

# HENRY COUNTY ENTERPRISE

Saturday, June 5, 2021

(USPS-6)

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## Godwin reflects on her tenure at the helm of PHCC

**Brandon Martin**  
Staff writer

Since 2012, Dr. Angeline Godwin has served as the president of Patrick Henry Community College (PHCC).

Between now and her retirement on July 1, she hopes to reflect and savor her duties in the position that “has really just been the greatest honor of my life.”

Before returning to her family home in Mississippi, she agreed to an interview with the Henry County Enterprise. Her italicized

responses to a few of our most pressing questions follow.

**What thoughts are going through your head as your time at PHCC winds down and what has your tenure at the institution meant to you?**

*“One a daily basis, I’m thinking about the things that we have in process the initiatives, the grants, the programs. I want to make sure that I get those concluded and in good shape for a very smooth transition.”*

*I’m really looking back to 2012,*

*when I got here, and to some major initiatives. I’m trying to allow myself some time to sort of reflect on those and savor them. Serving as the president of Patrick Henry Community College has really just been the greatest honor of my life. I absolutely love it. I still love it every day. I love the communities. I love our students. They are some of the most extraordinary people that I have worked with in my life. It’s just been an incredible opportunity and journey for me to have the*

See Godwin, page 5



PHOTO BY TAYLOR BOYD

Athletic Director Brian Henderson presented PHCC President Dr. Angeline Godwin with a sports shirt bearing her name and the school’s mascot as a retirement gift.

## Dual primaries to be held Tuesday

Voters participating in dual primaries will head to the polls on Tuesday, June 8, 2021.

All polls will be open from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Voters in the City of Martinsville will only have the option to vote in the Democratic Party Primary, as the Republican Party selected its statewide candidates through a convention earlier in the year.

Incumbent Del. Les Adams, R-Chatham, is uncontested in his reelection bid for the 16th District.

Select voters in the county, who fall within the 9th District, will have the option to participate in either primary. Since it is a dual primary, officers of the election must determine in which primary the voter wishes to vote.

The voter will be asked if they wish to vote in the Democratic Party Primary or the Republican Party Primary.

All those who are qualified to vote may vote in either primary, but they cannot vote in both. The choice to vote in a party’s primary does not mean that the voter will be “registered” with that party. Virginia does not register by party.

A sample ballot is printed in this newspaper showing the names of the candidates.

A list of polling places also is printed.

Voters are also reminded to bring an acceptable form of identification with them on Election Day, as Virginia law requires that all voters pres-

See Primaries, page 6

## Memorial Day: For memories and reflection

**Brandon Martin**  
Staff writer

Memorial Day is unlike any other holiday recognized in the United States.

It is a time of reflection, dedicated to the memory of those who made the ultimate sacrifice, their families and friends.

“There is no happy Memorial Day,” retired 1st Sgt. Anthony Ybarra said during a recent service held at Roselawn Burial Park.

The words were intended as a reminder of the true cost of war.

“In preparation for my remarks, I considered all of my years in the military service and overseas,” Ybarra said. “I came to the realization that there have been a number of soldiers ☒ no, friends ☒ that I lost in battle. I still remember their faces. Today is a day for their honor and their remembrance.”

Ybarra reflected on the military ethos which places the mission



The flag of the United States is flown at half-staff, as many gather for a Memorial Day Service at Roselawn Burial Park.

and lives of others above oneself.

“As heartbreaking as it is to lose a soldier, the mission must continue,” he said. “As a senior leader, my job became tougher as I had to change the morale of the unit after a loss. It is only now that my numbness subsides, and their remembrance is more important than ever.”

It takes a special kind of person

to make such a sacrifice, Ybarra said.

“Military personnel are cut from a different cloth,” he added. “Regardless of whether an officer or enlisted, every military member takes an oath to defend the Constitution, and if so, give their life in its defense.”

See Reflection, page 4

## Phillips to seek Iriswood District seat in November



Eric Phillips is seeking the open Iriswood District seat on the Henry County Board of Supervisors in the November election.

**Brandon Martin**  
Staff writer

Eric Phillips is seeking the open Iriswood District seat on the Henry County Board of Supervisors.

Phillips, 45, opted to seek the post after incumbent Dr. J. David Martin decided he would not seek re-election.

“I had been hearing for some time that Martin might not run again,” Phillips said. “I talked to Dr. Martin about that at the time and he wasn’t sure. Then I talked to the

new registrar to see if anyone else had filed and nobody had when I spoke with her. I told my wife that I have a feeling that this thing is going to come down to the end and he’s not going to run, so I’m going to go ahead and get all of my signatures and paperwork to hold onto in case he doesn’t end up running again.”

Even though he had tacitly been interested in local government for a while, Phillips said he was prevented from fully taking part in it because of his many business ventures.

“Locally, I had filled out the paperwork to serve on some of the appointed boards that the Board of Supervisors appoint and had never really gotten any feedback,” he said. “I’m an entrepreneur and I own several businesses. One of them had kept me on the road quite a bit.”

Phillips said he once traveled across the country to remodel and refinish carpentry in hotels.

“The coronavirus had a pretty negative impact on my hotel business because the hospitality industry got hit harder than any other business,” he said. “I had kind of wanted to slow things down a bit and be home a little more, so it gave me the opportunity to do that when I bought into Fed-Ex. That business has tripled during the coronavirus as people have started buying more and more stuff at home.”

With a flourishing business that allows him to stay closer to home, Phillips said he now can be more involved in local government, and he hopes his previous experience in politics will help buoy him to success in the position, if elected.

“Del. Danny Marshall

See Phillips, page 8



Sean Perryman, (left), discusses his plans for criminal justice reform with local barber Ian Turner, at Krispy Kutz in Martinsville.

## Perryman swings through area in bid for office

**Brandon Martin**  
Staff writer

Sean Perryman, a candidate for the Democratic nomination for lieutenant governor, made a recent campaign stop in Martinsville.

His visit to the local barber shop, Krispy Kutz, served as a meet-and-greet and an opportunity for Perryman to discuss the issues he would be pushing to solve if elected.

**Policing and Criminal Justice Reform**

One of the largest parts of Perryman’s platform is concerned with re-imagining policing and rectifying laws which have had a disproportionate effect on minority communities.

According to Perry-

man’s campaign website, the first item on this agenda is “legalizing cannabis possession immediately, automatically expunging past cannabis convictions, freeing those incarcerated only for cannabis-related crimes, driving the benefits of the new cannabis markets to communities disproportionately impacted by marijuana prohibition, and investing new state revenues into our education system.”

Perryman said his vision would focus primarily on possession-oriented crimes but that he would be open to discuss other convictions as well.

“I would want to have the conversations about distribution because usually with distribution there is a lot more that

goes into the crime than possession but I would be open to that,” he said. “At the end of the day, when we open this market, we are going to be providing massive quantities of cannabis which

See Perryman, page 7

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



# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

## Saturday, June 5

The Infinity Acres Ranch 6th Annual Spring Carnival will be held from 11 a.m. until 3 p.m. Admission is \$5 per person. An additional \$3 kids activity band will also include face painting, the dunking booth, the Critter Train, games and prizes. Music and entertainment will be provided by Pirates of the Piedmont. Masks and social distancing are recommended. For more information, call (276) 358-2378.

The Henry County Bike Club will hold its Annual Bike Ride for Awareness beginning at 10:30 a.m., at Jack Dalton Park. The ride is intended to raise awareness for bicycle safety. This will be a 12mph max ride for approximately nine miles. To view the route, visit [www.henrycountybikeclub.com](http://www.henrycountybikeclub.com).

The ride will be held rain or shine and helmets are required. Local law enforcement will be escorting the ride. For more information, call (276) 340-9105.

## Thursday, June 10

GO Virginia Region 3 will host a series of Stakeholder Input Sessions as part of the 2021 update of its Growth & Diversification Plan. The public is invited to participate in Zoom sessions and offered the opportunity to provide input for the 2021 update to the GO Virginia Region 3 Growth & Diversification Plan. Session 4 – Entrepreneurship will be held at 10 a.m. To register, go to <https://govirginia3.org/growth-diversification-plan-input-sessions/>.

## Friday, June 11

The Spencer-Penn Centre will host a music night with The Country Boys in the back lot, beginning at 6:15 p.m. Gates will open at 5 p.m. Admission is a \$5 donation to the Centre. Guests are encouraged to bring their own seat. Social distancing will be required with masks when that is not possible. Some concessions will be sold.

## Saturday, June 12

The Spencer-Penn Centre will be hosting the Summerwind Fair which will take place from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. There will be vendors, a cruise-in, food trucks, a book sale and a cornhole tournament. Admission for the fair is free. There is a \$10 entry fee for the cornhole tournament. Registration begins at 10 a.m. with the tournament kicking off at 11 a.m. There will

be prizes for the top three teams, with first place going home with \$200. On the same day, the Centre will be hosting a canvas painting class with Genie Elgin, from 10:30 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. The class is \$20 for members and \$25 for non-members. All supplies provided. Class size is limited, so those interested in the class are asked to register by calling (276)957-5757.

## Monday, June 14

The Colonel George Waller Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution and the American Red Cross are hosting a blood drive at the Martinsville-Henry County Heritage Center and Museum on 1 E. Main Street in Martinsville. The drive is being held as a celebration of Flag Day. The drive will take place from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. To schedule an appointment, contact Johnathan Phillips at (276) 806-5022.

## Saturday, June 19

The Fieldale Recreation Center is sponsoring a fundraiser concert at the outdoor stage of the center from 6-10 p.m. The band "FATZ" will be performing. Admission is \$5. Guests are asked to bring their own chairs. No coolers will be allowed. Concessions and beer will be available. The event will follow COVID-19 guidelines. For more information, call Jane Eggleston at (276) 358-1143.

## ONGOING

West Piedmont Planning District Commission is seeking public input on three surveys for upcoming projects. All of the surveys and opportunities can be accessed on [www.wppdc.org](http://www.wppdc.org) and the planning projects are: Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan 5-Year Update (survey and interactive story map for residents); Regional Pandemic Recovery & Economic Resiliency Plan (survey for business and industries); Piney Forest Road

Corridor Study by Danville MPO (residents who travel down Piney Forest Road in the City of Danville). For more information, contact Michael Armbrister at (276) 638-3987 or email [marmbrister@wppdc.org](mailto:marmbrister@wppdc.org).

The Patrick Henry Community College Board will hold four specially called meetings via Zoom throughout June regarding the renaming of the college. The meetings can be accessed at the following links on the corresponding dates: June 3 (<https://vccs.zoom.us/j/82291588196>); June 10 (<https://vccs.zoom.us/j/86500598061>); June 15 (<https://vccs.zoom.us/j/82043903790>); June 21 (<https://vccs.zoom.us/j/84439663752>)


The Spencer-Penn Centre will host a yoga class on Tuesdays at 4 p.m., throughout June with instructor Sheila Hubbard. The class is \$8 per session or \$40 for a series of six classes. Students are asked to bring their own yoga mat and props if possible.

**SUMMER & FALL REGISTRATION NOW OPEN**  
CLASSES BEGIN MAY 24<sup>th</sup>


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PHCC is an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution.

## Senior residents may qualify for nutrition program

Farm Fresh Market for Seniors, also known as the Senior Farmer's Market Nutrition Program, is still available through Southern Area Agency on Aging (SAAA). Eligible seniors may receive \$45 worth of coupons that can be used to purchase locally-grown fresh fruits, vegetables and cut herbs at participating Farmer's Markets.

The number of people who can participate is limited. SAAA will take applications over the phone as supplies last on a 1st come 1st serve basis. A waitlist is available in some areas.

You may qualify to participate if:

\*you are (or will become) 60 years of age or older on or before June 1, 2021, and

\*you are a resident of Danville City, Martinsville City, Franklin County, Patrick County, Henry County or Pittsylvania County. (Note, residents of Henry and Pittsylvania counties must have access to and be willing to shop at participating Farmer's Market's outside of their county) and

\*you do not live with and are not an immediate family member of the farmer who grows the produce, and

\*you have a gross monthly house-

hold income that does not exceed the income requirements of the program. Note the income limit for this program changes from year to year. Individuals who have qualified for the program in the past may not qualify for this year's program.

Individuals and couples who wish to apply for coupons must contact Southern Area Agency on Aging at 276-632-6442 or toll-free at 1-800-468-4571. Applicants must be prepared to provide total gross household income information when applying over the phone or in person.

## Mize awarded degree from UA

Alexis Mize, of Ridgeway, received a Bachelor of Science in Education from The University of

Alabama. UA awarded some 5,860 degrees during its spring commencement ceremonies April 30-May 2.

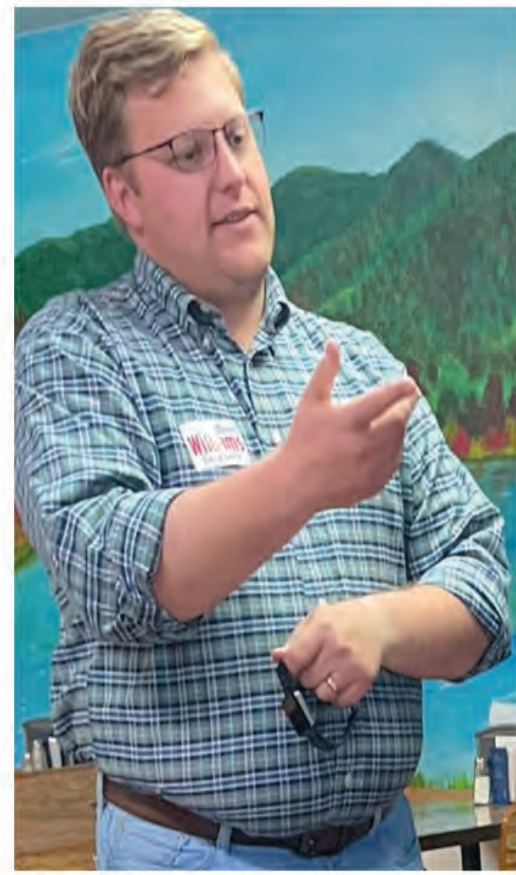
## Here is something that PatCoVa PAC won't tell you! Did you know...?

- 1) That the majority of all the contributions to PatCoVa PAC have come from Wren Williams' family and their businesses.<sup>1</sup>
- 2) Wren Williams' father, grandfather, grandmother, and aunt have contributed at least \$1,000 each to PatCoVa PAC.<sup>1</sup>
- 3) PatCoVa PAC has been doing the dirty work of spreading false information about Charles Poindexter and his work to help Patrick County such as with widening Route 58 and finding a new hospital in Stuart.
- 4) What is **NOT** false is that Wren Williams accepted a total of **\$161,727** of COVID bailout funds for his law firm Schneider & Williams, which **NEVER** closed and received more bailout funds than almost any other business in Patrick County.<sup>2,3</sup>
- 5) If you want to see the actual figures, visit <https://covidbailoustracker.com/> and search by zip code and enter 24171.

**Charles Poindexter has fought & continues to fight for Patrick County.**

**Wren Williams is fighting for himself.**

**VOTE CHARLES POINDEXTER IN THE REPUBLICAN PRIMARY ON JUNE 8!**



<sup>1</sup> <https://www.vpap.org/committees/332243/patcova-pac/>

<sup>2</sup> <https://covidbailoustracker.com/company/schneider-williams-p-c-stuart-va-24171?>

<sup>3</sup> <https://covidbailoustracker.com/company/schneider-williams-p-c-dba-schneider-williams-p-c-stuart-va-24171?>

# Free summer meals available for local youngsters

Henry County School Nutrition is participating in the Summer Food Service Program to offer free meals to local youth.

Groups who are hosting students/children during the summer months for any type of activities, (day camps, Vacation Bible Schools, tutoring, etc.), can receive free meals or snacks to give to the children who come to their site.

Acceptance and participation requirements for these programs are the same regardless of race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability, and there will be no discrimination in the meal service.

To get more information, or to set up a site to receive

meals, call 276-638-1159 and ask about the Summer Food Service Program.

Meals will be provided on a first come, first-served basis at sites listed on the Henry County Schools website at: henry.k12.va.us. All open sites will be closed for the week before July 4 and Monday July 5. (June 28-July 5, 2021).

Meals also will be provided at closed, enrolled sites through the Summer Food Service Program. (Some meals may not be provided for June 28 - July 5, 2021).

Acceptance and participation requirements for these programs are the same regardless of race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability and

there will be no discrimination in the meal service.

Meals will be provided at the sites listed on the "Summer Meal Program" link under HCPS CLOSED ENROLLED FEEDING SITES.

In accordance with federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or fund-

ed by USDA.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.), may contact the agency (state or local) where they applied for benefits. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, (AD-

3027) found online at: [http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint\\_filing\\_cust.html](http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html), and at any USDA office, or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:

(1) Mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights  
1400 Independence Avenue, SW Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;  
(2) Fax: (202) 690-7442; or  
(3) Email: [program.intake@usda.gov](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov).

## Information sought in shooting incident

Henry County Sheriff's investigators are seeking information in a Collinsville shooting incident.

On June 2, around 1:57 a.m., the Martinsville-Henry County 911 Center received a call that an individual had been shot on S & L Court, Collinsville, Virginia.

Officers arriving at the scene found Mason Wasoski, 19, of Stuart, inside his vehicle, suffer-

ing from an apparent gunshot wound to the head.

Wasoski was air-lifted to Roanoke, Virginia, for treatment of life-threatening injuries.

The Henry County Sheriff's Office is currently processing the scene and actively following leads in the incident.

Authorities are encouraging anyone with information in the case to contact them.

The investigation is ongoing.

Anyone with information about the incident is asked to call the Henry County Sheriff's Office at 276-638-8751 or Crimestoppers at 63-CRIME (632-7463).

The Crimestoppers Program offers rewards up to \$2,500 for information related to crime. The nature of the crime and the substance of the information determine the amount of reward paid.

## County updates website with information about the impact of reversion

Henry County has updated its website to provide detailed information to all area residents about Martinsville City Council's decision to revert to town status.

The website is located at [www.henrycountyva.gov/reversion](http://www.henrycountyva.gov/reversion).

It includes the timeline of activities, background information, legal filings, frequently asked questions, and copies of documents. Residents also may submit comments, suggestions, and questions at the site.

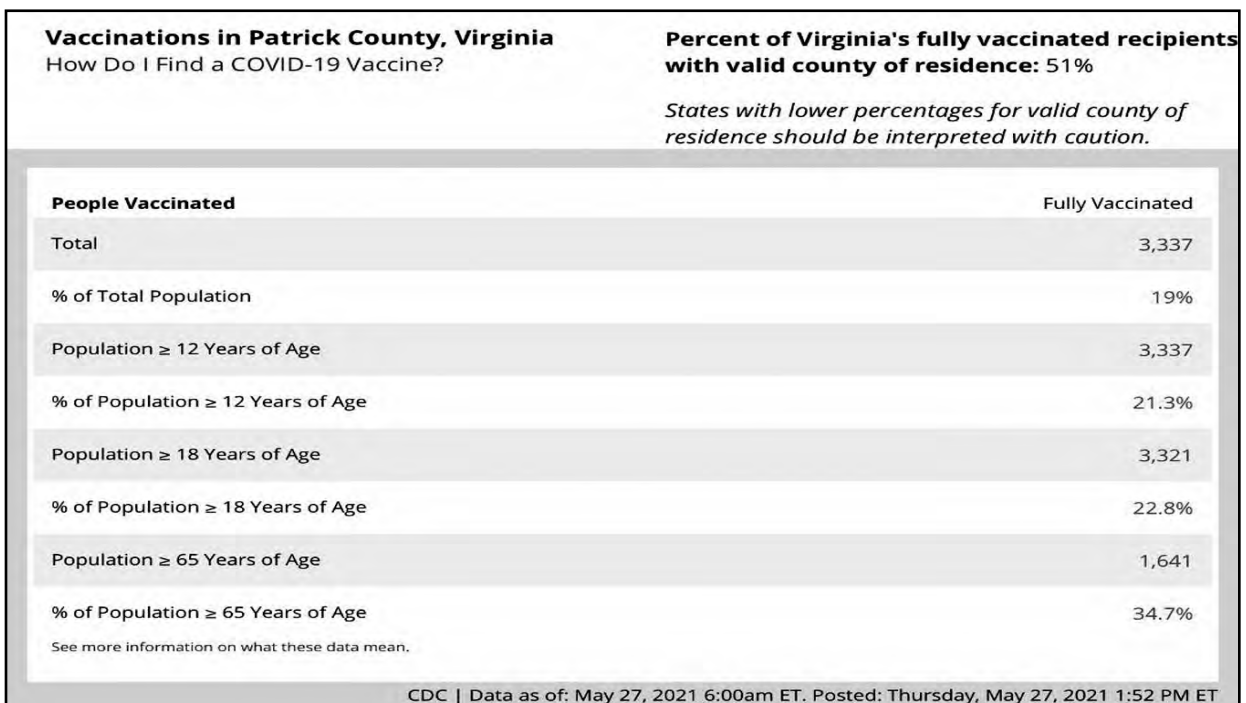
"In September 2020, the Board of Supervisors was served with a legal notice about the City's decision to revert to a town," said Jim Adams, chairman of the Henry

County Board of Supervisors. "With the public disclosure of the memorandum of understanding on May 26, we can now put all of the information out there for our residents. We welcome their feedback."

Virginia's Commission on Local Governments will review evidence, hold hearings, and issue a report containing its findings and recommendations. The matter of reversion will then proceed to a three-judge panel appointed by the Virginia Supreme Court for a final ruling.

City Council could elect not to accept reversion up to 21 days following the three-judge panel's decision.

## Federal changes to make it easier to hit July 4th vaccine goal



Data from the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) suggests that 3,337, or 19 percent, of residents of Patrick County were fully vaccinated against the COVID-19 virus as of May 27.

**Taylor Boyd**  
Staff writer

The country is on track to meet President Joe Biden's goal of 70 percent of Americans vaccinated with at least one dose by July 4, state health officials said.

During a recent Virginia Department of Health's (VDH) telepress conference, Dr. Danny Avula, vaccine coordinator in Virginia, said the U.S. was making good progress with the vaccination campaign, with 41 percent of the population fully vaccinated.

"We're at 65 percent today," Avula said last week. "If we break that down, it's about 343,000 people left to hit that 70 percent goal. So, that's about 8,000 people a day. And we have been tracking a good bit better than that."

He estimated 20,000 received their first doses of a COVID-19 vaccine during the week ending May 21.

Avula said the numbers are also bolstered by the expansion of the Pfizer vaccine to children who are between the ages of 12 and 15.

"In just over a week of having that approval and access, we have had 52,649 Virginians who are in that age range" receive a COVID-19 vac-

cine, he said.

The VDH COVID-19 Vaccine Data Dashboard also was updated to include federally administered doses, which monitors the vaccines administered by federal government partners including the Bureau of Prisons, Department of Defense, the Indian Health Service, and the VA Hospital System.

In the coming months, Avula said the vaccination numbers will increase more slowly due to a shift to more mobile units and popup clinics.

"We're certainly seeing a lot of fruit" with this project, "it's just slower and harder," he said.

Avula said the federal government will also shift more towards the primary healthcare providers to help vaccinate "the segments of our community who just want reassurance, want to talk to a healthcare provider."

This also will make it easier for primary care providers to access vaccine, he added.

In the latest studies, Pfizer showed that the storage and handling requirements have been updated, he said.

"So, instead of having a really limited amount of time that Pfizer could be refrigerated, we can now

ship things frozen, have them frozen for two weeks, and then have a full month at refrigeration temperatures. That's going to make it a lot easier for many practices to receive Pfizer to keep it frozen and transition it to refrigerator and have a lot more time to work through those doses," Avula said.

Data from the Virginia Department of Health on May 30 suggested there are 4,649 cases, with 367 hospitalizations, and 124 deaths in Henry County. In Patrick County, 1,377 cases with 108 hospitalized, and 43 dead from the COVID-19 virus were reported. In the City of Martinsville, 1,618 cases were reported with 164 hospitalized, and 77 dead.

The data also suggested there are 675,538 cases in the state, with 29,757 hospitalized, and 11,186 dead from the COVID-19 virus. Information from the CDC suggested there are 33,079,543 cases in the United States and 591,265 dead from coronavirus.

Data also suggests that as of May 30, 3,754,326 Virginians have been fully vaccinated against the COVID-19 virus.

For more tips on how to stay safe, visit [www.vdh.virginia.gov](http://www.vdh.virginia.gov) or [www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov](http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov).

## City Electoral Board to meet, canvass ballots

The City of Martinsville's Electoral Board will meet at 9:15 a.m. on Wednesday, June 9 in the Circuit Court Clerk's Office, Room 205, in the City Municipal Building to canvass the Democratic Primary Election for Governor, Lieutenant Governor and Attorney General.

As provided in §24.2-653 of the Code of Virginia, one authorized representative of each political party or independent candidate in a general election or one authorized representative of each candidate in a primary or special election, who is a qualified

voter of Virginia, may be present at this meeting of the Electoral Board.

The Board will go into closed session to consider the qualifications of provisional voters.

Any qualified voter and any person representing a newspaper or radio or television broadcasting station may attend the canvass meeting.

Social distancing and mask required for attendance due to COVID-19.

Voting equipment scheduled for programming by the Electoral Board on Wednesday, April 14, 2021 for the upcoming election.

See more news at [www.henrycountyenterprise.com](http://www.henrycountyenterprise.com)



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# OPINION

## Missy's Sunroom Renovation Blog

**DAY 1:**  
Hi folks, it's your girl Missy! After thinking about it for literally YEARS, I've decided it's time to pull the trigger! I'm going to renovate my home's old sunroom, and I'm going to document the whole process on this blog!

I've decided to go all-out. All the carpeting is GONE, and I'm going to get the original hardwood floors refinished. All the crummy old windows are going to be replaced with double-glazed low-E insulated windows. I'm even going to get a water line and install a wet bar; it's going to be great for entertaining!

The contractor is coming out tomorrow to give me an estimate; I'll let all of you know what he says. Wish me luck!

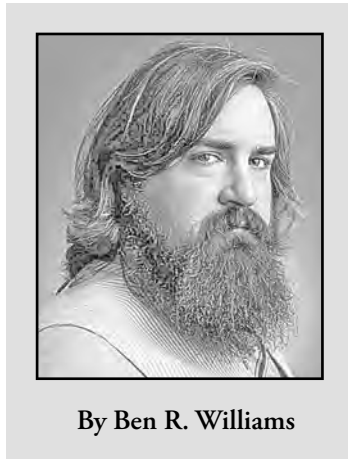
**DAY 27:**  
It took a little longer than expected, but the contractor came out today to give me the estimate on my sunroom! Well, I haven't actually gotten the estimate yet, but it's coming later this week now that he's assessed the situ-

ation. I'm so excited to get this project rolling. I already bought some cool bar towels!

**DAY 61:**  
Finally got my estimate! It's a little more than I'd initially hoped to pay, but I'm sure the end result will be well worth it. I signed the contract and gave the contractor a pretty massive check for half of the project, and he said I'm next on the list! Keep an eye on this space for updates on the process!

**DAY 94:**  
The contractor came by today, and I got really excited, but it turned out he was just in the area and wanted to drop off some wood screws. He said he'll be back soon to start the project. I keep walking out into the sunroom and just looking around, imagining all the wicker furniture and neat plants I'm going to have out there! It's going to be great.

**DAY 133:**  
The contractor finally came back. He removed all the win-



By Ben R. Williams

dows from the sunroom and said he was hauling them off. He said he still has to complete one more project and then he'll finally get started on my sunroom.

It has been nearly two and a half months since he cashed my check for \$13,000.

**DAY 372:**  
He says he has one more project to finish up. Oh, how I'd love to believe his honeyed words.

**DAY 890,190:**

I am Mortok, Queen of the Gas Hounds. While my scouts were salvaging rare metals in the ruins of an old Sub-Urb, they came upon this fancy electric book inside a carpeted "sunroom." A few of them were able to read the ancient texts within, and now their hearts are filled with hope.

The texts tell of a great deity known as "Conrac-Tor," a powerful being capable of creating anything simply by pointing his finger. My people believe Conrac-Tor stood ten feet tall, with a mane of vibrant jet-black hair and eyes like chips of ice. What a powerful ally this Conrac-Tor would be, a God of creation in this ruined world! He could gift us sturdy huts, strengthen our spears, perhaps even conjure potable water from thin air!

Alas, little is known about Conrac-Tor, but we understand him to be a deity most difficult to summon. Some of the men have set up camp in the Medicine Field and work day and night to contact this demigod.

They have left out great bundles of the green pieces of paper once known as "dollards," now useless to our people, in the hope that Conrac-Tor still desires them. They have also brewed many barrels of the drink my people call "Stagger-Water" in the hope that Conrac-Tor still has a thirst as mighty as his calloused hands!

As I watch their torches burn through the night, I wonder if Conrac-Tor will ever return. In my darkest moments — and this information I entrust solely to you, electric book — I wonder if Conrac-Tor ever really existed at all.

But I will not rob my people of their hope. The Gas Hounds need someone to believe in. They need a symbol of strength, an emblem of change. And perhaps so do I. In my heart of hearts, I may have my doubts, but outwardly, I want ... no, I MUST believe.

One day, Conrac-Tor will return.

One day.

## What I saw at the southern border

**Morgan Griffith**  
9th District U.S. Rep.

Some things have to be seen to be believed. I found that to be the case during my recent visit to the southern border with other Members of Congress to investigate the disastrous results of President Biden's policies.

On his first day in office, President Biden ordered an immediate pause to construction of the border wall. As I saw on the border, this order has led to some absurd outcomes. Construction materials for the wall lie uselessly in the sun mere feet away from areas where illegal immigrants enter the country with impunity.

One area currently has fencing that is easily breached. Parts of it are cut frequently by illegal immigrants and must be patched several times a day.

In another area, the mechanisms operating a

gate in the wall had yet to be completed upon the order to stop work, leaving it wide open. Now, two Border Patrol agents monitor the gate in twelve-hour shifts instead of roving along the border.

These details characterize the disorder and senselessness of the Biden Administration's approach to border security. And the consequences go beyond the taxpayer money and material wasted by a halt to a wall already under construction. The health and safety of both Americans and the illegal migrants crossing the border are jeopardized by President Biden's poor choices.

Crossing the border itself is a danger to illegal immigrants. They make a treacherous journey, often at the mercy of smugglers and traffickers interested in money rather than human life.

A widely-reported incident from earlier this year

illustrates the peril. The Border Patrol released video of two girls, aged three and five, being dropped from the top of a fourteen-foot fence. Border Patrol agents showed us the spot where this event took place.

They say it was a diversion to draw agents to that spot. Meanwhile, in the areas without a barrier that the agents had been monitoring, migrants and drugs were easily smuggled across the border.

When unaccompanied illegal children not of Mexican or Canadian origin are taken into custody, they must then be transferred within 72 hours to the Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR), an agency within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The House Energy and Commerce Committee I serve on has jurisdiction over ORR, so our visit to an ORR facility at Fort Bliss was of particular interest to me.

ORR's task is to reunite the unaccompanied illegal children with a sponsor, often a parent or relative already in the United States. ORR does not distinguish between legal or illegal immigrant sponsors.

I support family reunification, but reunification should be in the country of origin, not the United States.

Any American parent who leaves their children to make a dangerous journey on their own or in the company of human smugglers would be guilty of neglect, yet the Federal Government under the Biden Administration encourages such neglect by parents of other nationalities.

Further, I learned from our ORR facility visit that the agency tracks down sponsors using people finder-type websites which can provide vague or inaccurate information. ORR then sends these young people by plane, bus, or

other mode of transportation to sponsors it knows little about or who may not be who they say they are.

More than people cross the border. Customs and Border Protection has seized more fentanyl in fiscal year 2021 than in all of fiscal year 2020. Fentanyl is a deadly contributor to overdose deaths in our country.

From March to April of this year, seizures of heroin increased by an astounding 97 percent.

These numbers, of course, only represent the drugs that are stopped. As the Border Patrol must turn its attention to the surge in illegal immigrants and processing minors instead of stopping drug smugglers, Americans should be concerned by the amounts of illegal drugs crossing the border undetected.

The situation on the southern border is disturbing, but it is not necessary.

The Biden Administration should complete construction of the border wall, an objective of the Finish the Wall Act I recently signed onto as a cosponsor.

The Biden Administration should also speed the processing of migrants. This would allow true asylum seekers to obtain legal status and lead to swift deportation of those without a legitimate claim to stay here.

When I saw a partially-completed wall with open gates and rusting construction materials nearby, I found a perfect representation of the disorder at the border. Americans, as well as those who seek to become Americans the legal way, deserve better.

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).

## Reflection from page 1

For those gathered at Roselawn who were unfamiliar with military operations, Ybarra took time in his remarks to describe the process of a deployment.

"Before every deployment, each unit will have a departure ceremony for their families to gather and spend time with each other before they get on the bus for the airport," Ybarra said.

Contrasting the age-old military adage of "hurry up and wait," Ybarra said "it felt like time sped up" on days of departure ceremonies.

He said the ceremonies are different for each family member. While younger children are "too young to understand what is going on," there are often teenagers "who are surprisingly close to their parents."

As the time winds down to the awaited hour, Ybarra said 'you'd hear over all of these voices 'roll call formation in 10 minutes.'

"Immediately, all noise subsides," he said. "The young children are all rounded up, and you'd see each family unit gathered together closer. Tears are either held back or allowed to fall. The hugs get tighter, and then out of the blue 'Fall In.' At this moment, a soldier turns to each family member present, holds them tightly and gives them a kiss."

After the service member has said their goodbyes, Ybarra said "the soldier walks away from everything that they love in this world to fulfill their obligation to the nation, their family and those that they will never know."

Ybarra said that for those who don't make the trip back home, "this will be the last time families hugged, kissed and looked upon the face of their soldier, sailor, airman or Marine."

Although the day is important amongst veterans, Ybarra said



Joey Elliston places the POW/MIA Flag at the Missing Man Table during the Memorial Day Service.

there is a debate about how it should be recognized.

"There are some that feel that it is the saddest day of the year and want to be alone," he said. "There are some that feel that we remember those by enjoying the day with friends and family. I'm here to say that both are right."

The sacrifices of service men and women gave us the freedom to choose anyway, he added.

"Respect each other's remembrance and together, let's kindly teach civilians that there is no happy Memorial Day," Ybarra said. "Many do not hold the same value of this day as we veterans and family members who have lost friends and loved ones, but they do still respect the holiday and do not have any ill intentions."

Rather than admonishing civilians who often offer the salutation of "Happy Memorial Day," Ybarra encouraged the crowd to educate the general populace on the traditions that veterans take part in on the day.

One such tradition is the display of the Missing Man Table. While not specific to Memorial Day, each

aspect of the table symbolizes a different reason as to why the day signifies so much to so many.

The round table is indicative of the everlasting concern for the missing men and women. The white cloth symbolizes the purity of their motives when answering the call to serve. The single red rose is a reminder of the lives of these servicemembers and their loved ones and friends who keep the faith while seeking answers. The red ribbon is a symbol of the continued determination to account for those missing. The slice of lemon is a reminder of the bitter fate of those captured and missing in a foreign land.

The pinch of salt symbolizes the tears of those missing and their families who long for answers. The lighted candle reflects the hope for the return of those servicemembers, alive or dead. The Bible represents the strength gained through faith to sustain them and their families. The glass is inverted, symbolizing their inability to share a toast. The chair is empty, symbolizing a seat that remains unclaimed in their absence.

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

# HENRY COUNTY ENTERPRISE

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www.henrycountyenterprise.com

# Charles Poindexter and his special interests

Delegate Charles Poindexter may show himself as a strong conservative, but do not let that fool you. For years, Del. Poindexter has been accepting money from corporations and special interest groups totaling upwards of \$2 million. During the most recent filing (Q1 for 2021), he accepted several contributions that question his conservatism.

First, Appalachian Power donated \$1,000 to Poindexter. While this may not seem like much, upon further investigation Appalachian Power also donated \$25,000 to both Inaugural Committees of the far-left Democrats of Terry McAuliffe and Ralph Northam. Appalachian also donated \$55,000 to

the Common Good VA PAC. This PAC was created to directly fund Terry McAuliffe during his tenure as Governor.

Second, Poindexter received a \$500 donation from Meridian Waste Acquisitions which is a waste disposal company in Charlotte, NC. This same company has also donated almost \$30,000 to 15 liberal candidates running for office in the House of Delegates and the State Senate. This includes a \$12,500 donation to the disbarred D.C. attorney Joe Morrissey for his State Senate run.

Third, Delegate Poindexter cashed in big time with Dominion Energy. During the most recent filing, Dominion donated \$5,000 to Poindexter.

Dominion Energy has donated a grand total of \$150,860 to the delegate from Glade Hill. In 2007, less than two weeks before his first election, Dominion wrote a check for \$100,000 to Charles Poindexter. All of this information can be found on vpap.org.

Candidates are supposed to represent the people of the district that they serve, not the corporations and special interest groups from Richmond and Washington, D.C. Charles Poindexter no longer represents his constituents. On June 08, vote NO to special interests!

Harold W. McAlexander,  
Rocky Mount

# Poindexter most qualified

Delegate Charles Poindexter deserves to be re-elected to Virginia's General Assembly for a number of reasons.

His experience and record are at the top of my list and sum up the multitude of other reasons. As our delegate for more than 13 years, Charles has built relationships with his constituents in the district and with lawmakers in the district and with lawmakers in Richmond. He knows what's important to the citizens of the 9th District and how to work with Virginia's decision makers. His seniority on the House Committees allows him to fight more effectively for the needs and values of our rural, conservative district and to make sure our part of the state is not overrun by radical liberals.

Along with his experience, Charles's proven conservative record testifies that he can be counted on to defend our 2nd

Amendment rights, protect the unborn, teach and not rewrite history, fight higher electric bills, and a number of other issues which are important to our way of life in southwestern Virginia.

Charles is a strong advocate working with other neighboring districts to protect the access and shoreline of our beautiful Smith Mountain Lake. He has been instrumental in securing funds for Patrick County to have safer and quicker access to I-77 and I-81 by widening route 58.

Charles's experience and record make him the most qualified candidate for Virginia's 9th District. On June 8th, let's vote to send Republican Delegate Charles Poindexter back to Richmond to help protect our part of Virginia as we know it!

Karen B. Hicks,  
Rocky Mount

## Godwin from page 1

chance to do this at any point in my careers."

**What made you want to retire now?**

"Sometimes you just feel like it is the right time. Perhaps COVID really gave me a reflective time to think about the other things that I want to do in my life, as well as balance that with my responsibilities to my family.

This position and this work is really 365/24/7. It's sort of all-absorbing if you do what needs to be done as a community college president. You are just thoroughly immersed in your work in the college and the community.

There are other things that I want to do, and I want some more time to spend with my mother, my husband and my kids. This was a good time for me to move into the next phase of my life while I'm young enough to do those things."

**What will you be doing with your newly acquired free time?**

"I do love to write and I do hope to do some more of that. I'd like to go back to teaching, that was my original career and I love it more than anything. I think first and foremost, that is my first love. I like to paint, I love music and writing music. I also plan on engaging more with my women's ministry which I feel very strongly about. I'm also interested in coaching entrepreneurs and coaching people in their businesses and careers.

Those are some of the kinds of things that I like to do and I get to do some of that now but it is very, very limited. I'm not stopping work, I'm just retiring from this career.

**What were the biggest challenges you had to face when you were first brought on as President?**

I think the largest challenge was that we did have some pretty big financial challenges early in my tenure at Patrick Henry for many different reasons. It required us to make really, really hard decisions. We did a number of reductions in force and other events. They were just gut-wrenching to have to do those, especially so early in my tenure as a president. I really hadn't even had the boxes unpacked before I was already having to deal with very serious budget deficits.

On the other side, which is a positive and a negative, is that the college was very well-known and really respected from a national perspective. Then at some times, I felt like our college was unknown in the local area and regions. That was a challenge for me to really put the college more front and center in the hearts and minds of the commu-

nities that we serve."

**Which accomplishments are you most proud of?**

"I'm very proud of the tenacity and resilience of this college. Even before COVID but I think it really shows you what the college is made out of because we continued to push forward, we continued to make things happen, we continued to secure grants, we continued to win awards, we continued to move students through to the finish line and get them to good career jobs.

I'm very proud of the Manufacturing and Engineering Technology Complex up at the Patriot's Centre here. I think it is a hallmark of extraordinary advanced manufacturing and I think it will serve this community for many, many years as a key magnet in economic development.

I'm very proud of the expansion in Patrick County. Not only the welding facility and the high school but the new career and technical center there across from the teaching site because it allowed us to expand so much in what I think is a major need in Patrick County.

The Dalton IDEA Center in Uptown Martinsville which is our FAB Lab and our Innovation Accelerator. It is changing lives and giving people the opportunity to create new enterprises and new products.

I'm very proud of our athletics and our arts. I think the Patriot Players are an extraordinary group and while they've had a pause because of COVID, I think they will be back better than ever. If you've ever been to a production, you'd have to be amazed at what a small college with virtually no resources, the quality of programming that we deliver. Similarly situated, our athletic team. The first team in the history of the Commonwealth, our baseball team is on the way to the World Series in Oklahoma. We continue to fill more sports and mainly give people the opportunity to move on.

The most pride I have is that every single student that came to Patrick Henry Community College, they left here in a better position than when they came here. They left a better person, their prospects and their future, their confidence and their goals. That will always be what I am most proud of."

**Who have you leaned on the most during your time at the school for guidance and what was the best piece of advice that you received?**

"That would be a very long list because I do think that if I am the smartest person in

the room that I'm in the wrong room. I have relied very heavily on my leadership team Brian Henderson, Tiffany Underwood, Rhonda Hodges, Greg Hodges, Jack Hanbury. I leaned on them very, very heavily for guidance and that. It was a different direction.

I've been fortunate to have a chancellor who has lots of wisdom and is willing to share it. My husband, he was a career community college biology professor. He's always been able to give me a very focused slant from a faculty perspective. And all of our children went to community college.

The best piece of advice that I have received would be hard to quantify but it probably is just to trust my gut and trust my instincts. And that was always to learn from the good my husband's advice. First and foremost, do your own part. I've tried to stay laser-focused on that as president of this college and part of this community, what is my responsibility."

**What's something most people don't realize about the everyday work of an administrator at a community college?**

"I sort of feel like a swan some days in that it looks like we kind of just glide across the water. We kind of move from one event to another or one initiative to the other. But we are really padding very hard underneath. I think what they might not realize is a lot of the work of a president is what you see but there is probably more that we do that you don't see.

It's relationship building, studying and learning as much as you can about the best practices or any issues or concerns. You have to always be a student of your art and trade. You have to always be learning and continue to learn. I think that part of being a community college president is sometimes missed and you have to really fight to have that strategic envisioning time because you probably are not going to get to go on very many vacations, you're probably not going to get many days off. Particularly with technology, you never leave it. But you have to remember that you have to stay on top of your industry. Not only to look for opportunities but to look for potential challenges.

Spend a lot of time behind the scenes, sometimes very quietly, talking to people and listening so you have a sense of the heartbeat of what is going on with your faculty and staff. But most importantly, you're listening to students."

**What is your biggest regret upon leaving the school? Is there anything that you think you could have done**

better?

"The first presidency I had was when I was 37-years old. I would son, Tiffany Underwood, have loved to have been president of Patrick Henry Community College when I was 37. I can't fix that. It was a different stage in my life.

There are many things that I could have done better. You can do better every day. I did the best that I knew how to do with the information that I had at the time to make a decision of what was doable and how we could move forward. But in any decision or anything that you do, you could always find room for improvement. I did try to make sure that the next time I was dealing with a similar situation or opportunity, I always tried to learn from the good decisions, but I probably learned more from bad decisions.

Of my top 10 projects that as president of this college and part of this community, what is my responsibility. I really wanted to have a child-care center established here at the college during my tenure. That did not get done but I think there has been some good planning and thinking.

A need that came to me after I was already here that was not part of my original plan was the need for student housing. I'm hopeful that in the future that is something that will happen."

**How have you changed both personally and professionally during your time here?**

"I think I have evolved in that I am older and wiser. I have more experiences that I can use and leverage. Professionally, I think one area that I grew in is really learning how to build relationships and to build teams to make things happen. Even working in a highly-remoted environment. Before COVID, we had moved more and more to

technology. When I first became president, I sure didn't have a cell phone. Students have my cell phone number, it's on my business card. I did not have that constant access to anyone and everyone. I've grown professionally in that way, to make those advances be to our benefit.

Changes personally, I did have a little bit of color in my hair. I had a little bit of natural brown hair when I first came here and now it's just about white. I think the older we get, we learn to have a heart of gratitude. I'm just grateful for everything that I have had the opportunity to be a part of here. I'm grateful for all of the people that have come into my life.

**What's something special about our area that you don't find in other communities?**

I think our community is a community of many communities and they each have some unique things to bring. That's one of the things that I think is so fascinating and different.

I think that we have natural amenities here that are second to none. I'm talking about our water features here, the mountains, the absolutely beautiful foliage and the natural environment that is here. It's just extraordinary.

We also have such strong cultural threads with the arts, the craftsmen and artisans. From furniture to quilting to pottery and the music traditions here that are so strong, southern gospel to spiritual to bluegrass. It is such a rich, rich, rich cultural area that has this backdrop of such extraordinary natural beauty. You just don't find that everywhere.

I've lived in lots of places but there is never a day that there is not something here that I get to experience for the first time or want to experience again. I don't think you can really grow tired or weary. I also don't

think you could ever really finish the list."

**What will you miss the most about living in Martinsville – Henry County?**

"The people. Hands down, no question.

This community has opened its arms and allowed me to become a part of them. I felt like I was a part of the community. It's been such a welcoming community and I'm forever grateful for that. I came for this to be my home for as long as we were here and this is truly my whole family. We felt that this was home. It was very easy for us to quickly transition our daily discussions that we were going home to Virginia. Even though I'm originally from Alabama and my husband is originally from south Mississippi, we are returning to Mississippi where our home is at my husband's family farm, I always felt at home here.

I think that is a testament to the people. I've lived in lots of places, and I've not always felt at home no matter how long I was there."

**What advice do you have for your successor?**

The main thing is to keep the main thing the main thing. That is not original. Stephen Covey originally said that.

Student success is the main thing. It is the reason this college exists. It does not exist for any one person or any one program. This is about student success because when our students are successful, our businesses and industries are going to be successful, our families are going to be successful, all of the many entities in our community are going to be successful.

The main thing is to keep your eyes on student success and every day as president, I ask myself two questions. What is in the best interest of the students and what is in the best interest of the community? Always keep those two questions front and center."



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# Primaries

from page 1

ent an acceptable form of identification when voting.

Masks are recommended and social distancing will be practiced at the

polls.

The final day for early voting is Saturday, June 5 at 5 p.m. For additional information, contact your local registrar's office.

## 2021 POLLING LOCATIONS

### HENRY COUNTY

**BLACKBERRY DISTRICT**  
 101-Bassett#2: Bassett Rescue Squad Training Center; 1946 Riverside Dr, Bassett, Va. 24055  
 102-Gumville: Bassett Ruritan Bldg; 277 Philpott Dam Rd, Bassett, Va. 24055  
 103-Scott's Tamyard: Sanville Elementary School; Bassett, Va. 24055

**HORSEPASTURE DISTRICT**  
 201-Fieldale: Victory Baptist Church; 1300 Dillon's Fork Road, Fieldale, Va. 24089  
 202-Horsepasture#1: Horsepasture Fire Station Rec. Bldg; 17787 A.L. Philpott Hwy, Ridgeway, Va. 24148  
 203-Horsepasture#2: Horsepasture Ruritan Bldg; 16209 A.L. Philpott Hwy, Martinsville, Va. 24112  
 204-Spencer: Spencer Ruritan Bldg (Lower Level); 150 George Taylor Rd, Spencer, Va. 24165

**IRISWOOD DISTRICT**  
 302-Axton: Axton Elementary School; 1500 A.L. Philpott Hwy, Axton, Va. 24054  
 303-Irisburg: The Galilean House of Worship; 5078 A.L. Philpott Hwy, Martinsville, Va. 24112  
 304-Mt. Olivet: Mt. Olivet Ruritan Bldg; 400 Ward Rd, Martinsville, Va. 24112  
 305-Mountain Valley: Mtn. Valley Leatherwood Club; 2485 North Fork Rd, Martinsville, Va. 24112

**COLLINSVILLE DISTRICT**  
 401-Collinsville#1: F-C Middle School (Entrance B) Left Side; 645 Miles Rd, Collinsville, Va. 24078  
 402-Daniels Creek: F-C Middle School (Entrance A) Auditorium; 645 Miles Rd, Collinsville, Va. 24078  
 403-Collinsville#2: Collinsville Primary School; 15 Primary School Rd, Collinsville, Va. 24078  
 404-Mountain View: VFW Building; 2327 Old Chatham Rd, Martinsville, Va. 24112

**REED CREEK DISTRICT**  
 501-Bassett#1: Bassett Fire Station; 3735 Fairystone Park Hwy, Bassett, Va. 24055  
 502-Pigsboro: Pigsboro School; 340 Ridgedale Dr, Martinsville, Va. 24112  
 503-Stanleytown: Stanleytown Elementary School; 74 Edgewood Dr, Stanleytown, Va. 24168  
 504-Oak Level: Oak Level Ruritan Bldg; 7668 Oak Level Rd, Bassett, Va. 24055  
 505-Dyers Store: Dyers Store Fire Department; 3230 Chatham Rd, Martinsville, Va. 24112

**RIDGEWAY DISTRICT**  
 601-Fontaine: Rich Acres Elementary School; 400 Rich Acres School Rd, Martinsville, Va. 24112  
 602-Hillcrest: Rich Acres Fire Station; 1766 Joseph Martin Hwy, Martinsville, Va. 24112  
 603-Ridgeway#1: Ridgeway Library; 900 Vista View Lane, Ridgeway, Va. 24148  
 604-Ridgeway#2: Ridgeway Baptist Church (Social Hall); 15 Church St, Ridgeway, Va. 24148

### MARTINSVILLE

**CITY OF MARTINSVILLE**  
 001-Martinsville City Housing Office; 605 Fourth St., Martinsville, Va. 24112  
 002-Martinsville Middle School; 30 Cleveland Ave., Martinsville, Va. 24112  
 003-Va. Museum of Natural History; 21 Starling Ave., Martinsville, Va. 24112  
 004-Martinsville High School; 351 Commonwealth Blvd., Martinsville, Va. 24112  
 005-Martinsville City Schools Adm. Offices; 746 Indian Trail, Martinsville, Va. 24112  
 006-Albert Harris Elementary School; 710 Smith St., Martinsville, Va. 24112

## SAMPLE BALLOT

Commonwealth of Virginia, Official Ballot Style Dem-5th CD  
 Henry County  
 Democratic Party Primary Election  
 Tuesday, June 8, 2021 Page 1 of 2

To vote for a candidate, fill in the box next to the name, like this  **Hala S. Ayala**

If you want to change a vote or if you have made a mistake, ask an election worker for another ballot. If you make marks on the ballot besides filling in the box, your vote may not be counted.

**Begin voting here**

**Governor**  
 Vote for only one  
 Terry R. McAuliffe  
 Jennifer L. McClellan  
 Jennifer D. Carroll Foy  
 Lee J. Carter  
 Justin E. Fairfax

**Lieutenant Governor**  
 Vote for only one  
 Hala S. Ayala  
 S. "Sam" Rasoul  
 Andria P. McClellan  
 Elizabeth R. Guzman  
 Sean A. Perryman  
 Mark H. Levine  
 Xavier JaMar Warren

**Attorney General**  
 Vote for only one  
 Jerrauld C. "Jay" Jones  
 Mark R. Herring

Authorized by the Electoral Board of the County of Henry  
 3300 Kings Mountain Road PO Box 96 Collinsville, Virginia 24078  
 Notice: The authority statement printed above must be removed and replaced with the appropriate authority statement for the committee, individual, or group using this ballot for its own purposes. Any reproduction of this MAY NOT be printed on white or yellow paper, as appropriate. For state requirements, see 24.2-955 & 24.2-956 of the Code of Virginia. For federal requirements, call the Federal Elections Commission, 1-800-424-9530

## SAMPLE BALLOT

Commonwealth of Virginia, Official Ballot Style Dem-9th CD  
 Henry County  
 Democratic Party Primary Election  
 Tuesday, June 8, 2021 Page 1 of 2

To vote for a candidate, fill in the box next to the name, like this  **Hala S. Ayala**

If you want to change a vote or if you have made a mistake, ask an election worker for another ballot. If you make marks on the ballot besides filling in the box, your vote may not be counted.

**Begin voting here**

**Governor**  
 Vote for only one  
 Terry R. McAuliffe  
 Jennifer L. McClellan  
 Jennifer D. Carroll Foy  
 Lee J. Carter  
 Justin E. Fairfax

**Lieutenant Governor**  
 Vote for only one  
 Hala S. Ayala  
 S. "Sam" Rasoul  
 Andria P. McClellan  
 Elizabeth R. Guzman  
 Sean A. Perryman  
 Mark H. Levine  
 Xavier JaMar Warren

**Attorney General**  
 Vote for only one  
 Jerrauld C. "Jay" Jones  
 Mark R. Herring

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## SAMPLE BALLOT

Commonwealth of Virginia  
 SAMPLE BALLOT  
 City of Martinsville  
 Democratic Party Primary Election  
 Tuesday, June 8, 2021

**Instructions:**  
 To vote for a candidate, use a black ballpoint pen to fill in the oval next to the name.  
 If you want to change a vote or have made a mistake, ask an election official for another ballot. Do not make marks other than filling the oval.

**Governor**  
 Vote for only one  
 Terry R. McAuliffe  
 Jennifer L. McClellan  
 Jennifer D. Carroll Foy  
 Lee J. Carter  
 Justin E. Fairfax

**Lieutenant Governor**  
 Vote for only one  
 Hala S. Ayala  
 S. "Sam" Rasoul  
 Andria P. McClellan  
 Elizabeth R. Guzman  
 Sean A. Perryman  
 Mark H. Levine  
 Xavier JaMar Warren

**Attorney General**  
 Vote for only one  
 Jerrauld C. "Jay" Jones  
 Mark R. Herring

Authorized by the Electoral Board of the City of Martinsville  
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Ballot Style # 001  
 Typ01 Seq 0001 Sep 01

## SAMPLE BALLOT

Commonwealth of Virginia, Official Ballot Style REP-9th HD  
 Henry County  
 Republican Party Primary Election  
 Tuesday, June 8, 2021 Page 1 of 2

To vote for a candidate, fill in the box next to the name, like this  **Charles D. Poindexter**

If you want to change a vote or if you have made a mistake, ask an election worker for another ballot. If you make marks on the ballot besides filling in the box, your vote may not be counted.

**Begin voting here**

**Member House of Delegates 9th District**  
 Vote for only one  
 Charles D. Poindexter  
 Wren M. Williams

Authorized by the Electoral Board of the County of Henry  
 3300 Kings Mountain Road PO Box 96 Collinsville, Virginia 24078  
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# Local Altrusa chapter earns awards at conference

The local chapter of Altrusa participated in the two-day virtual 65th District Two Conference held April 30 through May 1. The conference was represented by 14 clubs, with a total of 268 members. The local club was recognized for 80 years of service and received numerous awards for their hard work and service to the local community during the pandemic.

Awards received at the conference included:

- Edith W. Nelson Environmental Award - First Place
- Ann Ayer Yearbook Award - Third Place
- Irene Mardis Newsletter Award - Second Place
- Mary S. Resh Pro-

gram Planning Award - Second Place

Betty S. Brooks/Letha H. Brown Literacy Award - Second Place

Betty C. Schwartz Presidential Excellence Award Presented to Karen Cecil-Club President

Altrusa of Martinsville/Henry County met Saturday, May 22, for-the-end of the year meeting led by President, Karen Cecil.

Members celebrated and reminisced on the past year and the many challenges it faced during the pandemic. Members were happy to see each other in person. The May meeting was the first in-person the club has had since last August. All other meetings throughout the

year were held virtually.

During the pandemic the club still managed to have signs made showing appreciation for poll workers; these were distributed to area polling precincts the day of the November election in Martinsville and Henry County.

In April, signs were distributed at local daycares recognizing workers at these locations. Thank-you cards were written and distributed to firefighters, law enforcement, and other first responders in September, thanking them for their hard work and dedication during the pandemic.

Members donated and participated in Wreaths Across America

in December. The club most recently collected and purchased personal hygiene items for Days for Girls (Altrusa Service Project). These items will be sent to girls in third-world countries

to help improve their quality of life.

Officers for the biennium 2021-2023 were installed by Dianne Vann. These included Nancy Bryant, president; Deloris East, vice

president; Betty Crotty, secretary; Deborah Belcher, treasurer; Lil Geib, and Evalyn Chapman, directors.

*(Submitted by Deloris S. East)*



Pictured are (left to right) are Karen Cecil, Immediate Past President; Lil Geib, director; Deborah Belcher, treasurer; Betty Crotty, secretary; Deloris East, vice-president; Nancy Bryant, president; and (back row) Dianne Vann, installer. Not pictured is Evalyn Chapman, director.

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# Perryman from page 1

is the same thing they were locked up for.”

Perryman said he wants possession charges completely expunged.

As for distribution-related charges, “I would be open to early releases but maybe still have it on their record, so it really just depends,” he said.

Another portion of Perryman’s agenda is concerned with ‘defelonizing’ all drugs and dealing with addiction and drug use as a public health crisis rather than a criminal issue.

“We’ve actually seen Oregon, who is trying it now, so we are going to get some more data on how it works here in America,” Perryman said. “For me, it’s like instead of treating everything where if you get caught with drugs then you go to jail, instead it is more addiction counseling.”

Currently, Perryman said that the state lacks the resources to help individuals suffering from addiction.

“I’m talking about meth, crack-cocaine, or whatever,” he said. “But as we start to take this new approach then we would divert funds from law enforcement and move it towards rehabilitation. We have to decide, are we just locking people away or are we rehabilitating them.”

Compared to other countries, Perryman said the United States has failed to meet the challenge.

“We have had a terrible record of dealing with people on drugs than other countries because we have been such a punishment-oriented society,” he said.

Regarding critics that say his approach would lead to increased drug usage, Perryman said “I don’t think our crack-down on drugs has decreased drug usage. If anything, during the pandemic it spiked even more.”

Furthermore, he said “there is nothing in the evidence that shows if we make drug laws more strict that we stop the demand for it, so I think it is a false argument.”

Perryman noted that other countries that have tried the approach he is advocating for have had far better results.

“I’ve also seen from other countries where they treat it like a public health crisis that with people that are addicted to heroin, they give them small amounts of it to wean them off. It’s a safer way of going about doing it,” he said. “You get people out of the shadows, and it is no longer stigmatized. I think it would have the effect of reducing crime because you wouldn’t feel the need to hide that you are a drug addict.”

Perryman readily admits that his approach is controversial but he sees it as a necessary step towards achieving the goal of decreasing addiction.

“This is something where I fully recognize this isn’t something within the paradigm that we are currently in,” he said. “It’s something that we would have to move towards. We’ve seen it in other parts of the world and it works so that’s why I think it is something that we have to explore.”

Another part of Perryman’s criminal justice agenda is eliminating qualified immunity for police officers.

“Any profession, and I think police officers are a profession like any other and they are unfortunately asked to do a lot more than they should be asked to do, any profession you have some sort of liability insurance,” Perryman said. “Right now, what we do is we shift that cost to the government. What we are saying to police officers is that if you are acting outside of the scope of your responsibilities we’re not talking about any officer for just anything we’re talking about clear cases of brutality. If you are asking outside of the scope of your responsibility, then we want to hold you accountable for that.”

Perryman said the move would bring police officers to the same standard held in other careers.

“If you go into a barber shop and they do something like cut your head then you could sue

them,” he said. “I don’t think this is treating them any differently than everyone else.”

While conceding that certain aspects of police work are different than a barber, Perryman thinks the elimination of qualified immunity would help achieve the goal of a more cognizant police force.

“We understand that it is a dangerous job and maybe that would require them to have insurance but here is the thing. When you have those insurance costs and everything else, you are incentivized to be a little more careful,” he said. “That’s what we ultimately want to do with policing.”

### Infrastructure and Climate Change

To spur more economic development in rural areas, Perryman said more focus needs to be on infrastructure.

According to his website, one way to boost Virginia’s economy is “empowering rural Virginia with green jobs in the infrastructure and technology sectors, improved connectivity, state funding for rural schools, and universal broadband.”

Perryman said that rural Virginia has a difficult time attracting companies because the area lacks adequate infrastructure.

“I don’t just mean physical infrastructure, even though in some places it is that,” he said. “I mean things like broadband. We need to have broadband infrastructure. We need to invest in these communities. We can’t just keep sending companies to northern Virginia and think that is a win. If we want to revitalize rural Virginia, then we need to focus on broadband and transportation.”

By expanding broadband capabilities, Perryman said natives of rural Virginia would have the option to stay close to home.

“From what I hear from a lot of people, especially young people, is that ‘I have to move out of my hometown to get the work that I want to get,’” he said. “Because even if they

want to stay there, they don’t have internet access or at least a reliable enough one.”

Along with connecting people through broadband, Perryman said efforts need to be made to connect people in other ways.

His website states that Virginia needs to invest “in green, accessible public transit that allows workers to commute to higher-quality jobs and provides employers with a more diverse labor force.”

Perryman said the effort has been stalled by improper framing.

“You can’t just pitch that I’m going to run a train to Southside. You’ve got to pitch that you want Virginia to be interconnected,” Perryman said. “You have to look at the railways and everything else for how we go about doing that.”

Perryman said increased public transportation would benefit all Virginians.

“For me, I look at it like this. It’s an issue of congestion, pollution and everything else,” he said. “If we start figuring out ways to gear spending on things like this then we are ultimately going to save money in the long run. We know what the climate crisis is doing, we know how much time people waste in traffic every day. It would be about making Virginia interconnected through a railway and doing that in a way that is equitable to Southwest and Southside Virginia.”

To accomplish this, Perryman said Democrats need to be honest about what the proposal would look like in reality.

“I try to be a straight shooter,” he said. “We are not going to have as many stops in Southwest Virginia as we are going to have in more populous areas, but you have to have that connectivity for them.”

Perryman said he is honest about the future of green energy as well.

“We are going to be moving to green jobs with the Virginia Green New Deal and things

like that,” he said. “I would incentivize those sorts of jobs, but we have to realize that those sorts of jobs may not be as high-paying as some of the pipe laying and those sorts of positions. We have to be realistic about that.”

With the switch, Perryman said displaced workers from the natural gas industry will need to be trained to meet the new demand.

“I think ultimately, if this is where we are going as a society, then we have to re-skill and retrain those workers,” he said. “Then if we are able to invest in the infrastructure and everything else then we are going to create new jobs because we are going to have to be building out and doing those things. I’m talking about the broadband infrastructure, crumbling roads and everything else. These are things that will create new jobs and I think there has to be a shift.”

Given that resources like oil and natural gas are limited compared to self-sustaining energy sources like the sun, Perryman said the shift in the job market is not only necessary but inevitable.

“Here’s the thing with moving towards a more green economy, that’s going to happen anyway. We’re already seeing it happen,” Perryman said. “Those jobs of the past like coal mining, they have to realize that what we are saying is we are going to do it faster but it’s going to happen regardless. I think I’m one of the people that is frank about this. We are sacrificing one for the other.”

Perryman doesn’t intend to leave those workers out to dry.

“We need to speed up the timeline for retraining and reskilling,” he said. “Part of my platform is free community college. I’m a big proponent of apprenticeships so there are skilled jobs other than the ones that are detrimental to the environment.”

To find out more about Perryman and his campaign, visit <https://perrymanforvirginia.com/>.

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# Phillips

from page 1

represents this part of the county, and I serve on his legislative district committee," he said. "This is also Congressman Bob Good territory. I serve on the 5th Congressional District Committee as a representative from Henry County. I appoint the people to Les Adam's legislative district committee. I'm already involved in politics, and I speak to those folks pretty regularly."

Phillips said if elected to the post, he would work to change the perspective of locals on the county.

"I think Henry County and the City of Martinsville are in a better place than they have been in a long time," he said. "A lot of things seem to be cleaned up, I see a lot of new businesses being attracted, I see some new construction taking place. There's no reason that Henry County can't be the best place to live, to work and to raise a family in Southwest and Southside Virginia."

Phillips said he takes issue with the amount of negative press the county receives.

"It's about the big drug busts or the shootouts," Phillips said. "But there is a lot of good to Henry County, and it needs the right leadership to help steer our area in that direction."

The biggest issue moving forward is going to be reversion, according to Phillips.

"I am adamantly opposed to it," Phillips said. "I really don't understand why the city is pressing it at this time. It's bad not only for the county, but for the city. I just don't know why they are forcing the issue right now. It's not financial. Their own audit bears that out, so why do it? That's the question that I want answered."

Short of reversion, Phillips said Martinsville also has several other options to help alleviate any economic strain, if that were the issue.

"I talked to Del. Danny Marshall, and he told me that the city has five substations. They only use three of them. Two of them are outdated and need to be upfitted in order to be used," Phillips said. "Danny said he asked AEP if they would be interested in buying them and they said sure. If you are in a bad financial situation, and you are saying that you have some substations that you

can't afford to upfit and AEP is willing to talk about purchasing them, then why wouldn't you do that?"

In addition, Phillips said reversion is an extreme measure.

"Why start with the most extreme measure that you have in your arsenal," Phillips asked. "Why not just cede the city school system to the county first? That will save them \$7 million a year. If 20 years from now that's not enough, then we can revisit the issue. But why start off with the last resort option first?"

Phillips said he is frustrated by an inadequate explanation on the city's reasoning and a breakdown in communication between the two localities.

"They could also choose less inflammatory rhetoric and better spokespersons," Phillips said.

"When the city attorney and assistant city manager is quoted in the local media about not wanting to fix something, like a city school having a large chiller or boiler unit go out. He talks about wanting to put a band-aid on it and not fixing it right now since it will be Henry County's problem soon enough and they can pick up the tab. Then he laughs about it. Comments like that don't build trust and harmony between the two parties."

Phillips said he has mixed feelings about the recently agreed upon Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the two localities.

"A memorandum of understanding is completely non-binding. All it is, is the beginning of a conversation," he said. "There are still a lot of bitter feelings about the process. Some of the things that the city ceded, I feel were good."

For instance, Phillips noted the city agreeing to not annex any county land for 10 years instead of two years.

"If you have a business, say something like the Speedway, then even a small increase in your tax rate is quite a large sum of money," Phillips said. "What if some businesses say that I don't want to deal with it, and they relocate. How does that help this area?"

To prevent some potential annexation, Phillips said he would encourage the Town of Ridgeway to annex the land around the

Martinsville Speedway first.

"Currently, it's not within the town limits," he said. "I don't know why the Town of Ridgeway doesn't annex it. Well actually, I'll tell you why. The Town of Ridgeway and Henry County have a much better relationship. The only thing it would cost the county if Ridgeway annexed it is some utility tax, which would basically be a rounding error in the county's budget."

"There are other things down the road that the county can do that I don't know if the city has thought through," he said. "The battle is not over yet and there are options and other tools in the toolbox."

Phillips said he would also look for room in the budget to allow for increased pay for law enforcement.

"Sheriff Perry is saying he's got guys that have been there for 20 to 25 years and honestly, they are making almost a starting wage," Phillips said. "We have localities around us that are raising officer pay to be competitive."

Along with increasing wages, Phillips said that he would like to see more community involvement to help with the workload placed upon officers.

"The police department can't do it all," he said. "Most of the crime in our area stems from substance abuse. The community needs to come together and reject this stuff and support our local officers so we can get this blight out of our homes."

Phillips is an entrepreneur with multiple businesses in the area. His most prominent business is Phillips Logistics, which is contracted to provide Fed-Ex Ground and Fed-Ex Home Delivery services throughout Henry, Patrick, Franklin, and Pittsylvania counties.

Phillips is a graduate of Virginia Western Community College, and he received a bachelor's degree from Lee University in history and political science.

Phillips and his wife Rebecca have three children, Brandon, Tanner and Lexi-Rakes.

He is an active church member at Mercy Crossing. Phillips said he enjoys golfing and is an avid Virginia Tech football fan. He is running as an independent and his campaign can be reached at [eric@phillipsforsupervisor.com](mailto:eric@phillipsforsupervisor.com).

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

Pursuant to Section 15.2-2204 of the Code of Virginia, a series of public hearings has been scheduled for **June 23, 2021, at 1 p.m.** in the Summerlin Meeting Room of the County Administration Building, Kings Mountain Rd, Collinsville, Virginia. The purpose of these public hearings is to receive citizen input into the possible issuance of Special Use Permits for the following cases.

### Case S-14-01(B) Rooster Walk, Inc.

A request to amend the conditions of an existing Special Use Permit was received under Section 21-302 of the Henry County Zoning Ordinance. The property is approximately 151 acres, located at 675 Hobson Road in the Iriswood District, is zoned as Agricultural District A-I, and is shown on Tax Map 55.1/14A.23. The original Special Use Permit was approved in January of 2014 to allow for the use of this property for the annual Rooster Walk Music and Arts Festival. In 2017, the total number of days for these events was amended by the BZA to a maximum of (9) days. The applicant now wishes to amend this condition to allow up to (20) days of concert events in one calendar year.

### Case S-21-13 Jameka Foreman-Adams

A request for a Special Use Permit was received under Section 21-602 of the Henry County Zoning Ordinance to allow for the establishment of a Class B Home Occupation. The specific business will be to operate a hair styling business out of the home. The property is located at 1655 Carver Road in the Horsepasture District, and is zoned Suburban Residential District S-R, as shown on Tax Map 50.2/103B.

### Case S-21-14 Tatanya Johnson

A request for a Special Use Permit was received under Section 21-602 of the Henry County Zoning Ordinance to allow for the establishment of a Class B Home Occupation. The specific business will be to operate a hair styling business. The property is located at 246 Bowles Road in the Collinsville District, and is zoned Suburban Residential District S-R, as shown on Tax Map 28.6(63)/51.

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

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

# OBITUARY

## Gloria Mabe Floyd

Gloria Mabe Floyd, 73, of Martinsville, Va passed away peacefully on Friday, May 21, 2021, in Willow Spring, NC with her family by her side. She was born in Patrick County, Va on May 26, 1947, the daughter of James Robert Mabe and Betty Ruth Freeman Mabe, both of whom preceded her in death.

Gloria is survived by her husband David Newman Floyd of Martinsville, Va.; children, Stephanie Lynn Brooks (Chad Brooks) of Willow Spring, N.C., and Bryan Rakes of Myrtle Beach, S.C.; grandchildren, Alexandria Rakes, Brandon Rakes,

Blake Cassidy, and Shelby Rae Brooks; great-granddaughter Nola Fleming; brother Bernard Mabe of Winston Salem, NC; Aunt Cassie Martin of Martinsville, Va; and many beloved cousins, nieces, and nephews.

Gloria spent the majority of her career at BB&T, where she worked for 42 years retiring as the Vice President of Sales and Finance. She enjoyed spending time with her family and especially loved spoiling her beloved grandchildren. Gloria was a source of joy for everyone in her life. Her sense of humor, generosity, and kind heart

left a mark on all those who were lucky enough to know her. She will be missed but her spirit will live on in those who loved her.

A memorial service was held on Wednesday, June 2, at Oakwood Cemetery. Flowers may be sent to McKee-Stone or memorial gifts may be made to the American Diabetes Association, P.O. Box 11454, Alexandria, VA 22312.

Arrangements are by McKee-Stone Funeral Home-Martinsville, VA. To express condolences online, visit [www.collinsmckeeastonemartinsville.com](http://www.collinsmckeeastonemartinsville.com).

# Candidates must file by June 8 deadline

The deadline for candidates to file the required forms and qualify to have their names printed on the ballot is Tuesday, June 8 at 7 p.m.

Candidates nominated by a non-primary method must file the Certificate of Candidate Qualifications and the Statement of Economic Interests.

Independent candidates must also file Petitions of Qualified Voters and Declaration of Candidacy by the same deadline. Under the Code of Virginia, these requirements must be met for a candidate's name to be printed on the ballot for the November 2021 General Election.

The Code of Virginia authorizes the Virginia State Board of Elections to grant an extension of the deadline for filing either the Certificate of Candidate Qualifications or Statement of Economic Interests or both.

At a recent meeting of the state board, Chairman Robert Brink reiterated the board's stance on granting

extensions.

"In the past, due to the failure of multiple candidates to comply with the law's requirements, the State Board has granted such extensions," he said. "However, as I have made clear earlier this year, there is no assurance the Board will grant an extension of the deadline in the future."

A candidate with questions about filing these

forms should consult the Candidate Bulletins on the Virginia Department of Elections website: <https://www.elections.virginia.gov/candidatepac-info/candidate-bulletins>.

Voters with questions about elections may call the Virginia Department of Elections at (800) 552-9745, email the department at [info@elections.virginia.gov](mailto:info@elections.virginia.gov), or visit [vote.virginia.gov](http://vote.virginia.gov).

### Notice of Public Hearing

A public hearing for the City of Martinsville Planning Commission will be held on June 17, 2021 at 5:30 p.m. and Martinsville City Council on June 22, 2021 at 7:30 p.m., respectively, in the Council Chambers at the City of Martinsville Municipal Building located at 55 W. Church Street, Martinsville, VA, 24112.

The purpose of the public hearings is to amend sections of the Martinsville Comprehensive Plan pertaining to the Future Land Use Plan and Transportation Plan. Section 15.2-2236 "Periodic Review and Readoption" of the Code of Virginia requires a review of the Comprehensive Plan within five (5) years of the date of adoption. Amendments are proposed to the Future Land Use section and Transportation section of the Comprehensive Plan as part of the required review process. Draft versions of the Future Land Use Plan and Transportation Plan can be accessed on the city website at <https://www.martinsville-va.gov/businesses/community-development>. The public is invited to attend and participate in both of these public hearings. If you are unable to attend the hearings, questions or comments can be directed to Hannah Powell at [hpowell@ci.martinsville.va.us](mailto:hpowell@ci.martinsville.va.us) or (276) 403-5156.

Notice Submitted By:  
Hannah L. Powell  
Community Development Specialist



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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.



# Beware of fake charities and scams targeting service members

The Better Business Bureau (BBB) serving Western Virginia urges consumers and donors to be aware of deals that seem too-good-to-be-true and fake charities. BBB offers services and resources to active-duty service members, veterans, and reservists from all branches of the armed forces to prevent scams.

Companies and businesses across the nation take this opportunity to reflect on the sacrifices of military personnel and their families, often offering discounts or deals that target members of the U.S. armed forces with patriotic messaging.

Unfortunately, scammers take advantage of this time of the year by targeting the same audience, using a patriotic approach to appeal to potential victims. In 2020, active-duty service members lost more than \$190,000 to scammers across the United States, according to reports generated by BBB Scam Tracker. Veterans across the nation were impacted to an even greater degree, with over \$270,000 lost to fraudulent business practices. While most money was lost to online purchase scams, employment, COVID-19, and phishing scams were also prevalent. Additionally, 49% of scam victims were over the age of 55.

Consumers should also be aware of misleading military charities that often adopt similar names and outreach practices as trusted nonprofits such as email, direct mail, phone calls, and texts. These military organizations use emotionally appealing words to fill their fundraising pitches like “warriors,” “heroes,” and “disabled.” In 2019, the FTC shut down American Veterans Foundation, which raised nearly \$6.5 million from donors that were told their contributions provided care packages and other aid for deployed troops and homeless veterans. Instead, the foundation used 92 percent of the money it raised for telemarketing and administrative costs.

“When you donate to a charity stating they represent military personnel, always check Give.org to see that the

organization meets BBB charity standards, especially around Memorial Day,” said Julie Wheeler, president and CEO of BBB Serving Western Virginia. “Solicitors that fail to meet BBB standards often call and say they help veterans, service members, or their families, but little of the money donated will serve that purpose.”

To protect America’s service members and consumers, BBB warns of the following scams that are typically directed at service members:

**High-priced military loans** - Advertisements for loans that promise a guarantee, instant approval, or no credit check will often come with hidden fees and extremely high-interest rates. Remember that legitimate lenders will never guarantee a loan before you apply, and loans that require an upfront fee are likely a scam.

**Veterans’ benefits buyout plans** - This buyout plan will offer a cash payment in exchange for a disabled veteran’s future benefits or pension payments. The cash amount is only about 30-40% of what the veteran is entitled to receive. These buyout plans can be structured in several different ways, so research thoroughly before signing anything over.

**Fake rental properties** - Stolen photos of legitimate rental properties are used in advertisements that promise military discounts and other incentives. Service members will have to pay a fee via wire transfer for security payments or a key to the property – in the end, they will receive nothing.

**Misleading car sales** - Websites posting classified ads will offer false discounts for military personnel or claim to be from soldiers who need to sell their vehicle fast since they have been deployed. Upfront fees will be required via wire transfer or the car will have problems after purchase.

**Expensive life insurance policies** - Members of the military are often the targets of high-pressured sales pitches that offer unnecessary, expensive life insurance policies. Solicitors may make false statements re-



PHOTO BY JP VALERY

garding the benefits that these policies provide.

To avoid scams targeting military members and the general public this Memorial Day, BBB recommends consumers follow these guidelines:

**Do your research** - Get as much information as possible about a business or charity before you pay or donate. An excellent start to your search would be to check out a business’ BBB Business Profile and see if BBB has a report on the charity.

**Never wire transfer money to anyone you don’t know** - Money sent via wire transfer is practically impossible to track. Pay or donate by credit card whenever possible since you can dispute charges more easily.

**Protect your computer** - Don’t click on the links within unsolicited emails. Don’t enter personal information on unfamiliar websites. Make sure that you have updated anti-virus software installed and use a firewall at all times.

**Put an Active-Duty alert on your credit reports when deployed** - Doing so will minimize the risk of identity theft because creditors and businesses cannot issue or grant credit

until verifying identity.

**Get the charity’s exact name** - With so many charities in existence, mistaken identity is a common problem.

**Avoid heart-wrenching appeals** - It is not a wise choice to make a high-pressure decision. You always have the option to ask for information about an organization and whether to donate.

**Check the website for basics** - A charity’s mission, program, and finances should be easily accessible on its website. If not, check for a report at Give.org.

**Find out if the charity meets BBB Charity Standards**. Check for a report at the website of the BBB Wise Giving Alliance.

**Check with state government officials**. Most states require charities to register to solicit with their office of the attorney general or the secretary of state.

As members of the military return to civilian life and re-enter the workforce, they face unique difficulties. Some veterans find challenges in applying for education benefits, navigating disability claims, or searching for employment. Finding trustworthy sources is the best way to avoid scams. BBB rec-

ommends beginning with these organizations:

**BBB Military and Veteran Consumer Information**. BBB Military and Veteran Consumer Information offer free consumer education and financial literacy resources for military families and veterans.

**U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (V.A.)**. VA.gov, the official website for the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, is a hub for materials on every aspect that may impact the transition to civilian life. Information on education benefits, pensions, and life insurance can all be found on the Veterans Affairs official website.

**Veteran Employment Services Office (VESO)**. VESO offers career opportunity resources within the Department of Veterans Affairs, assisting in transitioning from active duty to civilian life.

**USA Military Assistance**. Like the V.A., USA Military Assistance guides a wide variety of areas. For those on active duty, military tax guidance and free credit monitoring can also be found at [usa.gov/Military-Assistance](http://usa.gov/Military-Assistance).

To report a scam, go to [BBB.org/ScamTracker](http://BBB.org/ScamTracker).



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**★ REPUBLICAN FOR DELEGATE ★**

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**KEEP CHARLES POINDEXTER FIGHTING FOR US  
VOTE THIS TUESDAY, JUNE 8<sup>TH</sup>**

# Martinsville Speedway to host Henry County Fair this fall

Martinsville Speedway hosts some of the most intense racing in motorsports, but this year it also will be home to another family friendly event, the Henry County Fair. Families from across the region will enjoy rides, games, food and fun at Martinsville Speedway on Sept. 22-25.

The four-day Henry County Fair will conclude with the ValleyStar Credit Union 300, the nation's biggest, richest and most prestigious NASCAR Late Model Stock Car race, on Saturday, Sept. 25. Josh Berry of JR Motorsports is the defending race champion as winner of the 2019 ValleyStar Credit Union 300. The 2020 ValleyStar Credit Union 300 was canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

"Martinsville Speedway has been home to many memorable moments, so we look forward to forming some new family experiences by hosting the Henry County Fair," said Martinsville President Clay Campbell. "With the fun and games of the Henry County

Fair, the ValleyStar Credit Union 300 will be the perfect conclusion to an entertaining week in the region."

"Henry County is very excited to be able to offer this new four-day family friendly event in our community and is thankful to Martinsville Speedway for providing the location for the fair," said Roger Adams director of the Henry County Fair and Henry County Parks and Recreation. "The fair will have shows and activities for all ages, and visitors can enjoy an extended weekend in Henry County by attending the fair and the ValleyStar Credit Union 300 race."

The Henry County Fair will include fun, family friendly attractions including state fair quality rides, an assortment of delicious fair foods, fun games of chance, animal exhibits and a petting zoo. It will also welcome the Great Lakes Timber Show and Circus Shane Show.

There will be live musical performances at the Henry County Fair featuring The Andy Burnette Trio with spe-

cial guest Jake Earles on Sept. 22, Plastic Musik on Sept. 23 and Josh Shilling & Mountain Heart on Sept. 24. Concerts hosted on the Bassett Furniture Stage are included with gate pass admission to the Henry County Fair.

With the Henry County Fair coming to Martinsville Speedway, the track announces Celebration will not be held this year as a result of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. Celebration was an annual event around Independence Day with a fireworks display. On Friday, Sept. 24, the Campbell Family Foundation will host a fireworks extravaganza following the Josh Shilling & Mountain Heart concert at the Henry County Fair.

The Henry County Fair will be open on Sept. 22-23 from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m., Sept. 24 from 3 p.m. to 11 p.m. and Sept. 25 from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Gate pass admission to the Henry County Fair is \$5. To learn more about the Henry County Fair, visit [henrycountyvafair.com](http://henrycountyvafair.com).

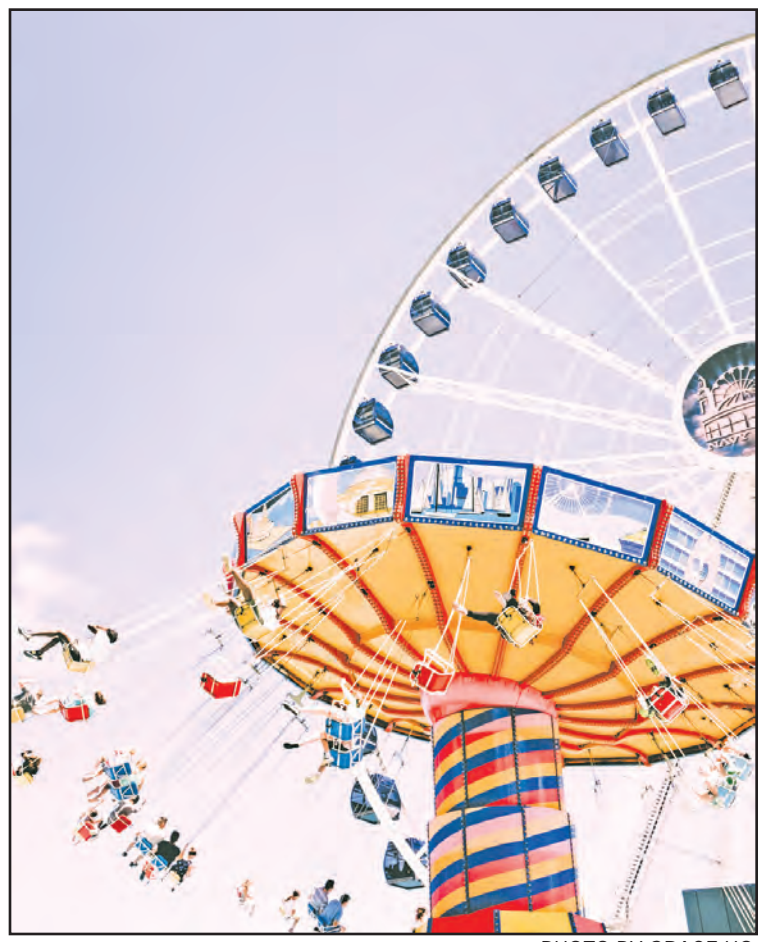


PHOTO BY GRACE HO

# Recidivism rate remains among the lowest in nation

Virginia continues to have one of the lowest recidivism rates in the country, at 23.9 percent.

This is the fifth year in a row that the Commonwealth has had the lowest or second lowest recidivism rate in the nation, Gov. Ralph Northam said in a release.

Recidivism refers to an individual committing a new offense within a specified follow-up period that results in a new sentence.

Virginia's recidivism rate remains among the lowest of the 42 states that report re-incarceration of state responsible inmates within three years of their release, second only to South Carolina's rate of 21.9 percent.

"We all benefit when the

individuals in our correctional system have the opportunity to learn, grow, and return to society as productive citizens," said Northam. "Our success is the direct result of effective reentry programs and strong partnerships across our Commonwealth. I remain grateful to the hard-working professionals at the Virginia Department of Corrections who are dedicated to rehabilitation, transforming lives, and building safer communities."

The Virginia Department of Corrections (VADOC), which operates state corrections facilities and state probation and parole offices, customizes its programming and supervision to address each individual's criminogen-

ic risks and needs. VADOC offers more than 125 programs to offenders who are in prison and those who are under community supervision. This includes substance abuse treatment, mental and behavioral health services, career and technical education, skills training, and employment and housing assistance.

"Virginia continues to be a leader in the field of corrections, on both a national and international scale," said Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security Brian Moran. "Virginia's ability to maintain a low recidivism rate means increased public safety for families, neighborhoods, and the entire Commonwealth."

Of the 12,551 state responsible inmates released from incarceration in Virginia in fiscal year 2016, 2,997 were re-incarcerated within three years. Virginia waits at least four years to calculate the three-year re-incarceration rate to ensure all court orders are included. All state responsible sentences after release are counted as recidivism in Virginia, including technical violations and sentences for offenses that occurred prior to release.

"Virginia's recidivism rate has remained low because of the hard work of both correctional staff and inmates," said Virginia Department of Corrections Director Harold Clarke. "Especially important is the evidence-

based programming offered to inmates, probationers, and parolees, from cognitive skills programming to academic and vocational education to substance abuse treatment, and the best practices followed in our facilities and district offices."

Factors such as mental health impairment and drug use are associated with recidivism. Inmates with a history of testing positive for both opioids and cocaine, for example, had a re-incarceration rate substantially higher than those with no history of testing positive for opioids or cocaine.

Additional information about recidivism in Virginia can be found at [vadoc.virginia.gov](http://vadoc.virginia.gov).



## POLITICS can be very PROFITABLE.

As of March 31, 2021, **Del. Poindexter** has received campaign **Contributions** amounting to **\$1,924,924\***

These contributions were funded in part by:



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