



# NEWSLETTER

September, 2025

## Elkins Rehabilitation & Care Center

### EMPLOYEE OF MONTH FOR AUGUST



**Robert Plaugher, (RJ) Env. Srv.**

Residents Council has chosen Robert (RJ) Plaugher as the employee of the month for August. Robert was born in Elkins, WV in 1996. He is the son of Angel Ware and Robert Plaugher. He currently lives in Elkins with his dad. He graduated from Elkins High School in 2016. He has been an employee of ERCC (on the afternoon shift) in the Environmental Service Department since March 3, 2025. RJ likes to read fiction and distortion novels, working out, and playing video games (especially racing). When you see RJ in the halls, be certain to congratulate him on being the August Employee of the Month!



Ina Gear  
Victoria George  
Crystal Herron  
Evelyn Means  
Lula Pingley  
Jeannie Raese  
Carole Ralston

Monthly Birthday Party will be held in the dining room on Wednesday, September 24 at 2:00PM. Everyone is invited.





## Random Memories.....of the good ole days

By: Mikie Dumire

I invite you to take a journey back to the good ole days. I will be sharing some of my memories with you. They may not all be exactly as you remember it; they are factual to the best of my memory. I hope you enjoy the journey with me.

When we were small, we didn't have seat belts in our vehicles. When we went in the truck we were packed in so tight we could barley move. When we took the car, we either sat on the seat or stood on it, depending what age we were. If Dad was with us, he drove and Mom held Billy; but we mostly went places when he was at work or gone.

Mom drove, of course, we rode in the back seat, sometimes laying in the back window. When Billy was a baby, he laid on the seat and as he grew, he stood on it. If Mom braked hard, she threw her arm in front of him to help keep him from falling. Mom bought a car seat. It looked somewhat like a stadium seat. It had plastic for the strap and two hooks that hung over the back of the top seat. There was no other form of securing it. Wouldn't the Child Protection Agency have a field day with that one?

When Mom took the baby bottle from my sister, I was too young to remember; but, I remember when she took it from Billy. He was standing on the seat beside Mom as she was driving. As we were approaching the bridge she asked him if he was ready to throw his bottle away. She explained the fish could have it. She stopped at the bridge and let him throw it over the side and let him watch it float away. He waved goodbye to it and never cried. He only asked a few times and Mom would remind him that he gave it to the fish and he was okay with that.

I just saw a lady with the tab on the back of her shoe sticking out. It reminded me of the footies (socks) that had the little balls on the back of the heels that bobbed up and down when you walked.

There used to be a building just about where CVS is now. On one side it housed Millie Teets' Beauty Saloon. It had huge windows in front. The first time I saw someone getting a perm was there. There were special perm rods. They were metal rods with wire attached to the end of them and a huge thing that went above the head. It was a scary contraption. People really liked her. Millie was quite the character. Her hair and makeup were always perfect. She wore the reddest lipstick I had ever seen. She was tall and of ample size. Millie had a beautiful home. They tore it down to build the four lane (now the five lane) As you travel through there, you can still see some of the stone patio and the fireplace against the hillside today. Millie hosted a lot of parties and she had a particular liking for the men.....and let's just say she favored the bottle a little more than she should.

After the beauty shop closed, she had the Far-a-Way Hills Restaurant. It was high class dining and party events. The building is still there and still beautiful. It is on the Georgetown Road. It sits upon the hill, and is a huge, white building. It has a large window in the front thru which you can see a beautiful chandelier. When Millie had the restaurant there, that was the dining side. The rest of the building is beautiful as well.

On one side of the Millie's beauty salon was a small taste freeze. The building the beauty shop was in had a common door-you went into the foyer. If you went right, that was the beauty shop; left was Grady Guye's Furniture Store. Grady was a real gem. Everyone who ever met him, highly respected and liked him. In later years, he expanded the furniture by building a much larger building (where Fordland is now) and called it Elkins Furniture Center. Grady and his staff were always professional business men. His customers were treated first class. I still have a promotional yardstick from them.

Remembering S&H Green Stamp has made me remember other promotional items we had at home. Some were given with a purchase, others were packed inside your purchase. Every business gave out products of one type or another. For example, sometimes mugs were packed in cereal or oatmeal. We had fly swaters, ink pens, hats, yard sticks, rulers, planners, bottle/can opener, key rings, small tape measures, small sewing kits, thermometer, pencils,



etc. I remember the first glass we got. I almost always set the table for dinner. I hated that glass because I liked things to match. I was so glad to get the sixth glass because it gave me a complete set. (Ha Ha) To this very day, I am still particular. I just like things to match and look nice. Oh yeah, Ash trays was another big giveaway. So wasn't matches. The small paper ones as well as the wooden ones. Mom and Dad both smoked so there was a lot of advertisement in our house. We had one nice ashtray that was a gift; but it stayed in the china cabinet until company came. It was amber color with an intricate edge—a lot like ruffles.

Growing up there was a man that seemingly didn't have a family. He was very quiet and stayed away from a lot of people. Everyone called him Steve Moonface. We were all a little afraid of him. The adults used to say if we weren't good Steve Moonface would get us or if they didn't want us to go to a certain area in the community, they would say "Steve Moonface will get you". We would see him hitch hiking a lot. No one ever picked him up. One day, Mom said she felt bad for him and we picked him up. We were scared at first, but during our drive we found out he was a very nice man. He was highly educated and very polite. Turned out his name wasn't "Steve Moonface" at all. It was Steve, but the last name was hard to say; so everyone said Steve Moonface (as one name) because indeed his face was very round.

Another guy everyone called Banjo. Now Banjo was quite the character. Let's just say he liked his beer a little too much!. He would hide his beer down by the river at Devil's Hole. After he had so much but wanted a little more, he could be seen staggering toward Devil's Hole. Little did he realize his teen age grandchildren would get into his beer. They would drink it and refill the bottles with river water.

There are stories about the Devil's Hole. Supposedly, bad things happened to people in the water. One story is that a man with his horse and buggy tried to cross there and quicksand sucked them in and they were never seen again. True or not, I don't know.

There was a time when it seemed as if the whole world went "macramé crazy ". People made macramé plant hangers, wall hangings, curtains, plant holders key chains, purses bracelets among other items. Macramé is the art of knotting twine in different directions to create various patterns and items. The primary color was burlap, but you could get a nylon cord in various colors.

The slinky is a pre-compressed helical spring. It was invented by accident by Richard James while he was working on a spring to stabilize shelf equipment. He accidentally knocked it off the shelf and it walked down instead of falling. His wife Betty named it. It was a fun toy, especially to watch it walk down a flight of stairs. Kids loved to compete to see how far it would go before stalling. Also, it was fun to just bounce from one hand to the other. There was a song that said , "It's slinky, it's slinky. For fun it was a wonderful toy. It's slinky, it's slinky, its fun for a girl and a boy."

Did you ever play tiddly winks? It's a table game you can play alone or with someone. It is far more fun to play with someone. You have small plastic discs (winks) into a cup using a larger disc. You try to get as many winks in the cup and capture many winks as possible.

A huge fire in 1983 claimed the round house in the railyard. It was another building that intrigues me. I would ask Mom to drive by just so I could see it. This was the shop they took the trains in to work on them. To the best of my memory there was a rotating turntable inside to work on the trains. The turntable is now in use un Frostburg, MD by the Western Maryland Scenic Railroad. Many, many years after the fire the foundation for the turntable was still visible. I haven't been by there for quite some time; but I think it is gone with all the new constructions in recent years.





One of my favorite places to eat was the Delmonte Hotel. It was very clean and it was very nice. It was originally built in 1899 as a railroad hotel for travelers of modest means. The original hotel was destroyed by fire. The current structure is known as the Delmonte Market. It has been renovated and is used for various commercial users. The Delmonte is close to the Depot and railyard. Back in the day, the food was wonderful. The door you went in for the restaurant now is home to a floral shop.

Down town Elkins



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To add to my fascination with round building. There was the round barn, just outside Elkins on the Parson road at Gilman. Back in its day , it was a beautiful structure. It was quite scenic. It sat in a beautiful filed close to the road with a large tree close by finishing the beautiful scene. This was a wood structure and Gram always told us the story about men dying there waiting for a corner to use the bathroom.

Gilman Road



There was another round barn in Elkins. It was on the ward road and was built in 1832. To the best of my knowledge no men died there LOL.



Ward Road

Thank you for taking another journey with me. I hope you had as many smiles reading it as I did remembering it. I leave you with these words of wisdom: Learn from your mistakes. Don't dwell on them, but use them as a lesson for the future.





**Jo Jo Pennington**

This month's resident feature is Joseph Pennington, better known as Jo Jo. Jo Jo considers himself a very lucky person. His life was very enjoyable and fun. It was "go go go" and everyone helped each other.

Jo Jo was born in Elkins to Hilda (Helmick) and Jim Pennington. There were five children and two parents in the family. All on the Helmick side of the family are now deceased. He has a brother, Jim married to Anna, sister Debra married to Rick Legg and a brother John married to Dr. Amanda (pediatrician). He also has a sister living in California with her partner and daughter Lindsay. She sends him a Christmas card every year.

After losing his special friend, Jo Jo's health was declining and he stayed with John and Amanda for a while. Unsure of what the issue was at first, but his health has improved. He has a doctor in

Morgantown that travels to Elkins to see him and his other patients. Listening to his stories, I can also say it was an enjoyable life, and I thoroughly enjoyed my conversations with him.

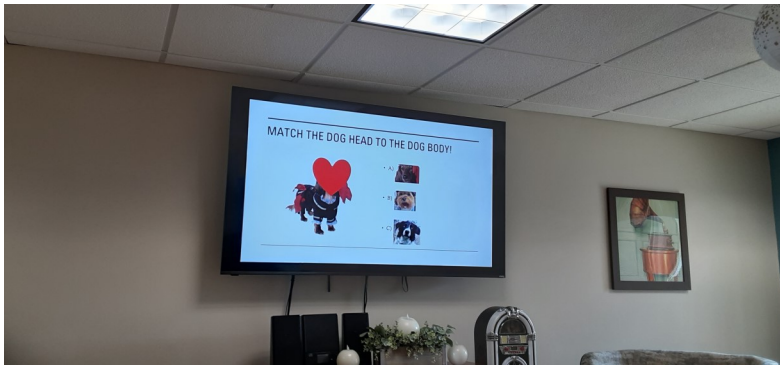
One Christmas they decorated 15 Christmas trees, and sent one to California for Ralph and Mary Frances Shepler's daughter, Amy. He decorated a hotel in the Virgin Islands for a wedding. The hotel was located on a cliff and was pre-booked. He went all over doing wedding decorations; even to France. Jo Jo also did some fishing in the Caribbean. Every third weekend, he was in Snowshoe doing decorations for weddings, etc.

Jo Jo worked at Cardinal Gifts and Garden with his Mom (Hilda) and Dad (Jim). Jim took care of tuxedos and his area was called "Jim's Formals". He helped his mom with prom dresses, gowns, corsages, etc. but Jo Jo wanted to do the floral part. Later on, he had Jo Jo's Flower Shop.

Jo Jo retired approximately four years ago. He states "I miss everything, customers, store, and especially Mom". Jo Jo is full of enthusiasm, and always has a contagious smile for all who he sees.



One of our residents, Stanley Gould, (better known as "Stan The Man" recently won a plaque by being in the top five— selling tickets to help raise money for Rites Care and other local organizations. All money donated goes to the children for Christmas. This is an annual fund raising and Stanley was number four in selling the most tickets. He received the Above and Beyond plaque from Bob Arbogast.



On 8/6 (Tuesday) Old Brick had trivia games on the television with the residents. The theme was: **“Work like a dog day”**. Everyone had a great time matching the dog’s head to the body of several pictures of dogs.







**The best way to celebrate Root Beer Float Day (8/6/2025) is to make and pass out Root Beer Floats! Staff and residents enjoyed the floats made and distributed by our Activity Staff. They are the BEST!!**



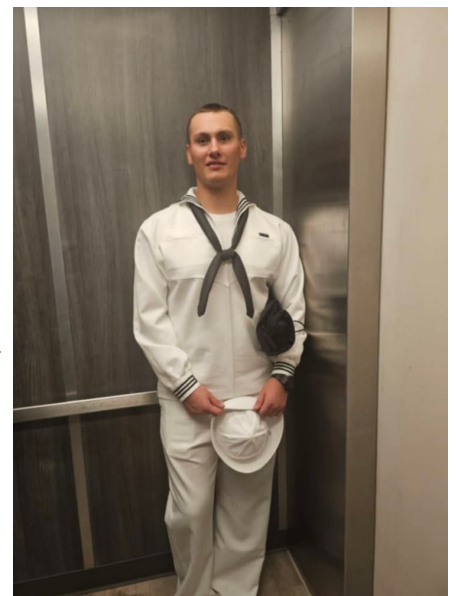




Navy Uniform Picture

In the July newsletter issue, we told you of one of our employee's (Mary George) grandson Xadyn Kline joining the Navy. We have since found out, he graduated from Chicago, Ill Great Lakes on August 14. He shipped out to San Antonio, Texas on August 16 to do his training as Corpsman in the hospital at Fort Sam Houston. He is currently stationed there. We want to thank Xadyn for his service and wish him the best during his journey!

## Xadyn Kline



Graduation Picture

### MEN EVENING OUT

On Thursday, August 22, the men had a day of fishing. They had a picnic at Camp Pioneer and then went to fish in the pond. Everyone had a great time. The Blue Gills were biting and they caught quite a few! Even though the afternoon had some clouds, the day turned out to be beautiful.



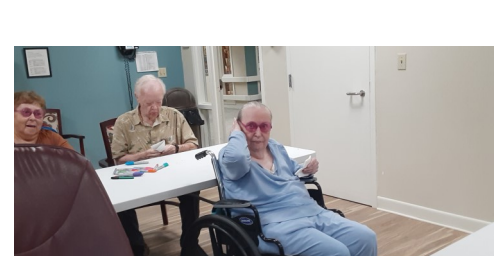




# FISHING AT CAMP PIONEER

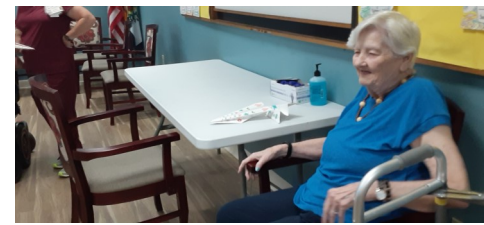






## AVIATION DAY WITH OLD BRICK

**8-19-2025. Commemoration of the birthday of Orville Wright and to celebrate the history and advancements of aviation**







2533 Beverly Pike • Elkins, WV 26241 • 304.636.1391 • Fax 304.636.1371 • [www.ercc.biz](http://www.ercc.biz)

**ATTENTION: ALL STAFF**

**FROM: Grace Roy, Director of Human Resources**

**SUBJECT: Kroger Community Rewards Program**

**DATE: August 13, 2025**

We are pleased to announce that ERCC has been approved as an Eligible Organization in the Kroger Community Rewards Program. This program allows eligible non-profit organizations to earn cash rewards based on quarterly retail purchases made by the organization's participants.

Eligible purchases may be made at any Kroger Mid-Atlantic Division store by an Eligible Participant who presents a Kroger Plus Card at the time of purchase. The Kroger Mid-Atlantic Division serves West Virginia (except Northern Panhandle), Virginia, Kentucky (Ashland), Ohio (Proctorville, Belpre, Marietta), and Tennessee (Johnson City, Bristol, Kingsport). If a Kroger Plus Card is not presented at the time of purchase, our organization's account will not be credited.

Purchases that are excluded include alcohol, tobacco, some gift cards, lottery tickets, money orders, and fuel.

**All cash rewards earned will be utilized to benefit ERCC employees.**

**How to Participate:** Simply register your Kroger Plus Card online at [Kroger.com/communityrewards](http://Kroger.com/communityrewards) by clicking on Enroll. Then search for Elkins Rehabilitation & Care Center by name or by NPO (non-profit organization) number: LD356.

Individual purchases will be counted towards ERCC within 7-10 days of registering your Kroger Plus Card online. Every time a participant shops for groceries and scans their Kroger Plus Card, ERCC will automatically start earning rewards.

Enroll today to begin earning rewards for ERCC employees!

Please let me know if you have any questions.

# SEPTEMBER 2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
   	<b>1</b> <b>LABOR DAY</b> 9:30AM Dancing Leaves -RR <b>10AM Ladies Circle Group -A</b> 2PM Bingo - DR 3PM Puzzle Time -A 7PM Trivia Night -C <b>COLLEGE COLORS DAY</b>	<b>2</b> 9AM Early Bird Greetings 10AM Spa Day-A <b>11AM Picnic Time - O 11AM</b> 1PM Church w/ Pastor John - C 2PM Old Brick Folks 3PM Puzzle Time -A 7PM Crafting -A 	<b>3</b> 9:30AM Dancing Leaves -RR <b>9:45AM Bible Study - A</b> <b>1:30PM Chair Yoga -C</b> 2PM Card Bingo - C 3PM Current Events - A 7PM Movie Night -C	<b>4 NATL WILDLIFE DAY</b> 10AM Book Club -A <b>10AM Men's Circle Group - C</b> 1:30PM Bingo -DR 3PM Spa Time - A <b>5PM Dining Out -O</b> 7PM Outside Time -O	<b>5 NATL CHEESE PIZZA DAY</b> 9:30AM Dancing Leaves -RR 10AM Residents Choice <b>11AM Pizza Luncheon - DR</b> 2PM Old Brick Folks 3PM Puzzle Time -A 7PM Card Sharks -A 	<b>6</b> 9AM Early Bird Greetings 10AM Spa Day -A 2PM Bingo - DR 3PM Residents Choice <b>7PM Singin' Gospel Together - C</b>  <b>WVU vs OHIO</b>
<b>7 NATL HUMMINGBIRD DAY</b> 9AM Sunday Greetings 10AM TV Church Time -C 2PM Outside Time -O 3PM Residents Choice 7PM Movie Night -C 	<b>8 GRANDPARENTS DAY</b> 9:30AM Dancing Leaves -RR <b>10AM Ladies Circle Group -A</b> 2PM Bingo - DR 3PM Puzzle Time -A 7PM Trivia Night -C 	<b>9 NATL TEDDY BEAR DAY</b> 9AM Early Bird Greetings 10AM Spa Day-A 1PM Church w/ Pastor John - C <b>1:30PM Donut Time - TBA</b> 2PM Old Brick Folks 3PM Puzzle Time -A 7PM Crafting -A 	<b>10</b> 9:30AM Dancing Leaves -RR <b>9:45AM Bible Study - A</b> <b>1:30PM Chair Yoga -C</b> 2PM Card Bingo - C 3PM Current Events - A 7PM Movie Night -C	<b>11 DAY OF REMEMBRANCE</b> 10AM Book Club -A <b>10AM Men's Circle Group - C</b> 1:30PM Bingo -DR <b>2PM SMOOTHIES - DR</b> 3PM Spa Time - A 7PM Outside Time -O	<b>12</b> <b>9AM Cass Senic Railroad Trip -O</b> 9:30AM Dancing Leaves -RR 10AM Residents Choice <b>1PM RC SC Dulcimer Grp. -DR</b> 2PM Old Brick Folks 3PM Puzzle Time -A 7PM Corn Hole - C  <b>PITT vs WVU</b>	<b>13</b> 9AM Early Bird Greetings 10AM Spa Day -A 2PM Bingo - DR 3PM Residents Choice <b>3:00PM Tailgating Party - C</b> 7PM Crafting - A  <b>WVU vs KANSAS</b>
<b>14 NATL DAY OF COLORING</b> 9AM Sunday Greetings 10AM TV Church Time -C <b>1:30PM Church w/ Pastor Young - C</b> 3PM Residents Choice 7PM Let's Color - A	<b>15</b> 9:30AM Dancing Leaves -RR <b>10AM Ladies Circle Group -A</b> <b>1:30PM Resident Council - C</b> 2PM Bingo - DR 3PM Puzzle Time -A 7PM Trivia Night -C	<b>16</b> 9AM Early Bird Greetings 10AM Spa Day-A 1PM Church w/ Pastor John - C <b>2PM Old Brick Folks</b> 3PM Puzzle Time -A 7PM Crafting -A	<b>17 APPLE DUMPLING DAY</b> 9:30AM Dancing Leaves -RR <b>9:45AM Bible Study - A</b> <b>1:30PM Chair Yoga -C</b> 2PM Card Bingo - C 3PM Current Events - A 7PM Movie Night -C	<b>18 NATL CHEESEBURGER DAY</b> 10AM Book Club -A <b>10AM Men's Circle Group - C</b> 1:30PM Bingo -DR 3PM Spa Time - A 7PM Outside Time -O 	<b>19</b> 9:30AM Dancing Leaves -RR 10AM Residents Choice <b>2PM Old Brick Folks</b> 3PM Puzzle Time -A 7PM Card Sharks -A  <b>WVU vs KANSAS</b>	<b>20</b> 9AM Early Bird Greetings 10AM Spa Day -A 2PM Bingo - DR 3PM Residents Choice 7PM Crafting - A
<b>21 WORLD ALZHEIMER'S DAY</b> 9AM Sunday Greetings 10AM TV Church Time -C <b>2PM Ice Cream Sodas - A</b> 3PM Residents Choice 7PM Movie Night -C 	<b>22 FALL EQUINOX</b> 9:30AM Dancing Leaves -RR <b>10AM Ladies Circle Group -A</b> 2PM Bingo - DR 3PM Puzzle Time -A 7PM Trivia Night -C 	<b>23 NATL FAMILY DAY</b> 9AM Early Bird Greetings 10AM Spa Day-A 1PM Church w/ Pastor John - C <b>2PM Old Brick Folks</b> 3PM Puzzle Time -A 7PM Crafting -A	<b>24</b> 9:30AM Dancing Leaves -RR <b>9:45AM Bible Study - A</b> <b>1:30PM Chair Yoga -C</b> <b>2PM Monthly Birthday Party-DR</b> 7PM Movie Night -C 	<b>25 NATL COOKING DAY</b> 10AM Book Club -A <b>10AM Men's Circle Group - C</b> 1:30PM Bingo -DR 3PM Spa Time - A <b>5:30PM Mountain State Street Machines</b> <b>Car Show - Rehab Parking</b> 7PM Outside Time -O	<b>26 NATL PANCAKE DAY</b> <b>7AM Pancakes Anyone - DR</b> 9:30AM Dancing Leaves -RR 10AM Residents Choice <b>2PM Old Brick Folks</b> 3PM Puzzle Time -A 7PM Corn Hole - C 	<b>27</b> 9AM Early Bird Greetings 10AM Spa Day -A 2PM Bingo - DR 3PM Residents Choice 7PM Crafting - A  <b>UTAH vs WVU</b>
<b>28 NATL HUNTING &amp; FISHING DAY</b> 9AM Sunday Greetings 10AM TV Church Time -C <b>2PM Popcorn Buggy - A</b> 3PM Residents Choice <b>7PM Mt. View Nazarene Singers -DR</b> 	<b>29 NATL COFFEE DAY</b> 9:30AM Dancing Leaves -RR <b>10AM Ladies Circle Group -A</b> 2PM Bingo - DR 3PM Puzzle Time -A 7PM Trivia Night -C 	<b>30 NATL CHEWING GUM DAY</b> 9AM Early Bird Greetings 10AM Spa Day-A 1PM Church w/ Pastor John - C <b>2PM Old Brick Folks</b> 3PM Puzzle Time -A 7PM Crafting -A 	 <b>Happy Labor Day</b>	 <b>REMEMBERING 9/11 VICTIMS</b>	<b>*Activities Subject to Change*</b> <b>** Mail Delivery M-Sat. **</b> <b>DR=DINING ROOM</b> <b>A=ACTIVITY ROOM</b> <b>O= OUTSIDE</b> <b>RR= Residents Room</b> <b>CR = CLASSROOM</b>	<b>OLD BRICK FOLKS TUESDAYS &amp; FRIDAYS 2PM-4PM</b> 