

HENRY COUNTY ENTERPRISE

Saturday, October 9, 2021

(USPS-6)

www.henrycountyenterprise.com • \$1.00



Henry County Sheriff Lane Perry requested pay raises for his officers to help with retention efforts and ensure the office can continue providing services to residents.

Scaled back services may result from officer shortages

Callie Hietala
Staff writer

Services provided to residents may be scaled back or discontinued as the number of law enforcement officers in Henry County dwindles.

Over the last year, Henry County Sheriff Lane Perry said his office has lost 25 officers,

including 16 within the past 10-weeks. The majority said they were leaving for better pay, including four who chose to sign on with neighboring agencies.

“We can’t compete with the private sector,” said Perry, “I know our wages will never be that high, but it is particularly bad

See **Shortages** page 7

Legacy of Dry Bridge School celebrated with marker, accomplishments of students



The historic marker for the Dry Bridge School is unveiled. It sits near the corner of East Church Street and Boden Street.

Callie Hietala
Staff writer

Last weekend, a crowd gathered by a busy roadside in Martinsville, near the corner of East Church Street and Boden Street. Next to the gathering was a sign, covered by two American flags.

The crowd was made up of Martinsville City officials, community leaders, and former students of East Martinsville High School. The sign, once unveiled, was a new historical highway marker commemorating a jewel of the Black community during the Jim Crow era—the Dry Bridge School, later known as East Martinsville Grammar School and, finally, East Martinsville Elementary School.

The school was built on Jordan Street in what used to be known as Cherrytown. It served the entire East Martinsville Black community from 1928 until 1968, when it closed as the city desegregated its schools, nearly 15 years after Brown vs. Board of Education struck down the constitutionality of the “separate but equal” doctrine.

Martinsville’s first Dry Bridge Colored School, located on Old Brookdale Road (now Brookdale Street), opened its doors in

1900 and served the community until the 1920s by which time it had fallen into severe disrepair. Despite repeated requests, the Henry County School Board did not provide funding for repairs. The Rev. William F. Geter, of the First Baptist Church of East Martinsville, created the School Improvement League and campaigned in the community to raise money to buy land for a new school.

The league appealed to the Rosenwald Rural School Building Program to help with the funding and construction of the new facility. The program was created by Booker T. Washington, who was born into slavery in Franklin County and later rose to prominence as the founder of the Tuskegee Institute, in partnership with philanthropist Julius Rosenwald, president of Sears Roebuck, as part of an effort to improve public education for Black students in the rural South during segregation.

A survey completed in 2019 by the private, non-profit historic preservation organization Preservation Virginia, identified more than 5,500 Rosenwald schools built across the United States, including three in Martinsville. The

See **Legacy**, page 5

Harvest Foundation, P&HCC promise opportunity and hope to a generation of Martinsville and Henry County students

Callie Hietala
Staff writer

Every current K-12 student in Martinsville and Henry County will have the opportunity to attend Patrick & Henry Community College (P&HCC) for free, thanks to a \$10.3 million, 13-year grant from the Harvest Foundation.

The Student Excellence in Education (SEED) Fund is the “largest investment in the history of Patrick & Henry Community College,” said Greg Hodges, president of P&HCC. “It is an investment in the power of hope for a better future for our community. Starting today, the question of ‘can I afford to go to college’ will never again be asked by a school-age student in Martinsville-Henry County. As of this moment, the financial barrier of attending college has been removed for an entire generation.”

Harvest Foundation President Kate



A kindergarten class at Stanleytown Elementary celebrated while watching the announcement of the SEED program via Zoom. The funding promises each student free tuition at P&HCC if they graduate high school with at least a 2.5 GPA.

Keller added that the program is “a life-changing opportunity for today’s high school graduates.”

The SEED fund, initially established in 2017 as a three-year pilot program, has already seen positive results.

“The first two cohorts of SEED stu-

dents are completing college at a rate that is double the national average for community college students,” said Hodges. SEED students averaged a 65 percent completion rate, compared to

See **SEED**, page 4

Partnership will provide services to youngsters not involved in the court system

Callie Hietala
Staff writer

Piedmont Community Services (PCS) and the ANCHOR (A New

Chance Organization) Commission have partnered on the new program that aims to empower young people to make positive decisions about

substance use before they become involved in the legal system.

“In the past, we’ve only been able to serve juveniles who come through

the Court Service Unit and the courts,” Ricky Walker, ANCHOR’s executive director, said. “And that’s one reason we’re excited about this partnership. It will help us reach kids that we’ve never been able to reach before in the community who aren’t court involved but have an issue with substance use.”

“For a long time, ANCHOR has provided substance use services specifically to children who have been involved with the juvenile justice system or are on probation,” Kelly Koebel, assistant director of Clinical Services at PCS, said. “Piedmont provides robust services to adults with substance use disorders but have not always been very successful in our treatment for adolescents. This was a really great opportunity for us to partner together to see how we could better help.”

See **Partnership**, page 3



The ANCHOR Commission’s Tim Bredamus is a counselor in the Seven Challenges program, which helps young people in the area make wise decisions about their use of substances like drugs and alcohol before they become involved in the court system.



Alissa Hunley, of Piedmont Community Services, is the other half of the Seven Challenges counseling team.



Republican gubernatorial candidate Glenn Youngkin posed for a photo with a throng of supporters who came to his campaign rally in Uptown Martinsville.



Glenn Youngkin visited the Farmers’ Market in Uptown Martinsville last week to share some of the major points of his Day One Gameplan with the crowd of several hundred supporters.

Youngkin rallies local base in advance of November contest

Callie Hietala
Staff writer

Republican gubernatorial candidate Glenn Youngkin will have a busy first day in office if he wins the November election.

During a recent visit to Uptown Farmers’ Market in Martinsville, he shared his vision for Virginia with a crowd of several hundred supporters, including members of the Henry County Board of Supervisors, Martinsville City Council, school board and supervisor candidates, and other local leaders.

“On day one, we’re going to work for you,” Youngkin said and shared some of the highlights of his Day One Gameplan.

A Youngkin administration would eliminate the grocery tax, suspend an

increase in the gas tax for one year, and “stand up for law enforcement, because they stand up for us,” Youngkin said, and added he will cut taxes for Virginians, saving \$1,400 for every family of four during his first year in office.

“What Virginians and Americans have seen is the truth of the progressive Democratic Party,” Youngkin said. “We watched it come out last week when (Democratic nominee) Terry McAuliffe said parents have no role in their kids’ education,” referring to a comment by McAuliffe during the most recent gubernatorial debate. “He said he wants government, bureaucrats, politicians, to raise our children.”

“This is no longer a campaign,” Youngkin said, “it is a movement, and it’s a

movement lead by parents” who do not want the government to stand between them and their children.

“On day one, we’re going to work for our kids,” he said. “We’re going to reestablish expectations of excellence in our schools. Our schools are failing our children.”

During McAuliffe’s first term in office, Youngkin said 88 schools failed to earn accreditation. Virginia ranks 50th in the nation when it comes to standards for reading and math.

“It’s just flat wrong and as a result, our children are performing worse and worse.” Youngkin said, and added that 55 percent of white children, 70 percent of Latino children, and 80 percent of Black children in Virginia cannot pass an eighth-grade math equivalent

test. “This is the legacy that Terry McAuliffe and Ralph Northam have left us.”

“Day one,” Youngkin said, “our schools are going to be open five days a week with

See **Youngkin**, page 6

VISIT
HTTP://WWW.
HENRYCOUNTY
ENTERPRISE.COM
**FOR MORE
UPDATES**



COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

Saturday, Oct. 9

Household Hazardous Waste Day at the Bassett Service Center (2285 Fairystone Park Highway) from 9 a.m. until noon. All residents of Henry County and Martinsville may drop items off that day. The event is not open for commercial business use. In addition to the usual items, residents may also drop off up to four boxes of paper for off-site shredding provided by EMI. No documents larger than 8.5" x 11" will be accepted.

Caring by Sharing will be held at Fort Trial Baptist Church (170 Oak Level Road, Stanleytown) from 10 a.m.-12 p.m. Free clothing, toys, and household items will be available for babies and school-age students.

A Fundraiser Yard Sale will be held at the Fieldale Recreation Center on October 9, November 6, and December 4, from 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Books, blankets, and miscellaneous items for sale. Shoppers will be given a bag they can fill for \$5 (large items excluded) and a Bargain Room features \$1 items. Something for everyone. Masks are REQUIRED inside the building. All COVID precautions will be followed as outlined by the CDC.

Monday, Oct. 11

The Martinsville City School Board will hold its regular monthly meeting at 6 p.m. in the Martinsville City Municipal Building City Council Chambers (55 W. Church Street.)

Tuesday, Oct. 12

Longwood University's Small Business Development Center presents a free Zoom class, Building the Foundation for Your New Business with Lin Hite, Longwood SBDC Regional Director. Some of the most popular reasons to start a business include having a unique business idea, designing a career that has the flexibility to grow with you, working toward financial independence, and investing in yourself. The class will be held from 9-10:30 a.m. For more information or to register, visit sbdclongwood.com.

Thursday, Oct. 14

The Kiwanis Club of Martinsville will host its annual Pancake Day from 7 a.m. until 6:30 p.m. in the Big Chair Parking Lot in Uptown Martinsville. For

the most up-to-date details, visit www.facebook.com/KiwanisMartinsvilleVA.

Saturday, Oct. 16

The Martinsville-Henry County Historical Society hosts its annual Blue Jeans & Bling fundraiser on the plaza of the historic Henry County Courthouse (1 E. Main Street.) Attendees will enjoy a BBQ dinner by Hugo's, music from RagTop, cash bar, and a silent auction. All proceeds benefit the Historical Society. Tickets are \$35 per person or \$250 for a table of 8 and can be purchased through any board member, in person at the Heritage Center and Museum, or by calling (276) 403-5361 or emailing mhhistoricalsociety@gmail.com.

The Bassett Cruise-In will take place in downtown Bassett from 3-7 p.m. See hundreds of classic cars and enjoy great food and live entertainment. Visit bassettcruisein.com for more details.

Tuesday, Oct. 19
Horsepasture District Community Meeting, from 6-7:30 p.m. at the Horsepasture Ruritan Building, Horsepasture District Supervisor Debra Buchanan, County Administrator Tim Hall, Lt. Col. Steve Eanes of the Sheriff's Office, and Lisa Huges, VDOT Resident Engineer will attend. Social distancing will be observed.

Longwood University's Small Business Development Center presents a free Zoom class, Marketing on a Budget. Participants will learn free and low cost ways to market their business and increase sales. Topic will include: getting the most out of social media, using email marketing effectively, and free resources to make your business look great. The class will be held from 6-7 p.m. For more information or to register, visit sbdclongwood.com.

Friday, Oct. 15 through Saturday, Oct. 16

The Blue Ridge Regional Library in Martinsville will host a book sale at the library from 1-5 p.m. Oct. 15 and 9:30 a.m.-2 p.m. Oct. 16.

Friday, Oct. 22

Join Piedmont Arts for an opening reception in honor of the museum's new exhibits, "Carl Chiarenza" on loan from the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, and "Print/Imprint: Asheville Printmakers and Tools of Happiness." Gallery talk at 6:15 pm. Music by Amy Stuart and Ann Nichols. Complimentary wine and light refreshments. Free and open to the public. RSVP required to (276) 632-3221 or PiedmontArts.org.

org by October 19.

Saturday, Oct. 23

7th annual Wine by the River from 2-7 p.m. Come for a good cause, support the community, and enjoy wine, brews, live music, games, artisan vendors, food vendors, and much more! Tickets are \$15 in advance or \$25 at the door. Non-taster tickets are \$10. Advance tickets can be purchased on [Eventbrite](http://Eventbrite.com) or via winebytheriver.com.

The 24th annual Great Goblin Gallop, presented by Henry County Parks & Recreation, starts at 10 a.m. Participants are encouraged to dress up in their favorite costume. Call or stop by the HCPR office to register. Awards will be held after the race. Food/snacks will also be available. Race location and packet pickup location at 746 Indian Trail, Martinsville.

Wednesday, Oct. 27

Longwood University's Small Business Development Center presents a free Zoom class, CO.STARTERS Get Started with Brandon Hennessey, Longwood SBDC Director of Research, Innovation and Entrepreneurship. What if you could spend all your time doing what you love? Or finally stop talking about that idea you've had and start moving toward actually doing it? The CO.STARTERS Get Started Workshop is here to help. Whether just getting started, stuck on a particular issue, or in need of a refresher, this workshop will provide the jumpstart needed to get you moving. This interactive workshop will take place from 9 a.m.-12 p.m. For more information or to register, visit sbdclongwood.com.

Friday, Nov. 5

C-PEG and Martinsville UpTown are hosting First Fridays November 5, and December 3 from 4-8 p.m. at the Uptown Martinsville Farmer's Market. Join in as many of your favorite Oktoberfest vendors sell products the First Friday of October, November, and December. Arts, crafts, food, and more.

Thursday, Nov. 11

Piedmont Arts will host a one-man play, "Brown v. Board of Education: Over 50 Years Later." In 1952, the Supreme Court heard a number of school segregation cases, including Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka, Kansas. It ruled unanimously in 1954 that segregation was unconstitutional, overthrowing Plessy v. Ferguson (1896),

which set the "separate but equal" precedent. In this one-man play, Mike Wiley recounts the effects of the decision on the families who participated in the original court case, the impact of the ruling on school systems at the time and the challenges still being made today. Reception at 6:30 p.m., performance at 7 p.m. Tickets are available at PiedmontArts.org.

Sunday, Nov. 14

The Martinsville-Henry County Historical Society will celebrate its 25th anniversary with "Silver Anniversary of a Silver Lining" at 3 p.m. at the M-H Heritage Center and Museum. Phillip Stone will be the distinguished speaker and proclamations will be presented by the City of Martinsville and Henry County. The program will include music, cake, and a few surprises.

ONGOING

The Fontaine Ruritan Club hosts Bingo every Tuesday at its headquarters, (1903 Joseph Martin Highway, Martinsville). Doors open at 5:30 and games begin at 7. Proceeds support community service awards, scholarships, and other community efforts.

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.

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

New fan experience unveiled at Martinsville Speedway

Martinsville Speedway introduces The Brake Pad, a new exclusive Turn 3 backstretch space, that offers race fans the opportunity to get closer than ever with breathtaking views of the intense short track battles in Turn 3.

The Brake Pad is located on the backstretch of Turn 3 with suite-like amenities in a lounge area with plush seating, drink rails, table space and umbrellas to enjoy the race near the action on the track. Fans can

move around The Brake Pad throughout the race in the top lounge area with amenities and lower grandstand section with drink rails by the track to find their best vantage point to take in all the fierce racing action.

"The Brake Pad will provide race fans with an exclusive experience on the backstretch of Turn 3 that will put them as close to the intense NASCAR action as ever," said Clay Campbell, Martinsville Speedway

President. "We're always looking for ways to further enhance our at-track race experience, so we look forward to welcoming fans to the debut of The Brake Pad for the NASCAR Playoffs." Passes to The Brake Pad

include tickets for Saturday, Oct. 30's doubleheader with the United Rentals 200 NASCAR Camping World Truck Series Playoff race and the Dead On Tools 250 NASCAR Xfinity Series Playoff race and Sunday, Oct. 31's Xfinity 500 NASCAR Cup Series Playoff race that sets the Championship 4 field. It also includes a Pre-Race Experience Pass for Sunday, Racing Electronics scanner for both days, all-inclusive food options, two tickets for beverages, and a cash bar for alcoholic drinks with special pricing. The Brake Pad will exclusively seat up to 120 guests.

The Brake Pad tickets are available for purchase starting today for \$169. To learn more about The Brake Pad, visit www.martinsvillespeedway.com/thebrakepad.

NASCAR Playoff Race Weekend

NASCAR returns this fall as Martinsville Speedway hosts the penultimate races of the NASCAR Cup Series, NASCAR Xfinity Series and NASCAR Camping World Truck Series seasons on Oct. 30-31. On Saturday, Oct. 30, Martinsville will host a doubleheader with the United Rentals 200 NASCAR Camping World Truck Series Playoff race at 1:00 p.m. and the Dead On Tools 250 NASCAR Xfinity Series Playoff race at 6:00 p.m. The NASCAR Cup Series' Championship 4 will be set in the Xfinity 500 on Sunday, Oct. 31 at 2:00 p.m.

NASCAR race tickets are available for purchase via phone at 877-RACE-TIX or online at martinsvillespeedway.com.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

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

- CLUES ACROSS**
- Leg shank
 - A way to recognize
 - "VeggieTales" character
 - Getting out of by cunning
 - Mythological mountain
 - Atomic #18
 - Viscous liquid
 - 2010 Denzel film
 - 12th star in a constellation
 - Made better
 - Pouches
 - Nervous twitch
 - This (Spanish)
 - Tennis legend Bjorn
 - Hand (Spanish)
 - Afrikaans
 - Int'l interpreters organization (abbr.)
 - Treated with kid gloves
 - Leaseholder
 - Frogs, toads, tree toads
 - Popular dance
 - Sailing maneuver: tack & _____
 - Indicates speed of rotation (abbr.)
 - Mark
 - Health insurance
 - Custom clothing brand
 - One who makes suits
 - Execute or perform
 - Degree of pleasantness when tasting
 - Equal to roughly 5.6 bushels
 - Blood group
 - Imaginary line
 - Hopeless
 - Darken
 - Spoke
 - Work units
 - CLUES DOWN
 - A way to fit out
 - Football carries
 - Force out
 - Maintaining equilibrium
 - Sealed with a kiss
 - Type of container
 - Hollywood
 - We
 - Small freshwater ducks
 - Norse personification of old age
 - Says who you are
 - Candidate
 - Sugar found in honey and sweet fruits
 - Defunct language (abbr.)
 - Take too much
 - Iranian province
 - Records electric currents
 - _____ and feathers
 - Beloved Mr. T character
 - More (Spanish)
 - Beverage
 - Promotional material
 - Green vegetable
 - National capital
 - To any further extent
 - Swollen, inflamed lymph node
 - Anger
 - Pound
 - Popular Yugo
 - Salt of acetic acid
 - Millihenry
 - Israeli city ___ Aviv
 - Make wider
 - Drink containing medicine
 - Acknowledging
 - Private, romantic rendezvous
 - Calvary sword
 - Disease of the lungs
 - 2001 Spielberg film
 - Fleshy, watery fruit
 - In one's chambers
 - Set of information (abbr.)
 - Dorm employee
 - Indicates position



ATTENTION CONTRACTORS LANDSCAPERS HOME OWNERS

"Why pay the high retail price for straw when you can buy direct and local from the farm at \$5.25 per bale"

Call 275-694-7477 or 276-252-5102 for your straw needs.

COVID-19 surge predicted, but preventable

Callie Hietala
Staff writer

Recently, the University of Virginia (UVA)'s COVID-19 model predicted a surge in cases for the West Piedmont Health District, which includes Martinsville and Henry County.

According to the model, which is available on the Virginia Department of Health's (VDH) website, the area is predicted to see nearly 600 new COVID-19 cases by October 31. However, the VDH website notes that "models are not crystal balls," and predictions do not have to become realities.

The prediction comes as COVID-19 cases in the area are trending steadily downward, and the number of hospitalizations across both campuses at Sovah Health has remained at 45, the same as last week.

"This data comes from the Biocomplexity (Institute and Initiative) at UVA, and they model based on the number of people in our commu-

nity who are vaccinated as well as other factors," including death rates and hospitalizations, said Nancy Bell, public information officer for the West Piedmont Health District. "Let's not let the model prevail."

Currently, Martinsville and Henry County are about 50/50 in terms of vaccinated versus unvaccinated population. "If we could get to 75 percent (vaccination rate) by the end of this month, we would miss this," she said. "This curve would not look like it looks right now."

Looking at this model, "you're standing looking at the ocean and the wave looks really big on the horizon, but that doesn't mean it has to reach us," Bell said, and reiterated that the COVID-19 vaccines are free, readily available, and safe. "Let's turn back the tide on this prediction from UVA."

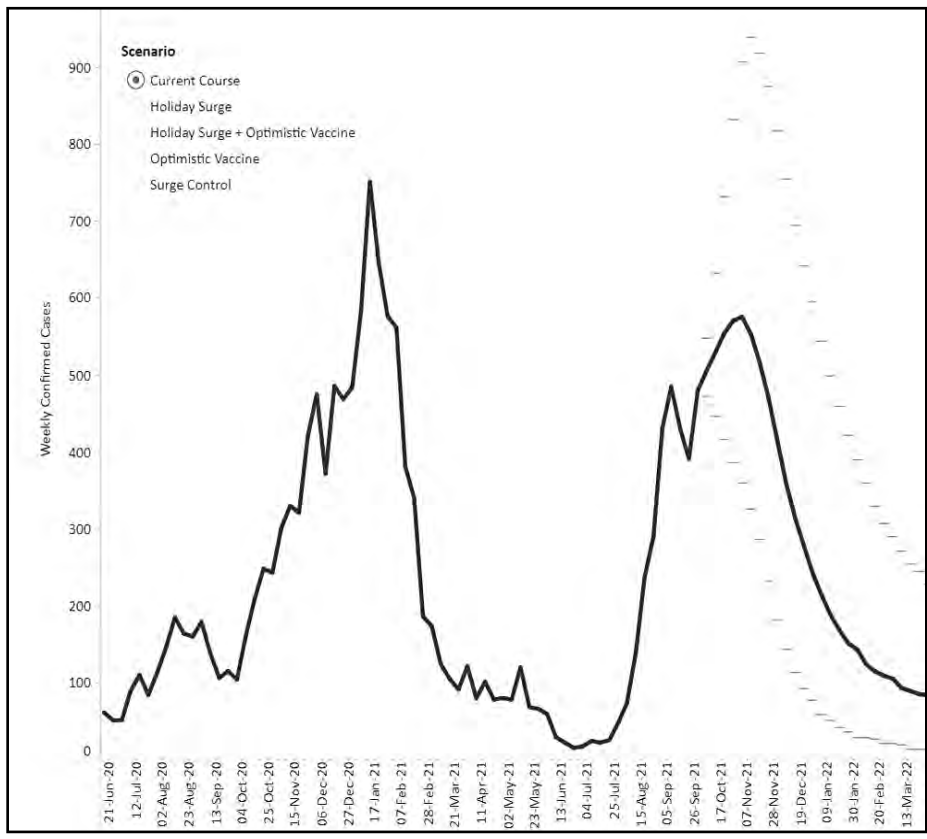
She also encouraged residents to get a flu shot, which can be given at the same time as a COVID-19 vaccine.

Flu could be a compli-

cating factor in the continued pandemic this fall, she said, since both flu and COVID-19 attack the body's immune system. "If you have one and get the other, it could be fatal or at least very serious."

Dr. Sheranda Gunn-Nolan, Chief Medical Officer for Sovah Health, encouraged mask wearing in public areas regardless of vaccination status. While vaccinated people are largely protected from the effects of COVID-19, it is still possible for them to transmit the virus to unvaccinated people.

"It is devastating to see what conspiracy theories (surrounding COVID-19) can do," Gunn-Nolan said, and added that healthcare workers routinely now ask patients about vaccine status when obtaining regular patient history. The question is asked of any patient, whether admitted for COVID-19 or something as simple as a foot injury. Patients have become fearful, upset, and at times even belligerent when the question



The University of Virginia's COVID-19 prediction model suggests that the West Piedmont Health District could see a surge of nearly 600 new cases by October 31.

is posed to them.

Gunn-Nolan said that care will not be withheld from any patient, regardless of their vaccination status. "We care for all of our patients the

same," she said, "but it is imperative we know that information so we can understand risk."

To find a local COVID-19 vaccination site, visit vaccine.gov. To

learn more about the status of COVID-19 in the state and in our communities or to view the latest UVA COVID-19 prediction model, visit vdh.virginia.gov.

Grant will enable P&HCC expand healthcare facilities

The Virginia Tobacco Region Revitalization Commission approved a grant for more than \$210,000, which will enable Patrick & Henry Community College (P&HCC) to transform existing instructional space into a new healthcare training facility and to expand its health career training offerings.

With this funding and a newly renovated space, not only will the current health-

care programs' capacity expand, but P&HCC also plans to add Nurse Aide as a dual enrollment training option for local high school students.

Locally, demand for nurses is increasing, but P&HCC's health care programs are already filled to maximum capacity. The proposed expansions will allow the college to train more students and, ultimately, help meet the region's vital need.

With an additional lab and instructor, P&HCC will also be able to offer a wider variety of class times for students whose schedules may prevent them from attending class during traditional hours.

The college will use the grant funds to renovate a room in Philpott Hall, create a Healthcare Skills Lab, and hire an additional Nurse Aide/Clinical/Laboratory

Instructor. With a new lab and a new instructor, the college will increase the capacity of existing healthcare programs which include Nursing, Practical Nursing, Nurse Aide, Phlebotomy, and Certified Clinical Medical Assistant.

Once the renovation and the skills lab addition are complete, the college will begin offering Nurse Aide as a dual enrollment training option for local high

school students.

The college expects to have the renovations completed and the new faculty hired by January 2022 and to begin the dual enrollment program by August 2023.

Those interested in healthcare classes at P&HCC may contact Amy Webster, PHCC's Director of Nursing and Allied Health at awebster@patrickhenry.edu; 276-656-0248.

Annual change in SNAP benefits began Oct. 1

Beginning Oct. 1, all Virginia Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) participants will see an increase in their benefits due to the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)'s recent update to the Thrifty Food Plan methodology, the first since 1975. SNAP benefits

are based on the Thrifty Food Plan to estimate the cost of groceries needed to provide a healthy diet for a family of four.

"No one in Virginia should ever go hungry. This long overdue change to the Thrifty Food Plan means that over 760,000 Virginians can better afford nutri-

tious meals, said VDSS Commissioner S. Duke Storen. "Food insecurity has spiked to frightening levels during the pandemic, and every opportunity to provide meals and more financial resources to low-income families must be taken. USDA has done their part by increasing SNAP benefits, and

now we must all work together to make sure every eligible household participates in SNAP and that we implement all the strategies in the Commonwealth's Roadmap to End Hunger."

Beginning Oct. 1 through Sept. 30, 2022, the new income limits are:

Household Size	Maximum Gross Monthly Income
1	\$2,147
2	\$2,904
3	\$3,660
4	\$4,147
5	\$5,147
6	\$5,930
7	\$6,687
8	\$7,444
each additional member	\$757

Partnership

from page 1

She said the organization has received many comments over the years from parents who have children with substance use issues who have not yet been charged with a crime. "Our goal is that we reach more kids who need help before they get to that legal involvement."

"ANCHOR was already providing really quality services," she said. The partnership between ANCHOR and PCS allows them to bill insurance or Medicaid for the program which, she says, makes the program available to more people. However, those lacking insurance or Medicaid should not hesitate to reach out to take advantage of the program. Koebel assures the public that "we will not turn anyone away because they don't have the ability to pay."

The program was developed with a diverse population in different settings, with people of different ethnicities and from different walks of life. It has been effective with a broad spectrum of clients, according to Tim Bredamus, a counsellor at ANCHOR. He and Alissa Hunley from Piedmont Community Services are the two counsellors who work with the program.

"The Seven Challenges were developed by looking at what actually connects with youth," he said. "When do they actually make changes?" He said the counsellors meet young people "where they are, and we don't come in telling them how to live their

life."

The basis for the program is "walking the juvenile through the decision-making process," said Walker.

Bredamus added that, through the program, young people are encouraged to challenge themselves to think critically and wisely about decisions they are making.

The first step in the process is to be open and honest about why they use substances.

Step two is identifying what they like about the substances of choice, "We want them to be aware of what they're going to lose (if they stop using)," Bredamus said.

The third step is to examine the substance use and identify the harms or potential harms that could come from continued use.

Step four is examining their responsibility as well as the responsibility of others, for their problems. This includes exploring trauma issues and other life events clients may need to recover or heal from and learning that "you have the power to take ownership of your life," said Bredamus.

The fifth step is helping clients think about the direction they seem to be headed versus where they want to accomplish and "make good, clear, wise decisions about where you want to go," he said.

Step six is making thoughtful decisions about their lives and their substance use.

The final step focuses on

follow-through, keeping to the decisions and using the tools acquired in the previous steps.

Bredamus said the program is not a one-size-fits-all solution. Rather, it can be tailored based on the needs and experiences of each individual young person.

"In a lot of our groups," he said, "less than half of what we talk about are substances." Oftentimes, though it may seem to parents that substance use itself is the primary issue, more often than not, there are deeper issues that lead to young people using, a need that is not being fulfilled in safer, healthier ways.

Bredamus said the program helps youngsters understand the underlying reasons and fosters self-awareness while empowering participants to use strategies and skills that offer a choice - options to meet the needs

that substance use once met. He sees the role of the counsellor in this program as a problem-solving partner.

"We're not taking the role of another policing agency," Bredamus said, emphasizing that the program does not perform drug testing on its participants. To really help someone change, he said, "you have to really allow them to be known, to know them, and to help them know themselves."

The group setting plays a key role in creating a safe environment for self-examination. In the groups he has worked with, Bredamus said participants and counsellors alike treat each other with dignity and respect. The group is a place where the young people are valued for who they are.

"It may be the only place in their whole life where they can come and just be themselves and be accepted," he

said.

The Seven Challenges program is open to youngsters ages 12-19 in the area with substance use issues who are not court-involved. Program counsellors hold open group meetings at the ANCHOR Commission Counseling Center (313 East Market Street, Martinsville) every Monday and Wednesday from 4-7 p.m., though the length of the program varies based on individual need.

To access the program, begin with the Same Day Assessment at PCS and initiate services with a Seven Challenges counsellor. To contact PCS, call (276) 632-7128. Program counsellors also may be contacted. Hunley can be reached at (276) 340-8667, (276) 632-1818 or at ahunley@piedmontcsb.org. Bredamus can be contacted at (276) 340-8578 or at tim.bredamus@anchor-services.org.



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



PRIMLAND

A luxury resort in the Blue Ridge Mountains; is seeking a

Full-Time Night Auditor

Weekends required. Qualified applicants should send resume to pnester@primland.com or apply at www.aubergeresorts.com/careers

Primland is an E/O/E

OPINION

The SEED Fund and useless cynicism

On Sept. 30, The Harvest Foundation announced it will be offering a \$10.3 million grant to extend the SEED Fund, which allows students in Martinsville and Henry County — public, private, and home-schooled alike — to attend Patrick and Henry Community College free of charge.

The cost of tuition is covered. The cost of textbooks is covered. And this expansion will provide for students that are currently in kindergarten all the way up to high school seniors.

I have long maintained that the SEED Fund, which was first introduced in 2017 as a trial program, is one of our community's most remarkable achievements. It allows students to attend our local community college regardless of their financial status. It advertises us to the rest of the state as a community that cares about education. It is surely a wonderful tool for the folks at the Economic Development Corporation when they're try-

ing to convince businesses to locate to Martinsville and Henry County.

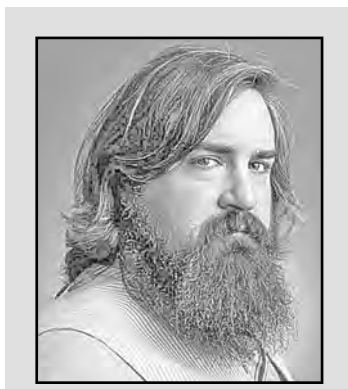
Yes, the Harvest Foundation deserves all the credit in the world for the SEED Fund. It's a wonderful, forward-thinking program that should be celebrated across the board.

Or so you would think.

When I saw the news articles about the SEED Fund hit social media, I made the mistake of reading the comments. And oh, my friends, what comments they were.

My favorite comment was an older individual suggesting that Harvest's money would be better spent by giving a lump sum to every senior in town instead of investing in the youth. It's hard to take that kind of comment seriously, of course, and in any case, I have a feeling that if you were to give an individual like that a solid gold ingot, they would probably complain that it's too heavy.

But most of the critical comments — and there were a depressing number of them —



By Ben R. Williams

focused on the idea that “nothing is free.”

These folks posited that no one gives you a bunch of money for college without a sinister ulterior motive, and that the money was surely coming straight from the pockets of taxpayers, and also something something Dumbocrats something.

I assume these folks have never heard of “scholarships” before, just as I also assume they have never received any. I real-

ize that joke may seem mean-spirited, but that's because it is and I don't care.

The money for the SEED Fund does not come from taxpayer wallets. The Harvest Foundation was established when the Memorial Hospital was sold in 2002 and all of Harvest's programs are funded through the interest generated by that nest egg. This is literally as close to free money as you can get, and it's going to a profoundly worthy cause.

Over the years, I've largely become inured to hateful, ignorant comments on Facebook. The negative comments about the SEED Fund, however, really stuck in my craw.

There is a sentiment that I have heard in Martinsville and Henry County again and again over the years, a feeling that we don't deserve to have nice things. To many, every piece of generosity comes with strings attached, and every altruistic act has a sinister ulterior motive.

When you consider the

economic devastation that Henry County faced a couple of decades ago, I can see how many people may have adopted a hard, cynical worldview to shield themselves from disappointment. I can understand it.

But man, I'm tired of it.

We're allowed to have nice things in Henry County and Martinsville. It's possible for a charitable organization to do something kind with no expectation of a return. Not everything is funded by taxpayer dollars. And most importantly, in the name of all things holy, not everything is about team politics.

I'll be the first to admit that there's plenty to be cynical about in modern society. But walking through life viewing everything through a lens of cynicism is lazy and reductive.

But you know what isn't lazy and reductive? Figuring out a way to offer college scholarships to a generation of young people in Martinsville and Henry County.

I offer my sincere thanks and appreciation to the folks at the Harvest Foundation for doing something beautiful for our community.

Democrats Target Natural Gas

Morgan Griffith
9th District U.S. Rep.

Natural gas is a core fuel for the modern world. It is used to heat homes, power the electric grid, and make manufactured products, including plastics.

The United States has enjoyed a boom in natural gas for more than a decade. Advances in drilling technology and energy-friendly Trump Administration policies expanded the supply and drove prices down. Our country became a leading supplier of the fuel around the world.

Recent months have presented some ominous indicators, however, with prices rising and shortages increasing. A September 19 Wall Street Journal article explained:

Natural-gas prices have surged, prompting worries about winter shortages and forecasts for the most expensive fuel since frackers flooded the market

more than a decade ago.

The supply deficit is particularly acute in Europe, where inventories are thin thanks to hot weather, lackluster wind-power generation and lower imports from Russia. Goldman Sachs Group Inc. analyst Samantha Dart said that stockpiles in northwestern Europe have recently been about 24% below average.

The United States so far has been insulated from these price shocks due to our country's robust production. But some of the culprits for higher prices in Europe resulted either from the policies of President Biden and congressional Democrats or policies they would like to pursue domestically.

Ironically, if these trends continue and gas prices remain high, the Biden Administration will have restored coal as the country's lowest-cost fuel source.

Much of Europe

depends on Russia for gas supplies, giving Russia leverage on the international stage. It has weaponized its dominant position in the gas market before against other countries such as Ukraine. The Trump Administration realized this fact, which is why it staunchly promoted American gas exports and fought against the completion of the Russian Nord Stream 2 natural gas pipeline in Europe.

The Biden Administration, in contrast, dropped its opposition to Nord Stream 2. The pipeline's completion allows Russia to consolidate its dominance of the gas market in Europe. The reduced imports from Russia now contributing to Europe's gas crisis indicate the dire consequences that can result from the administration's failure to lead.

The “lackluster wind-power generation” described by the Wall

Street Journal could also be a fact of life here should Democrats get their way. Despite the inadequacies of wind and solar power, the energy agenda of President Biden would favor them while discouraging more resilient and affordable power sources such as natural gas, coal, and nuclear.

Included in the Democrat \$3.5 trillion reconciliation bill is \$150 billion for a Clean Electricity Performance Program, a backdoor way to set national energy standards. The program works by providing money to utilities that meet the bill's aggressive thresholds for incorporating renewable power sources into their energy mix year after year until 2030.

Among the problems with the program is that it would remake the electrical grid faster than the grid can realistically be built to handle the renewables. A larger percentage of power

would be comprised of wind and solar, intermittent sources that cannot always be relied upon. When they fail, other fuel sources such as natural gas or coal would be deployed to fill the gap, potentially increasing the price of energy across the board.

In addition to this poorly conceived and unrealistic program, the reconciliation bill pours salt in the wound by including a tax on — you guessed it — natural gas. Considering the many uses of natural gas, this tax would surely raise costs. Energy bills alone would increase from \$85 to \$242 per year, according to the American Gas Association, at a time when higher inflation is already eating away at family budgets. Increased home energy bills would accompany the soaring gasoline prices you pay when fueling your car at the pump.

These provisions threaten job creation and eco-

nomics growth while providing little benefit to the environment. I opposed them when they came before the Energy and Commerce Committee in September, and I will continue to stand up against them as long as Democrats continue to pursue them.

Unfortunately, there is little reason to think the Democrats will back away from this approach. Since taking office in January, the Biden Administration has made it harder for the American energy sector by actions such as suspending new oil and gas leasing on federal lands, ending the Keystone XL pipeline, and rejoining the Paris climate agreement.

If this agenda is pursued, it will bring to a close the era of American energy dominance, an era that benefited our citizens every day through lower fuel costs and new jobs.

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

SEED from page 1

34 percent for other P&HCC students and 33 percent statewide.

Keller said that the 2017 funding helped prove that “for students, the desire to attend college is there, they just need the reassurance that it is possible and within their reach.”

“In the last four years,” Hodges said, “we've had over 800 students in the SEED program.” That averages to about 200 students per semester who take advantage of the funding. “We have the highest penetration rate of any community college in Virginia,” he said, explaining that, while other institutions may have larger numbers of students, P&HCC has the highest percentage of students enrolled in its college programs, whether through dual enrollment or through SEED.

Bill Kirby, chairman of the Harvest Foundation Board, said that, growing up in his household, he didn't even realize that going to college was not an option. A significant number of children in the community do not have that same attitude, he said.

“They are told, or they infer from those around them, that college is not an option. We want those experiences to change,” he said.

Dr. Zebedee Talley, superintendent of Martinsville City Public Schools, the SEED program will put “all of our young people on an equal playing field... Education has always been the great equalizer and this program gives all young people in Martinsville and Henry County the opportunity to be educated” and improve their families' status.

“When you look back at patterns, you'll find that those students who tend to become better educated enhance the quality of life overall for their families,” he added.

Not only will the program help its students improve their quality of life later, but it is already incentivizing students to perform better in school, according to Assistant Superintendent of Instruction for Martinsville City

Public Schools Angilee Downing.

“We have the highest on-time graduation rate in our region,” she said. A big factor in that statistic is students knowing they have an opportunity provided by the SEED program and a goal to work towards, which greatly impacts students' mindset about graduation. “My sixth graders know today that they can go to college, that it's there for them.”

Additionally, Hodges said the minimum grade point average (GPA) requirement for students to qualify for the funding “becomes an absolute incentive” for improved academic performance in the classroom. “Not a semester goes by that we don't have phone calls from parents, grandparents, and students wanting to know what they have to earn in a given semester to get that 2.5 GPA” to qualify for the funding.

SEED has already played a role in boosting the economy of the Martinsville-Henry County community. “There's not an economic development pitch that doesn't include the SEED program,” Hodges said. Many of the pitches include a tour of the college's Manufacturing, Engineering & Technology (MET) Complex. During those tours, “we always include SEED,” Hodges said.

Executives at the German sink manufacturing company SCHOCK GmbH, which announced that it was investing \$85 million and creating 355 new jobs in the area to open its first U.S. manufacturing operation at the Patriot Centre in Martinsville, were told about the program and the opportunities it could provide for the children of families they employed.

“By their own admission, that was incredibly attractive,” Hodges said.

Mark Heath, president and CEO of the Martinsville-Henry County Economic Development Corp. (EDC), echoed those sentiments.

“We've been promoting the SEED program for several years now,” he said.

“It has been and will continue to be an important part of the overall training package,” particularly as employers are competing for a dwindling labor pool. He added that the program could be a boon to the EDC's Martinsville Made Initiative, which entices people to move to the area for work.

“If you tell someone, ‘if you move here and your kids go to school here, they can get two free years of community college,’ that's a powerful benefit,” he said.

The SEED Fund announcement was made on the campus of P&HCC with city, county, and school officials attending. Kindergarten students from the Carlisle School, Martinsville, and Henry County, who will now be able to benefit from the funding, watched the announcement via Zoom, all wearing SEED T-shirts.

To qualify for the SEED Fund, a high school graduate must have a minimum grade point average (GPA) of 2.5, be a resident of Martinsville-Henry County and have in-state residency status at the time of the award. SEED students must file a FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) each year, and complete eight hours of community service before July 31 for each year of participation.

Students are eligible immediately following graduation from high school, completing a GED program (high-school age population only), or a homeschool program. Once an application to the fall semester at P&HCC is completed, an application to the SEED Fund must be completed on time.

“To me, hope means giving our children a brighter tomorrow,” Kirby said. “SEED gives our children hope. They will know that the future they want is possible and attainable and they will know that college is 100 percent an option for them.”

To find out more about the SEED Fund, visit www.patrickhenry.edu/seed.

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

NCI staff grows with eight new members

The New College Institute (NCI) announced new staff members that were hired over the past few months, including Christina Easley, Clifford House, Evan Kissel, Erica McDaniel, Maggie Omwenga, Kim Phillips, Karol Quezada, and Dr. Ken Russell have joined the NCI team, each bringing unique skills and expertise.

Easley has worked in Customer Service for more than 20 years and has earned certificates in Phlebotomy, E.K.G., Med Aide, and C.N.A. Easley provides receptionist and customer services for NCI.

House serves as Quality Assurance Instructor for NCI's Advanced Manufacturing. Clifford has worked in the industrial field since 2005 as a welder, metal fabricator, and CNC operator, setter, and programmer. House brings more than ten years of experience in the North Carolina Community College system as an instructor for industrial, manufacturing, and machining and is a MT1, CPT, and OSHA certified trainer.

"I came to NCI looking to expand on my own skill sets and help to build the course offerings here at NCI," House said. "I really like the idea of NCI's freedom to come up with classes that prepares people to

go into careers that don't have the time to wait on traditional education paths."

Kissel is NCI's Advanced Manufacturing Trainer/Instructor. Kissel previously served in the United States Marine Corps as an Electrical Engineer Technician and attended Strayer University where he majored in Information Technology.

"I am excited to be working for NCI in renewable wind technology. I look forward to advancing the NCI curriculum and propelling the commonwealth as a leader in wind energy training." Kissel will serve as NCI's primary Global Wind Organization (GWO) trainer and Veterans Services Officer.

McDaniel joined the NCI staff in December of 2020. As Event & Administrative Program Coordinator, she is the point of contact for reserving and scheduling all classrooms and Lecture Hall spaces at NCI. She also serves as coordinator and facilitator for all NCI events, including the LIFE Learning is ForEver Program. Additionally, McDaniel assists with and supports marketing efforts and coordinates the customer service receptionists. She is a 2013 graduate of The University of North Carolina at Charlotte

with a BA in Communications/Public Relations and minor in Journalism. She comes to NCI with experience in event planning, communications and supervision.

"I love what NCI is doing for the community. Providing such a wide variety of educational opportunities to this community is much needed, and I am proud to be a part of that. Event planning is also something that I enjoy, so being able to do that as part of my job has also been exciting," she said.

Omwenga is NCI's new Chief Program Officer. She is a cross-functional leader and educator with more than 15 years of higher education administration. Omwenga has served in numerous capacities and diverse institutions, including community colleges, universities, nonprofits, and corporations. Omwenga holds a Master of Education in Instructional Technology and a Bachelor of Science in Media Communications and Technology.

"I am confident that my experience, education, background, and lessons learned, empower me with the essential skills needed to serve effectively in complex and diverse multicultural and multigenerational settings. Thus, build upon the

excellent work our dynamic NCI team is already doing to move NCI's mission forward," Omwenga said.

Phillips joins NCI as Public Relations Specialist after studying at Christopher Newport University and a career in Human Resources, Marketing, and as a small business owner. Phillips maintains the website and social media content for NCI and provides support for marketing strategies. Her human resources experience gives her a passion for strong workforce development programs.

"I am excited to be able to serve NCI students, staff, and programs, and hope to make a difference with NCI's outreach to the surrounding communities," she said.

Quezada is one of NCI's part-time Customer Service Receptionists. She has nine years of experience in customer service. Quezada is bilingual, a certified paralegal and received her certification in home remodeling. She is currently taking online classes to obtain her bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice to achieve her ultimate goal of becoming a juvenile probation officer.

Russell, a respected and award-winning servant leader, technologist, coach, and inno-

vation amplifier, was hired in August as NCI's Chief Information Officer. A technology investor and pioneer, he developed early Intranet systems for large banks which led to his participation in developing one of the first successful Internet-based training platforms. He was a valued voice and key influencer in the development of the North Carolina Research Campus, leading the technology development (as CIO) for the renowned Murdock Research Institute (DHMRI). Dr. Russell has held executive roles at Duke Energy, Bank of America, Cisco, and Curran Biotech. Additional academic/executive/board roles at Wichita State University, Pfeiffer University, and the University of Houston.

"One of the best ways to make a difference is to start asking the question, 'what if?' We are uniquely positioned to help learners ask that question and discover meaningful pathways to their unique lifelong learning plan. I look forward to all that is ahead for NCI: the programs, the people, and the possibilities. Technology is an enabler for all we do at NCI. More than maintaining systems and software, technology helps develop and accelerate innovation," Russell said.

Legacy

from page 1

Grassy Creek School, on Rosenwall Drive, and the Henry County Training School, on the corner of 2nd and Fayette streets, have both been demolished, but the third, the Dry Bridge School, still stands on Jordan Street.

Rosenwald didn't want to just give those 5,000 schools to the people, said Imogene Hodge Draper, a former student of East Martinsville who spent years doing research and leading the effort to place the historic marker.

"He said, 'I will join hands with you, and you must raise money in the community, and we'll do this together,'" she said.

With the money and plans provided by the program, a four-room brick school was built. Draper recalled the beautiful long windows that took advantage of the natural light.

"It was really beautiful to go to school every day and sit in that building," she recalled. Ms. Gilmer, the first-grade teacher, "was forever making it prettier and prettier. We had such pride in that school."

Draper's memories of growing up in a segregated Martinsville are mostly of the community and how adults and other authority figures empowered young people.

"We grew up in families

that refused to allow us to even consider the concept of inferiority... we were always taught to believe that we could make a difference, make a change," she said.

The teachers and staff at East Martinsville "sabotaged any systemic effort to keep us down or keep us back" and were universally admired by parents, students, and community members. "We thought they were marvelous people," she said.

The successes of the former students at the school are a testament to the values learned during their time there.

Bishop Joe Gravely, the keynote speaker during the unveiling ceremony, became the first Black male nurse at Memorial Hospital in 1975, and then became the first male nursing instructor in Virginia, teaching for nearly 30 years at what is now Patrick & Henry Community College.

Leon Tyler Hairston earned an undergraduate degree in history and political science from Virginia State University (formerly College), then went on to earn two master's degrees, one in History and one in Education Administration and Supervision from the University of Virginia and Virginia State University. He

taught thousands of students over the course of his career and served as principal of several schools.

Oris Carter Cross received her Ph.D. from Ohio State University and taught both in public schools and universities, including the University of California, Otterbein College, and her alma mater. She published her autobiography, "The Lord Laid His Hands on Me," in 2011.

Dr. James "Dooney" Hairston spent four years in the Army before earning his Ph.D. from the University of Northern Colorado. He served as president of Allen University, a historically Black university in Columbia, South Carolina before taking a job as a professor in South Carolina State University's School of Business.

Carlton Stockton attended graduate school at Clark Atlanta, Columbia, and Harvard. His career accomplishments include serving as Vice President for Public Policy at the communications company MCI and his inclusion in "Who's Who Among African Americans" in 1998.

Other former students became college deans, playwrights, executives, and lawyers, and activists. One, Bill Geter, even marched in Selma, Alabama on Black



Speakers at the unveiling ceremony Saturday included (from left): Bishop Joe Gravely, Jr., a student of East Martinsville Elementary School; Renee Brown, principal of Albert Harris Elementary School and the great-granddaughter of the Rev. William F. Geter; Rev. Ruben H. Martin, Jr., a former student of East Martinsville Elementary; Karice Luck-Brimmer, a member of the Virginia Board of Historic Resources; Rev. Charles Whitfield; Imogene Hodge Draper, a former East Martinsville student and sponsor of the historic marker; Donna Dillard, chairman of the Martinsville City School Board; and Mayor Kathy Lawson.

Sunday.

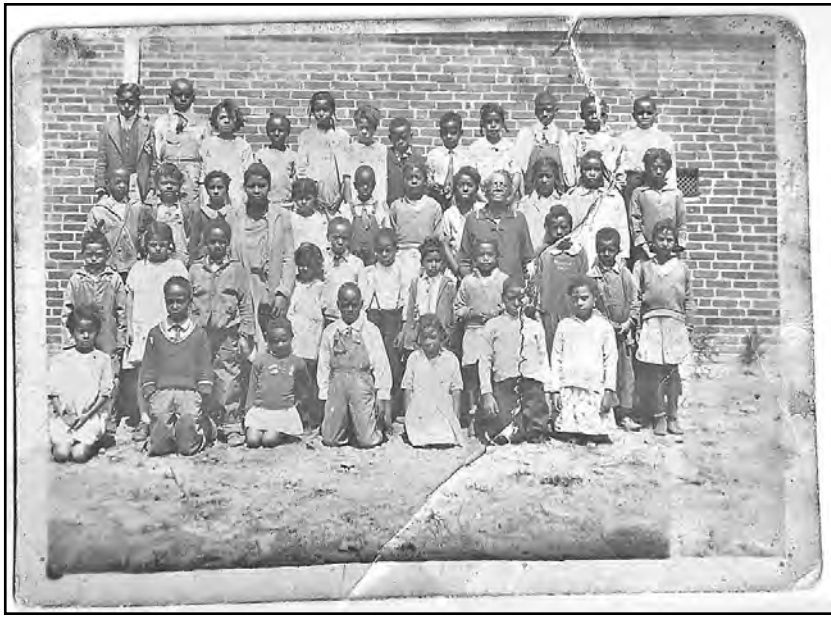
Draper has been a tireless force on her quest to preserve the memory of the school. She spent years conducting research, collecting news articles, obituaries, and photographs in a thick, three-ring binder, a tome full of proud legacies of her fellow graduates.

She, too, pursued a career in education. After earning her master's in education

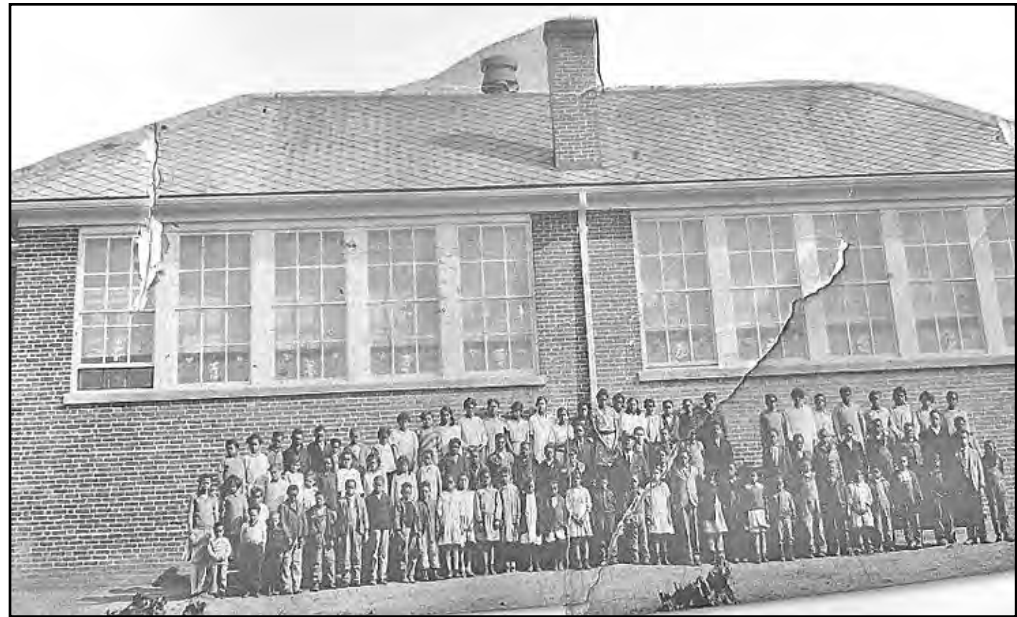
from Duke University and another in English from the University of Richmond, she taught in Richmond schools and at Virginia Commonwealth University. She served as the Director of the Literacy Incentive Program for the State Department of Corrections, working with Gov. Gerald Baliles.

She attributed those accomplishments and more

to the support and encouragement from her early years in Martinsville and the days she sat in the classrooms of East Martinsville Elementary, formerly the Dry Bridge School, the sun shining through the long windows, learning from those whose legacy and dedication to education is now enshrined in a historical marker, unveiled last Saturday beneath a clear, blue autumn sky.



A class of East Martinsville Elementary students in the 1930s. (From the collection of Imogene Hodge Draper, courtesy of Mary Hailey Lampkin.)



East Martinsville Elementary students in 1939. (From the collection of Imogene Hodge Draper, courtesy of Mary Hailey Lampkin.)

Change coming to some area codes



Mandatory 10-digit dialing (area code + phone number) will begin October 24 in Virginia area codes 804 and 276.

The dialing changes are needed to accommodate the new three-digit dialing number - 988 - for the toll-free National Suicide Prevention Lifeline (NSPL), a critical emergency resource that connects Americans in crisis to suicide prevention and mental health counselors. It can currently be reached any

time day or night at 1-800-273-8255 (1-800-273-TALK). Even easier starting July 16, 2022, when a three-digit number - 988 - begins operation. The new number was approved by the Federal Communications Commission last year.

During and after the transition to 988, the NSPL will continue to be available at the longer phone number, 1-800-273-8255, as well. Other three-digit

dialing services such as 211, 711, 811, and 911 will not be affected. Telephone numbers, area code numbers, coverage areas and local call boundaries will remain the same.

For more information about phone service changes resulting from the NSPL's upcoming 988 number, visit the FCC website at fcc.gov/suicide-prevention-hotline or the SCC website at https://www.pcc.virginia.gov/pages/988-Preparation.

CROSSWORD ANSWERS

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

OBITUARIES

Donnell DeAngelo Morrison

Donnell DeAngelo Morrison, 44, of Martinsville, VA passed away on Sunday, October 3, 2021. He was born on October 21, 1976, to the late Vivian Martin Morrison and Herbert Taylor. In addition to his parents, he is preceded in death by his sister, Cynthia Draper, and his brother, Carl Morrison.



of Martinsville; and his special friend, Katie Stuart of Martinsville, VA.

A graveside service was held on Thursday, October 7, 2021, at Martin Family Cemetery in Cascade, VA with Pastor Marvin Slade officiating.

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

Mrs. Madeline Gilley Adams

Mrs. Madeline Gilley Adams, age 92, of Patrick Springs, went to be with her Lord and Savior on Sunday, October 3, 2021, at her home. She was born in Henry County on January 24, 1929, to the late Harbour Gilley and Alice Spencer Gilley. She was married to the love of her life, the late Barney Lee Adams for 72 years. In addition to her parents and her beloved husband, she was preceded in death by two sisters, Pauline Gilley Shelton, Marie Gilley; and two brothers, John Albert Gilley, and an infant brother.



A. Fulcher (Neil), three sons and daughters-in-law, Jim L. Adams (Teresa), Jerry R. Adams (Wanda), B. Dean Adams (Debbie); eight grandchildren; 14 great-grandchildren; two great-great-grandchildren; and two sisters, Myrtle Wright, and Dollie McNabb.

A graveside service for Mrs. Adams was held on Tuesday, October 5, 2021, in the Pleasant View Baptist Church Cemetery, with Rev. Rick Anderson officiating.

Memorial donations may be made to Mount Herman Church of the Brethren Cemetery Fund, 144 Mount Herman Road, Bassett, VA 24055 or Pleasant View Baptist Church Elevator Fund, 4432 Pleasant View Drive, Patrick Springs, VA 24133.

Moody Funeral Home in Stuart is honored to be serving the Adams family, and online condolences may be sent by visiting www.moodyfuneralservices.com.

The family of Mrs. Adams would like to extend a special thanks to Dr. Ben Lewis and his staff, Mountain Valley Hospice, and caregivers at Burwell Private Care.

John Randolph Prillaman, Sr.

John Randolph Prillaman, Sr., 95, of Penhook, VA passed away on Wednesday, September 29, 2021, at his residence. He was born on July 7, 1926, in Callaway, VA to the late Herbert Lee Prillaman and Minnie C. Jamison Prillaman.



Ridgeway, VA. He is also survived by his longtime partner, Jean Roberts of Penhook, VA; and his grandchildren, Skyler Prillaman, student at HPU, Lucas Prillaman (Morgan Kremzar) of Charlotte, NC, Beth Terrier (Alex) of Richmond, VA, Adrienne Abrahamson (Paul) of Texas, Jennifer Jackson (Thomas) of Kenley, NC

and Laura Lamb (William) of Sophia, N.C.; and seven great-grandchildren.

A graveside memorial service will be held on Saturday, October 9, 2021, at 2 p.m. at Prillaman Family Cemetery, Foothills Rd., (Route 642), Callaway, VA with Pastor Mark Long officiating.

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

Mr. Prillaman started the Virginia Certified Horticulturist Program and was the President at the Virginia Nursery Association in 1980. Mr. Prillaman owned and operated Prillaman Nursery since 1951 and was a member of various state and federal Horticulturist Associations.

Surviving is his daughter, Judith Meador (Stan Tonn) of Rocky Mount, VA; sons, John Randolph Prillaman, Jr. (Kathy Hensley) of Elkton, VA, Daniel Prillaman (April) of Perkins, OK, and C.D. Prillaman (Emily) of

Velma Turner

Velma Turner, 90, of Rocky Mount, Va. passed away on Wednesday, September 29, 2021. She was born on May 20, 1931, in Franklin County to Wilson Perdue and Mary Mageline Perdue.



Koger and Timothy Turner (April); ten grandchildren and eleven great grandchildren.

A graveside service was held on October 5, 2021, at Roselawn Burial Park, officiated by Reverend Dr. J.D. Harmon.

Memorials may be made to Saint Jude Children's Research Hospital, P.O. Box 1000, Dept. 142, Memphis, Tennessee 38105.

In addition to her parents, Velma was preceded in death by her husband, George Ray Turner; brothers, Raymond, Woodrow and Frank Perdue; sister, Virginia Hodges; sons, Steven Koger and John Turner; granddaughter Amanda Turner.

She is survived by her daughter Faye and Douglas Dent; sons, Richard "Rick"

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

To express condolences online, visit www.collinsmckee-stonemartinsville.com.

Dorothy Barrett Maxwell

Dorothy Barrett Maxwell, 103, of Martinsville, VA passed away on Sunday, October 3, 2021. She was born on May 24, 1918, in Columbus, OH to the late Starling Heston Barrett and Bertha Erdmann Aid Barrett. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Gregory William Maxwell, son, Jeffrey Maxwell, brother, Richard Hamilton Barrett, and sister, Ruth Barrett Williams.



and designs from Europe and the Middle East. She volunteered as a Red Cross Nurse Aid during WWII and was a longtime supporter of the Delta Gamma Center for Children with Visual Impairments in St. Louis. Dorothy was a member of the Moreland Hills Historical Society in Ohio, Moreland Hills Village Council, Western Reserve Calligraphers in Ohio, St. Louis Calligraphy Guild, and the Wednesday Club of St. Louis. She attended Ladue Chapel in St. Louis.

She is survived by her two sons, Barry Maxwell (Shelley Wong) of Ithaca, NY and Andrew Maxwell (Sara Colm) of Stuart, VA, daughter-in-law, Sandy Drouillard of Canton, MI, and her grandchild, Wynn Maxwell (Maggie Riccardi) of Pittsburg, PA.

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

Mrs. Maxwell was a homemaker, designer, painter and calligrapher. She received a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Design at the University of Michigan in 1939, followed by one year of graduate studies at Ohio State University. She exhibited her artwork in juried shows in Ohio and Missouri and did commissions in painting and calligraphy. She also operated her own business, designing logos, cards, brochures, and graphs for needlepoint. She enjoyed researching Celtic designs

Carolyn Reedy Merson

Carolyn Reedy Merson, 80, of Martinsville, Virginia passed away September 29, 2021 at her residence. She was born November 19, 1941, in Martinsville to the late Eugene K. and Nancy Barrow Reedy. She worked in administration with Western Maryland College. Her passion was to read, cook, crafting, art and music and was a people person. She was a loving wife and mother of 63 years.



She is survived by her husband of 63 years, Russell S. Merson; daughter, Janet Branen; sons, Steven Merson, Russell Merson, Patrick Merson and William Merson; grandchildren, Zachary, Jeremy, Todd, Katie, Chelsea, Patrick, Matthew, and Julie; great-grandchildren, Lorelei, Eva, Scout, Melanie, and Chloe.

All services will be private. Wright Funeral Service & Crematory is serving the family. Online condolences may be made at www.wrightfuneralservices.net.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her brother, Eugene K. Reedy, Jr.

Youngkin from page 1

in-classroom education, and there will be no masks." Under his leadership, Youngkin said teacher sala-

ries would increase, special education would be funded, and "the most aggressive charter school program

ever seen in order to give parents a choice" launched. Virginia currently has eight charter schools, he said.

North Carolina has 190 and Maryland has 140. "On day one, we're going to launch 20, and that is just a down payment."

Youngkin's declaration that the state government would ban critical race theory in Virginia schools drew cheers from the crowd.

"Curriculum matters," he said, "and what we've watched happen in our curriculum is, all of a sudden, our children are being told that everything must be viewed through a lens of race... we will teach all history."

The economy also occupies a prominent position on Youngkin's Day One agenda.

Though CNBC recently ranked Virginia the best place to do business, "our economy is stalled," he said, adding that he would cut 25 percent of "job-killing regulations that have been piled on businesses" and provide a 12-month tax holiday for small businesses so they can invest in growth and employees on his first day in office.

"Everything that Terry McAuliffe stands for is the absolute antithesis of what we all know truth to be. He wants to force everybody to join the union, he wants to mandate it so that a portion of every Virginia worker's paycheck must go to the union," said Youngkin, adding that he wants to pro-

tect the right-to-work status in Virginia. "If we lose our right to work, it's going to cost Virginia \$11 billion in investment and 40,000 jobs."

"(McAuliffe) wants to raise your taxes yet again. He talks about his hundred pages of policy. It got scored and it's going to cost Virginia families \$16 million dollars," Youngkin said. "For every Virginia family, that's going to cost \$5,400."

Additionally, "they over-taxed us by \$2.6 billion in the middle of a pandemic and they're going to do it again this year," he said.

Youngkin said that he plans to create 400,000 jobs in four years and bring 10,000 new companies to the Commonwealth. He said a trained workforce would be needed to supply labor for the robust economy he plans to build, and that will involve partnerships with community colleges. Additionally, he said, "we have to connect Virginia."

One of the key enablers in that plan is having low-cost, high-speed internet access across the state. "We're going to light up Virginia, we're going to turn on our job machine," he said. "You're going to watch Virginia grow like you have never seen and it's going to happen right here in Martinsville too."

Eric Phillips, a candidate for the Iriswood District seat on the Henry County Board of Supervisors, 9th District House candidate Wren Williams, Dels. Danny Marshall, R-Danville, and Les Adams, R-Pittsylvania County, State Sens. Bill Stanley, R-Moneta, and Amanda Chase, R-Midlothian, addressed the crowd before Youngkin's arrival.

"The single most important thing that we can do to protect election integrity in Virginia is to get Glenn Youngkin elected as our next governor," said Chase, who supports Youngkin after losing her bid to be the Republican nominee in May.

Chase described Youngkin as both a home-grown Virginian and a political outsider.

"He's pro-God, he's pro-country, he's pro-gun," she said. "Glenn Youngkin is the real deal."

Campaign staff gathered supporters together before Youngkin arrived and in advance of his live interview with Fox News, as volunteers distributed hand-made signs with slogans highlighting the campaign's current emphasis on education: "teach history and civics, not CRT (Critical Race Theory)," "parents matter," and "my child's education needs my input."



Before addressing the local crowd, Glenn Youngkin conducted a live interview with Fox News from the Martinsville Farmers' Market.

Advertise With Us!

What we offer:

- ☐ Flexible pricing
- ☐ Highly Customizable Packages that include print, digital or both
- ☐ Deeply discounted rates
- ☐ Seasonal Specials

What we have:

- A team of Advertising Specialists who will work with you to customize a package, STRETCH your advertising dollars, and accomplish your advertising goals
- ☐ A talented team of designers who will work to help you reach your base.

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.

Shortages

from page 1

when (officers) can go to other agencies nearby” and make more money.

Faced with the double-digit personnel losses, Perry asked the Henry County Board of Supervisors to increase starting pay to \$42,000. He also requested a 10 percent pay hike, with a cap of \$5,000, for those with more than two years of service. According to Perry’s request, the department’s lieutenant colonel, major and Perry are exempt from the raises.

The supervisors directed county staff and Perry to discuss the issue further and provide an update to the board at an upcoming meeting.

If he is unable to retain or attract new officers, some of the services currently provided and most visible to residents may be scaled back or cut entirely, Perry said.

He explained the office is mandated by law to provide some services. However, some that are currently provided are not mandatory.

For instance, the office is mandated to serve specific functions—operation of the jail and court and serving civil process papers - which are associated with the court and its functioning. But other services, like Animal Control, School Resource Officers (SROs), general investigations, drug investigations, and regular patrol, are not mandated.

“What I don’t want to see happen is the services the citizens see suffering . . . but we’re mandated to run those other functions,” Perry said, primarily referring to patrol work which has helped keep the residents free of problems that have plagued other jurisdictions.

For instance, the area is fortunate “that we don’t have the gang problems and other problems other jurisdictions have, and that is because we have good officers out there patrolling. They learn who the people are who are causing the problems. They’re very effective in working cases and I don’t want to see those services suffer,” Perry said. “We’re very fortunate in our area for the number of crimes we are able respond to.”

If forced to scale back, Perry said he would start with some of the more minor services, such as investigation of misdemeanor crimes, nonviolent offenses, and small property crimes – which would mean that residents may have to start issuing their own warrants by going to the magistrate themselves as opposed to having an officer perform an investigation, he said.

Because efforts are underway to scale up staffing in preparation for the new jail to open, Perry recently hired 19 new officers. They are all currently being trained in the academy, which brings the staffing total to 150 sworn positions. Before that, Perry said the number hovered between 130 to 140.

Many of those who recently left had been with the county for eight to 12 years and were already starting to assume leadership roles or being trained to take on future leadership.

Retaining veteran officers is important to the overall success of the office and in providing services to residents, he said.

“You want to retain your veteran officers because when you’re hiring new people, you want good people out in front of them to learn from,” Perry said. Additionally, “you want the people you train to stay with you” because you’ve already invested a lot of money in them upon initial hiring.

It’s also crucial, Perry said, to be able to retain the officers the county has paid to train. Officer training for the Corrections Academy is three months

long, which means the department is paying three months’ salary (nearly \$10,000) plus the cost of the academy before a new hire is even able to put in a day’s work. Similarly, Perry said, patrol school takes nearly six months to complete, which is an investment of around \$20,000 in salary alone in a new officer.

Regardless, Perry said public safety comes first.

“I make a vow to keep people as safe as they can

possibly be,” Perry said, emphasizing his office will continue to serve and will always respond to violent or otherwise dangerous situations.

“That will be our first priority, always,” he said, and added that this is a prime time for anyone who may be interested in pursuing a law enforcement career.

“We have good jobs, openings, and opportunity for future advancement,” he said.

United States Postal Service
Statement of Ownership, Management and Circulation
(All Periodicals Publications Except Requester Publications)

1. Publication Title: Henry County Enterprise

2. Issue Frequency: Weekly

3. Issue Date for Circulation Data Below: 09/25/2021

4. Issue Number for Circulation Data Below: 300

5. Annual Subscription Price: \$52.00

6. Complete Mailing Address of Known Office of Publication (Street, city, county, state and ZIP+4):
PO Box 348
Martinsville, VA 24112

7. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not Printer):
PO Box 429
Martinsville, VA 24112

8. Full Names and Complete Mailing Addresses of Publisher, Editor and Managing Editor (Do not leave blank):
Name: Michael Brown
Address: PO Box 429
Martinsville, VA 24112

9. Full Names and Complete Mailing Addresses of Publisher, Editor and Managing Editor (Do not leave blank):
Name: NA
Address: NA

10. Publication Title: Henry County Enterprise

11. Issue Date for Circulation Data Below: 09/25/2021

12. Extent and Nature of Circulation

1. Total Number of Copies (Net press run)	Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months	No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date
a. Total Number of Copies (Net press run)	1,090	300
b. Paid Distribution	672	680
c. Total Paid Distribution	672	680
d. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
e. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
f. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
g. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
h. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
i. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
j. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
k. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
l. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
m. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
n. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
o. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
p. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
q. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
r. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
s. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
t. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
u. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
v. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
w. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
x. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
y. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
z. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
aa. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
ab. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
ac. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
ad. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
ae. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
af. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
ag. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
ah. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
ai. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
aj. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
ak. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
al. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
am. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
an. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
ao. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
ap. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
aq. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
ar. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
as. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
at. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
au. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
av. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
aw. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
ax. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
ay. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
az. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
ba. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
bb. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
bc. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
bd. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
be. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
bf. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
bg. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
bh. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
bi. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
bj. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
bk. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
bl. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
bm. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
bn. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
bo. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
bp. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
bq. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
br. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
bs. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
bt. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
bu. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
bv. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
bw. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
bx. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
by. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
bz. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
ca. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
cb. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
cc. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
cd. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
ce. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
cf. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
cg. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
ch. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
ci. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
cj. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
ck. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
cl. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
cm. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
cn. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
co. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
cp. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
cq. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
cr. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
cs. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
ct. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
cu. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
cv. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
cw. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
cx. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
cy. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
cz. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
da. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
db. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
dc. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
dd. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
de. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
df. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
dg. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
dh. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
di. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
dj. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
dk. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
dl. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
dm. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
dn. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
do. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
dp. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
dq. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
dr. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
ds. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
dt. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
du. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
dv. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
dw. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
dx. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
dy. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
dz. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
ea. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
eb. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
ec. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
ed. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
ee. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
ef. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
eg. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
eh. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
ei. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
ej. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
ek. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
el. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
em. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
en. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
eo. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
ep. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
eq. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
er. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
es. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
et. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
eu. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
ev. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
ew. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
ex. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
ey. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
ez. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
fa. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
fb. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
fc. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
fd. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
fe. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
ff. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
fg. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
fh. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
fi. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
fj. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
fk. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
fl. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
fm. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
fn. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
fo. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
fp. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
fq. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
fr. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
fs. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
ft. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
fu. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
fv. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
fw. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
fx. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
fy. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
fz. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
ga. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
gb. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
gc. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
gd. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
ge. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
gf. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
gg. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
gh. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
gi. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
gj. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
gk. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
gl. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
gm. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
gn. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
go. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
gp. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
gq. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
gr. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
gs. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
gt. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
gu. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
gv. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
gw. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
gx. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
gy. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
gz. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
ha. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
hb. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
hc. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
hd. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
he. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
hf. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
hg. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
hh. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
hi. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
hj. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
hk. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
hl. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
hm. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
hn. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
ho. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
hp. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
hq. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
hr. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
hs. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
ht. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
hu. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
hv. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
hw. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
hx. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
hy. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
hz. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
ia. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
ib. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
ic. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
id. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
ie. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
if. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
ig. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
ih. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
ii. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
ij. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0
ik. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Net press run)	418	0

County reverses financial fate, positions itself as economic leader in Southside

A recent report by Davenport Financial indicates a positive trend for the overall financial health of Henry County. Comparing data from 2010, the County's unemployment rate has dropped from 15.1 percent to 4.9 percent in July 2021 and 3.2 percent pre-pandemic.

Because of the heavy job losses in the previous decade from the furniture and textile industries, many businesses were lost and the county was considered financially "weak" by the top credit-rating agencies. Currently, the county's unemployment rate is below the national

average of 5.7 percent and in-line with the Commonwealth's rate of 4.1 percent. Davenport Financial noted that the county's pre-pandemic unemployment rate was amongst the strongest in the state, outside of the Northern Virginia beltway. The credit-rating for Henry County now

sits in the "AA" range which is considered "strong," and reduces financing costs over the long-run. By refunding approximately \$17.3 million of debt, the county has reduced its principal amount of debt from 2015 and 2016 bonds to \$14.6 million and locked

in a cash flow savings of \$1.6 million. In addition to the reduction of debt, there has been a proliferation of international companies investing into the area including industries from England, Sweden, Canada, Germany, Italy and Poland. Total investment in the past three years alone has led to \$287.7 million in new investment.

The average hourly wage in Henry County has risen from \$16/hr. to \$20/hr. in the past two years due to the uptick in new investment.

According to the three top credit-rating agencies (Moody's, S&P, Fitch), the reversal in financial health trends is attributable to the county's "strong management" and "good financial policies and practices."

Moody's found that the county has a "strong reserve and liquidity position supported by formal fiscal policies" and that the moderately-sized tax base is experiencing modest growth. S&P added that the county has a "strong budgetary performance and operating surpluses" and "very strong" budgetary flexibility, available fund balance and liquidity.

Davenport Financial found that the county's "very strong" credit-rating is backed by sound policy choices from leadership. One such policy was the decision to diversify away "from being almost solely reliant on the furniture and textile industries." The parity in industries protects the county from mass job

and revenue losses in the future should a company decide to relocate operations or cease to exist.

Davenport's report also noted the county has sufficient financial reserves, and endorsed the approach that reserve funds are best used for one-time costs that do not recur in subsequent budget years.

Another metric noted in the report was the county's low real property tax rate. While the median rate of all counties in Virginia is approximately \$0.69, Henry County boasts a real property tax rate of \$0.555.

After analyzing the data, the county's financial advisor concluded the report with a few observations.

The county is advised to "stay the course." As noted in the report, the county has done well to strengthen its financial position over the past decade and should the county change the formula, "it may have a negative impact on its ability to obtain funding" for emergencies or increases in costs to access capital.

The financial advisor also concentrated on the county's management team. Davenport Financial states that the "board works well together" which is deemed a key factor in the credit-rating agencies' methodologies and scorecards.

As stated in the report, "major initiatives were identified in tumultuous times, a strategic plan was made and the key was having the cohesive leadership to follow and implement that plan."




RISE COLLABORATIVE

Free Events and Programs in October

- RISE & SHINE Virtual Meetup** | Share highs and lows of entrepreneurship, ask questions from special guests, and network with other entrepreneurs.
- CO.STARTERS Get Started Workshops** | Attend a workshop with expert facilitators to get a jumpstart on your business idea.
- District C Coaching Institute** | High school educators can get certified in the Teamship model, which teaches modern work skills and provides students with a work-based learning experience.
- CO.STARTERS Generator** | Teens will explore their passions through generating, testing, and launching ideas.

Visit sovarise.com or call (434) 533-5136 to sign up!



Money in your pocket, times three

Big Zero Big Three—big benefits, big savings

\$0 monthly premiums, \$0 primary care physician copays, \$0 on Tier 1 and Tier 2 prescription drug copays.* A HumanaChoice H5216-248 (PPO) provides everything you might expect from a healthcare plan, plus more. You'll get:

- Preventive coverage
- No referral required to see in-network specialists
- No Rx deductible
- Vision benefit includes annual exam, fitting and \$100 allowance for contact lenses or eyeglasses
- Hearing and vision coverage

Call a licensed Humana sales agent
BILLIE HODSON
 540-353-6342 (TTY: 711)
 Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.
 bhodson@humana.com

Humana A more human way to healthcare™

*For 90-day mail delivery. The \$0 copay applies to Tier 1 and Tier 2 medications using a mail-delivery pharmacy with preferred cost sharing after any applicable deductible is met.

Humana is a Medicare Advantage HMO, PPO and PFFS organization with a Medicare contract. Enrollment in any Humana plan depends on contract renewal. Applicable to HumanaChoice H5216-248 (PPO). **At Humana, it is important you are treated fairly.** Humana Inc. and its subsidiaries comply with applicable Federal civil rights laws and do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, or religion. **English:** ATTENTION: If you do not speak English, language assistance services, free of charge, are available to you. Call **1-877-320-1235** (TTY: 711). **Español (Spanish):** ATENCIÓN: Si habla español, tiene a su disposición servicios gratuitos de asistencia lingüística. Llame al **1-877-320-1235** (TTY: 711). **繁體中文 (Chinese):** 注意：如果您使用繁體中文，您可以免費獲得語言援助服務。請致電 **1-877-320-1235** (TTY: 711)。

Newest Rives S. Brown Agent is excited to return home



Rives S. Brown Realtors is excited to announce that Jewell Drewery has joined its team of agents to meet the real estate needs of the area.

Drewery is a 1995 graduate of Martinsville High School and attended Hampton University. She moved to Charlotte, N.C. to pursue her passion for marketing and joined the team at Radio One as a Senior Account Executive in Sales.

"I am so excited to be home and see the results of the revitalization and redevelopment efforts coming to Martinsville and Henry County. As the city evolves to become more innovative and efficient, so will I," Drewery said.

Drewery is no stranger to real estate or Rives S. Brown. Her mother, Mary Drewery, recently retired after being a Realtor with Rives S. Brown for 28 years. She recalled her mother's passion for real estate as she spent days with her mother showing homes and spending time at the Grey Lady during her childhood.

Many of the skills that attributed to Jewell Drewery's success as an account executive in radio are the same skills that her clients will appreciate as they navigate the real estate market. She

provides strategic marketing services to her clients across many markets. Her business is built on dedication, communication, trust and a "never give up" ethic, while embodying the ability to cater and adapt to all her clients' needs.

"My tagline has always been -- Specializing in Results. I am committed to doing what it takes to garner results. Rest assured I will listen to you with an understanding of your needs & wants, I will do my best to help you achieve all of those results," she added.

In addition to supporting several initiatives to revitalize Martinsville, Jewell Drewery leads technology initiatives at Fayette Street Christian Church and serves on the usher board.

"While Jewell has always been part of the Rives S. Brown family, we couldn't be more excited to officially welcome her as our newest agent. She's already hit the ground running and is a great addition to our team," said Rives Brown Coleman, president of Rives S. Brown.

Jewell Drewery looks forward to helping people through the buying and selling process, particularly first-time home buyers.