

PENDLET

www.PendletonNY.us

HOME TOWN NEWS ~ AUTUMN EDITION ~ 2024





Joel Maerten 625-8833 COUNCILMEN



David Leible 957-6242



Joe Hickman 625-8833



625-9080

lolfgang Buechler

625-8601

A message from your Supervisor...

Though not as wet as last year, we're once again experiencing a wet summer that slows a lot of outdoor work that needs to be completed. Fortunately the ongoing work on the community center isn't affected by the weather, but outdoor work around the town park isn't where it should be. Hopefully we'll have better weather moving into the fall.

A positive update is that the splash pad is open and when the sun is shining, we see a lot of people in the town park. However, work related to grading and drainage around the park is significantly behind schedule. As the weather permits, the work will continue, but unfortunately it's doubtful we will accomplish as much this year as we hoped.

As previously mentioned, the community center work continues on schedule and we're aiming for an opening later this year. It would be ideal to see exterior work, such as paving to be complete as well, but I addressed the factors affecting this type of work above. We're being hopeful, but realistic at this point.

Another project in the works involves changes for the town court. The justices and their staff have been working with a courtroom that dates back well before most can remember. For many years we've explored capital projects to renovate the current space or build new space, but the cost of this type of work is quite excessive. The plan now in place involves updates to the town hall meeting room to accommodate the needs of the court. Once the community center is open, we'll have more meeting space for the many boards, committees, and community groups that meet in the town hall, alleviating the demand for use of the town hall.

A large part of the work described above is funded by a grant that was secured through the efforts of our town justices and I'd like to thank them for their effort and collaboration on this

project. We're all trying to manage the growth and demands on town government while being realistic about our financial means available to meet the operational needs of the town workforce. Grants of this type certainly help along with a little creativity.

Looking to the future, hopefully next time I'll be able to report on progress on the many projects underway without having to mention the weather as much. Joel

WINTER PARKING REMINDER!

Parking is prohibited on all town roads, North Tonawanda Creek Road, and Bear Ridge Road, between the hours of 1:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m. December 1st - March 31st

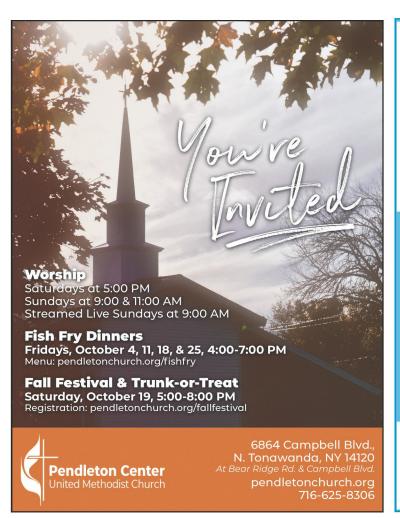
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"I am grateful for what I am and have. My Thanksgiving is perpetual." -Henry David Thoreau



"You cannot do a kindness too soon, for you never how soon it will be too late." - Ralph Waldo Emerson





A Step Ahead in <mark>Getting Resu</mark>lts

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(716) 625-8744 P (716) 625-6016 F

Buffalo, NY 14222

PENDLETON SKI CLUB

Holiday Valley Affiliate Pendleton Ski Club is now signed up for fun! We look forward to an epic 2025 season!

Just log into your own Holiday Valley site to buy tickets. This online benefit program allows you to "print and go" and have your ticket in hand when you get to Holiday Valley.

To access your exclusive tickets, click the QR Code (right) then log into site with username and password provided.

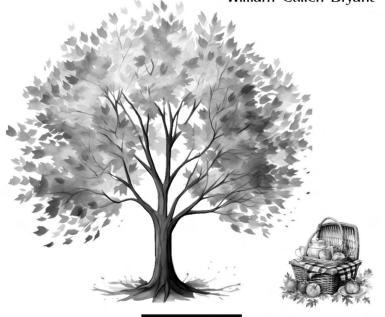
Username: MWPendleton/ Password: ski

Equipment may be leased through Holiday Valley or Snowflake & 245 Board Co. (Lkpt). Options for Guest Transportation or Ski Passes all season long.



Bedore Tours will offer a Small Coach Bus this year beginning January 4th, 2025, running eight consecutive weeks. Bus fee is \$350, cash, check or Venmo (QR Code left) accepted. Jackie Duncan (716) 609-4186/ Email: duncanjackie93@gmail.com

"Autumn...the year's loveliest last smile." - William Cullen Bryant





Prudden & Kandt

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Pre-Arrangements Serving All Faiths

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DAYCARE AND PRESCHOOL Ages 6 weeks to 12 years old

A Pendleton Community Daycare for over 20 years!

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4945 Beach Ridge Road (at the Five Corners) 6-625-9400 • kandylandkidsinc.com
AND LEARNING
GO HAND IN HAND!

WHERE FUN

"Use what you have, use what the world gives you. Use the first day of fall: bright flame before winter's deadness; harvest; orange, gold, amber; cool nights and the smell of fire. Our tree-lined streets are set ablaze, our kitchens filled with the smells of nostalgia: apples bubbling into sauce, roasting squash, cinnamon, nutmeg, cider, warmth itself. The leaves as they spark into wild color just before they die are the world's oldest performance art, and everything we see is celebrating one last violently hued hurrah before the black and white silence of winter." - Shauna Niequist

"Your smile is your logo, your personality is your business card, and how you leave others feeling after having an experience with you becomes your trademark." - Anonymous

Please tell your advertisers you saw them in the Pendleton News! If you wish to advertise, please call Kax Solutions & Services at 716.514.4567

Why advertise in the Pendleton **Home Town News?**

- Target over 2,700 local households and businesses while supporting the community
- Full year discount: Get 4 ads for the price of 3 (start with any issue)
- · Change your ad in each issue to fit the season (layout is always free)
- Coupons & special offers encouraged



TOWN CLERK

Hello dear friends and residents! As we welcome the fall season, the Town Clerk's office is here to keep you informed and connected with our community. In this

edition of the newsletter, you'll find important updates, upcoming events, and helpful resources to guide you through the season. Whether it's renewing licenses, participating in town activities, or staying updated on local events, we're committed to serving your needs. Thank you for being an active part of our community, and we look forward to serving you this fall!

I'm thrilled to share that starting in 2025, we will be launching an online portal for recreation and facility usage registrations. This portal will initially simplify access to Summer Recreation Program sign-ups, as well as Park Pavilion and Community Center rentals, with plans to expand to additional options in the future.

Below are some important dates for you to easily reference:

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE - TOWN HALL CLOSED

Columbus Day	October 14 th
Election Day	November 5 th
Veterans Day (observed)	November 11 th
Thanksgiving Day	November 28 th
Day after Thanksgiving	November 29 th
Christmas Day	December 25 th

TRASH COLLECTION HOLIDAY SCHEDULE FOR OCTOBER-NOVEMBER-DECEMBER

Tuesday trash collection will not be affected by the holidays during this quarter.

BULK COLLECTION SCHEDULE

Week A (RED Map)	Week B (BLUE Map)			
October 15 th	October 22 nd			
November 12 th	November 19th			
December 10 th	December 17 th			

Any calls regarding uncollected refuse or recycling should be made by calling Modern Disposal directly at 716-754-8226.

The Niagara County Division of Environmental and Solid Waste will be holding a **HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION EVENT** on

October 5, 2024 at the North Tonawanda Department of Public Works. Pre-registration for this event is required. Go to www.rethinkyourwaste.com/events to register or find out more about this event.

FREE NIAGARA COUNTY RABIES IMMUNIZATION CLINICS FOR 2024

SATURDAY,	North Tonawanda
DECEMBER 7 [™]	Department of Public Works
9:00 am – 12:00 pm	758 Erie Avenue,
	North Tonawanda

Pre-registration for the rabies clinic is mandatory and can be made online at http://www.health.ny.gov/go2Clinic/32 or by calling 716-439-7490.

NEWS FROM NYS DEC

FREE FISHING DAY - NOVEMBER 11th (VETERANS DAY)

For those of you who wish to fish the other 364 days of the year you can stop in to Town Hall and purchase your NYS Fishing License! We are an official license issuing agent.



PRINTING OF SPORTING LICENSES



Many of you have likely noticed that the NYSDEC has updated the way licenses are printed. All sporting licenses and carcass tags are now issued on plain paper instead of the colored valeron paper. While you can still obtain your license at our location, this change also allows for the convenience of printing licenses and tags at home, providing easier and quicker access. For more information

on this change, including instructions on how to display your tags, go to: https://dec.ny.gov/regulatory/permits-licenses/sporting-and-use/sporting.

HOMETOWN HERO BANNERS

I am proud to say that we now have 82 Hometown Hero Banners on display at the Town Hall Campus! Applications for this program are accepted year round at the Town Clerk's Office. Thank you to all who have served.

As always, please feel free to contact me directly at 625-8833 ext. 112, if you have any questions, concerns or suggestions.

Warm wishes, Debbie Maurer

TOWN OF PENDLETON APPOINTED POSITIONS

The Town of Pendleton is currently accepting letters of interest for the following Town appointed positions for 2025:

Board of Ethics

Conservation Advisory Council (1-yr. term)

Planning Board (7-yr. term)

Recreation Committee (5-yr. term)

Town Engineer

Town Historian

Town Prosecutor

Zoning Board of Appeals (5-yr. term)

The incumbent in some positions may indicate a desire to continue, however, final decisions for appointment will be made at the January 2025 Organizational Meeting.

Letters of interest for these positions are due by December 31, 2024.

Please mail your letter of interest to: Deborah Maurer, Town Clerk 6570 Campbell Boulevard, Lockport, NY 14094



PENDLETON LIONS CLUB

Welcome to Fall! We will be starting our regular meetings in September. If you are interested in joining, please contact a Pendleton Lion, we are listed in our Pendleton

Directory or check our website out.

This past summer was a busy one for us Lions as far as requests for medical equipment and a few ramps. We also had many donations of medical equipment that we cataloged and now have a small inventory of items at a couple of our Lions homes. The rest we had to put into Wheatfield Lions Loan Closet. They, along with three other Lions clubs, allow us to go to their Closets to borrow medical equipment that we don't have on hand. We all work together to help out those in need. Hopefully we will be able to get our own Closet built this year.

In the upcoming months we will be planning our next Directory, please contact us with any changes you would like to make to your listing. If you are not currently listed and would like to be, let us know through our website.

We will also start to plan our Christmas projects. Please be on the lookout for our 'Annual Giving Tree' at Craft Coffee House in November. This will be our third year! It is for families at Starpoint. We will also be doing our 'Toys for Children' at the North Tonawanda Learning

TOWN HALL 625-8833	EXT.
ASSESSOR - TOM	116
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PLANNING BOARD - JOHN	125
SUPERVISOR - JOEL	113
SUPERVISOR'S SECRETARY - CLAUDIA	121
TOWN CLERK - DEBBIE	112
WATER BILLING	111
PUBLIC WORKS - 625-8033	
WATER/SEWER EMERGENCY 7am - 3:30pm - 716-625-8033	

Center. This project has been going on for over 20 Christmas's!

We always help with eye exams and glasses if someone needs assistance. Please contact us if you are in need. We have 4 Enhanced Vision machines available for loan. If you are interested in borrowing one, please contact Lion Chris King at 716-628-1723.

Again, thank you for your donations throughout the year. They allow us to help others everyday.

Reminders: Please be on the lookout for our Lions glasses collection boxes in our local businesses, Pendleton Star Pharmacy and Craft Coffee House. The Pendleton Town Hall, Pendleton United Methodist Church, and St. Paul's United Church of Christ. We do collect, refurbish and donate these all over the world. We do the same with hearing aids, so feel free to put them in too.

We also collect and distribute some minor medical equipment (canes, wheelchairs, shower seats, etc)

We will remove and reuse metal wheelchair ramps if they are in good shape and donated. We are trying to build our inventory of these. As always thank you very much for all your support!



Lion Secretary, Cheryl Smith, Pendleton Lion Secretary www.PNYLC.org

ASSESSMENT NEWS

This continuing section of our newsletter shows the Arm's Length sales for the previous quarter. Not included in Arm's Length sales are construction sales, estate sales, foreclosures and sales between relatives. Because sales will eventually affect your home assessment, it is important for property owners to see what is sold in town, and the sale prices.

DATE	ADDRESS	SELLER	SALE PRICE	ASSESSED VALUE	SQ FT LA	STYLE	YEAR BUILT	LAND (acre)
04/11/24	7284 Creekbend Drive	Regency Builders, LLC	\$835,000	\$443,800	2920	Colonial	2023	0.58
05/13/24	7140 Bear Ridge Rd	Kim Baglio	\$567,500	\$275,000	3784	Ranch	1977	0.86
05/15/24	6340 Bear Ridge Rd	William Montgomery	\$128,000	\$93,200	1047	Old Style	1929	3.56
05/16/24	45 Alexander Pkwy	Amy & Michael Ramos	\$330,000	\$85,000	1195	Ranch (Condo)	2003	0.67
05/20/24	7252 Edgewater Circle	Karrie & Jason Diffenderfer	\$737,277	\$320,000	3450	Colonial	2001	0.60
05/24/24	5558 Oakwood Dr	Amanda & John Hawkins	\$515,000	\$190,000	2020	Colonial	1990	1.00
05/29/24	5242 Pendale Ct	Rudite & Voldemar Innus	\$465,000	\$225,000	1988	Ranch	1992	0.60
06/06/24	4979 Tonawanda Creek Rd	Jane Walter	\$155,000	\$100,000	1080	Cape cod	1953	0.64
06/11/24	7367 Bear Ridge Rd	Sharon & Thomas Brown	\$427,500	\$200,000	2394	Cape cod	1982	0.75
06/19/24	5355 Feigle Rd	Justin & Amanda All	\$407,500	\$199,000	2000	Colonial	2020	3.80
06/20/24	6116 Robinson Rd	Linda Anzalone	\$210,000	\$110,000	2124	Old Style	1880	0.62
06/21/24	7193 Creekbend Dr	Leigh-Ann & Christopher Hildreth	\$840,000	\$355,000	3630	Colonial	2012	0.60
06/21/24	5378 Oakwood Dr	Meagan & Chelsea Chapman	\$330,000	\$135,000	2295	Old Style	1885	0.70
06/26/24	7240 Creekbend Dr	Audrey & Mark Morley	\$735,000	\$337,000	2975	Colonial	2014	0.60
06/26/24	5022 Tonawanda Creek Rd	Veronica Gorski & Ronald Burns	\$690,000	\$295,100	3504	Colonial	2001	0.70
06/28/24	6550 Bear Ridge Rd	Laura & Christopher McArdell	\$591,106	\$212,000	2228	Colonial	2019	1.00
07/10/24	4130 Lockport Rd	Carla Smyth	\$410,000	\$191,600	1876	Ranch	2008	0.91
07/11/24	7225 Creekbend Dr	Paula & Carleton Zeisz	\$720,000	\$325,000	2488	Colonial	2015	0.60
07/16/24	5234 Feigle Rd	Wendy & Nikolaus Likus	\$294,000	\$120,000	1396	Old Style	1825	4.90
07/17/24	5342 Irish Rd	Diana McIntosh	\$552,200	\$230,000	2420	Colonial	2001	0.95
07/18/24	7433 Bear Ridge Rd	Brianna & Andrew Mattina	\$200,000	\$80,000	1052	Ranch	1951	3.20
07/23/24	6624 West Canal Rd	Sally & James Acord	\$330,000	\$165,000	1898	Colonial	1977	0.62

REMINDER

If you move from your primary residence in Pendleton, it is your obligation to notify the Assessor's office. Each residence that is receiving the STAR Exemption signed the STAR application acknowledging that they would notify the Assessor of their change in residency.

As a resident/owner of property in Pendleton, there are property tax exemptions that you may be entitled to – including STAR, Enhanced STAR, Senior Citizens, Veterans, Agricultural, people with Disabilities and Volunteer Firefighters & Ambulance Workers. For information on any of these exemptions, you can visit the New York State Department of Tax and Finance website www.tax.ny.gov, our website www.pendletonny.us, or visit the Assessor's office at Pendleton Town Hall or contact us by phone at 716-625-8833.

If you are signing up for Basic STAR, you need to go to the New York State website noted above, or call (518) 457-2036 to sign up for the Basic STAR Credit (which is a check from New York State vs. receiving an Exemption). Additionally, any resident/owner who is currently receiving a STAR Exemption can switch to the credit program by contacting the New York State Department of Tax and Finance, via their website or phone number.

All Enhanced STAR applications require enrollment in the New York State Income Verification Program (IVP). Note, if you are currently enrolled in the Enhanced STAR Exemption or Credit, you do <u>not</u> need to renew your application (unless you are contacted by our office or New York State).

If you receive the STAR **Credit**, you can **sign up for Direct Deposit** in the new Homeowner Benefit Portal. Visit www.tax.ny.gov, select the *Real Property* drop-down, select *Homeowner Benefit Portal*, then click on *Create Individual Account*. Homeowners with existing Tax Department Individual Online Services accounts can click *Log in to visit portal*, rather than creating a new account.

If your primary residence is in the Town of Pendleton, and you will be 65 years of age or older by December 31, 2025, you may be eligible for the Enhanced STAR Exemption for your school taxes next year. Additionally, if you meet the above criteria, and are on limited income, you may be eligible for the Senior Citizen Exemption, which provides additional tax exemptions on County, School and Town taxes. Contact the Pendleton Assessor's office at 716-625-8833 ext. 118 for additional information.

The forms for all the exemptions and the IVP program are available at the Town Hall, or can be obtained via the Pendleton or New York State websites. **Deadline for all exemptions is March 1**st.

THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF PENDLETON

Greetings from Historical Society of Pendleton. Our meeting on Monday, September 16 at 1pm, was held at the Pendleton Town Hall. Maybe at our next meeting we will be at the new community center - who knows! Our meeting on June 18 was our annual potluck picnic. We did not participate in any summer town events. Our Niagara County legislator, Toni Nemi, was present and he delivered a \$1,000 check from the state. The money will come in handy when we move into our new space and require display cabinets, tables, chairs, and other items for our museum.

At our September meeting one of our board members, Tim Goodrich, performed on his harmonica and spoke on his music. He has a great talent and we enjoyed listening to his old-time music.

In the last newsletter I mentioned that Niagara County historian AnnMarie Linnabery would be retiring soon, but this is not the case. My apology to her and we look forward to her very interesting and informative talks on local history.

Hopefully, some of you saw the replica of the Senaca Chief line boat at the Lockport Locks. In a few months I will give a presentation on this historic boat and journey, almost 200 years ago. So, see you on October 21, November 18, and December 16. Bring a friend. All are welcome!

"The greatest wisdom is in simplicity. Love, respect, tolerance, sharing, gratitude, forgiveness. It's not complex or elaborate. The real knowledge is free. It's encoded in your DNA. All you need is within you. Great teachers have said that from the beginning. Find your heart, and you will find your way."

- Carlos Barrios

PENDLETON SENIOR CITIZENS

It seems like summer has flown by! Warm summer days will hopefully become warm fall days. Whatever the season, we continue to meet the 2nd Wednesday of each month at the Wendelville Fire Hall. While it has been a great "home" for us for the last 5 years, we will be moving to our new Town Community Center at some point in the near future.

The information for each meeting remains the same: A potluck lunch at noon, all Town of Pendleton residents age 55 or over are welcome to join the group. We try to have special events throughout the year. An example: our July party with hot dogs and picnic food, attended by invited guests: Assemblyman Mike Norris and 2 members of his staff and Legislator Anthony Nemi. It's always a time to be updated on what's happening in government that affects us.

Two trips remain, planned by the Pendleton Seniors Travel Club.

On September 20th, we'll head to Deer Haven Park, which will offer a glimpse into its past as a US ammunition storage and demolition facility; also, a chance to see unique wildlife residing within its 3,000-acre refuge. After lunch, we'll enjoy the "It's a Wonderful Life" Museum in Seneca Falls.

Closing out the year, a favorite, on October 15th – Sprague Maple Farm followed by World War II Museum in Eldred, PA and a final stop at Cuba Cheese Shop.

There's still time to sign up – just give Joe Kania a call at 716-625-8118.

Hoping to see you at a meeting or on a trip – better yet both!

We end with a word of gratitude for those, past and present, serving in the Armed Forces.



You're invited to the 14th Annual PENDLETON COMMUNITY & SHOP LOCAL FAIRE



Saturday, October 5th, 2024 10:00am - 1:00pm **Pendleton Center Church** 6864 Campbell Blvd at Bear Ridge Road





Councilman Dave Leible, Karina Krantz of Filled with Love Buffalo Market, Jamie with daughter Nora Bell of Munch Treats and County Legislator Tony Nemi.

Organized by Niagara County Legislator Tony Nemi and the Town of **Pendleton Community and Business Association, the Pendleton Community** & Shop Local Faire provides Pendleton residents an opportunity to learn about services offered by Niagara County.

This event also showcases businesses in the Pendleton area, as well as various organizations, including civic groups. Pendleton has a wide variety of activities for residents of all ages and interests. No charge for vendors. Door prizes welcome.









Support Your Local

INCLUDED in 2024...

- **Aquarium of Niagara Education Experience**
- **Local Craft Vendors**
- Magic Show at 11am
- Children's Programs and Petting Zoo!
- **Thank-A-Vet Veterans Discount Cards**
- Health and Wellness Programs
- Senior Lunch Program Info
- NC Home Delivered Meals Program
- Senior Benefits

- Farmer's Market
- Sheriff's Office
- County Prescription Discount Card

FREE

Hotdog

Lunch

- Food Trucks
- Fire Safety Programs
- Home Heating Assistance Programs
- Flu Shots Available bring your insurance card or pay cash

Meet & Businesses!

> FREE **Samplings**

Petting

Zoo

from Local

Restaurants

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT SCOTT LOMBARDO AT 716-625-9080 OR EMAIL: lombardosa110@gmail.com

PENDLETON VETERANS ASSOCIATION

Well here we are, October 1st and a whole month into our normal schedule. As you probably know the Pendleton Veterans Association (PVA) does not hold our normal monthly meetings in July and August. That being said, it does not mean that we are



hibernating or dormant. The PVA is still busy with processing plans and projects into the future and current initiatives that benefit all in the Town and, of course, our brother and sister Veterans.

The Home Town Heroes program is moving along nicely with new applicants coming in regularly. The proof is in the pudding. Just look at the Tennis court fence facing Town Hall and you can see over 80 permanent posters of our own "HOME TOWN HEROES". "Thank you for your service", I SAY.

Applications for the Home Town Heroes program, for Town resident Veterans, are available at the Town Clerks office in Town Hall.

The PVA Honor Guard was present at former Town Justice, Wendelville Fire Hall and PVA member Donald Lanternier. His Celebration of Life ceremony was on May 31st at St Paul's Church and Wendelville Fire Hall. Rest in peace Don, you are missed.

The PVA was proud to be a sponsor for the Harvest Moon 5K run hosted by the Wendelville Fire Co. on September 4th 2024. This was their 27th year.

Hey Neighbor!

I'm Christine, your neighbor and local Real Estate Agent! As a resident of Pendleton, I know the real value of what our neighborhood offers. I'd be thrilled to assist you



whether you're looking to buy or sell a home, or if you're interested in learning about the current market. Please reach out to me for all your real estate needs!

Christine Wiseman

Licensed Real Estate Sales Agent christine.wiseman@cbintegrity.com

716-622-8226



Attention Starpoint Seniors! Why not consider a military enlistment next summer after graduation. A good possibility for learning a life long trade of your choice. After a four year enlistment you would be eligible for health care for life, G I benefits for tuition for higher education. Or make a career out of it and after 20 years you would have the prior mentioned benefits AND a life long pension starting at your discharge date. You would most likely be under 40 years old . Not a bad deal. Look into it.

Town resident Veterans "NOT" PVA members, how about attending one of our meetings to see what it is going on. Meetings are held on the first Wednesday of every month (except July & August) at 6:00pm at Town Hall (Board Room). Membership applications available in the Town Clerks office.

If you have not noticed The New Community Center building construction is coming along nicely. Estimated occupancy is expected in last quarter of this year. Our meetings will be moving to that venue when available.

Keep an eye on the electronic billboard at town hall for PVA news and happenings. Greg Metzger, *Vice President*Pendleton Veterans Association



AUTUMN WORD SEARCH

WKRVANLEAVESKHASRBMHTCAIBVGDMU RIDPFVFMLEBONRQXTVHSVMLAVFHUSS UUK | FGOYGZAOMRMFMATGOURDSNNXQG CSKVHWLHDUXBWKWEWYWTLTDXGEONHT WHPFQWIGNAZNCBSEASONS VMAW J C C X A G F A O U T A K P S H Z W Y P C S C V U X Y U C O B R O X U X O Y R O Z G M F H D W W W T S E G I B V C S O K W R Q W G LFWIVKEYNITWJUCSLQSJFOFRKQUWCP LHREQEYIRGRVNAMVZUHCTLZNKCFMCQ TPPOHPSRWYZESQCXATUZAOBXLIHSOS QHUOSA | TDED | PPNKTAEY | RV I ADAAT P VOADTTLZIKBWDLLTOIUWTFCHAEYNWH PRYNRWGLUMOHUNAPPLMIOUHPDRRYIA H F L R K Q P Q O R Y K X Q T C A G A X F L B | P G I L U | IIXSTSDUSWCOEONUEASNXWEHXVDQZW Q P J F Z Y G C M U E H J V R T R T Z O T R I R J G E Z L W KXOIUHUIGPNEEHLRPIRDTEOXKUSZTW V P Q H B C V Q V A K F N S N J O N G A A Y R E P H L P O P QVSOXRIEWIHILTTTOGHYKPMNPYUARX LUMUMSIEMUNXNOBNWANNUIUFPVLXSG NCHIMLUSSIAGYSWBUJAQQNNWZQUTRX HOTCOCOAKBKUKYZECT J L Z R A G Q O V Q K S YUFDBBPCEOONS | UORQSGXTXTRTBOUB SVRFAOEKSDZNCAEKMSSFOOTBALLEAH PRMONPMBPMN | FOTPQLRTNNCWQKWXWQ NTAMXUPXCUGQYIZKLQLGVRHBXMIUIN YDTKMYDLFVDFMGRYIVJXWFISTMNZYC ZM Y Q X M G R E V R N J F M E J M Y Z P G L E N R D D V X NOZPUQJPDSQQSCARECROWVLAMAYRKD TOUKXZNBBRVDNTWLZKTHIEYXLXDURR

ACORN
APPLES
BONFIRE
BRISK
CHESTNUTS
CHILLY
CIDER
COLORFUL
COZY
FIREPLACE

FOLIAGE
FOOTBALL
FROST
GOURDS
HALLOWEEN
HARVEST
HAYRIDES
HOT COCOA
JACK-O-LANTERN
LEAVES

MUMS
PUMPKINS
RAKING
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12 FASCINATING FACTS ABOUT CROWS

Crows are among the smartest animals on Earth.

Read the full article at: MentalFloss.com

by Mark Mancini

- 1. All crows and ravens belong to the same genus. Members of the genus Corvus can be found on every continent except Antarctica and South America. To date, scientists have identified 40 species that are commonly called ravens, crows, rooks, and jackdaws. In the U.S., the American crow and the common raven are the most widespread corvids.
- 2. Older crow siblings can help their parents raise newborn chicks. Like a lot of intelligent animals, most crows are quite social. American crows spend most of the year living in pairs (they usually mate for life) or small family groups. During the winter months, they'll congregate with hundreds or even thousands of their peers to sleep together at night in a sprawling communal unit called a roost.
- **3.** When a crow dies, its neighbors may have a funeral. The sight of a dead crow tends to attract a mob of a hundred or more live ones. During this ritual, the live crows almost never touch the dead one, which rules scavenging out as a motive. Some studies suggest that the mass gathering is part of a survival strategy: The birds are learning about threats and seem hesitant to revisit any spot where they've encountered a dead crow, even if food is plentiful there.
- **4. Crows have caused blackouts in Japan.** Since the 1990s, crows have experienced a population boom in Japan, where delicious garbage is more plentiful than ever. Urban crows like to nest on electric transformers and will often use wire hangers or fiber-optic cables as building materials for their nests.
- **5. Proportionally, some crows' brains are bigger than yours.** Crows are so smart and so good at improvising that some zoologists call them "feathered apes" (that's a compliment). Crows, ravens, and parrots have the biggest brain-to-body size ratios of all living bird species. They've shown levels of cognition that put them on par with the great apes.
- **6. Crows have regional dialects.** Apart from their famous caw-caw, crows emit other sounds. Each one sends out a different message; cawing can be used as a territorial warning or a way for crows to signal their location to relatives. If a crow changes its social group, the bird will try to fit in by talking like the popular kids. "When crows join a new flock," they write, "they learn the flock's dialect by mimicking the calls of dominant flock members."
- 7. Some crows can read traffic lights. In Japan, carrion crows use cars like oversized nutcrackers. The birds have learned to take walnuts over to road intersections, where they put them down onto the pavement. The crow then waits for a passing vehicle to smash the nut, after which it will swoop down and eat the delicious interior.
- **8.** Crows can recognize your face and hold a grudge. You don't want a crow for an enemy. In a 2011 paper, a



team from the University of Washington tested how well the birds could identify human faces using Halloween masks. At five sites, a scientist donned a caveman mask before catching and banding some wild crows. Getting trapped is never a fun experience, and upon their release, the crows loudly scolded their assailant with threatening caws. Seeing this, other birds swooped down to harass the captor. Over several years, researchers wore the masks on strolls through all five test spots. The crows - including many who'd never been captured or banded - scolded and dive-bombed the "caveman". The younger crows, who were born after the initial experiment, also scolded the "caveman." The grudge had been passed on. Mind your manners around crows. Because if you mistreat them, they won't forget you and neither will their friends—or the next generation.

- **9.** New Caledonian crows make and use tools. Lots of non-human animals, including chimpanzees and orangutans, create useful implements which help them survive in the wild.
- 10. Crows fight off predators by ganging up on them. Crows have to deal with a menagerie of predators, such as hawks, owls, coyotes, and raccoons. To ward them off, the corvids exploit the fact that there can be strength in numbers. Upon seeing a would-be attacker, crows are known to gather, with some groups consisting of a dozen birds or more. Individual crows then swoop down to deliver passing blows with their beaks, often inflicting serious bodily injury in the process. If all goes well, the target will back off—though it may kill a few of the dive-bombers before they retreat.
- 11. Crows understand impulse control.
- 12. Some scientists would prefer you not call a group of crows a murder. According to the Oxford English Dictionary, the correct term for a group of crows is a murder, an expression bird-watchers and poets have been using since at least the 15th century. But maybe it's time to come up with a replacement. Ornithologist Kevin McGowan hates the phrase murder of crows. To him, it only feeds the public's negative outlook on the animals. "These birds aren't a gang of nasty villains," he says. "These birds are just birds."



WENDELVILLE VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY

By the time you read this, October is here! The nights are getting longer and

there is crispness in the air. Summer gets shorter each year it seems; or is it we who move more slowly, trying to savor more and more...

The Wendelville Ladies Auxiliary is looking for local crafters for our upcoming Vendor/Craft Show and Basket Raffle. It is going to be held Saturday, November 16th from 11-3 at the fire hall at 7340 Campbell Blvd. If you're not interested in a table stop by, shop and take your chances on the basket raffle. If you are interested in a table please email us:wendelvilleladiesaux@gmail.com. To find out about more upcoming events visit us on our Facebook page Wendelville Ladies Auxiliary.

The Firefighters here at Wendelville are moving to the fall and winter drills, boning up on how to deal with malfunctioning Carbon Monoxide Monitors and ice rescue incidents. Each season has its own individual personality and the foibles that go with it. As an example, we'll soon see more chimney fires and less grass and field fires, for sure.

As many of you know, October is Fire prevention Month and we are already filling up dates to do our

HARVEST MOON 5K

OUR Annual Harvest Moon 5K race and Fun Run on September 4th was another big hit!! The runners and walkers competed as in other years and then all enjoyed the After Party! There was plenty of good food



and drink to go around, door prizes and fun for all!

These are our winners in the various catagories...

Overall Race winners, Timothy Lukasik, male, and
Shannon Zugelder, female; Masters (runner over 40),
Matthew Dore, male, and, Mary Lawerence, female;
Age groups:

up to age 10: Tanner Profrock, male, and female, Megan Witt;

Ages 11 thru 14: Jimmy Zugelder, male

and Cora Griffin, female;

Ages 15 thru 19: Liam Keelty, male,

and Olivia Schmidt, female;

Ages 20 thru 24: Jason Donner, male

and Nicole Biancorosso, female;

Ages 25 thru 29: Anthony Cinotti, male,

and Mackenzie Lowe; female;

school demonstration at Starpoint and other local schools. It's important to impress upon even the youngest students the concept of "Stop, Drop and Roll" and the importance of calling 911 in an emergency.

We would like to congratulate our winners of the Scholarships from Wendelville this year. The four winners are Kaylee Weierheiser, Erin Benson, Leila Benson and Benjamin Preisch. These four students received their scholarships at Graduation. We will have our Scholarship Competition again in the Spring. It is open to any high school senior who resides in the Town of Pendleton, regardless of the school attended. Please see your guidance counselors for complete information by April 1st.

Our next fun night will be our **Annual Meat Raffle** scheduled for Saturday, October 19th from 7–
9pm. Tickets are \$10 per person or a table of 10 for \$80.00. Complete table tickets must be purchased at the same time. You can buy online at wendelvillevfc.com. Get 'em before they're gone!!!

Just a note about our Medical billing program, now over 6 months old, things are going as expected, as we are experiencing the typical growing pains for any new process. If residents receive any bill they should contact us immediately at 716-382-5915 and we will look into the situation right away.

Ages 30 thru 34: Alexander Krull, male and Mary Bostwick, female;

Ages 35 thru39: Stephen Dylag, male and Deena Mueller-Funke, female;

Ages 40 thru 44: Michael Colangelo, male,

and Nicole Oliver, female;

Ages 45 thru 49: Joe Sillman, male and Jamie Conklin, female;

Ages 50 thru 54: Mark Musolino, male, and Jody Musolino, female;

Ages 55 thru 59: David Pfalzer, male, and Kathy Reynolds, female;

Ages 60 thru 64, Michael Drum, male, and Sandra Popovich, female;

Ages 65 thru 69: Terry Sweeney, male,

and Nancy Duffy, female;

Ages 70 thru 74: Barry Latner, male,

and Stacey Curry, female;

Ages 75 thru 80: John Tzimou, male;

Ages 80 thru 84: Ed Russell, male;

Ages 85 plus: female, the Queen, Edna Hyer.

And finally, in the Firefighters Division: Curt Mancuso, with our own Beau Lapp coming in second!

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL!!!



NEWS FROM NIAGARA COUNTY

Column by Legislator Tony Nemi

As we close out a hot and muggy summer, I hope everyone was able to take some time to relax and enjoy the sunshine. Summer used to be a time to

kick back, but it seems people remain as busy as ever. With that in mind, I want to hit a few different topics from county government that may have flown under your radar.

First, a big thank you to our Environmental Division for the hazardous waste collection event (HHW) they held in August in the Starpoint parking lot. Hundreds of residents took advantage of this event to rid themselves of old paint, pesticides and other household chemicals. The county has been hosting these events for more than 10 years and it's estimated that more than 1 million pounds of HHW have been kept out of our landfills. If you missed the event, the county still has two more left before the end of the year – a paint collection event on September 28 in Lockport and an HHW event October 5 in North Tonawanda. To learn more and to register (registration opens one month prior to the event) visit rethinkyourwaste.com

Next, I have written several times about open positions in county government and the difficulty in finding applicants. Many believe part of the problem is that people view the civil service process as daunting and thus do not apply for positions for which they are qualified. To address this issue, our Civil Service Office launched a tutorial video series to walk residents through all aspects of the civil service hiring process. The five videos run between 5 and 11 minutes and cover a different topic, including: an overview of Civil Service, what it is and how it works; detailed instructions on how to fill out an online application; the hiring and examination processes; the Rule of Three used for competitive position hiring; and how to view exam results, eligible lists, and job specifications. The videos

can be found at niagaracounty.gov under the employment tab. As of this writing, there are nearly 30 job postings on the Niagara County website for jobs with county government that offer good pay and benefits. If you have been reluctant to pursue these career opportunities because of the civil service process, I hope our tutorial videos will address your concerns, answer your questions and, ultimately, help you complete the application for employment.

Third, for those with an eagle eye, you may have seen the website address I provided above was niagaracounty.gov. This is a change that went into effect over the summer, as the county switched from niagaracounty.com; however, those who go to the old site will automatically be redirected to the new site and the public will not see any difference. The federal Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) has been urging government bodies to move to ".gov" domains to help the public know that the website they are on is a bona fide U.S.-based government organization, thereby reducing uncertainty on the trustworthiness of the information. Only verifiable government organizations are eligible for .gov domains, whereas anyone set up a website with a '.com' or '.org' domain and choose a name that can confuse people into thinking it is an official government site. This change should help improve security and hopefully help people avoid scams.

Last, our Niagara County Center for Economic Development is conducting its annual 2024 Niagara County Business Survey. In less than five minutes, you have the opportunity to provide valuable feedback on your business needs. This information will help shape our programming and business outreach efforts throughout the community. Whether you are a part of a large manufacturing facility that has been operating for decades, a retail or agribusiness operation, or a newly opened small business, we want to hear from you. Your responses will remain confidential, and will only be used for economic development purposes in aggregate form. To take the survey, visit niagacounty gov and you will see the survey banner right on the homepage.

"It's a funny thing about life, once you begin to take note of the things you are grateful for, you begin to lose sight of the things that you lack." - Germany Kent







"Cultivate the habit of being grateful for every good thing that comes to you, and to give thanks continuously. And because all things have contributed to your advancement, you should include all things in your gratitude." - Ralph Waldo Emerson

"Got no checkbooks, got no banks. Still I'd like to express my thanks - I've got the sun in the momin' and the moon at night." - Irving Berlin



TOWN HISTORIAN

"The whole difference between construction and creation is exactly this: that a thing constructed can only be loved after it is constructed; but a thing created is loved before it exists."

- Charles Dickens

The society of today takes for granted advancements in all areas of life. This lifestyle is entirely dependent upon convenience and to quote the great Thomas Paine "what we obtain too cheap, we esteem too lightly".

State-of-the-art tools and explosives were used during the construction of the Erie Canal beginning in 1817. What did they look like? What was their function?

The slip scraper was a plow that worked like a horse drawn trowel. It removed layer by layer until the desired effect was achieved.

The usage of axes and picks was also popular.

The Canal, after all, was dug almost exclusively by hand. Yes, nearly all 363 miles was carved without our modern luxuries.

In order to blow up large portions of the Limestone found in abundance where the canal would run, gunpowder was used. If the fuse didn't take the first time, it was lit again. This was a high risk position. The men, often Irish that had plenty to drink under their belt, were dulled by their daily ration.

Brainard's Barrow, otherwise known as the Wheel Barrow, and the New England Corn Hoe were also in use. While the former is self explanatory, the latter was used to mix cement and other paste-like substances for a heavy duty adhesive.

Thank you for the pleasure of your company, Pendleton. It's always an honor. Your stories and inquiries keep the passion burning brightly.

God Bless. Carissa D. Smith, *Historian* CSmith@pendletonny.us

"Fall has always been my favorite season. The time when everything bursts with its last beauty, as if nature had been saving up all year for the grand finale."

- Lauren DeStefano

Embrace the blessings and opportunities of each new season!

"Autumn carries more gold in its pocket than all the other seasons." - Jim Bishop

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"Come, little leaves," said the Wind one day,
"Come to the meadows with me and play.

Put on your dresses of red and gold;

for Summer is past, and the days grow cold."

- George Cooper

















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