

HENRY COUNTY ENTERPRISE

Saturday, August 28, 2021

(USPS-6)

www.henrycountyenterprise.com • \$1.00



Assistant City Manager and City Attorney Eric Monday on Tuesday explained the Voluntary Settlement Agreement for Reversion to members of the Martinsville City Council.

Reversion agreement passes council's muster

Callie Hietala
Staff writer

The Martinsville City Council on Tuesday voted to adopt a Voluntary Settlement Agreement for Reversion, mirroring a similar vote taken earlier by the Henry County Board of Supervisors. (See related story)

The motion to approve the Voluntary Settlement Agreement was approved in a roll call vote.

Council member Tammy Pearson cast the sole dissenting vote.

The agreement is "essentially a document where the lawyers fleshed out in extensively more definition and detail the terms of the memorandum of understanding that was reached with Henry County after

the mediation earlier this spring and was approved by the two governing bodies during the joint meeting in June," Assistant City Manager and City Attorney Eric Monday said.

Pearson asked if the vote could be postponed so that the agreement, which was only finalized last Thursday, could be made available to the public for review and comment.

Monday said a vote was required at the meeting because the Commission on Local Government needs to issue the required advertisements for public hearings to keep to the timeline agreed to by the city and county.

Pearson indicated that she would rather the timeline be pushed back to give citizens

See **Reversion**, page 7

"Deadly winter" predicted as COVID-19 cases continue to rise

Callie Hietala
Staff writer

Martinsville and Henry County could face a deadly winter as vaccine rates in the area remain low and the Delta variant continues to surge.

The importance of getting vaccinated was the key message on Wednesday when the Martinsville-Henry County Chamber of Commerce resumed its weekly COVID Zoom conferences.

"My fervent hope was that we would never have to meet this way again," Henry County Administrator Tim Hall said, but "action, or rather inaction, has put us here."

He was joined in the conference by representatives from the City of Martinsville, Sovah Health, and the West Piedmont Health District (WPHD).

"Things are getting worse. We had a chance to slay this dragon and we didn't," Hall said. "I think it's incumbent upon all of us ... we've got to get this thing under control because the worst that could happen is we shut down again. I'm not sure how many businesses could survive another shutdown."

Internally, Hall said county officials have met several times and are looking at policies they may put in place to help stem the tide of new infections.

"The unvaccinated are making those that can't get vaccinated sick," said Nancy Bell, public information officer with the

WPHD. "We're starting to see an uptick in cases among children and folks who aren't yet eligible for the vaccine, and almost all of the infections are among people who are not vaccinated."

"At the rate we're going right now," Bell said, "we are in the trajectory for a very deadly winter."

She added that the majority of hospitalizations and deaths are now among the unvaccinated. However, "we can still turn it back. Vaccination is the only strategy that will safely bring an end to the pandemic period."

Bell said she hopes that the recent FDA approval of the Pfizer vaccine will help some to feel more confident about getting the shot. Hospitals, the health department, doctor's offices, and pharmacies all offer free vaccines, often with no appointment necessary.

"Once we start giving booster shots to those who need them, there's going to be a sense of scarcity again. So, I'm telling you if you haven't gotten this vaccine, now is the time. Now is the time," said Bell.

Recent evidence suggests a decline in COVID-19 vaccine efficacy over time. This new data coupled, with the severity of the Delta variant, are a perfect storm, she said. People should schedule a vaccine booster shot about 8 months after receiving their second dose. She encouraged those who are immune compromised to sched-

See **Winter**, page 4

County approves voluntary settlement agreement on reversion

Staff Reports

The Henry County Board of Supervisors approved a Voluntary Settlement Agreement related to the City of Martinsville's reversion to a town during its August 24 meeting.

The agreement, approved in a 4 to 2 vote, was later accepted by the city council. Vice-chairman Debra Buchanan, of the Horsepasture District, and Joe Bryant, of the Collinsville District, voted against the motion.

See **County**, page 6



Tommy Slaughter, (foreground, left) of the Reed Creek District, presents a resolution to Steve Isom (center) for his 42-years of service to the county. Other members of the Henry County Board of Supervisors, including (from left) Debra Buchanan, of the Horsepasture District; Jim Adams, of the Blackberry District; Ryan Zehr, of the Ridgeway District, and David Martin, of the Iriswood District, congratulated Isom, who is retiring Sept. 1 from his post in Henry County's Information Services Department. Joe Bryant, of the Collinsville District, is situated behind Isom. County Administrator Tim Hall is pictured seated in the background.

Task force to revisit origins of Short case

Debbie Hall
dhall@theenterprise.net

A new task force will start at the beginning, and work forward, in hopes of resolving the nearly 20-year-old Short family murder case.

Henry County Sheriff Lane Perry, Rockingham County N.C. Sheriff Sam Page and the Virginia State Police will appoint investigators to the entity, according to Perry, who recalled that he was a road deputy when the incident began to unfold around 9 a.m. on Aug. 15, 2002. The bodies of Michael and Mary Short were found inside their Bassett home.

Michael Short was found on a couch inside an attached garage. Mary Short was found lying in her bed. Each suffered an apparent gunshot wound

to the head. Their 9-year-old daughter, Jennifer, was missing and initially presumed kidnapped.

Remains found about six-weeks later along Grogan Road in Rockingham County, N.C., were determined to belong to Jennifer. Forensic scientists also determined that Jennifer suffered the same fate as her parents — a single gunshot wound to the head.

There have been no arrests in the case to date, but Perry said authorities are not giving up.

"This has never been a forgotten case. Basically, we've always kept this case open, and we've always worked leads, but a number of the people who worked the case initially have since retired," Perry



Henry County Sheriff Lane Perry stands beside a poster detailing the Short family murders and offering a reward of more than \$62,000 for information in the 2002 deaths.

said. Members of the new task force "will put fresh eyes on it. They will go back to the origins of the case and start from the initial 911 call to see if there's anything we see different," Perry said.

Task force members will be looking for "anything that needed to be

followed up on back then, and wasn't," as well perusing interviews and reexamining evidence in the case, the sheriff said.

"The evidence has gone through thorough testing, but it will undergo more"

See **Short Case**, page 3



U.S. Sen. Mark Warner, D-Alexandria, shared information about the Infrastructure and Investment Jobs Act with local leaders. The proposal has passed the Senate and is awaiting consideration in the House.

Proposal would provide more funds for broadband Warner told local leaders during a Tuesday visit

Callie Hietala
Staff writer

U.S. Sen. Mark Warner, D-Alexandria, sat down with community leaders and elected officials from Henry and Patrick counties and the City of Martinsville during an August 24 stop in Martinsville, to discuss how the area can benefit from the Infrastructure and Investment Jobs Act.

Authored by Warner, the bill that passed in the Senate earlier this month and now awaits passage by the House, allocates billions of dollars toward improving roads, bridges, and other critical infrastructure needs.

The discussion, held at P&HCC's

Manufacturing, Engineering, and Technology Complex, primarily focused on broadband infrastructure in the region. The bill includes \$65 billion for broadband expansion, including a minimum of \$100 million to expand and improve broadband access in Virginia.

Warner spoke for an hour with a group of 18 people, including representatives from Martinsville, Patrick and Henry counties, the Harvest Foundation, Henry County Schools, Martinsville City Schools, and Appalachian Power, to talk specifically about broadband.

"COVID showed that high-speed internet con-

nectivity is now an economic necessity. It is no longer a nice-to-have," Warner said, and noted that the infrastructure bill has \$65 billion in it for broadband -

"\$40 billion of it for coverage and \$14 billion for affordability, because we know that it's not just a case of getting the broadband to someone, you've got to be able to afford it."

Internet service in the Henry and Patrick counties is varied. Clyde DeLoach, vice chairman of the Patrick County Board of Supervisors, said,

"Patrick County is best described as a mess. We have been trying aggressively to get broadband, in partnership with

RiverStreet," but the county is having trouble coming up with a \$4.3 million match, DeLoach said. "We didn't know what to do."

See **Proposal**, page 2

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



COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Event information/calendar items must be received by 5 p.m. on the Tuesday before the desired publication date. Email to newsreporter@theenterprise.net or dhall@theenterprise.net)

Saturday, Aug. 28

The 10th annual Bikers for Babies Charity Ride and the first annual Celebrating Life Festival will be held from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Bassett Furniture.

Piedmont Arts celebrates its 60th anniversary with a free Family Day from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Visitors of all ages are invited to enjoy crafts, games, magic workshops, a performance by Gypsy Geoff Marsh, and complimentary food.

Tuesday, Aug. 31

The Martinsville City School Board will hold a special closed session meeting via Zoom at 6:30 p.m. to discuss and consult with legal counsel and briefings by staff members, attorneys or consultants pertaining to actual or probable litigation, or other specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice.

Thursday, Sept. 2

The American Red Cross will host a blood drive at the Martinsville Elks Lodge (300 Fairy St. Ext.) from 12-6 p.m. To sign up for a donation appointment, visit redcrossblood.org

TheatreWorks Community Players will host an improv comedy workshop on Sept. 2 from 6-8 p.m. and Sept. 4 from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. At the end of each workshop, you can audition for an upcoming improv show! All members of the community ages 14 and up are welcome. Visit twcp.net for more info.

Friday, Sept. 3

The Martinsville-Henry County Historical Society celebrates First Friday Open Mic at the Historic Courthouse (1 E. Main Street, Martinsville) from 6-9 p.m. Open mic is open to singers, musicians, dancers, stand-up comedians, or performers of any type who would like to share their talents with the community. A cash bar featuring beer and wine, with proceeds benefiting the Historical Society.

Tuesday, Sept. 7 through Thursday, Sept. 9

Public hearings by the Commission on Local Government on Martinsville's reversion process will be held at the Martin-Lacy Lecture Hall at New College Institute. The city will present on Sept. 7 from 9-5 p.m. and the county will present the following day. Public comment will be heard Wednesday, Sept. 8 at 7 p.m. All meetings will be open to the public. Anyone wishing to attend the meetings is required to wear a mask and adhere to social distancing guidelines.

Thursday, Sept. 9 through Dec. 2

P&HCC's Latin Dance Workshop begins. Classes will be held Thursdays from September 9 through December 2 from 5:30-6:30 p.m. Students learn salsa, bachata, merengue, cumbia, and kizomba dances with intensive dance workshops covering frame, posture, lead and following technique, cross-body, and pattern combinations. Cost of the class is \$59. Pre-registration is required. To for more information or to register, call (276) 656-5461 or visit ph.augusoft.net.

Friday, Sept. 10

Miles 4 Vets 6th annual golf tour-

namment will take place at Forest Park Country Club. Entry is \$50 per play or \$200 per team. Entry fee includes cart, lunch, and beverages. Cash prizes will be awarded to the top three teams. For more information contact Mandy Folman: (276) 632-6442 or mfolman@southernaaa.org. Sign up online at www.mile1.net.

Saturday, Sept. 11

The Bassett Heritage Festival, in Bassett, gets underway at 8 a.m. with a pancake breakfast to benefit the Stanleytown Ruritans. Festival vendors will be set up by 10 a.m..

Sunday, Sept. 12

The Henry County Bike Club's Sunday Road Ride begins at the Ridgeway Library at 2 p.m. For more information, call Tommy at (276) 618-0343

Sunday, Sept. 19

The Martinsville-Henry County Historical Society will present a lecture, The Hairston Family Homes: Exploring 18th and 19th Century Architecture in Southern Virginia. The speaker is local historian and collector Jarrad Marlowe, 1st Vice President of the George Waller Chapter of the Virginia Society of the Sons of the American Revolution. Marlowe will discuss the history of the architecture of the George Hairston family, owners of the Beaver Creek Plantation and other properties. The talk begins at 3 p.m. Admission is free.

Saturday, Sept. 25

The Martinsville-Henry County Relay for Life will take place at the Smith River Sports Complex from 3-7 p.m. The 5k event begins at 9 a.m. Visit relayforlife.org/MHCVA for more information or to register.

org/MHCVA for more information or to register.

ONGOING

MHC Coalition for Health and Wellness offers no contact Medicaid application assistance for eligible Virginia residents from birth to 64 years of age. No sign-up fees, no premiums, no deductibles. Including Children's Medicaid/FAMIS, Pregnancy Medicaid and Adult Health Care -19 to 64 years old. Questions can be answered, and applications completed by phone. In-person application assistance is available from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Thursdays at The Community Storehouse.

Call or text Ann Walker 276 732-0509 to see if you qualify.

The Henry County Adult Learning Center offers free in-house and online classes to help prepare for college, career, or earn your high school equivalency or GED. Classes can help improve your digital literacy, job skills, English language skills, and earning potential. Contact the Center for Community Learning (15 Primary School Road, Collinsville) at (276) 647-9585.

Two exhibits are on display at Piedmont Arts now through October 9. Artists Charlie Brouwer and Jennifer L. Hand collaborated Leaves of the Tree, a unique exhibition based on life-giving trees. Narrative by Nature features work from artists Leslie Pearson and Jennifer Reis.

The Martinsville Farmer's Market is open Saturdays from 7 a.m. to 12 p.m. through November 20, and Wednesdays from 7 a.m. to 12 p.m. through September 29. Shop with SNAP/EBT and receive up to \$20 in free fruits and vegetables each week. To shop market vendors online, visit martinsvilleuptown.com.

Alpha-gal symposium to address hope and resilience

Virginia Tech's Reynolds Homestead and New College Institute will host the third Alpha-gal Symposium on Aug. 28 in Martinsville, Virginia. The event will run from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. and costs \$25, which includes morning refreshments and an alpha-gal friendly lunch.

Alpha-gal syndrome is a condition that most often begins when a Lone Star tick bite transmits a sugar molecule called alpha-gal into the body. In some people, this triggers an immune system reaction that later produces mild to severe allergic reactions to red meat.

The Lone Star tick is found predominantly in the southeastern United States, and most cases of alpha-gal syndrome occur in this region. The condition appears to be spreading farther north and west, however, as deer carry the Lone Star tick to new parts of the United States. Alpha-gal syndrome also has been diagnosed in Europe, Australia, and Asia, where other types of ticks carry alpha-gal molecules.

Six speakers will address diverse aspects of the syndrome, among them:

Candice Matthis and Debbie Nichols, also known as the Two Alpha Gals, will deliver the key-

note address on "Finding JOY in Alpha-gal." Matthis and Nichols have spent years researching creative lifestyle changes that they are eager to share with those who struggle with alpha-gal syndrome.

Dr. Jennifer Platt, CEO of Tick Warriors and co-founder of Tick-Borne Conditions United, who will speak on "Patient Symptoms and Experiences."

John Bianchi, vice president of product development at Revivacor, Inc., will present an update on development of a "GalSafe Pig." Revivacor is a regenerative medicine company focused on applying leading-edge

animal biotechnology platforms to provide an alternative tissue source for treatment of human degenerative disease.

Beth Carrison, co-founder of Tick-Borne Conditions United, will speak on "Advocating for Yourself and Alpha-gal" and on the progress on awareness for alpha-gal syndrome. She will also help participants prepare information to take to their doctors and pharmacists to help educate them on how to manage patients with alpha-gal.

Heather Hargis, MFT, a therapist from Nashville, will speak on "Food Allergies and Mental Health."

Dr. Nader Soliman will introduce a powerful technique that provides relief from allergy symptoms and has been used successfully to relieve symptoms of alpha-gal syndrome. He will be joined by Dr. Deborah Farley to moderate a panel discussion with those who have undergone the treatment.

Check in and on-site registration for the symposium will be from 8-9 a.m. at the New College Institute, which is located at 191 Fayette St. in Martinsville. The symposium will begin promptly at 9 a.m.

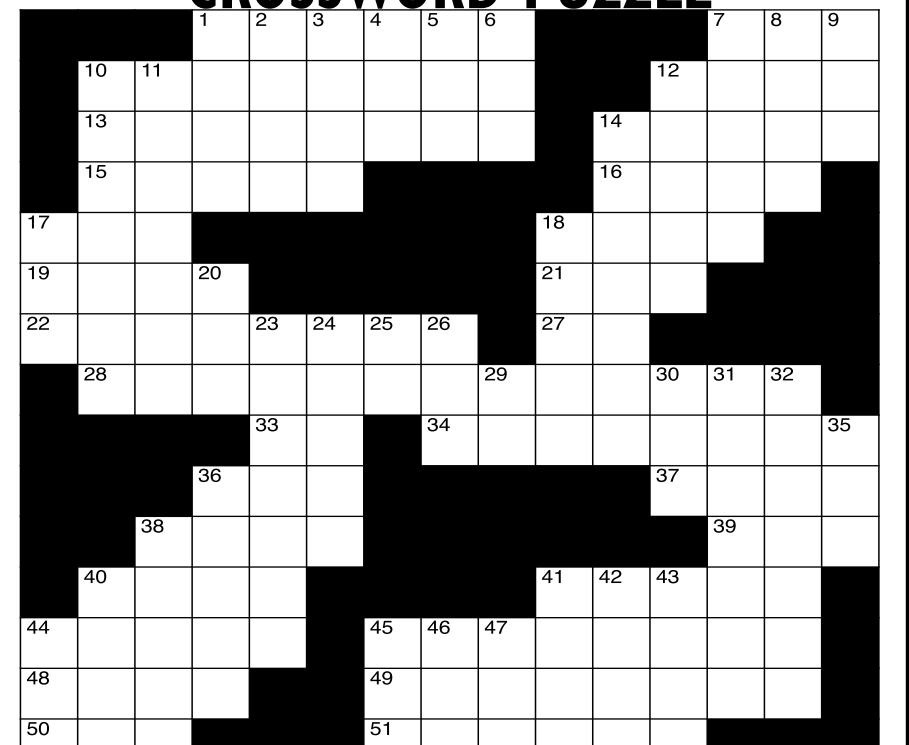
An alpha-gal safe luncheon will be served, and guests will have an

opportunity to try emu, a poultry that has a similar taste to beef. The luncheon is sponsored in part by Amaroo Hills, an emu, duck, and ostrich farm with locations in Tennessee and North Carolina.

For more information about the symposium, call the Reynolds Homestead at (276) 694-7181. Online registration is available at https://bit.ly/AGSymposium.

If you have a disability and desire accommodation, contact Lisa Martin at martinlm@vt.edu during regular business hours at least five business days before the event.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



- | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|
| <p>CLUES ACROSS</p> <p>1. Nature expedition</p> <p>7. Take the energy from</p> <p>10. Bungled</p> <p>12. Young salmon</p> <p>13. Botanical gardens</p> <p>14. Source of chocolate</p> <p>15. Country singer LeAnn</p> <p>16. Yokel</p> <p>17. Unit of energy</p> <p>18. Plant of the lily family</p> <p>19. Tusked wild pig</p> <p>21. Form of "to be"</p> <p>22. Formerly</p> <p>27. Letter of the Greek alphabet</p> <p>28. Former First Lady</p> <p>33. News organization</p> <p>34. Shining brightly and intermittently</p> <p>36. Brew</p> | <p>37. Teams' best pitchers</p> <p>38. Edible fruit</p> <p>39. Pitching stat</p> <p>40. ___ or bust</p> <p>41. Baby product manufacturer</p> <p>44. Monetary unit of Finland</p> <p>45. Small spherical structures in cells</p> <p>48. Pouches</p> <p>49. Reached</p> <p>50. Investment account</p> <p>51. Oft-repeated slogan</p> | <p>5. A way to drench</p> <p>6. Journalist Tarbell</p> <p>7. ___ and Venzetti</p> <p>8. Alcoholic liquor</p> <p>9. An athlete who plays for pay</p> <p>10. Where to get drinks</p> <p>11. Japanese art form</p> <p>12. Baseball great</p> <p>14. Winged angelic beings</p> <p>17. One point south of due east</p> <p>18. Group of islands in Polynesia</p> <p>20. A place to play: ___ center</p> <p>23. Masses of gray matter in the brain</p> <p>24. Belgian city (alt. sp.)</p> | <p>25. Milliliter</p> <p>26. Beloved Will Ferrell film</p> <p>29. Railway above ground</p> <p>30. Satisfaction</p> <p>31. Aggregate of molecules</p> <p>32. Type of barometer</p> <p>35. Type of college teacher (abbr.)</p> <p>36. Long periods of time</p> <p>38. Native people of Nebraska and S. Dakota</p> <p>40. Deliver</p> <p>41. Thin, narrow piece of wood</p> <p>42. Modern Israel founder</p> <p>43. Small NY college</p> <p>44. Pounds per square inch</p> <p>45. Veterans battleground</p> <p>46. Hollywood talent agency (abbr.)</p> <p>47. Popular kids' channel</p> |
|--|--|--|--|

Proposal

from page 1

We pledged a million and just sort of left it there for them to do with it as they will."

The City of Martinsville, on the other hand, already has MiNet in place, which provides Wi-Fi coverage for every area in the city, said Martinsville's Vice Mayor Jennifer Bowles.

Henry County Deputy Administrator Dale Wagoner said Henry County has been "hindered up to this point by the maps. Because when you look at the maps, Henry County looks like it has really good broadband, compared to our neighbors," though there are underserved areas in the county.

"In the last several months, since some of the barriers with the maps have been taken down, we have dipped our toes into every opportunity we could," Wagoner said.

Michael Armbrister, executive director of the West Piedmont Planning District Commission, left the meeting feeling positive.

"There's a lot of funding available, a lot more funding coming," he said. "Our localities have a limited amount of time to figure out the best use for this funding for broadband, for water and sewer infrastructure. Broadband deadline for (Virginia Telecommunications

Initiative) for state funding is September 14, so we have several of our counties working together with other partners, like AEP, to put together a plan, put together an application to secure the funding in hopes of universal coverage, or as close to universal coverage as possible. The goal is to connect everybody who wants connection."

"The key thing that I heard the senator say that I appreciate is our localities have (American Rescue Plan Act) funding. It's a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. They want to use it for the biggest bang for their buck. There is a big match for VATI funds.

"They're proposing to use a big chunk of their ARPA funding for that match, but if the federal infrastructure bill has broadband funding in it that they can then leverage, it would be great if the senator and other folks in congress can make it so that the (National Telecommunications and Information Administration) funding, the federal broadband funding, can come in and they can pull their ARPA funds out and use that for water and sewer or other needs and be able to fill that gap with the federal broadband money. So that's exciting to hear because we're talking about millions and millions of

dollars, so it's hard for a lot of our localities, especially more rural localities like Patrick County to put in millions of dollars. So that we feel more confident moving forward with broadband applications," he said.

Wagoner said he also was excited about the new funding.

"There's a pot of money we can now draw from to get these broadband projects under way. Up to this point, money has always been the issue and the hindrance to broadband," he said. "It just was not profitable for private entities to build out those networks because they'd never recoup the cost. This massive influx of state and federal money will give us the opportunity to make it cost-effective for these private entities to deliver those services."

"Compared to all of our neighbors, we have really good broadband," he said. This new funding will allow Henry County to move to the next phase, expanding coverage to smaller businesses and residents and out into the more rural parts of the county.

Warner said that, with this new plan, "there should be no community in Virginia that will not have the funding, to make sure your people get affordable, high-speed internet."

Eight county schools report positive COVID cases during first week of class

Callie Hietala
Staff writer

Henry County students returned to school on Monday, August 16 and, so far, COVID case counts in each individual school remain relatively low.

A total of six new cases were reported among school staff for the week of August 6 through 13, just before the beginning of Henry County's school year, and 15 people were in quarantine. Two cases were from Bassett High School, two from Sanville Elementary, one from GW Carver Elementary, and one from Fieldale-Collinsville Middle School.

For the week of August 13 through 20, the first week with students back in the classrooms, three new positive cases were reported among school staff, along with 16 new student cases.

Meadow View Elementary had the highest positive case

count with five positive cases. Drewry Mason Elementary reported four positive cases, Magna Vista High had three, Laurel Park Middle and FC Middle each reported two, and Axton Elementary, Bassett High, and Campbell Court Elementary each reported one positive COVID-19 case. A total of 72 students and staff were in quarantine last week according to the dashboard data.

The dashboard states that "it is important to note that quarantine cases may not be the result of a case on campus but do impact the school/department and, therefore, are included in the data."

The school system provides the online dashboard to, according to its website, "provide the school community with a transparent summary of COVID-19 cases." The dashboard is updated weekly and can be accessed at www.henry.k12.va.us/domain/2635.

The update "indicates the number of new cases that a student or staff member has tested positive for an active COVID-19 infection for the specific week."

"As COVID cases continue to present in our community, our school staff members will be working with students to continue to emphasize healthy hygiene practices and we will continue to practice COVID cleaning protocols in all of our facilities," said Monica Hatchett, director of communications for the school system.

"The division is maintaining a weekly dashboard update on our website so that members of the school community have access to the summary information provided there. Any student who has been exposed to a person who tests positive for COVID will receive a phone call from our contact tracers and all members of any class

that has a COVID positive case will receive an email containing information regarding the positive case (in some instances, letters may also be sent to a grade level/team, wing of a school, or to the entire school). If you have not received a call regarding your student's need to quarantine, your student has not been directly exposed and you should plan to proceed with in-person instruction as usual."

The website states that "individuals who test positive are excluded from participation in any in-person/on-campus activity until the school nurse verifies that the individual meets the return criteria set by the Virginia Department of Health."

Beulah Aggrey, MPH, COVID-19 Epidemiologist, Virginia Department of Health, West Piedmont Health District said, "At the health department,



Magna Vista High School reported three positive Coronavirus cases and 16 students and staff in quarantine during the first week of school.

we continue to conduct case/cluster/outbreak investigations when we receive reports of cases at schools and we provide guidance/recommendations to cases, parents, and schools leadership.

According to the Virginia Department of Health's COVID-19 data, as of August 23, a total of 384 children ages 0-9 have

tested positive for virus in the health district, which includes Henry County and the City of Martinsville. The data also indicates that 1,281 positive cases have been reported in individuals between the ages of 10 and 19 in the district.

For more information on COVID-19 in the state and the region, visit vdh.virginia.gov.

Former chain store employees open new print shop

Callie Hietala
Staff writer

Printing services, in both two and three dimensions, are available in Martinsville and Henry County once again. The Martinsville-Henry County Chamber of Commerce welcomed Quantum Copy LLC to the community with a ribbon cutting on Wednesday, August 18.

Quantum Copy LLC is owned and operated by Brian Mills and Seth Chandler, two former employees of the recently shuttered Office Max. When that company closed its Martinsville

location 10 months ago, Mills and Chandler saw an opportunity to fill a need in the community. They found a storefront at the Holiday Shopping Center, in Collinsville, and started setting up shop.

"We've been open for about six weeks, making sure all our equipment is fully functional so that we can help people the way we expected to when we opened the store, and we've reached that point," said Mills.

Both became familiar faces during their time at the former office store. When customers came through the door,

they knew and asked for them by name and were comfortable working with them. Mills and Chandler, in turn, knew their regular customers well. It was a natural step, Mills said, for the two to partner on their own print business.

"In my 12 years (at the other company), I think I worked back in print eight of the 12, but I was still part of the process the whole time, so knowing those people for so long, helping them with print and having that disappear in this town was heartbreaking to the point where it seemed I couldn't stop myself from

opening the store, even if I wanted to."

The shop has everything you could find at one of the big box print shops.

"Think of it as any kind of print retail store. We offer (services) as simple as faxing to full color brochure creation and design. We do banners, posters, yard signs, outdoor materials, weather-proof materials, business cards, invitations, contract books, you name it. Anything on paper, we can help you with."

Mills, who graduated from Salisbury University in Maryland with a degree in art and design,

said in-house design work also is available.

The new business also includes a 3-D printer.

"The 3-D printer is a ton of fun," said Mills, enthused. "I just made a logo into a keychain for a local business. As soon as that print's done, I'm going to see if I can make fifty of those for him."

It was scary, starting a new business, especially coming out of a pandemic, said Mills. "There's a lot of change, there's a lot of people starting new businesses. COVID's changed the world. It's a little scary." But it's also exciting, he said.

"It's always been a dream of mine to work for myself. It's much different than working for a company. I don't know how to explain it. It's a great freeing feeling, and I'm able to work harder and devote myself more to it than I could in any kind of corporate environment."

Quantum Copy LLC is located at 1874 Virginia Avenue in the Holiday Shopping Center. It is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturdays from 12 to 6 p.m. For more information, visit qcopy.net or search Quantum Copy LLC on Facebook.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

From left: Sharon Shepherd, Deputy Director of Martinsville-Henry County Chamber of Commerce, Seth Chandler, Brian Mills, Henry County Public Relations and Community Liaison Brandon Martin, Collinsville District Supervisor Joe Bryant.



Quantum Copy's 3-D printer in action.



A 3-D printed keychain created for a local business.

Short Case from page 1

tests with the most current equipment available, he said, and added the task force also will reread all of the statements related to the case.

"This has been a massive, massive case. There have been over 4,000 interviews already conducted," Perry said.

Assistance will be sought from the

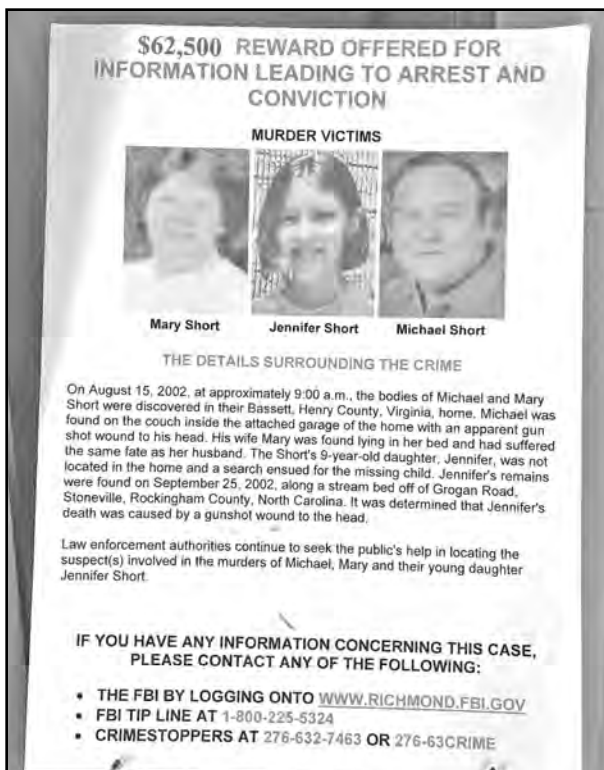
FBI and the ATF (Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms & Explosives), as needed, he added.

"They have worked with us for a number of years on this case and they still do," Perry said.

The task force is expected to be operational later this fall.

Currently, a \$62,500 reward is

available for information that leads to the arrest and conviction of the person or persons responsible. Anyone with information is asked to call Crimestoppers at (276) 632-7463 or 276-63CRIME. Information also may be reported to the FBI by logging onto www.richmond.fbi.gov or calling the FBI Tip Line at 1-800-225-5324.



A close-up of a poster about the 2002 Short family case.

You are invited to a concert of
Folk Mountain Gospel Music
at LifeSpring on August 29 at 3:00 p.m.

Don and Donna Mohl are gospel singers who blend their voices with various biblical and traditional instruments, as they sing of Jesus' love and grace.

Enjoy their heart-warming stories designed to encourage and inspire.

A love offering will be received.

LifeSpring
Resources for Hope & Healing
218 Patrick Avenue, Stuart, VA

Farmstead On A Hill

Grazed on the Farm and Grain Finished
USDA Inspected
Whole and Halves Available.
Please call 336.601.1480
or email: jpendleton.nc@outlook.com

BEEF	PORK
Hamburger	Chops (Bone in)
Hamburger Patties	Pork Belly
Beef Bratwurst	Ground Pork
Steaks	Sausage
Roast	(Mild, Hot & Chorizo)
(chuck, sirloin, Round, & etc)	Whole Ham (bone in)
Beef Tips	Ham Hock
Beef Ribs	LAMB
Stew Beef	Ground Lamb
Cube Steak	Lamb Chops
	Leg Of Lamb (Boneless)

Products are available at:
Performance Livestock & Feed Co, LLC
5767 NC Hwy 8 North Lawsonville, NC
888.777.5912
Performance Livestock & Feed Co, LLC
11 Redd Level Plant Rd Martinsville, VA
888.777.5912
Pickle and Ash • 21559 Jeb Stuart Hwy Stuart, VA
276-694-4405

OPINION

Sitting and waiting

I don't like to brag about my good fortune, but my girlfriend Lauren is one of the most thoughtful people I've ever met.

A couple of months ago, Lauren told me what she was planning for my birthday. Knowing my love of the Mothman, a cryptozoological wonder of possible extraterrestrial origin that allegedly plagued the town of Point Pleasant, West Virginia in the 1960s, Lauren had bought us two tickets to Point Pleasant's Mothman Festival. Not only that, but she had also booked us an Airbnb in nearby Huntington that happened to be right next door to a barcade, one of those wonderful establishments where you can play old pinball and arcade games while enjoying an adult beverage.

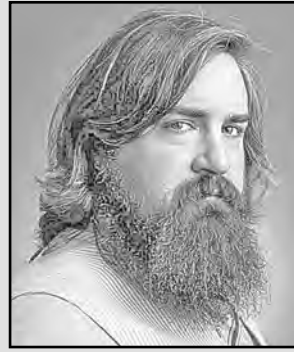
Truly, this birthday trip ticked off nearly every box on Ben's Weird Interests BINGO card. I was really excited about it!

But then, of course, the festival was cancelled last week because COVID rates are soaring among the unvaccinated.

I had more sympathy last year when all the stuff I was excited about got cancelled. At least back then the vaccine wasn't an option. A pinball tournament in Richmond that was going to be my very first was cancelled in April 2020. A Blue Oyster Cult concert at the Harvester in Rocky Mount was cancelled a little later. It's now supposed to take place in about two weeks, but I guess we'll see what happens.

Of course, all of that pales in comparison to the hospital situation. Someone close to me recently needed to go to the hospital for a possible concussion. She was told that the nearest hospital that MIGHT take her was Carilion in Roanoke; every hospital closer to home was only taking people on the verge of death. The reason: all of their beds are packed with unvaccinated patients struggling with — you guessed it — COVID. This person ended up just staying at home, and we all crossed our fingers hoping that she wasn't concussed.

Earlier this month, a viral video made the rounds of a



By Ben R. Williams

man whose wife has stage IV breast cancer. She has to go into the hospital frequently for treatment, but she recently had her treatment cut short due to a horde of unvaccinated COVID patients taking up all the beds. The man, justifiably emotional, told anti-vaxxers that if they didn't trust the vaccine, then they shouldn't trust modern medicine at all. If you choose not to get vaccinated and you get COVID, just stay at home and ride it out and leave the hospital beds for the people who desperately need them.

My friends in the medical industry say it's a nightmare right now, as bad if not worse than the winter. Hospitals are

overrun with COVID patients. About 9 out of 10 of them are unvaccinated, while the remaining ten percent are vaccinated folks with compromised immune systems. Many doctors and nurses have no sympathy left. The vaccine is readily available. On the day I write this, the Pfizer vaccine has been officially approved by the FDA with the others likely to follow shortly. And yet we're seeing record numbers of pointless deaths from folks who "did their own research" at crackpot.biz and decided they were better off taking antibiotics and livestock de-worming medicine than an actual vaccine that actually works.

I also have no sympathy left. I can't even tell you how many articles I've read about some rabid anti-vaxxer who died of COVID. The story is so common that it's hardly newsworthy. I don't feel joy at their deaths. I don't feel anything at all, other than maybe a vague sense of sadness at the state of our misguided country.

The current situation reminds me of a family member of mine. As the story goes, her husband never wanted to go on vacation, and he didn't want her to go on vacation either.

After several years without a getaway, she asked him the following question: Do you want to let me go on vacation, or do you want me to sit around the house staring at you and waiting for you to die? After some thought, he decided he wanted her to go on vacation.

I got vaccinated back in March because I'm ready to go on vacation. I'm ready to live my life. I realize the vaccine isn't foolproof and there's still a chance I could catch COVID, but all legitimate scientific evidence — and here I'm excluding crackpot.biz — suggest that my chances of catching it are vastly lowered and my chances of having a severe case are minimal. I'm ready to get back into the world.

The problem is, the anti-vaxxers are the ones shaping that world, and unless you're a big fan of pestilence, it's not a great place to visit.

And so, to the anti-vaxxers, I offer a variation on the question my family member asked her husband:

Are you going to get on board with the program so we can all go on vacation safely? Or are the rest of us going to have to sit around staring at you and waiting for the inevitable?

Botched Exit

Morgan Griffith
9th District U.S. Rep.

Years ago, the U.S. completed its original goals of destroying al Qaeda and ensuring that Afghanistan would not be a staging ground for transnational Islamic extremist groups. That is why I have long supported an orderly withdrawal of troops from Afghanistan.

However, President Biden and his Administration have botched America's exit. The problem is not withdrawing American troops, but that the President's team did not adequately develop plans before moving forward.

What has the President been doing since his April announcement to withdraw? Playing tiddlywinks

in the Rose Garden?

Due to the Biden Administration's gross misjudgment, we now have American citizens and Afghan allies who are needlessly in harm's way. This disastrous departure made it necessary to redeploy thousands of U.S. troops to address the chaotic situation in Kabul.

Many in Congress believed that with the removal of American troops, President Ashraf Ghani's government would not likely survive for long. For years, it has been publicly known, that endemic corruption in the Afghan government created an unsustainable status quo.

According to numerous Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction (SIGAR)

reports, U.S. funds were regularly stolen by corrupt Afghan officials and generals. For instance, the problem of so-called "ghost soldiers" was well known to SIGAR for years. Millions in U.S. security aid were being spent on non-existent Afghan soldiers, at least 50,000 of the alleged Afghan Army and police personnel were known not to exist.

However, I believe that Afghans, who risked their lives by assisting American troops and U.S. personnel, should be evacuated safely. One such opportunity is facilitated by the Special Immigrant Visa (SIV) program, which since 2006, has allowed vetted Afghan and Iraqi Department of Defense contractors, including interpreters, translators, and security personnel, to immigrate to the United States.

Congress knew this could be a difficult exit and passed legislation to help be better prepared. As early as June 29, 2021, my House colleagues and I passed H.R. 3385, which aimed to streamline the medical examination

process for SIV applicants.

H.R. 3985 passed the House with my support on July 22, 2021. This bill would further simplify the SIV application process as well as increase the number of visas available through the program.

Finally, on July 29, 2021, I voted in favor of the Emergency Security Supplemental Appropriations Act, which was approved by the House and the Senate and signed into law by President Biden on July 30, 2021. This legislation incorporated the language of the previous two bills described above.

While Kabul was falling to the Taliban, I was on a Members-only call with top Administration officials, Secretary of State Blinken, Secretary of Defense Austin, and General Mark Milley, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. On the call I learned that they were processing visas at the airport.

Later, I learned that only a small fraction of the visas for those eligible Afghans who aided us had been processed. Seriously?

It baffles me as to

why the Administration removed troops from Afghanistan before ensuring the airport and embassy were secured and a significant number of the visas were processed. Clearly, there was no comprehensive plan to safely evacuate U.S. citizens, the Afghans who assisted the U.S., non-governmental organizations, etc.

This is not a partisan problem. This is a Biden problem.

In a July 8 press conference, Biden rejected the possibility that the Taliban would gain control of Afghanistan so quickly. When the press stated and asked the President to clarify, "Your own intelligence community has assessed that the Afghan government will likely collapse." Biden replied, "That is not true. They did not — they didn't — did not reach that conclusion."

And yet, just five weeks later, that is exactly what happened.

Why was there not a better defensive strategy in place? Why was there not a comprehensive list of all who would need to be evacuated from Afghanistan - Americans

in the country, our Afghan allies, and other individuals? Why was President Biden radio silent for six days while the Taliban quickly and methodically overtook the Afghan government?

President Biden's weak leadership has damaged America's credibility throughout the world. Americans deserve better and are right to expect better from the President.

While I am disappointed in the Administration, I will continue to monitor the developing situation to determine what I can do to help ensure the safety of as many Americans and Afghan allies as possible in the wake of this Biden-made disaster.

Lastly, and most importantly, thank you to our brave service men and women and veterans who keep and have kept America safe. Should you know a veteran needing mental health services during this time, please feel free to contact my Abingdon office at 276-525-1405, my Christiansburg office at 540-381-5671 or via email at www.morgangriffith.house.gov.

Your Community, Your Voice

Serving Henry County, Martinsville, and Surrounding Area

HENRY COUNTY ENTERPRISE

henrycountyenterprise.com

Weekly Publication
Published Each Saturday

Michael Showell, *Publisher*

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

Callie Hietala, *Reporter*
newsreporter@theenterprise.net

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

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

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

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

Do you own land?

Do you own farm or forestland? Thousands of acres of family-owned land in the region will change hands in the next two to three decades, and many of these transfers will happen with no, or very little planning. Do you know what is going to happen to your land after your tenure? Is it going to stay intact? Is it going to stay in farm or forest? Will it remain in your family?

If you hope to keep your family land intact, and in the family, then it is time to start planning. With fairly simple steps, the odds of making sure this happens increase dramatically.

Virginia's Generation NEXT program is a joint effort of the Virginia Department of Forestry & Virginia Cooperative Extension with many other public and private partners. A "Generation NEXT" Legacy Planning Webinar Series will inform

and equip Virginia Landowners (no matter where they live) to "do legacy planning" well. The virtual fall workshop starts on Wednesday and Thursday (September 8 & 9) and concludes the following week on Sept. 15 & 16. Each session is just 1.5 hours from 3 to 4:30 p.m. and will feature a variety of experts as well as a free copy of the "Legacy Planning: A Guide for Virginia Landowners" workbook. One registration fee gives the entire family access to the webinar and recordings.

At some point in the future, your property will pass into the hands of someone else. The only questions are will it be planned and will it be good?

For more information or to register, visit <https://ext.vt.edu/natural-resources/legacy-planning/training.html>

Winter

from page 1

ule a booster now.

"If everyone had gotten vaccinated, (declining vaccine efficacy) wouldn't have been a problem. The problem is the mutations," said Dr. Sheranda Gunn-Nolan, Chief Medical Officer with Sovah Health.

"I also want to be really clear that the vaccines you've taken your whole life were about 50 per-

cent effective at best. The difference was everybody else took them, too."

Gunn-Nolan added that, "I'm on 526 days of this. That's 526 days of fighting for lives with no cure. Except now we have prevention."

She noted that Sovah Health currently has 34 COVID-positive patients across both campuses, with 20 in Danville and

14 in Martinsville.

Nolan-Gunn said the patients seen now are much sicker than those seen at the beginning of the pandemic, and there are already discussions about the potential of a new variant emerging.

"Vaccines could have prevented where we are right now," Gunn-Nolan said.

"It's really time for us

all to step up and do what we can," said Bell. "I feel like we have a moral obligation to do the right thing."

For more information on COVID-19 in Virginia, visit vdh.virginia.gov. New dashboards have been added to the website to track cases by vaccination status and outbreaks. (See related story inside.)

See more on

www.henrycountyenterprise.com

COVID-19 Outbreaks Dashboard reinstated

The Virginia Department of Health (VDH) reinstated the Outbreaks by Selected Exposure Settings Dashboard in the VDH COVID-19 Data Insights dashboards on Aug. 25.

The dashboard includes information on outbreaks that occurred in medical care facilities, residential or day programs licensed by VDH, Department of Social Services (DSS) or Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (DBHDS), summer camps, K-12 schools, colleges and universities and long-term care facilities.

The dashboard is being reinstated because of the rapid increase in transmission of COVID-19 across the state spurred by the Delta variant.

This has resulted in an increase in cases and outbreaks in congregate and communal settings. The publicly posted data will include all outbreaks reported to VDH since August 1, 2021, as these are the most relevant to implementing mitigation strategies and informing the public.

State Health Commissioner Dr. M. Norman Oliver granted an exception to resume reporting outbreaks by facility

name. This authority comes from Section 32.1-41 of the Code of Virginia.

Reporting all outbreaks is important to inform our constituents of COVID-19 transmission in their localities to help them better protect themselves and their families. Outbreaks reported on the dashboard represent specific, identifiable outbreak events that were investigated by local health departments in collaboration with the facilities listed.

The outbreaks are listed by locality, facility type and by public health investigation status. In addition, COVID-19

cases and deaths linked to one of these facility outbreaks will be listed.

Outbreaks also are reported for residential or day programs, K-12 schools or summer camps that have at least 30 enrolled students or residents and staff.

This dashboard will be updated weekly to accommodate ongoing data collection, quality assurance and communications. Be aware that there are inherent delays in public reporting of real-time COVID-19 data, and it may take time for each outbreak to be investigated and reported.

Some facilities may have

more than one COVID-19 outbreak occurring at the same time in different settings or may have multiple COVID-19 outbreaks over the course of the pandemic. Due to confidentiality concerns, this dashboard reports outbreaks at the facility level, and not in a particular unit or subsection.

For more information on COVID-19 in Virginia, visit vdh.virginia.gov/coronavirus. Anyone age 12 or older can find free vaccination clinics near them by visiting vaccinate.virginia.gov or calling 877-VAX-IN-VA (877-829-4682, TTY users call 7-1-1).

Rooster Walk to require vaccine or proof of negative COVID-19 test

Vaccination or proof of a negative COVID-19 test will be required for music lovers hoping to attend the popular Rooster Walk Reunion Music Festival this fall.

According to the announcement, "creating a safe, welcoming and enjoyable environment for our community and for everyone in attendance is of the utmost importance to the Rooster Walk festival organizers, board of directors, and staff."

"In response to the threat of the delta variant, Rooster Walk Reunion

will require proof of full COVID-19 vaccination or a negative COVID-19 test in order to attend the event." Testing must be done no more than 72 hours before the event.

Unvaccinated festivalgoers also will be asked to wear a mask in situations where social distancing is not possible.

"This safety precaution is being implemented to protect everyone in attendance—patrons, staff, artists, vendors, volunteers and community members. It is also to help sustain the music industry. Increasing

our country's vaccination rate is the quickest path to returning to normalcy and getting back to a 'normal' concert experience. Let's band together and put this virus at bay. This (is) the best option to be able to host events safely."

"Thank you in advance to all festival attendees for their support and understanding as we update our safety protocols to overcome the constant changes and challenges brought on by COVID-19," said Johnny Buck, festival co-founder.

Rooster Walk's website

details other COVID-related precautions and protocols, including limiting the crowds at Pop's Farm to 50 percent capacity for all summer and fall shows. Concert attendees will be subject to a health screening questionnaire, and anyone diagnosed with COVID-19, or who has had direct contact with a COVID-positive person, is suspected of having been exposed to the virus, or is displaying symptoms will be issued a full refund and not allowed to enter the venue.

According to their web-

site, "Rooster walk is an advocate of all members of the general population getting vaccinated for COVID, though we do not think less of those who chose not to for personal reasons."

Just a few hours after making the announcement, Rooster Walk's Facebook page indicated only positive responses to the new requirement.

Music lovers who hope to be fully vaccinated in time for Rooster Walk Reunion (October 8-10) should receive their first Moderna shot

by Wednesday, August 25; first Pfizer shot by Wednesday, September 1; or the one-shot Johnson & Johnson vaccine by Wednesday, September 22.

Rooster Walk is encouraging, but not currently requiring vaccinations for concerts held on August 28 and September 11.

To find local vaccination sites, visit www.vaccines.gov. For more information about Rooster Walk and its COVID-19 guidelines, visit www.roosterwalk.com.

Savory September takes "A Stroll Down Starling"

Celebrate the museum's 60th anniversary at Savory September: A Stroll Down Starling, a progressive dinner down Martinsville's "museum mile."

The event will take place at One Starling and Piedmont Arts on Friday, September 10.

Piedmont Arts and One Starling were once the private

homes of brothers Michael and Nicholas Schottland, founders of Virginia Mirror Company. Today, Piedmont Arts is a world-class art museum and One Starling is a fully renovated bed and breakfast.

Each location will feature live music, food and cocktails.

The event at One Starling, 1 Starling Ave., is from 6:30 – 8

p.m. Appetizers and cocktails by local chefs Lucy Coleman and Donna McGarry; Julie Wells and Phil Garrett; Holly Burton and Sarah Hodges.

Visit Piedmont Arts, 215 Starling Ave., From 7:30 – 10 p.m., for live music by Neal & Russell. Heavy hors d'oeuvres, desserts and cocktails by local chefs Brian

Stanley, Robby Burton and Billy Kirby, Connie and Elliot Stone, Janet Ashby and Bob Tuggle.

There also are plenty of chances to win big in the annual Savory September raffle. Tickets are \$10 each, or \$50 for a book of six, and can be purchased at Piedmont Arts. Raffle prizes include

Queen-size quilt by Virginia Foothills Quilters Guild, Dinner for four at Third Bay, Two paintings by Wanda Prillaman, Two tickets to Bus to Broadway: Hamilton, Rental at One Starling.

Admission is \$40 per person. Tickets are on sale now at Piedmont Arts and PiedmontArts.org.

Corporate sponsorship agreement reached

Crown Holdings, Inc. and the Smith River Sports Complex are now teammates.

Crown, a leading global supplier of rigid packaging products, and the Smith River Sports Complex (SRSC) announced today that they've entered a three-year agreement for the company to be the corporate sponsor for the SRSC festival grounds and amphitheater. The

sponsorship gives Crown naming rights to this area of the SRSC, which traditionally holds the Smith River Fest and many other events, and the placement of company signage on the property.

"As we join the Martinsville, Virginia region with the development of a new beverage can plant, investing in the community and its resources is paramount,"

said Jon Beam, Director of Marketing at Crown Beverage Packaging North America. "Across all of our global locations, giving back to our employees, their families and their neighborhoods is an important initiative. We are proud to help support the SRSC and look forward to connecting with the area."

Crown Holdings announced in January 2021 that it would

open a \$145 million aluminum beverage can manufacturing facility in Henry County's Commonwealth Crossing Business Centre. That facility is under construction and is targeted to open in the second quarter of 2022.

"The Smith River Sports Complex is thrilled that Crown Holdings selected our facility to make its local debut as a corpo-

rate sponsor," said Scott Prillaman, chairman of the SRSC Board of Directors. "The company has a well-deserved reputation for being immersed in a community. To say that we are excited is an understatement."

SRSC is the pre-eminent sports facility in southern Virginia, playing host to youth, high school, college and community events from

January to December.

"Corporate sponsorships are essential to our operation," said Lloyd Barber, executive director of the complex. "To have a new company enter our community and say 'We want to get involved' even before its facility is open is extraordinary. We thank Crown Holdings for its confidence in us and in this community. This is a great day for all of us."

Reimbursement funding for eligible organic growers, processors announced

The Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (VDACS) recently received approval to reimburse eligible organic growers and processors for up to 50 percent of their 2020-2021 organic certification costs. VDACS received reimbursement approval from the United States Department of Agriculture's National Organic Program, which provides funding through the National Organic Certification Cost Share Program (OCCSP).

To be eligible for OCCSP reimbursement funding, organic growers and processors must successfully complete organic certification

from a USDA accredited organic certifying agency between October 1, 2020, and September 30, 2021. Reimbursements are limited to a maximum of \$500 per category of certification. OCCSP applications are due to VDACS no later than November 1, 2021. Funds are distrib-

uted on a first-come, first-served basis until they are depleted.

The OCCSP application is available at www.vdacs.virginia.gov/pdf/organiccostshare.pdf. Applications should include a Commonwealth of Virginia W-9 tax form, a current copy of the

applicant's organic certificate from an accredited certification agency, and a dated, paid itemized invoice from the certification agency detailing the total cost of services rendered.

Contact Roz Stein, VDACS' Office of Domestic Marketing

and Promotions at 804.786.3951 or at roz.stein@vdacs.virginia.gov for questions about the reimbursement pro-

gram. General organic production information is available at www.vdacs.virginia.gov/sales-certified-organic.shtml.

Labor Day Weekend

DOMINION VALLEY PARK, STUART, VIRGINIA

Friday, September 3
5:30 pm

Mark Bishop
The Churchmen
The Sound

Saturday, September 4
5:30 pm

Cain
The Singing Cookes
The Harvesters Quartet

Sunday Morning Worship
Music by The Singing Cookes
Message by Brother Ricky Rogers

Visit: dominionvalleyllc.com • patrickcounty.org

Admission:
Friday \$25.00 each
Saturday \$25.00 each
2-Day Pass \$40.00 each
8 and under are free

Camping Available
\$20.00 per night
Sites have electricity and water.

Concessions Available



LIVESTOCK AUCTIONS
EVERY SATURDAY AT 1 P.M.

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

For directions to our facility, weekly updates of upcoming events and current sale prices, please visit our website: www.springlakeauctions.com.

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

We appreciate your business!
1069 SICKLE COURT, MONETA, VA 24121

Submit your community news and photos to newsreporter@theenterprise.net

OBITUARIES

Nyla Mae Thoreson Donaldson

Nyla Mae Thoreson Donaldson, 85, of Axton, Va. passed away Thursday, August 19, 2021. She was born April 21, 1936, in Flandreu, South Dakota to Neal Thoreson and Amelia Myrtle Pederson Thoreson.



In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband of 45 years, Orlow Buell Donaldson; grandson, David Anthony Finch; brothers, Marlyn Thoreson, Dwayne Thoreson and his wife Dell, Laurel Thoreson, Reverend Roger Thoreson, and Reverend Ronald Thoreson and his wife Marilyn.

Nyla Mae is survived by her daughters, Marion Landers and husband Darrell, Mary Elaine Powell and her husband Chip, Laura Meadows and her husband Clyde; son, Samuel H. Donaldson, Sr. and his wife Nancy; grandchildren, Luke Powell, Lara Ann Jackson, Erin Lucinda Finch, Daniel Alan Donaldson, Joshua Aaron Donaldson, Madeline Elaine Powell, Clyde Wilson Meadows, III, Sasha Marie Donaldson, Samuel Hagan Donaldson, Jr. and Alexander David Powell; nine great grandchildren; sister, Arlys Johnson and her

husband Denny; brothers, David Thoreson and his wife Kathy and Gary Thoreson and his wife Lucy; sisters-in-law Betty, Beverly and Anne Thoreson and many beloved nieces and nephews.

Nyla Mae was an artist, actress, radio DJ and a drug and alcohol counselor. She loved painting, working in her garden and making trips to the beach.

As a second generation Norwegian, Nyla had the heart of a Viking. She was tough and kind, stern and compassionate. Nyla taught her children to love everyone.

The family will receive friends at the home of Mary Powell. A graveside interment will be held at National Cemetery in Milledgeville, Georgia at a later date.

Memorials may be made to the Wounded Warrior Project, Donor Care Center, PO Box 758540, Topeka, Kansas 66675-8540.

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

To express condolences online, please visit www.collinsmckeestonemartinsville.com.

Carolyn Hudson

Carolyn Hudson, 69, of Martinsville, VA passed away Sunday, August 22, 2021. She was born November 15, 1951, to the late Catherine Barbour Moore and George W. Moore. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her brothers, Raymond Moore, Russell Moore, and Jimmie Moore.



She is survived by her husband, Garnett Hudson; children, Christopher Hudson (Elisa) and Katie Hudson; grandchildren, Autumn Telles (Austin) and Evan Hudson; special niece, Sandra Moore; and her fur baby, Minnie.

Carolyn was a member of Landmark Baptist Church. She retired from BB&T as a Trust Department Vice President. She was a hard worker and used her many talents by teaching Chrismon classes, volunteering with the Salvation Army, was part of the clothes closet, community meals, and Relay

for Life. She used her musical talent teaching piano lessons and she also loved cooking, quilting, and gardening.

A funeral service will be held at 1 p.m. on Friday, August 27, 2021, at Norris Funeral Services, Martinsville Chapel with Pastor J.D. Harmon and Lt. Bradley Mumford officiating. Visitation will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. on Thursday, August 26, 2021, at Norris Funeral Services and other times at the home. Burial will be at Pleasant Grove Christian Church Cemetery.

Memorial donations may be made to Landmark Baptist Church, 3870 Virginia Ave., Collinsville, VA 24078, or the Salvation Army, 603 Memorial Blvd S, Martinsville, VA 24112.

Norris Funeral Services, Martinsville, VA is serving the Hudson family. Online condolences may be made at norrisfuneral.com.

Phyllis Utt Schlueter

Phyllis Utt Schlueter, 70, of Collinsville, VA passed away Monday, August 23, 2021, while with her family. She was born April 19, 1951, in Martinsville, VA to the late Rufus "Rudy" Marion Utt and Ruby Vaughan Utt. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her beloved fur babies, Hokie and Barney.



She is survived by her husband, Randy Schlueter; children, John Schlueter (Caitlin) and Brandi S. Lackey (Mitch); "extra" children, Paula Plaster Wood and Jim Parramore; sister, Teresa Prillaman (Marshall); sister-in-law, Bonnie Farmer (Bill); brothers, Roger Utt (Teresa) and Eddie Utt; grandchildren, Reed and Rhett Lackey; "extra" grandchild, Grace Walsh; nieces and nephews, Ashley McCarron, Brittany Beckett, Tiffany Clark, Carter Farmer, and Colby Utt; and grand fur baby, Stella.

Phyllis served as a teacher in Henry County for 31 years. She loved her family fiercely. She enjoyed helping others, human and canine alike. She will be missed by many. She was a member of Stone Memorial Christian Church.

A casual, outdoor memorial service will be held at 10 a.m. on Saturday, August 28, 2021 at Foothills Church-Rosewood (home of Krista and Tony Pratt), 224 George Taylor Rd., Spencer, VA 24165. Due to Covid concerns, social distancing will be observed.

Memorial donations may be made to Stone Memorial Christian Church, 3030 Virginia Ave, Collinsville, VA 24078.

Norris Funeral Services, Martinsville, VA is serving the Schlueter family. Online condolences may be made at norrisfuneral.com.

County

from page 1

The agreement approved Tuesday is consistent with, but contains more specifics than, a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) previously agreed to by the localities.

For instance, the agreement specifies how the various constitutional officers in each locality will cooperate to ensure a smooth transition. The agreement also states the county will ask the Harvest Foundation to fund a "comprehensive study of the" Henry County school division following the dissolution of the Martinsville school division.

"Such study shall consider subjects including educational quality, the efficient use of facilities, racial and economic equity, costs, the consolidation of administrative functions, academic and pedagogical concerns, and student achievement. The Virginia Board of Education and the Virginia Department of Education will be invited to participate" in the study, the agreement states.

It also notes the need to redraw election districts, with the Henry County Board of Supervisors to "retain at least one seat on each body from entirely within the boundaries of Martinsville, provided that retaining such seats during any subsequent reapportionment or redistricting is consistent with" state and federal laws, population changes and the like.

A redistricting plan will be adopted "no later than the effective date of reversion," the agreement stated. Afterwards, an election "shall be held to select members of the Henry County Board of Supervisors and the Henry County School Board from the districts contained" in the approved redistricting plan.

The new Town of Martinsville also will "undertake all actions necessary for the election of the town council members and any elected town officers of the new Town of Martinsville, consistent with applicable law," the agreement stated.

"Martinsville's transition from an independent city to a town located within and constituting part of Henry County shall be effective as of the date established by the Special Court," according to the agreement.

With approval now from both localities, the Commission on Local Government (CLG), will preside over the next steps in the process, including public hearings scheduled for Sept. 7 to 9 at the New College Institute.

All meetings are open to the public.

The city is scheduled to present before the commission on Tuesday, Sept. 7 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The county will present before the commission on Wednesday, Sept. 8, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Public input will be accepted on Wednesday, Sept. 8 at 7 p.m.

In other matters, the board:

*Endorsed the county's participation in the Virginia Telecommunications Initiative (VATI) Grant Program in collaboration with Carroll, Patrick and Franklin counties. The West Piedmont Planning District Commission will serve as the lead agency

for the grant application. As part of the application, a memorandum of understanding (MOU) will be executed with American Electric Power and RiverStreet Networks to serve as potential vendors for the installation of infrastructure and deployment of services. The MOU does not create any legal or equitable obligations or rights to any of the parties involved.

*Held a public hearing and approved the transfer of the former John Redd Smith Elementary School to the Cherney Development Company to facilitate the development of apartments at the property.

*Held public hearings, and approved amendments, to the fiscal year 2021-2022 school budget and total county budget. The schools received \$18,051,093.61 from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), \$462,698.24 from the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), and \$171,431.52 from the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSA). The total budget amendment of \$18,685,223.37 will cover costs for the essential instruction program, supplies, furniture, personnel costs, personal protective equipment, upgrades to transportation and upgrades to school HVAC and facilities. The county expects to receive \$9,820,105 in ARPA funds. The intended use of the funds will be finalized once additional guidance is received from the U.S. Treasury Department.

*Approved an additional appropriation of \$185,306 in funds from the General Fund and awarded a \$199,985 contract to Paul R. Shively, Inc., for the demolition and removal of 13 duplex structures in the Villa Heights community that have been declared as drug blight. There was already \$14,679 in funds allocated to the Collinsville District for the purpose.

*Established a 30-day comment period to receive input on the allocation of \$16,743 in funds received by the Henry County Sheriff's Office through the 2021 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant. Sheriff Lane Perry said the funds will be used to pay for overtime for increased enforcement. The comment period is set to end on Sept. 27, 2021.

*Awarded a \$238,285 contract to Bassett Office

Supply for various furniture and fixtures for the new jail. Funding for the items is included in the overall budget jail project.

*Approved an additional appropriation of \$8,000 in state asset forfeiture funds to cover travel expenses for the Commonwealth Attorney's Office.

*Held a public hearing, and approved a rezoning request, for property located at 295 Bryant's Lake Road in the Blackberry District. The applicant asked to rezone approximately 25-acres from rural residential district to agricultural district for a farm winery and for other agricultural uses.

*Held a public hearing, and approved a rezoning request, for property located at 5081 Kings Mountain Road in the Collinsville District. The applicant requested to rezone approximately 0.3-acres from commercial district to suburban residential district for it to be sold as a single-family dwelling.

*Adopted a resolution thanking Steve Isom for his 42-years of service to the county in the Information Services Department and congratulating him on his upcoming retirement on Sept. 1, 2021.

*Adopted a resolution celebrating the 50th year of operations for the Patrick Henry Volunteer Fire Department.

*Adopted a resolution recognizing September 11 as First Responder Appreciation Day in Henry County.

*Heard an update on the Henry County Fair from Roger Adams, director of Parks and Recreation.

*Received a report from Treasurer Scott Grindstaff concerning delinquent tax collection efforts. There was \$78,756.13 collected during the month in 2020 personal property taxes and \$98,255.46 collected in real estate taxes.

*Heard an update on general highway matters from Lisa Hughes, Resident Engineer for the Virginia Department of Transportation.

*Approved an early day for county employees on the Friday before Labor Day.

*Heard from Eric Phillips, of the Iriswood District, during the public comment period regarding the availability of correspondence related to reversion. All documents and correspondence from the county are available at <https://www.henrycountyva.gov/reversion>.



The Henry County Board of Supervisors on Tuesday approved a voluntary settlement agreement related to the City of Martinsville's reversion in a 4 to 2 vote. Debra Buchanan, of the Horsepasture District, and Joe Bryant, of the Collinsville District, voted against the agreement.



Deputy Henry County Administrator Dale Wagoner (at podium) addressed the Henry County Board of Supervisors Tuesday.

See more news at

www.henrycountyenterprise.com

How can we help?

We care about you and the success of your business.

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

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

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

CROSSWORD ANSWERS

	S	A	F	A	R	I		S	A	P	
B	O	L	L	I	X	E	D		P	A	R
A	R	B	O	R	E	T	A		C	A	C
R	I	M	E	S		H	I	C	K		
E	R	G				S	E	G			
S	O	M	E	T	I	M	E		A	R	E
M	I	C	H	E	L	L	E	O	B	A	M
A	P					F	L	A	S	H	I
	A	L	E			A	C	E	S		
P	E	A	R						E	R	A
B	O	O	M			S	M	I	L	O	
P	E	N	N	I		N	U	C	L	E	O
S	A	C	S			A	T	T	A	I	N
I	R	A				M	A	N	T	R	A

Three to serve in Northam's administration

Gov. Ralph Northam recently announced additional appointments/reappointments to his

administration, including three to the Board of Trustees A.L. Philpott Manufacturing Extension

Partnership - GENEDGE Alliance. Kaushik Vashee, P.E. of Greensboro, North

Carolina, Vice President, DanChem, was appointed to the board. Richard Gagliano, of

Charlottesville, President and Chief Executive Officer, AccuTec, Inc. and Wayne Stilwell, of

Manassas, Chief Executive Officer, Stilwell Technology and Robotics, LLC were reappointed.

VDACS sets dates for Pesticide Collection Program

Farmers, pesticide dealers, pest control firms, certified applicators, homeowners and golf course operators are encouraged to participate in the Virginia Pesticide Collection Program. The program collects unwanted, outdated or banned pesticides and disposes of them in a safe manner. Since its inception, the Virginia Pesticide

Collection Program has collected and destroyed more than 1.5 million pounds of outdated and unwanted pesticides, protecting public health and eliminating the environmental threat they could have posed.

The Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (VDACS), through

its Office of Pesticide Services (OPS), and in partnership with Virginia Cooperative Extension, provide this service at no charge. The program is funded through pesticide product registration fees collected by OPS.

Following is a list of the 2021 collection sites and schedule. All locations are open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Aug. 23 - Greenline Service Corporation
11417 Tidewater Trail
Fredericksburg, VA 22408

Aug. 24 - Helena Agri-Enterprises
100 Commerce Parkway
Warsaw, VA 22572

Aug. 31 - Hartfield Fire Department
3309 Twigg's Ferry Road
Hartfield, VA 23071

Sept. 1 - Nutrien Ag Solutions
15277 Richmond Tappahannock Hwy.
St. Stephens Church, VA 23148

Sept. 9 - Merrifield Garden Center
12101 Lee Highway
Fairfax, VA 22030

Sept. 10 - James S Long Regional Park.
4603 James Madison Highway
Haymarket, VA 20169

In administering the Pesticide Collection Program, VDACS divides Virginia into five regions. Each year, the department conducts a collection in a different region. Once all five regions have been served, the program starts another cycle. Click here to view a map of future collection localities.

Participants must transport their unwanted pesticides to one of the central collection sites located within the service area. If participants cannot safely container-

ize the unwanted pesticides for transport, VDACS may arrange assistance on a case-by-case basis. ONLY pesticides will be accepted. Pesticide contaminated material (for example, pesticide contaminated fertilizer) will NOT be accepted as part of the collection program. In addition, the program does NOT accept motor oil, paint, fuel, fertilizer or other chemicals.

Participants are asked to complete a pesticide collection registration

form before arrival and return the completed form to jeffrey.rogers@vdacs.virginia.gov or mail to Office of Pesticide Services, VDACS, P.O. Box 1163, Richmond Virginia 23218. The form is available at vdacs.virginia.gov/pesticide-collection.shtml or by contacting the program at (804) 786-3798.

Participants may direct questions to their local Virginia Cooperative Extension agent or to Rogers using the contact information above.

Reversion

from page 1

time to share their input on the agreement.

According to the previously agreed-upon timeline, the commission has set the dates for the public hearing and private deliberations on the reversion process for early September. The hearings will be held in the Martin-Lacy Lecture Hall at New College Institute. Formal hearings will be conducted by the commission during the day on Sept. 7 and 8.

The public can express their views on reversion to the commission from 7-11 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 8.

"The commission expects any people attending those hearings to be masked and you will also be required to comply with social distancing requirements," Monday said. The public will also be able to watch the proceedings remotely.

He added, "it is unlikely that (the commission) would recommend that the reversion not proceed given the fact that all matters of controversy other than the effective date of reversion have been agreed upon by the city and the county."

The commission will issue a report, which is the triggering event for the Chief Justice of Virginia to appoint a three-judge panel to hear the reversion trial. State law requires that the hearing move to the top of the court's docket.

"There's really not a whole lot that's going to occur at that trial," said Monday. "There will be some necessary testimony concerning our population and our financial condition, but the fact that we have already agreed upon all substantive matters for the county, and the county agrees that we meet the criteria for reversion, really the only thing our attorneys will be arguing about is what will be the effective date of reversion."

Pearson also raised the issue of city school system, citing Virginia statute 22.1.25 which reads, "No school division shall be

divided or consolidated without the consent of the school board thereof and the governing body of the county or city affected or, if a town comprises the school division, of the town council."

Monday said the school system is not a necessary part of the reversion process, nor have they been included in other reversions across the Commonwealth.

While the city would like the school board's cooperation, Monday said consent of the schools is not required for the process to move forward.

"Frankly, our school system is going to cease to exist. They will no longer be an entity upon reversion. The reversion statute did not contemplate that a school system is a necessary party to the decision," he added.

The Martinsville City School Board announced Wednesday it will hold a special closed session meeting via Zoom at 6:30 p.m.

on August 31. According to the agenda, the board will discuss and consult with legal counsel and briefings by staff members, attorneys or consultants pertaining to actual or probable litigation, or other specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice.

In other matters, the council:

*Considered a reading of a proclamation acknowledging the importance of COVID vaccinations for the good of the public health.

*Voted to adopt a resolution setting the allocation percentage for personal property tax relief for qualifying vehicles in the City of Martinsville at 42.28 percent for tax year 2021.

*Approved a new management contract for the Martinsville Mustangs baseball team with Next Plan Athletics, LLC, a locally based group. Council member Chad Martin voted "no" on the contract.

CLASSIFIEDS

PUBLISHER'S NOTICE

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

SERVICES

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

HELP WANTED

FERRUM COLLEGE

Ferrum College is accepting applications for the full-time position of Coordinator of Admissions Information Services and Prospect Development to become part of a successful recruitment team. This position will oversee the technology needs of the Office of Admissions by providing technology support for the day-to-day processes for undergraduate and graduate student admissions. Working knowledge of Ellucian Recruit CRM is desired. This position will also assist to ensure the successful implementation of the admissions communications plan to meet new student enrollment goals of the Admissions Office. This position reports to the Dean of Admissions.

Candidates should possess the following qualifications:

Bachelor's Degree required or equivalent combination of education and experience

Working knowledge using Admissions CRM is desired

Prior experience working in a college admissions office is a plus

Excellent technical and communication skills

Positive attitude and ability to work with a team.

Ability to take initiative, work independently, and be flexible.

For this position we offer an excellent compensation and benefits

HELP WANTED

package which includes medical, dental, life, STD/LTD insurances, and a 403(b) retirement plan. To apply for this position, please submit a cover letter of interest and resume with names, addresses and telephone numbers of three references to: resumes@ferrum.edu or Human Resources Department, Ferrum College, P.O. Box 1000, Ferrum, VA 24088. Review of applications will begin immediately and continue until the position is filled. Background check required.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

FERRUM COLLEGE

Ferrum College is accepting applications for the full-time position of Admissions Counselor to become part of a successful recruitment team. Regional travel and extensive follow-up with student applicants through multi-communication channel approach is required. This position reports to the Dean of Admissions.

Candidates should possess the following qualifications:

Bachelor's Degree (re-

HELP WANTED

quired) Effective oral and written communication skills Ability to work with a team

Excellent organizational skills

Computer skills including proficiency in Google's G Suite and Microsoft Office

Valid driver's license and good driving record and/or ability to obtain a driver's license by start date.

For this position we offer an excellent compensation and benefits package which includes medical, dental, life, STD/LTD insurances, and a 403(b) retirement plan.

To apply for this position, please submit a cover letter of interest and resume with names, addresses and telephone numbers of three references to: resumes@ferrum.edu or Human Resources Department, Ferrum College, P.O. Box 1000, Ferrum, VA 24088. Review of applications will begin immediately and continue until the position is filled. Background check required.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



ADVERTISEMENT FOR SNOW REMOVAL EQUIPMENT SERVICES WITH OPERATOR SIGNUP

The Virginia Department of Transportation invites heavy equipment owners to sign up for the rental of their equipment with operators for SNOW & ICE REMOVAL purposes in Martinsville Residency which includes the counties of Henry, Patrick and Carroll during the winter of 2021-2022. Price per hour shall include operators, fuel, tire chains, supplies and required insurance. VDOT will need dump trucks, pickups with plows, motorgraders, backhoes, dozers, track loaders, tractors, rubber tire loaders and farm tractors. All equipment shall be equipped for night work and be in good mechanical condition to ensure a safe and dependable 24/7 operation. VDOT reserves the right to determine acceptability of equipment size and condition for the task. Contractors submitting prices meeting the requirements of the Agreement may be contracted with and may be eligible to receive a mobilization payment. Contractors must submit their application on the electronic M7B bidding site at <https://www.plow4va.com/>. All new and returning Contractors must be active in the Virginia eProcurement Portal (eVA) in order to do business with the Commonwealth of Virginia (<https://eva.virginia.gov>). Applications received by 7:00 PM on Friday September 24, 2021 may be eligible for a mobilization bonus. See the EVA posting for additional information, including contract requirements. Questions can be directed to the Martinsville Residency from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Monday - Friday. Phone: 276-629-2582 Email: SalemDistrictSnow@vdot.virginia.gov EEO/AA Employer

COUNTY OF HENRY REZONING PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

Pursuant to Section 15.2-2204 of the Code of Virginia, a series of public hearings has been scheduled for **September 15, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.** in the Summerlin Meeting Room of the County Administration Building, Kings Mountain Rd, Collinsville, Virginia. Following these public hearings, the Planning Commission will make a recommendation on each application to the Board of Supervisors.

The Henry County Board of Supervisors will conduct public hearings on the following applications on **September 28, 2021 at 6:00 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 input into the possible rezoning of property. Following are the specifics of the public hearings.

Case R-21-14 Mark A. Spangler

The property is located at 94 Bryants Lake Rd, in the Blackberry District. The Tax Map numbers are 13.8/61F,61G,61H,61J,61K. The applicant is requesting the rezoning of approximately 21-acres from Rural Residential District R-R to Agricultural District A-1. The applicant wishes to construct additional accessory buildings on the property.

Case R-21-15 Donna Mellott

The property is located at 3090 Mt Olivet Road, in the Iriswood District. The Tax Map number is 43.5/56. The applicant is requesting the rezoning of approximately 12-acres from Suburban Residential District S-R to Mixed Residential District M-R. The applicant intends to remove the old house from the property and replace it with a double wide manufactured home on a masonry foundation.

Case R-21-16 Equetta Burnette

The property is located at 1285 Bassett Heights Road, in the Reed Creek District. The Tax Map numbers are 15.6(034)000/001,2,3, 1A-3A. The applicant is requesting the rezoning of lots 1,2,3 and 1A-3A from Suburban Residential District S-R to Rural Residential District R-R. The applicant wishes to place a single wide mobile home on the property.

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



PUT US TO WORK FOR YOU

We offer many services and packages.

Print

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

Digital/Online

Our online advertising is gaining in popularity. Our subscribers have access to all our publications for one inexpensive monthly fee (\$250). That means online ads are viewed by subscribers who live both out of town and out of state.

In addition to Henry County Enterprise, which covers Martinsville and Henry County, our other Virginia publications include: The Enterprise (which covers Patrick County/Stuart - including Meadows of Dan and other communities near the Blue Ridge Parkway); Salem Times Register; Fincastle Herald; New Castle Record; News Messenger; News Journal; Vinton Messenger.

Our publications in West Virginia are: Pocahontas Times; Parsons Advocate; Calhoun Chronicle; Clay County Free Press; Shinnston News; Harrison County Journal, and our flagship paper, Mountain Messenger.

Whether in or out of state, most of our coverage area is within a comfortable driving distance to Martinsville and Henry County.

Visit <https://theenterprise.net/advertise/> to view the available sizes/placement of online ads.

By the people, for the people: Music, magic, mud, and more



A reticulated python greeted visitors to the Smith River Fest.



Allen Alderman, chairperson of the Bassett Cruise-In Committee, with his father's 1957 Chevrolet.



The Chairmen of the Board close out Uptown Music Fest.



Corey Williams from Danville takes a break in the hammock garden at Smith River Fest.



From left to right: Danielle Pepler, Kristina Hill, and Renae Slate represent the Center for Pediatric Therapies at Smith River Fest.



The Helgramite Hustle Mud run gets underway at Smith River Fest.

Callie Hietala
Staff writer

Music, mud, motors, and magic were just a few of the things you find if you were looking for entertainment in Martinsville and Henry County last Saturday. Several community-driven events, most of them free, all hosted either by community institutions or volunteer groups, took place all around the area. While each event was its own, unique experience, one common thread tied them all together—a desire to create a vibrant, thriving Martinsville-Henry County for residents and visitors alike.

Smith River Fest

Henry County Parks and Recreation, Visit Martinsville-Henry County, the Smith River Sports Complex, the Boys & Girls Club of the Blue Ridge, the Dan River Basin Association, and the YMCA all came together to present the 14th (or 13th, if you don't count last year) annual Smith River Fest.

Lucky festival-goers were greeted near the festival entrance by a giant reticulated python, a pet of Scott Reeves who, along with Martinsville City Police officer Jayme Clark, of the department's Animal Control Division, talked with the fascinated and fearful alike about proper care and handling of the

snake. A jungle python and monitor lizard also wandered the grounds.

"We want to show people that these are exotic companion animals that you can own in the Commonwealth," said Clark. "They're not gonna harm you. You just have to use proper care."

After grabbing a photo op with the snake, visitors could browse the booths of local merchants like CharmCat LLC and Imagination Lavender Farms; chat with members of area organizations including the Master Naturalists, the Center for Pediatric Therapies, and Fairy Stone State Park; and grab a snow cone, pizza slice, hot dog, or even a giant pork chop sandwich from one of the many food trucks on site.

After a good deal of slipping and sliding at the start line, runners in the ever-popular Helgramite Hustle Mud Run dashed through a racecourse littered with mud pits, creek crossings, and cargo nets, cheered on by friends and family.

Intrepid souls scaled the sides of a rock-climbing wall and friends challenged each other to duels in the water gun battle zone. The demo paddling pool, run by the Dan River Basin Association, was a runaway hit, with children and adults alike coming back again and again to try their hand at kayak-

ing and stand-up paddle boarding. Also popular was magician Joseph Young, who traveled all the way from Big Stone Gap, VA, to perform.

When the sun got too hot, there were plenty of opportunities to cool down. Two hammock gardens were set up in the shade of the trees alongside the river, perfect for a quick nap. Tubes and life jackets were available for anyone who felt like a leisurely float down the river.

"We host the festival simply as a way of celebrating the Smith River and its importance to the history of the area and the lives of the citizens who call this place their home for so many years," said Brandon Martin, Henry County's Public Relations and Community Liaison. "Ultimately, it provides a community-oriented activity for our residents and drives tourism from other areas into Henry County. We are known far and wide for the quality of our natural amenities and the Smith River Fest displays that full range, including our Blueway and trail systems."

Bassett Cruise-In

As the Smith River Fest was winding down for the day, the Bassett Cruise-In was just getting started.

"A bunch of us hometown guys, we just wanted to help the GBAC (the Greater Bassett Area Community,) said Allen Alderman, chairman of the Bassett Cruise-In Committee, as he watched car after car,

polished and glistening in the summer sunlight, arrive in downtown Bassett.

The GBAC is "a group of people that wanted to preserve what they could of Bassett," said Alderman. Their efforts include everything from organizing events throughout the year to mowing the grass along the roadsides.

"Several years ago, I went to the president of the GBAC and I said, 'I want to help you grow Bassett with a cruise-in.'" It took a few years, but the event got off the ground, according to Alderman, who works with a committee of 10 or 12 people who handle everything from finances to logistics.

"I felt like there was something here that I could help with," said Alderman. He found others who felt the same. "You put an idea out there, and you find out other people are thinking about the same thing. So, I think the Lord's got a way of putting people together to make things happen. And lo and behold, here it is. The community is coming together."

By the event's 3 p.m. start time, there were more than 200 cars on the lot, and more coming, from Stuart, Mount Airy, N.C., and even West Virginia.

"The year before last, we had a car from New York," Alderman said. "To have this many people here in this short a time is phenomenal. You don't do that in the cruise-in world. Usually, you do two or three and

it's done."

He credits the success to the amount of effort he and his team put into advertising and organizing the event.

The event is free for everyone to attend, thanks to community sponsorships. The main sponsor is Bassett Funeral Service. Other sponsors include Bryant Radio, radio station B-99.9, and Papa's Pizzeria.

"This little town is coming back. That's what we're all about. We're about community. We're about town. We're about family. We're about togetherness. We just can't stand for our town to be dead," he said.

"This cruise-in is not for me, it's for my children and my grandchildren. I feel like it's something the Lord has called me to do. If it's the Lord's will, then it's going to happen. And it's happening," he added.

Uptown Music Fest

The day ended with the inaugural Uptown Music Fest in front of the Virginia Museum of Natural History in Martinsville. Hundreds of people, lawn chairs and blankets in tow, filled the parking lot to listen (and dance) to music from The McFlies, The Executives Band, and the headlining soul band, the Chairmen of the Board.

The fest is the newest event organized by the Matthew Wayne Wade Foundation; a nonprofit organization created in honor of Matt Wade who unexpectedly passed away in 2010. The foundation is best known

for its annual Wine by the River event held at the Smith River Sports Complex each fall.

While the fest wasn't a free one, it was affordable—only \$10 at the gate, and for a good cause.

"We give all our proceeds to charity," said Tanya Martin, a volunteer with the foundation. "We have given to Henry County Public Schools, we have given to Laurel Park Middle—we bought their AED machines when no one else could. Last year was Project Lifesaver with the" Martinsville Sheriff's Office.

"We try to stick to health and general wellness within the community. Whoever's in need," said Martin.

The MWW Foundation is an entirely volunteer-driven effort. Martin said she comes home from her regular day job in the evenings and gets to work on foundation efforts. "We're not just proud of what we try to do for the community, but we work hard."

They chose to hold their new music festival at VMNH because "we wanted to do something good in the Uptown area for revitalization, just common good. The more events the better. The more traffic Uptown the better," Martin said.

"We're inspired to provide resources to other community partners to bring activity for all citizens of Martinsville and Henry County to enjoy," said Dr. Joe Keiper, executive director of the Virginia Museum of Natural History who donated their facility to the effort.

Enjoy they did. The McFlies started off the party with popular 80s hits like Neil Diamond's "Sweet Caroline," which had people singing across the parking lot. The Executives got folks out of their chairs and on their feet, dancing in the crowd and in front of the stage. When the Chairmen of the Board took the stage at 10 p.m. as a nearly full moon crested the museum roof, the energy in the crowd was electric.

Martin promised the first Uptown Music Fest would not be the last.

"We just want to see good things," she said. "We want to see positive things and everyone collaborating together to make it happen."

REGISTER NOW!
Classes Begin
Aug. 23rd!

Click to learn how to register remotely or email our advisors at advising@patrickhenry.edu

PATRICKHENRY.EDU | 276-638-8777

Let your voice be heard.

bit.ly/harvest-community-survey
bit.ly/harvest-community-survey-es (Español)

The Harvest Foundation is in the process of developing its new strategic plan. We're asking you to voice your opinion and tell us what you think about our priorities.

As a thank you for completing the survey, you'll have the option to enter a drawing for \$500!

NOTE: Members of the staff, Board of Directors, and participants of the strategic planning workgroups at The Harvest Foundation are not eligible to enter the prize drawing. The survey will close on Sunday, Aug. 29th.