A Moorefield youth group, for example, noted that youth vaping was a prevalent problem in schools there. The participants in the program then worked to develop strategies of influence and community engagement, including writing up a proclamation for the Hardy County Commission to pass for Prevention Month this October.

That said, the program follows the lead of

the youth. If they identify overconsumption of energy drinks, for example, as an important issue, the group might focus on that.

Currently Sponaugle is laying the groundwork for the program, for example attending the first regular meeting of the Pendleton County Commission in August. She also wants to meet with Patrick McGregor, incoming Pendleton County Middle/High School principal. Outreach will also take place with the new director of the Pendleton County Family Support Center.

Sponaugle seeks to target high school aged children at first because “that age range is so essential.” Additionally, she will work to build coalitions with community organizations, such as law enforcement and other emergency responders.

Sponaugle already has a program planned for elementary school students under the leadership of Mary Beth Hebb. That will “teach kids life skills,” such as being assertive, critical thinking, and guidance to develop healthy life habits.

Quilts and Needlework Sought for TMF Show

Sew and Sews Quilt Guild proudly presents the 2026 Treasure Mountain Quilt Show, featuring quilts, needlework and other hand-crafted fiber arts projects by area residents and members of the guild.

The quilt show, located in the Pendleton Community Building in Franklin, will be open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Sept. 18 and 19 and from 10 a.m. until noon on Sept. 20. On Sept. 19, the quilt show will close for the parade and open again after the parade. Holly Hubbs will present a hand spinning demonstration during the quilt show. The Dulcimer Dames will be performing from 4 to 6 p.m. on Sept. 18. Vickie Skavenski will be demonstrating how to replace or repair a split bottom chair.

Guild members encourage all the quilters, needle crafters and other designers of fiber arts projects to enter the show. All Pendleton County residents and residents from surrounding counties are encouraged to enter the show. Membership in the guild is not a requirement for entry. If a person has antique quilts and would like to exhibit them, please bring them in for the display. The show will be judged and ribbons will be awarded.

Items to be displayed and judged may be brought to the community building from 5 to 7 p.m. on Sept. 16 and from 9 a.m. to noon on Sept. 17. They may be items that a person has made or heirlooms handed down in one’s family. Participants will fill out a registration form and receive a ticket for each item. A receipt stub will be given to exhibitors that must be presented when the item is picked up after the show. If there is a history or story of interest about a quilt, please jot it down and bring that along. Participants can enter the following categories:

Hand-quilted quilts; machine-quilted quilts; knotted comforters; antique knotted comforters; antique crazy quilts; baby quilts; small, medium and large wall hangings; lap quilts; whole cloth hand quilted quilts; quilted household items (i.e. pot holders, table runners, placemats); wearable art (i.e. quilted vests and purses); hand-quilted applique quilts; cross stitched quilts; embroidered quilts; embroidery; crocheted and knitted afghans; crocheted and knitted miscellaneous items; printed cross stitch; counted cross stitch; crazy quilts (not antique); miscellaneous needlecraft and antique miscellaneous items.

Youth categories are open to anyone 18 years of age or younger. Youth categories are knotted comforters; hand-quilted quilts; machine quilted quilts; wall hangings; pieced pillows; needlework; knitted and crocheted items.

Many quilts are family heirlooms, handed down from generation to generation. Each quilt has a story to tell and reflects the style of the era in which it was made. The entries in the show revive the past and inspire many to carry on this tradition for the next generation.

As the items on display in the quilt show represent untold hours of craftsmanship, great care is taken to keep them in top condition. No food or drink is allowed in the display area. Items cannot be touched, but an attendant (wearing white gloves) can show the back of items if anyone requests.

The show will close at noon on Sept. 20 for guild members to take down the quilts. Items must be picked up from 12:30 to 1 p.m. unless prior arrangements have been made.

Don’t miss this beautiful display of the local talented quilters and fiber art artists.

Trump Accounts Provide ‘Nest Egg’ For Young Adulthood or Retirement

By Stephen Smoot

On the 250th anniversary of the independence of the United States, President Donald Trump announced the opening of a program that could help future generations enjoy a little more financial independence of their own. Also, that same account holder could use the account as a plan for retirement.

Senator Ted Cruz (R-Texas) served as one of the original proponents of the account. He was quoted by Kiplingers as saying “Babies grow up. And that little girl who is born this year, she is going to be 70. And the math is, if you contribute regularly . . . by the time she is 18, she will have \$170,000 in that account. By the time she is 35, she’ll have \$700,000 in that account. And very quickly after that, then you get into the millions.”

A little over a year ago, Trump signed the Working Families Tax Cuts Act, also known as “One Big Beautiful Bill,” which included an Individual Retirement Account for children. Those born between Jan. 1, 2025, and Dec. 31, 2028, can receive a one-time deposit of \$1,000 into the account.

Approximately 25 million born prior to Jan. 1, 2025, can get a one-time deposit of \$250 if they meet certain criteria, including being aged 10 or younger at program launch, have a valid Social Security number, or live within a zip code where the median family income is under \$150,000.

Families, or any other supporting parties, can contribute up to \$5,000 per year into the tax-advantaged accounts. Charities in some cases may contribute over

that limit. Dozens of corporations have pledged to contribute to employees’ children’s Trump Accounts.

According to Investor.gov, these accounts “offer special tax benefits to encourage saving and investing for specific reasons such as retirement, education, or health care.”

An app that accompanies the account also contains 15 modules of financial education to prepare account holders on how best to utilize their funds. They, according to the United States Department of the Treasury “introduce concepts such as saving, investing, compound growth, diversification, and the role of American capital markets in supporting businesses and jobs.”

This “makes their financial education concrete” in that it is connected to a real word pot of money.

Long-term investment options also form part of the account.

Until the account holder reaches the age of 18, the account remains in “growth period” under which it remains under special restrictions of use. That ends on Dec.31 prior to the year the account holder turns 18.

Anyone can have full access to their account upon reaching the age of 18 to use for education, getting started in housing, or other expenses of young adulthood.

Withdrawals, however, are subject to taxation as “ordinary income.” A 10 percent penalty may apply except for certain spending, such as schooling expenses, first time home purchase, or onset of disability.

When the holder reaches age 59 and six months, withdrawals may be taken without penalty.

That said, the \$1,000 seed money alone, if left untouched and also not augmented by contributions, can grow into hundreds of thousands of dollars by the time of retirement.

After the holder of the account turns 18, it transforms into a traditional IRA.

Those seeking to open an account should register with the Internal Revenue Service or sign up on the Trump Accounts website. This will require filling out Form 4547 with the child’s basic information. “The entire process,” states the IRS site on the subject “should take 5 to 10 minutes.”

By Stephen Smoot

Carla Dent and Myra Vance from Region 8t have put out the call for more seniors.

Dent oversees the Senior Community Service Employment Program while Vance operates the Foster Grandparent Program for Region 8 Economic Planning and Development Council. This entity serves the Potomac Highlands counties from its Petersburg base. Both senior programs provide potential financial support, as well as chances to stay active and connected to community.

“SCSEP is federally funded to help to encourage unemployed residents 55 and older to build skills and confidence,” said Dent, who added that its intention lies in connecting seniors eventually to part or full time work.

As the United States Department of Labor, which supports the program, explains, it “is a community service and work-based job training program for older Americans.” Authorized by the Older Americans Act, it gives low or no income unemployed seniors “access to employment assistance.”

Training assignments usually take seniors to local non profits for an average of 29 hours per week. Through the training, they receive a minimum wage stipend. Dent assures seniors that those who receive a “stipend,” as opposed to a salary, will not have that money counted against any government support programs.

“It will not affect your benefits at all,” stated Dent.

She called it a win-win for both the senior and the participating non profits who “get support from dedicated individuals” in fulfilling their missions. Additionally, “seniors bring a lifetime of knowledge, experience, and work ethic” but may face challenges when trying to get back into the workforce. SCSEP provides a “bridge” to take them over divides of technology, new ideas,

and other changes to the workplace that have happened during the years and decades.

Dent provided an example of an individual who had left the workforce long ago when she got married. When her husband and another close family member passed, however, it left her in difficult circumstances. With little education and work experience, Dent said, “It was difficult for her to face those barriers until SCSEP helped to give her a pathway.”

Others find that they need new job skills when they encounter health problems or injuries. One trainee had suffered from a stroke that left the person with some limitations, but they still found help through SCSEP.

Dent lauded the recent participation of Grant County Nursing Home and their desire to help, but noted that they still needed more participating non profits.

Another opportunity for low income seniors to earn stipends comes through the Foster Grandparent Program. Like SCSEP, those who work with the FGP will not see their benefits affected by payment of the stipend.

The FGP started six decades ago, but suffers from confusion. As Vance explains, “The Foster Grandparent Program has nothing to do with foster children or foster care. FGP participants never take children anywhere outside of the school environment.”

Conversely FGP serves as an early version to the recent Communities in Schools program. FGP brings older seniors into schools to work with

children, often with special needs, academic challenges, or coming from problematic homes. They step in to help when teachers and their aides are addressing needs of the entire class.

Caring for these children may mean helping to tutor them, listening to them when they have had a hard day, or engaging a quiet and shy child in conversation to get them to open up. Seniors often have a special knack for reaching children when others cannot.

Like SCSEP, the program pays a minimum wage stipend to low income seniors who qualify. Those who do not qualify for a stipend are still welcome to volunteer with the program, and many do so. Unlike SCSEP, they also receive mileage reimbursement and even vacation.

Vance needs more participants with a little over 30 in a program established for more than 50. Should numbers not grow, the program could get cancelled.

Both programs serve as ways to help seniors remain active and connected to community. Almost every study reports that these aspects help to promote more years of independent living and quality of life in seniors.

For general information about the programs go to the Region 8 website at regioneight.org. For questions about the Senior Community Service Employment Program, contact Dent at 304-257-2448. To get additional information about the Grandparent Program, call Vance at 1-800-296-1221 or 304-257-1221.

**Pocahontas Producers Livestock Market**
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SPECIAL CALF SALE
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September 11 and 25 and October 9 - 7 p.m.
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Rolls/Butter and Assorted Desserts **\$40⁰⁰**

Sunday, August 30 • Noon - 3 p.m.

Sunday Buffet
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Pork w/Apples and Cider, White and Wild Rice,
Ritz Potatoes, Roated Brussels Sprouts,
Green Beans w/Tomatoes, Rolls/Butter and
Assorted Desserts **\$30⁰⁰**

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Owls can focus their eyes 10 times faster than a person can, which allows them to make quick flight adjustments to avoid collisions with trees or to catch small prey.

To protect their eyes while hunting, owls have something called a nictitating membrane or "third eyelid"—a transparent membrane that can be drawn over the eye, but still seen through.

— The Old Farmer's Almanac



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LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT

NOTICE OF ANCILLARY FILING WITHOUT ANY ADMINISTRATION OF ESTATE

Notice is hereby given that a foreign will or affidavit has been filed before Pendleton County Commission at 100 S. Main Street, Franklin, WV 26807.

That no appointment of administration is being made pursuant to the provisions of law but that a foreign will or affidavit of heirs of the decedent has been filed with the Pendleton County Commission, and is of record in the Pendleton County Clerk's Office.

Any interested person objecting to the filing of the foreign will or affidavit or objecting to the absence of appointment or administration being made in this state must be filed with the Pendleton County Commission within 60 days after the date of first publication or within 30 days of the serving of this notice, whichever is later. If an objection is not filed timely, the objection is forever barred.

First Publication Date:
Thursday,
August 27, 2026

Claim Deadline Date:
Monday,
October 26, 2026

Decedent:
Alfred Olen Armstrong,
Highland County, VA
Filed by:
Shirley R. Armstrong,
Spouse,
Doe Hill, VA

Subscribed and sworn to before me on August 19, 2026.

Elise M. White, Clerk of the Pendleton County Commission 8-27-2c

TRUSTEE'S SALE OF VALUABLE REAL ESTATE

The undersigned Substitute Trustee will, by virtue of authority vested in him by that certain Trust Deed dated June 25, 2021 by and between JONATHAN L. SIMMONS to Jeffrey S. Bowers and J. Stuart Bowers II, Trustees, securing the Pendleton Community Bank, Inc. in the payment of a certain Promissory Note, said Note now in default, and said Trust Deed of record in the Office of the Clerk of the County Court of Pendleton County, West Virginia, in Trust Deed Book 169 at page 284, on

FRIDAY, September 11, 2026

beginning at 10:00 AM, of that day at the front steps to the Pendleton County Courthouse, Franklin, West Virginia, offer for sale at Public Auction to the highest bidder the following described real estate:

The following described tracts or parcels of real estate, together with any buildings and improvements thereon located, lying and being situate in Franklin District, Pendleton County, West Virginia, and being more particularly described as follows:

TRACT NO. ONE:
That certain lot or tract of real estate, lying and being situate on the east side of Propst Gap Road about one mile southeast of the Town of Franklin in Franklin District, Pendleton County, West Virginia, and described as follows:

BEGINNING at a post on a line of Okey Bowers'; thence with new lines N. 49-1/2 E. 9.12 poles up a hill to an iron post on hillside; S. 73-1/2 E. 17.60 poles along a hillside to a post; S. 32 W. 9.36 poles down said hill to a post in

a line of Okey Bowers' and with said line N. 69-1/2 W. (old call) 19.56 poles to the beginning, containing 1 acre, more or less, and being the same real estate granted and conveyed to Ciera D. Martin (aka Ciera D. Nine-Miller) and Dustin Nine-Miller, by Deed dated January 26, 2017 and of record in the Clerk's Office of the County Commission of Pendleton County, West Virginia, in Deed Book 202, at Page 257, who thereafter granted and conveyed the same to Jonathan Simmons, Grantor herein, by that Deed dated the 25th day of June, 2021, of record in the Clerk's Office aforesaid in Deed Book 216 at page 196, to which references are herewith made for all pertinent purposes.

TRACT NO. TWO: The following described tract or parcel of real estate, lying and being that certain triangular shaped lot or parcel of land, 1 mile from Franklin, on the Propst Road, in Franklin District, Pendleton County, West Virginia, adjoining and between the lands of W. M. Boggs, the lot of Jacob A. Propst and the lot of the said Leah Bowers, containing 74-1/2 square rods, or 0.47 acres, more or less, designated in the 2020 Land Book of Pendleton County, West Virginia, as Tax Map 28, Parcel 26, and being the same real estate granted and conveyed to Ciera D. Martin (nka Ciera D. Nine-Miller) and Dustin Nine-Miller, by Deed dated May 12, 2017, of record in the Clerk's Office aforesaid in Deed Book 203, at Page 568, who thereafter granted and conveyed the same to Jonathan L. Simmons, Grantor herein, by that Deed dated the 25th day of June, 2021 of record in the Clerk's Office aforesaid in Deed Book 216 at Page 196, to which references are herewith made for all pertinent purposes.

The Grantor further grants and conveys to the Grantees, their heirs and assigns, all right of ways to the property herein conveyed, including, but not limited to, the right of way as more particularly set forth in a prior deed of conveyance, namely Deed Book 62, at Page 505.

This conveyance is made subject to all exceptions, reservations, covenants, conditions, easements, and rights-of-ways created or mentioned in prior instruments of record affecting the property herein conveyed, as well as granting and conveying any and all rights of ways or easements of benefit for said property.

Said Substitute Trustee was duly appointed by instrument dated April 29, 2025 and of record in the Pendleton County Clerk's Office in Trust Deed Book 181 at page 13.

The real estate taxes are assessed on the 2026 Pendleton County Land Records in Franklin District on Tax Map 28, Parcels 25 and 26.

Reference is hereby made to all instruments in the chain of title for any and all pertinent purposes.

The subject property will be sold in "AS IS" condition. The Trustee shall be under no duty to cause any existing tenant or person occupying the subject property to vacate said property.

FEDERAL TAX LIEN: In the event that there are Federal Tax Liens against the property, the United States would have the right to redeem the property within a period of 120 days from the date of such sale or the period allowable for redemption under local law, whichever is longer. Pursuant to the Deed of Trust, the Trustee may postpone the sale by public announcement at the time and place designated or by posting a notice of the same, and act by agent in the execution of the sale. The parties secured by the Deed of Trust reserve the right to purchase the property at such sale.

TERMS OF SALE

\$5,000.00 on day of sale and balance upon closing, not to exceed thirty days. Announcements made at sale take precedence over any written notice or advertisement.

Persons interested in the property may contact James Paul Geary II, 104 N. Main Street, Petersburg, West Virginia 26847, (304) 257-4155 or Darla A. Jones, Pendleton Community Bank, Inc. (304) 358-2311.

JAMES PAUL GEARY II
SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE

P. O. BOX 218
PETERSBURG, WV 26847
(304) 257-4155 8-20-3c

WEST VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION Division of Highways NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS

Bids will be received electronically by the West Virginia Department of Transportation, Division of Highways through the Bid Express Bidding Service (www.bidx.com) and by sealed proposals (only when prequalification is waived) being received at its office in Building 5, Room 843, 1900 Kanawha Boulevard East, Charleston, West Virginia until October 20, 2026 at 10:00 AM (Eastern Standard Time). The bids will be downloaded and/or opened and read publicly thereafter for the construction of the following project(s):

Call 003
Contract 2025360007
State Project
S336-33-37.50 00
Federal Project
STBG-0033(529)
Description
ContWrkTyp
Hammer Strait - Oak Flats
Hammer Strait - Oak Flats
COUNTY: PENDLETON

Proposals will be received from prequalified and West Virginia licensed contractors only except that on Federal-Aid Projects a contractor's license is not required at time of bid, but will be required before work can begin. Registration is required with the Department of Administration, Division of Purchasing, in accordance with Chapter 5A, Article 3, Section 12 of the West Virginia Code. All contractors submitting bids on project(s) must submit electronically with their bid a Proposal Guaranty Bond for \$500.00 or 5% of total bid, whichever is greater.

The West Virginia Department of Transportation, Division of Highways reserves the right to defer, delay or

(2024-C-000014-PENDLETON COUNTY-BDW MANAGEMENT INC)

To: EDWARD CLINTON GRANT JR., MICHAEL W. HOWDYSHHELL, JOHN M/DELANO, or heirs at law, devisees, creditors, representatives, successors, assigns, all known heirs, guardians, conservators, fiduciaries, administrators, lienholders, co-owners, other parties having an undivided interest in the delinquent property, and other parties that may have any interest in the subject property.

DISTRICT SUGAR GROVE MAP 33 PARCEL 0012 0013 0000

You will take notice that BDW MANAGEMENT INC., the purchaser of the following real estate, **Cert No. 2024-C-000014**, located in SUGAR GROVE District, .0637 ACRE FLEISHERS RUN which was returned delinquent or nonentered in the name of GRANT EDWARD CLINTON JR. and was sold by the deputy commissioner of delinquent and nonentered lands of PENDLETON County at the sale for the delinquent taxes on June 12, 2025. BDW MANAGEMENT INC. requests that you be notified a deed for such real estate will be made on or after November 1, 2026, as provided by law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The amount needed to redeem on or before October 31, 2026 will be as follows:

Amount equal to the taxes and charges due on the date of the certification, with interest, for tax year ticket number 2023 - 8512\$351.02

Back tax tickets, with interest, and charges due on the date of certification, with interest.....\$0.00

Subsequent of taxes paid on the property, with interest to for tax year 2024-8643.....\$282.94

Additional taxes with interest.....\$0.00

Auditor's Certification, Publication and Redemption fee plus interest.....\$144.82

Amount paid for Title Examination, notice to redeem, publication, personal service, Secretary of State with interest.....\$533.31

Additional Statutory Fees with interest.....\$634.73

Total Amount Due and Payable to WV State Auditor - cashier check, money order, certified or personal check**\$1,946.82**

You may redeem at any time before October 31, 2026 by paying the above total less any unearned interest.

If the above real estate is your primary residence, you may petition the Auditor to redeem the real estate in not more than three incremental payments that equal the total amount required to redeem the real estate prior to the issuance of the deed described above.

Given under my hand August 4, 2026

Christal G. Perry
Deputy Commissioner of Delinquent and Nonentered Lands of PENDLETON County, State of West Virginia

Return this letter and payment to the WV State Auditor's Office, County Collections Division 1900 Kanawha Boulevard East Building 1, Room W-114 Charleston, West Virginia 25305. Questions please call 1-888-509-6568 8-20-3c

America's 250th Anniversary License Plates Still Available

West Virginia Division of Motor Vehicles has just more than 500 America's 250th anniversary license plates remaining.

The plate features an American flag and fireworks in a dark sky, above green mountains with the New River Gorge Bridge, a part of the New River Gorge National Park and Preserve. The design celebrates America, in a uniquely West Virginia way.

"This license plate is not only a testament to our country, but a memorial to the men and women who have served and sacrificed so that America remains free," said Everett Frazier, commissioner of DMV. "This is not just a license plate. This is an opportunity to be inspired by their lives, to remember them, and to have pride in their contributions to keeping us free."

Guests with questions about the America's 250th plate, or those who cannot travel to a DMV office in person, should use the DMV's toll free number available to in-state residents, (800) 642-9066.

To get the plate, there is a \$10 scenic plate fee, in addition to the regular annual renewal fee of \$51.50. If a person is turning in another plate with time still available on one's registration, this cost will be prorated.

Each of the 5,000 plates produced had a specific number already printed on the plate, therefore specialized characters are not available.

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS PENDLETON COUNTY PSD PENDLETON COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA TROUBLESOME VALLEY WATER EXTENSION

General Notice

The Pendleton County PSD (Owner) is requesting Bids for the construction of the following Project:

TROUBLESOME VALLEY WATER EXTENSION

Bids for the construction of the Project will be received either in person at the Pendleton County PSD office located at 81 Evick Drive, Franklin, WV 26807 or through mail at PO Box 861, Franklin, WV 26807, until 1:00 PM local time on September 24th, 2026, at which time the Bids received will be publicly opened and read.

The method of bidding will be as follows:

CONTRACT #1 - Water line Extension

Unit price contract to provide and install 2,765 LF of 6" DIP and 8,050 LF of 6" PVC water line; 30 LF of 6" highway boring; 70 LF of steel casing; 9 gate valves; 3 air releases; 2 flushouts; 1 hydroconstant booster station; 1 traditional booster station; 43 anchor walls; and other work required to provide the complete system extension project.

CONTRACT #2 - Water Storage Tank

Unit price contract to construct one (1) water storage tank measuring 14 feet in diameter by 28.5 feet in height to the overflow with a nominal volume of 32,000 gallons, including the foundation, site work, site piping, and telemetry. Contract also includes access road and appurtenances to make a complete operating system.

Obtaining the Bidding Documents

The Issuing Office for the Bidding Documents is: Cerrone Associates, Inc., 97-14th Street, Wheeling, WV 26003. Prospective Bidders may examine the Bidding Documents at the Issuing Office on Mondays through Fridays between the hours of 8:00AM - 5:00PM and may obtain copies of the Bidding Documents from the Issuing Office as described below.

The Bidding Documents may also be examined at the following locations:

1. Construction Company 1(800) 393-6343
2. Contractors Association of West Virginia, 2114 Kanawha Blvd., East, Charleston, WV 25311
3. Office of the Owner, Pendleton County PSD, 81 Evick Drive, Franklin, WV 26807

Bidding Documents may be obtained from the office of Cerrone Associates, Inc. located at 97-14th Street, Wheeling WV 26003. They may be ordered by check or online at the following webpage: www.cerrone1.com.

Digital copies of the Bidding Documents will be delivered electronically. If electronic sharing cannot be accepted, a thumb drive will be shipped upon payment of the following deposit:

Plans and Specifications:
Contract No. 1 - Waterline Extension \$ 50.00
Contract No. 2 - Water Storage Tank \$ 50.00

Printed copies will be shipped, upon payment of the following deposit:

Plans and Specifications:
Contract No. 1 - Waterline Extension \$ 250.00
Contract No. 2 - Water Storage Tank \$ 250.00

The date that the Bidding Documents are transmitted by the Issuing Office will be considered the Bidder's date of receipt of the Bidding Documents. Partial sets of Bidding Documents will not be available from the Issuing Office. Neither Owner nor Engineer will be responsible for full or partial sets of Bidding Documents, including Addenda if any, obtained from sources other than the Issuing Office.

Bid security shall be furnished in accordance with the Instructions to Bidders.

Pre-bid Conference

There will not be a Pre-bid conference for this project.

Bid Acceptance Period

This Bid will remain subject to acceptance for 90 days after the Bid opening, or for such longer period of time that Bidder may agree to in writing upon request of Owner.

Instructions to Bidders.

For all further requirements regarding bid submittal, qualifications, procedures, and contract award, refer to the Instructions to Bidders that are included in the Bidding Documents.

This Advertisement is issued by:
Owner: **PENDLETON COUNTY PSD**
By: **DARRELL BODKIN**
Title: **CHAIRMAN**
Date: **6/16/25** 8-20-2c

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TRUCKS.....		SALE
2024 CHEVROLET SILVERADO 1500 CREW CAB S/BED 4X4, 5.3 liter V-8, auto., ldd., 42K miles, white.....		\$34,900
2024 RAM 2500 CREW CAB SHORTBED 4X4 "BIGHORN EDITION," Cummins diesel, auto., ldd., white, 58K miles		
		SPECIAL \$48,500 \$46,500
2023 FORD F-550 CREW CAB LARIAT 4X4, 7.3 gas V-8, auto., ldd., burgundy, only 2K miles, new cond.		\$69,500
2021 FORD F-750 CREW CAB & CHASSIS, 6.7 dsl., auto., ldd., air brakes, etc., white, 109K miles.....		\$49,500
2020 FORD F-550 4X4 BUCKET TRUCK, 7.3 liter gas V-8, auto., ldd., white, only 40,000 miles.....		\$49,500
2020 FORD F-150 SUPERCREW SHORTBED 4X4, XLT sport pkg. 2.7 V-6, auto., ldd., silver, 118K miles.....		\$24,900
2019 FORD F-150 SUPERCAB 4X4, FX4 & STX pkg. 5.0 liter V-8, auto., ldd., 137K miles, red, very sharp.....		\$19,900
2019 NISSAN FRONTIER CREW CAB SHORTBED 4X4, 4.0 liter V-6, auto., ldd., charcoal, 92K miles.....		\$19,500
2018 FORD F-250 S/CAB LONGBED 4X4, 6.7 diesel, auto., air, etc., white, 275K VDOT highway miles.....		\$21,900
2008 FORD F-550 4X4 UTILITY TRUCK, w/ mechanic's crane and auger, 6.4 dsl., auto., air, etc.		SPECIAL \$26,900 \$19,500
2006 FORD F-250 CREW CAB S/BED LARIAT 4X4, 6.0 diesel, auto., ldd., wht/tan, 223K miles.....		\$16,500
2005 FORD F-350 4X4 KING RANCH DUALY, 6.0 diesel, auto., ldd., white & tan, only 60K miles.....		\$39,500
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 \$39,500
PASSENGER VEHICLES		SALE
2025 FORD BRONCO 4-DR "BADLANDS SASQUATCH PKG.," V-6, auto., ldd., blue, only 6K miles, 72K new		\$49,500
2022 KIA SORENTO AWD PREMIUM EDITION, 2.5 liter, 4-cyl., auto., ldd., light gray, 92K miles.....		\$23,500
2022 SUBARU LEGACY 4-DR SEDAN "Premium Pkg.," ldd w/options, perfect condition, charcoal, 111K miles		
		SPECIAL \$19,900 \$17,900
2021 JEEP WRANGLER 2-DR HARDTOP "80TH ANNIVERSARY PKG.," V-6, auto., ldd., orange, 64K miles.....		\$24,900
2021 KIA SELTOS PREMIUM PKG., AWD, 4-cyl., auto., ldd., bronze, 104K miles, ex. cond.		\$16,500
2020 FORD EDGE SEL AWD, 2.0 liter 4-cyl., auto., ldd., Ruby red, 116K miles, very sharp.....		\$14,900
2020 SUBARU OUTBACK AWD WAGON, 2.5 liter, 4-cyl., auto., ldd., olive green, 114K miles.....		SPECIAL \$19,500 \$17,500
2019 INFINITI QX60 LUXE AWD, V-6, auto., ldd., pearl white, 94K miles.....		SPECIAL \$19,500 \$17,900
2018 FORD EXPLORER XLT "SPORT PKG" AWD, 2.3 4-cyl., auto., ldd., dark cherry, 115K miles, very sharp		
		SPECIAL \$18,900 \$17,900
2017 JEEP WRANGLER 4-DR SPORT 4X4, V-6, auto., ldd., white, 89K miles.....		SPECIAL \$18,900 \$17,900
2017 FORD EXPLORER XLT AWD, V-6, auto., ldd., copper color, 118K miles, sharp.....		\$14,900
2016 FORD EXPLORER XLT AWD, V-6, auto., ldd., white, 124K miles.....		\$12,900
R/Vs & RECREATIONAL		SALE
2015 FORD E-450 w/Jayco Greywolf 31FS Motorhome Conversion, V-10, auto., ldd. w/features, only 26K miles.....		\$34,900

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Franklin, WV 26807**

sugargrovewv.com

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Tommy A. Roberson, Sales Agent 304.668.1050

Penny K. Lambert, Sales Agent C 304.668.2975

Jennifer Raines, Sales Agent 304.851.3522

Kelly Roby, Sales Agent 304.257.8859

**FOR PHOTOS AND MUCH MORE ABOUT THESE PROPERTIES VISIT
WWW.SUGARGROVEWV.COM**

SGR422A 1.891 Acres, w/3,637 sq. ft., 3 Bed, 3 Bath Brick home located in Franklin Corp. LP Furnace, Heat Pump & Baseboard Electric, Public water & sewer. Barn, Camper Shed and Garage. ~~\$429,000.00~~.

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 quarters. 1800 Gallon Cistern, WaSOLD Outbuilding-Wood Shed. Very well maintained. Located in Dry Run area. Shared ROW. Franklin District, Pendleton City. ~~\$180,000.00~~.

SGR410A 1492 Dice Warner Road, Circleville, 3 Bed, 2 Bath, log siding, stone fireplace, Hardwood Floor Gap, gorgeous mountain views, 2 living rooms, propane heat/AC and a forced air wood furnace. House being sold "AS-IS." ~~\$249,900.00~~.

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~~.

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~~.

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 City. ~~\$929,000.00 REDUCED \$879,000.00~~.

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. ~~\$949,000.00 \$899,000.00 REDUCED \$849,000.00~~.

SGR385A 11.54 Acres w/3+ Bed, 3 Bath Cabin located in Buck Ridges Dvlpmnt. Screened porch, Deck, Stone Patio, Private SEPTIC SYSTEM, Hardwood, Tile, Floating Linoleum flooring. Lots of natural light, Metal Roof, Board and Batten Exterior. 3080 assessed sq ft. Very well maintained. ~~\$325,000.00~~.

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, Built in 1980's, Excellent Hunting. Life Estate on 6 Acres. Franklin District. ~~\$169,000.00~~.

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 REDUCED \$270,000.00~~.

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~~.