

THE PENDLETON TIMES

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Thursday
September 24, 2026

The 2026 Treasure Mountain Festival



More Highlights on Page 3

County Commission Honors 4-H Competitors and Participants

By Stephen Smoot

“Our precious Heavenly Father . . . we thank you for this opportunity to gather together,” prayed Roger Dahmer, Pendleton County commissioner, in the customary opening invocation. After the Pledge of Allegiance, Carl Hevener, commission president, called the meeting to order and the business of the day commenced.

“I’d like to welcome everybody to this session of the Pendleton County Commission,” he started.

He requested that the commission “change the agenda a little bit” and allow those who had come before the commission with resolutions to go first.

First, they heard from 4-H members Ross Pownell, Hannah Heavner, and Bella Hoo-

ver who attended the meeting along with Brooke Alt, Pendleton County’s West Virginia University extension agent. With the 2026 motto “Beyond Ready” in mind, Pownell read “whereas 4-H youth development programs have integrated hands-on learning experienced for over a century, empowering young people with the skills, confidence and resilience needed to lead in a changing world . . . the . . . theme ‘Beyond Ready’ highlights how the program equips incoming and existing members with critical life skills” and “the local 4-H community . . . dedicates significant time and resources to nurturing the potential of youth.” The commissioners unanimously approved recognition of Pendleton County 4-H and National 4-H Week.

Pownell and Heavner will soon travel to Kalamazoo, Michigan to compete along with Marion Williams in the National Junior Horticulture Contest This, unless something changes, will be the last such event as the association behind the event is disbanding. Competitors have the opportunity to participate in different horticulture contests while also receiving educational and networking experiences. Such competitions help to promote learning, communication, and leadership skills in youth, reflecting the goal of youth agriculture organizations like 4-H.

October 4 through 10 is National 4-H Week. Charlotte Hoover and Lois Carr represented the Potomac Valley Conservation District. They

Continued on Page 6

Queens Hold Court at Community Building for Treasure Mountain Festival



Shania Shriver, Curvy Miss West Virginia, helped to lead the legion of pageant queens serving tea and tasty treats at the community building. Photo by Annie Humes.



Tea room attendees are treated to various finger sandwiches and desserts, along with their favorite teas.

By Stephen Smoot

Pageant queens add so much to any event. Charming personalities and smiling faces of pageant queens could be seen everywhere during the Treasure Mountain Festival, from the beard contest to breakfast and nearly every competition in between.

That all said, they put their best foot forward while serving in the Heritage Tea Room at the community building.

They set up in the conference room next to the main hall,

Community CALENDAR Homecoming Set At NF Baptist

North Fork Baptist Church in Riverton will be having a homecoming service at 10 a.m. Sunday with Rob Vance. There will be special music by The Chapel Bells. A fellowship meal will follow. Everyone is invited.

which was bedecked in patriotic and other styles of quilts lovingly crafted by the Sew and Sews. Old fashioned tablecloths added to the nostalgia of old time tea get-togethers. A hat rack at the entrance held a number of period head pieces for anyone who wanted to add a little flair to their experience. One table had several girls all showing off their fancy hats and frilly boas. Dad even got into the fun and perched a hat on his own head.

Shania Shriver, Curvy Miss West Virginia, served as queen of the queens. She said, “We wanted to bring in the old experience and bring some of the heritage of the community to the heart of the community.” The many who enjoyed the experience got to “sit around with good company.”

That good company ranged from parents and grandparents bringing young people for perhaps their first time in a formal tea setting. One could also see old friends enjoying the treats, sharing stories and planning the rest of their day.

Attendees could order from a selection of different teas. One of the queens would come and efficiently take the order. On their return, they brought a little pot of hot water, a cup, and tea. Next came a three-tiered rack of finger sandwiches, cookies, scones, and other tasty savory and dessert treats. Finger sandwiches included ham salad, egg salad, and also an open faced pesto option.

“All proceeds go into the festival and the pageant,” shared Shriver.

Queens came from the entire region. They included representatives from the Roadkill Festival in Marlinton, Poultry Week in Hardy County, and also Franklin’s Trout Fest. They ran the entire operation on their own under the tutelage of Shriver.

The tea room has been a tradition for many years at the Treasure Mountain Festival. It lapsed briefly during the pandemic, but the number of those who came to enjoy tea time shows that it remains a popular attraction.

Board of Education Recognizes FFA Land Judging Team

By Stephen Smoot

“Almighty God, as we gather, we thank you for the opportunity to be here, and we thank you for everybody that’s here. We ask a blessing on everybody that’s here, and we ask a blessing on our discussion and our decisions tonight.”

J. D. Wilkins, Pendleton County Board of Education president, opened the second regular meeting of September with the customary invocation. Next, Nicole Hevener, superintendent, recognized staff and student achievements.

“I’m excited to stand before you as the new ag teacher at Pendleton County High School,”

shared Zachary Tennant, who brought to the meeting “four of the next budding conservationists in our world. This is our land judging and home site evaluation team.” He added that “Mr. (Ron) Hudson kind of got them started and got them interested in soil, and how it impacts agriculture and can impact agriculture for years to come. He laid down a great foundation.”

In May the team, which included Katie Heavner, Katie Keyser, Ty Heavner and Alex Adams, was named regional champion for “both land judging and home site evaluation.”

Continued on Page 5

Heavner Puts Tractor Skills To the Test at The Big E

The roar of tractors and the careful maneuvering of agricultural equipment were part of the competitive action at the Eastern Regional FFA Contests Sept. 19 during The Eastern States Exposition in Springfield, Massachusetts.

Among the competitors was Ty Heavner, Pendleton County FFA member, who participated in the Safe Tractor and Equipment Operation Event and finished third overall.

After winning the West Virginia FFA state title in large tractor driving in July, Heavner earned the opportunity to represent West Virginia at The Big E, competing against other top FFA competitors from across the region.

The competition was an opportunity to demonstrate the skills he has developed through hands-on experience with agricultural equipment. The event tested both his knowledge and ability to safely operate different types of equipment.

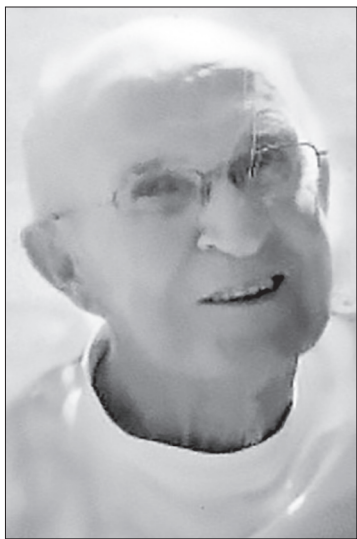
During the competition, Heavner completed a written test, identified tools and tractor parts, and took part in several driving events which included operating a two-wheeled manure spreader, four-wheeled trailer, tractor loader, and skid-loader.

Each event required careful driving, attention to detail, and knowledge of equipment safety. His third-place finish capped off a



Ty Heavner, a Pendleton County FFA member, proved his tractor knowledge by capturing a third-place win in The Big E tractor contest.

successful year of competition and showcased the skills he has developed through FFA and hands-on experience with agricultural equipment.



Harold “Shep” Hartman

On Sept. 16, 2026, Harold “Shep” Hartman, 89, of Seneca Rocks passed away peacefully at Pendleton Manor in Franklin.

He was born on Nov. 12, 1936, in Onego and was the son of the late Forrest Hartman and Dessie (Vance) Hartman.

Mr. Hartman was a lifelong trucker and spent many years behind the wheel driving for Hinkle Trucking, Dettinburn Trucking and the late Olie Judy before he started his own company.

Hardworking and dedicated to caring for his family, he put countless miles under his belt as a truck driver. He could often be found spending his time chatting with people. He never met a stranger and was always ready to share a story. His laughter was a defining part of who he was.

Those who knew him will remember him as a magnet for friendships. He was a man of integrity and character.

He was a member of the former Valley Chapel Methodist Church in Riverton.

He was the last surviving member of his immediate family.

Though gone, he will always be remembered by those he leaves behind.

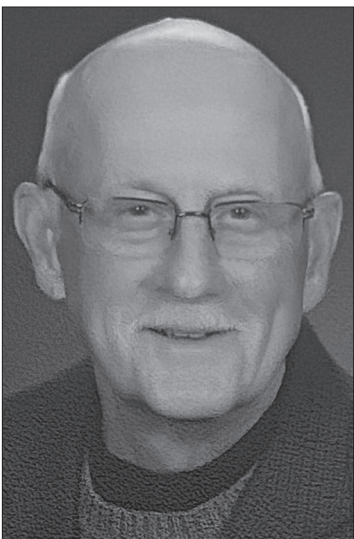
Left to carry on his memory are his wife of 67 years, Blonda (Hedrick) Hartman; two sons, Larry Hartman of Seneca Rocks and David (Stephanie) Hartman of Petersburg; four grandchildren, Courtney, Derek (Christy), Chase (Kassidy), and Kenzi Hartman; three great-granddaughters, Addy, Allie, and Kennedy; and numerous nieces and nephews.

He was also preceded in death by two brothers, Herbert Hartman and Robert Hartman; and two sisters, Dorothy Hartman Champ and Reba Hartman Harrer.

A funeral service was held Saturday in the chapel of Schaeffer Funeral Home in Petersburg with Pastor William “Andy” Botkin officiating. Interment was at North Fork Memorial Cemetery in Riverton.

Memorial contributions may be made to Pendleton Manor, PO Box 700, Franklin, WV 26807 or charity of the donor’s choice.

Online condolences may be left at www.schaefferfuneralhome.com.



Sheldon Neil Propst

Sheldon Neil Propst, 82, of Rockingham, Virginia, passed away on Sept. 12, 2026 at his home, surrounded by his family.

He was born on Nov. 1, 1943, in Moyers and was a son of the late Fred and Myrtle (Mitchell) Propst.

Mr. Propst was a working man. He retired from the United States Postal Services after 43 years of service. He previously worked at the Farm Bureau and was a manager at Bridgewater IGA. He spent his final working days mowing and landscaping, which he took a lot of pride in.

When he was not working, he enjoyed watching his children and grandchildren’s sporting events and other activities, hunting with his family, putting puzzles together, going on many bus trips with his wife and friends, and watching his Baltimore Orioles and Ravens.

He was an active member at Bridgewater Church of the Brethren for 60 years, where he served as a deacon for many years. He also helped with numerous other church activities and services.

On March 7, 1964, he was united in a marriage of 62 years to Betty Shay (Pitsenbarger) Propst, who survives.

Also surviving are two sons, Greg Propst and partner, Renee of Bridgewater, Virginia, and Brad Propst and wife, Megan of Penn Laird, Virginia; a brother, Jesse Carroll Propst of Franklin; four grandchildren, Andrew Propst and fiancée, Brittany, Brianna Propst and partner, Devin, Brycen Propst and partner, Grace, and Shaley Propst; three step-grandchildren, Natalie, Noah, and Eli; and numerous nieces and nephews.

He was also proceeded in death by three sisters, Ida Mary Snyder, Marilyn Propst, and Velma Blandino; six brothers, Charles Linaburg, Gene Rader, Harley Propst, Stanley Propst, Arnold Propst, and Jerry Propst.

A service celebrating his life was held Thursday at the Bridgewater Church of the Brethren. Burial was private.

Memorial donations may be sent to Bridgewater Church of the Brethren, Bridgewater Rescue Squad, or Bridgewater Volunteer Fire Department.

Online Condolences may be shared with the family at www.johnsonfs.com.



Denise Lamb-Willis

It is with profound sadness that the family announces the unexpected passing of their beloved Denise Lamb-Willis, who departed this life on Sept. 16, 2026.

She was born in North Carolina and raised between North Carolina and Maryland. She was the youngest child of Brookie Coston Lamb and Joseph Lamb.

To know Mrs. Willis was to experience genuine kindness. This world has lost one of its angels, one of the most thoughtful, caring, considerate, and steadfast people anyone could ever hope to meet. Whether a person had known her for years or were meeting her for the first time, she had a special way of making one feel welcomed, valued, and loved.

Running was one of her greatest passions. She ran through the rain, the snow, and the heat. No weather could slow her down or keep her from doing what she loved. Her determination as a runner reflected how she lived her life, with strength, consistency, and purpose.

She loved deeply, freely, and without condition. Nothing meant more to her than her sons. She would often say with great pride and affection, “Oh, them boys, them boys, I love

them beyond measure!” Her love for them could be heard in her voice, seen in her smile, and felt in everything she did.

It is extremely difficult for the family to lay her to rest. However, they find some peace in their faith and in believing that she has been reunited with her beloved youngest son, Monte.

Franklin held a special place in her heart from the moment she first visited. She loved its natural beauty, especially the mountains, and she was deeply fond of the people of Franklin. Many years ago, she expressed her wish that when her Heavenly Father called her home, she wanted to be laid to rest among these beautiful mountains. The family now lovingly honors that wish.

She leaves to cherish her memory her devoted husband of 39 years, Terry Willis; her beloved son, Tavone Willis; her mother, Brookie Coston Lamb, whom she adored; her brother, Joseph Coston; and many extended family members and dear friends whose lives were made better by knowing her.

She was preceded in death by her beloved youngest son, Monte Willis, and her father, Joseph Lamb.

“Denise, until we see you again, and through faith, we believe we will ...rest peacefully. Thank you for your love, your kindness, your strength, and every beautiful memory you gave us.

“We will love you, miss you, and cherish you forever.”

The family will receive friends from 10 to 11 a.m. Saturday at the Basagic Funeral Home in Franklin. Funeral services will follow in the funeral home chapel. Interment will be at the Willis Family Cemetery in Franklin.

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

Leon Hevener, 83

Leon Hevener, 83, of Upper Tract passed away Sept. 21, 2026, at J.W. Ruby Memorial Hospital in Morgantown.

Funeral arrangements were incomplete at press time. Arrangements are entrusted to the Kimble Funeral Home in Franklin.

Old-Fashioned Pot Pie Dinner Saturday, October 3

3 p.m. - ‘til sold out

St. John Lutheran Church, Moyers

(corner of Moyers Gap Road and Black Thorn Road)

Menu:

Ham or Chicken Pot Pie

Green Beans, Cole Slaw,

Roll and Dessert

Take Out or Dine In

Freewill Offering

RESOLUTION 2026-08-11

A RESOLUTION OF THE POTOMAC VALLEY CONSERVATION DISTRICT OPPOSING THE VALLEY LINK NORTH PROJECT, MARL TRANSMISSION LINES, SOLAR FARMS, AND DATA CENTER DEVELOPMENT IN WEST VIRGINIA.

WHEREAS, the Potomac Valley Conservation District (PVCD) met at their monthly meeting on August 11, 2026;

WHEREAS, conservation districts serve as the primary local delivery system for voluntary conservation programs that protect soil, water, forests, agricultural lands, and natural resources;

WHEREAS, conservation district supervisors discussed the comments from their constituents over concerns of the projected transmission lines, data centers and solar farms projected across West Virginia;

WHEREAS, PVCD sees no benefit of these projects to the impacted counties, specifically covering the five counties administered by Potomac Valley Conservation District: Pendleton, Grant, Hardy, Hampshire and Mineral Counties, nor to the State of West Virginia; and

WHEREAS, concerns for environmental, animal, and human health and welfare is a concern, along with the disruption of the local ecosystems, properties, agricultural production, and viewpoints;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that PVCD opposes the Valley Link North Project and the MARL project transmission lines to be passed by the Public Service Commission, PVCD also opposes the continued construction and allowance of Data Centers and Solar Farms.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that PVCD requests the Public Service Commission to deny the application requests for these projects.



Shirley Jane (Armentrout) Ours

Shirley Jane (Armentrout) Ours, 87, of Petersburg went to be with the Lord on Sept. 17, 2026, at Ruby Memorial Hospital in Morgantown after a brief illness.

She was born on April 21, 1939, in Kline and was the daughter of the late Charles Dayton Armentrout and Eva Jane (Harman) Armentrout.

Mrs. Ours was a 1957 graduate of Franklin High School.

She had worked at Petersburg Motor Company in Petersburg and sewing facto-

ries for several years. In later years, she was a caregiver.

She was a faithful member of Brake Covenant Church of the Brethren.

She was the last member of her immediate family.

Her husband, Evers T. Ours, Jr. preceded her in death on Feb. 21, 2025.

Surviving are a son, Scotty Lee Ours and wife, Martha of Petersburg; a grandson, Jeremiah “Bug” Ours; a granddaughter, Holly Beth Lyon and husband, Michael; two great-grandsons, Ethan Lyon and Isaac Lyon; several nieces and nephews; and her beloved cat, Simon.

She was also preceded in death by four brothers, Roy Dayton Armentrout, Clyde Armentrout, Loy Armentrout and Harman Lee Armentrout; and an infant sister, Bernice Grace Armentrout.

A funeral service was conducted Tuesday in the chapel of Schaeffer Funeral Home in Petersburg with Pastor Craig Howard officiating. Interment was in Lahmansville Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to Gideons International or St Jude Children’s Research Hospital.



Germany Valley Limestone Rd., Riverton

Friday, September 25 • 4 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Carnivore Buffet

Mixed Green Salad, Carved Prime Ribs, Grilled NY Strip Steaks, Rotisserie Style Chicken, Pan Seared Pork Chops, Beef Stroganoff, Mashed Potatoes, Macaroni and Cheese, Steamed Green Beans, Glazed Carrots, Rolls/Butter and Assorted Desserts **\$40⁰⁰**

Sunday, September 27 • Noon - 3 p.m.

Sunday Buffet

Mixed Green Salad, Carved Smoked Beef Brisket, Roast Pork Loin w/Pomegranate Sauce, Chicken Virginia, Roasted Red Skinned Potatoes, Steamed Rice, Peas and Pearl Onions, Roasted Brussels Sprouts, Rolls/Butter and Assorted Desserts **\$30⁰⁰**

RESTAURANT HOURS:

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

Sunday Noon - 5 p.m.

(Sunday Buffet Noon - 3 p.m.

Menu Items Available All Day)

Online Real Estate Auction

Bidding runs through

Wednesday, October 7, at 6 p.m.

Open Preview and Inspection

Saturday, October 3 • 11am – 2pm

168 & 182 Kisamore Vineyard Lane

Seneca Rocks

Generational Farm & Mountain Property

TWO HOMES ON 43 +/- ACRES IN SENECA ROCKS



43 +/- Acres (per survey)

Farmhouse – 1,778 +/- Sqft

Two-Story Home – 1,858 +/- Sqft

30 x 40 Steel-Constructed Metal Building

24 x 30 Barn with Lean-To

Woodshed, Root Cellar, and Spring House

Hay Fields, Vineyard, Wooded Ground

RE Terms: 10% down payment made day of auction w/balance due at closing w/in 60 days. 10% BP. Additional terms on Website.

Questions? Personal Tour?

Call Agent, Jordan Kiger (724)-998-5810

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SEALED BID NOTICE FOR SNOW REMOVAL



Is Accepting Sealed Bids for

Seasonal Snow Removal and Salting Services

Pendleton County Industrial Park - Shell #2
Upper Tract

The successful bidder must provide
all equipment and materials

Sealed bids must be received by
4:00 p.m., Friday, October 2, 2026

Mail bids to: SRRDA, Attn: Sherry Mongold
PO Box 602, Franklin WV 26807

Mailed bids must be postmarked by October 2, 2026

In-person bids may be delivered to the SRRDA Office,
58 Walnut Street, Franklin, or placed
in the black drop box at the front door.

SRRDA reserves the right to reject any and all bids.
Equal Opportunity Employer (EOE)



Treasure Mountain Festival 2026



Lifestyles Certainly Have Been Swayed with the Passage of Time

Sugar Grove

By Paula Mitchell

Does one know?

As incredible as it sounds, men and women took baths only twice a year (May and October). Women kept their hair covered, while men shaved their heads due to lice and bugs, therefore wearing wigs. Wealthy men could afford woolen wigs which could not be washed, so in order to clean them they would carve out a loaf of bread, put the wig in the shell and bake it for 30 minutes. The heat would make the wig big and fluffy, hence the term “big wig.” Today, someone who appears to be or is powerful and wealthy is referred to as “the Big Wig.”

Personal hygiene left much room for improvement. Women and men developed acne scars by adulthood. The women would spread bee’s wax over their facial skin to smooth out their complexions. Should a woman stare



Cleo Simmons and Riley Leo Adamson were the oldest and youngest to attend the Gordon and Lula Puffenbarger Smith reunion.

at another woman’s face, she was told to “mind her own bee’s wax.” When the woman would smile, the wax would crack, hence the term “crack a smile” came to be. In addition, when they sat too close to the fire, the wax would melt, therefore, the expression “losing face” came into being.

In the late 1700s, many houses consisted of a large

room with only one chair. The “head” of the house always sat in the chair while all the others ate sitting on the floor. Once in a while, a guest, who was usually a man, would be invited to sit in this chair during a meal. To sit in the chair meant that one was important and in charge. They called the one sitting in the chair the “chairman.” Today in business, the expression of title “chairman” or “chairman of the board” is used.

Indeed, the English language is a very interesting language. Now, the reader knows the source of these idiomatic expressions.

Life’s little instructions include the following:

1. Volunteering is priceless.
2. Working together makes a job much easier to do.
3. Reflect on one’s joys.
4. Avoid dangerous drugs.
5. Prioritize tasks.

The Treasure Mountain Festival is in the pages of history. One now looks forward to autumn which began its

reign Sept. 22. One will be enjoying changing leaves, forest walks, cozy evenings, candlelight, pumpkins, and cool rainy days.

Quotes for the week are as follows:

“Show me a man that gets rich by being a politician, and I’ll show you a crook.” — Harry S. Truman

“Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much.” — Helen Keller

“Summer’s lease hath all too short a date.” — William Shakespeare

“There are so many different ways in which to navigate this so-called life. Be open to experiencing more than one.” — Sterling K. Brown

“It’s hard to beat a person who never gives up.” — Babe Ruth

Sitting in the air conditioning to cool off is the best place to be to hear the “Talk of the Grove.”

Helen Nash is now at Virginia Mennonite Retirement Community for rehab, follow-

ing sometime in the hospital. Her daughter, Rhonda, visits her every day.

Spending the weekend with his grandfather, Eugene Varner, was Bentley.

Weekend visitors for Evelyn Varner were Sonny Brooks and Judy Costello.

The Gordon and Lula Puffenbarger Smith reunion was held Sept. 5 at the VFW pavilion. Descendants attending the reunion were many; most notably Cleo Simmons (102 years of age) and Riley Leo Adamson (7 weeks of age), the oldest and youngest.

Clickety-clacks for the chin waggars are as follows:

- Older adults who volunteer 100 hours or more each year significantly lower their risk of chronic illnesses.
- A \$1 United States bill lasts about 6.6 years.
- A group of bunnies is a “fluffle.”
- Forty-one countries recognize sign language as an official language.
- The United States is the

only country in the world that doesn’t use the metric system.

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

Board of Education

Continued From Page 1

As Tennant explained, “Land judging is all about the best productive use for the land in terms of agriculture. They evaluate things like erosion, slope permeability, and its impact on agriculture or lack thereof. Between that and the home site contest they’re utilizing those same factors that they learned about in land judging.” He went on to state that “for home site development, it’s a lot of numbers. The numbers gained there that they had to do a little bit of memorizing for land judging and home site go up against 12 other teams from across the state of West Virginia.”

Competition took place in July at the Cedar Lakes Conference Center near Ripley. Out of 23 teams that have competed from PCM/HS, this was the first to qualify for national level competition.

The team will go next to Oklahoma for the national event. Tennant stated that he hopes they will “learn about conservation and best practices for agriculture, that we can bring back to Pendleton County and hopefully get to talk to you about some more soil science and conservation again in May or June and maybe have some hardware with us too.”

Individually, Ty Heavner earned first place in the state large tractor driving competition for the second year in a row and will also go to nationals. Heavner is the second Pendleton County student to qualify for national competition in tractor driving. Tennant stated that Heavner would miss the Treasure Mountain Festival, “but we’re excited to see how he does in

Springfield, [Massachusetts].”

J. P. Mowery, chief financial officer and treasurer. then provided his report. He noted that the special Permanent Improvement Fund established under Charles Hedrick, former superintendent, now has \$350,000 in it. Hedrick established the fund when Pendleton County Schools reached a good financial foundation. Seven years ago when COVID era assistance came to PCS, it was decided to set back \$50,000 per year to serve as a fund to address one-time needs. Mowery explained that it could be used for matching funds or to pay for entire projects, but “Obviously, we don’t want to see it disappear at any one time.”

He added that fiscal year 2026 ended with “a healthy fund balance” which carried over \$1.821 million.

Mowery went on to share various expenses, noting that student transportation topped \$2 million for the first time ever. Rising fuel costs and declining mechanical reliability squeezed transportation funding from both ends in the past year. He also shared that declines in funding for Communities in Schools, as well as a \$150,000 reduction of 1,400 floor money and some small federal sources might force PCS “to step back a bit” in terms of financial position, but still remain strong in terms of state expectations.

He then warned that with scrutiny paid to financial problems in Harrison and Hancock counties, and elsewhere, that the state could inquire about reasons if PCS financial position continued to decline over years. Then Mowery shared some potential good news, stating that “Charleston’s going try to get us some money in legislature for special ed staffing. I think that’s a real possibility . . . You know, the sky is not falling, but we certainly have to pay attention to what’s going on.”

Seth Bowers Announces Candidacy for Pendleton County Commissioner

Sugar Grove resident Seth S. Bowers has announced his candidacy for Pendleton County Commissioner, pointing to his experience in local business, volunteer emergency services and youth activities as qualifications he would bring to county government.

Bowers, a lifelong Pendleton County resident, said his decision to seek office is rooted in his connection to the county and his desire to help shape its future.

“Pendleton County is where I was raised, where I’ve built my life, where I work and volunteer, and most importantly, where I’m raising my family,” Bowers said in announcing his candidacy.

A 2003 graduate of Pendleton County High School, Bowers graduated from West Virginia University in 2007 with a bachelor’s degree in business management. He returned home after college and has spent nearly 20 years working in his family business, Bowers Garage & Body Shop.

Bowers said his years in the towing business, including responding to calls at all hours, have given him experience dealing with people during difficult circumstances and taught him the importance of listening, remaining calm and finding practical solutions.

“When the phone rings and somebody needs help, you get up and you go,” he said.

Bowers also has a long history in volunteer emergency services. He joined the South Fork Volunteer Fire Department at age 16 and currently serves as assistant fire chief. He also served as a volunteer EMT for 14 years.

He said those experiences reinforced the importance of responsibility, leadership, teamwork and neighbors helping one another.

Public safety would be among his priorities on the County Commission, Bowers said. He said he would support firefighters, EMS personnel, law enforcement officers, dispatchers and other public servants while working to ensure they have appropriate equipment, training and resources.

Bowers is also a member of the Farm Bureau and said supporting local farmers and agriculture, while preserving Pendleton County’s natural beauty and rural values, is important to the county’s identity and future.

Family and opportunities for younger residents also featured prominently in his announcement. Bowers and his soon-to-be wife, Ashley, are raising five children. He said fatherhood has caused him to think more about what Pendleton County will look like 10 or 20 years from now.

Among the questions he said county leaders should consider are whether young people will be able to find meaningful employment, afford homes, start businesses and raise their own families in Pendleton County.

“I want our young people to know they can dream big without believing they have to leave Pendleton County behind,” Bowers said. “We should prepare them to go anywhere in the world and succeed, but we should also work to give them a reason to come home.”

Bowers has supported local schools, athletics and youth activities and currently volunteers as a football coach at Pendleton County High School.

Economic opportunity, he said, is closely connected to retaining young residents. He called for supporting local businesses, farms, jobs and communities that allow residents to build their lives in the county.

Bowers also emphasized fiscal responsibility as part of his campaign, drawing on his experience working in a family business. He said county officials must establish priorities, examine finances, plan for the future and recognize that public money ultimately comes from taxpayers.

“I would treat taxpayer dollars with the same care and responsibility I would expect someone to use with my own,” he said.

Government transparency and accessibility are also among the principles Bowers said would guide him if elected. He said residents should be able to understand how county decisions are made and how public money is spent, while elected officials should remain willing to hear from constituents who disagree with them.

Bowers said his candidacy should not be interpreted as criticism of everything currently being done by county government.

“There are good people working hard for Pendleton County, and there are good things happening that deserve continued support,” he said. “When something works, we should build on it. When something can be done better, we should improve it.”

He said he would approach decisions by researching issues, asking questions, consulting people familiar with the subject and reviewing financial information before reaching conclusions.

Bowers also stressed that, although Sugar Grove is his home, he intends his campaign to represent residents throughout Pendleton County.

“I want people to be able to call me, stop me at the store, talk to me at a ballgame or come up to me at a community event,” Bowers said. “Because being elected shouldn’t change who you are. It should give you another opportunity to serve.”

Bowers said his campaign will emphasize faith, family, hard work, responsibility, service and “neighbors helping neighbors.”

“I’m not running for a title,” he said. “I’m running because Pendleton County is home and I believe I have something to contribute to its future.”

“I humbly ask for the trust, support and vote of the people of Pendleton County,” he said. “It would be an honor to serve as your county commissioner and to continue showing up for the community I’m proud to call home.”

Thank you. God Bless.
Seth Bowers



ad paid for by candidate

Wildcats Take Second Place in Potomac Valley Conference Golf Tournament

By Stephen Smoot

“It got a little on the warm side,” said Mike Eye, Pendleton County head varsity golf coach, of tournament day at The Raven Course at Snowshoe Mountain. Otherwise, he shared that “there were clear skies ... a beautiful day for golf.

The Wildcats entered competition against Tygarts Valley, Union, Tucker County, and Pocahontas County last week. All season long, Pendleton County and Tygarts Valley have battled in the top echelons of the Potomac Valley Conference and this day was no different.

Eye shared that The Raven “is the only place that people say is harder than The Highlands (at Fisher Mountain).” He explained that the difficulty comes for opposite reasons. “At The Highlands, the greens are mostly undulating. The tee to the green is not that difficult.” Conversely, at The Raven “it’s hard to get to the green” but once there, it poses less of a challenge.

Overall, the Wildcats took second place with a score of 371. The Bulldogs from Tygarts Valley



Pendleton County took second place at the Potomac Valley Conference tournament at Snowshoe Resort. Pictured are, from left, Dayne Davis, Landon Davis, Dylan Eye, Nathan Davis from Tucker County, Beckett Aumann and Mike Eye.

shot a 363. Tucker County, Pocahontas County, and Union rounded out the field.

The top six in the field earned all conference honors. Dylan Eye and Beckett Aumann tied for fourth, shooting a 92. Landon Davis tied for sixth and scored a 93. “These three kids made all PVC, which is pretty cool,” shared coach Eye,

who also remarked that the difficulty of the course at The Raven made both the team and individual scores that much more impressive.

Jake Thompson shot a 94 and placed eighth and Hayden Kimble shot a 99, good for a tie for 10th. All the way around, the Wildcats executed a tremendous performance on the links.

A match is scheduled for today at The Highlands, but that depends on the weather. Regionals start on Oct. 5, and the coaching staff has high expectations for the squad as the postseason nears.

Coach Eye shared that “in my opinion, this is the best team that we’ve ever had and I mean the team as a whole.”

The coach did not refer to the talent or accomplishments of his squad, but something deeper. He explained that “some days, you just don’t have it” but that these Wildcats “lift each other up and encourage each other. They rally together, encourage each other, and all give 110 percent.” He added that “the only thing we ask is maximum effort.” If an athlete conducts himself as a sportsman and gives the best of himself, “that’s all you can ask.”

Coach Eye added that he and Dayne Davis, assistant coach, believe that being an effective coach means that “you teach them to be great human beings. You’ve got to teach sportsmanship, what it means to be a good teammate.”

“Teach them to be great humans and the winning will come,” Eye said.

Wildcats Cap Off Improbable Comeback to Top Mountain Lions

By Stephen Smoot

It’s not often that a team can fall behind two sets to none in volleyball, yet scrap and claw all the way back to claim victory. Pendleton County can claim that accomplishment after their contest last week against the visitors from Tucker County.

The Mountain Lions won their first set against the Wildcats in quite a long time, earning a 25-16 victory.

Pendleton County pushed ahead to a 19-13 advantage after an ace by Colbie Wimer, but Tucker County responded with three straight scores broken by an Alyssa Bennett spike that set the score at 20-16. From that point, Tucker County outscored the host team seven to two, taking a 23-22 lead with an ace. Phoebe Pownell then popped up a set that Wimer drove into the other side with a spike to knot the score.

They battled again to a 25-25 tie after Alyssa Bennett blocked an attempt at the net, but Tucker County went on to take set number two, 28-26.

Pendleton County took the floor in what could have been the elimination set. They high fived and got into position as loose as if they were up two sets instead of down.

Bennett sent the first serve across the net. Wimer fired it off

the hands of a Mountain Lion player and watched it ricochet out of bounds for the first point. Wimer then set Azalea Waddell for a shot to the middle as Pendleton County shot out to a 5-1 advantage early. Tucker County responded with a spike to close the lead to 5-2.

Later, after Pownell set up another Wimer spike to make the lead 10-4, Ava Bowers took over the serve. During her service, the Wildcats scored twice. Callie Judy started a run when she took the serve with the score 13-5. Judy then took a Chesnee Colaw pass to set up Vaylee Harper for a spike. The Mountain Lions would only score once more in the set as the Wildcats shocked the visiting squad 25-6 in the third set.

The Mountain Lions let the Wildcats take the lead early in the fourth set. With the score tied at one, Colaw’s hustle saved a volley that ended with Bennett tapping the ball into the middle of the defense for a score. A Tia Heavner spike put the score at 3-1. Tucker County then outscored Pendleton County 14 to seven to seize a 15-10 advantage. The Wildcats got the serve back on a service error and put the ball into the hands of Pownell. Eight serves later, Pendleton County had an 18-16 lead. Two of Pownell’s serves caromed wildly off the wrists of defenders and Bowers picked up a spike as well.

Fifth Ranked Yellow Jackets Bring Sting to Franklin, Win Late

By Stephen Smoot

A lot of folks in both Hardy and Pendleton counties had their eyes on this game prior to the season. It promised to pit one of the top teams in Class AA, Moorefield, against one of the top teams in Class A. Observers hoping for a great game got their wish with big plays, big scoring, and a big comeback by the visitors.

Both squads used almost the entire first quarter to feel each other out. The Wildcats got deep within Yellow Jacket territory, but gave up a turnover. Moorefield quickly took advantage, driving almost the length of the field to pick up the touchdown. Early in the game, the Yellow Jackets used a lot of five wide receiver sets with the quarterback alone in the backfield. This spread the defense and created space for running plays. On the ensuing kickoff, however, a great return put the Wildcats on the Yellow Jacket 32. Two plays later, Pendleton County got to the 13 and had earned a first down.

The Wildcats split Travis Owens very wide right with a corner-back left all alone to cover and no safety help. Colton Roberson tossed it high into the right corner of the endzone, letting Owens climb the ladder for the scoring reception. The Yellow Jackets never made that same defensive error again. In similar situations during the rest of the game, the safety moved to help with Owens.

Pendleton County stopped the next Moorefield drive when they held on fourth and three at the Moorefield 32. A few plays later, the Yellow Jackets got the ball back. Roberson rolled right and threw across the grain to the middle of the field. A defender tracked down the pass and snagged it. However, Pendleton County’s defense bottled them up.

The Wildcats took the punt at their own 37 with about seven

minutes left in the second quarter. Roberson slung a pass to Cameron Wyatt over the middle. He scooted ahead to the Moorefield 37. On the next play, the quarterback tossed the ball to Britton Lough on a wide receiver screen and he fought his way to the 26. With Owens and Lough on the right side of the formation, Roberson ran left behind blockers and crossed the goal line. The ensuing kick made it 14-7.

In the third quarter, the teams exchanged possessions but did not score until a little more than three minutes remaining. Pendleton County took a punt to just inside their 25-yard line with a little over nine minutes in the third. A throw to Lough got the offense to their own 42. Not long after on third and five at the Wildcat 47, Roberson executed an option right and pushed to the Moorefield 45.

Roberson faced first and 20 at his own 45. With a blitz coming up the middle, Roberson found a safety valve in Braylon Willis who got to midfield. At the 6:40 mark, Pendleton County got a new set of downs at the Moorefield 25 after a penalty. A few plays later on first and 10 at the 15, Roberson rolled to the right and tossed the ball to Noah Lockard who moved the ball inside the five. On fourth and goal at the one, Roberson bulled his way in. The kick made the score 21-7 with a wild fourth quarter awaiting.

The Yellow Jackets refused to stay grounded. Pendleton County had forced a fourth and six at the Moorefield 46. Even the gamblers, the Yellow Jackets went for a momentum changing risk. The quarterback saw the snap fall off his hands, but picked it up and ran right. He raced past tacklers and got his team back in the game. The kick brought Moorefield again within seven with two minutes remaining in the third. They earned a tie score shortly thereafter when a fourth down snap sailed over the head

of the Wildcat punter and the Yellow Jackets ran in the score.

Pendleton County faced a brand-new ballgame with 11:50 left in regulation. A number of games against Moorefield in recent years have gone into overtime with the Wildcats coming out on top. Doubtless, those memories fueled Moorefield as they never stopped fighting. Roberson took over the offense at his own seven and quickly hit Mason Miller for a nearly 20-yard gain. A few plays later, Lough picked up a first down at about the Moorefield 40. Roberson then lined up the offense in the empty backfield glance and ran it himself to the 32. At the 9:50 point, he ran it in from two yards out to get his team back up, after the kick, 28-21.

Moorefield could not move the ball much and was held with one yard to go on fourth down at the Moorefield 45. Roberson orchestrated the offense and got the ball to the 25 of Moorefield. On first down, he stood tall and delivered the ball even with the rush coming at him. Moorefield delivered a hard and clean hit to Roberson as he delivered the ball to Owens as he raced past the defense. The Wildcats went up 34-21 with 5:43 left, but their starting quarterback and safety had to exit the contest.

The visitors were able to generate two scores to take a narrow lead, 35-34, but backup quarterback Mason Miller tried to give his team a shot late. He hit a 17-yard completion to get to the 15 with a little under two minutes remaining, but a goal line interception snuffed the drive and effectively ended the game.

This ends a three week gauntlet that pit Pendleton County against three of its most significant rivals, including two top ranked teams. Friday the Wildcats travel to battle the Bulldogs of Tygarts Valley, then take on Tucker County at home as the schedule hits the midpoint.

County Commission

Continued From Page 1

updated the commission on the implementation of an act of the West Virginia Legislature removing local conservation district responsibility for maintaining small watershed flood control dams and other needs. Bob Buchanan of the Little Kanawha Conservation District in an open letter to the state earlier this year cited that the original Soil Conservation Service, which became the Natural Resources Conservation Service, was structured originally to be led by counties and regional districts with the state and federal government serving in supportive roles only.

Hoover and Carr shared concerns that concentrating authority at the West Virginia Conservation Agency could leave some rural areas behind. Hoover said, “We feel that if it is handled out of Charleston, it will not be handled on the ground.” All that said, they came to the commission to ask that monies given by Pendleton County for dam maintenance and rehabilitation be reallocated for use in developing youth agriculture programs. Unable to fulfill their original mission, local conservation districts will work to fill new roles to support their areas.

The move at the state level came after a coal company’s negligence damaged two critical flood control dams in the Northern Panhandle and they required immediate work. Dahmer agreed. He stated that his experience working with the Farm Service Agency informed him that the move was “not a good thing . . . We’ve seen what the conservation districts can do.”

Carr and Hoover also shared a Potomac Valley Conservation District resolution calling for the protection of state and regional farmland as West Virginia attracts more investment in both data centers and transmission lines. They suggested that abandoned mine lands, brownfield sites in the Kanawha Valley, or other locations might serve the purpose better being “broken lands.”

Hevener responded that he had conducted his own research on the potential impact of data centers. He referred first to the data center operating in Petersburg, built in 2015 and currently operated by Continent 8. “It doesn’t use that much water,” he observed. He also referred to the closed loop process that advanced data center designs use to reduce reliance on local water. These designs have been proposed for developments at Mount Storm.

According to Data Centre Magazine, a trades publication in the field, modern data centers have moved away from “evaporative cooling” that uses significant amounts of water to prevent overheating. “Closed loop architecture recirculates fluid continuously, removing dependence on freshwater resources.” In 2025, Edged US broke ground on a major data center project with “waterless cooling at the center of its expansion strategy.” It adds that “The Chicago campus . . . will consume zero water for cooling.”

Additionally, an oft-quoted data center water consumption statistic cited in a book written against them was debunked by the author herself. Journalist Karen Hao admitted that her “Empire of AI” falsely and accidentally stated that the amount of water that a certain data center in Chile would consume was 1,000 times greater than the actual and true rates of use.

Other improvements, described by Dow Industries, include new designs and materials for O rings and other basic components that improve thermodynamics performance going into the newest facilities.

To address power consumption and rate increase concerns, United States Representative Riley Moore has backed a bipartisan bill in Congress to place the onus of paying for power infrastructure improvements onto companies constructing high impact data centers. The West Virginia State Legislature has also passed bills addressing this. First Energy furthermore advocates this action.

“I’m not for or against them,” stated Hevener, “but I have researched them.”

Under guidelines passed by the West Virginia Legislature, a one GW data center will pay the host county \$16 million for local schools and \$11 million to the county commission. Should the county pass an excess levy for schools, that data center would have to pay an additional \$63 million to the county school system. West Virginia Governor Patrick Morrisey shared last month that the ultimate goal lies in completely shifting the remainder of the personal income tax burden from citizens onto data centers.

Additionally, each one GW of data center capacity constructed and operated in West Virginia will put \$33,000 into every county commission budget every year. With 18.7 GW in both approved and proposed capacity, that would put a combined \$617,000 into Pendleton County coffers every year even if the county never hosts a data center. They also represent more than \$20 billion potentially to be invested in West Virginia.

Betsy Orndoff-Sayers, mayor of Wardensville, came to represent her constituents in requesting that the Pendleton County Commission join other local government bodies in considering opposition to the Valley Link and other transmission lines proposed for West Virginia. These lines, combined with added power plant production capacity, would reinforce the overburdened capacity of the PJM Interconnection grid and prevent brown or blackouts expected to start in 2030 across the PJM coalition of states.

The lines constructed as part of the Valley Link project would connect the John Amos plant in the Kanawha Valley with Maryland and Virginia, exporting power to other states and bringing revenues back to the Mountain State.

Orndoff-Sayers related the growth of opposition to transmission line expansion and data center construction in Virginia and spoke at length on possible environmental impacts. “I’m looking closely and am seeing what is happening,” she stated.

The mayor, who is also running for the House of Delegates in eastern Hardy and Pendleton counties, furthermore shared specific criticism of House Bill 2014, criticizing the state legislature for stripping local government of the ability to effectively oppose such projects in their own areas, then requested that the Pendleton County Commission join others in approving a resolution of opposition. This legislation established the tax structure of data centers, provided a legal basis for such facilities to build their own power sources, but did remove local ability to block such projects.

She also made reference to the potential construction of a wind energy facility on Jack Mountain as another issue where the county government could not block a project that had encountered opposition.

Mike Alt later in the meeting shared that he wanted to speak as a member of the public and not as representative of Pendleton County Emergency Rescue. He rhetorically asked of counties registering opposition to data centers, “Will you return that check to the state” when they start being issued. Alt then talked of support in recent years provided by Clearway for Grant County’s EMS and fire services and reiterated his earlier question, asking if organizations opposing these developments receive a check from their philanthropy, “will they give that check back?”

“Some one needs to talk about these data centers as something other than bad things,” remarked Alt.

WVDE Taps Potomac Highlands Experience to Fix Harrison County Schools

By Stephen Smoot

In July, the West Virginia Department of Education announced that it would undertake a partial intervention of Harrison County Schools. Concerns included the employment of 239 personnel over the school aid formula's ability to pay for those positions, undue influence of board of education members over central office and school administration matters.

Paul Hardesty, West Virginia Board of Education president, at the time stated, "Nobody wants to RIF their friends, but . . . you have a fiduciary responsibility to manage the taxpayer's funds in an appropriate manner." He concluded with "Harrison County, you better get your house in order."

"Almost 20 percent of the counties in this state" fell into significant trouble over budgeting and personnel related issues, noted Hardesty.

Michelle Blatt, state superintendent, first turned to Sheena Van Meter, Hardy County superintendent, to replace Dora Stutler, retiring Harrison County Schools superintendent.

Van Meter's educational background started in working with troubled youth, often combined with developmental disabilities, at the Burlington United Methodist Church Children's Home in Mineral County. She also taught in Grant County before being hired as assistant principal of Moorefield Elementary School.

In 2017 in rapid succession, she was named assistant superintendent, then superintendent. During her tenure, she led Hardy County Schools through the pandemic era issues. She also has worked to contend with chronic and unique problems in that system, including a large population of foreign-born and non English speaking students.

She shared that "Everything in the school system should be about what's best for the kids" and that, if necessary, she will be "making the hard decisions nobody likes to make."

Nicole Hevener, superintendent of Pendleton County Schools, praised Van Meter for quickly emerging as an effective leader in Hardy County Schools and statewide.

Last week, Blatt announced that she would be hiring Charles Hedrick as a consultant to work with Van Meter in rectifying the problems in Harrison County Schools. He served the Pendleton County School system for four decades, including principal at

Circleville School, Franklin High School and Pendleton County Middle/High School, and later superintendent for nine years.

Both Hedrick and Van Meter steered their systems through the COVID pandemic and avoided problems that afflicted systems such as Randolph and Upshur. Pendleton and Hardy both embraced a fiscally conservative (non politically speaking) approach that made meeting the state's budgetary expectations every year.

As Van Meter stated, the "decisions nobody likes to make" kept their systems running well financially. Importantly, neither Hardy nor Pendleton used one time American Rescue Plan Act funds to pay for personnel salaries or other ongoing costs.

Other systems, such as Hancock County, found themselves in trouble when ARPA funds ran out and positions created by those funds could not be sustained once that ended.

J. P. Mowery, chief financial officer and treasurer of Pendleton County Schools, said, "It's hard to find a better person who understands from the bottom up public school issues." He added

Region 8 Holds Workforce and Trades Education Meeting in Moorefield

By Stephen Smoot

Anecdotally, statistically, and also through community feedback forums, the message keeps coming that the Potomac Highlands region remains almost desperately short of trades workers. Trades workers receive hands-on education to take on jobs that require high levels of skill and pay very well or start a new business.

Melissa Earle, director of Region 8 Planning and Economic Development, introduced Ralph Goolsby, from the same organization. He runs annual community meetings where Region 8 gathers information from community stakeholders about the area's strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats. The council then uses that information to update the regional economic plan.

Earle noted that every year, the community meeting brought to their attention "a lack of skilled workers" so "we as a Region wanted to see what we could do."

Joining economic development officials from Region 8 were Roger Leatherman, Mineral County Commission president, Betsy Orndoff-Sayers of Wardensville, Scott Fawley of Moorefield, and Vonda Foltz of Bayard, all mayors of their respective towns. Council members from municipalities attended, as well. Richard Dennis represented the office of Governor Patrick Morrisey and Greg Greenwalt came from the Hardy County Planning Commission. Kevin Clark, director of the Mineral County Economic Development Authority, also attended.

Some local contractors, including Loy Kesner, shared their concerns and experiences and answered questions from educators and government officials. Helmick shared that he regretted he could not get more perspectives from the private sector.

Administrators also came from the South Branch Career and Technical Center, the Mineral County Technical Center, Hampshire High School, and Eastern West Virginia Community and

that Hedrick "doesn't rush through things" but "is not afraid to act when the time comes to act."

Hevener noted that the pair should work well together in helping Harrison County Schools find success. She described them as "student centered, community centered, and public school centered" and said "they give students every opportunity for growth."

Both Hedrick and Van Meter also have served in leadership roles with the West Virginia Association of School administrators and regularly consult with members of the West Virginia Legislature on education and school operations issues.

Neither, however, are the first from the Potomac Highlands in 2026 tapped to help a school system identified by the state as troubled. Derek Lambert, former principal of Pendleton County Middle/High School, took the superintendent's position with Randolph County Schools in late spring after budgetary and other issues were identified there.

Technical College.

Austin Helmick, program manager for Region 8, had led the charge to hold a meeting on the topic of workforce and trades. He stated that his goal for the evening lay in "bringing people together so we can share ideas with each other." With the aforementioned community forums "more of a 10,000 foot level" analysis, Helmick stated that he hoped to gather more specific information and ideas.

Each representative from the school system focused on the programs at their respective schools and successes seen. The SBCTC serves Grant, Pendleton and Hardy counties with Mineral County Technical School taking in students from Keyser and Frankfort. Hampshire High School has its own technical education facility located on campus.

Helmick invited each of these, as well as the workforce education representative from EWVCTC, to describe how they serve students. They also shared challenges faced in not only funding, but rigidity on how funding is applied and spent.

Instructors for trades school are difficult to find. Crites stated that they would like to offer plumbing, but cannot find an individual willing to take an extensive cut in salary to do it full time.

Loretta Lawson from Mineral County described challenges to students trying to get into paid internships, many of whom lack steady and reliable transportation. Additionally, she has seen that many of her students struggle to articulate professionally during a job interview.

From EWVCTC came Lauren Arbaugh. She shared that she has seen frustrations when grant aid does not come at convenient times. United States Senator Shelley Moore Capito secured \$1.5 million in funding for the college to establish a heavy equipment program, but it did not help to cover the cost of an instructor. Eventually, Arbaugh tracked down funds to find a teacher. Being "blessed with relationships," she said, helps with getting the right opportunities for the students in the area.

The college can establish a workforce training program with surprising quickness and agility. Arbaugh also explained that a focus has been made on badges and microcredentials that can be "stacked" to be considered equal to traditional classroom education courses and majors.

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All Personal Property Assessment forms are due by
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Pendleton County Courthouse

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THANK YOU
I would like to thank everyone for the phone calls, cards, visits, the beautiful flowers and especially your prayers during my recent setback. I greatly appreciate your kindnesses.
Also, a special thank you to Robby, Susan, Bob, Judy and Steve for everything you have done and are doing for me. "Thank You" to my sister, Judy, for always being there for me.
God Bless You.
Brenda Fisher

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TMF Association Announces Contest Winners

The Treasure Mountain Festival Association has released the following contest winners:

Parade Winners

Treasure Mountain Themed Float — Pumpkin Contest (Monty Cassell), first, Pendleton County FFA, second, and Christ Central Church, third; Music Groups — Alumni Band, first, and Senior Center, second; Single Walking — Ella Casto, first, and Ezekiel Casto, second; Group Walking — Huffman Family, first, and Dixie Boys, second; Working Tractors — Seth Casto, first, and Brian Warn-

er, second;

Show Tractors — Jerry Hedrick, first, Gerald Sites, second, and Wilmer Shank, third;

Antique Trucks — Mark Waybright, first, K.C. Hutchinson, second, and Willard and Jane Huffman, third;

Antique Cars — Dennis Hottinger, first, David Basagic, second, and Shana Price, third;

Single Horse — Kathy Eye, first, Josie Verdoni, second, and Andrew Tingler, third; and

Queens and Courts — Trout Fest Court, first, TMF Youth Heritage, second, and Charlotte Kimble, third.

Children's Games

50-Yard Dash

Pre-K and Kindergarten — Axel Kimble, first, and Ivy Latif, second;

First grade — Luke Marsh, first, and Will Marsh, second;

Second grade — Arlo Brooks, first, and Rhett Hott, second;

Third grade — Titus Simon, first, and Braxton Kimble, second;

Fourth grade — Kinley Minor, first, and Emerson Kimble, second;

Fifth grade — Carson Mitchell, first, and Abby Cayton, second;

Sixth grade — Jimmy Whisler, first, and Grace Faivre, second; and

Eighth grade — Dace Plaughter, first, and Chloe Barkley, second.

Sack Race

Pre-K and Kindergarten — Kipton Owens, first, and Ivy Latif, second;

First grade — Will Marsh, first, and Luke Marsh, second;

Second grade — Sydney Hardman, first, and Rhett Hott, second;

Third grade — Titus Simon, first, and Arya Nataran, second;

Fourth grade — Emerson Kimble, first, and Kinley Minor, second;

Fifth grade — Carson Mitchell, first, and Abby Cayton, second;

Sixth grade — Grace Faivre, first, and Jimmy Whisler, second; and

Eighth grade — Dace Plaughter, first, and Chloe Barkley, second.

Three-Legged Race

7 and Under — Carly Mitchell/Emily Rowan, first, and Layla Dudley/Rose Latif, sec-

ond; and

8 and Up — Elle Kimble/Arya Nataran, first, and Mia Dudley/Abby Cayton, second. Softball Throw

7 and Under — Rhett Hott, first, and Arlo Brooks, second; and

8 and Up — Carson Mitchell, first, and Macie Mitchell, second.

Balloon Toss

7 and Under — Axel Kimble/Rhett Hott, first; and

8 & Up — Macie Mitchell/Carson Mitchell, first, and Kylie Raymond/Emma Wilson, second.

Obstacle Course

7 and Under — Arlo Brooks, first, and Carly Mitchell, second; and

8 and Up — Abby Cayton, first, and Adara Plaughter, second.

Watermelon Seed Spitting 7 and Under — Rhett Hott, first; and

8 and Up — Nathanael Vincell, first.

Youth Heritage

Pageant Winners

Tiny Baby Miss — Nora Crider, queen, Raelynn South-erly, first runner-up, and Eloise Boner, second runner-up;

Baby Miss — Oakley Huffman, queen, Clara Fleisher, first runner-up, and Adalynn Wagoner, second runner-up;

Tiny Miss — Hollis Griffith, queen, Amaryllis Bogan, first runner-up, and Maisyn Fox, second runner-up;

Little Miss — Tillie Griffith, queen, Catherine Eye, first runner-up, and Genevieve Wimer, second runner-up;

Young Miss — Macie Melkersen, queen, Paisley Hott, first runner-up, and Kylie Raymond, second runner-up;

Baby Lad — Ezekiel Casto, king, and Atlas Wagoner, first runner-up; and

Tiny Lad — Liam Wheeler, king, and Leo Warner, first runner-up.

Beard and Mustache

Mustache — Royce Plaughter, first, and John Bilheimer, second;

Trimmed Beard — Ronald Pitsenbarger, first, and Reggie Wine, second; and

Mountain Man — Albert Strawderman, first, and Shane Miller, third.

Period Costume Contest

Girl's Everyday Dress (6 and under) — Annabelle Wayne, first, and Rosalee Wayne, second;

Young Child Native American (8 year and under) — Ella Casto, first, and Dallas DeWitt, second;

Young Child Native American Boy (under 1 year old) — Ezekiel Casto, first;

Boy's Sunday Dress (6 year and under) — Denver DeWitt, first;

Boy's Sunday Dress (1 year and under) — Jasper DeWitt, first, and Theodore Wayne, second;

Women's Sunday Dress — Sophia Wayne, first; and

Pioneer Family — Wayne Family, first, and DeWitt Family, second.

Pumpkin Weight Contest

Bryce Basagic, 527 pounds, first, Tinley Basagic, 373.5 pounds, second, Nathanael Vincell, 357, third, Sadie Ar-

mentrout, 283.5, and Joe Vincell, 251.5.

Pumpkin Decorating

Most Original — Everett Helmick;

Most Unique — Ryker Helmick; and

Prettiest — Keegan Turner.

Horseshoe Pitch

Singles

Class A — Danny Burrell, first, Mark Shanholtz, second, and Vernon "Tootie" Paugh, third;

Class B — Jerry Redman, first, Kenny Campbell, second, and James Daggy, third; and

Class C — Lisa Breeden, first, Stacy Hudson, second, and Tim Harold, third.

Doubles

Vernon "Tootie" Paugh and Mark Harper, first, Bud Duncan and Mark Shanholtz, second, and James Daggy and Danny Burrell, third.

Cornhole

Ronnie Arbaugh/Austin Arbaugh, first, and Chuck Hiett/Seth Chapman, second.

Turkey Calling

Senior Division — Cooper Smith, first, JB Smith, second, and Taylor Townsend, third; and

Junior Division — Kinley Minor, first, and Braxton Smith, second.

Owl Hooting

Senior Division — JB Smith, first, Cooper Smith, second, Taylor Townsend, third, and Alice Vance, fourth.

Junior Division — Braxton Smith, first, Questin Bostic, second, Kinley Minor, third, and Axel Kimble, fourth.

Window Display

Pendleton County Library, first, Pendleton Community Bank, second, Pendleton County Board of Education Office, third, and The Korner Shop Café, fourth.

Treasure Hunt Chest

\$500 — Marley Champ and Tia Heavner.

MENU

Pendleton Senior & Family Services

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

Ham, Sweet Potato Collard Greens Whole Wheat Bread Peach Cobbler

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

Shrimp Alfredo California Blend Apple & Strawberry Cream Dessert w/Graham Cracker Crust

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

Vegetable Soup Chicken Salad Sandwich Pickle Spear, Grapes

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

Cheeseburger w/ Lettuce, Tomato & Onion Potato Salad, Lima Beans Watermelon Birthday Cake

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1

SPONSORED EVENING MEAL

Country Fried Steak Mashed Potatoes Green Beans Whole Wheat Roll Pumpkin Dip w/Graham Crackers



Meal times are from 11:45

to 12:45. All meals served

with 2% milk & a bread.

Reserve your meals.

Reservations served first.

Menus are subject to change.

304-358-2421

A Big Thank You

To Monty and Robin Cassell

for all the hard work for the Biggest Pumpkin Contest, the weigh-in and first place float in the Treasure Mountain Festival parade.

Pap,

This year 527 pounds, first; 373.5, second

Hope bigger next TMF

The Late Noah Mallow Family and the Pumpkin Contest Winners



Saturday October 3

Pendleton Community Building

Franklin

Doors Open at 5 p.m. Bingo Starts at 6 p.m.

20 Games for \$25.00

Presale Tickets, call 304-668-3048 or 304-668-4137

(Presale tickets will be entered in a drawing)

Prizes: Scentsy, Pampered Chef, Vera Bradley, WV Items, Etc.

Bring your daubers or buy some there!

Raffle Items ~ 50/50 Drawing

Food provided by Franklin Board of Parks

Proceeds go to PCHS Sophomore Class

Healthy Saturday



GRANT MEMORIAL HOSPITAL
AUXILIARY ASSOCIATION

October 3

6 a.m. - 9 a.m.

- *Limited to 200 people.*
- **Appointment Only** ~ Please contact Julie Kesner at 304-257-5806 by October 1, 2026, to register.
- *No walk-ins.*
- *Masks are optional.*

Profile 1 - \$20 • Profile 11 \$25 • Profile 111 (males only) - \$30

A1C Test (offered by Judy's Drug Store) - \$20.00

Vitamin B12 Test - \$10

Vitamin D Test - \$20

Suicide Prevention Month

If you or a loved one are experiencing suicidal thoughts

• Call or text the Suicide and Crisis Lifeline at 988.

• Call the Potomac Highlands Guild Crisis Hotline at 1-800-545-4357.

• Chat with the Suicide and Crisis Lifeline at <https://988lifeline.org/chat>.

• Call 911.

• Go to the nearest emergency department.

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

**P E N D L E T O N
Community Care, Inc.**

Franklin (304)358-2355 • Riverton (304)567-2101

Harman (304)227-4134

www.pccnfc.org



**Suicide
Prevention
Month**



MEDICARE OPEN ENROLLMENT

**Starts October 15th and
ends December 7th!**



**NEED TO MAKE AN APPOINTMENT
OR HAVE QUESTIONS?**

**Contact Angela Sterne at
304.358.2355 x1120**



PCC will have a Medicare Broker available on October 19th and 20th. Call now to schedule your appointment!



**P E N D L E T O N
Community Care, Inc.**



**P E N D L E T O N
Community Care, Inc.**



Flu Drive-Thru Vaccination Clinic

****COVID-19 Vaccines will be offered
if they are available at that time.**

**Date: Friday, October 2, 2026
Location: Pendleton Community
Building, Franklin WV
Time: 9am - 4pm**

You will need to stop at the registration table at the Drive-Thru Clinic before proceeding to get your vaccination - Watch for the "Stop Here for Registration" Sign.

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304-358-7492
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Upper Tract

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or
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10X20

Cricket Verses Grasshopper

Cricket

- Usually has a shorter, stockier body
- Has long antennae
- Usually stays close to the ground
- Known for its chirping song
- Male crickets chirp to attract mates
- Generally nocturnal
- Often hides in grass, under rocks, or around buildings

Grasshopper

- Usually has a longer, more slender body
- Has shorter antennae
- Often found among grasses and plants
- Makes sounds by rubbing its wings or legs
- Both males and females can make sounds, depending on the species
- Generally active during the day
- Often found in fields, meadows, and gardens

— The Old Farmer's Almanac

FOR SALE

4 NEW G4 TIRES on aluminum wheels, size 235-85-16, for 2004 F-250 pickup & up. 304-567-3596. 1c

FOR RENT

2 BEDROOM trailer for rent in Circleville. Heat with oil or wood. No pets, \$350.00 deposit, \$350.00 rent. Call 304-567-2424. 9-17-2p

BISSELL CARPET Shampooer for rent. Bowman's Do It Best. Call 304-358-2303. 11-7-tfn

CLOSING NOTICES

FAITHFUL Friends Animal Clinic will be closed Saturday, September 26. Greg Bowers, Sarah Bowers, DVM. 9-17-2c

WANTED

* P A I N T I N G *
36 years experience: Houses, Barns, Roofs, Churches, Outbuildings, Poultry House Roofs, Log Homes, etc. Call Ronnie Kimble, 358-7208 WV03545. 3/5-10/29p

LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT

IN THE FAMILY COURT OF PENDLETON COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA

CAITLIN CAIN v. DERRICK FRANCIS HORTON
(Change of Name of Addyson Faith Horton, a minor child)
Civil Action
No. CC-36-2026-P-15

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

TO: DERRICK FRANCIS HORTON, and all other persons interested:

Notice is hereby given that Caitlin Cain, as mother and sole custodian of the minor child Addyson Faith Horton, on the 12th day of August, 2026, filed a Verified Petition for Change of Name of Minor Child in the Family Court of Pendleton County, West Virginia, on pending before the Honorable Jeffrey R. Roth, Judge of the Family Court of Pendleton County, West Virginia, pursuant to W. Va. Code § 48-25-101 et seq., praying for the entry of an Order changing the name of said minor child from ADDYSON FAITH HORTON to ADDYSON FAITH CUTLER. Derrick Francis Horton is the father of said minor child.

The hearing upon said Peti-

tion will be held before the Honorable Jeffrey R. Roth, Judge of the Family Court of Pendleton County, West Virginia, at the Pendleton County Courthouse, 100 South Main Street, Franklin, West Virginia 26807, on the 14th day of October, 2026, at 1:00 o'clock p.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard.

Any person who is likely to be injured by said change of name, or who knows of any reason why said name should not be changed, may appear at the time and place stated above and shall be heard in opposition to such change.

The hearing may be rescheduled without further notice or publication.

Dated this 21st day of September, 2026.

/s/ G. Isaac Sponaugle, III
G. Isaac Sponaugle, III, State Bar #9720
Sponaugle & Sponaugle 61 Chestnut Street Post Office Box 578 Franklin, West Virginia 26807
(304) 358-2337 (office)
(304) 358-2483 (fax)
isaac@sponauglelaw.com
Counsel for Petitioner 1c

IN THE FAMILY COURT OF PENDLETON COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA

IN RE: THE NAME CHANGE OF CAITLIN CAIN

Civil Action
No. CC-36-2026-P-14

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

TO: All persons interested:

Notice is hereby given that on the 12th day of August, 2026, Caitlin Cain, of Franklin, Pendleton County, West Virginia, filed a Verified Petition for Change of Name in the Family Court of Pendleton County, West Virginia, now pending before the Honorable Jeffrey R. Roth, Judge of the Family Court of Pendleton County, West Virginia, pursuant to W. Va. Code § 48-25-101 et seq., praying for the entry of an Order changing her name from CAITLIN CAIN to CAITLIN CUTLER.

The hearing upon said Petition will be held before the Honorable Jeffrey R. Roth, Judge of the Family Court of Pendleton County, West Virginia, at the Pendleton County Courthouse, 100 South Main Street, Franklin, West Virginia 26807, on the 14th day of October, 2026, at 1:00 o'clock p.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard.

Any person who is likely to be injured by said change of name, or who knows of any reason why said name should not be changed, may appear at the time and place stated above and

shall be heard in opposition to such change.

The hearing may be rescheduled without further notice or publication.

Dated this 21st day of September, 2026.

/s/ G. Isaac Sponaugle, III

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF WEST VIRGINIA CHARLESTON

CASE NO. 26-0704-G-390P

MOUNTAINEER GAS COMPANY

Infrastructure Replacement and Expansion Program Filing for 2027

NOTICE OF FILING AND HEARING

On July 31, 2026, Mountaineer Gas Company (Mountaineer) filed its annual Application for approval of an Infrastructure Replacement and Expansion Program for 2027 (2027 IREP) with revised IREP rates for 2027, pursuant to W.Va. Code § 24-2-1k, which authorizes the Public Service Commission of West Virginia (Commission) to approve cost recovery of projects to replace, upgrade and expand natural gas utility infrastructure that are deemed to be just and reasonable and in the public interest.

In its Application, Mountaineer forecasts capital investment for calendar year 2027 of \$83,000,000 as part of its multi-year plan. The 2027 IREP covers several categories of plant asset replacements and improvements, including mains, service lines, measurement and regulator stations, and house regulators. These plant investments are proposed to be made in Mountaineer service territories throughout the State. These investments are identified in the Application, which is on file and available for public inspection at the Commission's offices at 201 Brooks Street, Charleston, West Virginia and which may be viewed on the Commission's website, www.psc.state.wv.us.

Mountaineer proposes to increase IREP revenues by approximately \$8,611,000 for IREP investments made from 2025 to 2027 through an increased IREP rate component to be effective on January 1, 2027, within the fixed or volumetric base rate component of its rates, depending on the applicable rate schedule under which service is rendered. Mountaineer projects that if the program and IREP rate increase are approved as requested, the average monthly bill for its various classes of customers will be changed on January 1, 2027 as shown below:

Mountaineer Gas Company - Proposed		
Type of Customer	\$ Increase	% Increase
Residential	\$ 2.40	2.79%
Commercial	\$ 6.56	1.96%
Large Commercial (*)	\$ 359.07	0.62%
Large Commercial — 1 (*)	\$ 454.84	0.22%
Industrial (*)	\$ 488.33	2.29%
Wholesale	\$ 78.66	0.84%
(*) Percentage increases for Large Commercial and Industrial customers assume transport customers purchase their natural gas at the same price as the Company's Purchased Gas Adjustment rate.		

The increases shown above are compared to the rates currently in place and are based on averages of all customers in the indicated class. Each class may receive an increase greater or less than stated here. Individual customers may receive an increase that is greater or less than average. Furthermore, the requested rates and charges are only a proposal and are subject to change (increase or decrease) by the Commission in its review of the filing. Any change in rates and charges will not become effective until authorized and approved by the Commission.

The Commission set a procedural schedule, including a hearing date on the Application that will begin at 9:30 a.m. on November 6, 2026, in the Howard M. Cunningham Hearing Room at the Commission's offices at 201 Brooks Street, Charleston, West Virginia. If no opposition to the Application is received by the Commission prior to the hearing date, the hearing may be waived and the Commission may issue a final order within 150 days of the Application filing date.

Anyone desiring to intervene should file a written petition to intervene within 10 days following the date of

publication unless otherwise modified by Commission order. All requests to intervene should briefly state the reason for the request to intervene and comply with the rules on intervention set forth in the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure. The Commission will receive written public comments. All written comments and requests to intervene should state the case name and number and be addressed to the Commission Executive Secretary, P.O. Box 812, Charleston, West Virginia 25323. Public comments may also be filed online at <http://www.psc.state.wv.us/scripts/onlinecomments/default.cfm> by clicking the "Formal Case" link.

1c MOUNTAINEER GAS COMPANY

(2025-C-000003-PENDLETON COUNTY-RED SHOULDER LLC)

To: WILLIAM J NIX, JACQUELINE R NIX, 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 BETHEL MAP 33B PARCEL 0008 0000 0000

You will take notice that RED SHOULDER LLC, the purchaser of the following real estate, **Cert No. 2025-C-000003**, located in BETHEL District, .72 ACS FISHER MTN SEC 2 PHASE 1 which was returned delinquent or nonentered in the name of NIX WILLIAM J & JACQUELINE R, and was sold by the deputy commissioner of delinquent and nonentered lands of PENDLETON County at the sale for the delinquent taxes on May 21, 2026. RED SHOULDER LLC. requests that you be notified a deed for such real estate will be made on or after February 1, 2027, as provided by law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The amount needed to redeem on or before January 31, 2027 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 2024 - 887\$97.76

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

Subsequent of taxes paid on the property, with interest to for tax year 2025-8884.....\$45.77

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

Auditor's Certificatio, Publication and Redemption fee plus interest.....\$106.46

Amount paid for Title Examination, notice to redeem, publication, personal service, Secretary of State with interest.....\$417.61

Additional Statutory Fees with interest.....\$0.00

Total Amount Due and Payable to WV State Auditor-cashier check, money order, certified or personal check.....\$667.60

You may redeem at any time before January 31, 2027 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 28, 2026

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

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

9-10-3c

Check Out Our Website
Pendletontimes.com

Fall Evenings Word Search

M	H	R	F	D	I	V	K	K	G	N	K	L	Z	M	R	F	K	Z	A	ACORN
K	F	H	T	N	A	R	B	I	V	T	S	K	H	E	U	W	I	D	A	AMBER
W	K	D	N	C	I	N	N	A	M	O	N	K	T	Z	Y	V	R	I	S	AUTUMN
P	T	I	H	I	K	S	Y	G	W	C	Q	A	R	Z	R	L	E	Q	G	BONFIRE
X	S	W	E	U	K	T	E	E	Y	Q	E	S	O	Q	F	K	X	W	T	BREEZE
T	E	D	D	N	S	P	A	M	T	W	W	C	C	U	Y	W	L	S	H	CHILLY
S	V	Q	I	O	I	L	M	T	S	H	G	F	L	A	N	N	E	L	L	CIDER
L	R	M	R	M	W	G	E	U	T	M	G	G	N	V	W	M	Y	L	G	CINNAMON
E	A	F	Y	H	G	Q	K	N	P	Q	R	N	O	E	D	G	F	P	A	COZY
Z	H	S	A	M	U	F	B	I	O	S	X	N	X	G	M	F	Z	H	B	CRISP
X	P	Y	H	I	T	A	C	O	R	N	V	W	N	A	I	S	U	A	Q	EQUINOX
K	A	C	N	X	L	W	Q	X	T	Y	V	C	H	I	L	L	Y	U	C	FLANNEL
O	R	O	E	B	Y	I	Q	S	A	H	B	G	L	H	K	Z	T	A		FOLIAGE
M	X	T	A	R	A	O	K	L	L	C	P	I	N	O	Y	Y	U	U	D	FROSTY
R	E	V	M	L	I	Q	C	G	I	H	A	E	N	F	N	E	V	M	E	GOLDEN
P	E	Z	B	Y	A	F	F	B	F	G	D	R	S	O	N	V	K	N	K	HARVEST
S	Z	R	E	P	X	A	N	Z	G	L	H	Z	L	M	N	Q	X	Z	B	HAYRIDE
I	S	A	R	E	P	E	O	O	O	U	T	T	B	E	P	Z	Q	K	C	LEAVES
R	Q	W	U	Z	R	Y	M	G	B	W	W	Y	H	U	T	Q	Z	T	T	NUTMEG
C	K	Z	M	I	Y	B	F	R	R	A	S	L	C	I	D	E	R	W	L	PUMPKIN

Classmates of '66 Reminisce at Reunion



Members of the Franklin High School Class of 1966 met on July 25 at the home of Bill and Diana Pennybacker in Deer Run. Seventeen classmates attending were, from left, front row, Sharon Kimble Scott, Elizabeth Bolton Bodkin, Pat Wilfong Bodkin, Trudy Thompson Cooper, Loretta Hedrick Crider, and Sue Sponaugle Mitchell; second row, Linda Moyers Propst, Judy Propst Rexrode, Nancy Mitchell Blankenship, and Linda Hevener Stewart; and third row, Gailand Hartman, Glenn Riggleman, Dover Harper, Roger Hoover, Jim Kile, Bill Pennybacker, and Benny Shreve.

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SGR425A 3 Bedroom/1 bath home, new shingle roof, with a separate 1 bedroom guest house, double door garage with reinforced floor, on 1.01 acres, Franklin District, Pendleton County. **\$324,999.00.**

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~~ **REDUCED \$405,000.00.**

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, Septic, 1800 gallon Cistern, Washer/Dryer, full round access, Outbuilding, Wood Shed. Very well maintained. Located in Dry Run area. Shared ROW. Franklin District, Pendleton Cty. **\$180,000.00.**

SGR410A 1492 Dice Warner Road, Circleville, 3 Bed, 2 Bath, log siding and rock home, top of Tater Gap, gorgeous mountain views, full round access, Septic, AC and a forced air wood furnace. House being sold "AS-IS." ~~\$249,000.00~~ **REDUCED \$249,000.00.**

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

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

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 Cty. ~~\$929,000.00~~ ~~\$879,000.00~~ **REDUCED \$667,000.00.**

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

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

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

SGR392A Custom Canadian White Cedar Log Home. 4 Bed, 2 Bath, 3,088 sq. ft. Cabin on 119.45 acres located in Hidden Valley. Red Oak and Mexican Tile flooring. Two Car Garage & partial basement. Mature plants and trees. Some Restrictions apply. Franklin District. ~~\$919,000.00~~ ~~\$899,000.00~~ ~~\$849,000.00~~ **REDUCED \$799,000.00.**

SGR385A 11.54 Acres w/3+ Bed, 3 Bath Cabin located in Buck Ridges Dvlpmnt. Screened porch, Deck, Stone Patio, Primarily red spruce/beautiful wood, 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. Building & utilities. 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~~ ~~\$329,000.00~~ ~~\$299,000.00~~ ~~\$229,000.00~~ **REDUCED \$219,000.00.**

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

SGR441 Residential lots, public water, protective covenants and restrictions. Oak Flat Estates near Brandywine on Rte 33 East of Franklin. Lots from **\$22,836.00.**

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

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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

2020 FORD F-150 SUPERCREW SHORTBED 4X4, XLT sport pkg, 2.7 V-6, auto., ldd., silver, 118K miles.....\$24,900

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

2015 FORD F-350 CREW CAB LONGBED 4X4, XL pkg., 6.7 liter diesel, auto., ldd., 144K miles, white, good cond.....\$25,900

2014 FORD F-150 SUPERCREW STX 4X4, 3.5 Ecoboost, auto., ldd., black, 112K miles, sharp tk.....\$14,900

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.....\$18,500

2005 FORD F-350 4X4 KING RANCH DUALY, 6.0 diesel, auto., ldd., white & tan, only 60K miles.....\$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

2023 FORD EXPEDITION MAX LIMITED 4X4, 3.5 liter Ecoboost, auto., ldd., silver, only 25K miles.....\$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 FORD EXPEDITION LIMITED 4X4, 3.5 Ecoboost, auto., ldd., black cherry, 92K miles, very clean.....\$32,900

2021 JEEP WRANGLER 2-DR HARDTOP "80TH ANNIVERSARY PKG.," V-6, auto., ldd., orange, 64K miles.....**SPECIAL \$24,900 \$22,500**

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 LINCOLN MKC AWD, 2.3 liter 4-cyl., auto., ldd., black, local trade in w/only 64K miles, ex. cond.....\$19,900

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

2021 GRAND DESIGN REFLECTION 320 MKS, 35 ft. fifth wheel camper, ldd w/options, ex. cond.....\$39,500

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NEW LISTING - HIGHLANDS GOLF COURSE - Lot #17, .53 acre, \$30,000

NEW LISTING - DRY RUN - FRANKLIN DISTRICT - 6.01 acres w/3 BR, 2 BA trailer, excellent condition, w/deck, swimming pool, washer, dryer, refrig., public water, metal roof, out bldg., new 35x36 metal shop w/heat and air, good hunting, views, private. \$198,000.

BRANDYWINE - 3-4 BR, 2 BA brick home, built-in-garage, 20'x40' pavilion, creek, on 2.01 ac ~~\$299,900~~ **SOLD \$275,900.**

FRANKLIN - 2 BR, 1 BA Lindel wood siding home on 2.26 acres. ~~\$180,000~~ ~~\$170,000~~ \$160,000.

FRANKLIN - 4 BR, 2 BA, 2 story Pre-Civil War home with basement in town. 2 apartments, detached. Paved parking area. ~~\$340,000~~ \$290,000.

SMOKE HOLE - 13.93 +/- ac., adjoining National Forest, 2 story cabin, 3 rental cabins, 2 ponds. ~~\$849,000~~ \$749,000 or best offer.