

## HENRY COUNTY ENTERPRISE

Saturday, April 17, 2021

(USPS-6)

www.henrycountyenterprise.com • \$1.00



**Michael Minter, director of career and technical education and the Career Academy, explained plans to purchase new laptops with the 2021-2022 Perkins V CTE Local Plan.**

## County schools move to in-person instruction four days a week

**Brandon Martin**  
Staff writer

Henry County Public Schools will be transitioning to four-day, in-person school weeks for some students on April 19, according to Schools Superintendent Sandy Strayer.

Strayer made the announcement at an April 8 school board meeting, noting that students would be maintaining a three-foot distance inside of school facilities, following guidelines from the CDC (Center for Disease Control and Prevention) and the VDH (Virginia Department of Health).

"Any student that is currently in the hybrid form can come to school four days a week. Any virtual student that would ask to come back to in-person will have to work individually with the principal of the school," Strayer said.

Due to social distancing and limited space in classrooms, she said principals need time to decide where to place the additional students. It also will serve as a transition period "to give two weeks of transition for our transportation department and our food service department to change the way meals are ordered," she said.

Strayer said she felt comfortable with the return given recent trends. "Things are running smoothly on our return to hybrid instruction," she said. "We have seen a decrease in the number of positive cases as well as the number of quarantined cases."

Strayer said the official next steps for the plan are still being determined.

In addition, the school board also heard a presentation about upcoming math curriculum updates.

"We've been meeting with students and parents for years to discuss math and math skills," Strayer said. "Our students must be able to transfer the knowledge that they receive to us into real world, applicable situations throughout their lives."

Along the same rationale, Strayer said the Virginia Department of Education is introducing the Virginia

Mathematics Pathways Initiative.

Phyllis Meade, STEM coordinator for the school division, said the initiative is a joint effort between the Virginia Department of Education, the State Council for Higher Education in Virginia, and the Virginia Community College System.

"The structure of Algebra 1, Geometry and Algebra 2 in mathematics for high school students has been in place since the 1800's," Meade said. "The VDOE wants us to think about what mathematics we are asking our students to learn and what students all truly need."

Among the goals of the initiative are to improve equity in mathematics learning opportunities, identify pathways for future careers, and empower students to be active participants in mathematics, Meade said.

Sherri Helbert, the curriculum coordinator for secondary math and science, said grades kindergarten through seventh grade will focus on math concepts such as numbers and number sense; computation and estimation; measurement and geometry; probability and statistics; and patterns, functions, and algebra.

"During these courses, teachers will not teach from memorization but will teach for deep conceptual understanding and differentiate in the process," Helbert said. "The intent is to give our students a strong foundational understanding of mathematics that will transfer to future essential concepts in advanced mathematics courses."

Among the biggest changes is in "the essential concept courses" for grades 8-10, according to Helbert.

"The traditional Algebra 1, Geometry, Algebra 2 course sequence will be removed and will be replaced with Essential Concepts 8, Essential Concepts 9 and Essential Concepts 10," she said. "The Essential Concepts courses will be framed through the lens of mathematical modeling and will be taught in real-world problems and making interdisciplinary

See **Schools**, page 5



**Rebekah Vernon (left) and Tammy Noe were recognized with awards from the Southside Virginia Regional Technology Consortium.**

## Fund balance tapped to cover FY '21-22 budget

**Brandon Martin**  
Staff writer

Henry County Administrator Tim Hall presented the nearly \$168 million proposed budget for year (FY) 2021-22 to the Henry County Board of Supervisors Tuesday.

The proposal, which is an increase of 7.3 percent, will require the transfer of \$1.3 million from the county's fund balance to offset expenditures.

"Your unassigned fund balance will increase," Hall said. "We project it will increase by \$5.5 million. Even though we are going to ask you to tap into reserves to help us balance, all that means

See **Budget**, page 8



**The Henry County Board of Supervisors listen as the FY '21-22 budget proposal is unveiled. From left to right: Chairman Jim Adams, Tommy Slaughter, Vice-Chairman Debra Buchanan, Joe Bryant, Dr. J. David Martin, and Ryan Zehr.**

## City addresses concerns about reopening options

**Brandon Martin**  
Staff writer



**The Martinsville School Board recognized its Teachers of the Year. From left to right: School Board Members Tony Jones, Emily Parker; teachers of the year Anita Byrd and Amanda Keese; School Board Member Dominique Hylton; teacher of the year Rebecca Vernon; Vice-Chairman Yvonne Givens; teacher of the year Teresa Pendry; Chairman Donna Dillard and Schools Superintendent Dr. Zebedee Talley Jr.**

As schools nationwide begin to offer more in-person instruction options, Martinsville school officials are standing by their decision to err on the side of caution.

Chairman Donna Dillard said the division decided "to put safety first" when allowing students back in-person.

"We want the parents and students to know that while we want things like athletics and in school 100 percent, right now it's just not safe," she said. "We lean totally on our superintendent to make those decisions and he is doing that out of

See **Options**, page 3

## Martinsville enters statewide emergency water/wastewater agreement

**Brandon Martin**  
Staff writer

The City of Martinsville entered into an agreement to participate in the statewide Virginia Water and Wastewater Agency Response Network (VA WARN).

As part of the agreement, the city will participate in a mutual aid agreement with other areas of Virginia to allow for the emergency use of public and private water/wastewater utilities.

Emergency assistance can be in the form of personnel, equipment, materials and other associated services as necessary from other water and wastewater utilities. It allows for rapid, short-term deployment of emergency services to restore the critical operations of the impacted utility.

Mike Kahle, director of water resources, said surrounding localities



**Mayor Kathy Lawson (left) presents Jimmy Rigney with a proclamation recognizing April 18, 2021 as National Lineman Appreciation Day.**

ties have Public Service Authorities associated with VA WARN already, including Pittsylvania and Franklin counties.

"I think it's a good idea" for the

city to also be affiliated with the group, he said, and reiterated that water exchanges are not part of the

See **Agreement**, page 4

## Residential group home to provide transitional assistance to former inmates

**Brandon Martin**  
Staff writer

A new group home for those seeking reentry into the community after the service of a jail sentence held a ribbon-

cutting ceremony on April 7 at Forest Street Extension in Martinsville.

Creation of the home, named The Miracle Shelter, was spearheaded by Bassett native and local

business owner Sandra

Finney. "Thirteen years ago, I had a vision," she said. "I wanted the newly released inmates to be comfortable and have a place where they could

feel like they could call home. It's clean and there are no drugs around in the neighborhood. I think this is the perfect place for it."

Finney put her heart

See **Assistance**, page 3



**Sandra Finney (center), owner of The Miracle Shelter, cuts the ribbon on the new group home for former inmates. The shelter is located on Forest Street Extension in Martinsville.**

Visit

<http://www.henrycountyenterprise.com>  
for updates



0 51497 10908 0

# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

## Saturday, April 17

The 10th annual Pig Cookin' Competition will be held at the Spencer-Penn Centre, with barbeque available for pre-order. Tubs are \$8. Pig Patty Bingo tickets are also being sold for \$20, with the winner to receive \$500. For more information, call (276) 957-5757.

## Tuesday, April 20

The Martinsville-Henry County Chamber of Commerce is hosting a post-legislative update with Dels. Les Adams, Danny Marshall and Charles Poindexter at 8:30 a.m. Email sharon@mhcchamber.com for the link to the event.

The Martinsville Henry County Coalition for Health and Wellness, in partnership with Henry County Public Safety and local churches, will hold a mobile COVID-19 vaccine clinic at First Baptist Church of Ridgeway, 15 Church Street, Ridgeway, from 9 a.m. until noon.

## Wednesday, April 21

The Virginia Department of Transportation will hold a virtual public hearing for a project to improve seven intersections along U.S 220, between Roanoke and Martinsville, from 5-7 p.m. To access the hearing information and WebEx, visit the project page at <https://www.virginiadot.org/route220Intersections/> and click on the link to virtual design public hearing. VDOT representatives will make a presentation beginning at 5 p.m. and answer questions through the WebEx Chat function after the presentation is completed. A recorded version of the presentation will be available on the project page after the hearing.

## Thursday, April 22

Mobile COVID-19 vaccine clinic at the Galilean House of Worship on 5078 A L Philpott Highway in Martinsville, from 9 a.m. until noon, courtesy of the Martinsville Henry County Coalition for Health and Wellness in partnership with Henry County Public Safety and local churches.

## Saturday, April 24

Sen. Mark Warner will host his annual Academy Day from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. This virtual event will be hosted on Acelevants to offer students, parents or guardians, and school counselors a comprehensive overview of the United States service academies and their admission processes. Attendees will have an opportunity to hear from officials from the five federal service academies, as well as

representatives from the Department of Defense Medical Examination Review Board, the University of Virginia ROTC programs, the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets, the Virginia Military Institute, and the Virginia Women's Institute for Leadership at Mary Baldwin University. Representatives from Virginia congressional offices will also share information about the application procedures for congressional nominations. Information on the nomination process for the service academies is available at [www.warner.senate.gov](http://www.warner.senate.gov), or email [academy\\_noms@warner.senate.gov](mailto:academy_noms@warner.senate.gov) with questions.

Piedmont Arts is holding a Recycled Art Family Day in the Gravelly-Lester Art Garden beginning at 11 a.m. The event is sponsored by Carter Bank & Trust in celebration of Earth Day. Create bird feeders using recycled materials and enjoy story time with Blue Ridge Regional Library. It's also International Sculpture Day — the perfect day to spend time in the Gravelly-Lester Art Garden, surrounded by sculptures created by local and regional artists. Complimentary refreshments provided. You can extend the fun with a self-guided tour of the Piedmont Arts galleries. Kids can follow along with a Discovery Guide and find take-home crafts on the Discovery Board. The museum is open from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. and admission is free.

## ONGOING

Spencer-Penn Centre has a variety of events scheduled throughout the month. On Mondays and Thursdays, an open computer lab is held from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. The lab can be used on other days on an appointment basis. Virtual story time is Tuesdays at 10 a.m., on the Facebook group Spencer-Penn Storytime Goes Virtual. Access the stories each week and craft. Weekly supplies may be picked up at the centre and are available on a first come, first serve basis. The Charles & Rose Hylton Library is open Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 10 a.m., until 8 p.m. Library cards are free. The centre will host yoga on Tuesdays at 4 p.m., with Sheila. A session is \$8 or \$40 for a series of six sessions. Students are asked to bring their own yoga mat and props if possible. RSVP for class due to the limited class size by calling (276) 957-5757.

The American Red Cross is holding a number of Blood Drives throughout April. Drives will be held on April 21 from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m., at the Elks Lodge; and April 29 from 12-6 p.m. at the lodge. Contact Doug Rubel at (540) 352-9157 for more information. Appointments can be scheduled by calling 1-(800)-733-2767 or by visiting [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org).

# HOROSCOPES

## ARIES - Mar 21/Apr 20

Some things are entirely out of your control, Aries. You may come up against some such obstacles this week. Focus your energy on the things you can control.

## TAURUS - Apr 21/May 21

Taurus, if you're seeking new horizons, establish a game plan and then do your homework. This will help determine if it is practical to make a move.

## GEMINI - May 22/June 21

Your expressiveness and affections are drawn out this week, Gemini. It could put you in the mood to push some limits socially or creatively. Chances are things will work out well.

## CANCER - June 22/July 22

Cancer, some focus and harmony enables you to find balance in your personal and professional relationships. You will begin to see eye-to-eye with many people.

## LEO - July 23/Aug 23

It is a good thing to center yourself emotionally because many decisions are heading your way, Leo. You may find ideas and plans center around domestic issues.

## VIRGO - Aug 24/Sept 22

You are inclined to seek some mental stimulation this week, Virgo. Invest in some puzzles or even a recreational pursuit such as an escape room experience.

## LIBRA - Sept 23/Oct 23

Take a break from overthinking, Libra. Involve yourself with pleasurable activities that don't require a lot of forethought. Others can join the fun.

## SCORPIO - Oct 24/Nov 22

This is a good week to focus attention on your personal needs, Scorpio. Perhaps you are looking for personal fulfillment. Try volunteer work.

## SAGITTARIUS - Nov 23/Dec 21

Others may be elusive this week, Sagittarius. Don't take it as a sign of your relationships being in need of mending. Others are just busy, so enjoy the down time.

## CAPRICORN - Dec 22/Jan 20

People may demand a little more of your time in the days ahead, Capricorn. If you are not sure you can devote extra effort, tell these people as soon as possible.

## AQUARIUS - Jan 21/Feb 18

Disagreements can arise if others are not reading you well, Aquarius. Focus your efforts on effective communication this week to avoid any confusion.

## PISCES - Feb 19/Mar 20

You don't need to know every detail of an issue to be able to take a side or a stance, Pisces. Your ability to make choices will improve.

# Carlisle School sets open house

On Thursday, April 29, 2021, Carlisle School will host a virtual open house for families considering enrolling their children for the upcoming school year. The event begins at 5:30 p.m. and highlights The Carlisle Experience, which features individualized instruction for students who may have fallen behind from virtual learning due to COVID.

During the event, parents will meet our Head of School, Gracie Agnew, and Admissions Director Sandy Bailey. They will also learn about Carlisle's highly personalized programs that focus on the

whole child from Neal Meyer, Lower School Director, and Beth Gammons, Upper and Middle School Director. Carlisle's small class sizes enable students to reach their academic and creative potential.

The school has lowered tuition, and the cost for a Carlisle education per family is determined using a Flexible Tuition Rate based on the parent's income and the child's grade level.

Carlisle serves students in preschool through 12th-grade from Martinsville-Henry County, Danville, Pittsylvania County, Eden, Rocking-

ham County, Franklin County, and the surrounding areas. Regional bus service is available.

Families should visit [CarlisleSchool.org/tour](http://CarlisleSchool.org/tour) to RSVP for the session and request additional information.

Carlisle School is an independent college preparatory school that provides a positive, safe environment for academic excellence and character development while embracing diversity and preparing our students to become leaders as citizens in a global society. You can find additional information at [www.CarlisleSchool.org](http://www.CarlisleSchool.org).

# Congressional staff to visit Martinsville

Ninth District U.S. Rep. Morgan Griffith's staff are scheduled to visit the City of Martinsville and Patrick

County on April 28. Staff members will be in the Patrick County Administration Building, Conference

Room, from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. The building is located at 106 Rucker Street in Stu-

art. Staff will be in Martinsville from 2 to 3:30 p.m. in the City of Martinsville Municipal Building, Conference

Room #32, Lower Level, 55 W. Church Street, Martinsville.

Call the Christiansburg

Office at 540-381-5671 or the Abingdon Office at 276-525-1405 with any questions.

## CROSSWORD PUZZLE

|    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 1  | 2  | 3  |    | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  |    | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 14 |    |    |    | 15 |    |    |    |    |    | 16 |    |    |    |    |
| 17 |    |    |    | 18 |    |    |    |    |    | 19 |    |    |    |    |
| 20 |    |    | 21 |    |    |    |    | 22 |    |    |    |    |    |    |
| 23 |    |    |    |    |    |    | 24 | 25 |    |    |    |    | 26 | 27 |
|    |    | 28 |    |    |    | 29 |    |    |    | 30 |    |    |    |    |
| 31 | 32 |    |    |    |    | 33 |    | 34 | 35 | 36 |    |    | 37 |    |
| 38 |    |    |    | 39 | 40 |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | 41 |    |
| 42 |    |    |    | 43 |    |    |    |    |    | 44 | 45 |    |    |    |
| 46 |    | 47 | 48 |    |    |    |    | 49 |    |    |    |    |    |    |
| 51 |    |    |    | 52 | 53 | 54 |    |    |    | 55 |    |    | 56 | 57 |
|    |    | 58 |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | 59 |    |    |    |    |
| 60 | 61 |    |    |    |    |    |    | 62 | 63 |    |    |    | 64 |    |
| 65 |    |    |    |    |    | 66 |    |    |    |    |    |    | 67 |    |
| 68 |    |    |    |    |    | 69 |    |    |    |    |    |    | 70 |    |

- |  |   |  |  |
|--|---|--|--|
| <p><b>CLUES ACROSS</b></p> <p>1. Pituitary hormone (abbr.)</p> <p>4. Ceramic jars</p> <p>9. Monetary units</p> <p>14. Alias</p> <p>15. "Superman" actor</p> <p>16. Britonic tribe</p> <p>17. Shorten</p> <p>18. LA Dodgers manager</p> <p>20. Hoarded</p> <p>22. Theatrically portray</p> <p>23. Noah's grandson</p> <p>24. Dependent</p> <p>28. Peyton's little brother</p> <p>29. Cools the house</p> <p>30. Principle part of</p> <p>31. Type of wrap</p> <p>33. Peels</p> <p>37. Commercial</p> <p>38. Make an attempt</p> <p>39. Arrange in steps</p> | <p>41. U. Utah athlete</p> <p>42. Old English</p> <p>43. Trade</p> <p>44. Nostrils</p> <p>46. Ticket seller __Hub</p> <p>49. Of I</p> <p>50. Institute legal proceedings against</p> <p>51. Takes apart</p> <p>55. Doorway</p> <p>58. Long int'l river</p> <p>59. Trailblazing athlete Gibson</p> <p>60. Former CBS News host</p> <p>64. Sign language</p> <p>65. Badgerlike mammal</p> <p>66. Thin strips of wood</p> <p>67. Brooklyn hoopster</p> <p>68. Portents of good or evil</p> <p>69. Footwear</p> <p>70. When you think you'll arrive</p> | <p><b>CLUES DOWN</b></p> <p>1. Batflower genus</p> <p>2. Predatory seabirds</p> <p>3. Fish farm</p> <p>4. Arrangements</p> <p>5. Go in advance of others</p> <p>6. Bulgarian monetary unit</p> <p>7. "Maria"</p> <p>8. W. African ethnonreligious group</p> <p>9. Wild Asian oxen genus</p> <p>10. Vinegary</p> <p>11. To this</p> <p>12. Explosive</p> <p>13. Female sibling</p> <p>19. Orlando museum (abbr.)</p> <p>21. Type of hoop</p> <p>24. About Holy Father</p> <p>25. Academic environment</p> <p>26. Extremely angry</p> <p>27. Surrenders</p> <p>31. Swiss mountain pass</p> | <p>32. Sharp mountain ridge</p> <p>34. Erases</p> <p>35. Spielberg's alien</p> <p>36. Absurd</p> <p>40. Dorm worker</p> <p>41. Used to make pesticides</p> <p>45. The sister of your father or mother</p> <p>47. A way to let know</p> <p>48. Can't produce much vegetation</p> <p>52. Small streams</p> <p>53. Folk singer DiFranco</p> <p>54. Weights</p> <p>56. Start over</p> <p>57. Black Sea resort city</p> <p>59. Wimbledon champ</p> <p>60. Corporate executive (abbr.)</p> <p>61. Unskilled actor who overacts</p> <p>62. Bravo! Bravo! Bravo!</p> <p>63. Of or relating to ears</p> |
|--|---|--|--|

## SUDOKU

|  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|--|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
|  | 2 |   |   |   |   |   |   | 7 |
|  |   |   |   | 6 |   |   |   |   |
|  |   |   | 4 |   |   |   |   | 5 |
|  |   |   |   | 5 | 8 |   |   | 3 |
|  | 5 |   |   | 7 |   |   | 2 | 1 |
|  |   | 2 | 6 |   |   |   |   | 8 |
|  | 9 | 1 | 8 |   |   |   |   | 2 |
|  |   | 7 |   |   | 2 |   | 8 |   |
|  | 3 |   |   |   |   | 1 |   |   |

Level: Advanced

### Here's How It Works:

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!

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 7 | 4 | 1 | 5 | 9 | 6 | 8 | 3 | 2 |
| 1 | 8 | 6 | 2 | 3 | 7 | 1 | 9 | 4 |
| 5 | 9 | 8 | 4 | 6 | 3 | 2 | 7 | 5 |
| 8 | 3 | 2 | 7 | 4 | 6 | 3 | 2 | 5 |
| 8 | 8 | 9 | 6 | 4 | 1 | 5 | 9 | 8 |
| 8 | 5 | 6 | 3 | 9 | 7 | 4 | 2 | 1 |
| 3 | 6 | 3 | 7 | 8 | 5 | 2 | 9 | 1 |
| 6 | 3 | 7 | 6 | 8 | 5 | 2 | 9 | 1 |
| 6 | 7 | 1 | 3 | 4 | 8 | 9 | 2 | 5 |
| 9 | 8 | 5 | 7 | 2 | 6 | 3 | 1 | 4 |
| 6 | 2 | 4 | 5 | 1 | 3 | 8 | 7 | 9 |

ANSWER:

# Options from page 1

the safety, security and well-being of the students, parents, and the administration.”

Dillard said board members have received numerous phone calls about the decision.

“We try to call and answer each one of those to address the situation, but please know that it is out of the safety, concern, and well-being for our community as a whole,” she added. “We know the things they are missing, and we feel for them but right now it’s about the safety and concern.”

Noting the speed of returning students, Dillard said that Schools Superintendent Dr. Zebedee Talley Jr. is “opening up things as he feels safe to do so and we respect his decision to do that.”

Talley also noted “we have some pros and some cons” with respect to learning options.

“We’ve had some parents and they should be very distressed because these senior moments are important. But we’ve also had parents that are really glad that we aren’t taking chances,” he said. “We just want to keep everyone safe. I thank the board for their overwhelming support.”

Earlier in the day, Talley said the division added more students who are receiving in-person education.

“We ended up with 328 more students,” Talley said. “Which brings our total to about 524 total (in-person) now, with around 2,000 students (overall) as an estimate, when you include all of those together.”

He explained that the decision of whether to send youngsters to classrooms is left to each individual parent and/or student.

“We are looking probably at a 50/50 split with our parents overall, in terms of parents who want students to come back” and “parents who want to remain virtual to the end of the year,” Talley said. “Every division is going to be different. Every schedule of the divisions is going to be different, including all the things that happen per division.”

Talley said parents were closer to a “70/30” split earlier in the school year “in wanting to remain virtual.”

He added the range of grades for students learning in-person was wide.

“If you take the ELL students that we already had in and special

needs students that we already had in, they cover all grades,” Talley said. “The focus of the second round was special students who are taking SOL tests.”

Talley said it alleviates stress from students who can acclimate to the environment.

“The principals helped us screen those students who they thought needed that additional help,” Talley said. “There may be students who are out there that aren’t doing well right now and parents objected to letting them come. We did not force any students to come. It’s a screened process for students that needed additional help and whose parents consented.”

As of the cutoff for March enrollment, Talley said the division had 1,816 students.

“That’s almost 100 students above what we were projected to have, which means multiply that by \$6,000 per in additional funding,” Talley said. “We are the only school division in all of Region 6 that will not” rely on state funds to bridge shortfalls in enrollment.

After this week, Talley said his staff would assess whether the schools can safely accommodate more students within social distancing guidelines.

“Every school is different,” he said. “Every principal went and measured the rooms. They knew exactly how many students they could hold. The rooms are not all the same size. They vary in sizes.”

So far, Talley said the division has struggled with “getting the timing of the feeding program down” as more students have begun to shift in-person, causing buses from the feeding program to be used to transport students now.

“I want to thank our parents,” he said. “We missed some things. They called us and we tried to correct those things. This is Day 1. We are still looking, by the end of the week, to get on a regular schedule. Our goal is to still feed our students whether they are in school or not.”

Talley also thanked the teaching staff for their efforts to teach both in-person and on Zoom simultaneously.

“I think once we get the routes down, pact on our delivery and get the timing” of the “bus schedule, then once we get that then we are going to be okay. Each school

has a waiting list of parents who may change their mind because parents do change their mind. You can contact your principal at the school, and they all have a waiting list where students’ names are listed, and if there is room as we get closer to SOLs, then we will try to bring them in. It’s parent preference and parent driven to serve the needs of the students.”

Talley said a challenge is the six-foot distance requirement on buses versus the three-foot requirement in classrooms.

Referencing a bi-weekly briefing with Virginia’s Superintendent of Public Instruction Dr. James F. Lane, Talley said Lane will be “going to the state department and ask them if we can utilize three feet on buses. That’s the limitation for most school divisions. We don’t know if we have enough drivers. That’s the problem. No school division that I know of has the drivers to accommodate every student that they have right now.”

Talley also addressed the division’s policy on athletics.

“In terms of extracurricular activities, we are one of the two school divisions in the state that did not participate this year,” Talley said. “We canceled sports last year before anybody else did. Two weeks later, the Virginia High School League cancelled games for the whole state.”

Citing Lane, Talley said “52 percent of the COVID cases in schools in the months of December, January, and February were from recreational and scholastic athletics.”

Another factor was the “fact that we didn’t have students in school,” Talley said. “To me, it’s not sound practice to bring athletics to school without being able to have the possibility of bringing students in to learn, which is what we are for.”

Noting the importance of sports in developing teamwork, Talley said not having an athletic program currently was the result of “some tough decisions. We’ve got a rich tradition of athletes. We can go back through the state championships. We hated it for the young people, and we hated it for the coaches.”

But Talley said the school system “did not want to contribute to community spread. Unfortunately, we had three divisions and I don’t want to name them

in Region 6 that had, tragically, people to die. I did not want to be a part of that. I always play safe. I always err on the side of safety even on snow days. It doesn’t matter. I can’t see letting Martinsville City Schools lose one employee, one family member. They are all important.”

Moving forward, Talley said the division will be focusing on ensuring students are prepared for upcoming exams and that learning-gaps are closed.

In other matters:

\*Talley announced an intent to have virtual and limited in-person gatherings for end-of-year student recognition ceremonies “such as the Big M” and “VMPI transition programs.” He said Martinsville will have transition programs for Albert Harris and Patrick Henry elementary schools, and from the middle school to high school.

“We will also have senior things, starting with the Senior Cookout this week. It will be Friday,” he said. “We will also have signing day for seniors and also in those things, we will be doing t-shirts and things of that nature.”

Talley said proms will be limited on attendees depending on the community transmission rate at the time.

“We will have graduation, but it will be limited outside,” Talley added. “Still outside, you can only have 30 percent capacity. That’s 600 basically for the high school on Dan Greene Field.”

\*The school board heard news about Clearview Early Learning Center opening the application period for preschoolers in the 2021-2022 school year. Children must be 3 or 4 years old by Sept. 30, 2021 and they must be a resident of the City of Martinsville.

Parents will need to provide proof of residence, proof of income and other documents provided in the application packet. All documents must be submitted before the application can be processed and approved. Applications will be accepted until all available slots are filled.

Families will be notified of acceptance at the end of June with all scheduling subject to change depending on pandemic restrictions.

Applications can be accessed by visiting the school’s website at <https://cecc.martinsville.k12.va.us/content/cecc/uploads/>

PDF/2021\_-2022\_mcps\_pre-school\_application\_packet.pdf.

Alternatively, applications can be acquired directly from the center Monday-Friday from 7:45 a.m. until 4 p.m. Applications can also be mailed upon request. Further questions can be directed towards Sheilah Williams at (276) 403-5800.

\*Approved a resolution to recognize all Virginia school superintendents for FY2021 as Superintendent of the Year.

\*The school board heard from Dr. Paulette Simington, executive director of special education and student services about the annual special education plan.

“We are asking permission to apply for Title 6, federal funds for the special education annual plan,” Simington said. “We are asked to bill the application based on the money we received in the previous year and the amount has been adjusted.”

Simington said the plan includes kindergarten to post-secondary students until the student reaches the age of 21-years-old.

“The funds will go towards three special education teachers and 13 paraprofessionals,” she said. “Total salaries and benefits are \$503,000. The additional activities, goods and services, will include travel for special education teachers, related service, professional development, instructional materials, supplies and purchased services.”

Simington said \$2,479.32 will be set aside for “students who are residents of the city but don’t attend city schools.”

The total request amounted to \$577,998. Simington said the division received \$566,974 in the previous year. The early childhood special education fund program needs another \$7,121, according to Simington, who added the fund was \$7,044 last year.

\*The school board recognized the division’s Teachers of the Year. The following received the award for their respective schools: Laura Judkins (Clearview Early Learning Center), Anita Byrd (Albert Harris Elementary School), Amanda Kee-see (Patrick Henry Elementary School), Rebecca Vernon (Martinsville Middle School) and Teresa Pendry (Martinsville High School).

# Assistance from page 1

into the project because she said that once a time, she needed the service.

“At one time, I was incarcerated, and I knew what it was like to be on drugs and in rehabilitation,” Finney said. “It’s been 30 years now with me being clean and sober.”

Upon her own re-entry, Finney began her other business Sandra’s Professional Cleaning Services, which provides cleaning services to local offices.

Owning her own business played a crucial role in recovery, Finney said.

“It was vital,” she said. “It was something that made me feel like the Lord was helping me accomplish that goal. I felt like life was just beginning. For somebody to have the background that I had, and to start my own business, it was really unexplainable and I’m in such awe of the accomplishments I’ve had so far.”

“It’s been a great business to help me get another business. It has been one of my dream jobs as well. That started 18 years ago and went really well,” Finney said. “I know how you feel when you are getting out of jail and not having anywhere to go. I think that is what really drove me into doing a rehabilitation home.”

According to Finney, the atmosphere of re-entry for previously incarcerated individuals is key. Just before the beginning of the pandemic last year, the Virginia Department of Corrections (VADOC) said Virginia had the lowest recidivism rate in the country for the fourth consecutive year. That year, the recidivism rate was 23.1 percent.

The department attributes the low rate to the effectiveness of re-entry

services, educational programming, and treatment offered in VADOC facilities as well as effective supervision by VADOC probation and parole officers in the community post-release.

“Our success is the result of the collaborative efforts and incredibly hard work of our dedicated staff, community partners, and the returning citizens themselves,” said Harold Clarke, director of VDOC. “When incarcerated men and women successfully reintegrate into society, everyone benefits – the Commonwealth, our communities, and the families – especially the children – of those returning home.”

To start, Finney said she would like to attract an anchor tenant who has shown progress in recovery and re-entry into society.

“Hopefully, I can get a good guy to come in that’s been going through a good recovery,” Finney said. “He can kind of be overseer of the home. I don’t need to be going there every day behind a bunch of big strong men.”

Finney said only men would be allowed to stay at the home, with a three-person maximum. She said she expects her first client to move in within the month.

“This is sort of like the Piedmont Community Services center for people that get out of being incarcerated. It’s a place for them to go for a home plan,” she said. “People will be living in it as their residence.”

Finney said the shelter will be connected with parole services within the city and county, along with other community health-related services.

“We will be monitoring the outside to make sure there are no unauthorized entries,” she added.

On average, Finney said guests will be staying at the shelter approximately 90-days.

“If they need more time, then we can give them more time,” she said. “If they are working, they do need to pay a little something to learn how to work and be responsible. I want to make it where they can get a bank account to save up money and prepare them for the transition from the recovery home.”

Finney said the average monthly payment would be \$200 to \$250 a month, including all amenities and utilities.

“Nothing that is going to put them out there and

make them feel like they can’t afford it,” she said.

The costs will help pay down some of Finney’s personal investment. Short of a complete re-

vision of the property, Finney paid about \$4,000 to replace the carpets, re-structure the layout and a new paint job.

“The Community

Storehouse helps with recovery homes,” she said. “They give donations of furniture and things of that nature. It’s been a job.”



Elsie Hannah visits The Miracle Shelter, a group home started by her friend Sandra Finney.



**LIVESTOCK AUCTIONS**  
EVERY SATURDAY AT 1 P.M.

- We sell cattle, goats, sheep & pigs.
- State Graded Feeder Sale every Saturday

For directions to our facility, weekly updates of upcoming events and current sale prices, please visit our website:  
[www.springlakeauctions.com](http://www.springlakeauctions.com).

Please feel free to call us at  
**(540) 297-1707.**

*We appreciate your business!*

1069 SICKLE COURT, MONETA, VA 24121



**Your Local NEWSPAPER**  
Subscribe Today!

**Over 40 Editors, reporters & writers.**  
100's of stories each week.  
at [mountainmedianews.com](http://mountainmedianews.com)

**All this for just \$2.50 a month!**

| Newspapers   | Topics  |           |            |            |            |         |           |            |         |       |      |  |          |
|--|---|-----------|------------|------------|------------|---------|-----------|------------|---------|-------|------|--|----------|
| Enterprise VA<br>Fincastle Herald VA<br>News Messenger<br>News Journal<br>Henry County Enterprise<br>Salem Times Register<br>Vinton Messenger<br>New Castle Record | Government, Environment, Education, Social, Criminal Justice, Public Health, Church, Spirituality, Entertainment, Business, Opinion   |           |            |            |            |         |           |            |         |       |      |  |          |
| Counties   |   |           |            |            |            |         |           |            |         |       |      |  |          |
| Pocahontas Times WV<br>Parsons Advocate WV<br>Mountain Messenger<br>Calhoun Chronicle<br>Clay County Free Press<br>Shinnston News & Harrison County Journal        | <table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td>Botetourt</td> <td>Greenbrier</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Montgomery</td> <td>Pocahontas</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Roanoke</td> <td>Tucker WV</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Patrick VA</td> <td>Calhoun</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Henry</td> <td>Clay</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Harrison</td> </tr> </table> | Botetourt | Greenbrier | Montgomery | Pocahontas | Roanoke | Tucker WV | Patrick VA | Calhoun | Henry | Clay |  | Harrison |
| Botetourt  | Greenbrier  |           |            |            |            |         |           |            |         |       |      |  |          |
| Montgomery   | Pocahontas  |           |            |            |            |         |           |            |         |       |      |  |          |
| Roanoke  | Tucker WV   |           |            |            |            |         |           |            |         |       |      |  |          |
| Patrick VA   | Calhoun   |           |            |            |            |         |           |            |         |       |      |  |          |
| Henry  | Clay  |           |            |            |            |         |           |            |         |       |      |  |          |
|  | Harrison  |           |            |            |            |         |           |            |         |       |      |  |          |

# OPINION

## A letter to the shareholders

(Author's note: This column is dedicated to my friends in the Roanoke Times newsroom, which recently experienced yet another round of devastating layoffs. Ya'll are in my thoughts.)

Greetings, shareholders! This is Max Proffit, President and CEO of Conglomo Enterprises, the sprawling corporate holding company that owns half the newspapers in this country! Of course, we don't just own newspapers; we like to keep a lot of irons in the fire here at Conglomo. Whether you use EnerCell batteries, or like to eat at Dairy King, or have experienced the horrifying majesty of a Death-stalker unmanned combat drone, one of our subsidiary products has touched and/or ended your life.

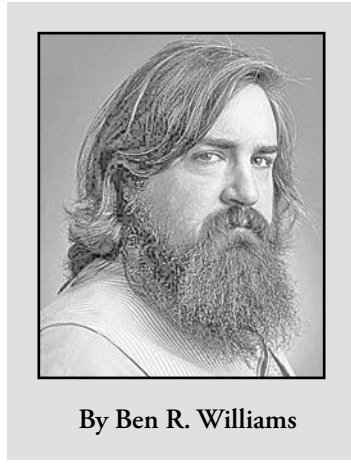
Of course, our newspaper division holds a special place in our heart. It's often been said that McDonald's isn't in the fast food business, it's in the real estate business. Our newspaper division is just like that, the only difference being that McDonald's provides an affordable product that meets certain quality standards.

While we've seen great financial success in our newspaper division in recent years, there has admittedly been some bad press lately, most of it shared by

newspapers owned by the massive corporate holding company that owns the other half of the newspapers in this country. Some are even beginning to doubt the wisdom of our board of directors.

Rest assured, our board knows exactly what it's doing. Our ten board members have a combined 1,347 years of experience in the newspaper industry, and when they're revived from the Lazarus Pit each quarter, their energetic croakings provide a guiding light for our management team.

The chief criticism of our operations has been that Conglomo Enterprises buys up established, quality newspapers, then immediately outsources print operations to a nearby state and increases the subscription price. When customers balk because they can no longer afford the paper or it's two weeks out of date when it arrives in their mailbox, we cut costs by laying off most of our journalists, and then we increase the subscription price again. Every time a customer complains that their paper is late/too expensive/not relevant to anything happening within 100 miles of their home, we repeat this cycle. This has been dubbed "The 'Survivor Type' Effect," named after a Stephen King short story about a surgeon who



By Ben R. Williams

survives on a desert island by eating himself.

Are these criticisms fair? Well, yes. But to be clear, our critics don't seem to understand that we're trying to steer print journalism in an exciting new direction.

You see, we here at Conglomo Enterprises have realized that journalists are a needy lot. They're all the time begging for "benefits" and "living wages." All this complaining, despite the fact that many of them own such luxuries as refrigerators, and at least half live in buildings with windows!

To make matters worse, journalists are always wanting to write about boring stuff like city council meetings and the local school system and zoning boards.

You know how many clicks you get on that sort of thing? I'll tell you how many: a lot less than you get from a story about Mr. Potato Head's gender.

Yes, it's high time for print journalism to take a cue from online journalism. BuzzFeed, for example, has proven that we don't need fancy, highfalutin "journalists" with "degrees" and "standards." All we need are folks who are semi-literate and understand how to write an article that makes people angry, or how to assemble a clickbait article out of a Reddit post.

With that in mind, Conglomo Enterprises has a special announcement just for our shareholders: at the end of this quarter, we plan to lay off the remainder of our journalists.

Who will we replace them with, you ask? The answer: not who, but what! Conglomo Enterprises is proud to announce that we'll be hiring hundreds of test monkeys from our chemical weapons subsidiary and using them to replace our journalists. While the majority of these monkeys have severe brain damage and behavior issues caused by years of exposure to various poison gases, we have nonetheless found that their reporting is actually more accurate than that of the average clickbait journalist. Unfortunately, the monkeys

are slightly more expensive, but we can capture some cost savings on the insurance side (monkeys don't seem to live too long, or at least these don't).

There has been concern that the monkeys may try to form a union. Fortunately, one member of our board of directors is a former Baldwin-Felts strike-breaker who committed some of the more creative union-busting atrocities during the Battle of Matewan, so we're confident that we can address any monkey unions should they arise.

Of course, this step is just stopgap, and we're already making plans to lay off about half of the monkeys in the fourth quarter. Having said that, our board of directors is confident that these changes will increase our profit margin by six percent, which is ultimately the only thing that matters.

Yes, one day soon, Conglomo Enterprises will finally attain its ultimate goal: the creation of a newspaper devoid of any content whatsoever. What will this look like? Some theorize that our perfect newspaper will be the size of a postage stamp and feature nothing but a crude drawing of an upraised middle finger pointed squarely at the reader. It will cost \$450, and the carrier will be weeping as he delivers it.

## Technological advances in the Ninth District

Morgan Griffith  
9th District U.S. Rep.

Technology has the ability to deliver new opportunities for rural areas like ours. New and exciting innovations can increase the availability of services which previously were sparsely provided or nonexistent.

Some of these innovations are not only being deployed here but are being developed and tested here.

### Drones

Southwest Virginia has been the setting for major achievements in drone technology. In fact, the vehicles that completed America's first drone delivery at the Remote Area Medical clinic in Wise on July 17, 2015 and the country's first commercial drone delivery in Christiansburg on October 18, 2019 already belong to the Smithsonian's National Air and Space Museum, artifacts in the same collection as the first plane flown by the Wright

Brothers and the command module from Apollo 11.

I learned firsthand during a recent visit to Radford University about further pioneering efforts in drone technology. The demonstration I witnessed was a product of work at the university's Department of Geology. Drones can be used in the place of geological field visits, solving the problems of limited time or reaching inaccessible locations. Applications for this use of drones include preparations for road construction and evaluating mines and quarries.

Universities in our area, including Radford and Virginia Tech, will continue to lead the way in adapting drones for new, practical uses that can improve our lives.

In the future, we may increasingly look to the skies and see drones. Look further beyond them and we may also see a solution to the problem of broadband connectivity — low orbit satellites.

Broadband/Low Earth Orbit

The digital divide between rural and urban areas is a serious public policy challenge. Engaging in almost any aspect of modern life, from the economy to education to leisure to health care, demands reliable internet access. Isolated and remote regions, however, often lack this access, in part due to the expense and difficulty of laying fiber line in these areas.

One creative solution around this problem is to use low orbit satellites to provide broadband access. Companies developing this technology include SpaceX and Amazon.

SpaceX's project, called Starlink, has been deployed to Wise County as part of a pilot project. I learned more about this endeavor during a briefing in Wise organized by County Clerk of Court Jack Kennedy and featuring school officials and parents.

The partnership between Wise County Public Schools and SpaceX addressed the need for bet-

ter service in the county, a need which became urgent as the coronavirus pandemic forced students into remote learning. According to the schools' Director of Technology, Scott Kiser, at the outset of the pandemic, a survey found that 25 percent of student households lacked adequate internet access. Remote learning revealed the real number of student households lacking adequate access to be closer to 40 percent. Students had to find hot spots simply to do their schoolwork.

Starlink's pilot project in Wise County includes 45 homes, and for them, the parents at the briefing testified that it has been a great asset. The change has not just been from going without service to being served. The service has proven to be good, with speeds above 100 megabits per second comparing well to the Federal Communications Commission standard of 25 megabits per second. The briefing offered positive signals about the

pilot project so far.

At present, fiber remains the best option, but low orbit satellites offer quality service now, while completing the buildout of fiber networks would still take years. Choosing "all of the above" for connecting people to the internet offers hope for closing the digital divide. In this effort, competition and innovation in the private sector should be encouraged, and regulation by the government should stimulate deployment.

I came away from the visit to Radford University and the briefing in Wise optimistic about the benefits of these technological tools. The people of our region are hard at work developing, applying, and advocating for new ways to solve longtime problems.

If you have 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](mailto:www.morgangriffith.house.gov).

www.henrycountyenterprise.com

## Mobile vaccine clinics set

The Martinsville Henry County Coalition for Health and Wellness is partnering with Henry County Public Safety and local churches on

mobile COVID-19 vaccine clinics. The mobile events will be held from 9 a.m. to noon April 20 at the First Baptist Church of Ridgeway,

15 Church St., Ridgeway, and from 9 a.m. to noon April 22 at the Galilean House of Worship, 5078 A.L. Philpott Highway, Martinsville.

## Agreement

from page 1

agreement.

"There's no way we could transfer enough water for it to do anybody any good without the plans already being in place anyway," Kahle said.

City Manager Leon Towarnicki said that if a catastrophic weather event happened and a nearby water plant was forced to shut down for "a week or two" and "we have excess water capacity and we are still up and running" then "we could end up transferring water to a community for a week or two weeks under an emergency basis."

Towarnicki said the agreement also allows the city to call on other localities should an emergency happen locally.

Kahle said emergency aid would not affect the quality of the water for Martinsville residents.

In an unrelated matter, Kahle noted that after a water break, door hangers were placed on some homes advising residents to boil water for two days.

"We had a break Friday (April 9) morning. We had a fire early on Lannier, and when water was opened to fight the fire, it caused an air hammer and broke the line," Kahle said. "The Virginia Department of Health requires us, when we have a break, to do boil water notices. They need to be localized or city wide."

In this instance, Kahle said notice was localized.

"The notices were handed out south from Whittle Road all the way to Forest Park. It did not go to Knollwood," Kahle said.

Mayor Kathy Lawson said "somebody on Mulberry" had passed along the notice to a person who contacted

city council, but Kahle said that person was not affected by the boil notice.

"They probably experienced some low water pressure, but they never lost service and they did not need to boil," he added.

Council Member Tammy Pearson asked for staff to look at more ways to advertise when these types of events occur.

"Put it on the website," Pearson said. "Kind of like an emergency notice or something to that effect so that" the website could serve as a resource for residents. "I think maybe, just take our communication to yet another level."

Kahle said he is researching apps that would provide real-time updates for customers.

In other matters, city council: \*Read a proclamation recognizing April as Child Abuse Prevention Awareness Month. Ricky Walker, director of Focus on Youth/CASA, discussed the problem of child abuse and the role of his organizations.

"We support what the volunteer advocates do," he said. "They get out and reach those families and coordinate what they need, making sure they navigate through the court system and get everything they need while they do that. We are trying to ensure the best outcome for the family and the child."

In partnership with the Exchange Club, Walker helped plant flags with pinwheels at the entrance of Roselawn Cemetery, which is the symbol for the month.

\*Read a proclamation recognizing April 18, 2021 as National Lineman Appreciation Day. The proclamation

specifically recognizes the city's electric linemen Daniel Morrison, Jimmy Rigney, Austin Johnson, Brian Collins, Chase Cooper, Kyle Fulkerson, Bryar Turner, Austin Shumate, Curt Compton, Jimmy Blankenship, Tim Agee, Ryan Emberson, Brandon Martin, and Todd McCrickard.

"Everybody from our meter readers to our linemen would like to thank y'all for taking time to recognize us this month for all of our hard work," Rigney said. "We are doing everything we can to upgrade our infrastructure and I hope we are making you proud."

Council Member Chad Martin said he is appreciative of the work of the city's electric department.

"I love what you all do," he said. "There is nothing that we can do that would be able to compensate for it, especially with pay. I wish to God that we could give you a raise but, of course, we don't have the money to, but you all are amazing."

\*Adopted a resolution committing the city to certain in-kind contributions related to the Pine Hall Road Community Development Block Grant Project application to the Virginia Department of Housing & Community Development.

The total project is estimated to cost \$1.8 million, with the grant request being \$1.2 million and the balance being in-kind and private investment. The city's in-kind investment in previous block grant projects has typically consisted of street/roadway improvements, paving, curb & gutter/sidewalk, and storm drainage, as well as administrative costs. The same will apply to this project.

Your Community, Your Voice  
Serving Henry County, Martinsville, and Surrounding Area

# HENRY COUNTY ENTERPRISE

henrycountyenterprise.com

Weekly Publication  
Published Each Saturday

**Michael Showell, Publisher**  
**Debbie Hall, Editor**  
dhall@theenterprise.net  
(276) 694-3101

**Brandon Martin, Reporter**  
newsreporter@theenterprise.net

**Randy Thompson, Advertising Manager**  
advertise@mainstreetnewspapers.com  
(540) 230-1129

**Liz Moonbury, Advertising Specialist**  
advertising@theenterprise.net  
(276) 694-3101

**Give us your view:**  
The Henry County Enterprise encourages letters from our readers on topics of general interest to the community and responses to our articles and columns. Letters must be signed and have a telephone number where you can be reached to be considered for publication. All letters will be verified before publication. The Henry County Enterprise reserves the right to deny publication of any letter and edit letters for length, content and style.

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

# OBITUARIES

## Robert Lewis Lavinder Sr.

Robert Lewis Lavinder, Sr. 62, of Martinsville passed away on Monday, April 12, 2021. He was born October 9, 1958 to Shirley Jean Cochran Lavinder and the late James Leo Lavinder, Sr.

In addition to his father, Robert is preceded in death by his brothers, John M. Lavinder, Tom W. Lavinder and James Leo Lavinder, Jr.; maternal grandparents John R. and Lucille Stadler; paternal grandparents Leona and A.M. Lavinder.

Robert is survived by his mother; son Robby Lavinder; daughter Leah Lavinder; and brother, William "Bill" Lavinder (Joyce).

Robert was a graduate of Martinsville



High School and was a member of Broad Street Christian Church.

A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. on Saturday, April 17, 2021 at McKee-Stone Funeral Home Chapel. The family will receive friends one hour prior to the service.

In accordance with COVID guidelines, social distancing and the wearing of masks will be required.

Memorials may be made to the Broad Street Christian Church, 106 Broad Street, Martinsville, VA 24112.

Arrangements are by McKee-Stone Funeral Home-Martinsville, VA.

To express condolences online, please visit [www.collinsmckeestonemartinsville.com](http://www.collinsmckeestonemartinsville.com).

## Kimberly Osbourne Wingfield

Kimberly Osbourne Wingfield, 66, of Martinsville, Virginia passed away Saturday, April 10, 2021, at SOVAH Health of Martinsville. She was born January 20, 1955, in Galax, Virginia to the late Charles Lester Osbourne and Ethel Marie Snow Osbourne. She was a member of Pleasant Grove Christian Church. She enjoyed crafts, flowers, and animals, especially birds.

She is survived by her husband, Gordon Wingfield; daughters, Christy Spencer (Steve), April Dunsford and Brenda Penn and family; sons, Gordon Scott Wingfield and John Matthew Wingfield; sister, Sue King; grandchildren, Brandon Spencer,



Stephen Spencer, Tiffany Spencer, Samantha Lambeth, Heather Sizemore, Gordon Scott Wingfield, Jr., and Hunter Wingfield; nine great-grandchildren; nieces and nephews, Dawn Renee Emerson, Pam Puckett, and Gary Cecil King, Jr.; and great-niece and nephew, Danielle Emerson and Austin Emerson.

A memorial service will be held on Saturday, April 17, 2021, at 1 a.m., at Wright Funeral Service Chapel.

Wright Funeral Service & Crematory is serving the family. Online condolences may be made at [www.wrightfuneralservices.net](http://www.wrightfuneralservices.net)

## Ruby Earline Lawless

Ruby Earline Lawless, 90, of Martinsville, Virginia passed away Wednesday, April 7, 2021, at SOVAH Health of Martinsville. She was born June 18, 1930, in Stokes County, North Carolina to the late Willie and Mickey Katherine Ashby Lankford. She was a member of Keafort Memorial Baptist Church. She loved being outside watching nature and especially loved hummingbirds and her pet chicken.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by a son, Doyle Spencer; and twelve brothers and sisters; first husband Johnnie Spencer; and second hus-



band Otis Lawless.

She is survived by a daughter, Barbara Allen (Gilbert); and five grandchildren, Sharon Dillon, Tony Seay, Johnnie Spencer, Chris Spencer and Stephanie Sprague; and numerous great grandchildren.

A graveside service was held on Sunday, April 11, 2021, at Roselawn Burial Park. Pastor Dean White officiated.

Wright Funeral Service & Crematory is serving the family. Online condolences may be made at [www.wrightfuneralservices.net](http://www.wrightfuneralservices.net)

## Korielle Grace Edwards

Korielle Grace Edwards of Danville, Virginia, departed this life peacefully at her residence surrounded by family on Wednesday, April 7, 2021. She was born March 30, 2021 in Roanoke Virginia to Kelsey Agenis Edwards.

In addition to her mother, she is survived by a sister, Kensley Amazyn Edwards; and grandparents, Evelyn Whitfield (Chad) and Zedrick Saunders (Jodie); aunts Karizma and Treasure Edwards, Chanel



Reid; uncles, Kymauri Whitfield, Kamajei Whitfield and a host of other family and friends.

There will be a graveside service on Monday, April 12, 2021, at 1:00 PM at Floral Hills Cemetery, with Apostle Gwen Williams officiating.

Wright Funeral Service & Crematory is serving the family. Online condolences may be made at [www.wrightfuneralservices.net](http://www.wrightfuneralservices.net)

## Donna Elaine Adams Kennon

Donna Elaine Adams Kennon 55, of Bassett, Virginia passed away Wednesday, April 7, 2021, at Virginia Baptist Hospital, Lynchburg, Virginia. She was born November 28, 1965, in Martinsville, Virginia to Doug and Peggy Young Adams. She enjoyed the beach, traveling, painting and loved dogs.

In addition to her parents, she is survived by her daughter, Kimarie Kennon "Kim-

mie"; son, Walter Light III, "Trey"; brother, Doug "Dinky" Adams, Jr. (Deborah); and grandchildren, Kameron and Kailee.

A memorial service was held Tuesday, April 13, 2021, at Wright Funeral Service Chapel. Burial was private.

Wright Funeral Service & Crematory is serving the family. Online condolences may be made at [www.wrightfuneralservices.net](http://www.wrightfuneralservices.net)

## ARC funds to aid expansion of Community Recovery Program

The Piedmont Community Regional Services Board was awarded \$498,961 through Appalachian Regional Commission's (ARC's) INSPIRE Initiative for its Community Recovery Program (CRP).

This is one of 30 projects receiving more than \$9.4 million from INvestments Supporting Partnerships In Recovery Ecosystems (INSPIRE), an ARC initiative addressing Appalachia's substance abuse crisis by creating or expanding a recovery ecosystem leading to workforce entry or re-entry. ARC has also released a Request for Proposals for a second round of INSPIRE funding, which will award up to \$10 million to more recovery-to-work projects.

"I congratulate the Community Recovery Program for their INSPIRE award and commend them for their role in addressing the economic impacts of Appalachia's substance abuse crisis," said ARC Federal Co-Chairman Tim Thomas. "ARCINSPIRE partners will help individuals in recovery obtain sustainable employment, further encouraging economic resiliency in the communities that will be served. As ARC looks to the second round of this funding initiative, I encourage all interested applicants in the Region to send us your ideas."

The CRP supports recovery-to-work/recovery ecosystem efforts in the city of Martinsville, Henry and Patrick counties. The program helps by assisting individuals recovering from substance use disorder by providing them with vocational training and support that can lead to them obtaining and maintaining competitive employment. In

addition, it provides links to other community resources and support to help maintain recovery.

At CRP, "we believe that recovery is not only possible, but expected. As individuals are referred to the program, the staff encourages the participants to believe that they can live a life without having to abuse mood altering substances and that they can become productive members of their community. Most of the individuals referred to the program have a prior criminal history, have no connection with family, are in an unstable living conditions, and find themselves feeling hopeless," Katie Whitlow, internal and community relations for Piedmont Community Services, said when announcing the expansion.

According to Whitlow, the CRP staff has adopted a quote: "You are braver than you believe, stronger than you seem, and smarter than you think."

"This quote is perfect for individuals who come through the doors at CRP. Through participating in the program, being linked to other community resources, and engaging in the vocational training program, the participants' confidence increases, their self-esteem is heightened, and they begin to believe in their ability to excel," Whitlow wrote.

The CRP has been successful, she said, but it believes there are many more individuals to connect with and help them to realize they are braver than they believe, stronger than they seem, and smarter than they think.

"For that reason, we are excited for the opportunity to expand this innovative program," she added.

## PHCC invites questions for candidates

Earlier this year, the president of Patrick Henry Community College, Dr. Angeline Godwin, announced her retirement. At that time, the search for a replacement began. Those involved in the screening and interviewing process have been working diligently to select potential candidates for the college's future president. Within the next few weeks, the selection committee will narrow down the pool of candidates to the top four.

During the first two weeks of May, everyone in the community will be invited to meet each of the four candidates through open forum meetings. To provide each candidate an opportunity to answer community members' questions, four separate forums will be held over the weeks of May 3 and May 10 via Zoom. During each forum, one of the four candidates will answer questions submitted in advance by the community.

To submit a question for the candidates, community members may: email [\[back@patrickhenry.edu\]\(mailto:back@patrickhenry.edu\) before 5 p.m. on Friday, April 23.](mailto:feed-</a></p>
</div>
<div data-bbox=)

Due to the nature of the events, comments and questions from the public will not be accepted during the meeting. All questions will be pre-screened for appropriateness and to avoid duplication.

Please note, PHCC cannot ensure that every submitted question will be used as time may be limited.

PHCC employees and students should not submit their questions to this email as employees. Students will have separate opportunities to meet the candidates.

Current employees and students are asked to refer to the notices sent to their PHCC emails to learn how to submit questions for the employee or student-specific forums.

The college will provide a link to the meetings within the next few weeks via a public announcement and on its social media channels.

## Schools from page 1

plinary connections as well as meaningful interdisciplinary connections."

Students will receive two high school mathematics credits for the completion of data analysis, mathematical modeling, functions and algebra, spatial reasoning and probability, she said.

Once students reach grades 11 and 12, they will be given more options for math courses. Each student will still complete two high school mathematics credits, but the courses can be split between multiple half-credit and one-credit courses "based on their interest and goals," Helbert said.

She added that during this period, more counseling would be needed with students to match the curriculum with the desired career outcome.

In other matters, the school board: \*Approved the 2021-2022 Perkins V CTE Local Plan and budget application to the Virginia Department of Education, Office of Career and Technical Education Services for \$189,550.70 in expenditures.

\*Approved the purchase of Tyler Drive for \$310,927.25 from Tyler Technologies. The purchase will be mostly grant funded with \$100,127.25 coming from fiscal year 2021 transportation year-end funds. Tyler Drive is a software loaded onto a tablet on

the school buses. It provides drivers with turn-by-turn directions, manages student ridership, employee timekeeping, and pre- and post-trip vehicle inspections. It also assists with familiarizing new drivers with unfamiliar routes and helps provide complete documentation for Affordable Care Act reporting and state reimbursement. Other benefits include maintaining route integrity, eliminating the distraction of paper student lists, and keeping eyes on the road with the MotionLock audio setting.

\*Awarded a contract to GCS Electronics for an amount not to exceed \$198,000.00 to upgrade the remaining elementary schools to the Hytera Digital system.

\*Awarded a contract to Trane in the amount not to exceed \$350,000 for installation of Bi-Polar ionization devices in the remaining schools pending availability of funds. The devices create a plasma field that separates the particles into positive and negative ions improving indoor air quality while capturing particles in the air.

\*Recognized Rebekah Vernon and Tammy Noe for receiving awards from the Southside Virginia Regional Technology Consortium. Vernon was awarded the Instructional Support Award and Noe won the Technology Support Award.



### How can we help?

**We care about you and the success of your business.**

- We offer several options to stretch your advertising and marketing budget in packages that are designed to suit every budget and reach potential customers.
- Special rates currently are available on all of our marketing products, from display ads to digital ads, bundle pricing for online and print and bundle options for print ads published in one or more of our publications.

**Join our family and put our talented team to work for you today.**

For more information, call the office at (276) 694-3101, or to reach our advertising specialist directly, call (276) 693-3713 or email [advertising@theenterprise.net](mailto:advertising@theenterprise.net).



## Bus Driver/ Receptionist

STEP, Inc. has a full-time opening for a Head Start/Early Head Start Bus Driver and Receptionist in Patrick County. This position will be responsible for the safe transportation of each Head Start child between his/her pick up or drop off designation and to the designated person on the transportation forms. Receptionist responsibilities include but are not limited to answer incoming calls, screen and direct calls, handle client inquiries, and provide administrative and classroom support to staff. Benefits include health, dental and vision insurance, disability insurance, paid time off, and 401K.

**Qualifications:**

- High School Diploma or equivalent;
- CDL Licensed Driver;
- Must have a current safe driving record
- Ability to manage and relate to preschool children is required;
- Previous experience preferred.
- Knowledge of administrative and clerical procedures.
- Experience handling a phone system.
- Ability to multi-task
- Proficiency in Microsoft Office

Salary range: \$12.18 - \$14.32 per hour. Qualified applicants **MUST** complete an application and the online testing found on our website at <http://www.stepincva.com/employment>. We will be accepting applications for this position until close of business day on April 29th, 2021.

STEP, Inc. is an Equal Opportunity Employer

# GO Virginia grants intend to spur economic growth

More than \$6.3 million in Growth and Opportunity for Virginia (GO Virginia) grants to help the Commonwealth continue addressing the economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, according to a release from Gov. Ralph Northam.

The funding will support a total of 15 projects, including eight regional GO Virginia projects and seven projects through GO Virginia's Economic Resilience and Recovery Program.

Patrick County and others in Region 3 will benefit from a \$449,000 grant to the SOVA Innovation Hub and Longwood University Office of Community and Economic Development Entrepreneurship and Innovation Implementation Project, according to Northam.

The SOVA Innovation Hub, in partnership with the Longwood University Office of Community and Economic Development, will launch a series of entrepreneurship training, youth entrepreneurship, and capital access programming. Funding will support the creation of new jobs by building entrepreneurship capacity and a stronger, more equitable region-wide network of resources for startups and early-stage companies.

The projects receiving funds will provide additional capacity to expand workforce development and talent pipelines in key industries, support the growth of startup businesses and entrepreneurial ecosystems, grow Virginia's portfolio of business-ready sites, and assist regions with mitigating the economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. The awards will leverage an additional \$5.6 million in local and other non-state resources to assist with ongoing economic diversification and growth efforts throughout Virginia.

For instance, in Region 2, the Virginia Tech Corporate Research Center is earmarked to receive \$99,360 to develop a market study, conceptual design, and associated operational plan to support the life science ecosystem in Blacksburg and Roanoke with flexible laboratory space. This space will ultimately support commercial entities and startup companies in the life sciences sector while providing a focal point to keep locally grown talent in the region.

"This funding will go a long way towards supporting a broad-based economic recovery across our Commonwealth," said Northam. "As we celebrate these projects, we must also recognize the leadership and many contributions of the late GO Virginia Board Chairman Tom Farrell, whose business acumen helped advance the GO Virginia mission of fostering lasting regional collaboration, and was instrumental in mounting a robust effort to spur Virginia's economic recovery amid the pandemic. His legacy will live on through innovative, impactful programs like this one."

"From energy and life sciences to manufacturing and tourism, GO Virginia continues to spur innovative ideas and strategies to support businesses throughout the Commonwealth," said Secretary of Commerce and Trade Brian Ball. "As Chair, Tom Farrell gave so much of his time to the betterment of Virginia communities, and he will be dearly missed."

Since the program's inception in 2017, GO Virginia has funded 163 projects and awarded approximately \$56.9 million to support regional economic development efforts. To learn more about GO Virginia, visit [dhcd.virginia.gov/gova](http://dhcd.virginia.gov/gova).

## Household Hazardous Waste Day set

Household Hazardous Waste Day will be held on April 24, from 9 a.m. to noon at the Bassett Service Center, 2285 Fairystone Park Highway, Bassett.

Sponsored by Environmental Options Inc., EMI, Henry County, the City of Martinsville, Bassett Fire and Rescue, the event is free to individuals.

Items accepted include: Solvents, such as mineral spirits, paint thinner, tur-

pentine and acetone.

Paints, including oil-based, polyurethane, tung oil, deck- or oil-based stains.

Fuels, such as gasoline, #2 fuel oil, kerosene, diesel fuel, small as engine fuel and heating oil.

Automobile fluids, including motor oil, transmission fluids and anti-freeze.

Lead acid batteries.

Computer equipment, cell phones, printer car-

tridges.

Up to four boxes of paper per vehicle to be shredded. Sizes up to 8.5 by 11 inches only.

Items that will not be accepted include smoke detectors, compressed gas cylinders, explosives, radioactive materials, household cleaners, pesticides, herbicides, drain cleaners, tires, light bulbs and TVs.

The event is not open to commercial businesses.

### HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE DAY

Saturday April 24, 2021

9:00 am-12:00 Noon  
(Will be held rain or shine)

Location:

Bassett Service Center

2285 Fairystone Park Highway, Bassett, Virginia

(Across from Bassett Office Supply)



FREE TO ALL

CITY OF MARTINSVILLE AND HENRY COUNTY RESIDENTS

(Not available to Commercial Businesses)

#### Items you can bring

**Solvents (mineral spirits, paint thinner, turpentine, acetone, etc.)**

**Paints (oil base, polyurethane, tung oil, deck or oil base stains, etc.)**

**Fuels (gasoline, #2 fuel oil, kerosene, diesel fuel, small engine fuel, heating oil, etc.)**

**Automobile Fluids (motor oil, transmission fluids, antifreeze, etc.)**

**Lead acid Batteries, Computer Equipment, cell phones, printer cartridges**

**Great News! There has been an addition to Household Hazardous Waste Day! We will be accepting 4 boxes of paper (largest size is 8.5 X 11) per car to be shredded.**

**Shredding is being provided by EMI, but will only be gathered at the HHWD event and taken off site to be shredded.**



#### Items not to bring

Smoke detectors, compressed gas cylinders, explosives, radioactive materials, household cleaners, pesticides, herbicides, drain cleaners, tires, light bulbs, TV's

Sponsored by:

Environmental Options Inc., EMI, Henry County, City of Martinsville

Bassett Fire and Rescue

# Warner sees room for broad-ranging legislative agenda

**Brandon Martin**  
Staff writer

After a multi-day trip through the Shenandoah and Roanoke valleys, U.S. Sen. Mark Warner, D-Alexandria, held a press conference on April 12 to discuss a variety of legislative proposals in which he hopes to see bi-partisan support.

Warner said the largest area of agreement would be actions against China.

## Foreign Policy

"One of the things that I've been doing as the chair of the Intelligence Committee is to look at the rise of China," Warner said. "Let me be clear when I talk about China, my beef is with the Communist Party of China, it's with President Xi Jinping. It is not with the Chinese people. It is not with Asian-Americans and it is not with Chinese-Americans."

But he does have some reservations. "In the emergence of China, we see a nation that is almost as large as what we have. It's a country that treats horribly many of its minorities. It steals our intellectual property at estimates of about \$5 billion a year around the world of intellectual property," Warner said.

In addition to economics, Warner said China is beginning to surpass American innovations in "5G, artificial intelligence, quantum computing," and biomedical efforts.

To meet the challenge, Warner said he will propose "a series of bills" which he coined the "China Competition" bills.

"Those will include trying to create a technology alliance among like-minded democracies around the world to counter China," he said. "It will include investing upwards of anywhere from \$50 billion to make sure that our semiconductor industry remains strong and vibrant throughout the United States and that we are not dependent on foreign nations, particularly China for semiconductors. It builds on my earlier work of next generation telecommunications into 5G and developing the next generation called Open Radio Access Networks."

## Infrastructure

Warner said he hopes to see a genuine negotiation from Republicans on infrastructure.

"My only hope is that my Republican friends actually engage. They've said they want to support roads, bridges and tunnels," Warner said. "The time has come. We've heard about this in the last administration where every couple of weeks then-President Trump announced Infrastructure Week. It became a joke because there was never any there, there."

According to Warner, the American Society of Civil Engineers gives the United States a yearly grade on infrastructure that rarely gets above a low C.

"We know that as a nation, we are investing about 50 percent of our GDP on infrastructure what we were investing in the 1970's," he said. "In many ways, our infrastructure, which was always our competitive advantage against nations around the world, has unfortunately become a disadvantage."

Given the gap in investments, Warner said other aspects of American life have been affected.

"This is an area where if we continue to push off needed maintenance, needed improvements then it affects our quality of life, it affects the quality of our commerce because it takes longer to get goods to market, and quite honestly it robs people of their choices," Warner said.

For example, Warner said that passenger rail for transportation is gaining steam.

"We've seen as Virginia has started to expand, some of our rail service and how welcome that is," Warner said. "I've heard recently that some of the trains down to Roanoke are some of the most popular in the state at this point."

Warner said that "putting sizable, tangible, long-term capital investment into our infrastructure" will help make the country more equitable and competitive.

One of the largest investments will come in the form of broadband, Warner said.

"I would argue that broadband is an absolutely essential piece of infrastructure in the 21st Century. It's an economic necessity, not a nice-to-have," he said.

In the most recent stimulus package, Warner said \$17 billion was allocated for broadband. Of that, \$10 billion will go directly to the states "with a great deal of flexibility." Warner added that another \$7 billion will go to state and local governments that can be used for broadband.

There could be a solution to broadband in the form of rural electrical cooperatives, according to Warner.

"What I saw on my trip was frankly

the number of rural electric co-ops that a couple of years back, were not in the broadband business and are now delivering high-speed fiber directly to the home with literally gigabit speeds," he said.

Rural electrical cooperatives are electricity providers that are owned by the customers who use the utility.

## Criminal Justice Reform

Warner also spoke about footage from an incident in Windsor, Va. where an African American Army lieutenant named Caron Nazario was pepper-sprayed by law enforcement officers while he was in uniform.

"I was outraged to see the treatment of Lt. Nazario. Here is an individual, an officer in our armed forces, and someone who is in uniform clearly pulling into a lighted area for what would appear to be a routine traffic stop," Warner said. "It was amazing to me to see many of the body cams and the complete overreaction from the law enforcement officers. It is a sad commentary that when an African American male who is in uniform is still afraid to exit a car in today's day and age and police officers come with guns drawn for, what again, was a routine traffic stop."

In response to the incident, Nazario filed a lawsuit against the two officers, Joe Gutierrez and Daniel Crocker.

According to the Associated Press, Gutierrez was subsequently fired with the Windsor officials claiming he had failed to follow department policy.

"It appears correctly that the Windsor chief fired the officer who was the most egregious and I'm going to be watching to see the results of the state police investigation," Warner said.

This incident on the back of others, is why Warner proposes the passage of the Justice in Policing Act.

Warner said it will "not only provide additional training to law enforcement officers but it will prohibit some of the most egregious tactics like chokeholds, no-knock warrants, and try to put in place a level of responsibility for those officers who quite honestly don't follow appropriate practices."

He added that he values the work of law enforcement but "we are seeing officers who don't practice those best practices and there needs to be consequences for that."

Along with those best practices, Warner also expressed the need to reform qualified immunity, which protects state and local officials from individual liability unless the official violated a clearly established constitutional right.

"The Justice in Policing Act does make reforms to qualified immunity because we've seen too many times where a law enforcement officer, maybe a bad apple, ends up doing something wrong and oftentimes they receive no sanction," Warner said. "And if they are sanctioned, they are fired and they drive down the road 30 miles and get rehired by another police department. That's not right, that's not good, that's not fair for the vast majority of law enforcement officers who do follow the law and it's not good in terms of earning the trust of the public."

## Unions

Warner said he has mixed feelings about the Protecting the Right to Organize Act of 2021.

"There's a lot of things in the so-called PRO Act that I support," he said. "There are certain components of the legislation that do make me pause."

The bill makes various labor protections related to employees' rights to organize and collectively bargain in the workplace. For example, it "revises the definitions of employee, supervisor, and employer to broaden the scope of individuals covered by the fair labor standards; permits labor organizations to encourage participation of union members in strikes initiated by employees represented by a different labor organization (i.e., secondary strikes); and prohibits employers from bringing claims against unions that conduct such secondary strikes."

The changes would directly impact workforces composed of independent contractors.

"As we've seen already when there were efforts in California to turn all independent contractors, so-called gig workers, into traditional W-2 employees, the overwhelming majority of Californians kind of rose up and voted that bill down," Warner said. "There are some areas where I have concern. It's why I've decided not to co-sponsor the legislation."

Expecting the PRO Act to make it to Senate floor, Warner said he would push to make alterations "because the overarching goal of having more people have the right to organize, and having more American's and their voices recognized by a labor union, I think goes a long way in making sure people get the fair pay and benefits they deserve."

# Martinsville man charged in city incident

Martinsville Police officers charged a Martinsville man in connection with an alleged incident on April 8.

Anthony Eugene Moore, 36, of 515 Armstead Ave., was arrested April 13, charged with shooting into an occupied

vehicle, possess firearm by a violent felon, reckless handling of a firearm, and discharge a firearm within the City of Martinsville.

On April 8, 2021 at approximately 6:15 p.m., city authorities received a call that a fight that was in progress, with shots fired

in the area of Armstead Ave.

A short time after the 911 call, victims in the alleged incident came to the police department to report that they had been shot at on Armstead Ave. There were no injuries, however a vehicle was struck several times by gunfire.

Moore is being held without bond in the Mar-

tinsville City Jail.

The case remains under investigation. Anyone with information regarding this crime is asked to contact Lt. Sandy Hines at 276-403-5328 or Crime Stoppers at 276-632-7463. Information that leads to the arrest and conviction of suspect(s) in this case is eligible for up to \$2,500 in reward money.



Anthony Eugene Moore

## CLASSIFIED

### PUBLISHER'S NOTICE

All real estate advertised in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968, which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitations or discrimination based on race, color, sex or national origin," or an intention to make any such preferences, limitation or discrimination. Our readers are informed that all dwellings advertised in this paper are available on an equal opportunity basis. This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate or employment which is in violation of the law.

CALL (276) 694-3101 or email us at [Trisha@theenterprise.net](mailto:Trisha@theenterprise.net)

### TO PLACE YOUR CLASSIFIED AD

#### SERVICES

**WOODWRX, INC.**  
Woodwrx, Inc. Est. since 1988 Carpentry/Cabinetry - fine wood-working, design, tile, closet & garage organizers, repairs, etc. Originally based in Palm Beach County- References Bob Morehouse Phone: 276-930-1703 Cell: 561-881-8292 E-Mail: Bob@Woodwrx.net Website: Woodwrx.net

**CLAYTON KENDRICK PAVING**  
Gravel hauling and spreading/grading, paving and seal coating. We have 35 years' experience in spreading gravel and paving. Reasonable rates. Call (276) 694-7786 or (276) 340-8786 (cell)

**HYDRO AIR SYSTEMS**  
Heating, Cooling & Electrical Contractors Sales & Services Licensed in VA & NC (276) 694-7308..

**HAZELWOOD TRUCKING, INC.,**  
Gravel, sand, dirt. Contact Danny or Mike (276) 694-7718.

Over 60 years of experience. Serving Patrick County and surrounding areas.

**CUT AND CLEAN LAWN SERVICE**  
Mowing, mulching, pressure washing, gutter cleaning. Call 276-340-8571

#### HELP WANTED

**PRIMLAND**  
Primland, a luxury resort in the Blue Ridge Mountains; is seeking Qualified Applicants for the following positions: Golf Shop Attendants, Golf Maintenance staff, Outdoor Activity Guides and Outdoor Activity Office staff, Valets, Dishwashers, Line Cooks, Servers and Housekeepers, as well as Guest Services agents. Qualified applicants should send resume to [pvester@primland.com](mailto:pvester@primland.com) or apply at [Primland.com/careers](http://Primland.com/careers). Primland is an E/O/E.

Carlisle School has Job Openings Part-Time Custodian, Secondary Teachers in English, Math, and Computer Science, Part-Time Bus Drivers, Substitute Teachers. Benefits Available. Apply at [Carlisle-School.org/careers](http://Carlisle-School.org/careers) or call 276-632-7288

The West Piedmont Workforce Development Board is seeking proposals from qualified organizations to provide Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) One-Stop Operator and Adult/Dislocated Worker/ Youth Program Operator services within the West Piedmont region of Virginia (Area 17). To view the RFP please visit <https://www.vcw-westpiedmont.com/news/article/west-piedmont-region-releases-rfp> Completed proposals must be received at the West Piedmont Workforce Development Board office either by mail or in-person no later than 2:00 PM on May 17th, 2021. All questions regarding this solicitation may be sent to [Tyler@vcwwestpiedmont.org](mailto:Tyler@vcwwestpiedmont.org).

#### HELP WANTED

**FAIRY STONE STATE PARK**  
Fairy Stone State Park Now Hiring Seasonal Positions! (Open until filled) - Boathouse Attendants, Chief Lifeguard, Contact Rangers, Groundskeepers, Housekeepers, Lifeguards, Office Assistants, visit [www.dcr.virginia.gov/jobs](http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/jobs). DCR is EEO. Call (276) 930-2424 or Apply at Park Office, 967 Fairstone Lake Drive, Stuart, VA 24171.

## Local man died in Sunday crash

The Virginia State Police reported a two-vehicle crash Sunday resulted in a fatality.

The crash occurred at 3:25 p.m. on U.S. 220, one tenth of a mile south of Virginia 1035 in Henry County.

A 2010 Chevrolet Tahoe was traveling south on U.S. 220, when the vehicle allegedly lost control, crossed the median and struck a 1998 Toyota Tacoma, head-on.

The driver of the Toyota was identified as Joshua Lee Williams, 35, of Martinsville, Va. Williams was wearing his seatbelt and died at the scene.

The Chevrolet was driven by Edward H. Stevens, 71, of Clinton, N.C. Clinton was wearing his seatbelt and was transported to an area hospital for injuries received in the crash.

The passengers, Gonza P. Stevens, 63, Annie T. Stevens, 74, Avis Stevens, 64, were all wearing their seatbelts and were also transported to an area hospital for injuries received in the crash.

Charges are pending. The Virginia State Police Crash Reconstruction Team helped with the investigation.

The crash remains under investigation by Virginia State Police Trooper M. Mays.

Submit your community news and photos to [newsreporter@theenterprise.net](mailto:newsreporter@theenterprise.net)

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

Pursuant to Section 15.2-2204 of the Code of Virginia, a public hearing has been scheduled for April 28, 2021 at 1:00 p.m. in the Summerlin Meeting Room of the County Administration Building, Kings Mountain Rd., Collinsville, Virginia. The purpose of this public hearing is to receive citizen input into the possible issuance of a Variance for the following case:

**Case V-21-01 Mark A. and Diana H. Martin**  
A request for a Variance was received under Section 21-304 of the Henry County Zoning Ordinance to allow for an accessory building to be placed 42' from the center of the road instead of the required 60'. The residence is located at 1846 Willie Craig Rd., in the Blackberry District and is zoned Agricultural District A-1, as shown on Tax Map 26.1/37E. The application for this request 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

### HENRY COUNTY CONTEMPLATED SCHOOL BOARD BUDGET AND TOTAL COUNTY BUDGET FOR YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2022

In compliance with Section 15.2-2503 of the 1950 Code of Virginia, as amended, the following budget synopsis is prepared and published for information and fiscal planning purposes only. The inclusion of any item in the budget does not constitute an obligation or commitment on the part of the Board of Supervisors to appropriate funds for the item or purpose. The budget has been prepared by the County Administrator based on estimates and requests to the Board of Supervisors from various agencies and County departments. Final approval and release of funds for any item is the responsibility of the Board of Supervisors.

Pursuant to Section 15.2-2506 of the 1950 Code of Virginia, as amended, a public hearing will be held on April 27th at 6:00 P.M. in the Summerlin Meeting Room of the Henry County Administration Building on King's Mountain Road in Collinsville, Virginia to receive citizen comments and suggestions on the school board budget and total County budget. All attendees at the meeting are expected to wear a face mask or covering and practice social distancing. The Board of Supervisors may consider any public input received prior to taking final action on the budget.

Copies of the proposed budget are on file in the office of the County Administrator, King's Mountain Road, Collinsville, Virginia and on the Henry County website at [www.henrycountyva.gov](http://www.henrycountyva.gov).

Tim Hall  
County Administrator

### COUNTY OF HENRY, VIRGINIA CONTEMPLATED TAX LEVIES For Year Ending June 30, 2022 Tax Levies (Per \$100 of assessed value)

|                                       | Mobile Homes | Other Personal Property | Machinery/Tools Business Equipment | Motor Vehicle License Fee | Cars    | Motorcycles | Trailers |
|---------------------------------------|--------------|-------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------|---------|-------------|----------|
| FY '20-'21 General Fund               | \$0.555      | \$1.55                  | \$1.55                             |                           | \$20.75 | \$12.00     | \$12.00  |
| General Fund Levy                     |              |                         |                                    |                           |         |             |          |
| Proposed FY '21-'22 General Fund Levy | \$0.555      | \$1.55                  | \$1.55                             |                           | \$20.75 | \$12.00     | \$12.00  |

The effective reimbursement rate for the Personal Property Relief Act on a qualify vehicle is 38.51% State Law requires that property be assessed at fair market value, which is defined for the purpose of motor vehicles as loan value and business equipment and machinery & tools as the following percentage of original

|                |                           |
|----------------|---------------------------|
| Year 1 - 97%   | Year 4 - 67%              |
| Year 2 - 87%   | Year 5 til disposed - 57% |
| Year 3 - - 77% |                           |

### HENRY COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD CONTEMPLATED BUDGET-YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2022

| Revenues:   |                      |
|---|----------------------|
| State Funds                                       | \$ 59,524,689        |
| County Funds                                      | 19,373,777           |
| Federal / State Grants                            | 10,000,000           |
| Other Funds                                       | 1,712,366            |
| <b>Total Revenues</b>                             | <b>\$ 90,610,832</b> |
| Expenditures:                                     |                      |
| Instruction                                       | \$ 54,907,081        |
| Administration/Attendance and Health              | 3,810,808            |
| Transportation                                    | 6,458,894            |
| Operation & Maintenance                           | 6,902,812            |
| Facilities  | 2,144,000            |
| Debt Service/Transfers                            | 3,164,510            |
| Technology  | 3,231,727            |
| Federal / State Grants                            | 10,000,000           |
| Contingency Reserves                              | 50,000               |
| Less Reduction in State Recordation Tax Pass-Thru | (59,000)             |
| <b>Total Expenditures</b>                         | <b>\$ 90,610,832</b> |

### COUNTY OF HENRY, VIRGINIA SUMMARY OF REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES PROPOSED FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021-2022

| REVENUES                            |                       |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>General Fund:</b>                |                       |
| General Property Taxes              | \$ 29,006,699         |
| Other Local Taxes                   | 18,847,000            |
| Permits, Fees & Licenses            | 55,800                |
| Fines and Forfeitures               | 136,000               |
| Revenue from Use of Property        | 1,086,400             |
| Charges for Services                | 286,354               |
| Miscellaneous Revenue               | 60,000                |
| Recovered Cost                      | 2,991,506             |
| Non-Categorical Aid State           | 3,701,828             |
| Shared Expenses (Categorical)       | 7,792,864             |
| Categorical Aid State               | 88,360                |
| Payments in Lieu of Taxes           | 3,500                 |
| Categorical Aid Federal             | 214,959               |
| Non-Revenue Receipts                | 25,000                |
| Reserve Funds                       | 1,396,223             |
| <b>Total General Fund Revenue</b>   | <b>\$ 65,692,493</b>  |
| <b>Special Funds:</b>               |                       |
| Law Library                         | 19,600                |
| Central Dispatch                    | 2,044,388             |
| HCO/MTSV Industrial Site Project    | 0                     |
| Special Construction Grants         | 0                     |
| Industrial Development Authority    | 2,073,187             |
| Children's Services Act             | 3,035,250             |
| Fieldale Sanitary District          | 20,500                |
| Marina                              | 168,400               |
| Self-Insurance Fund                 | 13,518,200            |
| Henry-Martinsville Social Services  | 9,081,608             |
| School Fund                         | 90,610,832            |
| School Textbook                     | 558,950               |
| School Cafeteria                    | 5,849,371             |
| <b>TOTAL, ALL BUDGETED REVENUES</b> | <b>\$ 192,672,779</b> |
| <b>Less: Interfund Transfers</b>    | <b>(24,835,373)</b>   |
| <b>NET REVENUES</b>                 | <b>\$ 167,837,406</b> |

| EXPENDITURES                            |                       |
|---|-----------------------|
| <b>General Fund:</b>                    |                       |
| General Government Administration       | \$ 3,689,585          |
| Judicial Administration                 | 3,501,864             |
| Public Safety                           | 19,644,175            |
| Public Works                            | 4,283,894             |
| Health and Welfare                      | 902,876               |
| Education                               | 59,442                |
| Parks, Recreation & Cultural            | 2,087,864             |
| Community Development                   | 2,316,113             |
| Nondepartmental                         | 238,844               |
| Capital Projects                        | 0                     |
| School Capital - 1% Sales Tax           | 2,594,440             |
| Debt Service                            | 2,096,973             |
| Operating Transfers Out                 | 24,276,423            |
| <b>Total General Fund Expenditures</b>  | <b>\$ 65,692,493</b>  |
| <b>Special Funds:</b>                   |                       |
| Law Library                             | 19,600                |
| Central Dispatch                        | 2,044,388             |
| HCO/MTSV Industrial Site Project        | 0                     |
| Special Construction Grants             | 0                     |
| Industrial Development Authority        | 2,073,187             |
| Children's Services Act                 | 3,035,250             |
| Fieldale Sanitary District              | 20,500                |
| Marina                                  | 168,400               |
| Self-Insurance Fund                     | 13,518,200            |
| Henry-Martinsville Social Services      | 9,081,608             |
| School Fund                             | 90,610,832            |
| School Textbook                         | 558,950               |
| School Cafeteria                        | 5,849,371             |
| <b>TOTAL, ALL BUDGETED EXPENDITURES</b> | <b>\$ 192,672,779</b> |
| <b>Less: Interfund Transfers</b>        | <b>(24,835,373)</b>   |
| <b>NET EXPENDITURES</b>                 | <b>\$ 167,837,406</b> |

## PUT US TO WORK FOR YOU

*We offer many services and packages.*

**Print**  
Advertising in print remains a popular choice among many of our advertisers. With print subscribers in several states, we can make sure your products reach your target audience. Our team of dedicated professionals stand at the ready to help you.

**Digital/Online**  
Our online advertising is gaining in popularity. Our subscribers have access to all our publications for one inexpensive monthly fee (\$2.50). That means online ads are viewed by subscribers who live both out of town and out of state.

In addition to Henry County Enterprise, which covers Martinsville and Henry County, our other Virginia publications include: The Enterprise (which covers Patrick County/Stuart - including Meadows of Dan and other communities near the Blue Ridge Parkway); Salem Times Register; Fincastle Herald; New Castle Record; News Messenger; News Journal; Vinton Messenger. Our publications in West Virginia are: Pocahontas Times; Parsons Advocate; Calhoun Chronicle; Clay County Free Press; Shinnston News; Harrison County Journal, and our flagship paper, Mountain Messenger.

Whether in or out of state, most of our coverage area is within a comfortable driving distance to Martinsville and Henry County. Visit <https://theenterprise.net/advertise/> to view the available sizes/placement of online ads.

# Budget

from page 1

is we are not going to lose money on our fund balance as we move forward. We just probably won't show that much growth while we are taking some money out to meet operations."

With rising costs, Hall said he felt the move was necessary.

"We have never done that before and I don't like doing it now," Hall said. "I think it is bad policy. Keep in mind, when we started balancing it, we were \$2.5 million in the hole. So, staff went back and took out about \$1 million just for cuts within the budget. We really didn't feel like we could go any deeper, based on the two goals that you gave us to enhance our employees' experience and the expenses that are connected to a couple of things."

The first is the staffing and opening of the new jail.

"We are going to have to staff that significantly in the next fiscal year," Hall said. "A lot of that money is compensation board money that we will get reimbursed for, but we have to spend it first. That requires us to have a significant outlay of funds at the outset."

The Children's Services Act also is driving the increase.

"This is the arm that takes care of foster care and special needs kids within the system," Hall

said. "Five years ago, our local share of that effort was about \$365,000. We are projecting next year, our share will be about \$908,000, which is two-and-a-half times what we spent five years ago."

He added "those are two significant items that are causing us some heartburn this year."

One bright spot, he said, is that the plan prevents additional taxes.

"We are not proposing a tax increase on real estate or personal property," Hall said. "Those are the two significant revenue drivers that we have in our budget. We think we could justify one. We don't think the time is right. We should hold on as long as we can before we put that burden on our taxpayers."

The transfer from the fund balance also would help the county accomplish other goals.

Hall said county employees did not receive a raise last year and "only twice, I think, out of the last eight years have they received a raise of more than two percent."

The county's proposed budget would increase employee pay by about five percent for those who have been on the books for at least a year. Additionally, those with less than a year of service will generally receive about a 2.5 percent raise, but they will not receive a step increase.

Local effort to the school board will be \$19.3 million. Of that amount, about \$16.7 million will be for the operating budget. This was approximately \$516,485 more than the school board requested at \$16.3 million.

"In the past, schools received recordation tax flow-through," Hall said.

"It came from the Commonwealth to us. We flowed it right through to the school system which we do for a lot of things. The Commonwealth has stopped providing that recordation tax revenue to school boards so that left about a \$60,000 hole that we did not replace because when a grant or allocation goes away, we really don't replace that."

Hall said the new one percent sales tax increase approved last year for school construction and debts is expected to bring in \$5.2 million in new revenue. Half will be used for existing school debt and the rest will go to current and future construction and renovation needs.

While the county was able to find room in the budget for pay increases and rising school costs, Hall said some items had to be trimmed from the travel and education budgets.

"Rather than driving to Richmond, we can do it via Zoom," Hall said. "We removed a significant amount of money from travel. We also supply some funds for folks to get back to school and get degrees and so forth. A lot of that can be done online now."

During the planning stages, Hall said staff struggled to find funds for another of the board's priorities.

"You asked us for the PIO (Public Information Officer)/Community Liaison position," Hall said. "We had it in. We took it out. We had it in and then we took it out."

Hall said he was concerned about allocating more money from reserves "than we have to take."

While he felt the position was needed, Hall

said "that was an expense we did not want to take out of fund balance."

The description for the position included community liaison work to bolster "an anti-litter campaign" along with other outreach efforts, he said.

"We don't have it in," Hall said. "If you want it in and that is the recommendation you choose to make of us, we can hear that out tonight. Rather than going back through the books and that sort of thing, if you choose to direct us to put that back in, then I'd ask that you let us take whatever cost we occur between now and hiring, and take that out of contingency. We don't know what that amount would be, but we will bring that to you."

Joe Bryant, of the Collinsville District, said he valued having a public information officer on staff for the county.

"I see the importance of having that position of someone who can promote this area," Bryant said. "The litter has been a devastating problem here in this area. As Mr. (Tommy) Slaughter brought up in our last board meeting. And it's not only in his district. It's in my district as well as everyone else's district."

Bryant complimented the county staff on creating "a good conservative budget" but he saw room to "pull this from our contingency fund this year and maybe next year try to find out where the funds are going to come from. But I think that would be a value to have as a county."

Hall said he will present the Public Service Authority with a proposal to share funding for the position at their upcoming meeting.

"We have multiple shared positions," he said. "It's not new."

Darrell Jones, the county's finance director, said transferring money from the contingency fund to cover salary and benefits would "get you through the end of fiscal year 2022."

The position could be continually funded in the future, based on the

board's approval, Jones added.

Hall said the position won't begin before July 1.

"I know that when I mention hiring a person for that position and knowing that the budget was probably going to be a tough one this year, I still think we need to tell our story," said Vice-Chairman Debra Buchanan, of the Horsepasture District. "Whether it is good or bad, I think the public needs to know. With staff working as hard as they are, you don't have the time. Tim and Dale (Wagoner), you don't have the time that it would take to do social media and to do the press releases and things that need to be done to let people know what is going on."

Buchanan said the position will be even more valuable during the process of reversion.

"We are doing a good job on the internet, on the county website, but I think there is going to be more information that needs to come to the public's attention during the tough times," Buchanan said. "But then as we approach more good times, with Commonweal, Crossing, and continuing to add to that, I think we need to tell our story, good or bad."

"Dale does a lot more of the social media than I do, but we both do it and it is very time consuming because the media have demands, and rightfully so. They want to get more content out," Hall said.

Still, the added pressures weigh on the county and deputy administrators, according to Hall.

"It takes up a lot of time. It absolutely does," he said. "There are many nights when I am doing that sort of thing at 8 or 9:30 at night. You just do it. That's what we do around here. But it does take some time."

Chairman Jim Adams agreed.

"I think we have a story to tell," he said. "I think it takes almost twice as much energy to dispel a rumor than to be out in front of it and tell the factual side of

the county's position on things."

Dr. J. David Martin, of the Iriswood District, made the motion to add a public information officer position to the budget beginning July 1, using contingency funds. The Henry County Public Service Authority will have the option of partially sharing the cost of the position.

Hall said that the county intends to focus more on recruiting talented applicants.

Remarking on past conversations with department heads, Hall said he routinely tells them "you need to tell us who in your department is going to step up. It may not be in their office. It may be where they can go to another office. We need to know who those folks are because it's getting harder and harder to find candidates that want to work."

He added that a "significant number" of long-time employees will be retiring in the near future.

"Those pillars of your organization are starting to move on, as they should. They've earned their time," Hall said. "But we need to be cognizant of the fact that we need to be doing a better job at identifying them, hiring them, and keeping them. We are already behind when it comes to trying to hire people for certain jobs."

For instance, Hall said the county has only received five applications so far for the position of Refuse Director.

"We are not in a position to pay folks what the private sector can pay," Hall said. "Especially, when you weigh the joys sometimes of dealing with the public. That's just an indication that we are behind on salaries. We used to make it up with a really robust benefits package, retirement especially, but the Commonwealth changed that and put several tiers in. It's just not attractive as it used to be compared to everything else."

A public hearing for the budget will be scheduled for April 27 at 6 p.m.

**CROSSWORD ANSWERS**

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| T | S | H | O | L | L | A | S | B | A | H | T | S |   |
| A | K | A | R | E | E | V | E | I | C | E | N | I |   |
| C | U | T | D | A | V | E | R | O | B | E | R | T | S |
| C | A | C | H | E | D | E | M | O | T | E |   |   |   |
| A | S | H | U | R | P | A | R | A | S | I | T | I | C |
| E | L | I | T | A | C | C | O | R | E |   |   |   |   |
| S | A | R | A | N | P | A | R | E | S |   |   |   |   |
| T | R | Y | G | R | A | D | A | T | E | U | T | E |   |
| O | E | S | A | L | E | S | N | A | R | E | S |   |   |
| S | T | U | B | M | E | S | U | E |   |   |   |   |   |
| S | E | P | A | R | A | T | E | S | E | N | T | R | Y |
| O | R | I | N | A |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| C | H | A | R | L | I | E | R | O | S | E | A | S | L |
| R | A | T | E | L | L | A | T | H | S |   |   |   |   |
| O | M | E | N | S | S | H | O | E | S | E | T | A |   |

**2021**

**APRIL 24 - NOVEMBER 20**

Saturdays 7AM-12PM

**JULY 7 - SEPTEMBER 29**

Wednesdays 7AM-12PM

Saturdays 7AM-12PM

\*Closed Saturday, October 2nd\*

Rain or Shine

65 W. Main Street  
Martinsville, VA 24112  
(276) 632-5688

**Martinsville UP TOWN**

**M Martinsville**

**125th Anniversary** SINCE 1896 **THE LESTER GROUP**

**showcase** www.showcasemagazine.com

**SOVAH HEALTH** MARTINSVILLE

## Scam calls prompt state police to issue caution

The Virginia State Police has received several calls from people who reported they were called by someone who claimed to have their child.

The caller then demands money for the child's release, according to the release.

"This is a scam that has been coming around every couple of years and is designed to place the victim in a panic," the release stated.

The caller may even have a child screaming in the background, according to the release.

The calls are being generated from outside the country, but may have what appears to be a local phone number.

Multiple complaints about similar calls have been made to law enforcement agencies throughout the region.

**Primary Election Tuesday, June 8, 2021**

**THIS IS A PRIMARY ELECTION FOR:**  
 Governor  
 Lieutenant Governor  
 Attorney General  
 9th & 14th House of Delegates  
 SAMPLE BALLOTS ARE AVAILABLE ONLINE

MASKS ARE ENCOURAGED AND APPRECIATED. SOCIAL DISTANCING WILL BE PRACTICED.

AN ID IS REQUIRED TO VOTE AT THE POLLS. Please verify your voter registration, polling place, and VALID ID before voting!

**POLLS OPEN 6 a.m. - 7 p.m.**

**Monday, May 17, 2021:** Last day to register to vote or change your voter registration information for this election.

Mailed voter registration applications must be sent to the Henry County Voter Registration and Elections Office postmarked on or before the deadline.

**IN-PERSON ABSENTEE (EARLY) VOTING**  
**NEW LOCATION: Henry County Vote Center ONLY**  
 located at the Henry County Administration Building  
 3300 Kings Mountain Road #103 Martinsville, Virginia 24112

**Monday - Friday, April 23 - June 5, 2021:** 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.  
**Saturday, May 29 & June 5, 2021:** 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

**Saturday, June 5, 2021:** Last day to vote an In-Person (early) absentee ballot at the Henry County Registrar's Office.

**MAIL ABSENTEE VOTING**  
 Request an Absentee ballot online: [vote@co.henry.va.us](mailto:vote@co.henry.va.us)  
 Absentee ballots ARE counted.

**Friday, May 28, 2021:** Last day to request an absentee ballot by mail. Applications must be received in the Registrar's Office by 5 p.m.

**Tuesday, June 8, 2021:** Election Day ALL DROPPED OFF Absentee voted ballots must be returned to the Registrar's Office by 7 p.m. (Virginia time) to be counted.

**Friday, June 11, 2021:** ALL Absentee voted ballots that are returned via mail must be post marked on or before election day and received in the Registrar's Office by NOON (Virginia time) to be counted.

**BALLOT DROP OFF STATIONS**

**Monday - Friday, April 23 - June 5, 2021:** 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.  
**Saturday, May 29 & June 5, 2021:** 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

- Henry County Registrar's Office
- Henry County Administration Building #103
- 3300 Kings Mountain Road Martinsville, Virginia 24112

**On Election Day Only: All polling places and the Henry County Registrar's Office**

Dawn Stultz-Vaughn, Director of Elections & General Registrar  
 3300 KINGS MOUNTAIN ROAD #103 MARTINSVILLE, VIRGINIA 24112  
 TELEPHONE: 276-634-4698 FAX: 276-632-8278

Email: [vote@co.henry.va.us](mailto:vote@co.henry.va.us)  
 Website: [www.henrycountyva.gov/elections---registrar](http://www.henrycountyva.gov/elections---registrar)