

HENRY COUNTY ENTERPRISE

Saturday, October 16, 2021

(USPS-6)

www.henrycountyenterprise.com • \$1.00



Nydia Wilson told the board her daughter was bullied at Laurel Park Middle School and attempted to take her own life. Her son was friends with Greyson Coleman, who she said died in September. She urged mental health counselling for bullies and a zero-tolerance policy for bullying in Henry County Public Schools.

Student remembered at county school board meeting

Parents, relatives, students urge zero-tolerance bullying policy

Callie Hietala
Staff writer

The Henry County School Board heard emotional comments from students, relatives, and other community members who came to the podium to remember a 14-year-old Magna Vista student who, they said, took his life in September.

Greyson Coleman was part of the school's JV football team, according to speakers at the meeting. They alleged that he was

bullied both by teammates and adults.

"We need to have not only a no-bullying policy in regard to the students, but it also needs to fall back to the teachers and to the coaches," Susan Fulcher, Coleman's aunt, said through tears.

If a student used profanity toward another student or was otherwise harassing them, Fulcher said "there would be some punishment for that stu-

See **Bullying** page 6

Reynolds touts transparency, increased funding in school board bid



Name: Ray Reynolds
Age: 60
Education: graduate of Bassett High School, some classes at Patrick & Henry Community College
Occupation: contractor/photographer
Family: Wife, Laurie Ann Martin Reynolds, deceased
Hobbies: golf, baseball

Callie Hietala
Staff writer

Ray Reynolds said he would work to effect big changes if he is successful in his bid for the Collinsville District seat on the Henry County School Board.

Elizabeth Durden also is seeking the seat in November.

If elected, Reynolds said he would advocate for 2-year term limits for school board members. He believes the same limits should be imposed on board of supervisor members.

Reynolds said he would work to increase funding for schools, improve reading scores, advocate for more public transparency, secure better pay for teachers and

staff, increase school security, and improve insurance for employees.

Reynolds said many in the community believe he is running for a seat on the Board of Supervisors rather than the school board because he has often criticized recent actions by the supervisors.

"The reason I am so vocal toward the supervisors is because whatever they do with their budget affects the school board budget," Reynolds said. "If they build a \$176,000 picnic shelter, that money could have been used in the school budget to build the shelters at Bassett and Magna Vista for the students to go out and have

See **Reynolds**, page 7

Martinsville students surpass state success rates

Callie Hietala
Staff writer

Students in Martinsville schools are succeeding across multiple academic and achievement areas and are positioned for future success post-graduation. The city school board also learned that students are outperforming the state when it comes to graduation rates and closing the opportunity gap in advanced instruction.

Assistant Superintendent of Instruction Angilee Downing told the board that the school system is "well above the state" in terms of its on-time graduation rate, holding steady at 94.6 percent for the 2020-2021 school year, the same as the previous year. The state graduation rate for the 20-21 year was 93 percent.

Downing said that 53.1 percent of students graduate with standard diplomas (versus the state's 40.2 percent) while 41.5 percent of Martinsville students graduate with



Martinsville City School Board Chairman Donna Dillard (left), Superintendent Dr. Zebedee Talley, and board member Emily Parker listened as Harvest Foundation's Senior Program Officer DeWitt House discussed the finer points of Harvest's SEED program.

an advanced diploma, compared to the Commonwealth's overall 52.8 percent.

Additionally, Downing said, 71.7 percent of students are economically disadvantaged. Of that group, 58.9 percent earned standard diplomas (compared to 56.5 percent statewide) and 34.4 percent earned advanced

diplomas while the state average is only 32.7 percent.

Downing said she was "excited and proud to say we're closing the opportunity gap" in terms of advanced courses.

Demographics for the last school

See **Success**, page 2

Candidates share visions for post-reversion community at public forum

Callie Hietala
Staff writer

Five candidates gathered Tuesday at the Morning Star Holy Church on Stoney Mountain Road for the

annual Candidate Forum ahead of election day on November 2.

The Rev. Tyler Millner welcomed the group, saying the forum was an opportunity for candidates to speak as well as to listen and answer ques-



Incumbent Henry County School Board member Ben Gravely, (standing, far left), told the crowd that the board has not reached a decision about city schools in terms of reversion and consolidation, but he is in favor of involving the community in the process. The forum's host, the Rev. Tyler Millner, listened along with Iriswood District supervisor candidates Eric Bowling, Eric Phillips, and Garrett Dillard and Ray Reynolds, who is seeking the Collinsville District seat on the school board.

tions from the public.

Eric Bowling, Garrett Dillard, and Eric Phillips — all candidates for the Iriswood District seat on the Henry County Board of Supervisors—attended as did Ben Gravely, who is unopposed in his reelection bid for the Iriswood District post on the Henry County School Board. Ray Reynolds, who is seeking the Collinsville District seat on the school board, also attended.

Held just days before the Commission of Local Government (CLG) was to share its widely anticipated recommendations on Martinsville's reversion process, discussion often returned to the topic. Despite varying viewpoints on reversion, each supervisor candidate advocated for a harmonious relationship between city and county residents.

Bowling, who told the audience he entered the race because he sees a lot of division between the county and city, and he wants to make a difference. While he is not in favor of reversion, "we have to try to pull together, regardless of how reversion

See **Candidates**, page 4

Durden highlights parent involvement, open communication in school board campaign

Callie Hietala
Staff writer

Elizabeth Durden will focus on more transparency and more communication between parents and school officials if she is elected to

the Collinsville District seat on the Henry County School Board in November.

Ray Reynolds also is seeking the post.

Durden said she entered the race because, as a parent of two children in the

school division, she grew concerned about the lack of information parents receive and the lack of involvement they have in the decision-making processes that directly affect their families and children.

She would also like to address mental health issues that students may have due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the time spent in virtual learning.

Durden said that while she doesn't have answers yet on how to improve the issues, "my commitment is connecting with people one on one."

If elected, she said she hopes to work with other board members to come up with creative solutions and trying new ideas to try to get parents more involved.

Durden said she thinks that some solutions could be found through redirecting some of the school system's budget.

"I have actually worked for Henry County Public Schools in their finance department," she said, and is aware of how the budget works and how certain pools of money are only for certain things.

Last year's budget, she said, was nearly \$100 million, "so I don't necessarily think it's a funding issue, it's just a focus on where we're putting the money."

Durden said she supports the public being involved in school board decision-mak-

ing and reiterated that she entered the race to highlight the need for parental involvement. Already, she said she sees some parents becoming more involved in school issues, particularly as several controversies have come up. More are showing up at meetings and even signing up to speak, which Durden hopes will continue.

"I think that as a parent, I have that unique perspective that I could bring as a board member," she said, adding that she wants not to just give parents a voice but a seat at the table.

When Durden was knocking on doors, collecting signatures to begin her campaign, she said she spoke to many who had a lot of concerns, but felt they wouldn't be

See **Durden**, page 7

VISIT
[HTTP://WWW.HENRYCOUNTYENTERPRISE.COM](http://www.henrycountyenterprise.com)
FOR MORE UPDATES



0 51497 10908 0

Pavilion provides new meeting area for county

Callie Hietala
Staff writer

A new pavilion, located behind the Henry County Administration Building, was built using federal funds to help during the pandemic.

While it has been the topic of recent discussions, partially due to requests for pay raises to law enforcement officers and funding for new equipment for local volunteer fire departments, the new outdoor meeting area was built because the county lacked suitable meeting space for employees, according to Brandon Martin, the county's public relations and community liaison.

"We have the Summerlin Room where the board meetings are held," said Martin, "but that room is often booked up. Given that our work encapsulates pretty much everything that goes on in the county, meetings never stop."

"This problem was only compounded when COVID hit, and it became a health concern to have groups of people

in close contact with each other. Under the guidelines for use of the CARES (Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security) funds, constructing an outdoor meeting space was not only considered an allowable expense, but it was also an encouraged one. So, to comply with health guidelines, and in an effort to keep our workers safe, the outdoor space was built," he said.

The space is open for schools, courts, constitutional officers, and any other department to use, Martin said. Most recently, the Board of Supervisors used the space on September 28. It also was used by the Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court for a meeting on October 8, and county officials met in the space before the SCHOCK economic development announcement last month.

Martin said "the project was approved by the County Administrator (Tim Hall) under emergency procurement, which allows for capital projects under \$200,000 to be approved" without a for-

mal vote by the supervisors. "However, the board was made aware of how the county spent all of the CARES funds."

The total cost of the construction was \$176,567, Martin said, and it was funded "completely through CARES money received by the county."

Work on the building began in 2021. It was completed near the beginning of 2021. Norris Construction, Worley Machine Enterprises, Light Electric Company and Gary Smith, a contractor, were all involved in the construction process, he said.

Documents related to the construction of the pavilion indicate that Smith was paid \$49,230 for the concrete foundation and slab for the new facility. Light Electric Company was paid \$11,810 to install the pavilion's electrical service panel and Norris Construction, which built the pavilion, was paid a total of \$114,787. Worley Machine Enterprises received \$740 for 40 custom plastic spacers for the



Henry County's new pavilion, built using CARES Act funds to provide an outdoor meeting space, sits just behind the Henry County Administration Building at 3300 Kings Mountain Road in Martinsville. The pavilion may be used by the Board of Supervisors, school board, or other departments.

project, according to the documents.

Martin said a request for proposals (RFP) was not issued for the project because it was not required under emergency procurement guidelines.

The process required for an RFP "inherently does not allow for the speed necessary to respond to an emergency," he added.

According to documents related to the

project, the county received \$8,821,806 in CARES funding. The largest expenses were salaries for the Public Safety Department (\$6,338,203.76) and \$1,102,223.51 for personal protective equipment (PPE), protective shields, and upgrades to bathrooms and entrances; \$645,197.28 was used to replace desktops with laptops to facilitate tele-

work and \$304,729 was tapped for small business grants. An additional \$137,839.89 went toward housing and food assistance, which was primarily done through the United Way of Henry County & Martinsville and the Henry-Martinsville Department of Social Services. About 2 percent of the CARES Act funding went toward construction of the pavilion.

Success

from page 1



Martinsville City Schools' Executive Director of Special Education and Student Services Dr. Paulette Simington told the school board that the city exceeded the state's graduation target rate for special education students.

year indicated that 58.7 percent of students were Black, 19.6 percent were white, 13.8 percent were Hispanic, and 6.7 percent were of multiple races.

She told the board that "our demographics for the percentage of students enrolled in advance courses align with the demographics of our school division." In other words, the percentage of students taking advanced courses in the school system does not heavily trend toward a single subgroup.

"Not many school divisions can say that," she said, attributing the success to "a concerted effort that truly starts in preschool and

works its way up through the whole system."

Dr. Paulette Simington, executive director of special education and student services, said that Martinsville far exceeded the state's target of a 61 percent graduation rate for special education students, coming in at 73.68 percent. The city also exceeded Virginia's target of a 48 percent pass rate on the math assessment with 53.45 percent, but had only a 41.74 percent pass rate in reading, falling short of the state's targeted 46 percent.

DeWitt House, senior program officer for the Harvest Foundation, spoke to the board to share how Martinsville's students can build on their post-graduation success through the SEED Fund. Harvest and Patrick & Henry Community College (P&HCC) recently announced SEED 2.0, a \$10.3 million, 13-year investment by Harvest which will allow any student of Martinsville or Henry County schools, from this year's kindergarteners to current high school seniors, who graduates with a 2.5 grade point average (GPA) to attend P&HCC at no cost to the student or their family.

"One of the things we stress is we don't use the word 'free,'" House said. "It's not free. Somebody's paying for it. It's an opportunity," House said.

He emphasized that the program was not solely academic in its focus, pointing to P&HCC's successful trades program, which offers students the oppor-

tunity to graduate with a variety of certifications necessary to immediately enter the job market. To take advantage of the funding, House said students had to enroll at P&HCC the semester immediately following graduation from high school. SEED students are required to complete four hours of community service each semester and must take a minimum of 15 credit hours per semester.

While enrolled, students must attend meetings with the Harvest SEED coach, who serves as a counselor of sorts, stepping in to help alleviate any barriers to success a student might encounter including providing resources for food and transportation. "It's an adjustment" for some students, House said. The coaches are in place as a support network.

House said that Harvest has also funded an external evaluation of the program, which will be conducted by Virginia Tech every two years. The evaluation will explore the number of credit hours students are completing, their grades, and will collect other anecdotal information through conversations with students. This will help Harvest learn about situations, hindrances, and other issues the foundation may not have thought to address yet, as well as learn about what is working well with the program.

"Communities cry out for an opportunity like this for their young people," said Dr. Zebedee Talley,

the city's school superintendent, adding that students don't want a handout, they want a hand up, which the SEED Fund provides.

In other matters, the board:

* Approved a request from Simington to assign \$129,472.67 in American Rescue Plan funds to secure contractor services for providing in-classroom, evidence-based program solutions for students during the instructional day. Simington said there are self-contained classes at Albert Harris Elementary, primarily kindergarten and first grade students, who missed 18 months of school due to the pandemic "and as a result they're coming to school with some challenging behaviors." The funds will be used for therapists and support staff who will be in the schools daily, helping teachers with challenging behaviors and training staff to help with the capacity to deal with students who have behavioral challenges.

* Read a proclamation declaring October Bullying Prevention Awareness Month.

* Recognized school board members with Virginia School Board Association awards. Chairman Donna Dillard received the VSBA Award of Excellence, as did board member Emily Parker. Vice-Chairman Yvonne Givens received the Award of Achievement, and Talley was presented an Award of Recognition.

* Heard Talley's report.

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month

Get
your
mammo

Your health means everything.

If you're 40 or older, get your annual mammogram. It can help detect cancer early, when treatment can be most effective. Our 3D mammography can improve detection by up to 40%.* But there's danger in delay. Don't make your health wait. Schedule yours now!

Learn more by watching our mammogram video at
SovahHealth.com

Schedule your 3D mammogram today!
Call **844.GO.SOVAH**



*Source: cancer.org



Piedmont Dermatology Center

Dr. Ned Gross, MD

Celebrating 20 Years of
Service in Martinsville!

7 am to 6:45 pm
appointments available

314 Fairy Street, Suite D
Martinsville, VA

276-666-8439

www.piedmontdermatology.com

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. 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 mhchistoricalociety@gmail.com.

The Bassett Cruise-In will take place in downtown Bassett from 3-7 p.m. for the season-ending "Race Night." See hundreds of classic cars and enjoy great food and live entertainment along the beautiful Smith River. Visit bassettcruisein.com for more details.

Mt. Bethel United Methodist Church will be making Brunswick stew. To place an order call Fay Moore at 276-673-6378 or by e-mail at faymoor@comcast.net or come by the church. The cost of the stew will be \$8.00/quart. The church is located at 63 Mt. Bethel Circle, Martinsville, VA in the Pleasant Grove area. Stew will be ready for pick up at 10 a.m.

The Blue Ridge Regional Library's book sale wraps up on October 16. The sale will be at the library in Martinsville from 9:30 a.m.-2 p.m.

Tuesday, Oct. 19

A Horsepasture District Community Meeting will take place from 6-7:30 p.m. at the Horsepasture Ruritan Building. In attendance will be Horsepasture District Supervisor Debra Buchanan, County Administrator Tim Hall, Lt. Col. Steve Eanes of the Sheriff's Office, and Lisa Hughes, VDOT Resident Engineer. 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 sbdc-longwood.com.

Thursday, Oct. 21

Piedmont Arts hosts Painting with Karen Conner from 1-4 p.m. Instructor Karen Conner will lead students in creating a unique painting. The theme for this painting is "white pumpkin." The class is appropriate for ages 12 and up. Cost is \$30 for members and \$35 for non-members. Advance registration is required. To register, visit PiedmontArts.org or call (276) 632-3221.

The American Red Cross will host a blood drive at the Martinsville Elks Lodge (300 Fairy Street Ext.) from 12-6 p.m. To sign up for a

donation appointment, visit redcrossblood.org.

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 by October 19.

Saturday, Oct. 23

It's time to relax by the river! Join the MWV Foundation at the Smith River Sports Complex festival grounds for the 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 or via winebytheriver.com.

Join in on the fun of the 24th Annual Great Goblin Gallop presented by Henry County Parks & Recreation. Participants are encouraged to dress up in their favorite costume. Call or stop by the HCPR office to register today! Race starts at 10 a.m. Awards will be held after the race, when food/snacks will also be available. Race location and packet pickup location: 746 Indian Trail Martinsville, VA.

Piedmont Arts hosts Painting with Karen Conner from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Instructor Karen Conner will lead students in creating a unique painting. The theme for this painting is "Halloween hill." The class is appropriate for ages 12 and up. Cost is \$30 for members and \$35 for non-members. Advance registration is required. To register, visit PiedmontArts.org or call (276) 632-3221.

Wednesday, Oct. 27

The Martinsville Speedway will host Track Laps for Charity from 7-9 p.m. This event offers fans the opportunity to drive their personal vehicles around Martinsville's historic half-mile during race week of the NASCAR Playoffs for a \$25 donation. All proceeds support the Annual Christmas Toy Drive for the Grace Network of Martinsville-Henry County. For details, rules, and restrictions, visit www.MartinsvilleSpeedway.com and click on the Events tab.

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 sbdc-longwood.com.

Thursday, Oct. 28

Piedmont Arts will host a pumpkin painting class as part of its Wee Create! Programming. Wee Create! Is open to youngsters ages 2-5 with adult supervision. Two sessions of the pumpkin painting class will take place from 10:30-11 a.m. and 3:30-4 p.m. The class is free for members at \$10 for non-members. Advance registration is required. To register, visit PiedmontArts.org or call (276) 632-3221.

Saturday, Oct. 30

Henry County Parks & Recreation hosts its annual Halloween Hayride at Jack Dalton Park from 6-8 p.m. The hayrides around the park will get spookier and spookier as the evening goes on. Trunk-or-Treating will also be offered in the parking lot of the park.

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! There will be 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" on Thursday, November 11. 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. There will be a reception at 6:30 p.m. and the performance will begin at 7. Tickets are available at PiedmontArts.org and PiedmontArts.org.

Friday, Nov. 12

The American Red Cross will host a blood drive at Hillcrest Baptist Church (18075 AL Philpott Highway) in Ridgeway from 1-6 p.m. To sign up for a donation appointment, visit redcrossblood.org.

Saturday, Nov. 13

The American Red Cross will host a blood drive at County Line Christian Church (12711 Chatham Road) in Axton from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. To sign up for a donation appointment, visit redcrossblood.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-HC 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.

Thursday, Nov. 18

Piedmont Arts hosts Painting with Karen Conner from 1-4 p.m. Instructor Karen Conner will lead students in creating a unique painting. The theme for this painting is "snowman." The class is appropriate for ages 12 and up. Cost is \$30 for members and \$35 for non-members. Advance registration is required. To register, visit PiedmontArts.org or call (276) 632-3221.

Saturday, Nov. 20

Piedmont Arts hosts Painting with Karen Conner from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Instructor Karen Conner will lead students in creating a unique painting. The theme for this painting is "cardinal on a lamppost." The class is appropriate for ages 12 and up. Cost is \$30 for members and \$35 for non-members. Advance registration is required. To register, visit PiedmontArts.org or call (276) 632-3221.

ONGOING

Horsepasture District Supervisor Debra Parsons Buchanan and the Salvation Army are hosting the 26th annual Coat Drive for Kids. Anyone wishing to donate a new or gently used coat can drop them off at Hollywood Cinema, the Salvation Army, or at One-Hour Martinizing on Rives Road. You can also call Debra at (276) 358-1463. The deadline for donations is November 30.

The Blue Ridge Regional Library offers free one-day passes to the Virginia Museum of Natural History and the Henry County YMCA with your library card. The passes are good for one day and exclude spe-

cial events. There is a wait period before you can check out the pass again. For more details and exclusions, visit brrl.lib.va.us.

The Fontaine Ruritan Club hosts Bingo every Tuesday at their headquarters (1903 Joseph Martin Highway, Martinsville). Doors open at 5:30 p.m. and games begin at 7 p.m. Money from Bingo supports 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 appli-


cation 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.

See more community news and photos at henrycountyenterprise.com



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

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				50	51			52		53	54	55
	56					57		58				59
			60				61					
				62						63		

CLUES ACROSS

- Flat-topped hill
- Move upward
- Admiration
- It's useful for serving food
- Kidnap
- One of the Greek Muses
- A type of media
- Sunscreen rating
- Former Michigan coach Brady
- German town devastated in WW2
- Gasteyer and Ortiz are two
- Leave
- Forearm bone
- Very fast airplane
- Helps little firms
- Defunct economic organization
- Science-based students organization (abbr.)
- Feels ill
- Indicates position
- Beverage containers
- Assists
- Science accreditation organization (abbr.)
- Purpose
- Group of elected officials
- Hebrew prophet
- They help you drink
- Lawmaker
- Charitable
- Doctrines
- Footwear

CLUES DOWN

- Where wrestlers work
- Dueling sword
- Practice fight
- Genus of clams
- Fear of heights
- What some tell their dog
- The Golden State
- When you expect to get there
- Pointed ends
- Extinct flightless bird
- Feeds
- Nape of neck
- Descendant
- Small boats found in Turkey
- To avoid the risk of
- Athlete with no contract (abbr.)
- 13th letter of the Greek alphabet
- Brew
- Feeling of anxiety
- Young girls group
- Perform on stage
- White clerical vestment
- Popular musical awards show
- Bumpkins
- One who acts on another's behalf
- Direction
- Look at with fixed eyes
- One who helps professors (abbr.)
- A large number of
- Type of powder
- Large jug
- Christian Anderson, children's author
- American state
- Muslim inhabitant of the Philippines
- Wittness
- Landscapers lay it
- Type of bread
- Of I

OPINION

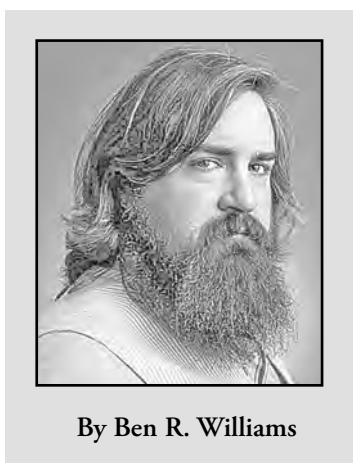
Another open letter to my terrible internet service provider

Dear Century L.,
No wait, that's too obvious. I'll call you C. Link.
Dear C. Link,
Well, it's been about a year since I last wrote an open letter to you. As you might recall, I wrote that letter because my phone and internet went out while I was in the middle of watching something and service wasn't restored for several days. You'll never believe why I'm writing this new letter. Go on, take a guess.

Yes, that's right; while I was in the middle of watching the horror anthology film VHS '94 in an attempt to get into the Halloween spirit, my phone and internet suddenly cut out. My service has now been out for two days.
Now, C. Link, I realize that I live out in the woods, and I realize that your business model is to provide internet to rural areas where people have no other internet options and are willing to put up with service so bad that two soup cans connected with a piece of string

would seem like only the mildest downgrade.
I also realize, C. Link, that you probably assume it's not worth updating your aging infrastructure because you assume that the hillbillies who use your internet only need it to look up the occasional recipe for possum stew.
However, consider my friend Mike who lives just a mile down the road and works from home. His job requires him to use the internet, so he has to take a vacation day every time your internet goes down.

Or consider the convenience store just down the street from me that requires the internet for both their credit card system and their ATM. For the last two days, they've only been able to do cash transactions. Based on the conversation I recently had with a nice lady who works there, I get the impression that many customers are not terribly understanding when presented with this predicament.
But ultimately, C. Link, it comes down to this: when



By Ben R. Williams

someone pays you money in exchange for goods or services, you are obligated to provide said goods or services. If you didn't want to provide a real product in exchange for money, you should have started one of those businesses where they claim they'll name a star after you for a hundred bucks.
I've paid you a lot of money over the years, C. Link, and I'm not entirely sure where it went. I feel confident that I've given you more than enough money

to upgrade the Depression-era hit-and-miss engine that evidently powers your server room. Where did that money go? Did your CEO have to get his yacht lengthened again?
You know, C. Link, it's tough to pick which part of your service is the worst. Is it the frequent and unexplained service outages? Is it that getting on the phone with an actual human being in your customer service department requires seven hours of hold time and a notarized letter from the Dalai Lama? Or is it the fact that the page on your website that provides the estimated time service will be restored is less accurate than a drunk with a two dollar pistol?
Boy, it's hard to pick just one.
Listen, C. Link, this is generally the part of the column where I would say this is all in good fun and I don't intend to cause any hard feelings. That wouldn't be true, however, because I legitimately hate your business. If Burger King

decided tomorrow to change their logo to a picture of me wearing a diaper and a comical oversized baby bonnet, I would not hate Burger King as much as I hate you. You are one of the worst companies I've ever experienced, and I worked for BH Media for four years.
I would like to clarify, C. Link, that I don't hate your boots-on-the-ground technicians. I know they're doing the best they can under the circumstances. In fact, I talked to one of your technicians not long ago and it turns out he hates your company even more than I do!
Anyway, C. Link, I hope you'll receive this letter in the spirit in which it was written, which is a spirit of rage and acrimony. And by the way, there's no point in intentionally sabotaging my internet service as retribution for this letter. I'd never be able to tell the difference.
Yours,
Ben R. Williams

Logan's Lament

Morgan Griffith
9th District U.S. Rep.

October 11 of this year presents the spectacle of dueling holidays.
Under federal law, the second Monday in October is Columbus Day, commemorating the arrival of the Italian explorer's Spanish-backed expedition in the New World on October 12, 1492. Columbus Day celebrations have occurred going back to the nineteenth century.
But many jurisdictions, including Virginia, now recognize the same day as Indigenous Peoples' Day. Supporters of this move generally argue that Columbus, whatever his accomplishments, committed sins that make him unworthy of celebration.
There is a current coursing through our culture

today that seeks to sweep away any figure or event deemed flawed by modern sensibilities. Columbus is far from the only victim, and one does not have to be a great admirer of his to find this trend regrettable. And setting up Columbus Day and Indigenous Peoples' Day against each other does a disservice to the memory of both.
Although Indigenous Peoples' Day is a recent addition to the calendar, the stories of Native Americans occupy an important place in the history of our region and Commonwealth. We can see it on a map of Virginia's Ninth Congressional District, with names that reflect native origin such as Alleghany County or the Town of Pocahontas.
The story of Pocahontas, in which the threads of conflict

and cooperation between Native Americans and European settlers tangled, is well known in Virginia and nationally. In western Virginia, the story of Logan, a leader of the Mingo people, represents an important part of the Native American heritage.
Logan was the son of an Oneida chief who had befriended the secretary of Pennsylvania, James Logan, thus providing the origins of his name. He lived on good terms with the settlers arriving in the Ohio Valley, the frontier at the time, where Virginia claimed land. But in 1774, his family was massacred by settlers, and Logan set out for revenge.
The ensuing conflict between natives and settlers along the frontier triggered an expedition by Virginia's Royal Governor, Lord Dunmore, and

it took the name Lord Dunmore's War. It ended after colonial forces under Colonel Andrew Lewis defeated the Shawnee chief Cornstalk at the Battle of Point Pleasant on October 10, 1774.
As negotiators subsequently sought to end the conflict, Logan refused to participate. His explanation, known to history as Logan's Lament, was said by Thomas Jefferson to match the legendary ancient orators Demosthenes and Cicero in eloquence:
I appeal to any white man to say if ever he entered Logan's cabin hungry, and he gave him not meat; if ever he came cold and naked, and he clothed him not. During the course of the last long and bloody war, Logan remained idle in his cabin, an advocate for peace. Such was my love for the whites, that my countrymen pointed as they passed, and said, "Logan is the friend of

white men." I had even thought to have lived with you, but for the injuries of one man. Col. Cresap, the last Spring, in cold blood, and unprovoked, murdered all the relations of Logan, not sparing even my women and children. There runs not a drop of my blood in the veins of any living creature. This called on me for revenge. I have sought it: I have killed many: I have fully glutted my vengeance. For my country, I rejoice at the beams of peace. But do not harbor a thought that mine is the joy of fear. Logan never felt fear. He will not turn on his heel to save his life. Who is there to mourn for Logan? Not one.
Logan's story captures much of the complexity of the experience of Native Americans in the United States, but also the contradictions of human nature and behavior throughout all time and our capacity for both great good and evil. He was greatly

wronged by settlers and in response turned from a friend to an enemy yet held in high esteem by figures such as Jefferson and honored in our memory by place names such as Logan County, West Virginia (established when the land was still part of Virginia).
Whatever you call the second Monday of October – whether Columbus Day or Indigenous Peoples' Day – the story of Logan deserves to be retold.
And rather than focusing on excluding, in these days when we find ourselves divided, we should remember the lessons of the past and treat each other with dignity, no matter our race, political philosophy, creed, or other difference.
If you have questions, concerns, or comments, contact my Abingdon office at (276) 525-1405, my Christiansburg office at (540) 381-5671 or via email at www.morgangriffith.house.gov.

Candidates

from page 1

comes out."
Had he been on the board at the time, Bowling said he would have tried to work with the city to examine combining services, particularly school systems, to try and avoid the reversion process altogether.
If elected, Bowling said he hopes to use his preexisting relationships with some of the current city council members to bridge the gap between city and county.
"Let's proactively look for ways to consolidate services instead of waiting until we've got a gun pointed at us," he said.
Bowling said he does not support taking legal action to stop the process because it would cost taxpayers resources, time, and money. Rather, he hopes the county can "move proactively forward" once they learn the findings of the CLG.
Garrett Dillard got into the race because he sees a great deal of potential in the businesses, schools, and people of the county, and he wants to help release that potential.
"If we invest in people, those other (problems) will take care of themselves," he said.
Noting that his personal thoughts on reversion are irrelevant because the county cannot stop the process nor could it have initiated it, Dillard said that moving forward, he wants to make everyone feel like they are part of a unified Martinsville-Henry County.
"To build one community, you have to get people invested in their community. If I'm invested in something, I want to see it succeed," Dillard said, and told voters "I'm beginning to feel like (reversion) is a scare tactic," with candidates threatening increased taxes and predicting increased tensions between the two localities.
"Let's highlight the positives. There are other ways to fund whatever happens with reversion other than raising taxes," he said, including funds currently in reserve and money saved by merging duplicative services and positions. "Let's look at the whole picture."
While higher taxes and a tense city/

county relationship are possibilities, they are not certainties, he said. "Let's make everybody feel inclusive and let's not make it a them versus us situation," Dillard said, and added if reversion moves forward, "we have to make the best of it. . . we have to make it work for us and make our community better."
Phillips said he decided to run specifically because of reversion and the influx of large amounts of COVID-19 money into the county through the American Rescue Plan, the CARES Act, and other programs. He believes his background in business and finance will help the county spend that money wisely.
He said that, while he appreciated Dillard's positive spin, "reality is not being negative."
Phillips said that given the opportunity, he would have unequivocally voted against reversion, and he still believes the county should try to delay the process as long as possible.
"To say that we're going to see a tax increase is a truth . . . you can ask anyone with any knowledge of the county's finances," he said. "I do agree (with Dillard) that in the end, we're just going to have to make the best of it, and we will, but there are going to be some very tough and difficult financial and other decisions that you can't hope and change your way out of."
Phillips said that not dealing with the reality of the situation is not helpful.
"I don't view (reversion) in an adversarial way, but I do view it with my eyes open," he said, and added that annexation is an inherently adversarial process.
"If I can come take your land without your approval, that's not a good thing," he said.
Phillips would have preferred to fight Martinsville's reversion in court. Though he hears the arguments that a legal battle would have been costly to the county, "how much more expensive is it going to be . . . for the county when (the city) takes our tax base and starts annexing all the way down to Dutch Inn in Collinsville and all the way past the racetrack in Ridgeway? That's going to be expensive too," he said, and

speculated annexation likely will be more expensive than a legal fight.
Gravely, who is unopposed, said he attended the forum because he wanted to participate in the democratic process.
The county school board has not "made any decision whatsoever when it comes to the schools (in the city)," he said, adding the board, like everyone else, are waiting for a decision from the CLG.
"I've been asked a number of times about the difference between the kids in the city and those of the county," he said. "The only difference are the names. Kids are kids, regardless of where they are. Kids in the city expect a quality education just like those in the county and it's our duty to make sure that occurs."
If and when the time comes to consolidate school systems, Gravely said he would ensure the community is involved in the process. Based on his conversations with Schools Superintendent Sandy Strayer, she also is wants to include the community.
Reynolds said he hadn't considered getting into the race until he was approached and told he could be an asset to the board. He said he wanted to follow in the footsteps of people like Gravely and Strayer.
"I know what it's like to be left behind," he said, "I know what it's like to have trouble learning."
He said that the quality of the schools in the county, which ranks next to last among school districts in per-pupil funding, is crucial to the economic development of the area.
"As long as our schools are last, and nobody puts them first," it will be difficult to attract large companies to the county, he said. "Education is what gets you out of poverty."
As a student, Reynolds said he received free lunches and free books because of his family's financial situation.
He opted not to join reversion the discussion, other than to say that he has been in favor of consolidating schools from the beginning.

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

Local students among those welcomed as JMU's class of 2025

James Madison University is excited to welcome the class of 2025 to campus this month. The incoming freshman class represents an accomplished, diverse group of individuals who hail from 35 states, the District of Columbia and 11 countries around the world.

The following local students have enrolled:

Caroline Cook, of Martinsville;

Lucas Wilson, of Martinsville;

Kaden Knight, of Ridgeway;

Shailey Holland-Penn, of Ridgeway;

Dylan Shelton, of Axton;

Dylan Royal of Martinsville

Katherine Wagoner, of Martinsville;

Autumn Wingfield, of Martinsville.

Founded in 1908, James Madison University is a public university located in Virginia's Shenandoah Valley. JMU is one of the nation's leading lights in higher education, where students enjoy engaging relationships with world-class faculty who drive education innovation and support advanced research. With state-of-the art amenities and facilities, students have access to NCAA Division 1 athletics. JMU also has the highest post-graduation job levels of all Virginia colleges.

Two appointed to Northam's administration

Governor Ralph Northam announced additional appointments to his administration, including two new members to the New College Institute

Michael L. Edwards, of Hanover, and Mary Yolanda Trigiani, of Abingdon.

According to the release, Edwards is the vice president of Kemper Consulting,

OBITUARIES

Mr. Robert Lee Tatum

Mr. Robert Lee Tatum, 64, of Stuart, passed away Wednesday, October 6, 2021, at Northern Regional Hospital in Mount Airy, N.C. He was born on June 8, 1957, to the late William Tatum and Ida Louise Glenn Tatum. Robert was a faithful member and deacon at True Gospel Holiness Church. He was a hard worker, a loving husband, a great dad, and devoted to his grandchildren.

Surviving are his wife, Cathy Craig Tatum, of Stuart; one daughter, Stephanie Hagwood and husband, Jerome; one



son, Christopher Tatum; two grandchildren, Aiden Hagwood and Mia Hagwood all of Stuart, two sisters, Bessie Hill and husband, Wayne, Linda Vargas and husband, Lee, all of Stuart; and two nieces, Lindy Penn, of North Carolina, and Kim Pruitt, of Stuart.

The funeral was held Monday, October 11, 2021, at True Gospel Holiness Church. Pastor Willie Reynolds presided. Burial was in the Church Cemetery. Online condolences may be sent to www.moodyfuneralservices.com.

Paul Frederick Wilshire

Paul Frederick Wilshire, 96, of Dunn, NC passed away on Wednesday, October 6, 2021, at his residence. He was born on June 15, 1925, in Montbéliard, France to the late Leonard Frederick Wilshire and Charlotte Bourguin Frederick.

Mr. Wilshire was a twenty-seven-year Veteran EMCPO of the United States Navy. He was a retiree of E.I. DuPont in Martinsville, VA, and an avid Brittany lover. A Veterans Emblem and Diamond Jubilee Certificate holder of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of North Carolina. A Shriner and a Lions Club international member.

He is survived by his loving wife of 36 years, Elva Turner Wilshire, and



his children, Catherine Brilla, Sharon Wilshire-Eshelmen, Debra Wilshire Blankenship, Kay Jones, and Paige Gregory; grandchildren, Jerri Lynn, Greg, Corey, Ryland, Joshua, Larisa, Jeremiah, Lucas, Logan, Justin, and Summer; great-grandchildren, Nathan, Emily, Peyton, Lauren, Ryder, Lavender, Elijah, Abigail, Emerson, Jackson, Claire, Lillian, and Maya.

A graveside service was held on Tuesday, October 12, 2021, at Roselawn Burial Park. Minister Lee Ashley officiated. Norris Funeral Services, Martinsville, VA is serving the Wilshire family. Online condolences may be made at www.norrisfuneral.com.

Thomas Stamps Law III

Thomas Stamps Law III, 68, of Axton, Va. passed away on October 9, 2021. He was born on January 4, 1953, in Henry County to Thomas Stamps Law, Jr. and Bernice Finney Law.

He was preceded in death by his father, Thomas Stamps Law Jr., his mother, Bernice Finney Law; sister, Anna Sue Collins; brother-in-law Kent Glass and nephew, James (Mark) Marshall Law.

He is survived by his wife Cathie Brooks Law of Axton; his sons Grayson Law (Kristen) and Michael Law (Tonya); his grandchildren, Ayden, Tyler, Reagan and Trinity Law; sister, Mary Beth Glass and brother, James (Jimmy) Law.

Tommy graduated from Laurel Park High School in 1972. He retired from Snyder's-Lance Inc. in 2019. Tommy and Cathie celebrated 50 years of marriage on July 11, 2021. He was a lifelong member of Mount Vernon Baptist Church in Axton, Va. He served for many years in



the Axton Volunteer Fire Department and was one of the founders of the Axton Life Saving Crew. Tommy was dearly loved by everyone. He never met a stranger. He had a caring heart for his family and friends throughout his life. He enjoyed being on his family farm and all were welcome. His grandchildren lovingly called him Pop. He loved having them by his side. His smile would light up the room and spread to everyone.

A memorial service was held on Wednesday, October 13, 2021, at Mount Vernon Baptist Church, officiated by Pastor George Agnew.

The family requests donations be sent to Axton Volunteer Fire Department or Axton Life Saving Crew in his memory.

Arrangements are by McKee-Stone Funeral Home-Martinsville, VA. To express condolences online, please visit www.collinsmckeeastonemartinsville.com.

Blue jeans, bling, and barbeque: Historical Society hosts annual fundraiser



Last year's Blue Jeans & Bling was a scaled-down event due to COVID-19 limitations on gatherings, but attendees still enjoyed a relaxed evening on the plaza of the historic courthouse.

Callie Hietala
Staff writer

The plaza of the historic courthouse in Uptown Martinsville will once again host a favorite local fundraiser with a little bit of flash when the Martinsville Henry County Historical Society (MHCHS) hosts its annual Blue Jeans & Bling on October 16.

The society has been hosting the popular event, which is its largest annual fundraiser, for nearly a decade.

"Proceeds of Blue Jeans & Bling will allow the Historical Society to continue our monthly lecture series and expand our community outreach, to invest in the future by updating our website and supporting Virginia History Day, and to maintain the Historic Henry County Courthouse," said Johnathan

Phillips, president of the MHCHS board.

This year, guests will be treated to a seated dinner of tender pulled pork barbeque, coleslaw, baked beans, and corn bread courtesy of Hugo's Restaurant and Sports Bar. Warm, indulgent peach and apple cobbles will be served for dessert.

Roanoke-based group RagTop—the acoustic duo of Jim and Renee Oliphant—are slated to perform their musical stylings which cover a variety of genres from soft rock, R&B, blues, and classic American standards.

An in-person silent auction will be held during the event. A second silent auction is currently available online and will close on the evening of the event. Auction items include Chick-fil-A gift cards, tickets to Rooster Walk



and Floydfest, admission passes to the Children's Museum of Richmond, and a deluxe group wine tasting at Barrel Oak Winery.

Tickets are \$35 in advance, \$40 at the door, or \$250 for a table of eight and can be purchased from any MHCHS board member by visiting the Heritage Center and Museum during its open hours (Tuesday-Friday from 1-5 p.m.), or by contacting the group at (276) 403-5361 or mhchistoricalsociety@gmail.com. Tickets include dinner, two drink tickets (a cash bar will be available), entertainment, and the chance to show of your favorite blue jeans and brightest bling to fellow Historical Society supporters.

To bid in the online silent auction, visit: app.galabid.com/bluejeans-bling2021/items.

Lynda Lee Russell Dignan

Lynda Lee Russell Dignan, 73, of Fieldale, VA passed away on Thursday, October 7, 2021, at the home she shared with her son. Lynda was born on October 3, 1948, to the late James Edward Russell and Alexandria Scheblein East. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her sister, Sharon Biesik.

Ms. Dignan worked at Bank of America for thirty-four years. She volunteered with Habitat for Humanity on several projects through Bank of America, and for ten years with the Michael Bolton



Foundation, now Michael Bolton Charities, where she was awarded an accommodation for her years of devoted service.

Surviving are her children, Dale W. Williams, and Dawn M. Dignan, sisters, Barbara "Crylea" Russell, and Diana Russell. Also surviving are her three grandchildren, born to her daughter, Destinee, Justice and Caroline.

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

Vincent Albert Perrin, Jr.

Vincent Albert Perrin, Jr., 70, of Ferrum, VA passed away on Saturday, October 9, 2021. He was born on September 12, 1951, in St. Louis, MO to the late Vincent Albert Perrin, Sr. and Patsy Jean Davis Maganza. In addition to his parents, he is preceded in death by his stepmother, Agnes Perrin, stepfather, David Maganza, and sister, Kathy Crosby.

Mr. Perrin served in the United States Marine Corps during the Vietnam War. He was a weapons expert in resonance. He graduated from Virginia Western Community College.

He is survived by his wife, Judy Perrin,



daughter, Mandee Perrin, sisters, Judy Wisdom, Susan All, Jeannie Anderson; brothers, Dean Maganza, and Bud Elliot. Also surviving are his granddaughters, Jordan White and Emalee White, a host of nieces and nephews, and his dogs, Rusty, Roxy, and Bella.

A celebration of life will be held on Saturday, October 23, 2021. Please contact a family member for further information.

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

Margaret English Lester

Margaret English Lester, 87, died October 9, 2021, at Sovah Health in Martinsville, Virginia. She was born May 18, 1934, in Altavista, Virginia, and was preceded in death by parents, Louise Towles English and William Curtiss English.

She graduated from Westhampton College, Richmond, Virginia in 1955. Upon graduation Margaret moved to Martinsville to teach elementary school where she met her husband of 63 years, Morton Waid Lester.

Margaret is survived by her husband, children, Courtney Lester Bell (Charles T. Bell), William Curtiss Lester, Beverley Lester Coleman (James D. Coleman, Jr.); grandchildren, Mary Margaret Whitfield (Alexander T. Whitfield), William Waid Lester, Katherine Scott Lester, James English Coleman, Tilden Lester Coleman, Anne Parker Coleman, step-grandchildren, Rives Brown Coleman (Tiffany J. Coleman), Lucy Coleman Mutch (Justin T. Mutch); and great-grandchildren, William White Whitfield, Margaret Wynn Whitfield; sisters, Joan English Allen (Richard R. Allen), Suzanne English Morse (John C. Morse), Beverley English Dalton (A. Douglas Dalton, Jr.).

Margaret was a member of The First Baptist Church of Martinsville where she had taught Sunday school. She served on the boards of Oak Hill Academy and



Martinsville YMCA. She enjoyed being a member of the El Libre Book Club.

She was a devoted wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, sister and friend. Margaret epitomized the word "lady". Her gentle, faithful soul resonated with anyone who was in her presence. She was the beloved "Nan" to her grandchildren and great-grandchildren. She was a constant cheerleader to her children and husband. While her generous spirit was her gift to individuals and

organizations, it was Margaret's quiet, non-judgmental nature that will long be remembered. She was always kind and took a genuine interest in the lives of others. She will leave as her legacy the same love of family and care for others.

The family expresses sincere gratitude to Rosetta Peatross.

The funeral was held at The First Baptist Church of Martinsville, 23 Starling Avenue, on Wednesday, October 13. A graveside service at Roselawn Burial Park followed.

The family requests memorials be made to Martinsville YMCA at 3 Starling Avenue, Martinsville, Virginia 24112, or to a charity of choice.

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

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

Bullying

from page 1



Magna Vista student Brayden Wilson presented a tribute to his friend Greyson Coleman. He told the board he felt sick to his stomach when he heard the news about Coleman’s death.



Career Academy cybersecurity students Logan Surber (far left), Hailey Ashworth, Ty Hairston, Luke Byrd, and Tyler Jones, along with instructor Donna Hicks (rear), shared various ways people can stay safe online.



Henry County Public Schools’ Director of Student Support Services Matt Woods said the school system recently implemented a social-emotional learning screener to help check in on students’ mental health.

dent.” However, she said the same standards do not apply if, for instance, a coach exhibits similar behavior.

“Making (the players) tough is one thing, but being just downright cruel and mean is wrong,” she said, and called for anti-bullying training for teachers, coaches, and other school staff.

“The thought of another parent, another family member, another student going through this, it breaks my heart,” she said. “I can’t stand the thought of it.”

Nydia Wilson, who said that she had children in Henry County schools, noted that six years ago, her daughter was bullied while attending what was Laurel Park Middle School.

“I pleaded with whoever would listen to please help her, but it continued,” she said. Eventually, Wilson said she homeschooled her daughter. Upon her daughter’s return to the classroom in her 8th grade year, “I soon learned the devastating gravity of what trauma from bullying and then isolation can do. It made her an easy target for a predator.”

Wilson said her 14-year-old daughter nearly ended her own life. “It was a fight for her to survive. All of this could have been prevented had adequate policies been in place at that time and if we were listened to when we begged for help.”

Wilson said this year, her son met Coleman and made a new friend in school. The day after Coleman’s suicide, she said a teacher read a pre-written statement to her son’s class explaining that the boy had died.

“There was not a counselor nor an extra support person in that classroom,” she said. “The class went on as usual. There are not enough proactive resources” to prevent bullying in schools. “Certainly not enough policy to hold children accountable.”

Statistics she presented from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the American Psychological Association (APA), indicated that 1 in 5 teens report being bullied each year.

“That’s 160,000 kids who miss school days each year for the fear of being bullied,” she said, adding that, according to the CDC, suicide is the third leading cause of death among young people and that, for every death that occurs, there are 100 more suicide attempts.

Additionally, victims of bullying are up to 9 times more likely to consider suicide than those who have not been bullied, she said.

“The one thing we can implement today is what we don’t have in Henry County, which is a zero-tolerance policy against bullying,” Wilson said, and suggested that schools “need strong consequences paired with requirements for bullies to receive counseling and mental health treatments. Long live Greyson.”

Brayden Wilson, a sophomore at Magna Vista, told the board about his experience going to school the day after Coleman’s suicide.

“It kind of makes you feel sick to your stomach as the reality of it sinks in,” he said, and read a tribute to his friend.

Matt Woods, director of student support services, said that counselors routinely teach character lessons related to well-being. The schools implemented a district-wide social-emotional learning (SEL) screener last year, and he is in the process now of helping schools and administrators analyze the data from this year’s screening to understand how students feel about schools and the relationships they have with staff and other students.

He added that there is an anonymous feedback tab on the district’s website where students, parents, and community members can reach out with concerns if they don’t feel comfortable talking directly to someone.

The United Way of Henry County & Martinsville and the Southside Survivor Response Center have co-sponsored the Talk-It-Out hotline, where concerns can be raised and then forwarded to the schools.

Schools Superintendent Sandy Strayer said she has received messages both through the anonymous website tab as well as from board members.

“Whatever makes you feel most comfortable, we want to know what’s going on,” she said, and emphasized that communication between parents, students, and staff is crucial.

“You can’t improve what you don’t know,” she said, encouraging parents to speak out if an issue happens again, rather than just reporting it once.

She said that the school system trains its staff on bullying.

“We are doing training with our staff. We will continue to do staff training, and that includes people that are not teachers,” she said. “We take every situation seriously.”

Strayer added that the county has a zero tolerance when it comes to bullying. However, just as it cannot discuss personnel issues, the schools also do not publicly share actions taken regarding students.

“We discuss student issues with their family members,”

Strayer said, but cannot discuss it with other people. “That’s where trust is very important. You have to trust that we’re going to do what’s right by the students.”

In other matters, the board:

- * Heard from several during public comment who spoke against the mask mandate in schools.
- * Heard two proclamations from Gov. Ralph Northam. The first proclaimed the month of October Bullying Prevention Awareness Month and the second declaring October Disability Employment Awareness Month.
- * Heard from a group of cybersecurity students and instructor Donna Hicks, from the Career Academy, about how to stay safe online in honor of Cybersecurity Awareness Month.
- * Approved the consent agenda, including minutes from the September 2 meeting and payment of regular bills.
- * Approved the reimbursement of \$174,773.12 to the nutrition budget for extra costs incurred due to COVID-19. The board approved an additional appropriation of \$235,061 to the nutrition budget for the fresh fruit and vegetable program.
- * Viewed the superintendent’s monthly highlights video.

Witness signature required on all absentee ballots

The Virginia Department of Elections wants to remind voters that witness signatures are required on all absentee ballots being cast in the 2021 General Election.

If a general registrar finds after examining a returned absentee ballot envelope that the witness signature is missing, the voter will be notified within three days after receipt in the registrar’s office that the ballot requires modification. The voter will have until noon on the third day after the election (or November 5) to correct the ballot so it can be counted.

ELECT encourages voters to return their absentee ballot at their earliest convenience. A voter may return their absentee ballot

by delivering it to:

- The United States Postal Service (USPS) or a commercial delivery service (such as FedEx or UPS). All absentee ballots include pre-paid postage through the USPS;
- A drop-off location listed on their county or city’s official website;
- The Office of the General Registrar in their county or city; or,
- Any polling place within their county or city on Election Day.

Completed absentee ballots must be postmarked by Election Day and received by local registrars by noon on Friday, November 5, 2021. If a ballot is personally delivered, it must be returned to the general registrar’s office or drop-off location by 7 p.m. on Election Day.

Voters who have requested an absentee ballot can track their ballot here: <https://v2.ballotscout.org/virginia/search/state>. If a voter is concerned that they do not have enough time to return their ballot by mail, ELECT encourages voters to personally deliver their ballot to their local general registrar’s office, a ballot drop-off location, or vote in-person.

CROSSWORD ANSWERS

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

Collinsville candidates raise funds for volunteer fire department

Collinsville Board of Supervisors candidate Andrew Palmer and School Board candidate Ray Reynolds are raising funds for the Collinsville Volunteer Fire Department.

In just 48 hours, the two had amassed more than \$4,000, they announced at an October 7 press conference. The effort is in response to a request for \$957,200 in additional funding for Henry County’s volunteer fire departments that was presented to the Board of Supervisors at a recent meeting.

Fieldale’s Fire Chief Todd Norman made the request, speaking on behalf of all eight of the county’s volunteer fire departments. He told the board that there is a critical, county-wide need for turn-out gear (pants, coat, boots, helmet, and gloves) and air packs.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Norman said most fundraising activities have either been cancelled or scaled back, meaning departments are dealing with rising costs (a 6.3 percent annual increase between 2016 and 2019), and dwindling donations. He said the county’s volunteer fire departments have lost more than \$74,000 in potential donations in 2020 compared to what was raised in 2019. Norman noted the county received \$8.8 million in CARES Act funds, \$80,000 of which was distributed to the fire departments (\$10,000 per department.)

He added that the annual funds the departments receive from the county are put toward basic expenses such as fuel, insurance, repairs, and utilities, but do not typically cover major purchases like the turn-out gear and air packs.

Every fire department in the county has applied for funding through the Federal Emergency Management Agency’s (FEMA) Assistance to Firefighters Grants (AFG), but a competitive grant process and decreasing funding available in the grant program have resulted in only two of the departments—Dyer’s Store and Ridgeway—receiving grant money in the last two years. The funds were used to purchase air packs. It was recently announced that the Collinsville department

would also receive AFG grant funding for new air packs.

Currently, 71 air-packs have outlived their 15-year lifespan and must be replaced across four departments—Axton, Horsepasture, Patrick Henry, and Fieldale. Each pack is \$7,500. All eight departments have a critical need for new turn-out gear, which has a lifespan of ten years. Norman requested a total of 137 new gear sets, each costing \$3,100.

The supervisors did not take immediate action on the funding request.

Standing with Reynolds in front of the Collinsville Volunteer Fire Department last week, Palmer said that “first responders spoke up and said they felt Henry County wasn’t doing enough to provide equipment for them.” He and Reynolds decided they wanted to do something to help the volunteer fire department in their district. “We wanted to rally behind the community. We wanted to show the Collinsville Volunteer Fire Department that we do care about them, we hear their

needs, and if the Board of Supervisors won’t act to help them out, we will personally.”

Reynolds said that one of the reasons he wanted to help the fire department is because, in 1997, his house caught fire and the Collinsville Volunteer Fire Department was first on the scene. Volunteer firefighter Jeff Wickline carried Reynolds out of the house and saved his life. “Ever since then, I’ve wanted to do something to give back.”

“The bottom line is you’ve got to take care of the people that take care of you,” Reynolds added.

The two men started making phone calls. Within 48 hours, they had collected the funds presented, along with promises of at least \$1,000 more. The two said they intend to continue to raise money until election day. The next day, November 3, the donations collected will be presented to the department. The two also challenged county officials to match the funds raised.



Ray Reynolds (left) and Andrew Palmer held a press conference outside the Collinsville Volunteer Fire Department to announce that they were raising funds to support the department. Reynolds, a school board candidate, and Palmer, who is running for the Board of Supervisors, will raise money until election day, and have challenged the Board of Supervisors to match the funds collected.



Fieldale Fire Chief Todd Norman asked the Board of Supervisors for \$957,200 in additional funding for Henry County’s eight volunteer fire departments to buy new air-packs and turn-out gear for the firefighters.

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.

Durden

from page 1

heard if they spoke up or were not sure who to approach with their concerns.

Durden hopes she would be someone those residents could bring their concerns to, or at the very least she could help connect them with the right people, she said.

In speaking to those who contacted their school board representative, Durden said she heard several times that those board members, rather than responding directly to a constituent, would simply forward the message along to a school administrator.

“Acknowledging the issues and making people feel like they’re being heard is really important,” she said.

An advocate of complete transparency in actions of the school board, Durden said, “I will say that I truly believe our current school board does that, but I don’t think everybody gets the information. We get inundated with emails and websites every day and it’s hard to sift through that.”

She said there is a need for more direct, two-way communication between community, parents, teachers, the school board, and administration. For her, that communication would come in the form of more in-person opportunities.

“Our PTOs (Parent Teacher Organizations) went virtual, and they really haven’t gotten back to meeting (in person),” she said. Everything has gone to online and emails, and “we really need to get back to face to face.”

Durden is willing to help facilitate that return to in-person interactions.

From conversations she’s had, the biggest

thing she feels is lacking in the school district is an environment in which teachers feel as though they can have a voice without facing repercussions. She said that the county’s teachers need more input into the decision-making process without feeling as though they need to hold back.

Conversely, Durden praised the division for the incredibly positive culture it has fostered toward the students.

“Every teacher, board member, and administrator I have come in contact with truly cares about these children. I don’t think they look at them in terms of money or numbers, I think they see each child as an individual person and respect them and care about them, and I don’t think a lot of places have that,” she said.

Being a parent with children in the county’s school system, Durden said she gets to see, from the bottom up, how decisions by federal, state, and local government affect her children and her family.

As a school board member, looking from the top down, she would be able to have a complete picture of cause and effect, how the decisions she will help make directly impact students and parents.

Additionally, Durden pointed to her background working in the division. Her experience having worked on in that department, and more specifically on the budget, has given her more insight into the inner workings of the school district than an outsider might have, she said.

“Parents do not just need a seat at the table, they need a voice,” Durden said.

Reynolds

from page 1

class, and it would have been better morale for everybody. The schools need more support.”

If elected, Reynolds pledged to work with the supervisors to increase the amount of local funds to the school division. He said the county currently ranks 131st out of 132 school districts in per-pupil funding, spending \$1,734.02 per student each fiscal year.

“We only get 4 cents on the dollar more per student than the state mandates,” he said. In 2008, the school system was receiving \$1,994.56 per student and in 2012 the total was \$2,213.58. He said he believes the decreased funding from the county is due, in part, to the new jail and the investment made in the Commonwealth Crossing Business Centre.

Funding, Reynolds said, is the key to a successful school system.

“If you lack funds, that means you’re lacking in education,” and are without money to hire more teachers, students get less one-on-one instruction, he said.

He also said that county officials took \$1,227,853 from local funds that are typically used to hire more teachers, increase teacher salaries, and hire school counselors. Reynolds said he would advocate for those funds to be returned to the school division.

The county’s biggest challenge, Reynolds said, is halting Martinsville’s reversion.

“It’s going to destroy our current tax base,” he said, and added that will negatively affect the school division’s budget as well as the overall morale of the community.

“Since the county has been forced to do this,” Reynolds said, “I think there would be a lot of animosity between county and city residents.”

He believes reversion should be put to a referendum to include the voices of residents – those who would be most affected.

Reynolds said he sees several options to combine school systems, which has been a central topic of the reversion discussion. He added that he would like to explore the financial feasibility of consolidating city and county school systems, but another option could be the county contracting to operate city schools. He is already envisioning what he would do as a school board member if reversion moves forward and the county takes control of the city’s schools.

“Martinsville High School needs a gym, and we cannot afford to spend \$20 million on a gym,” he said. However, the legacy of the high school and its importance to the community should be preserved. If reversion does move forward, Reynolds said, he would like to reopen Laurel Park High School, move students there, and repurpose the current high school as both a central office for the school superintendent and other staff, and as a career/trade school.

A potential third use for the building—that of a transition school, which would help non-English speaking students work with teachers to improve their language, comprehension, and writing skills before moving into a more traditional classroom, also is on his radar.

“We had 315 students who needed English-speaking skills last year,” Reynolds said, adding that overall, he would like to see increased transparency in local government.

“I want everybody to be able to see what goes on,” he said. “I want to stop the backdoor meetings.”

He suggested joint meetings of two boards would give residents an opportunity to see how both bodies function.

“I’ve always wondered why we couldn’t have the meetings together,” Reynolds said. If the county oversees school funding, “I think taxpayers have a right to be there to witness what goes on between the school board and the supervisors.”

Though he sees much he would like to improve if elected, Reynolds said the county continues to excel at protecting students, faculty, and staff during the pandemic. He also congratulated the school system on the construction of a new centrally located bus garage and maintenance facility, which will allow buses to get to each school within 8-10 minutes. This will be especially beneficial in the event of an emergency in which students need to be quickly evacuated.

Reynolds said he has donated 20 years of his life to the schools as a volunteer. He also is the organizer of the annual Jennifer Short Memorial Scholarship Ride, now in its 19th year. Operating under the umbrella of the Bassett Kiwanis Foundation, the ride has raised over \$40,000 and provided 57 scholarships to Bassett High School students.

If elected, “I will be your voice,” Reynolds said.

CLASSIFIEDS

To place a classified ad or for more information call (276) 694-3101.

PUBLISHER'S NOTICE

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

SERVICES

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

HAZELWOOD TRUCKING, INC.
Gravel, sand, dirt. Contact Danny or Mike (276) 694-7718. Over 60 years of experience.

Serving Patrick County and surrounding areas.

CLAYTON KENDRICK PAVING
Gravel hauling and spreading/grading, paving and seal coating. 35 years' experience in spreading gravel and

SERVICES

paving.
Reasonable rates.
Call (276) 694-7786 or (276) 340-8786 (cell)

HELP WANTED

KREAGER WOODWORKING

Kreager Woodworking, Inc. is seeking full time employees for 1st and 2nd shift. Open positions include CNC operators, general wood-working machine operators, forklift drivers, and floor help. We offer major medical insur-

HELP WANTED

ance and competitive pay. Apply at 9412 Jeb Stuart Hwy. Meadows of Dan, VA (near Lovers Leap) between the hours of 8 a.m. – 3 p.m. M-F. Call for after-hours appointment.

FOR SALE

LA-Z-BOYS, RECLINERS, and LIFT CHAIRS
Available now!
Riverside Furniture
1580 Greensboro Road
Martinsville, VA 24112
(276) 632-1286

COUNTY OF HENRY BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

Pursuant to Section 15.2-2204 of the Code of Virginia, a series of public hearings has been scheduled for **October 27, 2021, at 1:00 p.m.** in the Summerlin Meeting Room of the County Administration Building, Kings Mountain Rd., Collinsville, Virginia. The purpose of these public hearings is to receive citizen input into the possible issuance of Special Use Permits for the following cases.

Case S-21-18 Ashleigh Taylor Wheeler
A request for a Special Use Permit was received under Section 21-602 of the Henry County Zoning Ordinance to allow for the establishment of a Family Day Care Home to accommodate up to 12 children. The property is located at 81 Spring Garden Lane in the Blackberry District, and is zoned Suburban Residential District S-R as shown on Tax Map 14.4(24)1/1.

Case S-21-19 JRS Realty Partners, LLC / Fieldale School
A request for a Special Use Permit has been received under Section 21-602 of the Zoning Ordinance to allow for the conversion of the former school into approximately 23 apartment units. The property is located at 100 Marshall Way, in the Horsepasture District, and shown on Tax Map 40.2/75. The property is scheduled to be rezoned by the Board of Supervisors on October 26, 2021, to Suburban Residential District S-R.

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

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS HENRY COUNTY PUBLIC SERVICE AUTHORITY COLLINSVILLE, VIRGINIA PRESTON ROAD WATER LINE EXTENSION CONTRACT 1 - MAIN TRANSMISSION LINE CONTRACT 2 - BRANCH LINES BID #21-11183-3086

Sealed bids for construction of the Preston Road Water Line Extension will be received by the County of Henry in Room 210 Purchasing Department at the Henry County Administration Building, P.O. Box 7 Collinsville, VA 24078 (Postal Service) or 3300 Kings Mountain Road, Martinsville, VA 24112 (UPS or Fed Ex) until 3:00 p.m. on November 18, 2021 and then at said location publicly opened and read aloud in the 1st Floor Board of Supervisors Room. Bids will be received for the following:

CONTRACT 1: Construction includes approximately 19,500 LF of 12" and 14" water line and related improvements.

CONTRACT 2: Construction of the Base Bid includes approximately 12,000 LF of 8" and smaller extension water lines and related improvements. Two Additive Bids are also being considered. Additive Bid 1 includes approximately 3,870 LF of 8" water lines and related improvements. Additive Bid 2 includes approximately 2,130 LF of 8" water lines and related improvements.

The Issuing Office for the Bidding Documents is: The Lane Group, 119 North Main Street, Galax, Virginia 24333, Phone (276) 236-4588, e-mail shippis@thelanegrp.com. Prospective Bidders may examine the Bidding Documents at the Issuing Office on Mondays through Thursdays between the hours of 7:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.; Friday between the hours of 7:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. and may obtain copies of the Bidding Documents from the Issuing Office or as described below.

Bidding Documents also may be examined at:
Henry County Administration Building, Engineering & Mapping Department, Room 208 or Purchasing Department, Room 210, 3300 Kings Mountain Road, Martinsville, Virginia 24112
Online at: Valley Construction News, 426 Campbell Avenue, Roanoke, Virginia 24016
Dodge Data & Analytics (subscription required)
Carolinas AGC iSoft (subscription required)

Printed copies of the Bidding Documents may be obtained from the Issuing Office, during the hours indicated above, upon payment of a non-refundable fee of \$175.00 for each set. A CD containing PDF files of the Bidding Documents may be obtained for a non-refundable fee of \$50.00. Checks for Bidding Documents shall be payable to "The Lane Group." Upon request and receipt of the document fee indicated above, Bidding Documents may be picked up at the Issuing Office or will be transmitted via delivery service. The date that the Bidding Documents are picked up/transmitted by the Issuing Office will be considered the Bidder's date of receipt of the Bidding Documents. Partial sets of Bidding Documents will not be available from the Issuing Office. Neither Owner nor Engineer will be responsible for full or partial sets of Bidding Documents, including Addenda if any, obtained from sources other than the Issuing Office.

The procedure for withdrawal of bids shall be according to provision B.1 contained in Va. Code § 2.2-4330, as amended.

If a contract is for one hundred twenty thousand dollars (\$120,000) or more, or if the total value of all construction, removal, repair, or improvements undertaken by the bidder within any twelve-month period is seven hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$750,000) or more, the bidder is required under Title 54, Chapter 11, Code of Virginia (1950) as amended, to show evidence of being licensed as a "Class A Contractor." If a contract is ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) or more, but less than one hundred twenty thousand dollars (\$120,000), the bidder is required to show evidence of being licensed as a "Class B Contractor." The bidder shall place on the outside of the envelope containing the bid and shall place in the bid over his signature whichever of the following notations is appropriate:

"Licensed Class A Virginia Contractor No. _____"
"Licensed Class B Virginia Contractor No. _____"

The Henry County Public Service Authority is an Equal Opportunity Employer and will not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, sex, national origin, age, handicap or familial status. MBE/WBE firms are encouraged to submit bids.

Bidders must comply with the following: the President's Executive Order #11246 prohibiting discrimination in employment regarding race, color, creed, sex, or national origin; the President's Executive Orders #12138 and 11625 regarding utilization of MBE/WBE firms; the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Davis-Bacon Act and Section 436 of P.L. 113-76, American Iron and Steel. Bidders must certify that they do not or will not maintain or provide for their employees any facilities that are segregated on the basis of race, color, creed, or national origin.

An optional Pre-Bid Conference is scheduled to be held at **10:00 a.m.** local time on **October 27, 2021** in the 1st Floor Board of Supervisors Room of the Henry County Administration Building located at 3300 Kings Mountain Road, Martinsville, Virginia. Attendance is not mandatory, but all BIDDERS are encouraged to attend.

by: Mr. Tim Hall
General Manager

www.henrycountyenterprise.com

ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS
IN HENRY COUNTY ENTERPRISE
FOR FALL HOME IMPROVEMENT



CONTACT LIZ AT (276) 693-3713 OR
ADVERTISING@THEENTERPRISE.NET



CLASSIFIEDS



P&HCC’s food pantry receives donation

Together, the Virginia Foundation for Community College Education (VFCCE) and the Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield Foundation donated \$3,400 to the Patrick & Henry Community College Foundation to support the college’s hunger relief efforts. P&HCC will use the funds to ensure the food pantry on

campus is stocked full of non-perishable grocery items and essential hygiene and household products. Across America, food insecurity has always been a concern especially for nontraditional college students who are working and raising families while also attending classes. However, in 2020, the pan-

demically exacerbated those needs. According to the research and advocacy arm of Chegg.org, approximately a quarter of the students polled expressed concerns about food insecurity and nearly a third reported that hunger had impacted their ability to study. Every semester since P&HCC started the food

pantry in 2017, staff members have worked hard to keep the pantry stocked for the many students who need it. This semester, the pantry has already served more than 100 different students. For so many, the pantry is a critical resource to help them feed themselves and their families. To keep the pantry stocked,

the college mainly relies on donations from donors like VFCCE and other community and campus partners. With the funds from VFCCE and Anthem, the college intends to purchase non-perishable food items to stock the pantry shelves as well as campus meals and grocery gift cards as needed.

Initiative helps elementary school students

Campbell Court Elementary School received a donation from Nelson Subaru to support teachers and students through a larger Subaru of America, Inc. (SOA) initiative called Subaru Loves Learning, a program to help further equity in education. Teaming up with philanthropic partner AdoptAClassroom.org, Campbell Court Elementary and more than 600 schools across the country received funding to equip their class-

rooms with the resources necessary for students to learn and thrive in school. Nationally, this landmark partnership will benefit more than 114,000 students during the 2021/2022 school year. As part of the initiative, which aims to help make learning accessible to as many children as possible, the Nelson Subaru donation will help support more than 115 students in grades preK-5. Teachers will be able to purchase the supplies, materials and tools their

students need through the national non-profit, AdoptAClassroom.org. These vital classroom resources are intended to enhance education and help Bassett students learn and succeed in school. “We are so honored to have the support of the community through donations such as this. The items each of the impacted classrooms will receive will help to encourage each student to learn in exciting ways,” said Campbell Court principal, Kenya Gravely.



First graders Braylon Lusk, Oakley McMillian, and Destiny Shifflett show some of the supplies their teacher, Christy Helms, received as part of the Subaru Loves Learning donation.

Great Goblin Gallop set

The 24th annual Great Goblin Gallop 5K will be held Saturday, October 23, at Druid

Hills in Martinsville. Race participants receive custom long sleeve shirts, race goodies, pumpkin

pie after the race, and get to enjoy a fun and beautiful loop course around Lake Lanier.

Custom medals are given to the top three overall winners and top three in each five-year age group for male and female. The race fee is \$20

before October 23 and \$25 on race day. This race is open to all ages and skill levels. Race day registration and packet pickup is from 9 to 9:45 a.m.,

and the race begins at 10 a.m. Call Henry County Parks and Recreation at (276) 634-4640 for more information or to register.



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

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)。

Martinsville Speedway to host event to benefit annual Christmas Toy Drive

Martinsville Speedway will host Track Laps for Charity on Wednesday, Oct. 27 from 7 to 9 p.m. Track Laps for Charity offers fans the opportunity to drive their personal vehicle around Martinsville’s historic half-mile during race week of the NASCAR Playoffs for a donation of \$25. All proceeds will support the 27th annual Christmas Toy Drive to benefit the Grace Network of Martinsville and Henry County. “Before the penultimate races of the NASCAR season, Martinsville Speedway will host Track Laps for Charity to offer fans the opportunity to drive their family and friends around the historic half-mile of where legends have competed,” said Clay Campbell, Martinsville Speedway President. “We look forward to welcoming the community back to the track for a fun event to benefit the 27th Annual Christmas Toy Drive.” In December, Martinsville Speedway also will host the 27th Annual Christmas Toy Drive. For more than 26 years, the Christmas Toy Drive has impacted more than 10,000 area children with gifts to unwrap on Christmas morning in Martinsville and Henry County. The Christmas Toy Drive is one of the most popular annual events in the greater Martinsville region, as residents from Henry County and the surrounding counties in Virginia and North Carolina come to support those in need. Donated toys and monetary donations are distributed to more than 700 area children through the Grace Network of Martinsville and Henry County, which

is a faith-based, first-stop center for resources for families in crisis. The organization supports those in the community who need support to keep a roof over their heads, homes warm and lighted, and food on the table with short-term assistance and long-term solutions. To learn more about the Grace Network of Martinsville and Henry County, visit gracenetworkmhc.org. To participate in Track Laps for Charity, fans must abide by the following rules to provide all participants with a safe experience: All drivers must be 18 years of age or older with a valid state-issued driver’s license. Driver and passengers must sign Track Laps for Charity waivers. All participants must adhere to Virginia state laws regarding the usage of seat belts and child safety restraints. Passenger vehicles only; motorcycles are not permitted. Maximum speed is 55 miles per hour and regulated by Martinsville Speedway personnel in the Official Chevrolet Camaro Pace Car. Drivers must stay up to speed and refrain from lagging to speed up. Track Laps for Charity may be postponed or canceled due to inclement weather or safety conditions. If a cancellation is necessary, Martinsville Speedway will make its best effort to contact guests in advance of their visit. For more information on Martinsville Speedway’s Track Laps for Charity, or visit www.martinsvillespeedway.com/events/tracklapsforcharity.