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Rothrock to retire from Harvest Foundation, search underway for successor

Allyson Rothrock, president of the Harvest Foundation, is retiring and a search is underway for its next leader. Partnering with the foundation's board of directors in the search is Korn Ferry, a global executive search and recruitment firm.

Rothrock will retire in mid-to-late 2020 following her tenure at Harvest, which began with the creation of the foundation. In 2002, she served on the board of directors at Memorial Hospital of Martinsville-Henry County when the decision was made to sell the nonprofit hospital to a for-profit hospital network unlocking the resources necessary to create The Harvest Foundation. She's served as president of the foundation since 2008.

"Allyson is an exceptional leader who has grown the foundation tremendously throughout her 17 years of service," said David Stone, chairman of the Harvest Foundation Board of Directors. "Under her leadership, the foundation has grown its investments and its staff, and it has supported a number of projects and programs that make our community a wonderful place to live, work and play. Allyson has ensured that the foundation is in the best possible place for future growth, and we wish her the very best in her upcoming retirement."

Those interested in the position can send a resume and cover letter to HarvestFoundationPresident@KornFerry.com. The job description and additional information will be available at www.

theharvestfoundation.org.

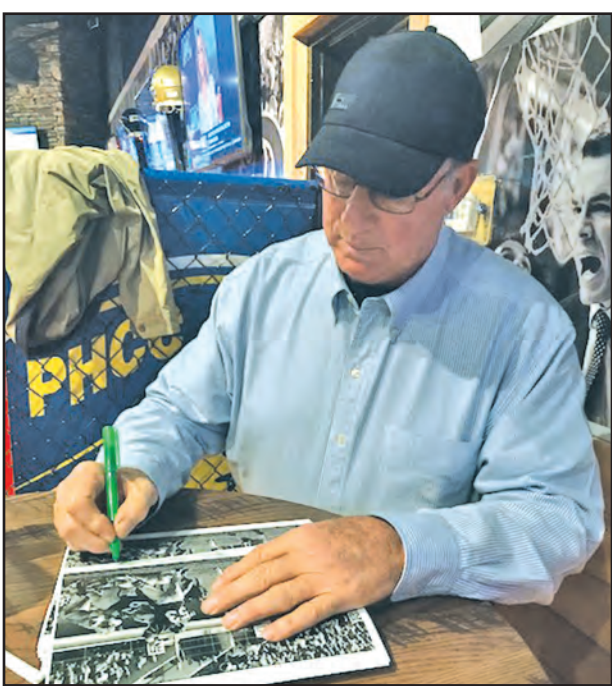
"We are excited to advance into the next chapter of grant-making at Harvest," said Stone. "Our work over the past 17 years has helped shape Martinsville-Henry County into the beautiful community it is today, and our work is far from finished. While change is never easy, we look forward to the next generation of leadership at the foundation."

Since its inception in 2002, The Harvest Foundation has supported Martinsville-Henry County through its grant-making to bolster its workforce, increase educational attainment, improve access to healthcare, and overall, create opportunities for residents to lead productive

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Allyson Rothrock



Jesse "Sonny" Wade autographs a photo for a fan at a meet-and-greet that was held Saturday at Coach's Neighborhood Grill in Martinsville.

CFL star holds meet-and-greet in hometown

Brandon Martin
Staff writer

Former Canadian Football League (CFL) quarterback and Martinsville native Jesse "Sonny" Wade signed autographs at a meet-and-greet event held at Coach's Neighborhood Grill on Saturday, Nov. 23.

Wade attended Martinsville High School between 1961 and 1965. During his time at the school, Wade set himself apart as a dynamic athlete capable of playing football, basketball and baseball. He was drafted

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PHCC to host memorial blood drive



Preparations are underway for the Dec. 7 Brenda's Butterflies Blood Drive.

Brandon Martin
Staff writer

Brenda Riggins "was a truly selfless person. Her first concern when told she had cancer was that she was no longer able to donate blood. I told her she may not be able to, but I could."

These are the words of Teddy Martin, nephew Riggins' nephew, recalling his aunt who died July 5, 2014. Following her passing, Martin knew that there was only one thing he could do to properly honor Riggins' memory.

"I donated (blood) in her memory and then I compared my one donation to her lifetime of giving and encouragement of others," he said. "She drove people to donate with her and [I] realized that holding a drive would be a good way to carry on her legacy."

Over her lifetime, Riggins do-

nated 16 gallons of blood, which equates to 128 separate donations.

To continue her legacy, Martin created the Brenda Riggins Memorial Drive. Over the course of five years, 50 gallons -- more than 400 donations -- have been donated in memory of "Granny" Brenda, as Martin affectionately calls her.

"While she was my aunt, she was known as 'Granny' Brenda, and listed me and my siblings as her grandchildren in her obituary," he recalled. "I remember her carrying me to my little league games, fall carnivals, and her overall caring nature. She will always be my Granny Brenda."

Drawing from a statement that Brenda made to her grandchildren before passing, Martin calls his team "Brenda's Butterflies. ... I will never forget her telling my younger siblings when she was going to pass away to not be

sad. Whenever they see a butterfly, know she's there," Martin explained.

Brenda's Butterflies attracts about 40 donors per blood drive. According to the Red Cross, these drives are the largest ongoing drives in the region that aren't sponsored by major institutions, like universities.

"Many people tell me how proud they think they she would be," Martin said of Riggins. "I think she would be in seeing all the donations, all the people who are helping and being helped. Knowing her selflessness, she would probably say this is too much 'fuss' over her, and her helping was because 'it was the right thing to do.'"

But, he added, "I think she would come around when it was

See **Blood Drive**, page 4



Bassett High School's Band of Distinction returned from the Bands of America Grand National Championships, held in Indiana at the Lucas Oil Stadium. The band placed fifth in the competition with its Minor Alterations routine.

BHS' Band of Distinction focused on journey while marching to victory

Brandon Martin
Staff writer

Bassett High School's Band of Distinction recently placed fifth in the Bands of America Grand National Championships, held in Indiana at the Lucas Oil Stadium.

"The band had an excellent performance," Band Director Trey Harris said. "I always love seeing the students perform on such a big stage. Walking in Lucas Oil Stadium from the warm-up rooms to the actual dome is so exciting to see their faces as they light up. Some from excitement, some maybe a little bit of being overwhelmed by the size of the room. More importantly, watching them

handle the moment on this big stage is the best part of the trip."

The band intrigued the judges at the nationals with the routine that won them a state championship.

"Our show is called 'Minor Alterations,'" Harris explained. "It is all based off our classical songs that are altered from major keys to minor keys or in the stylistic approach. The visual basis is all on sewing. Needles, spools, fabric, thread, make up our 'alterations' approach."

School officials added that the band includes a Guard, which participates as part

See **Band of Distinction**, page 5

Playground, trail projects to create lasting legacy



Jewel and Ed Marvin

Brandon Martin
Staff writer

A planned Dog Playground and a Family Trail will create a unique legacy to honor a local woman's life.

It also will bring joy and economic development to the region for years to come, the Dan River Basin Association (DRBA) said of the "special donation."

The projects were born from one family's determination to celebrate the life of a loved one.

Ed Marvin wanted to

celebrate his wife, Jewel Spencer Marvin's, life in a special way by helping to create meaningful projects that would bless both the community and honor her memory. Jewel Marvin grew up in Martinsville. She and her sister Lana, graduated from the former Spencer Penn School.

Lynn Leader and Ellen Parent, Ed Marvin's daughters, provided the funds needed to create a Dog Playground at the Smith River Sports Complex and a Family Trail at the Spencer Penn Centre.

Leader noted that "Dad loved dogs. He always had dog biscuits in his pockets. All the neighborhood dogs knew him, and were anxious to get his treats. The unique dog park seemed like a natural project to support."

Jewel Marvin also "liked dogs and all critters as well, having graduated from Spencer Penn School, the expansion of the trail to include so many opportunities also seemed like a great project to support," Leader said.

Jewel Marvin "would especially love the butterfly observation deck and bench," Leader said, adding that she appreciates Karen Jones, Jewel Marvin's niece, in working closely with the Dan River Basin Association to identify and scope out the

See **Legacy**, page 3



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SRS to combine passion for community, music in annual Christmas concert

Brandon Martin
Staff writer

The Smith River Singers (SRS) will combine the holidays and music at their Carols and Cheer! The Christmas Concert will be held at 7 p.m. on Dec. 9 in the Galilean House of Worship.

Formed in 2014 by conductor Dr. Pamela Randall, the group is made up of passionate, committed and non-auditioned singers from the Martinsville-Henry County area.

"Officially our mission is to enrich the cultural life of our community through the pursuit of artistic excellence in choral music performance," Randall explained. "Our purpose is to bring a diverse group of people from our community together to enjoy the art of choral singing and to then share that experience with our audience."

Randall said that anyone who can match pitch, regardless of their ability to read music, is welcome to join the full choir.

For some in the group, the importance of music is embodied in the community that came together to make it.

"We know through science that music and the arts are good for mind, body and soul," said Andrew Lyford, a tenor in the choir. "When we combine these

things with other people, making something work that's beautiful as one, there is nothing like it. It's like being part of a band but singing is even more special, using our voices as instruments."

Others in the choir use music as a way to connect with their past.

"Music has been the fondest of my memories," recalled Jeff Stegall, a bass in the group. "My mom introduced me to music at a very early age and encouraged both my music and supported music in the community. As I think about it, I cannot remember a time when she was not in our church choir along with performing solos or participating in a community choir of some description. I have always felt that she was teaching me to give back a part of what I was given."

While the members are quick to express how much they love being in the choir, Dr. Randall expressed how fortunate she feels getting to lead them.

"I am a career educator," she said. "My professional life is filled with teaching and learning with college students who will one day take over their own classrooms, and just like them, I am moved by the experience of bringing a diverse group of 'students,' in this case singers, together and sharing in the joy of making music."

It's clear that Randall's "students" have a special fondness for her as well.

"Our director, Dr. Pamela Randall, has a gift of bringing the best out of you," said Mary Ann McConnell, a soprano. "It is as though you have a free voice lesson every week as she works on the technique of singing as well as bringing out the passion which gets into the depths of our souls."

For her part, Randall sees the act of conducting as a unifying experience.

"Singing, in particular, is a very personal act; and yet, when we sing together, we create a unique bond that crosses race, ethnicity, age and gender," she expressed. "We lean on those who may have a bit more experience or knowledge but ultimately, the choir is an amalgamation of many different and unique voices."

Some in SRS view the experience as being part of a big team; "It certainly gives me the sense of being a part of something bigger than myself," Stegall said. "It's something I could not accomplish on my own and an understanding everyone has something to contribute."

Others view it in a more personal light; "Smith River Singers was birthed to make music in the community for the commu-

nity," McConnell said. "It too is special because of the wonderful people who are in it. It is a family."

And still for others, singing in the choir provides something a little bigger.

"Being part of anything like this in your community improves your life in many ways," Lyford said. "Yes, you make friends, contacts and network but more importantly you are part of a living entity that creates something beautiful using your body as an instrument! The connection you feel to the choir members and the audience in concerts is a feeling like no other. Studies have shown that heartbeats will start to sync when people sing together. I believe it."

Randall said the community has been vital to the group from its inception. She said that the First Baptist Church in Martinsville provided rehearsal and library space. The Galilean House of Worship provided a performance venue, and countless organizations—among them Piedmont Arts and the Harvest Foundation -- have supported the group financially and enabled them to grow their community.

Randall is inspired to keep going because she finds it a healing art.

"In our crazy busy society, adult singers come to choir for a wide variety of reasons. Some musical, some social, some for the chance to relive earlier school experiences," she explained. "We often bring problems of our daily life to the rehearsal: fear, grief, worry, stress. I, as the conductor, am driven to find music that is challenging enough to keep them engaged and meaningful enough to touch their hearts while providing them time and space to set aside their burdens. As a result, the music is magical, both for them and me. Creating this magic is the reason we sing."

The full SRS choir generally performs two or three concert per rehearsal year, which runs from August to May. A select group of auditioned members, called Still Water, performs between six and eight times each year.

Those that are moved by the community, involved with either the holidays or music, and others are encouraged to attend the Dec. 9 concert. The group will be accompanied by singers Jill Bowen Gardner and Jake Gardner. Admission is free but donations are accepted.

For those interested in joining the SRS, applications can be found on the group's website at www.smithriversingers.org/JoinUs.html.

Warming Center prepares for season seeks volunteers, donations

Brandon Martin
Staff writer

The Martinsville-Henry County Warming Center is updating its Wish List as it prepares to reopen for the season.

The center, which provides a warm and dry to shield the homeless from the extreme winter temperatures and inclement weather, began in 2013 through the partnership of the Salvation Army and several local churches, including The Community Fellowship.

Teams from the organization currently are traveling to various areas of the county to map out potential locations, as volunteers are sought to help address homelessness in Martinsville and Henry County. However, the organization has not yet announced when it will open or where.

That the center is needed is a certainty, according to organizers.

"Homelessness is a reality in Martinsville and Henry County," said Michael Harrison, lead pastor of The Community Fellowship. "It looks a little different than in Greensboro or Roanoke.

Most people stay off the beaten path, so it's hard to tell how many there actually are. (The Department of Housing and Urban Development) tells us you can count these people and add about 100 to it for an accurate number."

Any individual seeking emergency shelter during the winter months can use the Warming Center. Guests are primarily male, but females and families are welcome as well, organizers said at a Nov. 19 meeting.

On any given night of operation, the shelter serves between three to 15 guests. There is no limit on how many nights a guest can stay.

The center operates from 7 p.m. until 8 a.m. Overnight guests are accepted between 7 and 9 p.m. Dinner also is served during that time. The doors are locked at 9 p.m., and guests get settled for the night. According to Harrison, guests are still allowed in after this time but they must be brought in by law enforcement officers.

To maintain the shelter, organizers are asking for a little help from the

community.

"We always could use people to provide meals," said Cristen Anderson, lead for the project. "Possibly our biggest need is people willing to volunteer overnight."

In total, there are three main roles a volunteer can fill with the center. They can provide meals, assist with the intake of individuals or volunteer overnight. Overnight volunteers are responsible for closing the doors at the appropriate time, waking the guests up and feeding them breakfast, and notifying dispatch of the total number of guests for the night. In addition, this year the warming center is asking for donated vehicles that can be used to help with transportation.

While the location of the center has not been determined, transportation will be needed from the designated pick-up location -- in front of the Blue Ridge Regional Library -- to the shelter. Harrison said mechanics have volunteered to fix donated vehicles that may have maintenance issues.

The shelter is funded through donations from



the community. Financial donations are coveted, but items such as waterproof gloves and new undergarments also are needed, organizers said.

The Warming Center partners with local social service agencies, churches and organizations to spread the word to potential people in need. Flyers, road signs, social media and other communication methods also are used.

"Right now, we can't be open full time because

of certain fire protection standards that our buildings must meet," said Harrison. "Our goal is to one day have a 365-day open shelter."

The center's primary concern is to ensure optimal health and safety for all guests, staff and nearby neighbors. The center aims to do this on a foundation of respect, dignity, and welcome for all guests, despite individual experiences and challenges.

"There is a need for

hope in this community," said Harrison. "We need to tell people that they matter. Not only do we have a place for them to stay but also a face to talk to and let them know they are important."

Training and information is available for volunteers. Schedules will be posted either via social media or email. For additional questions or information, contact Anderson at (276) 358-1755 or via email at cristen.mom@gmail.com.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

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14				15					16				
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52	53	54			55				56		57	58	59
60					61				62		63		
64					65					66			
67					68						69		

- CLUES ACROSS**
- Vital part of a lock
 - Adherent of Zoroastrianism
 - European river
 - Nonprofit public health group
 - Make law
 - Three-banded armadillo
 - Monetary unit
 - Sandwich-like dishes
 - Sicilian city
 - Finger millet
 - Of she
 - Bullfighting maneuvers
 - Lawyers
 - A place to relax
 - Often said after "Hee"
 - Supervises flying
 - Cheer of approval
 - Something spiders twirl
 - Aggressive dog
 - Long-legged gazelle
 - Mogul emperor
 - Baltic peninsula
 - Fencing sword
 - A reward (archaic)
 - Pigeon sound
 - Type of groove
 - Inquire too closely
 - Nine Inch Nails' debut (abbr.)
 - An often unwelcome guest
 - Something you can draw
 - Songs to one's lover
 - Eastern Cairo mosque
 - A partner to cheese
 - Abortion unit
 - A type of sandwich
 - Herbaceous plant
 - Chinese temple classification
 - Native person of central Volga
 - Excessive fluid accumulation in tissues
 - Some take them up
 - South American nation
 - Threaten persistently
 - Morningwear
 - German courtesy title
 - Samoan capital
 - A type of carpet
 - Upper bract of grass
 - Al Bundy's wife
 - In a careless way
 - More uncommon
 - Expressing contempt
 - Belonging to a thing
 - Adventure stories
 - Copycats
 - Farewell
 - Greek mythological builder
 - Colorless, volatile liquid
 - Monetary unit of Burma
 - Bar bill
 - Body part
 - Mischievous child
 - Popular card game
 - Spiritual leader
 - Independent ruler
 - He wrote about the Gold Rush
 - Bundle of banknotes
 - Corporate honcho
 - Touch softly
 - Made by oneself
 - Satisfies
 - Subcompact Toyota crossover
 - Cool!
 - Popular vegetable
 - Flower cluster
 - Transylvanian city
 - Robert and Stephen are two
 - Philippine island
 - Canadian law enforcers
 - Wings
 - He played Perry Mason
 - Ballpoint pen
 - Metric foot
 - It has nostrils
 - Confederate soldier
 - Take in solid food

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and fulfilling lives.

Harvest was instrumental in the creation of a combined economic development office, the Martinsville-Henry County Economic Development Corp. (EDC), serving the entirety of Martinsville and Henry County. In the past five years with support from the EDC, 1,893 new jobs have been created with \$198 million in capital investment and \$53.8 million in added payroll. As of September, the unemployment rate in Martinsville-Henry County is 2.9 percent, the lowest it has been since 1998.

Funding for K-12 education has been a constant throughout the foundation's body of work. In recent years, Harvest has partnered with Patrick Henry Community College (PHCC) to create the SEED fund, a program offering two years of college at no cost to high school graduates and homeschooled equivalents from Martinsville-Henry County. With Harvest's support, PHCC also is increasing the workforce pipeline with a focus on nursing, welding, and Industry 4.0, comprising specialties in technology and engineering.

Creating the infrastructure in 2005 for the Martinsville-Henry County Coalition for Health and Wellness was one of the foundation's flagship projects. Now, with two federally-qualified health centers, and a host of supportive services and care, the Coalition serves more than 6,600 patients each year totaling nearly 18,000 visits.

In partnership with the County of Henry and The City of Martinsville, Harvest developed the Smith River Sports Complex in 2009 to serve as a multi-use outdoor recreation space with state-of-the-art turf fields, grass fields, outdoor playground areas and rentable meeting space. The foundation also invests in other community amenities including improvements to boat slips and camping

areas at Philpott Lake, the expansion of Martinsville-Henry County's trail network, and the expansion of the community's blue-way network.

In the immediate future, Harvest is working to improve access to childcare and housing in Martinsville and Henry County. Committee work comprising partnerships with the County of Henry, the City of Martinsville, the Martinsville-Henry County EDC, and many other local and regional partners, is underway. A housing summit with representatives from real estate, developers, lenders, and community officials was held in July, followed by a childcare planning session in October. Work is expected to continue throughout 2020 to result in viable projects and programs.

"I am passionate about Martinsville-Henry County and the work we do at the foundation with our partners," said Rothrock. "Transformation takes courage and it takes time -- it's not something that happens overnight or in a silo. I am grateful for everything we've been able to achieve. It's been the experience of a lifetime. I look forward to seeing what the foundation and our community will accomplish in the future."

The Harvest Foundation hopes to announce the new president by June 2020.

"Working with Korn Ferry throughout this process has been phenomenal," said Stone. "They realize the gravity of connecting us to the right leader who understands our community and the importance of building meaningful relationships that underscore everything we work to accomplish at Harvest. There is no single person or organization that can do it all, but working in true partnership, anything can be accomplished."

To find out more about Harvest, visit www.theharvestfoundation.org.

Toy Time returns to Martinsville Speedway

For anyone who has ever wanted to drive on the famed half-mile oval at Martinsville Speedway, now's your chance. You can also get an awesome view of the race track at the same time.

Martinsville Speedway will hold its annual new toy drive to benefit Martinsville-based Grace Network on Friday, Dec. 6, and anyone who donates a new toy or a cash contribution of \$20 can make a lap around the track.

This annual event is a popular one in the greater Martinsville area and offers residents of Henry County and surrounding counties in Virginia and North Carolina a chance to experience what it's like to drive on the same track as the NASCAR stars.

Area companies such as Appalachian Power (AEP) and Bassett Furniture along with Patrick Henry Community College also participate in the annual Toy Drive at Martinsville Speedway.

"The annual toy drive is something our entire staff looks forward to every year," said track

President Clay Campbell. "We can't think of a better way for fans to experience Martinsville Speedway than to drive on the track and at the same time help bring a smile to a child's face around the Christmas season."

"We appreciate Appalachian Electric Power, Bassett Furniture and Patrick Henry Community College once again joining us as we give back to our communities that support us throughout the year," he added.

New this year, fans who make a donation can also visit Club 47, where they can see Santa in the President's Suite from 5:30 until 8 p.m., and enjoy refreshments courtesy of the speedway.

The donated toys will be distributed to area children through the Grace Network of Martinsville and Henry County. The organization is a faith-based center that offers resources for families in need and is supported by Martinsville Speedway and congregations, individuals, civic groups, corporations, and foundations throughout the area.



"To be able to use Martinsville Speedway in a way that helps residents in our community is something that has always meant a lot to my entire family," added Campbell. "This event is one of the most impor-

tant things we do every year and we hope to have a great turnout this year.

"Grace Network does a lot of great work throughout the year to help families in need and we're honored we can help

make the holiday season a little brighter for children in our county."

Toys and donations will be accepted from 5 until 8 p.m. at Martinsville Speedway on Friday night, Dec. 6.

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projects.

Jones also will work closely with DRBA to implement plans for the projects over the next six months, the release stated.

"I am delighted that this meaningful project will remember these special ladies. Spencer Penn School was very dear to their hearts. Both graduated there as class valedictorians, went to college and both went on to work for the FBI in Richmond," said Jones. "I believe that these combined projects will promote health and wellness and move people to get out and enjoy our beautiful natural world. I will enjoy aiding DRBA and Spencer Penn Center in seeing this through for the long-term benefit of our community."

Ed Marvin, she said, "really liked the Paw Path project I did along the river with DRBA in memory of my sister who passed away from breast cancer. This Dog Playground will be near the Paw Path and seemed like a logical way to continue to honor my sister who was a real animal lover and avid kayaker."

The Dog Playground will be a special place for pets and pet parents to enjoy nature in a safe and healthy way. Unlike most dog parks, this Playground will have a fully-fenced nature trail to allow for freedom in nature.

"I believe the Dog Playground will be the first of its kind in Virginia, said Lloyd Barber, executive director of the Smith River Sports Complex. "Most dog parks are simply fenced-in yards. This playground will be kept natural - with as many trees as possible. There will be lots of things to sniff and discover, and plenty of room to romp and play off-leash. It is a perfect complement to the Paw Path, which is used daily by many pet owners. We are so excited to be working with DRBA to bring this unique asset to our community and are confident it will draw visitors from all over Virginia and North Carolina."

The Spencer Penn Family Trail will include four components - a meditation garden, a family area, an interactive environmental education station and a butterfly observation deck. The trail will be easily accessible by people of all ages and abilities. It will be a unique addition to the services that the Spencer Penn Centre already offers.

"We are so excited to be able to bring this special recreational trail to the Spencer community," said Susan Sabin, executive director of the Spencer Penn Centre. "We don't have many outdoor recreational opportunities for the people who live on

this side of Henry County, and I know it will be used frequently by families who live here and visit the area. We're looking forward to working with DRBA to bring this special outdoor experience to our Centre and community."

DRBA staff will partner with Henry County, the Martinsville-Henry County SPCA, the Spencer Penn Centre and the Smith River Sports Complex, in addition to working with volunteers and community members to ensure these projects fulfill Ed Marvin's wishes.

"DRBA is honored to be chosen to implement these projects that will memorialize and honor Jewel Spencer," said Brian Williams, DRBA's Virginia Program Manager. "The plans are designed to ensure these projects are going to be sustainable, enjoyable for a wide variety of users, and educational for our community and visitors alike. These projects will have minimal environmental impact, provide additional recreational opportunities and honor the families."

Both projects are expected to be completed by the spring of 2020, according to Williams. He noted that DRBA has been developing outdoor recreational asset projects for more than 17 years in communities throughout the Dan River Basin -- which covers 3,300 square miles in Virginia and North Carolina.

"DRBA has worked closely with partners throughout our watershed to ensure our region has access to outdoor recreation for almost a decade," said Tiffany Haworth, DRBA's Executive Director. "We are especially excited to fulfill the wishes of Ed Marvin because his vision will not only provide unique outdoor experiences for the people who live, work and play in our region, they will also be a forever legacy for Jewel. DRBA is honored to manage both of these projects."

The mission of the Dan River Basin Association is to promote and protect the natural and cultural resources of the Dan River basin through education, recreation, and stewardship. DRBA works to fulfill that mission by building river accesses and trails, educating people of all ages about protecting our natural resources, and protecting our water resources through water quality monitoring efforts. The Dan River basin is 3,300 square miles including sixteen counties throughout Virginia and North Carolina. To learn more about DRBA and how you can protect our natural and cultural resources, visit www.danriver.org.

25 Days of Christmas Campaign, local shopping initiative underway

VisitMartinsville is hosting a holiday shopping initiative to promote the numerous craftsman and shops in Martinsville - Henry County, as well as some of the unique products and experiences available locally.

The advent calendar - style campaign was launched on the VisitMartinsville Facebook page on Nov. 26. Each of the next 25 days, the VisitMartinsville team will reveal one local shop and a unique gift that can be purchased from that location. VisitMartinsville will also be hold giveaways from some of the stores being showcased throughout the campaign. Winners may choose to keep the prize or give it as a wonderful gift this holiday season.

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by the Pittsburg Pirates and he was named to the all-state football team as both a quarterback and a punter.

Now living in Axton, Wade reminisced about his time playing football in Canada.

"I loved my time playing in Montreal," he said. "I've got plenty of friends up there that I still maintain contact with. I guess there is a part of me that likes to stay involved. Football was such a big part of my life and I like to tune in every now and then to reconnect."

Following his tenure in Martinsville, Wade played football during his freshman year at Virginia Tech.

"I was actually one of nine freshman quarterbacks that year," he said. "One of the quarterbacks that I played with at the time was Frank Beamer, who you know went on to coach at Virginia Tech later."

"We want to increase the awareness of the unique products and experiences available here in Martinsville - Henry County," said Beth Stinnett, assistant director of Tourism for Martinsville - Henry County. "This year we are challenging folks from near and far to get out and explore our community - make memories, try new experiences and take home that perfect gift for that hard-to-shop-for person on your list."

According to Forbes Magazine, 74% of Americans prioritize experiences over products - which is why this campaign will feature experiences as well as traditional gift offerings.

To learn more about local shopping opportunities, go to www.VisitMartinsville.com/shop.

Martinsville.com/shop.

The mission of the Martinsville-Henry County Economic Development Corporation is to create new job opportunities and expand the tax base for the area. The organization strives to support and develop local industry, as well as market Martinsville-Henry County globally as an exceptional place to live, work and play. The EDC is a public-private partnership between the City of Martinsville, Henry County, the Martinsville-Henry County Chamber of Commerce, the Martinsville-Henry County Chamber's Partnership for Economic Growth (C-PEG) and the Harvest Foundation of the Piedmont.

Following a disagreement about how the team should run the offense, Wade decided to transfer and he ended up playing for Emory and Henry College from 1966-1968.

While there, Wade led the nation in scoring with 141 points in the 1967 season. His team went on to lead the nation in yards a game for the 1968 season, racking up 553.3 yards a game. Wade was selected for two all-American teams and was awarded the Virginia State Player of the Year for each year that he was with the school.

Due to his play on the field, Wade was later selected in the tenth round with the 236th pick by the Philadelphia Eagles. He was also chosen by the Montreal Alouettes from the CFL.

"At the time, the entire Eagles front office was fired so I didn't know how much longer I would be a

part of their plans," Wade explained. "Luckily, the coach from the Alouettes came down to visit me at Emory and Henry. With everything going on with the Eagles, I decided to sign and go up there and play instead."

Wade played 10 seasons with the Alouettes, amassing 15,014 yards and 89 touchdown passes with a completion rating of 51.9 percent. He even set a record for punting with 852 punts.

He won three Grey Cup MVP awards putting him in a tie with former Buffalo Bills quarterback Doug Flutie. Because of all his accomplishments, Wade was inducted into the Virginia Sports Hall of Fame in 1994.

"Being inducted was an incredible honor," he said. "More than anything, I think it showed that a boy from Southside Virginia can go on to accomplish great things. It really is about putting in

the effort and not letting the minor road blocks in life slow you down."

Looking at where he is in life now, Wade remembers his high school years fondly and encourages others to not let that time slip away from them.

"High school football is a bit special," he said. "It shows kids in the community what it's like to play a team sport and it shows them how to work together to achieve a common goal. That translates to life later on down the road. Even if you don't play football anymore, you're most likely part of a team or organization still. Some of those lessons from way back when come in handy down the road."

Wade officially retired in 2000. He is married with three sons. Now that his time playing on the gridiron is over, Wade now enjoys farming in his spare time, as well as hunting and fishing.

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OPINION

The Legend of the Haunted Chair

For years, there has been an old white plastic lawn chair sitting in my car port, silently collecting a veritable Whitman's Sampler of different strains of mildew.

When I'm sitting on my back porch, which I do as frequently as possible, I can easily see this chair. And one night, while I was sitting on the porch with my friends Bradley, Laura and William, I noticed something odd.

"Hey," I said, "when ya'll were up here last week, wasn't that chair in a different spot?"

My friends peered into the car port. It was possible, they agreed; the week before, it had seemed like the chair was at least two or three feet farther to the left.

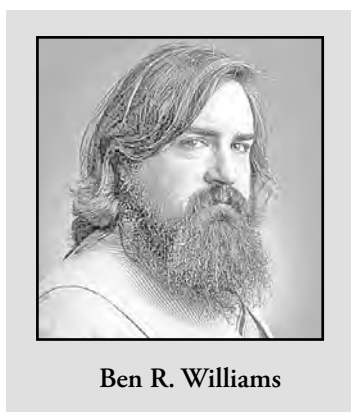
The following week, we were again sitting on the back porch when we noticed the chair had moved a second time. This time, it had moved closer to its original position.

I tried to convince myself

that the chair's movements were caused by the wind, but it seemed unlikely. Some kind of chair poltergeist seemed like the most logical possibility.

I eventually discovered that the chair was actually being moved by a neighbor and family friend who helps out around my grandmother's property; he likes to sit in the chair and watch the deer roam about. By the time I learned this perfectly rational explanation, however, it was too late: The Legend of the Haunted Chair had been born.

It began with small pranks between me and my friends. One person would wait until everyone was inside the house and then go outside and move the chair a few feet. Eventually, these pranks escalated. I would go inside to get a fresh beverage, only to return to the porch and find that my friends had replaced my folding chair with The Haunted Chair. Eventually, the chair started appearing



Ben R. Williams

inside the house.

When I found that Bradley had put the chair on top of my car, I decided it was time to escalate the prank war.

One afternoon before Bradley, Laura and William came over, I tied a rope around the chair. I then threw the chair on the tin roof covering my back porch. I delicately fed the rope around the house, making sure it was concealed by the gutters, and then tied the end of the rope to a ground-mounted sat-

ellite dish that has not worked since the late 1990s.

Once night fell, the rope was all but invisible, even if you knew exactly where to look.

I clued Laura and William in on my prank so they could covertly shoot video with their phones. And then I waited.

I knew I couldn't launch the prank as soon as we got onto the porch; it would be too obvious. No, I had to wait a few hours, lull Bradley into a false sense of security. A little before midnight, I knew the time was right.

"Ya'll excuse me a moment," I said, and stepped around the back of the house, presumably to irrigate the begonias. William and Laura, however, knew this was the high sign.

As I walked away, Bradley began singing a goofy nonsensical song, as is his custom. I took hold of the rope and waited.

At the moment Bradley concluded his song, I gave the rope

a sharp tug. There was a horrible noise as the lawn chair scraped across the tin roof, then it tumbled to the ground, one leg snapping off and flying into a bush.

William managed to shoot an excellent video of this prank, and I could easily transcribe the words that left Bradley's mouth as the chair noisily scraped across the roof and crashed into the ground. Unfortunately, those words could have stripped paint and are definitely unprintable in a family newspaper. I can tell you that his reaction was even better than I'd hoped for, however.

William dutifully repaired the chair the following morning with some Gorilla Glue, and I am currently plotting my next Haunted Chair-related prank. I'm hesitant to reveal too much, but I will say that I'm doing some research into how much lift can be generated by a Class G model rocket engine.

Blood Drive from page 1

pointed out how many have said they are inspired to give because of her."

The first several of memorial drives included 50 percent or more of first-time donors. Martin said that many of those are now regular donors, and the drives feel like a family reunion that happens every six months.

"Community response has been amazing," he said. "Our community is very generous, particularly when the person they are giving in honor of was so selfless."

David Gilleran, pastor at Hope Presbyterian Church in Martinsville, served as the location of the first drive and has been a regular donor. The drive has been moved a few times to larger locations to accommodate the number of donors. Martin said that Patrick Henry Community College (PHCC) has been a great host in the past.

"I am profoundly thankful for everyone who has helped make these drives so successful," he said. "It is truly a team effort, and every contribution (recruiting, volunteering, donating) is significant. Every donation could potentially save up to three lives."

All of the drives are

Christmas-themed, with those held in the summer bearing a "Christmas in July" theme. Christmas decorations are hung, along with Red Cross memorabilia, and Riggins' favorite music is played, along with a memory reel of scenes from her life, Martin said.

He explained that before her death, Riggins wish list included celebrating Christmas one more time, because she knew she wouldn't be able to celebrate it before she died.

"To the end, she said she was 'happy, happy, happy,' and consoled us to not be sad," Martin said.

Currently, 34 donors are signed up for the next Brenda's Butterflies Blood Drive, Martin said of the Dec. 7 event that will be held in the Frith Building at PHCC. The drive lasts from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m.

Martin has a personal goal of 50 donors and encourages all to come out and donate. Walk-ins are welcome, but appointments have priority.

For more information, the team can be contacted at <http://www.brendasbutterflies.org/contact.html>



Mountain Valley Brewing to celebrate inaugural "Small Brewery Sunday"

The Brewers Association has declared the Sunday after Thanksgiving as Small Brewery Sunday, a new holiday to celebrate small and independent U.S. craft breweries, and on Dec. 1, beer lovers are encouraged to show their support for local and independent breweries by seeking the independent craft brewer seal, a certified mark that identifies beer brewed by independent craft brewers.

Mountain Valley Brewing will ring in the celebration that day from 2 to 6 p.m. at their tasting room, located at 4220 Mountain Valley Road, Axton.

A portion of proceeds from the day's sales are earmarked for the Fieldale Ducks Youth Football program, to help them attend the Hall of Fame World Youth Championship in Ohio. The donation is part of Mountain Valley's celebration of its impact on the local community.

"When we heard the great news about the Fieldale Duck's success we wanted to try and help them. The championship game is a big deal for these kids and as a mem-

ber of the business community we thought a fundraiser would be a great way to promote Small Brewery Sunday," said Peggy Donivan, owner.

Beth Stinnett, assistant director of Tourism for Martinsville and Henry County said, "We encourage you to wrap up your holiday weekend at Mountain Valley Brewing on December 1st by enjoying a flight of their delicious craft beer and food from D's Hot Ice food truck, all while supporting a wonderful cause. Small Brewery Sunday is a great opportunity to get to know Henry County's award-winning brewery and to unwind."

According to the 2018 Economic Impact Report released by the Brewers Association, the craft brewing industry contributed \$79.1 billion to the U.S. economy and provided 559,545 total jobs. In addition to providing jobs and a space for community building, craft brewers also support thousands of nonprofits and charitable organizations. According to the Brewers Association, craft brewers

gave an estimated \$92.6 million to charitable organizations in 2018.

"Every dollar a beer lover spends at a craft brewery, and buying their craft beer at stores and restaurants, fuels a small business and supports the economic health of its local community," said Julia Herz, craft beer program director, Brewers Association. "Small Brewery Sunday gives us beer lovers a formal reminder that when we buy a growler, crowler, six-pack or pint, we are supporting small brewery businesses and helping them keep their doors open, lights on and fermentation tanks full."

Beer lovers can encourage others to join them in visiting Mountain Valley Brewing by downloading and sharing Small Brewery Sunday social media assets. Follow and share your Small Brewery Sunday experience using the hashtags #SmallBrewerySunday and #SeekTheSeal and tagging @MountainValleyBrewing.

To learn more about Small Brewery Sunday, visit SmallBrewerySunday.com.

Uptown Martinsville promotes shop local campaign

Brandon Martin
Staff writer

The Martinsville-Henry County Chamber of Commerce will kick-off Small Business Saturday today, Nov. 30, in Uptown Martinsville.

Small Business Saturday is designed to encourage shopping at local businesses as opposed to larger or online retailers.

"Small businesses face many struggles when it comes to business," said Kimberly Keller, the Uptown Entrepreneurial Development Manager. "There's the convenience of the internet and online shopping."

Unlike past years, this Small Business Saturday involves a scavenger hunt. Shoppers may take advantage of the event titled the 12 Days of Small Business Saturday.

Twenty boxes are hidden



around the city with 25 Uptown Bonus Bucks inside which translates to \$25 that could be used at any of the 18 participating local businesses.

Participating businesses are A Junkin' Gypsy, LLC, Angel Wigs Beauty Supply & Consignment, As Is Outlet, Books & Crannies, Chain of Fools Bicycle Repair, Chris' Custom Fram-

ing, Hugo's Restaurant & Sports Bar, J. Jones Ltd, Kafenio Mediterranean Cuisine, Larry & Allen Furniture Inc., Main Street Scrubs, Martin Plaza Furniture Outlet, Pieces Boutique, Rania's Restaurant Bar & Grill, Simply the Best Flowers & Gifts, Shindig an Uptown Bistro & Catering, Sparkle Me Pretty, Studio 107, Uptown

Pinball, and Wigs Unlimited.

Keller said that clues for the scavenger hunt were posted on the Martinsville Uptown Facebook page.

There are 12 days to find as many blue-ribbon boxes as possible, for a total of \$500 in free money placed around the city to encourage shoppers to support and shop local.

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County considered economic development strategy

Brandon Martin
Staff writer

The Henry County Board of Supervisors discussed a number of issues at their Nov. 26 meeting, including the county's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS).

Topping Henry County's list of projects this year is the Commonwealth Crossing Building Centre. Additional expansion is planned for the regional industrial park including economic measures, grading, utility installation and various other upgrades equating to a price tag of approximately \$26 million.

Next on the list is renovation on the Lower Smith River Treatment Facility to provide service to industries, businesses and residents equating \$24 million.

The county also looks to make grading and infrastructure improvements to the Patriot Centre at Beaver Creek and to the Bryant Property totaling \$13 million in upgrades.

Plans for the development of a speculative hangar for aviation-related business at the Blue Ridge Regional Airport would cost around \$1.2 million.

An extension of water service along Route 58 West corridor to Mayo

River and adjacent residential areas including to the Blue Ridge Airport would cost \$7.9 million.

The county also wants to start a community development project to develop trails, recreational activities, cultural opportunities and curb appeal along the Smith River corridor in Bassett and Fieldale, at an estimated \$3 million cost.

Housing rehabilitation, costing \$1.5 million, is planned, but the exact location hasn't been determined yet.

Finally, the design, grading and construction of a multiple-field outdoor recreational facility, estimated to cost around \$10 million, also is one the list.

Upgrades to the Patriot Centre and development at the Blue Ridge Airport will be partially funded by the EDA.

Updating the list "is a requirement from the economic development administration in order to receive federal funds for projects," said Assistant County Administrator Dale Wagner said. "Most of the time we compile the CEDS as a wish list for economic development.

"We used to just list everything imaginable that we may want to do for upcoming years, but this year they only want us to submit what we think can be completed over the next



The Henry County Board of Supervisors considered an update to their economic development strategy at a meeting Tuesday.

five years," he added.

When approved by the Henry County Board of Supervisors, Wagner said the list of projects will be forwarded to the West Piedmont Regional Economic Development District. The district, which serves Henry, Patrick, Franklin and Pittsylvania counties, the cities of Martinsville and Danville and the town of Rocky Mount. Each compiles an updated CEDS list.

CEDS contributes to effective economic development in America's communities and regions through a locally-based,

regionally-driven economic development planning process. It also provides a vehicle for individuals, organizations, local governments, institutes of learning, and private industry to engage in a meaningful conversation and debate about what capacity building efforts would best serve economic development in the region.

Regions must update their CEDS at least every five years to qualify for EDA assistance under its Public Works and Economic Adjustment programs. In addition, a CEDS is a pre-

requisite for designation by EDA as an Economic Development District (EDD).

The document must contain a list of prioritized projects and the WPPDC annually requests that each locality submit its proposed future projects. It is essential that all projects the Board will consider within the next year be included in the CEDS because only projects on the list are eligible for EDA funding.

It is recommended that projects that can be funded from other sources be included in order to

give the county maximum flexibility in the management of its resources.

When completed, the plan is forwarded to the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA) to maintain participating localities' eligibility to receive EDA funding.

The CEDS provides the capacity-building foundation by which the public sector, working in conjunction with other economic actors (individuals, firms, industries), creates the environment for regional economic prosperity.

Angler's Choice Marine Recognized as Triton Boats Dealer of the Year



(Left to right): Triton Regional Sales Manager, Jerry Johnson and Triton Vice President, Sales and Marketing, Matt Jackson, present Triton Dealer of the Year award to Sandi and Nick Loganadan.

For the second consecutive year, Triton Boats has named Angler's Choice Marine as the Triton Dealer of the Year for 2019. This prestigious award, based on sales volume, recognized Angler's Choice as the top fiberglass and overall retail dealer for Triton.

Angler's Choice Marine has three locations across Virginia and North Carolina.

"The team at Angler's Choice clearly does an outstanding job representing Triton Boats as evidenced by the fact they have won the Triton Dealer of the Year award

for two straight years," said Matt Jackson, Vice President, Sales & Marketing for Triton Boats. "Their focus on creating customers for life shows in how they do business every day. From the competitive angler to families just entering boating, they work hard

to make everyone feel like part of the family."

With more than 20 years in the boating business, Angler's Choice strives to offer customers unparalleled service and the best prices on the latest in all types of boats, including White River Marine brands Tri-

ton, Ranger, Tracker, Sun Tracker, Nitro, Mako, Tahoe and Mercury. Angler's Choice locations feature professional sales members, finance experts, service technicians and a knowledgeable parts and accessories staff. To learn more, visit www.anglerchoicemarine.com.

Triton Boats feature wood-free fishing boats designed for freshwater and saltwater use. Triton is part of the White River Marine Group family of boat brands. White River Marine Group, founded in 1978 by Bass Pro Shops founder and noted conservationist John Morris, is the world's largest builder of fishing and recreational boats by volume. White River Marine Group manufactures and distributes nine top-quality brands — TRACKER® Boats, RANGER® Boats, SUN TRACKER® Boats, NITRO® Boats, TRITON® Boats, MAKO® Boats, REGENCY® Boats, STRATOS® Boats and TAHOE® Boats.

Bass Pro Shops is North America's premier outdoor and conservation company. Founded in 1972 when avid young angler Johnny Morris began selling tackle out of his father's liquor store in Springfield, Missouri, today the company pro-

vides customers with unmatched offerings spanning premier destination retail, outdoor equipment manufacturing, world-class resort destinations and more. In 2017 Bass Pro Shops acquired Cabela's to create a "best-of-the-best" experience with superior products, dynamic locations and outstanding customer service. Bass Pro Shops also operates White River Marine Group, offering an unsurpassed collection of industry-leading boat brands, and Big Cedar Lodge, America's Premier Wilderness Resort. Under the visionary conservation leadership of Johnny Morris, Bass Pro Shops is a national leader in protecting habitat and introducing families to the outdoors and has been named by Forbes as "one of America's Best Employers."

CROSSWORD ANSWERS

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Band of Distinction

from page 1

of the competition band. As such, they win and lose together as a unit, and awards are presented for the band as a whole.

Following their return home, he explained that the band's goals couldn't be boiled down to just one competition.

"We teach each year that this experience is about the journey, not the destination," he said. "This season was not centered around one performance. It is centered around learning how to be a family, to learn what dedication and commitment really means to a group, to learn how to communicate with peers and adults in the 'real world,' and to learn how to push yourself past the limits you think are impossible. The trip just happened to be their last show."

The band also won their ninth consecutive state championship earlier this month, continuing their almost decade of dominance at the Virginia Marching Band Cooperative state championships in Lynchburg. The band took home awards at the state level for best music, best visual, best general effects and best percussion.

For Harris, the band's performance in the competitions are vindication for

all the hard work his team put in this year.

The national competition "is something that the kids work for all year, and we want to do our best each time we attend nationals," explained Harris. "It isn't just something that we do in the fall. We spend all year preparing to play, spin, march, and drum better. It is just like having off season work-outs for a sports team. We began this journey in June at band camp and have spent numerous hours each week preparing and perfecting our show for this moment."

Harris and his team of mostly 9th-12th graders have been working to be better each day since band camp started in June, Harris said, adding that the band also includes 7th and 8th grade students.

"Winning is always great and is what pushes young people to do their best," Harris said. "However, it is not the only thing for us. It is about being the best you can be every day. Again, we cannot control the score at these competitions. We can only ask the question, 'Are we better today than we were yesterday?'"

He added that the band's success would not be as probable without com-

munity support.

"The community has always been so supportive of our band program," he said. "We appreciate the love and support and can only hope that we make our community proud of our kids and school."

Noting that additional help is always welcome, Harris said there are many ways to get involved and support the band.

"One of the things that would help both Bassett and Magna Vista band programs are for people to find those old instruments still sitting in the closet and donate them back to the band programs for students who are in need of an instrument," he said. "We are always looking for good instruments to help our students."

Throughout their journey, Harris inspired the band to turn their weaknesses into their strengths.

"We pride ourselves on outworking the other bands," Harris said. "Again, we don't always have a ton of resources so we must rely on hard work and dedication. We live by 'hard work will beat talent when talent won't (beat) work hard.'"



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DECK THE HALLS: From December 15-21 when you and a friend join the Y on the same day you both receive **NO JOINING FEE** and **NO FIRST MONTH PAYMENT**. That means you'll pay nothing until February 1, 2020.

*Restrictions Apply. See Front Desk For More Information

SCC's Bureau of Insurance urges Virginians to research options for flood insurance

Although the Atlantic Hurricane season ends November 30, the State Corporation Commission's (SCC) Bureau of Insurance reminds Virginians that it doesn't take a hurricane to cause flooding. Heavy rains, saturated soil, melting snow and ice, broken dams and a lack of vegetation due to wildfires or other causes are just a few factors that can contribute to flooding.

A recent survey commissioned by the National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC) found that about half of Americans don't know that homeowners insurance does not cover damage or loss caused by a flood event. The survey, conducted online by The Harris Poll among more than 2,000 U.S. adults

age 18 and older, found that 31 percent of Americans incorrectly think damage or loss caused by a flood event is covered by homeowners insurance and 21 percent are not sure if the damage or loss is covered.

The Bureau of Insurance cautions Virginians that floods can happen anywhere and anytime. "It only takes a few inches of water to cause major damage to your home and its contents," said Virginia Insurance Commissioner Scott A. White. He encourages Virginians to assess their flood risk and protect themselves financially before the waters start to rise. "Flood insurance is one of the best ways you can help yourself recover financially from a flood, but you have to plan ahead," he said.

If you live in a floodplain near a river, or if you live near the coast, it is important to consider purchasing separate flood insurance for your home. Keep in mind that even low-risk communities can experience flooding.

Although homeowners insurance policies issued in Virginia typically do not provide coverage for damage to your home and belongings due to floods, the federal government does sell insurance for direct flood and flood-related damage through the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). This federally-backed flood insurance is available to homeowners, renters and business owners and offers separate coverage for structures and contents. There is gener-

ally a 30-day waiting period before a new flood insurance policy takes effect.

For more information about flood insurance, contact your insurance agent or the NFIP at 1-800-427-4661 or visit www.floodsmart.gov. Since some private insurers also offer their own flood policies, you can check with your insurance agent about the availability of a private flood insurance policy. In either case, ask whether your flood policy provides coverage for your personal property.

Unlike homeowners insurance, auto insurance generally covers damage caused by flooding. However, the policyholder must have other-than-collision (also known as comprehensive) coverage on their

vehicle. This coverage pays for damage to a vehicle from such things as fire, water, hail, vandalism, glass breakage, wind and falling objects.

Among the many publications offered by the SCC's Bureau of Insurance are consumer guides regarding homeowners and auto insurance and disaster-related property insurance claims. For copies of the guides or answers to your insurance questions, contact the Bureau of Insurance Property and Casualty Consumer Services Section by calling 804-371-9185 in Richmond or toll-free at 1-877-310-6560. Copies of the consumer insurance guides are also available on the Bureau's website at <https://www.scc.virginia.gov/boi/index.aspx>.

Get ahead by preparing your home for winter weather

If you haven't started already, now is the time to prepare your home for freezing temperatures and inclement weather.

"Preparing your home for winter weather is vital to protecting it from damage associated with snow and colder temperatures," said Scott DeNoon, farm product and underwriting manager for Virginia Farm Bureau Mutual Insurance Co. "A little work now can save a lot of time, energy and frustration in the long run. There's nothing worse than having to deal with a broken furnace or a burst pipe in the middle of winter."

Helpful tips and a last-minute checklist for protecting homes and businesses during severe winter weather are made available by the Insurance Institute for Business & Home Safety at disastersafety.org/winter-weather.

At the top of the checklist is the importance of preparedness. Keep an eye on advance weather alerts, and plan accordingly. Having an alternate heating source such as a generator is recommended in case of a power outage, as is having an emergency kit prepared with water, nonperishable food items and other useful supplies.

To maintain a warm interior, it is impor-

tant to weatherstrip or caulk all windows, doors and exterior walls with any cracks or holes.

Add insulation to accessible attic space, and move any combustible materials away from heating sources.

Attending to your home's roof is critical, as added weight from snow and ice can cause structural damage. Add support to your roof to accommodate for added weight, and clear gutters, drains and downspouts to allow for proper drainage.

In the instance of ice dams—ice that forms a ridge on the edges of a roof and prevents snow and ice from draining off the roof—extra insulation may be required in ceiling areas to avoid damage from trapped water.

Any accumulated snow should be removed from your roof using a snow rake and an extension arm.

To avoid frozen or bursting pipes, insulate any pipe adjacent to an exterior wall. Allow for ventilation of the pipes by leaving cabinet doors open or using a fan. Allowing faucets to drip can help prevent water from freezing inside pipes.



How Virginians are going solar, powered by national program

Owen FitzGerald
Capital News Service

Joy Loving bought a Prius in 2012. The purchase was the first of two investments she said she made in a personal effort to save money and reduce her carbon footprint. The second: go solar.

After converting her home to solar energy, Loving began leading solar cooperatives with members of her Harrisonburg community who also were interested in going solar. As rooftop solar systems began popping up across the city, people began to notice.

"I think that's because it's a small city," Loving said. "Solar panels that are put on roofs are visible in a way, whereas my own solar panels, living out in the county as I do, are viewed only by the cattle and sheep who live in the fields nearby."

Co-ops such as Solarize Harrisonburg, which Loving founded, were helped off the ground largely by Solar United Neighbors, a national organization dedicated to representing the needs and interests of solar owners and supporters. SUN carries out its mission in two channels: helping homeowners and businesses convert to rooftop solar, and encouraging individuals to fight for their energy rights.

"Our work is dedicated to directing the control of benefits of our energy system back to local communities with distributed 'rooftop' solar as the cornerstone," Aaron Sutch, SUN's program director in Virginia, wrote in an email. "We're creating jobs and building clean, resilient energy into our communities while giving consumers energy choice and freedom."

The organization brings individuals and businesses together to create solar co-ops in communities across the nation. Once the co-ops are large enough, SUN pairs the groups with local solar installers. Members of the co-op review different bids and pick an installer they think would work best for their specific needs. The chosen installer then helps individuals within the group create a personalized plan to go solar.

As of November, SUN said it has helped more than 840 Virginia families convert to rooftop solar.

Another key facet of SUN's mission is encouraging solar homeowners to advocate for their energy rights. An example of this would be the push to lift Virginia's cap on net metering. Net metering is a policy that compensates solar homeowners who might produce more electricity monthly than they consume from the public utility grid.

Excess solar energy is fed to the public grid under net metering, and owners can use that surplus to offset their monthly energy bills.

The General Assembly passed a bill in March raising Virginia's net metering cap for not-for-profit solar owners from 1% to 2%. The bill also saw the collective cap for all members of a co-op raised to 7%. This legislation was praised by organizations like SUN.

This bill also enables investor-owned utilities to develop solar projects by allowing Virginians to participate in a voluntary subscription program. While this could allow more solar to be built in Virginia, it falls short of utility-scale solar that would benefit

communities.

Sutch said residents should be allowed to participate in community solar projects.

"Community solar enables individuals and businesses to get bill credit from a nearby shared solar project," he said. "This will allow renters as well as low and moderate-income Virginians to benefit from solar energy even if they are unable to install a system on their own rooftop."

However, the issue in Virginia, as Sutch pointed out, is that Virginia's energy system defers to the monopoly created by Dominion Energy. There are currently contracts in place that prevent churches, schools and other municipal buildings from generating their own power outside of energy provided by Dominion, except on rare occasions such as weather emergencies.

"What we see is our energy progress running up against a very powerful special interest that works against the interests of many of the Virginia customers," Sutch said.

SUN got its start in D.C. in 2009, stemming from the Mt. Pleasant Solar Cooperative originally started by Anya Schoolman. She said her son Walter and his friend Diego watched "An Inconvenient Truth," a documentary about climate change, and wanted to help fight the problem by going solar. After realizing that an isolated transition to solar power was complicated and expensive, Schoolman wondered if the answer might be to convert her neighborhood in bulk.

After two weeks, more than 50 neighbors had joined Schoolman in wanting to install solar power on their roofs. The group became D.C.'s first solar co-op and two years later, 45 families in the area were reliant on solar energy.

Schoolman created DC SUN to replicate the success of its neighborhood co-op. Over the next decade, the DC SUN model spread to nearby states. In 2017, Solar United Neighbors became a nationwide program offering memberships. There were seven state programs already in place when it was officially established; now there are 13. In addition to D.C. and Virginia, SUN has memberships in Arizona, Colorado, Florida, Indiana, Maryland, Minnesota, New Jersey, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Texas and West Virginia.

Gov. Ralph Northam signed an executive order in September laying out goals for a future driven by renewable energy. The order called for 30% of the state's electricity to be supplied by renewable energy by 2030, and 100% of electricity supplied by renewable energy by 2050.

"Solar energy is a rapidly growing segment of our economy," Northam stated in a press release. "I am proud that the commonwealth is playing a role in driving this demand and taking advantage of the benefits that this resource provides."

SUN offers a multitude of other programs aimed at giving Virginians the information they need to go solar. That information can be found on SUN's website, along with a calendar of events the organization is hosting in the near future.

Loving continues to help establish other solar co-ops in the Shenandoah Valley.

"What we're doing is educating the citizenry and the customers and other stakeholders of the big utilities, and I think that's a really important mission," Loving said.

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SPORTS

Vikings End Warriors' Playoff Run

Harrison Hamlet
Staff Writer

(ROANOKE, Va.) – In 2013 and 2014, Magna Vista and Northside's football teams met in the playoffs. Both times, the victor went on to claim the state championship. Time will tell if Friday night's playoff matchup between the Warriors and Vikings will have the same implications in 2019, but it won't be Ridgeway's football team advancing.

Northside's Christian Fisher ran for 134 yards and three touchdowns, leading the Vikings' option offense to an impressive night that saw them earn a 27-6 home win over Magna Vista.

"I thought they just played better than we did," Magna Vista head coach Joe Favero said. "They have a heck of a team and they do a really good job executing. They have a couple of athletes who made some plays tonight and that's what you need in the playoffs. I thought they did a good job defensively of not letting us get into a rhythm. Then, they made some big plays in space and found the endzone."

Freshman Viking quarterback Sidney Webb got the scoring started in the opening quarter before Fisher got going.

Just 15 minutes into the game, Northside took a 13-0 lead, leaving a tough hill for Magna Vista to climb on a cool, windy evening in Roanoke.

"That's the most rushing touchdowns we've given up all year in a game (four) and I thought 7 (Fisher) was a heck of a player who has that burst, and 10 (Webb) does too," Favero said. "They're very patient runners, they run then they change angle and just explode through it. Up front, they blocked really well. We didn't do a great job coming off blocks."

With Magna Vista senior running back/cornerback Louis Taylor limited by an ankle injury, the Warriors' offense largely operated without their leading rusher in the backfield as Taylor took the majority of his snaps on the defensive side of the ball. Taylor aggravated the ankle injury in the fourth quarter and exited a high school football field for the final time on crutches.

As a result, Magna Vista's offense struggled in the early downs, creating multiple third-and-long scenarios for junior quarterback Dryus Hairston. The Warriors were 2-for-12 on third

down conversions before a pair of late conversions with the Vikings in prevent defense.

Magna Vista was able to cut into the deficit just before half-time. Dekavis Preston intercepted a Webb pass and returned it into Northside territory. Three plays later, Hairston ran it in from eight yards out.

"He (Preston) caused a bunch of turnovers this year with strips, causing fumbles. Then he did a good job of making some interceptions and making some big plays for us," Favero said of perhaps his most talented returning player. "Fortunately he is just a junior for us."

The Warriors were unable to convert the momentum into more points after the half, while Northside scored on their first possession of the third quarter to create a daunting 20-6 lead.

The Vikings then capped off the scoring early in the fourth quarter when a bad snap on a Magna Vista punt set up Northside with first-and-goal from the five, which Fisher punched in.

Northside outgained Magna Vista 375 to 190 yards on the night.

The loss sends a 28-member senior class into the end of their Magna Vista football career, but Favero credited that group with spear-heading the improvement this season that saw the Warriors return to playoff form and an 8-4 finishing record.

"I'm just very appreciative of having that group of seniors and getting to coach them," Favero said. "They did a great job of getting the guys together in the offseason. Last season, we had a down year for us. They did a good job of getting the guys together and making sure we were a good unit coming off of the off-season. They worked really hard and I thought they did a great job of leading us on the field all year."

Quarterback Hairston, receiver Tyler Johnson, and defensive backs Preston and Rion Martin will spearhead a group of 31 returning players in 2020, when Favero expects more good things to come following what he hopes will be a focused offseason.

"We have a good group coming back," Favero said of his underclassmen. "We're going to have to have some younger kids step up but I think as long as they buy in and do the things we're looking for in the offseason, I like where we're at."



Magna Vista junior quarterback Dryus Hairston (2) scored the Warriors' only touchdown on Friday night on this second-quarter run. Magna Vista lost to Northside 27-6 in Roanoke, ending the Warriors' season.



Magna Vista senior running back Louis Taylor (4) was limited to just a handful of carries on Friday night due to a lingering ankle injury. Taylor aggravated the injury in the fourth quarter and was forced to use crutches to exit the field after his final high school game. Magna Vista lost to Northside 27-6 in Roanoke, ending the Warriors' season.



Magna Vista seniors Isaac Ellison (11) and Trever Martin (25) kneel in despair after Friday's game. Magna Vista lost to Northside 27-6 in Roanoke, ending the Warriors' season.



Magna Vista defensive tackles Nick Estes Jr. (69) and Takoma Kidd (50) were dominant all season but struggled against a Northside option offense that attacked the edge of the Warriors' defense. Magna Vista lost to Northside 27-6 in Roanoke, ending the Warriors' season.



Magna Vista head coach Joe Favero addresses his team, which featured 28 seniors, after Friday's game. Magna Vista lost to Northside 27-6 in Roanoke, ending the Warriors' season.

NORTHSIDE HIGH SCHOOL 27, MAGNA VISTA HIGH SCHOOL 6

MVHS – 0 6 0 0 – 6

NSHS – 7 6 7 7 – 27

SCORING SUMMARY

FIRST QUARTER

3:50 – NSHS – Sidney Webb
30 rush (Matthew Johnson
PAT good)

SECOND QUARTER

8:56 – NSHS – Christian Fisher
20 rush (PAT miss)
0:37 – MVHS – Dryus Hairston
8 rush (PAT blocked)

THIRD QUARTER

7:05 – NSHS – Christian Fisher
3 rush (Matthew Johnson PAT
good)

FOURTH QUARTER

11:48 – NSHS – Christian
Fisher 5 rush (Matthew
Johnson PAT good)

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

MAGNA VISTA HIGH SCHOOL

RUSHING

Louis Taylor 5 for 11; Josh
Foster 2 for 10; Freddie Roberts
2 for 5; Kylan Brown 1 for 4;
Tyler Johnson 2 for 2; Trever
Martin 1 for 1; Dryus Hairston

10 for -32, TD, 2 fumbles.

Total:

23 for 1 yard, TD, 2 fumbles.

PASSING

Dryus Hairston 14-29 for 137,
2INT; Freddie Roberts 3-6 for
52.

RECEIVING

Ty Grant 4 for 57; Drew
Santoemma 4 for 57; Isaac
Ellison 2 for 36, fumble; Tyler
Johnson 4 for 21; Josh Foster
2 for 14; Kylan Brown 1 for 4.

NORTHSIDE HIGH SCHOOL

RUSHING

Christian Fisher 20 for 134,
3TD; Quentin Slash 5 for 70;
Jaden Harrison 5 for 16; Sidney
Webb 14 for 9, TD; Zach Horton
1 for -1. Total: 45 for 228, 4TD.

PASSING

Sidney Webb 8-17 for 147,
INT; Isaac Earls 0-1 for 0.

RECEIVING

Isaac Earls 4 for 80; Christian
Fisher 1 for 30; Zach Horton
2 for 23; Quentin Slash 1 for
14.

Be sure to 'Like' the
Henry County Enterprise on Facebook.

PHOTOS BY HARRISON HAMLET

DGIF stresses cold weather boating, water safety

Conservation Police Officers (CPOs) with the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries (DGIF) point out that the time of the year has arrived where cold temperatures lure people to the outdoors to spend hours on end fishing for big catfish, big smallmouth bass and hunting for waterfowl, deer, and other game animals. Being prepared to spend time in cold weather is very important and if you plan to be on the water, it is especially important. When it comes to preparing against cold temperatures, your safety is your responsibility.

Recreating on the water during this time of the year can be especially dangerous because falls into cold ponds, lakes, or rivers incapacitate even the strongest of swimmers with hypothermia setting in very quickly. If you are going to be on the water, DGIF encourages you to take a friend with you who will be there to assist you if needed. Succumbing to the effects of cold water can happen rapidly and being alone minimizes your chances for survival if you are to fall into the water. Boating related accidents have a greater probability of being fatal during the winter months due to the

frigid water temperatures.

Virginia's conservation police stress the importance of wearing a life jacket, and especially so during cold-water months. This is the one thing a person can do to increase their chance of survival if they fall overboard in cold water.

The DGIF also noted that life jackets with foam buoyancy work better in cold temperatures and water than do inflatable life jackets. "One of the most undesirable parts of our job is notifying loved ones of a death, especially when it could have been prevented by wearing a life jacket, or fol-

lowing prescribed safety rules," says Major Scott Naff, Assistant Chief of Virginia's conservation police.

Being smart about weight distribution and abiding by manufacturer's weight limits in a boat can reduce the chances of falling overboard or the boat overturning. Another tip is to have a means of communication on your boat and telling family or friends what body of water you will be on, where you will be launching from and when you expect to be back to shore. Monitoring the weather forecast and changing weather conditions is also very

important. Shifting winds and storms can lead to very dangerous water conditions in a very short amount of time.

"Whether you're on water or land, hunters should always dress appropriately for the weather and utilizing layers allows for optimum responses to changing temperatures," Naff said. "Hypothermia can set in quickly and can be very dangerous, especially in water where the cold water removes heat from your body 25 times faster than the air."

For more information, visit <https://www.dgif.virginia.gov/boating/>.

Food for Fines Drive underway



PHOTO BY CALLE MACARONE

Brandon Martin
Staff writer

The Blue Ridge Regional Library is holding a Food for Fines canned food drive at all branches scheduled through Dec. 7.

Participants that donate canned goods may have up to \$5 of any outstanding library fines erased. People who do not have fines also are welcome to participate.

"We are a library about community," said Leandio Gravely, program coordinator at the library. "This event serves a dual purpose. We wanted to find a way for patrons to get their card unlocked and also help out the less fortunate."

Those in the community who are looking to pay off library fines, or just looking to donate, may do so at branches either in Martinsville, Bassett, Collinsville, Patrick County and Ridgeway.

This program is done in partnership with the Salvation Army, which offers meals three times a week to help fight hunger.

"We try to partner with local organizations to be effective in the entire community," said Gravely. "Working with the Salvation Army is great! It's even more moving because I've been there and seen how the contributions

helped the people in this community that really need it."

Gravely said he was moved by the contributions of the citizens in the city and surrounding counties.

"It's a phenomenal thing," he said. "It's awesome to see the unity and community. That's the point of programs like this and this drive is our way of doing our part to lengthen the reach of some of these charitable programs already in place. It's all about helping each other and when you see all the donations, it really warms the heart."

Certain items will not be accepted for donation. For example, expired and damaged items won't be accepted. In addition, glass, plastic or cardboard containers are prohibited. Open packages and non-nutritious items, such as chips and candy, also are not accepted.

Gravely said this is the third time the library has put on the event and he hopes to eclipse donation numbers from past years.

"We donated over one thousand items for the drive last year," Gravely said. "We need more people to donate still. We want to see if we can get to at least two thousand items this year."

For more information on Food for Fines and other events sponsored by the Blue Ridge Regional Library, visit <http://www.brll.lib.va.us/>.



PHOTO BY PETER SCHREVE

Opt Outside at a Virginia State Park Thanksgiving weekend

From the first Thanksgiving at Virginia's Berkeley Hundred plantation in 1619, Virginians have gathered to give thanks and enjoy family, friends and fun during the holiday. Special time together can continue past the last slice of pie with a visit to Virginia State Parks.

From Nov. 28 through Dec. 1, Virginia State Parks will sponsor Opt Outside and join the national effort to promote healthy lifestyles and encourage people to get outdoors.

A photo contest, with a \$500 gift certificate top prize, is an added bonus for the holiday weekend. To qualify, photos must be taken at a Virginia state park between Nov. 28 and Dec. 1. Individuals may submit up to five photos. Visit www.VirginiaStateParks.gov for contest details and rules.

The 38 award-winning Virginia State Parks are managed by the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation.

"The weather is often mild over the

holiday weekend and it's great to get outdoors," said Interim State Parks Director David Collett. "There will be more than 100 programs in state parks throughout Virginia, so bring the whole family and create some Thanksgiving memories."

Opt Outside activities include ranger-led hikes, campfires, nature crafts, special Christmas programs and even a wine festival.

For a complete list of Virginia State Parks Opt Outside activities, visit the programs and events section of the state parks website.

To read more about Opt Outside in Virginia State Parks, visit: <https://www.dcr.virginia.gov/state-parks/blog/optoutside-for-a-virginia-state-parks-thanksgiving-tradition>.

To make gift giving easier for fans of state parks, beginning Dec. 2 and running until Dec. 13, Virginia State Parks will offer a 25% discount on gift certificates. Call 800-933-7275, Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., to order.



Virginia's Unemployment Rate Drops to 2.6%

Yahya Alzahrany
Capital News Service

Virginia had the fourth-lowest unemployment rate in the United States last month, officials recently announced.

The commonwealth's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate dropped from 2.7% in September to 2.6% in October, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. Virginia's jobless rate continues to be much lower than the national average of 3.6%.

Only three states had an unemployment rate in October lower than Virginia's: Vermont (at 2.2%) and North Dakota and Utah (both at 2.5%).

Virginia was tied with Colorado, Iowa, New Hampshire and South Carolina with a jobless rate of 2.6%.

The state with the highest unemployment rate last month was Alaska at 6.2%, followed by Mississippi (5.5%) and the Dis-

trict of Columbia (5.4%).

Gov. Ralph Northam said more people are working in Virginia than ever before. He said October was the 16th consecutive month that the commonwealth's labor force had expanded.

"Virginia's economy is headed in the right direction," Northam said in a statement issued during an economic development mission in the Middle East. "The competition for talent is on, because low unemployment gives workers more options about where to work."

Competition can also help boost wages. On Wednesday, the Bureau of Labor Statistics said the average weekly wage in Virginia had risen 3.7%, to \$1,113, between the second quarter of 2018 and the second quarter of 2019. Nationally, wages increased 3.8%, to \$1,095, during that period.

"Next month, we will put forward a budget that continues investing

in workforce development to ensure long-term, shared economic growth in our Commonwealth," Northam said. "We want Virginia to be the best state to work in and the best place to run a business."

Virginia's unemployment rate has been dropping:

- In October 2018, it was 2.8% — tied for the seventh lowest in the U.S.

- In September of this year, the rate was 2.7% — tied for the fifth lowest.

"It is very satisfying whenever the Commonwealth's unemployment rate drops, as it has been doing consistently throughout 2019," Brian Ball, Virginia's secretary of commerce and trade, said in a statement.

"Virginia's highly trained and skilled workforce makes us a natural fit for top employers. We will continue to recruit those businesses that create productive job opportunities for Virginians."

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Peanut Butter
Jelly
Rice
Beans
Pasta

Survey: Average price of Thanksgiving meal in Virginia is \$64.24

Virginians will be able to feed their families a Thanksgiving meal for a little over \$6 per person this year, according to an informal price survey conducted by the Virginia Farm Bureau Federation. The survey of basic grocery items typically found on Thanksgiving tables places the average cost of a traditional meal for 10 adults at \$64.24, or \$6.42 per person. The menu includes turkey, ham, stuffing, sweet potatoes, russet potatoes, rolls, carrots, green beans, peas, celery, cranberries, milk and pumpkin pie with whipped cream. Prices were reported by volunteer shoppers around the state using no promotional sales or coupons.

A classic Thanksgiving meal without ham, russet potatoes and green beans—all of which were added to the survey in 2018—will cost Virginians an average of \$50.57 this year.

This year's average represents an increase of \$11.94 from the 2018 average price of \$52.30 for a 10-person meal.

This is the 16th year Farm Bureau has conducted the survey, which is based on an annual survey conducted by the American Farm Bureau Federation.

The locality with the highest average cost for a meal this year was Williamsburg at \$90.68. The locality with the lowest average cost was Hanover County at \$40.26.

Based on surveys at grocery stores throughout Virginia, Farm Bureau found the average cost of

a 16-pound turkey was \$26.35, or about \$1.65 per pound. The 2018 average was \$1.29 per pound.

The organization found that the average price for a 4-pound bone-in ham was \$8.57; a gallon of whole milk was \$3.11; for peas, \$1.42; for green beans, \$1.48; for a pound bag of sweet potatoes, \$1.07; for 5-pound bag of russet potatoes, \$3.62; for celery, \$1.80; for carrots, \$1.06; for pie shells, \$2.58; for whipping cream, \$1.72; for canned pumpkin pie filling, \$3.17; for cranberries, \$2.61; for stuffing mix, \$2.68; and for rolls, \$3 a dozen.

In challenging economic times, farmers throughout Virginia are committed not only to producing quality foods, but also to helping those for whom a holiday-style meal might be a luxury.

"It's not at all unusual for a county Farm Bureau annual meeting notice to include a request that members bring nonperishable food items for donation to a local food bank," noted VFBBF President Wayne F. Pryor.

Virginia farmers also donate fresh produce and milk to the Federation of Virginia Food Banks, which is made up of seven regional food banks. In 2018 they donated 1.5 million pounds of produce to support the organization's mission of serving Virginians all year long.

"Food is such a central part of the holiday season. But more than 860,000 Virginians are food-insecure, which means that at some point during the year they struggle to put

enough nutritious food on the table for their families," said Eddie Oliver, executive director of the Federation of Virginia Food Banks.

"We really value our partnerships with farmers, and we know they often sacrifice a lot. We know they work hard throughout the year, and we know that times can be tough for them as well, so we appreciate it all the more when they're able to dig deep and give back. We wouldn't be able to do any of the work we do if it wasn't for the food that they grow and produce for us."

The Federation of Virginia Food Banks welcomes both food and monetary donations. Oliver noted that food banks often can stretch one dollar into four meals due to their partnerships and buying practices. Virginians can donate to the federation and connect to their local food banks at vafoodbanks.org.

"Virginia farmers take pride in producing quality foods for holiday meals, and for everyday meals as well," Pryor said. "We wish all Virginians a joyful and satisfying holiday season, and hope they will give some thought to their neighbors in need."

Nationally, an informal survey conducted by the American Farm Bureau Federation found the average cost of a classic Thanksgiving meal for 10 to be \$48.91, or \$4.89 per person. That represents a 1-cent increase from last year's national average. A meal that also includes ham, russet potatoes and green



PHOTO BY CHRISTIANN KOEPEKE

beans will cost an average of \$62.32, up from \$61.72 in 2018.

The increase in the average retail price for

ham, whole milk and sweet potatoes are the main drivers behind the slight increase in the cost of the meal, said Dr. John

Newton, chief economist for AFBF. The national average cost of a turkey fell from \$21.71 in 2018 to \$20.80 this year.

Year-round farmers markets offer seasonal, holiday products



PHOTO BY MEGAN MARKHAM

Seasons are changing, and temperatures are cooling, but year-round farmers markets are still going strong.

"Ten years ago farmers markets were very seasonal and traditionally closed at the end of the October, not to open again until April 1," said Molly Harris, project manager for the Virginia Foundation for Agriculture, Innovation and Rural Sustainability. "Now, most markets stay open year-round in some form, and there are many creative solutions to keeping sales open to customers."

One solution is online farmers markets, which offer an alternative to finding indoor space. Participating farmers can sell their goods to consumers through organizations like the Goochland County-based Center for Rural Culture. The non-profit organization created an online market where customers can browse a wide variety of products, make selections and check out online. They then choose a convenient location to pick up their purchases.

Whether online or indoors, a range of delicious, seasonal products are available in the winter. Winter squash, hearty

greens, mushrooms, apples and pears are some of the many crops seen at farmers markets, along with dairy products, meats, eggs and value-added products like jams.

And though winter commodities shine, some summer favorites can be found during the cold months too. Cilantro, salad mixes, sprouts and green tomatoes are sold by farms that have the means to create the climate-controlled environments.

"So many farms have been growing in greenhouses to extend their summer season," Harris said. "We now have year-round lettuces, and baby carrots and radishes coming in the early months of spring."

Staying open year-round gives farmers markets and producers an advantage, especially during the holidays. With the focus on buying local and movements like Small Business Saturday in November, sellers offer products that make great gifts, including cookies and baked goods.

"Selling over the holidays is huge, and some will have special holiday markets," Harris said. "There's also a push to source your Thanksgiving and holiday meals locally."

We are GIVING AWAY over \$8,800 Every Weekend At LANCER HALL

BINGO

Games Start Friday- 7:00 pm Saturday- 6:30 pm
Doors Open at 5:00pm
LAUREL PARK PLAZA, 6296 AL PHILPOTT HWY., MARTINSVILLE VA (RT 58 EAST OF MARTINSVILLE) • 276-638-3361
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B	I	N	G	O
43	22	72	36	4
29	18	63	52	
70	8	FREE	24	5
6	27	16	30	4
31	12	39	57	26

Smoke Free Environment
No one under 18 allowed in bingo hall
Gift Certificates Available
Bingo Bags, Bingo Seat Cushions, Dabbers are Available
Use of game proceeds for charity, 18%

Spring* arrives on **JANUARY 8TH** this year!

*Spring semester at PHCC. Are you ready?

Spring Registration NOW OPEN!

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