# Serving Henry County, Martinsville, and Surrounding Area HENRY COUNTY ENTERPRISE

Saturday, February 13, 2021

(USPS-6)

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### City schools to return to limited in-person instruction March 8

Brandon Martin Staff writer

Following a directive from Gov. Ralph Northam to reopen all Virginia schools to partial in-person instruction, Martinsville City Public Schools have set March 8 as a target date for the return of select student groups.

Schools Superintendent Dr. Zebedee Talley Jr., announced at a Feb. 8 school board meeting that Englishlanguage learners (ELL), preschoolers, kindergarteners and special needs groups in the division to return to in-person in- recommend younger stustruction.

"I appreciate the fact here," Talley said, praisto date to remain fully at" the staff are proposing a return of "March ing in." 8 as a possible time to bring back Clearview."

and Prevention (CDC) demic scores.



The Martinsville School Board was recognized during Virginia School Board Association School Board Appreciation Month. From left to right: Chairman Donna Dillard, Vice-Chairman Yvonne Givens, Board **Member Dominique Hylton, and Schools Superintendent** Dr. Zebedee Talley Jr. Board members Tony Jones and students will be the first Emily Parker attended the meeting via conference call.

dents return first.

"It's these students that that the board has seen the pandemic has affected fit to put safety first the most," Talley said. "There is learning loss. I ing the division's efforts gave an academic report in January and there was very virtual for the duration little learning loss. Since of the pandemic. "As that time, we have looked superintendent, every at other data, and what family and every life we are having now is not is important to me. It necessarily learning loss doesn't matter if it is one due to students not being or two. Nevertheless, able to do the work. We with this mandate we are noticing a trend that are going to be looking as the pandemic is wearing on, less students are sign-

Talley said a lack of students signing into their Talley said the Cen- virtual system will inevitaters for Disease Control bly lead to a drop in aca-

"Participation is a challenge for us now, so we are going to try and gradually phase students back in," Talley said.

While participation is down, Talley said the division is seeing gains in math and reading scores.

"Everyone felt like a fourth of our students would be failing but it just hasn't happened to us. The credit goes to our teaching staff which are the best in the world and our brilliant students," he said. We are seeing gains from the fall and winter in our math and reading scores. Elementary reading is the same. In most school divisions, it has dropped. We

are seeing gains and very

few losses in math. Most school divisions are seeing big math losses. We are not seeing any of the amount of losses that we projected."

Talley said personal protective equipment (PPE) social distancing guidelines will still be in place once the first group of students returns, including 3-6 feet of separation during transportation on

"Additional grades will return when it is safe to do so," Talley added. "There is no timeline for that."

Currently staff members are being vaccinated, with the second doses slated to be administered the first week of March.

Surveys also are being conducted to gauge the interest of parents in sending their children back to inperson learning.

"We did a similar survey earlier in the year," Talley said. "Parents can indicate their preference. Once they indicate their preference, we are going to have to hold that solid because it's going to limit what we can do with personnel. Some school divisions went back to virtual because they ran out of personnel."

Results of the surveys will be used to determine the number of students returning and the days inperson instruction can take

See **Return**, page 2

### **Return to classes** discussed, adult education highlighted at meeting

Brandon Martin Staff writer

More than half of Henry County students who had responded by midweek plan to attend hybrid instruction when county schools reopen on March 10, Schools Superintendent Sandy Strayer told members of the Henry County School Board.

The school division opted to resume the hybrid instructional model following a decrease in COVID-19 infection rates, lowered percentages of positive cases and a dip in quarantine rates after winter break.

In her Feb. 4 report to the school board. Strayer said that as of Wednesday, 2,591 students plan to return to classrooms when hybrid instruction becomes available.

In the same time frame, an additional 2,293 students elected to stay home and learn virtually, Strayer said.

"Our team will be reaching out to the remaining 2,269 students to determine their learning plans," she said, and added that families and students will retain the option to switch between the two learning plans at any time.

"We ask that if families are going to move to the hybrid plan, they communicate with their principals so the principals can make sure they have the appropriate number of students in each classroom setting," Strayer said.

A decrease in available

staff prompted the schools to switch to the current virtualonly instructional model. In a move to prevent the likelihood of that recurring, the division also is in the process of ensuring the COVID-19 vaccine is administered to staff and teachers.

"We did the first 500 vaccinations at Bassett High School last Wednesday,' Strayer said, and added the process went smoothly. "We had lots of remarks from staff members" and state health officials "about how well our staff organized and handled that."

Board members also learned the division's adult education program is under

"It's a great program. It's definitely underutilized by the community," Garrett Dillard, director of community learning, said. "We want to make sure the community realizes it's a free program

Dillard said the services provided at the Center for Community Learning are free general education development (GED) classes, basic reading and math skills enhancement, and digital lit-

eracy classes. "We had a young man come through last week and I assumed he spoke English. He kind of looked at me, I looked at him, and then he handed me a phone," Dillard

See **Meeting**, page 6



sworn in as the new registrar for Henry County.

### **'Dawn of a new** day,' with new registrar at helm

**Brandon Martin** Staff writer

Local election officials are calling it the "dawn of a new day," as Henry County officially swore in its newest registrar, Dawn Stulz-Vaughn, in a Feb. 8 ceremony.

Vaughn was tapped for the role after the November death of Elizabeth Stone, who held the position for 45 years.

"I'd like to say thank you to the electoral board for giving me a chance and the opportunity for this," Stulz-Vaughn said. "Although I am looking forward to all the new challenges, I do realize that I have big shoes to fill." The opportunity will

be a chance for Vaughn to continue her long career of service to the community. "Public service and serv-

ing the citizens of Henry County and Martinsville is not new to me," she said, adding that she has served as a teacher, police officer, and training coordinator at the Piedmont Regional Criminal Justice Training Academy.

"This opportunity came forward and I've known Mrs. Stone and her son for all my life," Stulz-Vaughn said. "I just thought it was a good opportunity for my family and myself, so I decided to step out of my bubble."

Stulz-Vaughn said that in all of her life choices, she "always needs a pur-

"I've always been in government and public service. I miss interaction with citizens and to me, this was a new opportunity," she said. "It felt like this is where I was supposed to be, and I think God has a strong hand in putting me in this position." Before interviewing for

the position, Stulz-Vaughn said she reviewed the handbook for general registrars.

During the interview, "they asked me a lot of personal questions. I'm very organized and I like to take notes, so I did that," she said. "When I got called back for the second interview, I think they

See **Registrar**, page 8

## Two dead, two charged in connection with Friday shooting incident

Two people were charged in connection with a series of shootings that occurred at a restaurant in the 700 block of East Church Street in Martinsville, according to a release from the Virginia State Police.

Jamal Emun Jenkins, 24, of Collinsville, was charged with first degree murder, use of a firearm in the commission of a felony, willful discharge of a firearm in a public place result-

ing in a death, the release stated. Rosario Nasiar Eggleston, 20, of Martinsville, was charged with aggravated malicious wounding, conspiracy to commit aggravated malicious wounding, use of a firearm in the commission of a felony and willful discharge of a firearm in a public place resulting in a death.

The two men remain hospitalized

at Roanoke Memorial Hospital for gunshot wounds received during the February 5 incident.

Two men, Keilo Anton Martin, 23, and Shavon Lamont Reid, 33, both of Martinsville, died at the scene of the incident that occurred around 10:30 p.m. Friday in the El Norteno Restaurant, authorities have said.

The alleged altercation began in the bar area of the restaurant, authorities have said.

After the alleged series of gunfire inside the restaurant, a third man allegedly fled the restaurant on foot but was pursued by two armed men. When the three men reached the parking lot outside the restaurant, two men began shooting at the third

Gunfire was overheard by a Martinsville Police Officer on patrol nearby in his vehicle, authorities have said. The officer immediately responded and approached the men on foot as they allegedly fired at a third man. The officer fired at the two-armed men, striking one of them, the release stated. The two shooters allegedly then retreated into the restaurant. The third man in the parking lot was not injured during either shooting incident, the release

Additional law enforcement personnel from the Martinsville Police Department, Virginia State Police, and the Henry County Sheriff's Office immediately responded to the

See **Incident**, page 6

# Martinsville men remembered as community mourns

**Brandon Martin** Staff writer

Coming together to combat violence and supporting each other was a common theme among Martinsville City Council members Tuesday when discussing a shooting incident at El Norteno Mexican Restaurant. Two men -- Keilo Mar-

tin, 23, and Shavon Reid, 33, both of Martinsville -died at the scene following an altercation that began in

the bar area on Feb. 5, authorities have said. "What happened is tragic," said Mayor Kathy Lawson. "That is not the normal for our community.

We have a very safe com-

munity. It is unfortunate,

it is sad. We need to be in

prayer for these families. They are grieving. We do not need to be pointing fingers. We need to lift them up with encouragement and support because their lives have been changed."

Council Member Chad Martin attended a candlelight vigil held near the restaurant, which is currently

Seeing "the great turn-out they had to support that family was a beautiful thing to see, but this has to stop," he said. "Not just in Martinsville, but globally, this violence has really got to stop. My heart and my prayers are with those families that are hurting right

community to come to-

Council Member Tammy Pearson called on the

"I know that my family and I have been in prayer for all of those impacted, as well as our community as a whole," she said. "I also want to sincerely work with the citizens, community leaders, civic organizations, churches and any others to work together to bring an end to violent and destructive behavior in our city. I think it is important that we bring together all the races, genders, ages and all of our citizens to talk openly and honestly about this and find solutions."

Vice Mayor Jennifer Bowles said the incident

isn't indicative of the city. "I've seen many negative comments about the City of Martinsville. I really

hope those citizens and in-

dividuals will take a moment to realize this is not just a Martinsville issue. Our city really is a great place to live.

See **Remembered**, page 5

Visit http://www. henrycounty enterprise.com for updates



## DMMUNITY CALENDAR

### Saturday, February 20

Piedmont Arts is hosting a Virtual African American Read-In and Family Day from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. Led by Education Coordinator Sarah Short, this onlineonly event will highlight contributions by African American artists to American music. Short will read the children's book, Trombone Shorty by Troy Andrews, and guide participants through a musical craft using everyday items you can find around the house. Community members will also read excerpts from books, stories and poems by their favorite African American authors. For more information, call (276) 632-3221.

The Friedrichs Family Eye Center is hosting the "TWO on the TRAIL' run starting at 10 a.m. This is a two-mile race run on the asphalt trail at Jack Dalton Park. It will include three laps around the trail. No race day registration. Register online at www.milesinmartinsville.com by Feb 17. COVID-19 protocols in effect.

### **Monday, February 22-23**

The Institute for Advanced Learning and Research (IALR) will be hosting the 2021 Industrial Hemp Summit - Virtual Edition over the course of this two-day period. Registration is now open at www. industrialhempsummit.info. Tickets are \$50 through February 19. For questions

information, please contact (434) 766-

**Wednesday, February 24** 

The Dan River Basin Association will be hosting a webinar from 12-1 p.m. on myriapods of the Piedmont Region and their role in the ecosystem. To register, visit: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/ register/ŴN\_YZ3OEOkXQnyndNpp-

### Thursday, February 25

Longwood Small Business Develop-

ment Center will be holding a virtual "Start-Up Workshop" for those interested in starting their own small business. The workshop will take place between 6-7 p.m. For more information or to register, visit: https://clients.virginiasbdc.org/ workshop.aspx?ekey=91410002

### **ONGOING**

Blue Ridge Regional Library is offering a "Blind Date With a Book" throughout the month of February. With each book selection, the participant's name will be entered into a drawing for a variety of prizes. A list of preselected books is available for curbside pickup. Contact (276) 403-5430 for more information.

### Nominations accepted for 2021 Clyde Hooker Award

Piedmont Arts is seeking nominations for the 2021 Clyde Hooker Award. Nominees should be businesses or individuals that are involved in and support Piedmont Arts and other arts and cultural organizations in Martinsville-Henry County. Award recipients will be honored at a special event in June. The Clyde Hooker Award was estab-

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lished in 2003 and is named in honor of J. Clyde Hooker, Jr. for his generous support of the arts.

To nominate a business or individual, complete a nomination form and return it to Piedmont Arts by Friday, April 2, 2021. Nomination forms are available at Piedmont Arts and online at Pied-

Fun By The

Like puzzles?

sudoku. This

mind-bending

Then you'll love

puzzle will have

you hooked from

the moment you

square off, so

sharpen your

your sudoku

pencil and put

savvy to the test!

Numbers

ARIES - Mar 21/Apr 20

Aries, you are feeling ambitious this week, so it might be time to try a new hobby or other interest. Write down your goals and see if any align with potential hobbies.

### TAURUS - Apr 21/May 21

Taurus, some nice surprises are likely to come your way, especially in your private life. Enjoy every moment as it unfolds and express your appreciation when applica-

### GEMINI - May 22/Jun 21

Gemini, you are likely to upstage everyone else this week because people simply cannot get enough of your magnetic personality. If you grow weary of the limelight, take a break.

### CANCER - Jun 22/Jul 22

Cancer, clear your social schedule in favor of some quiet time at home. Such a respite can provide a great opportunity to reflect and make a new plan.

#### LEO - Jul 23/Aug 23

Leo, you have a goal to meet someone new and there's a good chance you will discover that person in the days to come. Accept the possibility that hopes and dreams can come true.

### VIRGO - Aug 24/Sept 22

Virgo, friends often end up filling familial roles. Even though a person may not be related by blood, certain friends can be relied upon through thick and thin.

#### LIBRA - Sept 23/Oct 23 Even though the holidays are

over you may still want to continue the celebration, Libra. Find a way to socialize with friends or family in a responsible manner. SCORPIO - Oct 24/Nov 22

Scorpio, you may be finished

#### with the business that made last month hectic. Now you are

ready to start a new chapter. A calm period is ahead. SAGITTARIUS -

### Nov 23/Dec 21

Sagittarius, a potentially lucrative opportunity may present itself in the days to come. Consider all of your options and give equal though to all of them.

### CAPRICORN -Dec 22/Jan 20

Capricorn, even if you don't say much, there is a lot of chatter going on in your head. Take some time to find a quiet place and meditate for a while.

### AQUARIUS - Jan 21/Feb 18

Sometimes you just have to take a risk without vetting all of the possible outcomes, Aquarius. If it feels like it's a good time to make a change, embrace the opportunity.

### PISCES - Feb 19/Mar 20

This week is the ideal opportunity to show strength and exhibit your organizational skills, Pisces. Don't be afraid to think

### Here's How It Works:

6

ososogy

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

8

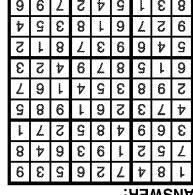
3

decede

6

2

Level: Advanced



:A3WSNA

### Economic development initiative committee to meet

The Southern Virginia GO Region 3 Executive Committee will meet on Wednesday, February 17, at 10 a.m. The virtual meeting is open to the public.

The Region 3 Executive Committee may elect to go into executive session to discuss pending projects and submitted project applications, vendor contracts, and personnel matters. The agenda packet will be available for review on February 12 at www.govirginia3.org. Use the fol-

Return from page 1

place, according to Talley.

there is very little spread

inside of schools, but we

are very much concerned

about spread on the in-

side of households," Talley said. "If we don't get

a response from parents

(on the survey), we are as-

suming they intend to do

incoming surveys have

"indicated a 50/50 split"

from parents indicating

their preference for virtual

that data and hopefully

by Friday (Feb. 12), we

will have a good number

for you," Talley said to the

Talley said that the deci-

sion will be made after

students start returning to

In terms of athletics,

"We are still gathering

or in-person instruction.

So far, Talley said the

virtual.

board.

"Studies have shown

lowing link to access the meeting https:// zoom.us/j/3390115898?pwd=YURxZ DBPK0pkUUhUV3BmUWFuV0c0 QT09. The password is 202011. Phone access is available by dialing 1-301-715-8592; the meeting ID is 339 011 5898; and the password is 202011. A time for public comments will be included in the meeting; and written public comments may be sent to bryan.david@virginia.edu before 8 a.m. on Feb. 17.

#### **CROSSWORD PUZZLE** 10 13 15 16 20 18 30 32 43 55 56 60 59 62 41. Lack of success 3. Aboriginal people of Japan 36. Earliest form of modern human in Europe: \_\_-magnon 43. Thing that causes 4. Popular veggies 5. Wedding accessory 37. Adult female bird 39. Do away with

#### **CLUES ACROSS** 1. Gather a harvest 5. Federal Republic of Germany 8. Bravo! Bravo! Bravo! 11. "The Little Mermaid"

30. Called it a career

Paulo, city

32. Avoid with trickery

33. Easter egg

45. Deep, continuing sound 47. Ancient kingdom near Dead Sea 49. You might put it in a fire 9. Cain and \_ 50. Partner to "oohed"

13. The common gibbon 14. Volcanic island in Fiji 15. Mother of Perseus 55. Actor Idris Egg cells 56. Slippery 17. Teams' best pitchers

38. Veterans battleground 2. Amounts of time

57. Plant of the bean family music 18. Credit associations 59. One point north of 20. Advance 21. Hair styling products 60. Patti Hearst's captors 22. Benign tumors 61. Places to hang clothes 25. Arriving early 62. Midwife

63. Of she

. Cool!

**CLUES DOWN** 

64. S. Korean statesman

6. Deep, narrow gorges 10. Snake sound 12. Type of amino acid (abbr.) 14. Pattern of notes in Indian

26. Increase motor speed

29. Where rockers perform

35. \_\_ juris: of one's own right

28. Indicates position

34. Substitute

27. When you hope to get there

19. Satisfy

23. Misfire

8. Competitions that require speed 41. Flattened appendage 42. Post or pillar in Greek temple 44. A medieval citizen of Hungary 45. Spiritual leader of a Jewish congregation 46. Abba \_\_\_, Israeli politician 47. Sew 24. Nearsightedness 25. Indicates before

40. Lens

48. Evergreen trees and shrubs having oily one-seeded fruits 51. Swiss river 52. Grayish-white 53. A way to illustrate 54. College basketball super-

58. Midway between south and

southeast

the classroom. "Forty percent of the schools in Virginia are not participating in athletics at all. We are one of those forty," he said. "What's

been recommended by the

Virginia Department of

Education is to not enter-

tain athletics until we have some students in school. We cannot look at extracurricular activities until we have students present. Once our students come back, we can entertain and get with the cabinet and

In other matters, the school board:

board on athletics."

\*Received gifts from the St. Paul High Street Baptist Youth Group in appreciation of its support of students.

\*Recognized February as Black History Month and National CTE Education Month. board also recognized the week as National School Counseling Week. \*Heard an update

from Lizzy Fulcher on the Robotics Team. The division has three teams set to compete in a statewide competition on Feb. 27-28. The teams 8810-The Lady from Patrick Henry Elementary School; 8807-The Magical Unicodes and 8808-Absolute Zero,

from Martinsville Middle

School-will be looking to

build on previous honors. \*Recognized James Li, Katie Rorrer, and Edu-

ardo Betanzo for being named to the Regional Honors Band. Li plays percussion and is seventh chair for the Concert Band. Rorrer plays trombone and is fourth chair for the Concert Band. Betanzo is a tenor saxophone player and he is fifth chair concert band.

\*Recognized the Harvest Youth Board for their efforts in feeding local families on Thanksgiving.

\*Recognized Fulcher and Sarah Byrd for School Board Clerk Appreciation Week. \*Received recogni-

tion from Mayor Kathy Lawson and Vice-Mayor Jennifer Bowles for Virginia School Board Association School Board Appreciation Month. \*Heard an update

from Marcia Hairston and Cameron Stokes regarding financial aid and college admissions guidance for high school juniors and seniors.

### Council takes up blighted properties, vehicle nuisances

Brandon Martin Staff writer

Martinsville City Council heard updates on efforts to clean up blighted properties and automobile nuisances throughout the city during their Feb. 9 meeting.

Kris Bridges, a building official, said the renewed efforts to demolish problematic properties came at a savings for the city.

"Back in 2018 when we started doing this, we had about 45 percent of the demolitions by code enforcement paid for by the city. Over the last three years, that's dropped down to 30 percent," he said.

The city maintains a master list of properties that could potentially be demolished but Bridges said owners are given a chance to rectify the problems before any action is taken by his department.

From that list, Bridges compiles another list of top candidates. Properties currently listed are 210 Holt Street; 210 Park Street; 417 Fayette Street; 1007 Paul Street; 122 Pony Place; 550 Dillard Street; 538 Dillard Street; 546 Dillard Street; 17 High Street; 403 Clearview Street; 1025 Brookdale Street; 808 D Street; and 918 Myrtle Street.

"I put a couple on there just to spur some action to get something done," Bridges said. "There are several on there that would probably be rehab-able, but they've just been an eyesore for a long time and if they aren't going to fix them, then we are going to tear them down."

Bridges said there are multiple variables used to help determine which properties are prioritized, and offered examples that include "the existing condition, the number of complaints, the visibility of the property."

Bridges said title searches are required on all properties being considered.

Council Member Chad Martin asked if any of the properties would be considered for the Martinsville Land Bank Authority.

"We look at Land Bank properties a lot differently," Bridges said. "Is it a viable property for redevelopment? Are there any liens tied to it that could come back to haunt us? The biggest thing is, do we have a plan for it once it's in there? Just to have

it doesn't mean we need it."

However, Bridges said that option is open for con-

He added there are factors that prevent the city from moving faster on some properties in need of demolition.

"Theoretically, I could probably go faster, but as I've mentioned before, the localities that get in trouble get in trouble for two things. One, they went too fast and didn't consider due process. Two, they didn't cross all of their t's and dot all their i's," Bridges said. "Given the limited budget that we have, I don't want to burden us with having to pay for something because we did it wrong.'

It took about two and half years to move through all the properties on the last list, he said.

Bridges also discussed automobile screenings and nuisances throughout the Requests primarily come

from "uptown partners and

others around us that we do

something about our entry corridors," Bridges said. Some examples given of automobile nuisances for residential complaints are

improper parking of inop-

erable vehicles, vehicles in a state of disrepair, and parking on unapproved surfaces.

The city is adding a sticker notification to the process,

"It'll let people know that there are violations that are happening and let others know that yes, we are doing something. A vehicle doesn't just magically disappear one day," Bridges said, and added using stickers as an alert system would bring "some out there and taking care of violations."

Other than the new stickcomplaints would be han- Revenue for further evaluadled the same, with owners tion. given 10 days to correct the in question is towed.

ter some problem areas," days to appeal zoning ordi-Bridges said, adding that nance violations. the city would consult with "The more you do, the the Department of Motor more time you get," Bridges Vehicles (DMV) to enforce said of those who take an acviolations. If businesses are tive role in resolving issues. complying with the DMV's In other matters, the guidelines, the city then will council:



attention that we are going Water Resources Director Mike Kahle gave an update on operations to Martinsville City Council members Tuesday.

er, Bridges said residential turn to the Commissioner of

"We've got several areas violation before the vehicle within the zoning ordinance, within the nuisance Bridges said the city will ordinance, and within the take a more proactive ap- state law concerning junk proach for commercial com- yards that we can take some enforcement action on," he "We are going to set said, and added that busisome priorities and go af- nesses have between 21-30

\*Appointed Julie Wells to the Southern Virginia Recreation Facilities Authority for a four-year term to end Oct.

\*Heard an update from Water Resources Director Mike Kahle on fiscal year 2021 Water Resources operations. Through Dec. 31, 2020, net revenue for water is \$70,396, accounting for 51 percent of the budget. During the same period, the net revenue for wastewater was -\$351,823. Multiple projects are underway, with the Beaver Creek Spillway Project slated to be completed in May or June.

## Former Martinsville business owner sentenced in federal court

of a Martinsville business allegedly used to launder more than \$4.3 million in profits for an international drug cartel, was sentenced last week in U.S. District Court to 96 months in federal prison, according to a release from the U.S. Department of Justice.

Ana Bella Sanchez-Rios allegedly laundered the funds for the Jalisco New Generation Cartel (CJNG), a Mexican-based criminal organization considered by the Department of Justice to be one of the most dangerous transnational organizations in the world.

Acting United States Attorney Daniel P. Bubar, Special Agent in Charge Jarod A. Forgot of the Drug Enforcement Administration's (DEA) Washington Division, and Raymond Villanueva, Special Agent in Charge of Homeland Security Investigations Washington, D.C. Field Office announced the sentence.

When individuals launder money for a drug cartel, they play critical role for the organization by concealing and transferring illegally-obtained funds, which perpetuates the cartel's illegal activity and the scourge of the narcotics the cartel pedals," said Bubar. "Money laundering investigations can be particularly difficult, and I'm proud of the hard work of our federal and state law enforcement partners in bringing Sanchez-Rios

'Drug cartels like CJNG perpetrate unspeakable violence across the globe and drive the spread of deadly drugs like fentanyl and heroin," said Jarod Forgot, Special Agent in Charge of the DEA Washington Division. "We are committed to working with our partners to shut down these violent organizations in our area, often by tracking their illicit proceeds and disrupting these organizations at their bottom line. Today, these criminals' addiction to money and greed has met its consequence." Sanchez-Rios, 48, was indicted

in March 2019 along with 12 members of CJNG on a variety of federal drug trafficking and money laundering charges. In June 2020, Sanchez-Rios pleaded guilty to conspiracy to commit money laundering and operating a business that transmitted criminally derived funds.

Sanchez-Rios owned and operated Bella's Tortilla & Meat Market, a business that contracted with Intermex Wire Transfer, LLC. Sanchez-Rios admitted that from 2016 through 2018, she used the business to launder the drug trafficking proceeds on behalf of CJNG. Sanchez-Rios' role was to receive U.S. currency from multiple individuals working for the CJNG, which she knew were the drug trafficking proceeds and derived from a criminal offense. Sanchez-Rios then wired that money to individuals in Mexico. The defendant conducted wire transfers in small amounts and falsified and fabricated the names and addresses of the senders to conceal the nature, location, source, ownership, and control of

In total, between May 10, 2016 and September 11, 2018, Sanchez-Rios transferred or caused to be transferred \$4,394,959 in the proceeds of drug trafficking via Intermex from Bella's Tortilla & Meat Market in Martinsville to

The investigation of the case was conducted by the Drug Enforcement Administration, the Department of Homeland Security-Homeland Security Investigations, the Henry County Sheriff's Office, and the Virginia State Police. Assistant United States Attorney Sean Welsh is prosecuting the case for the United States.

This effort is part of an Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Forces (OCDETF) operation. OCDETF identifies, disrupts, and dismantles the highestlevel criminal organizations that threaten the United States using a prosecutor-led, intelligencedriven, multi-agency approach. Additional information about the OCDETF Program can be found at https://www.justice.gov/OC-

# One man charged, second man remains at large

Dasyne Akiese Hairston, 19, of the same charges in connection with Fourth Street, Martinsville, was arrested on charges of malicious wounding, shooting into an occupied building, reckless handling of a firearm and use of a firearm in the commission of a felony.

The charges are in connection with an alleged February 6 shooting incident at the Valero convenience store, located

at 1105 Brookdale Street, Martinsville. Hairston surrendered to local authorities on Feb. 8. He is currently being held without bond.

A second man, Ombae K. Johnson Jr., remains at large and is wanted on the incident.

Local authorities enlisted help from the U.S. Marshals Office Fugitive Task Force to track Johnson down and make

Investigation of the incident that began shortly before 2 a.m. is ongoing, according to the release.

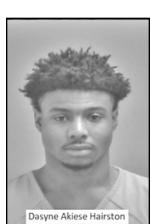
Martinsville Police Officers responded to a panic alarm at the convenience store were told by a store clerk that two vehicles had been in the parking lot, gunshots erupted, and the

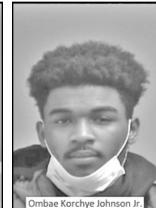
Authorities allege that three men got into an argument in the parking

Deangelo M. Howard was taken to the local emergency room and then transported to Carilion Roanoke Memorial Hospital for treatment of injuries sustained during the alleged

Warrants then were issued for Hairston and Johnson.

Anyone with information about the incident is encouraged to call Lt. Sandy Hines at (276) 403-5300 or Crime Stoppers at 2 76-63-CRIME.





## Bassett man being held with no bond after alleged barricade

caded himself in a home 11:40 a.m. to try and loon Thursday, February 4, according to a release from



Jamie Lee Ore

A man wanted in con-ry County Sheriff's Office nection with outstanding went to 58 Sanville School charges allegedly barri- Road, Bassett, around

cate a wanted person. While at the home, the Henry County Sheriff's authorities observed the wanted man outside of the Deputies from the Hen- home, according to the release. When the deputy approached, the man allegedly fled into the home.

> Deputies tried to make contact with the man, but the man allegedly refused to exit the home.

A search warrant was obtained to enter the home. A tactical team and negotiators from the Henry County Sheriff's Office assembled at the home. Negotiators established contact with the man, who allegedly communicated through an open window and agreed to come outside and surrender.

At approximately 1:30 p.m., a man exited the home and was taken into custody by the Henry County Sheriff's Office SWAT Team without in- give, or distribute a con-

Jamie Lee Ore, 30, of count contempt of court. 58 Sanville School Road, Bassett, was taken into custody on outstanding charges that include four counts manufacturing, selling, giving, distributing, or possessing with intent to manufacture, sell,

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trolled substance and one

He is being held in the Henry County Jail without bond.



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# A wasted effort

Last week, I lost a close family member to COVID.

It was inevitable, in a way. Over the past several months, a handful of acquaintances have died from COVID — people I've known in passing, or the family members of people I know well. With 450,000 deaths and counting and a U.S. population of about 328 million, I had a feeling that before all this ended, I would lose someone close to me; God willing, she'll be the only one.

Since March, I've written several columns about the Coronavirus. I've honestly lost count of how many at this point. Every time I've written one, there has been a part of me that has thought, "If I can explain it just right ... if I can use just the right analogy and just the right examples ... maybe, just maybe, some anti-masker out there will see the light."

I have no illusions about the audience for my columns. I know that most of my readers are folks who already agree with what I'm saying, and the folks who disagree probably quit reading years ago or only read long enough to get a little bit of background for the angry letter they're writing. I can accept that. However, I still had the hope

that maybe some anti-masker would stumble across one of my COVID columns, give it a read, and have a sudden awakening, a moment in which they finally realized that maybe, just maybe, it's important to make the most minor of sacrifices to protect the lives of their fellow citizens.

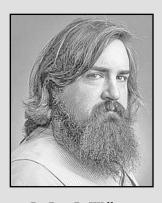
When I look back on all of those columns now, do you know what I see?

Wasted effort.

I used to have pity for the anti-masker, those people who firmly believe that taking the barest precautions to prevent the spread of a deadly disease that's wracked this country for nearly a year is a sacrifice too great to make. Some of these are people who have been so firmly brainwashed by fringe conspiracy theories that they genuinely believe COVID-19 is no worse than the flu, or that hospitals are inflating the numbers of COVID deaths to get more money. Others are so brainwashed that they don't believe the virus exists at all, even when they're gasping for life on a ventilator. Still others, I believe, know that the risks are there, but they're confident that THEY would survive a bout with COVID, so why should they have to wear a mask? Like I said, I used to have

pity for the anti-maskers. It's gone now. They've had nearly a year to educate themselves and dig up some feeble scrap of basic human decency. If they haven't done it yet, they're simply not going to.

I stopped at the grocery store



By Ben R. Williams

on the day I'm writing this. There's only one I go to anymore because there are never many people there, and I go at odd times. As I walked through the store quickly picking up items, I saw a woman walking through the store without a mask, the only person in the entire store without one. She was loudly talking on her cell phone and laughing with her friend on the other end, not a care in the

She made me think.

The first thing I thought of, of course, was how much I wanted to go up to her and inform her that I'd lost a loved one to CO-VID less than 24 hours earlier. I didn't, but I wanted to.

I thought of a friend and former coworker of mine — a woman who's just a few years my senior — who caught CO-VID about two months ago and is still in the hospital breathing through a tracheostomy. She had no underlying conditions, she just got dealt a bad hand. It

looks like she's out of the woods, but her recovery will likely be prolonged and difficult.

I thought of a dear friend of mine who is immunocompromised. She recently experienced a crisis of faith because her pastor spends the first ten minutes of every online service shaming those parishioners who choose not to show up to church in person. He believes their faith isn't strong enough. I believe that you can have faith in God and also realize that it's a poor choice to play Russian roulette in the hope of winning through divine intervention.

I thought of all the dirty looks I've gotten just for wearing a mask in public, and the time a lady without a mask coughed loudly and theatrically as she walked past me, scurrying away the moment I turned to make eye contact.

I thought of all the articles I've read — dozens at this point about people who believed COVID was a hoax right up until the moment they caught it, issuing grave warnings to take this thing seriously as they lay in their hospital beds.

I thought of the cousin of a friend of mine. She lives in New York City and likes to sit on the roof of her building at night. When COVID was at its worst in New York, she ended up moving her chair from one side of the roof to the other because she didn't want to look at the refrigerated trailers used to store the bodies that wouldn't fit in the local hospital's morgue.

I thought about a friend of

mine who works in the funeral industry. A couple of weeks ago, he told me their casket distributor has cut their line down to just three models. They had to streamline production to meet the booming demand for cas-

And I thought about all the countries that haven't been ravaged by this thing like America has, countries like Japan and Australia and New Zealand that didn't play around with their COVID response and allow people to waltz around claiming fraudulent medical exemptions and spreading their disease like Johnny Appleseed.

No, my pity and my sympathy are gone. There's barely any room for anger. All that's left is the emptiness that comes from the dawning realization that about a quarter of the public are simply incapable of compassion for their fellow man. It just isn't in their nature, and nothing can change that.

Unlike my previous COVID columns, this one isn't for the anti-maskers and conspiracy theorists; it's for the regular folks forced to navigate the world alongside them.

As hard as it is to believe, one day, this pandemic will be behind us. When that happens, I have no doubt that the folks who refused to wear masks, who laughed off the pandemic, who thought the whole thing was a hoax, will be counting on the rest of us to forgive and forget.

As of now, I'm undecided on the forgiveness part. But I guarantee that I won't forget.

## Encouragement at the National Prayer Breakfast

Morgan Griffith 9th District U.S. Rep.

On February 4, I attended this year's National Prayer Breakfast.

As with many other events, the coronavirus pandemic changed how the breakfast this year took place. Instead of gathering at the usual location, a hotel in Washington, D.C., with attendance numbering as great as 5,000 people, I joined other masked Members of Congress, from both parties and both the House of Representatives and the Senate, in the spacious auditorium of the Capitol Visitor Center to watch the events of the breakfast virtu-

It was disappointing this year not to be able to have more guests join us. From

Virginia's Ninth Congressional District, Bobby Griffin of Bristol often attends. I was sorry not to be able to see him this year. I spoke to him after the event, and he asked for the website link to the event. I have included it at the end of this column if any readers are interested themselves.

this changes, I appreciated the remarks, conversations, and musical performances that made up this year's National Prayer Breakfast.

Presidential attendance and addresses have been a highlight of the event for decades. The first event in 1953 was organized by Rev. Billy Graham among others, and he helped convince President Dwight D. Eisenhower to attend. This year's event included clips from

prayer breakfast speeches of each president since Ronald

The words of George W. Bush's 2001 address to the breakfast nicely capture the importance of the event:

Faith is also important to the civility of our country. It teaches us not merely to tolerate one another, but to respect one another -- to show a regard for different views and the courtesy to listen. This is essential to de-

Several of the living former presidents offered a new message for this year. Bill Clinton spoke of how he looked forward to the National Prayer Breakfast each year of his presidency and came away from each one with a renewed sense of purpose, humility, and hope to build unity. Jimmy Carter sent a letter saying that it is too tempting to focus on what divides us instead of unites us, and that now is the time to bind up the nation's wounds.

The keynote speaker for this year's event was Andrew Young, a man who has led a historic life. As a civil rights activist, he was often by the side of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., including on the evening of April 4, 1968, when Dr. King was assassinated in Memphis. In fact, as he spoke at the prayer breakfast, his virtual background was the King Memorial in Washington. He went on to become a U.S. Representative from Georgia, the U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations, and the Mayor of Atlanta.

Ambassador Young described arriving in Washington after he was elected to the House of Representatives in 1972. One of the first people he met was Doug Coe, an evangelist, who gave him a Bible and invited him to the weekly prayer breakfast of House members. He still has that Bible and held it up several times during his talk.

At the breakfast, he said, together they talked honestly and found trust and love through the faith they shared. The breakfast taught him to appreciate differences but also created unity. He said that we are in that kind of moment now.

Ambassador Young cited the title of a book by South African Archbishop Desmond Tutu, No Future Without Forgiveness. He urged us to move forward in the spirit of those words today. Forgiveness is the pathway to unity, and it should be shared widely.

The message of Ambassador Young was a powerful one, and I think it deserves the consideration of all who heard his words at the break-

I have enjoyed the National Prayer Breakfast each year I have attended, but at a time of division and anxiety such as this, I found its message and its meaning especially powerful. If you are interested in viewing the program, you can do so by visiting https://2021nationa lprayerbreakfast.org/.

For questions, concerns, or comments, call my Abingdon office at 276-525-1405, my Christiansburg office at 540-381-5671 or via email at www. morgangriffith.house.gov.

### **Weekly Publication**

**Published Each Saturday** 

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If you have news about or an upcoming event for your organization, company or church, email dhall@theenterprise.net and/or call (276) 694-3101

### LETTER TO THE EDITOR

## No fraud in election found

Please, please, everyone the election is over, stop all this mess that's going on! God did not want the world to be separated by parties, it does not matter if you are Republican or Democrat, we are all American. The storming of the Capitol was awful, this was a horrible day for all of us, we need to get back

to the basic principles that founded this country. The symbol of our democracy is that Capitol. The young officer lost his life and four more people died, this is not what we are, we all need to work together as a team. This is the first time the Capitol has been stormed since 1812. The other countries will think we are

awful, tearing and destroying our own Capitol, they will think they can come over here and do this, also! It has to be accountability for anyone involved in this, like my Daddy always said, "you can't do wrong and get by doing it, God will punish you." Let's all remember in 2016 when Hillary won the 2016 election by

the people's vote, by three million votes, but not the electoral vote, she respected the law of the land and conceded to Trump, so please Trump give this fight up and say, "Biden is my President, also and I will do everything I can to help him." We need healing for the work now. Please everyone, get down on your knees and pray for peace!

> Betty Turner Gordon Martinsville

### **Administrative position filled Thursday**

The School Board of Henry County approved a recommendation from the superintendent to fill one administrative position at their February 4 meeting. Renee Scott will be

principal at Meadow View Elementary School for the 2021-2022 school year. Scott, who currently

serves as principal of Rich Acres Elementary School, previously served HCPS students as an assistant principal and teacher.

While I am grateful to have been able to serve the students, staff, and families of Rich Acres Elementary School for the last six years, I am honored and excited to join the Meadow View Elementary community in the

fall. I look forward to work-

ing with the talented staff to cultivate relationships, facilitate engaging and rigorous learning opportunities, and provide each child with a nurturing, high quality educational experience." Judy Edmonds, current-

ly principal at the school, will join the staff of Bassett High School to lead the Teachers for Tomorrow program. The appointment was approved by the School Board after reconvening from closed session.

Scott's "instructional leadership will continue to guide the students of Meadow View to academic growth and success as well as in their daily demonstration of the Wildcat Ways,' Schools Sandy Strayer said.



Superintendent Renee Scott will be principal at Meadow View **Elementary School in the upcoming school year.** 

### PHCC to receive \$105,000 from Lumina Foundation

Patrick Henry Community College (PHCC) is among eight institutions of higher education in Virginia to receive a portion of a \$725,000 grant from the Lumina Foundation.

Gov. Ralph Northam announced the funding Tuesday, with PHCC to receive \$105,000 of the Lumina Foundation's Equity Institutions grant.

"PHCC has long been recognized as a national leader in cooperative learning, a teaching strategy uniquely linked to closing equity gaps. While these efforts have been very successful,

equity work is never done," Greg Hodges, PHCC's Vice President for Academic & Student Success Services, said. "Infusing culturally responsive teaching into our classrooms helps ensure that PHCC is meeting the academic and student support needs of all of our

The grant will support PHCC's efforts to improve outcomes for students of color in alignment with state and local attainment goals. Specifically, PHCC will utilize the funds in three areas:

1) Providing professional development opportunities for fulltime and adjunct faculty. This extra training will deepen educators' familiarity and practice with culturally responsive pedagogy for both face-to-face and online

2) Supporting and advancing the work of PHCC's Equity Alliance Response (EAR) Team. This team seeks to proactively listen for and address any potential concerns regarding inequity that may arise within the college's student body or among its employees.

3) PHCC will partner with the Virginia Community College System to provide best practices and lessons learned to help promote the equity agenda on a broad statewide level. Some of the activities that the grant could support include creating learning communities, providing faculty development, and building infrastructure to support sustain-

pandemic on our education system have exposed an urgent need to address achievement gaps that have long persisted in historically underserved communities," Northam said in a release. "We are grateful for our partnership

"The disruptive impacts of the

with Lumina and remain steadfast in our ongoing work to build a more inclusive Commonwealth where every student has equitable access to quality, affordable postsecondary opportunities."

Ultimately, the Equity Institutions grant will help the participating colleges support the state's goal of increasing educational achievement for students of color by 5 percentage points by 2024 and making Virginia the besteducated state in the nation by 2030 with 70 percent of working-age adults earning a degree or credential.

# Vaccine program announced at CVS Pharmacy

CVS Pharmacy has begun registering Virginians age 65 and older who are within the Phase 1b eligibility guidelines for vaccinations as part of the Fed-Retail Pharmacy Program for COVID-19 Vaccination. Eligible individuals can register at https://www.cvs.com/ immunizations/covid-19vaccine. CVS will begin

administering vaccinations on Friday, February 12.

VDH worked closely with CVS over the last week to ensure that the CVS system follows Virginia's priority guidelines and to provide an advance opportunity for eligible individuals already registered on VDH waiting lists. However, due to technological limitations with

their national appointment system, CVS is unable to reserve appointments for pre-registered individuals. Virginia will continue to work towards a solution in partnership with other participating states and the federal government.

The federal program will supplement existing vaccination programs by providing 26,000 more vaccines to Virginians. CVS is the first of Virginia's pharmacy partners in the federal pharmacy partnership to move forward with vaccinations. More pharmacies and more locations are expected to start vaccinating patients in the

Retail The Federal Pharmacy Program for COVID-19 Vaccination is a public-private partnership. between pharmacy companies and the federal government. Pharmacy companies receive vaccines directly from the federal government through the partnership program. Initially, the federal government asked states to limit distribution to one pharmacy chain partner. CVS

Health is the initial phar-

macy partner for the program in Virginia.

The appointment for the second vaccination will be made when the first vaccination appointment is scheduled. Those without online access can contact CVS Customer Service at (800) 746-7287.

Walk-in vaccinations without an appointment will not be provided.

### McAuliffe unveils plan to create available workforce for STEM-H, computer science fields

**Brandon Martin** Staff writer

New College Institute Interim Director Karen Jackson joined former governor Terry McAuliffe for a virtual conversation on Feb. 4 about his plan to make Virginia the best state in the nation for Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics and Healthcare (STEM-H), and computer science and computation thinking (CS & CT) educa-

McAuliffe recently announced his intention to run for governor again in 2021. Under his "Path to a Brighter Future," he seeks to address the digital equity gap, integrate STEM-H and computer science literacy across all subjects and K-12 grade levels, and engage the private sector to make opportunities available to students from all walks of life.

We need Virginia to lead America and we need to lead that post-COVID economy," McAuliffe said. "For me, it always comes down to education. Those that are building the best education system, the best workforce, are those that are going to be able to recruit the jobs of the 21st century. Eighty percent of the high-paying and high-demand jobs of the future are going to require some background, some knowledge and some training in STEM-H and computer science."

Jackson, who formerly served as the Secretary of Technology in McAuliffe's administration, highlighted the importance of fostering interest in technology careers at a young age.

"This is a bold plan and I'm completely behind what you have in there," Jackson told McAuliffe. "These

What are we doing to take that fearlessness out that is nascent in who they are? We put them in these school systems and then suddenly technology becomes too hard. There is something broken in that system."

In the past, Jackson said that past efforts such as the Virginia Cyber Range were useful in attracting the next generation to cyber-related career fields.

One of the things that came out of McAuliffe's "cyber commission was the need for kids to have a place where they could practice their cyber skills so they could be more industry ready when they went into college, work or wherever," Jackson said, adding that approximately \$2 million was spent on "a playground" which was accessible by teachers and students throughout the Commonwealth to practice cyber

"It didn't run the risk of breaking the school's IT network, which was always a big concern," Jackson said.

By having the right venue to practice, Jackson said students who typically don't enter the career field were given hope.

"You made me the first female Director of Technology. That was a bold move," Jackson said. "That made me a little more dogged and determined to make sure that women and young girls saw that there was an opportunity for them in these fields."

Jackson said there are multiple career fields in STEM-H and computer science that aren't solely reliant on a four-year degree.

"It doesn't have to be a two or four-year degree for your child to be very successful and have a successful career," Jackson said. "We need to make sure that we

provide those opportunities in an ecosystem so that they are learning, they are enjoying, they are seeing mentors and they have a trajectory straight into a good career at the end."

Solomon McKenley, a junior at Bristol High School who plans to study computer science in college, said he became interested in technology "when I was younger. Technology was always around, and I was always curious how technology works and how people could program something to do a certain thing.

'For getting people interested, I feel like it is always good to start early. Bringing in businesses and owners that can provide internships and get students interested as early as possible is the best way to do it," McKenley said, and added that he does not think interest in technology fields is currently being pushed early enough.

I feel like we are getting to a good start, but I think we can go further," he said.

Dustin Wright, a school principal in Chantilly, said there are inequities in education and other barriers that prevent a more diverse

workforce. "Keeping equity at the center of everything we do in education is one of the most important things," Wright said. "We need to continue to make sure our schools are full of great teachers and that those teachers reflect the diversity of the students that they teach. We want our students to be able to see themselves in our teachers. We want them to see role models."

To facilitate that, Wright noted the importance of ensuring teachers are equipped with "some of these backgrounds in core competencies around STEM-H and



Karen Jackson (bottom left), interim director of the New College Institute, and others, joined former governor Terry McAuliffe (bottom right), for a virtual conversation on Feb. 4 about his plan to make Virginia the best state in the nation for Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics and Healthcare (STEM-H), and computer science and computation thinking (CS & CT) education.

He said this includes incorporating digital literacy into all curriculum areas.

"One of the biggest areas moving forward is thinking about how we are sharing ideas across the Commonwealth," Wright said. What technology do we have available for us to make that more possible? Those are some areas where we can grow."

This, he said, is an area of equity that needs to be addressed.

"A lot of divisions have put a lot of resources into ensuring they are getting a device in every student's hands. Once we get them access to the device, we need to make sure they have access at home to broadband,"

Wright said. "We need to make sure that the technology that we provide them matches their needs."

Andrew Ko, an entrepreneur and chief executive officer of the Kovexa consulting firm, said it is important to form a partnership between public and private institutions to create an available workforce.

"Eighty percent of our jobs across the U.S. are STEM-related," Ko said. "There's a lot of jobs that are created across the entire Commonwealth. One of the major indicators when you are attracting companies to this particular state is education. From that, the private sector wants to get involved.'

Ko said employers are as interested in skill sets rather than grade point averages.

"I'd bring in the private sector, and bring in these micro-credentials, to ask them" about the skills needed "to work at that particular hospital, health care organization or high-tech company," Ko said, and added this will increase the supply and demand for the careers which will, in turn, create "a strong ecosystem and economy" that will excite the younger generation.

For more about McAuliffe's "Path to a Brighter Future," visit https://terrymcauliffe.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/ TRM-STEM-H-Education-Plan-FINAL.pdf.

### kids are digital natives now. Remembered

from page 1

Don't let one incident define our entire city," she said.

Bowles added that the incident is also not validation of stereotypes that people may hold about those involved in the incident.

"Also, I've seen and heard comments specifically about black people - that we are all thugs and criminals," Bowles said. "For those that think that one incident defines the entire black community, they are wrong. I'm not condoning violence or excusing the violence, but don't let the one incident be what you see all black people as. Black people are not monolithic. We don't all think the same, act the same, do the same things, and one black person cannot speak for the entire

black community.' Bowles said the pain also

police department," she on the force that would run said. "As we see nationwide, towards the danger." there are many controversial dling the situation the way it Lawson said. was supposed to be handled. I want to thank our police officers for truly, sincerely and genuinely embodying the mentality of community policing."

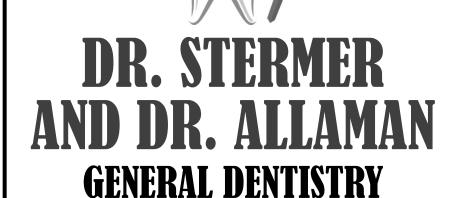
Council Member Danny Turner said many constituents echoed that sentiment.

"I had a number of citizens ask me to tell the police chief that they were very, very appreciative of the heroism of the one city policeman

shone a light on law enforce- who rushed into where shots ment and their efforts during were being fired," Turner said. the incident. "His actions probably saved "A small bright side from many lives. He truly is a hero. this event can be for our I'm sure there are many more

While the community shootings and things that heals, "we need to be posihappen. I want to thank our tive, and that is what I'm askpolice department for han- ing that everyone please do,"





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said, adding that he used a translation app on a phone to continue the conversation. The man and his mother eventually de-

cided to take advantage of classes "to improve their English writing and speaking skills," Dillard said, and added programs at the center also may lead to better employment op-

"If you are in a position where you've been in a job, you want to move forward then you come here and staff can help you with improving your resume, improving your cover letter, and getting those digital literacy skills that may allow you to get a different job opportunity," Dillard said.

Obtaining a GED also provides additional opportunities for higher education at other local institutions like Patrick Henry Community College. Programs at the Center for Community

Learning are available for anyone 18 years or older. The programs are not limited to those without a high school diploma or GED, Dil-"We had one group come last year. They

met and our staff showed them how to use iPads and other digital literacy skills," Dillard said. "I definitely love when groups come over." Classes are offered from 8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., on Mondays; 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.,

Tuesday-Thursday; and 8:30 a.m. to noon on Fridays. Dillard said the times are flexible and he noted that some in-person and virtual op-

portunities also are available. "Anyone that can benefit from these services, our staff will work with you to make sure you get what you need," he said.

In other matters, the school board:

<u>Ubituary</u>

Gale Sizemore Williams Stowe, 86, of

Martinsville, Va., passed away Wednes-

day, Feb. 3, 2021. She was born Sept. 2,

1934 in Mercer County, West Virginia to

Howard Robert Sizemore Sr. and Marga-

In addition to her parents, she was pre-

ceded in death by her husband, Melvin

Stowe; sister, Mrs. Elmer (Nancy) Lutt-

man; and brothers, Howard Sizemore Jr.;

Charles "Chuck" Sizemore; O.H. "Dad-

Judge David V. Williams; stepson, Ron-

ald (Debbie) Stowe; stepdaughters, Mrs.

Gilbert (Carol) Arrington and Mrs. Ran-

some (Kathy) Autry; brothers, Ryland

Sizemore and Bill (Debbie) Sizemore;

grandchildren: Ben Williams, Andrea

(Tim) Strickland, Holly (Matt) Barber,

and Jordan (Kelly) Stowe; eleven great-

grandchildren; and numerous nieces and

One of Mrs. Stowe's proudest achieve-

ments was her long career in nursing. A

graduate of Martinsville High School and

The Memorial Hospital School of Nurs-

ing in Danville, Va., she spent 42 years in

nurse and later head nurse at Martinsville

General Hospital; became a public health

nurse for the Martinsville/Henry County

Health Department; and served as Direc-

tor of Nursing at Martinsville Convales-

know Mrs. Stowe best as the occupa-

tional health nurse of Stanley Furniture

Company. Mrs. Stowe retired from Stan-

ley Furniture after 30 years spent tending

to employees, and it's a matter of debate

as to whether the greater balm was her

extensive medical knowledge or friendly,

nursing career, Mrs. Stowe held a variety

During the course of her extensive

light-hearted disposition.

However, area residents may well

cent Home.

She began her nursing career as a staff

Mrs. Stowe is survived by her son,

dy Bob" Sizemore; and James Sizemore.

ret Staples Sizemore.

Gale Sizemore Williams Stowe

\*Recognized February as African American History Month and School Board Appreciation Month. They also recognized the week as School Board Clerk Appreciation

\*Approved the Self-Insured Health Care Insurance Coverage for fiscal year 2022. Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield has provided renewal information for the 2021-2022 school year. There is no proposed increase for FY 2022.

\*Approved the purchase of Apple devices and accessories. The school division established a technology sustainability plan to ensure that all students have up-to-date devices to facilitate and efficiently engage in teaching and learning. To expand the 1:1 iPad initiative, 1st, 5th, 9th grade students, and teachers in middle and high schools have an opportunity to receive an iPad. Students will also be able to use the iPad to participate in sustained silent reading using the MyOn access PowerSchool Learning, and Google Apps for Education. Instructional apps will be used to enhance instruction. Most, if not all, textbooks will be accessible on the iPad.

Jamf Pro, a mobile device management software, is included on every device. Cases will be provided. Students in 9th grade will receive keyboard cases and offer options like a laptop. The devices will also have AppleCare+ for Education. This is a one-time purchase that will cover iPad repairs for four years. The coverage will allow the iPad and its accessories to be repaired for no service fee. Students in 1st and 5th grades will receive a case that is insured for 4 years to reduce the cost of repairs. Cases will be purchased form AGI using the TIPS contract.

\*Held a work session on the FY22 budget.

of honors. She was a member of the Vir-

ginia Nurses Association — District VI; a

charter member of the Virginia Piedmont

Association of Occupational Health

Nurses, during which she served as Presi-

dent, Vice-President, and/or Director of

numerous committees; a member of the

Virginia State Association of Occupa-

tional Health Nurses, during which she

served as Vice-President and Director

on various committees; a member of the

American Association of Occupational

Health Nurses; and a charter member of

the American Heart Association — Mar-

tinsville/Henry County Unit where she

In addition, Mrs. Stowe was a former

CPR Instructor with the Red Cross and

American Heart Association. She was also

the recipient of The Schering Nurse of

the Year Award for the Commonwealth

riously, those who encountered her will

certainly know that she was not a stern

or overly serious person. She was always

quick with a funny story (and was the

subject of quite a few of them) and al-

ways loved a good joke (and especially a

bad one). She had a love for her family, a

love for children, and a love for animals

a member of Tabernacle Baptist Church

Memorial Park on Wednesday.

Mrs. Stowe was a devout Christian and

A graveside service was held at Henry

In lieu of flowers, memorials may

be made to the Joy Ranch Home for

Children, P.O. Box 727, Hillsville, Va.

24343, or the Bassett Fire Department,

3735 Fairystone Park Hwy., Bassett, Va.

neral Home, Martinsville, Va. To express

condolences online, please visit www.col-

linsmckeestonemartinsville.com.

Arrangements are by McKee-Stone Fu-

While Mrs. Stowe took her work se-

of Virginia in 1986.

(particularly frogs).

in Bassett, Va.

also served on the board of directors.

### Student achievements highlighted The following schools in Henry County

released their academic awards for the second quarter.

**Axton Elementary School** Principal's Scholar

Kindergarten - Jafet Carrillo Mcarena, Ayden Coles, Miguel Cruz II, Oliver Duenas-Salas, Aryell Hairston, Paisley Harris, Dustin Hayzlett, Evelyn Jones, Adelyn Kendrick, Allison Nova, Erica Nunley, Jacson Pryor, Lucas Pryor, Stella Roach, Georgia Robertson, Callie Rogers, Liam Rogers, Andrea Ruiz tiznado, Kolton Scales, Tanner Sturm, Nathan Williams, Saul Wilson Javon Younger, Jr. Alesha Zimmerman.

First Grade - Sylvia Becerra, Joseph Boone, Jaxson Bowman, Harper Campbell, Avery Carter, Natalie Curry, Kameron Dillard-Harris, Lillian Garrett, Kelsey Gilley, Ryan Haley, Barbara Hernandez Lopez, Avery Kovack, Kylie Lawson, Mason Lewsi-McCranie, Kaciana Moore, Jesus Ortiz Espana, Caleb Peters, Adrian Tamayo-Salas, Samuel Ward.

Second Grade - Jacen Britton, Yahir Contreras-Devora, Emma Frye, Abigail Gibson, Nickolas Graham, Matthew Hankins, Cole Jamison, Liam Keatts, Trinity Lytton Dixon, Abigail Robertson, Mason Williams

Third Grade - Lucas Allan, Carson Bender, Raylan Bender, Braighlyn Bousman, Blaise Brooks, Keziah Dillard, Liam Eanes, Kyle Green, Aniyah Hairston, Orion Jamison, Brodie Kendall, Megan Lee, Maleah McBride, Madison Read.

Fourth Grade - Ayden Bender, Samuel Boone, Hadyn Childress, Raylan Hall, Hailey Haymore, Quincy Hodge, Iacie Jones, Sarah Keen, Carrington Kendrick, Hunter Kendrick, Kendall Kendrick, Stella Kovack, Evelyn Lawson, Nevaeh McCranie, David Ryan Peters, Jocelyn Shockley, Jaliek Terry, Tautionna Totten.

Fifth Grade - Ella Frye, Ayden Haynes, Peyton Martin, Ja'Niyah Millner, Kaylen Price, Kirrah Riddle, Oswaldo Ruiz-Tiznado, Ethan Wagoner

Honor Roll

Kindergarten - Sa'Riyah Dickerson, Yariel Garcia Diaz, Dylan Stockton, Aria

First Grade - Lexie Aguilar, Zaya Belton, Jeremiah Giggetts, Santiago Hernandex-Perez, Chloe Lignore, Christian Moyer, Jonai Poff, Rosario Ponce-Tamayo, Angel Pritt, Jason Pruitt, Nathan Robertson, Kingston Simon, Abraham Valderrama-Hernandez.

Second Grade - Mason Bryan, Gocelyn Feria, Izayiah Giles, Xavion Hairston, Kaylie Hurd, Alexis Jenkins, Caylee MacPherson, Jayla Martin, Anistyn Mitchell, Hesbeide Denisse Quinonez, Lilly Secrest, Sophia Stockton, Isaac Valle-Villa, Elijah Wiggins, Kaidyn Young-Keen.

Third Grade - Josiah Corbett, Ryder Ferguson, Ashton Handy, Evelyn Hernandez-Romero, Peyton lackson, Brendan Mann, Daniel Smith, Tanner Stultz, Cameron Sturrn, Kaleb Swinney.

Fourth Grade - Jahari Akridge, Jace Bryant, Evan Carter, Jimmie Crowder Jr, Matthew Lieberman, Hayden Nichols, Joshua Stockton.

Fifth Grade - Gaige Dalton, Zynia Dodson, Garcia-Diaz, Juan Hernandez-Lopez, Madison Jamison, Taylor Roach, Jason Ruiz-Salas, Michael Tiznado-Marmolejo.

**Campbell Court Elementary School** Principal's Scholar

Kindergarten - Greyson Bowman, Abbigale Bryant, Triston Capel, Gaige Clark, Georgiana Curtis, Coltan Daniels, Kylee Dillard, Alannah Ferren, Josiah Hagwood, Mekhi Joyce, Ayla Mills, Kamden Moorefield, Parker Priest, Remy Santamaria, Brayden Shemro, Maddox Spencer, Lennox Tucker.

First Grade - Alexa Bernal-Mendoza, Cantry, Bryson Blessing Carter, Shawn Cooley, Brodie Craig, Jayceon Ferguson, Aiden Fulcher, Saydee Holley, Liam Kesler, Mason Leviner, Emma Manns Kaylee Martin, Ayanna Penn, Owen Robertson, Megan Shively, Righteous Stephenson, Bentley Taylor, Ka'Liyah Titus, Maranda-Layla Wall-Mills, Larkin Webb, Riley Wright.

Second Grade - Chloe Bassett, Xareni Bernal-Mendoza, Jeanelle Capel, Ryleigh Craig, Aria Crawford, Abigail Disharoom, Treavor Eanes, Nathaniel Eggleston, Layla Fuller, Keiana Hairston, Nyomi Holland, Zoey Lafferty, Katherine Meadows, Keren Quiroga-Medina. Third Grade - Dalton Blevins, Jaydance

Cumbee, Arielle Hanson, Havana Hylton, Jasper Lockhart, Braden Mabe, Braelyn Manns, Jude McColl, Bentley Reynolds, Braylon Ross, Matthew Todd, Todd Woods Fourth Grade - Amarra Conner,

Andrea Delasancha, Bailey Fields, Mykah

Fitzgerald, Sahaie Hairston, Connor Mabe, Layla Shockley, Jackson Thompson, Camden Trail, Levi Underwood, Madelyn Wimmer, Isabel Yarger.

Fifth Grade - Nadya Earnest, Joseph East, Kayli Edwards, Nyangani Gravely, Cailee Hairston, Caidence Hancock, Carson Holley, Peyton Leviner, Isaac Naff, Mattox Sigmon.

Honor Roll

Kindergarten - Ayleigh Gross, Jamari Hairston, Destiny Shifflett.

First Grade - Adrian Aparicio-Hernandez, Tamra Bailey, Angelayza Diaz, Annabelle Duncan, Chloe Holder, Iker Martinez Chavez. Second Grade - Breyonna Allen, Thomas

Boothe, Anna'Layah Cruz, Heaven Hylton,

Trinity Joyce, Gavin Mitchell, Karleigh Moore, Erin Priest, Avery Santamaria, Addison Sawyers, Jahlaya Staley, Kaleb Third Grade - Liam Fain, Brayden Hall, Amilya Henderson, Wesley Jones, Madison

Payne, Nevaeh Ritenour Newcomer, Autumn Woods, Kaylee Zuniga-Marban. Fourth Grade - Gwyneth Bailey, Analeigh Garcia Nolazco, Jonah Haynes, Weston Hendrix, Caelynn Holder, Grant Lineberry, Nicholai Lockhart, Madison Newman, Nahlejh Phillips, Jeremiah

Fifth Grade - Ethan Kesler, Skyler

Pritchett, Daniel Quiroga-Medina, Amira

### **Drewry Mason Elementary School**

Kindergarten - Levi Adkins, Kaylee Bowers, Keaira Carter, Kinsley Carter,

Arnold, Trevis Carson, Aynslee Carter, Brantley Cooper, Khalyl Crawford, Ryland Edwards, Chanel Easley, Christopher Garnes, Emma Grubb, Jubilation Gunnell, Austin Havens, Thomas Henry Jr, Amelia Hundley, Brooklyn Jamison, Jayden Lopez Vazquez, Madeline McDaniel, Mackenzie McDaniel, Rava Nester, James Oliver, Austin Roland, Philip Santoemma, Brinden Washburn, Levi Widener, Steinar Wilson,

Bocock, Sophie Brannock, Ryleigh Clark, Taylor Cockram, Paul Curry, Brian Dannegger, Damian Del Toro Rodriguez, Lilee Farmer, Natalie Gehrke, Phoenix Hairston, Jaden Harbour, JyKierious Harris, Lucas Harris, Braxton Hayes, Alaina Hubbard, Rylie Jarrett, Curren Lawrence, Wyatt Lawson, Braden Layman, Tyson Moore, Alice Musick, Cabella Nunn, Brenden Penn, Zakkary Prichard, Sawyer Reed, Gabrielle Reynolds, Ahria Scales, Rylee Smith, Kalyb Tinsley, Kaiden

Andrew Winders

Fourth Grade - Seth Burgess, Emily Coleman, Kaylee Church, Dylan Cox, Sawyer Donavant, Drew Foster, Makayla Goins, Ella Gregory Tyler Harris, Urijah Hollandsworth, Elizabeth Lewis, Paxten Lewis, Ayden Moore, Micah Russell, Ally Smith, Collin Stowe, Orlando Turner, Abdulrahman Umar

Boles, Kaylee Burks, Alijah Cooper, Christian Gamble, Isaac Hinojosa Jr, Brenna Light, Abbigail Thacker, Jenna Turner, Tristan Wade, Bryant Washburn, Levi Winders

Kindergarten - Aubree Brooks, Brooklyn Coles, Olivia Hodges, Alainna Jones, Gavin Scales, Elijah Slate.

Serna, Cassandra Cardwell, Ivy Chenault, Olivia Fackler, Truth Farrish, Robert Forcier, Sayler Hubbard, Riley James, Brinlee Martin, Mubarak Salim, Alison Jo Sampson, Paxton Stowe, Camaron Wooten.

See **Achievements**, page 7

Keys, Martin Llamas Ornelas, Natasha Martell-Rios, Ferrah Mitchell, Carleigh

Sharpe, Ethan Taylor. Mitchell, Levi Stout.

### Principal's Scholar

Francisco Diaz Villafane, Declan Flaneary, Brennen Fox, Darin Garnes, Kinnedy Gehrke, Noah Hairston, Ahlaya Harber, Elinor Harris, Mason Hines, Bobby Lemons, Aryanna Lopez Rivera, Madilyn Lynch, Taya Manson, Alushh McCain, Jaxson McGhee, Verna Midkiff, Vernon Midkiff, Haylee Oakes, Chloe Oldham, Sophia Parsons, Claire Pruett, Zia Red, David Roberts, Santiago Sanchez-Posadas, Ariana Schumann, Damien Spencer, Landon Staples, Adalynn Thacker, Evan Thurman, Journee Wade, Juliana Watkins, Ryleigh Watson. First Grade - Elijah Adkins, Madison

Serenity Wolfe, Jonathan Wyatt. Second Grade - Presley Adkins, Baylee

Third Grade - Harlee Atkins, Ethan Craig, Easton Crosby, Jackson Dodson, Nicholas Gamble, Dora Holland, Aidan Hinojosa, Kira Kulish, Hermione Lawrence, Brody McGhee, Addison Meeks, Luke Motley, Caleb Powell, Savannah Shelton, Selena Stultz, Jaythan Thompson, Amelia Tollison, Annabelle Whitaker,

Fifth Grade - Brody Bocock, Madison

Honor Roll

First Grade - Antonello Betantocourt

### Incident from page 1

scene to enter secure the

the remaining patrons and

employees, according to

the release.

Inside the restaurant, restaurant. authorities located the two Authorities worked to deceased men from the rescue about 12 patrons initial shooting and one and 20 restaurant employwounded man. An addiees trapped inside with the two shooters. Additional shots were not fired inside the restaurant as police responded to the scene, made entry, and safely evacuated

tional wounded man was found nearby, the release Martinsville Police Chief The wounded men were transported to the hospital for treatment of life-threatening injuries. The remains

of the two dead men were

transported to the Office

and autopsy. No law enforcement officers were injured during the incident.

of the Medical Examiner in

Roanoke for examination

Eddie Cassady requested the Virginia State Police Bureau of Criminal Investigation's Salem Field Office to investigate the incident.

The investigation is on-

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Axton Solar, LLC will host a community meeting on Monday, February 15, 2021, at 6 p.m. at the Galilean House of Worship, located at any 15, 2021, at 6 p.in. at the Gainean House of worship, located at 5078 A.L. Philpott Highway, Martinsville, Virginia 24112. Representatives of Axton Solar, LLC will be present to discuss its proposed solar energy generation facility to be located in the vicinity of Axton, Virginia. Interested members of the public are invited to attend in person. This meeting will be conducted in accordance with all Virginia Department of Health guidelines. To participate by telephone or by computer you may find additional information and instructions here: https://axtonsolarproject.info/

#### COUNTY OF HENRY **BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS** PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

Pursuant to Section 15.2-2204 of the Code of Virginia, a series of public hearings has been scheduled for February 24, 2021, at 1:00 p.m. ing, Kings Mountain Rd., Collinsville, Virginia. The purpose of these public hearings is to receive citizen input into the possible issuance of Special Use Permits for the following cases.

### Case S-21-08 Andy Bowersox / Energize Ministries

A request for a Special Use Permit was received under Section 21-302 of the Henry County Zoning Ordinance to allow for the establishment of a campground facility to accommodate up to 15 sites and to construct a performance/presentation/amphitheater area. The property is approximately 63 acres, located beyond the end of Serenity Dr. in the Reed Creek District, is zoned Agricultural District A-1, as shown on Tax Map 19.3/72

### Case S-21-09 Caleb R. Knighten

A request for a Special Use Permit was received under Section 21-215 of the Henry County Zoning Ordinance to allow for the construction of an off-site general advertising sign. The property is located at 8636 A L Philpott Hwy in the Collinsville District, is zoned Commercial District B-1, as shown on Tax Map 42.6(6)/1.

The applications for these requests may be viewed in the Department of Planning, Zoning & Inspection between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Lee H. Clark, AICP Director of Planning, Zoning & Inspection

### Achievements from page 6

Second Grade Franscesco Betancourt Serna, Aubree Bowers, Abigail Coleman, Kiya Crawford, Adelaide Day, Mason Fackler, Kaylee Finney, Brooklyn Kenee, Caleb Manson, Bradley Perez-Cruz, Peyton Plasters, Ethan Price, Jy'Mier Redd, Angel Rivera-Jimenez.

Third Grade - Damien Cox, Lillian Eanes, Brianna Finnley, Noah Fulcher, Kailynn Gehrke, Sophia Hatcher, Emberlyn Hundley, Ackley Pace, Nicholas Roman, Harper Strader, Jordyn Thomas, Madalyn

Fourth Grade - Leonidas Ansetta, Layla Hege, Lily Harris, Lucas Moore, Isaiah Reynolds, Brett Roberts, Honor Smith, Orlando Turner, Michael Vernon. Fifth Grade - Wesley Bateman,

Carleigh Bowers, Hallie Cockram, Lilianna Ellis, Blakeslee Gehrke, Coretlynn Hailey, Kirsten Hairston, Jacob Hernandez, Kaylee James, Meadow Jones, Aleah Manson, Shaelyn Nance, Presley Royster, Ariella Sanchez-Posadas, Trey Sharpe, Leah Vaughn, Ariyah Yates.

### **G.W. Carver Elementary School**

Principal's Scholar

Kindergarten - Alaya Barner, Jace Braddock, Drake Campbell, Nevaeh Carter, Isabella Clark, Branson Curry, Finlee Davis, Estrella Degante-Portugal, Amelia Eaton, Cataleya Fackler, Nickolas Garten, Daniel Gionelli, Noah Gonzalez, Dominik Grice, Abriel Hairston, Gage Harris, Elena Harrison, Alyssa Hill, Tanner Hylton, Ella James, Levi Lawson, Raleigh Leftwich, Brooklyn Martin, Eli Martin, Elsie Meeks, Christian Meyers, Sadie Morris, Kailyn Pinkard, Brayden Sanders, Renee Santillo, Kaiden Scales, Lexi Sias, James Stowe, Xy'lia Tinsley-Beal, Westyn Willard, Bethany Williams, Paisley Witt, Kaelynn Wright.

First Grade - Brenna Barrow, Madilynn Brown, Amelia Burnette, Isabella Campbell, Trenten Clyburn, Karissa Curry, Keyanna Dalton, Paxton Eggleston, Ellie Emerson, Ethan Gonzalez, Jernie Hairston, Sonny Harmon, Trinity Harvey, Layla Jenkins, Kendall Lucas, Jacob Martin, Marie Medrano-Barba, Christian Newsome, Gerson Reyes-Carabantes, Daniel Rose, Waylon Shelton, Mia Shreve, Noah Spencer, Riley Sutton, Addison Tuggle.

Second Grade - Alise Barrow, McKenzie Brown, Kobe Burman, Christian Carter, Dustin Crowe, Iyla Edwards, Rylee Emerson, Sadie Foley, Kamryn Holland, Xavier Leghorn, Arianna Maya, Daniel McAdams, Jocelyn McKinney, Allison Montgomery, Joseph Odell, Anna Rorrer, Bryce Rorrer, Zi'Maya Rumley, Waylon Shelton, Brendan Shreve, Dawson Willard.

Third Grade - James Anderson, Yarlee Ashley, Ian Baker, Jaxon Barnes, Saniya Coles, Kingston Dalton, Noah DeShazo, Rylan Eggleston, Jackson Fain, Keirah Feggans, Brantley Fortner, Hailey Hairston, Ny'Keese Hairston, Meah Hill, Ariel Jenkins, Isaac Lawson, Parker Lippencott, Maci Lovell, Treshon Marshall, Jesse Minter, Mason Mize, Landon Montgomery, Lauren Mosley, Laniyah Neal, Joseph Nemeth, Kendall Pruitt, Sydney Reynolds, Jesse Santillo, Wyatt Shelton, Benjamin Spencer, Noah Wade, Nicholas Whalen, Kailey Williamson.

Fourth Grade - Alice Alger, Daniel Freeman, Daniel Gray, Aleah Jenkins, Ja'sye Martin, Emalyn May, Evan Moore, Randy Staples, Serenity

Fifth Grade - Talyn Andrews,

David Bowers, Bethany Burnette, Kyle Childress, Syncere Gravely, Gavin Grogan, Ariah Hairston, Jackson Haynes, Jordon Jacobs, Asher Perry, Kendall Prillaman, Karen Ramirez-Hernandez, Caleb Rodgers, James Roop, Trey Root, Cooper Shivley, Piper Sill, Gregory Spencer, Dillon Wade, Hunter Willard.

#### **Honor Roll**

Kindergarten - Axel Bowman, Ava Odell, Ky Leigh Turner, Lilly Wild.

First Grade - Madison Ashley, Hunter Eanes, Arabella Gilbert, Grayson Haga, Annabelle Looney, Kandace Martin, Meritxell Miranda-Bueno, Joseph Reynolds, Connor Vaughn.

Second Grade - Audrey Adkins, Kalleigh Cole, Malcholm Dawson, Emma Epperly, Sophia Gonzalez, Kameron Jones, Darien Kidd, Emily Medina-Portugal, Dominick Mitchem, Alora Nelson, Holly Noe, Imani Phillips, Dakota Smith, Olivia Smith, Ethan Willard, Liam Young. Third Grade - Niamh Ashworth,

Hannah Bartlett, Scarlett Eaton, Brielle Estep, Robert Jaxon Garten, Javien Kidd, Kameron Leghorn, Damien Meyers, Delilah Moran, Jennifer Stowe, Layla Thurman, Grace Wade, Bentley Warner, Abdullah Fourth Grade - Ayden Coles,

Aubrie Dalton, U'lyssa Edwards, Madison Gamez-Turpin, Lily Harvey, Saylor Hopkins, Kinley Jones, Dulce Jose-Perez, Kayleigh Lucas, Hunter McBride, Jensen Palmer, Lillian Sink.

**Fifth Grade** - Josiah Bartlett, isselle Cruz Martin, Isaiah Gisselle Hairston, Adison Haynes, Annabelle Huff, Andrew Hundley, Julie Jones, Camden Meeks, Ivey Silva Reyes, Kayleigh Stowe, Lance Thompson, Jake Whitlock, Alayna Williams, Matthew Witcher.

#### **Meadow View Elementary School** Principal's Scholar

Kindergarten - Sha'Rion Adams, Lily Boyd, Karleigh Brown, Kingston Carter, Rowan Calloway, Abigail Edwards, Easton Ferguson, Stephen Fleagle, Melinda Foley, Jayceon Gravely, RJ Fox, Mason Hairfield, Jeremiah Hairston, Mya Hairston, Aubree Harris, Dynasty Harmon, Sterlin Josiah Hatcher, Lillian Hatchett, Heidi Haymore, Lilyanna Hodge, Luke Jones, DeNaria Jordan, Lucas Kennedy, Kameron Keys, Annabelle Lavinder, Jewel Bowles-Lawrence, Mayra Mali, Diamond Martin, Addyson McMillan, Allyson McMillan, Daisie Medina Lopez, Allan Myers, Erion Niblett, Vanellope Ortiz, Annabelle Ott, Meina Owens, Kameron Parker, Elijah Perdue, Adam Salem, Arabella Sceals, Kolden Sprinkle, Kayden Smith, Louis Tyree, Jordan Vasquez Valencia, Mia Vazquez-Angles, Zakauri Waller Young, Naughtia Warnick, Kennedy Wimbush, Alexandra Woods Cali Wright, Josephine Wright.

First Grade - Evelyn Anderson, Xane Basham, Olivianna Belcher, Aubrie Brito, Noah Castro, Ethan Collins, Noah Davis, Tyler Deal, Brayleigh Flippen, Brantley Foster, Hayleigh Grant, Riley Greer, Aubrey Hairston, J'Ceon Hairston, Makenna Hassell, Nancin Holley, Amina Inge, Ah'Miracle Johnson, Skylar Jones, Aryanna Jose-Ventura, Reina Lopez Gill, Reese Joyce, Kamryn Maldonado, Joey Meeks, Kolton Miller, Gavin Minter, Jhonathan Ortiz Lopez, Ethan Parnell, Kaitlyn Pierce, Khristian Pitzer, Ryan Pruitt, Joseph Redd, Adalyn Robertson, Zackery Rose, Kingston Shrough, Everlee Smith, Abigail Swain, Micah

Taylor, Asher Tipton, Travice Wade, Triton Webb, Emma Whitlow, Gavin Wilson, Peyton Wilson, Rachel Woodward, Austin Young.

Second Grade - Kai Aaron, Mason Adkins, Zoe Aguilar, Elijah Alley, Natalie Barker, Claude Becker IV, Amya Bowman, Reese Brim, Ka'Miyah Brooks, Allen Crom, Christian Dixon, Briggs Favero-Wylie, Sawyer Ferguson, JaMil Foreman, Jason Garcia Ortiz, Gravely, Brayden Hale, Cody Hanks, Mackenzie Harman, Ava Hart, Rilee Harter, Evan Hatchett, Lynzi Haynes, Miranda Holt, Emma Kendall, Mia Lopez Gill, Ashton Manns, Sophia Pelaez, Mirna Pastor-Rivera, Jayden Philpott, Mallory Plogger, Aubrey Jackson Powers, Corbin Pruitt, Dominik Reynolds, Itzel Sandoval-Campuzano, Anthony Santillo, Elijah Scales, Easton Sechrist, Alexis Smith, Chole Smith, Brooklyne Wimbush, Nathan Wood, Carter Wright. Third Grade - Bentley Adkins,

Adam Bowman, Jeremiah Brown, Mason Calloway, Alexa Diaz, JeanCarlo Diaz- Alvarez, Benjamin Doan, Grayson Hancock, Lucas Hatley, Linsey Helms, Brigham Hodnett, Aaryn Holley, Kerrigan Hunley, Lilleanna Lawson, Caydence Martin, Jayce Martin, Natalie Moorefield, Lily Phillips, Aubrey Rea, Paisley Reynolds, Brian Sechrist, Ethan Shelton, Ashley Smallwood, Riley Standford, Landon Swisher, Bryce Tucker, Emma Witt.

Fourth Grade - Issac Barker, Connor Byrd, Aaron Compton, Greyson Easter, Andre Hairston, Isabella Hancock, Seth Hubbard, Mason Loeshre, Abigail Peyton, Sean Powell, Nathaniel Powers, Ella Santoemma, Samuel Sechrist, Kaden Shaffer, Zoe Smith, Alexander Street, James Tilley, Harley Williams, Ethan Woods, Jade Yates.

Fifth Grade - Rye Adkins, Madelyn Anthony, Aiden Calloway, Cade Collins, Maggie Rae Cockram, Kortnei Gravely, Sean Harper, Eyan Hubbard, Lukas Johnson, Cambria Martin, Mahoganey Scales, Zaina Talley, Cole Turner, Dallas VanBoskerck, Ronnie Witt

#### Honor Roll

Kindergarten - Francelis Abreu, Leslie Espana Lopez, Seth Lusk Gibson Oakes, Marvell Shareef.

First Grade - James Allman, Trevor Elliott, Miley Jimenez Chavez, Kenneth Ford, Adan Guerrero, Greyson Hanson, Angel Lopez-Bautista, Jayceon Lynch, Connor Keatts, Deandre Mattox, Samirah Isabella Meraz-Vivanco, Kennedy Moore, Alivia Preston, Jacob Redd, Parker Redd, Jamyria Ross, Kymani Scales, Annabel Sink, Jayce Stockton, Andrea Ambros-Santiago, Mia Valencia Andrade.

Second Grade - Levi Blankenship, Gabriella Brooks, Kaylee Carabantes-Chavez, Liliana Cortez Vazquez, Alanna Gerlach, Rico Gomez, Tristan Hairston, Zaiden Johnson, Reese Krejci, Macinleigh Meeks, Kenzie Parnell, Trevor Price, Aubree Redd, Christian Ross, Maggie Sebastian, Cailyn Vaughn, Ivy Walker, Angelia Witcher, De'Mauri Witcher, Giovani

Third Grade - Kyndall Anthony, Bethany Dodson, Casco Colindres, Eve Cox, Nevan Cunningham, Colton Serenity Davis, Jyell Florence, Lucas Gravely, Ailynn Jose Ventura, Piper Knott, Shawn Mitchem, Brently McCollum, Dalton McKeen, Jayden Minter, Christian Ortiz Lopez,

See Achievements, page 8

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Madison Adkins, Stephanie

Ambros-Santiago, Jaydin Ayers,

### Achievements from page 7

Brianna Parker, Aspen Rakes, Bella Shepherd, Jacob Vazquez-

Fourth Grade - Cedric Beal, Caleb Clark, Daniel Dixon, Emily Draper, Rylan Hammock, Josie Kenny, Isla King, Braden Parker, Reamy Plogger, Domonique Ruben, Konner Sceals.

Fifth Grade - Turner Altice, Barksdale, Mason Ferguson, Chole Pugh, Lindsey Ramirez, Jonathan Saligan, Jackson Shepherd, Gracie Stultz, Ammon Woodward, Haleigh Wangler, Nicholas Yates.

### Mt. Olivet Elementary School

Principal's Scholar

Kindergarten Mason Ayers, Brody Branch, Abigail DeGiovanni, Kaydence Dickerson, Lily Drouin, Caleb Fields, Ian Gann, Sha'Kiyah Rozayvion Gomez, Liam Gravely, Anastasia Greer, Ameriah Hairston, Grayson Hawks, Christian Hodge, Kristen Hopkins, Kamryn Martin, Emmalyn McKinney, Zoeymar Melendez, NaZari Mitchell, Serenity Moore, Tiffany Patterson, Camden Pilson, Skylar Plummer, Lavon Pruitt, Ricardo Rivera, Amelia Ruiz, Emerson Spencer, Izabella Thomas.

First Grade - Emma Adkins, Jamyah Anglin, Ellie Gunter, Avery Hynes, Tahirie Jackson, Brayden Kidd, Ezinne Omoji, Ralei Peters, Parker Rowe. Second Grade - Reagan

Asbury, Sadie Boone, Ian Boyd, Zariah Carter, Jasiah Clifton, Avary Ferguson, Branson Gibson, Caleb Gravely, Ania Hairston, Hairston, Stephen Holland, Gavin Hutcherson, Karter Jennings, Tate Lackey, Calvin Lovelace, Damon Mickles, Addyson Minter, Anderson Platero Batres, Mason Plummer, Keegan Redd, Casey Richardson, Avery Salgado, Merrell Simon Jr., Ábigail Stafford, Ava Vasquez, Michael Wilson.

Third Grade - Jagger France, Aaron Garcia, Daisy Hairston, Trey Hairston, Parker Hynes, Jordyn Simpson, Arabella Spencer, Swanson, Alannah London Williams, Mia'bella Wimbush, Kylie Zola.

Fourth Grade - Zachary Bake, Markus Bunn, Kaitlyn Dalton, Bentlee Davis, Tia Giles, Bryce Hayzlett, Micah Jones, Braylen McBride, Alina Moyer, Jasalyn Thomas, Mason Wingfield.

Fifth Grade - Talon France, Michael Jeffress II, Yareli Ruiz Tamayo, Piper Stimpert, Logan Thornhill, Matthew Whitaker.

**Honor Roll** 

Kindergarten - Xavier Davis. First Grade - Elijah Fitzgerald, Brantley Hall, Dre'ajah Hodge, Alexandria Jennings, Patterson, Khaya Washington, Alivia Williams.

Second Grade - Amiah Reid. Third Grade - Braylyn Beal, Rozonyez Gomez, Camden Hairston, Abygayle Emmalyn Pair.

Fourth Grade - Daniel Gomez-Malone, Cameron Hairston, Sydney Minter, Aniyah Stockton. Fifth Grade - Dakota Brooks, Joseph Clark, Norah Cundiff, Jackson Gunter, Skylar Hairston,

### **Rich Acres Elementary School**

Joseph Hopkins, Morgan Smith.

Principal's Scholar

Kindergarten - Ethan Bokman, Robert Collier, Jayden Gauldin, Khallie Hairston, Oldham, Alivia Penn, Atley Peters, Dezmond Scales, Andrew Scott, Nylah Spencer, Aria Vasquez.

First Grade - Henry Allen, Braylen Alvarez, Za'Kari Carter, David Harp, Carmello Hayden, Alaya King, Lauryn Palmer, Caesar Penn, Caleb Preston, Atticus Secrest, Waylon Shockly, Enrique Silva. Second Grade Harper

Adkins, Trinity Alley, Kinley Clark, Cameron Foddrell, Alexia Hairston, Cadence Oakes, Colton Sanders, Azariyah Waller, Joshua

Third Grade - Jasper Allen, George Harris, Isabella Watts.

Fourth Grade - Jayda Deshazo, Layla Hairston, Jack Kirby, Ryan

Fifth Grade - Layla Hayes, Baylee Martin, Natalie Tatum, Nicholas Taylor.

Honor Roll

Kindergarten - Nyla Anderson, Hunter Collier.

First Grade - My'Kai Bishop, Jacob Bowman, Da'Vonni Dixon, Josiah Grey, Dylan Palumbo, Hallie Savedge.

Second Grade - Luke Martin, Nylah-Kay Scott.

Third Grade - Skyah Adams, Peyton Duncan, Kiylee Faw, Caleb Martin, Caleb Nolen, Gabriella Silva.

Fourth Grade - Rhianna

Hairston, Tucker Ziglar.

Fifth Grade - Darius Davis, Malayah Powell, Blessin Sanders, Hunter Savedge.

#### **Stanleytown Elementary School** Principal's Scholar

Kindergarten - Avery Allen,

Dudlee, Gemini Duvernay, Uriel Hernandez-Miguel, Ava Hill, Loudermilk, Morgan McBride, Yoselin Miguel, Liam Napier, Charlie Nixon, Harden Rumley, Ava Stroud, Autumn Williams.

First Grade - Taylor Allen, Tristan Allen, Elizabeth Alley, Kali Coleman, Delaney Creech, Riley Doss, Alayla Ferguson, Cheyenne Foster, Trey Fulcher, Zuri Hairston, Raylin Hambrick, Megan Harms, Izzabella Hopkins, Rachel Martin, Calliope Osborne, Sadie Peters, Trinity Ramsey, Aubrey Roberts, Lucas Schronce, Lilyann Stallard.

Second Grade - Kasen Cassady, Shaelyn Cooper, Hannah Draper, Autumn Easley, Matthew Hodges, Peter Karkenny, Addilyn Kidd, Jerryian Martin, Jace McGhee, Elana Ramos, Samara Stewart.

Third Grade - Kadence Bousman, Ethan Bowling, Ronnie Draper, Renee Hairston, Alexis Hutchens, Dyemond Jones, Trinity Law, BiLanna Martin, Greylin Martin, Kyleigh Triplett, Nathan Vaughn, Alexander Wimbish.

Fourth Grade - Sarabella Bailey, Joseph Howell, Derek McBride, Lauryn Phillips, Kaylee Sowder;

Fifth Grade: Supreme Jones, Camryn Penn, Joshua Penn.

Honor Roll

Kindergarten Brooklyn Adkins, Elivyah Burch, Avery Franklin, Allison Handy, Diana Tejeda-Lopez.

First Grade - Leonel Canela-Thomas, Adalayna Easter, Olivia Epperson, Shylah Parsons, Caleb Waller, Calleigh Whittle, Gabriel Young, Skylar Young.

Second Grade - Jordan Clark, Austin Cole, Ignacio Coronilla-Ortega, Azrael Fackler, Gage Ferguson, Matthew Green, Jr., Ayden Hairston, Dominic Jones, Levi Miles, Jackson Nichols, Jase Ramsey, Sarah Sigmon, MaKenna Valentine, Alexis Waid, Gabriel Wimbish.

Third Grade - Issacc Bailey, Ruben Canela-Thomas, Jate Meyer, Makayla Spinks, Gemma Surber, Javion Titus. Fourth Grade Hutchens, Lillian Waller.

Fifth Grade - Camden Alley, Eli Hardy, Bashir Martin, Paxton Matherly, Johnathan Pierce, Lucas Prillaman, Aubrey Turner.

#### Fieldale-Collinsville Middle School A Honor Roll – for earning A's

in all classes:

6th - 8th Grade - Amelia Allen, Logan Allen, Reagan Barker, Trenten Bateman, Maggie Beam, Maddie Bennett, Peyton Boothe, Autumn Bowyer, Sara Brim, William Byrd, Ivan Cabiness II, Christopher Campbell, Sarah Cassell, Campbell, Daniel Madelynn Chappell, Madison Cline, Colton Collins, Karli Compton, Madeline Cooley, Sarabeth Crews, Brianna Doss, Paige Doughton, Ja Varus Faulkner, John Flanagan, Carson Foley, Michael Foley, Andre Fuller, Camryn Gilbert, Nathan Goad, Alley, Gongloff, Kaylyn Graham, Daisha Hairston, Kaia Hairston, Landon Hairston, Brennan Harbour, Addison Harris, Jazmyn Hodge, Ethan Huff, Braden Hundley, Bailey Jones, Tate Jones, Elena King, Landon Knott, Scarlet Law, Alorah Lawless, Terry Leviner, Peyton Lewis, Hannah Lyles, Emily Lyons, Christian Mabe, Zyreak Manns, Anna McArthur, Emma McColl, Aymia Menefee, Kaitlyn Miner, Åvery Minich, Sydnor Mitchell, Alexandria Moore, Kayden Moore, Gavin Morrison, Brooklynn Nance, Gracie Nelson, Emily Newman, Tyler Powell, Timothy Powers, Landon Prillaman, Iker Ramirez Hernandez, Makenna Reynolds, Juan Rivera Hernandez, Isaac Rodgers, Hannah Schelling, Peyton Schooler, Mackenzie Seay, Daila Sechrist, Maggie Sechrist, Morgan Sechrist, Elizabeth Shively, Jakayla Staley, Bailey Stanley, Dhrithik Tanna, Abigail Thompson, Nazyha Tinsley, Takyla Tinsley, Sarah Tolbut, Colin Turner, Lauren Turner, Brenden Tyree, Destiny Walker, Amara Waller, Charity Whitfield, Wilson, McKenzie Joshua Wingfield, Alisha Winston, Chloe Wood, Autumn Woody.

A-B Honor Roll - for earning A's and B's in all classes:

6th-8th Grade -Anthoine Adams, Brady Adkins,

Alexis Bailey, Ashlen Bailey, Jasmyne Baker, Cadence Ball, Nathaniel Barbour, David Berent, Toby Boaz, Breanna Boyd, Jesse Branch, Ann Burrell, Cole Byrd, Dayshonna Carter, Emily Cassell, Hayden Cline, Emily Cope, Berenice Cordova, London Crigger, Aleeze Cruz Martin, Bryson Custin, Kylee Deatherage Adam DeVoss, Mariah Dillard Dockery, Anakin Preston Draper, Troy Draper, Gannon Dunn, Harrison Dunn, James Edwards, Naima Ellis, Daniel Espinosa Graves, Cerinitee Estes, Trinitee Estes, Blake Fiedler, Ferguson, Jayme Persephone Fielding, Damaris Foddrell, Carleigh Gravitt, Brook Griffen, Gauge Hairston Jimarion Hairston, Ka'Marius Hairston, Onida Hajrullahu, Isaac Hanks, Peyton Harding, Cameron Hawks, Hayzlett, Paydence Hedrick, Jada Hodge, Evan Hodges Hodges, Kaitlin Zachary Hodges, Alexander Hodnett, Porter Hodnett, Lundyn Holt, Alice Hopkins, Jennifer Howell, Jay Jackson, Olivia Joyce, Bryant Keith, Trinity Lackey, Diamond Madalynn Largen, Benjamin Lusk, Jahkese Manns, Vintoria Manns, Emily Martin, Jessanie Martin, Elijah May, Ella Montgomery, Alyna Moore, Kevin Moran, Linzie Mullins, Treyvontae Muse, Kyra Nolen, Yajaira Ocampo, Michael Ortiz, Aaron Osgood, Davis Painter, Adrian Pennell, Isaiah Perkins, Egypt Phillips, Ethan Pickard, Majelene Kaite Pitogo, Corbin Rea, Caroline Reustle, Jonah-Cruz Rivers, Raelyn Roark, Hayden Robertson, Nicholas Rogers, Giovani Rosas Franco, Kale Rutter, Micah Ryan, Alan Sanchez-Garcia, Julianna Sands, Larry Scott Jr, Abbie Shelton, Camden Smith, Austin Spear, Chevis Spencer, Jacob Spencer, Katelynn Spencer, Kayleigh Spencer, Haven Stoffel, Trevor Stone, Jasper Stowe, BreAsia Street, Chase Temple, Tyler Townsend, Ashanya Valentine, Claire Varney, Ja'kwon Walker, Ronald Walton IV, Carleigh Whitlock, Cheyenne Whitlock, Darius Willard, Jeffrey Williams Jr, Addison Wimbush, Lexus Wotring, Woods, Connor Abigail Yarger, Ethan Yates.



February is American Heart Month. You can take charge of your heart health by eating a healthy diet, exercising regularly and not smoking. Make it a point to know your:

- Blood pressure numbers
   Family heart health history
- Cholesterol numbers

Enhanced cleaning, mask requirements and social distancing to help keep you safe.

**How Healthy is Your Heart?** 

Take our free heart health assessment at SovahHeart.com To find a healthcare provider call 844.GO.SOVAH



## Registrar from page 1

me time to ask some very meaningful questions of them. It just seemed like a good fit.

Now that she has officially been sworn-in, Stulz-Vaughn said she is excited to learn the ins and outs of

'I've got a primary coming up in June, so I've got to get myself together and figure out how to do all of that," she said. "To me, voting is such a privilege, and everyone should have that opportunity. I'm looking forward to figuring out the inner workings of the office and how to get prepared."

While she has a few new things to learn, Stulz-Vaughn also brings in past skills that will benefit her

made the decision then, in the new role.

the tasks that are asked of me by prioritizing is certainly important," she said. "I've already met some of the candidates this morning. Getting out to meet them and letting them know I'm doing what I'm supposed to be doing is also important."

Before the swearing in, Rita Shropshire, chairman of the Electoral Board of Henry County, discussed the gravity of the appointment.

"This past year, we experienced some unexpected events," Shropshire said. "We were not totally prepared for them. We faced some uncertainty. experienced some black clouds, but we all know that behind a black cloud

is a silver lining and evenbut it was a whole separate "I think organization tually the sun is going to set of questions and it gave and being able to tackle shine through. The past is history. Today, we are beginning a new chapter. We are beginning the dawn of a new day." Shropshire said the elec-

toral board interviewed several candidates. The "outstanding ones" received a second interview. "I am honored today, on behalf of the Electoral

Board of Henry County, to appoint Dawn Stulz-Vaughn as the registrar of Henry County," Shropshire said. "Dawn, to you, I give you my full support."

Jennifer Ashworth, Henry County Circuit Court Clerk, administered the oath of office.

Stulz-Vaughn's of service will span from Feb. 8, 2021 until June 30,



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