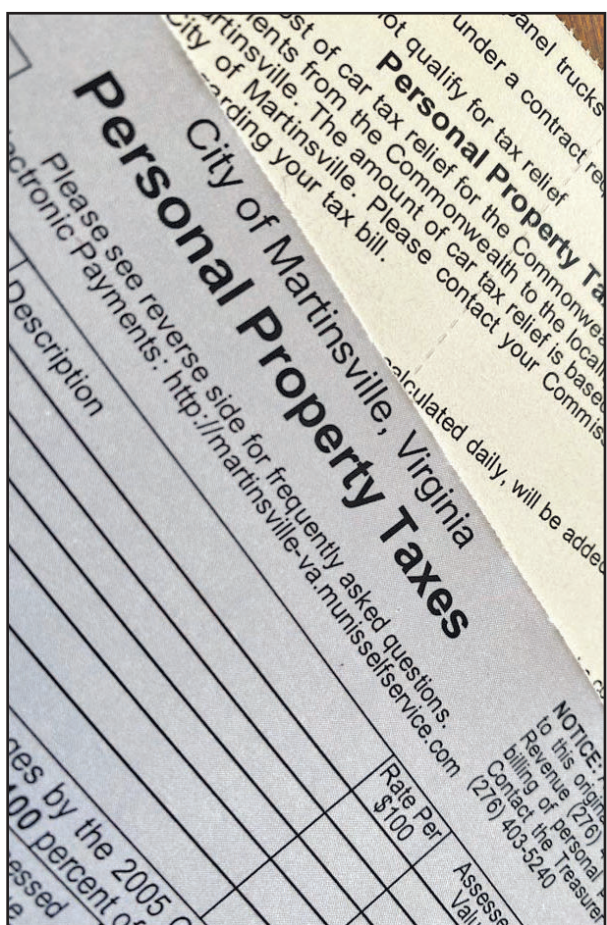


HENRY COUNTY ENTERPRISE

Saturday, November 6, 2021

(USPS-6)

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Martinsville residents recently received their personal property tax bills. For many, the amount of taxes they must pay this year is higher than what they paid last year. This is not due to an increase in the city's tax rate but because of an increase in vehicle values caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Higher tax bills caused by increase in vehicle valuation

Callie Hietala
Staff writer

Taxpayers in Martinsville may have noticed an increase in their personal property taxes this year.

Bills were recently mailed out to city residents, "and we've been fielding calls ever since," said the city's Commissioner of Revenue Ruth Easley.

The higher bill is due to an increase in the assessed value of vehicles, and not to an increase in the city's tax rate, which has remained steady at \$2.30 per \$100 of assessed value for last 15 years or so, she said. Easley explained the situation during a recent meeting of the Martinsville City Council.

According to Easley, vehicle value assessments were higher this year due to an increase in value for both new and used cars. She said that new car prices increased 6 percent over 2020, while the average prices for used cars went up 14 percent, rising 10 percent just in the summer of 2020.

"Historically," she said, "we see used car prices depreciate year over year and month to month." However, several factors contributed to the increased value that served as the basis for this year's tax bill.

During the early months of the COVID-19 pandemic, many auto industry manufacturers pivoted from manufacturing cars to producing ventilators and personal protective equipment (PPE) which, Easley explained, created a shortage in new car inventory.

Additionally, many people used COVID-19 stimulus money to purchase new vehicles including cars, trucks, boats, and RVs. Increased demand, coupled with a shortage of new car inventory, caused prices to go up.

By January 1, 2021 (the evaluation date used by both Martinsville and Henry County for per-

sonal property tax assessments), vehicle values had increased over their 2020 values, particularly with pickup trucks and sports cars, which actually appreciated rather than seeing the normal depreciation expected in a typical year.

Another factor that played into these increased values, Easley said, was large fleet companies such as rental car companies not replacing their vehicles as they normally do, decreasing the number of used vehicles on the market.

Ultimately, the low supply and high demand for vehicles increased vehicle values and reduced the amount of tax relief each taxpayer received. The tax relief credit is a set dollar amount provided by the state which is divided by the total tax of all qualifying vehicles in the city.

"When the values go up like they did, it lowered your personal property tax relief percentage that you got," Easley said. "Not only did the value of the vehicles go up, the credit that you get from the Commonwealth went down, because we had about 200 more vehicles in fleet this year and about 4 million additional dollars in assessed value."

Henry County's Commissioner of Revenue Linda Love said county residents can expect to see tax bills in the mail within the next few weeks, though she is not aware of a significant spike over last year. The county's personal property tax rate is \$1.55 per \$100 of assessed value.

Love said the county uses the JD Power (formerly National Automobile Dealers Association or NADA) clean loan valuation guides for assessments.

Easley said that the city uses the same guides, and warned taxpayers that "what you see on your tax bills today, you'll probably see again next year. But, "there are indicators that the values are starting to cool off now."

City, county differ in political allegiances on Election Day

Callie Hietala
Staff writer

Henry County and Martinsville's political differences were highlighted this election, with city residents heavily favoring Democrat candidates while voters in the county overwhelmingly supported the GOP.

In the governor's race, Martinsville voters chose Democrat Terry McAuliffe, with a total of 2,206 votes cast for him versus 1,675 cast for Republican candidate Glenn Youngkin, according to unofficial results provided by the city registrar.

Henry County voters overwhelmingly supported Youngkin, casting 12,912 votes for the Republican while only 5,535 voters chose McAuliffe, according to unofficial results on the Virginia Department of Elections website.

Seventy-five votes were cast in the county and 40 in the city for Libertarian candidate Princess L. Blanding.

City voters also leaned heavily toward Democrat candidates in the races for Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, and the House of Delegates race for the 16th District between incumbent Les Adams, R, and challenger Chance Trevillian. City voters cast 2,112 ballots for Trevillian, a democrat, and 1,695 for Adams.

County voters leaned heavily Republican in each of those races. According to unofficial results,

Adams received 4,889 votes and Trevillian had 2,007.

"It is a tremendous privilege for me to represent my friends and neighbors in Southside Virginia and I am honored by their vote for another term in the General Assembly," Adams said. "I thank everyone who supported me in this campaign and want them to know it is something that I never take for granted."

Republican Wren Williams beat out Democrat Bridgette Craighead in Henry County for the 9th District House of Delegates seat, with 4,350 votes to Craighead's 1,500.

"I was not expecting such a large win," Williams said. I want to thank Delegate Charles Poindexter for his years of service to this community, and Ms. Bridgette Craighead for running in this race as well."

"I jumped into this race because many people felt they had no strong voice for them in Richmond," he said. "Liberals in Northern Virginia have been running the whole state on their terms, with no regard for our livelihood and conservative values. They have pushed Critical Race Theory on our kids, tried to pass laws infringing the 2nd Amendment, and left our election laws ripe for abuse. It will be my honor to fight for Southside and Southwest Virginia, and be a strong voice for our conservative values."

In the 14th District, incumbent Republican Del. Danny Marshall won among county voters with

3,824 votes. His opponent Rhett Deitz, a democrat, garnered 1,728 votes, according to unofficial results on the state website.

"I think that a lot of folks on our side of the aisle worked hard to get to this position," Marshall said, and added that he thought there was a sense of "buyer's remorse" over the last two years as many felt the state moved too far left. "The issues (the Democrats) brought forth are not ones the people of the 14th District agree with."

Now, he said, "we have to plan how Virginia moves forward."

In local races, incumbent Joe Bryant beat out challenger Andrew Palmer to retain his Collinsville District seat on the Henry County Board of Supervisors. According to unofficial results, 1,594 Collinsville voters supported Bryant to 1,161 ballots for Palmer.

Bryant said that he was glad the race was over and felt he and Palmer were able to finish out a contentious and sometimes negative race on peaceful terms. He is happy to continue his work as supervisor and has some projects in the pipeline that he is grateful he will get to see come to fruition. "We've got a good crew in the Board of Supervisors. No one person can do it by themselves. We're a team," Bryant said, and added that he will not seek another term.

Palmer congratulated Bryant on

See Election, page 6

Major apparel company to create 82 new jobs

The VF Corporation, a global leader in branded lifestyle apparel, footwear, and accessories, will invest \$10.2 million to grow their operation in Henry County, Gov. Ralph Northam recently announced. The expansion will create 82 jobs.

The company will use its 500,000-square-foot facility in Martinsville to increase distribution capacity to deliver products to its consumers faster. Virginia successfully competed with California and Pennsylvania for the project.

"VF Corporation has thrived in Henry County for nearly 20 years, and we are thrilled to see the company continue to invest in the Commonwealth," said Northam. "Virginia's strong outdoor recreation economy supports the growth of companies like VF Corporation. We look forward to the company's continued success here in the

Commonwealth as our ecotourism industry grows."

The company owns and operates a family of iconic outdoor, active, and workwear brands including Vans®, The North Face®, Timberland®, and Dickies®. VF Corporation has been an employer in Henry County since 2003.

"VF Corporation focuses heavily on the wellbeing of its customers and the communities it operates in, and it has been a partner of the Commonwealth for close to two decades," said Secretary of Commerce and Trade Brian Ball. "We are confident that Henry County's strategic location and quality-of-life amenities, business environment, and topnotch workforce will continue to propel VF Corporation to success, and we look forward to continuing our partnership with the company for years to come."

Northam "created the Office

of Outdoor Recreation to get the most out of Virginia's unique and diverse natural assets," said Deputy Secretary of Commerce and Trade and Director of the Office of Outdoor Recreation Cassidy Rasnick. "VF Corporation is a global powerhouse in the outdoor industry, and its decision to invest in Henry County demonstrates that this industry can be a true driver of economic development for communities in which it operates."

"We've proudly operated our distribution center in Martinsville for 18 years and we know that continuing to invest in Martinsville is the right choice given its location and committed employees," said Cameron Bailey, VF Corporation Executive Vice President, Global Supply Chain. "The planned investments in this

See VF Corporation, page 2

Pilot program "a leap forward" in healthcare for vets

Callie Hietala
Staff writer

Virginia's Acting Secretary of Veterans and Defense Affairs

Kathleen Jobs and Commissioner for the Virginia Department of Veterans Services John Maxwell visited Martinsville last

Thursday to learn about a new pilot telehealth program for veterans, the first of its kind being implemented in the Commonwealth.

The new program, which Jobs lauded as a "model for modern care," greatly reduces travel time for veterans who previously had to travel to the Salem V.A. Medical Center or other, more distant, locations for medical care and services.

See Pilot, page 8



Telehealth Registered Nurse Jeanine Bomber (left) shows Acting Secretary of Veterans and Defense Affairs Kathleen Jobs the telehealth case used to transport medical equipment to provide basic medical checkups to veterans. The Henry/Martinsville Health Department is piloting a new program which will provide vets medical care while eliminating the need to drive to the Salem V.A. or other distant locations.

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

Saturday, Nov. 6

Fido's Finds and Kitties Collectibles at 119 East Main Street in Uptown Martinsville will wrap up its Big Basement Sale from 9 a.m. - 2p.m. Thousands of items will be at bargain basement prices and proceeds go to the Martinsville-Henry County SPCA. For more information please contact Fido's Finds at (276) 656-1101 or the SPCA at (276) 638-7297

Horsepasture Christian Church is hosting a spaghetti dinner from 4:30-7 p.m.

The Disability Rights and Resource Center will be holding its Annual Meeting, which is open to the public, at the Virginia Museum of Natural History, 21 Starling Avenue, Martinsville, on November 13 at 9:30 a.m. in the Distance Learning Classroom.

Monday, Nov. 8

The Martinsville City Public Schools School Board will hold its regular meeting beginning at 6 p.m. in council chambers in the city municipal building.

Thursday, Nov. 11

The 73rd annual Veterans Day Service will be held at 11 a.m. at the HJDB Event Center in Bassett. Awards will be presented for Veteran of the Year and Outstanding Veteran. The event is free and open to the public.

Patrick & Henry Community College will present a Lunch & Learn via Zoom entitled "WOW with Public Speaking." Participants will learn and practice methods of successful public speaking. Pre-registration is required. To learn more or to register, visit ph.augusoft.net or

call (276) 656-0260.

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 Piedmont Arts 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.

The Spencer Penn Centre is hosting its next music night featuring the Snow Creek Ole Tyme Band in the Alumni Hall. Come enjoy some great music! Concessions will be sold, and social distancing will be required along with masking when distancing is not possible. The gate opens at 5 p.m. and music begins at 6:20. Admission is a \$5 donation. For more information, call (276) 957-5757

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.

The Spencer Penn Centre will host its annual Fall Fair from 10

a.m.-3 p.m. The fair includes vendors, food trucks, a book sale, paint class, and Barnival on the Ballfield with the Pig Train! Admission to the fair is free for all with an additional cost for children's activities. For more information, call (276) 957-5757.

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.

The annual Martinsville-Henry County Christmas Parade gets underway at 5 p.m. in Uptown Martinsville. The theme for 2021's parade is "Let it Snow." Bring your family and celebrate the beginning of the

holiday season with this favorite festive tradition!

Saturday, Nov. 27
The Chamber of Commerce reminds you to support your local small businesses on Small Business Saturday (and every other Saturday!) Get out and shop your favorite, locally-owned businesses to help support our homegrown business community.

Thursday, Dec. 2

Piedmont Arts kicks off the holiday season with the annual lighting of the Art Garden Christmas Tree! The lighting will begin at 5 p.m. in the Gravelly-Lester Art Garden.

Friday, Dec. 3

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

Uptown Martinsville will kick off the holiday season with the Uptown Martinsville Tree Lighting at 5:30 p.m. on the city's municipal building lawn. Bring your friends and family to celebrate the season on this festive occasion!

ONGOING

Horsepasture District Supervisor Debra Parsons Buchanan and the Salvation Army are hosting their 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 pass-

es 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 special 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 and games begin at 7. 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 application assistance is available from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Thursdays at The Community Storehouse.
Call or text Ann Walker 276 732-0509 to see if you qualify.

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

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

P&HCC receives donation to continue Davenport Institute

With a three-year grant from Ben and Betty Davenport of First Piedmont Corporation, Patrick & Henry Community College will continue the work associated with the successful Davenport Institute - a program that aims to improve the quality of early childhood education in Southwest Virginia by attracting and training highly skilled childcare workers.

In pursuit of this aim, the Davenport Institute provided scholarships, mentoring, professional networking opportunities,

and more for those in early childhood education programs at participating Virginia Community Colleges. P&HCC was one of these participating colleges when the Davenport institute was founded in 2016. This latest donation by the Davenports allows P&HCC to continue this essential work in the communities served by the college.

"We are imminently grateful for the confidence shown to P&HCC by Ben and Betty Davenport. The creation of the original Davenport

Institute proved to be transformative for early childhood education providers in our communities, and these additional resources will allow us to scale this work and continue to provide a high-quality education for students who have a passion for this critical field."

After launching the Davenport program, participating colleges saw the completion rates of their Early Childhood Education programs rise by 74 percent. Since 2017, P&HCC has had 38 students complete an Early

Childhood Education program, helping to fill the pipeline in an area noted for significant workforce shortages.

By providing funding as well as intensive professional development and mentoring, the Davenport Institute increases both access and success for teachers of young children. Ultimately, by investing in future early childhood educators, the Institute is investing in the quality of early education throughout Southern Virginia.

"We are proud of the work P&HCC is doing to help create the opportunity for a future better life for many children," the Davenports said. "The God-given assets our children have at birth need to be nurtured."

For P&HCC, the recent announcement renewing the college's grant for another three years means that the college can continue providing the intensive support and professional development to future educators that the Davenport Institute created.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

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CLUES ACROSS

- Nuclear undersea weapon
- President of Syria al-__
- Partner to flows
- "Snow" in Welsh
- Famed Mexican painter
- Song
- ticks outward from the crown
- Doddering
- Resist authority (slang)
- Antsy
- Wrath
- Spills the beans
- Past
- The woman
- One has 24 hours
- Talk
- It can sting
- Astronomy unit
- Halfway
- Chinese dynasty
- Australian river
- Software to transfer audio (abbr.)
- Fabric
- Crucifix
- Defunct European economic group
- "Hotel California" rockers
- Michael Knight's car
- Actress Ryan
- A digital tape recording of sound
- Insecticide
- Scientific instrument
- Golden-__ corn
- Israeli city __ Aviv
- Sword
- Ottoman military title
- Aromatic plants
- Cold wind
- Large, semiaquatic reptile (slang)
- Political unit
- Indiscreetly reveal secrets
- Comfort food dish
- Actress Zellweger
- Romanian city
- CLUES DOWN
- One point east of southeast
- Italian monetary unit
- Warship prison
- Tropical American tree
- Alias
- Normal or sound powers of mind
- English county
- Not compatible with
- Female deer
- Not late
- La __ Tar Pits, Hollywood
- "Jupiter's Legacy" actress Leslie
- Impudence
- Advices
- Founder of Babism
- A baglike structure in a plant or animal
- Male parent
- A type of plug
- Capital of Vietnam
- Fungal disease
- Shelter
- Finished
- Excrete
- Unhappy
- Partner to cheese
- Coffee receptacle
- Spend time dully
- Makes full
- Snake-like fish
- Take in solid food
- __ student, learns healing
- A way to take away
- Impart a lesson to
- "Transformers" actress Fox
- Spiritual leader
- Every one of two or more things
- Indian city
- 17th stars
- Weapon
- Amounts of time
- Isodor __, American Nobel physicist
- Soviet Socialist Republic
- Witness

Holiday deadlines set

Please note the following early deadlines due to the Thanksgiving holiday: Classifieds, obituaries, display ads, calendar items and all editorial content for The Enterprise are due

by noon on Thursday, Nov. 18. Classifieds, obituaries, display ads, calendar items and all editorial content for The Enterprise are due by

noon on Monday, Nov. 22. For additional information, email trisha@theenterprise.net; dhall@theenterprise.net, or call (276) 694-3101.

VF Corporation

from page 1

facility, from enhanced technology to improved distribution equipment, as well as the 82 new full-time positions, will help deliver our products to our consumers in a more efficient and prompt manner. On behalf of our brands and VF as a whole, we extend our gratitude to Governor Northam and Senator (Bill) Stanley for their continued partnership."

The Virginia Economic Development Partnership worked with the Martinsville-Henry County Economic Development Corporation and the Virginia Office of Outdoor Recreation to secure the project for Virginia. Northam approved a \$225,000 grant from the Commonwealth's Opportunity Fund to assist Henry County with the project. The company is eligible to receive benefits from the Virginia Enterprise Zone Program, administered by the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development. Funding and services to support the company's employee training activities will be provided through the Virginia Jobs

Investment Program. "VF Corporation has been a great friend and partner with Henry County for many years," said Henry County Board of Supervisors Chairman Jim Adams. The announcement "further solidifies our relationship. We are blessed to have VF in our community." "Within the past month, two companies have made great decisions to do business in Southside, Virginia," said State Sen. William (Bill) Stanley. "I am pleased to see VF Corporation continue to grow and create many new opportunities for citizens in Martinsville and Henry County. This investment of \$10.2 million and the creation of 82 new jobs is a big win for Southside and its continued economic growth."

"I am again pleased to add my voice of congratulations to everyone who helped bring more jobs to Henry County with this investment," said Del. Les Adams. "Given this decision to increase distribution, the leadership at VF Corporation is no doubt pleased with our community and should expect more successes from its workforce."

Employee-first customer service company to create 50 new jobs in area

Callie Hietala
Staff writer

A new company will invest more than \$200,000 and create 50 jobs in the area beginning November 15. Helpware, a digital customer service company with a self-described employee-first culture, will establish an office in the Clocktower at Commonwealth Centre (300 Franklin Street) in Martinsville. The average anticipated hourly wage for the new positions is \$23.30 before benefits which, according to Helpware's President and CEO Robert Nash, are substantial.

Jobs will include both on-site and remote positions in management, IT, and customer support to boost the company's digital customer service, back-office support, start-up acceleration, content control, and AI operations, among other services. The company expects to begin filling the new positions by the end of November.

"I am beyond proud to be working and growing with the amazing people of Henry County," Nash



Andrew Palmer (second from left), vice president of the Lester Development Corporation, showed city council member Danny Turner (far left), and Kimberly Keller and Sharon Shepherd, of the Martinsville-Henry County Chamber of Commerce, office space in the Clocktower at Commonwealth Centre that will soon be occupied by Helpware. Palmer said that while there will be some on-site positions, a majority of the jobs will be remote work.

said. "Our company is focused on leading the evolution of consumer expectations changing the services market as we know it."

Nash said that a dedication to putting employees first sets Helpware apart from other companies.

"Our drive is to create

the absolute best environment for our people and enable them for success. They are the foundation of our accountable and people-focused service offerings. When we empower the people taking care of customers we transcend from tasks to memorable and brand-transforming

experiences," he said.

Andrew Palmer, vice president of the Lester Development Corporation, which owns the Clocktower building, said this Helpware site will help landlords and tenants who have encountered pandemic-related difficulties with paying or

collecting rent to complete applications for rental assistance.

Nash, who is based in Kentucky, is enthused about the warm welcome he received from area residents during his visits. The values he sees in local people, he said, also are reflected in Helpware's attitude

toward its employees.

"Of all the places I've been able to visit and make friends, the people of Martinsville and Henry County have always treated me like family," he said. "I am very excited to work and invest within this community that shares our values."

Robert Nash, president and CEO of Helpware, said the company will create 50 new jobs with an average hourly pay of \$23.30 in Martinsville and Henry County. The company plans to begin filling those positions by the end of November.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS



Warning issued about dangers of cannabis edibles

Virginians are being warned about the dangers of cannabis edibles and hemp derivatives in packaging designed to look like well-known snack foods and candy, which are marketed towards children, according to a release from Attorney General Mark R. Herring.

These products are unregulated, illegal, and may be extremely dangerous, especially if they are ingested by children, Herring said in the release.

Although Virginia recently legalized adult-use cannabis, regulated cannabis products are not being sold yet legally in the Commonwealth. When retail establishments are licensed to sell cannabis, edible products will be subject to strict safety controls and regulations.

Edible cannabis prod-

ucts may contain high concentrations of tetrahydrocannabinol (THC), the psychoactive compound found in cannabis, and if eaten by children, can lead to an accidental overdose. According to the Department of Homeland Security, the most common overdose incidents among children involve ingestion of edible cannabis foods.

"Look-alike cannabis products are unregulated, illegal, and unsafe, especially if they get in the hands of children. While Virginia has now legalized adult-use cannabis, we must remain vigilant and ensure that our children are protected from accidentally ingesting edible cannabis products," said Herring. "Edible cannabis products are of significant concern because they are often deliberately

packaged in a manner to resemble products familiar to children, such as cereal, snacks or candy. My office is committed to ensuring that when the lawful sale of cannabis products begins in the Commonwealth, it is done so in a safe and responsible manner. I hope to work with the legislature in the upcoming session to make sure that we're appropriately addressing and regulating dangerous synthetic cannabis look-alike products."

Like any other drugs, adults should take strong precautions to ensure that children do not have access to any products containing cannabis.

Subject to limited exceptions, only adults 21 and older are permitted to consume cannabis products containing THC.

Parents are encouraged



These are examples of edible cannabis look-alike products.

to speak with their children, including young adults, and provide age-appropriate guidance about the dangers look-alike products pose.

Symptoms of THC overdose include respiratory distress, loss of coordination, lethargy, and loss of consciousness. If you suspect your child has

eaten a food contaminating high amounts of THC and become sick, call the Virginia Poison Center Hotline at 1 (800) 222-1222.

Move to Martinsville, TheatreWorks partnership creates "Music in the Box"

The music scene is ramping up in Uptown Martinsville.

The TheatreWorks Community Players and the Move to Martinsville group are partnering to bring a lineup of regionally acclaimed musicians to the Players' Black Box Theater space in UpTown Martinsville. The new venture is called "Music in the Box."

"When Dean Johnston approached as about this opportunity, we really saw it as a good idea—something that would benefit a lot of people in our community. When we're

not doing a show, the theater building often sits empty. Why not use it," said TheatreWorks Board President Brad Draper.

Traditionally, TheatreWorks has only used its space for community theatrical productions—including dramas like Wait Until Dark and musicals like Cabaret. Each year, TheatreWorks

will typically put on four to five productions fully produced by local talent. By partnership with Move to Martinsville, TheatreWorks will now provide space for entertainers from outside the region to perform in between the TheatreWorks' regularly scheduled productions.

Move to Martinsville is a nonprofit designed to


attract working professionals to the Martinsville, Henry and Patrick county areas. The organization which was established in 2019 by Johnston and Jim Roberts uses the platform to promote local businesses and regional assets on their site, Martinsville-life.com, to help people discover things to do in the area.

"With this partnership, we're essentially adding a small music venue uptown," said Johnston. "This will be a benefit to current Martinsville and Henry County citizens, but it could also become a huge draw for those looking for a place to move where they can work remotely at a fraction of the living expenses that

they're used to in bigger cities."

With the partnership official, the organizers will begin developing a season lineup of musicians. To see who will be coming to Martinsville to perform in the Music in the Box or to pre-order season tickets, visit movetomartinsvilleva.com or Move to Martinsville on Facebook.

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



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EVERY SATURDAY AT 1 P.M.

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- State Graded Feeder Sale every Saturday

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**DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT
HANDICAPPED REGULATIONS**

This notice is published pursuant to the requirements of 24 CFR Part 8, Nondiscrimination Based on Handicap in Federally Assisted Programs and Activities of the Department of Housing and Urban Development, as published in the Federal Register on June 2, 1988. 24 CFR Part 8 prohibits discrimination against qualified individuals because of their handicapped status.

Martinsville, Virginia advises the public, employees, and job applicants that it does not discriminate on the basis of handicapped status in admission or treatment or employment in, its programs and activities.

Martinsville, Virginia has designated the following as the contact to coordinate efforts to comply with this requirement.

Such inquiries should be addressed to:

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Martinsville, VA 24114
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8:00 a.m. 5:00 p.m.

OPINION

Why is gas so expensive?

Like millions of Americans, I find myself cursing softly under my breath every time I fill up my car just lately, watching in horror as the price creeps higher and higher. Why is gas going up in price?

I have heard two theories just lately. The first theory is that it has something to do with unemployment and stimulus checks. The second theory is that Joe Biden thought it would be cool to raise gas prices because he is a jerk.

Neither of these theories felt very satisfying to me, so I decided to read up on how gas prices are determined. The answer: it's complicated!

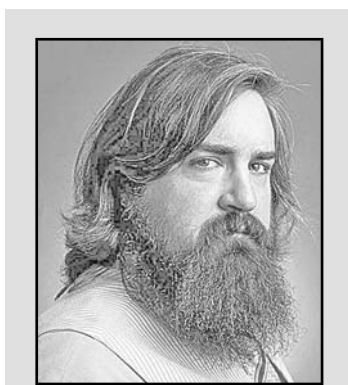
There are four main factors that determine the price of gasoline: these are the cost

of crude oil, state and federal taxes, refining costs and profits, and distribution and marketing.

Of these four factors, the biggest one is the price of crude oil. As of right now, the cost of a barrel of crude oil is hovering above \$80. Last year, the high was \$63.27.

You might also remember that at one point in April of last year, crude oil briefly traded below \$0, the first time that had happened since trading began in 1983. How does that happen?

April 2020, of course, was right near the beginning of this endless global pandemic, and as countries around the world entered lockdowns and asked citizens to stay home to slow the



By Ben R. Williams

spread of COVID, the demand for gasoline plummeted. As a result, gas stayed fairly cheap for a pretty long time.

Now, however, we're getting out of the pandemic mindset

— largely by pretending that it's over — and the number of people traveling and driving long distances is going up. As demand increases, prices rise.

So why isn't the supply rising to meet demand? Unfortunately, that also goes back to the pandemic. When the price of crude oil dropped below zero, it no longer made sense to produce oil and many wells simply shut down. Why spend a fortune drawing oil out of the Earth if you can't even give it away? While demand inevitably rebounded, many of these wells still haven't reopened, in some cases due to the cost considerations of restarting operations, and in some cases due to staffing shortages (for more on that topic, see last week's column).

What's happening to the oil industry is the exact same thing that happened to the lumber industry during the pandemic: demand went down, a bunch of sawmills shut down, then demand rose again before the sawmills could reopen and prices skyrocketed.

There are many, many things that we can blame on Presidents, but the President has about as much control over the price of gas as he does over the weather.

Frankly, if the President could control gas prices, every incumbent up for re-election would drop the price of gas to ten cents per gallon the week before election day, and you'd get a free bumper sticker when you filled your tank.

A Failure to Govern

Morgan Griffith
9th District U.S. Rep.

John F. Kennedy said that "to govern is to choose."

The Democrats running Washington have had a hard time choosing lately. It should come as no surprise, then, that they have not done too well at governing, either.

Instead of addressing the pressing issues our country faces like historic inflation, record-breaking numbers of illegal immigrants crossing the border, soaring energy costs, and others, President Biden and congressional Democrats have debated among themselves which policies to choose for their big government reconciliation bill.

The President, Speaker Pelosi, and others routinely lavish this bill with adjectives such as "significant," "historic," and "transformative," but the process of figuring out what would

actually be in the bill has taken months. So far, the most historic thing about this process has been the incompetence with which it has been conducted.

Democrat majorities in the House and Senate adopted a \$3.5 trillion budget resolution enabling the reconciliation bill in August. Committees considered their portions of the bill in September. The committee I serve on, Energy and Commerce, worked on the reconciliation bill within its jurisdiction from September 13-15.

In the following month and a half, however, no reconciliation bill materialized. As factions among the Democrats squabbled, various provisions were reported to be in one day and out the next.

Finally, on October 28, a bill approaching 1,700 pages emerged. This product was thrown together not because Democrats had

finally chosen what they would include or omit, but because, as he likes to do, President Biden set an arbitrary date to get it done. He wanted something to tout during his trip to Europe, among other reasons.

Nevertheless, this product is illuminating, as it suggests the governing priorities of the Biden Administration and congressional Democrats.

Even as energy prices skyrocket, the natural gas tax remains in the reconciliation "framework" bill. It would drive up heating bills and costs for products made with natural gas such as plastics, hitting consumers in their wallets and endangering jobs. The natural gas tax aligns with other parts of this bill that seek to discourage domestic energy production.

Average American homeowners looking to heat their homes would be hurt by this bill, but aspir-

ing owners of new electric vehicles get a handout. This tax break would let a family making as much as \$800,000 a year receive a \$12,500 check from the Federal Government to buy an electric vehicle costing as much as \$74,000. A friendly heads-up, though: a new low-end electric vehicle costs a few thousand dollars less than the median household income of Virginia's Ninth Congressional District.

The Biden Administration proposal to give the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) more authority to pry into your individual bank account is not specifically included, but the agency does receive \$80 billion to hire more agents for audits.

Did the Democrats just forget about \$80 billion, or do they have other plans for the IRS?

It's hard to imagine this much money being provided without ultimately

giving the IRS more power. In any event, wealthy taxpayers are able to afford tax lawyers, but small businesses and middle-class taxpayers would be squeezed.

The bill omits the Hyde Amendment, a policy that since the 1970s has prevented federal taxpayer dollars from funding abortions. Democrats, including Joe Biden, had long accepted the Hyde Amendment, but apparently, they can no longer abide this protection for the consciences of pro-life individuals or those who may support abortion but do not want to pay for it.

The 1,700-page reconciliation bill was assembled in a rushed and slapdash manner, and even Democrats talk about it as far from the final version. A widely anticipated last-minute manager's amendment could total hundreds of pages and include many items not currently in the bill.

For example, a manager's

amendment could lift the cap on state and local tax (SALT) deductions. The SALT deduction primarily benefits wealthy individuals in expensive high-tax areas. Although it is not currently addressed in the reconciliation bill, Democrat supporters of this tax break for the rich seem confident it will be in the final version.

Nevertheless, if "to govern is to choose," as President Kennedy said, Democrats have provided a rough draft of how they intend to govern. They've finally gotten around to choosing, and it's in favor of empowering the Federal Government at the expense of individuals and imposing further burdens on American families.

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

Submit your letters to the editor

to dhall@theenterprise.net



Weekly Publication

Published Each Saturday

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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

Three new board members appointed to Harvest board



Sharon Ortiz Garcia



Anne J. Smith



Travis Hodge

The Harvest Foundation Board of Directors welcomed three new members - Travis Hodge of Martinsville, Sharon Ortiz-García of Critz, and Anne Smith of Martinsville.

Each member brings a diverse set of talents, skills, and unique perspectives to the board.

Harvest President Kate Keller said she is encouraged by the expertise these new members bring to the foundation and is excited to see how they use their abilities to shape the future of investments in Martinsville-Henry County.

"We look for board members who share our passion and drive to make Martinsville-Henry County a welcoming place where all can thrive," Keller said. "Travis, Sharon, and Anne live that passion every single day through their personal and professional lives. We are grateful for their service to our community, and I look forward to working with them to create brighter futures for all in MHC."

Smith serves as the chief administrative officer and president, domestic upholstery at Hooker Furniture in Martinsville. She said after working in Martinsville for nearly 14 years, she is excited to be more involved in the area's resurgence.

"To be part of the great work The Harvest Foundation is doing to serve the people of Martinsville-Henry County is exciting," Smith said. "The work

is making a real difference in the lives of people who call this area home. I'm most interested in being part of real change and improvements in the areas of education, workforce readiness, affordable housing, community involvement, and equity/inclusion."

Smith brings over 30 years of human resources and leadership experience to the board. She also serves as a board member for the Martinsville-Henry County Chamber of Commerce, United Way of Henry County & Martinsville, Boys & Girls Club of the Blue Ridge, and Piedmont Arts. Smith received her bachelor's degree from Mary Baldwin College.

Hodge is the human resources director for the City of Martinsville. He chose to serve on the board to shape the future of Martinsville-Henry County.

"I was honored to be asked to serve on the Harvest board," Hodge said. "I'd like to learn more about my community and have an impact on the decisions that affect people in Martinsville-Henry County."

Hodge brings his expertise in human resources and his perspective as an HBCU (Historically Black Colleges and Universities) graduate to his service on the board. He is a board member of the United Way and is a member of the Society for Human Resources Management. Hodge received his bachelor's degree

from Virginia State University.

Ortiz-García is the senior epidemiologist at the Martinsville office for the Virginia Department of Health, West Piedmont Health District. She is happy for the opportunity to serve her community and learn more about the foundation's work throughout Martinsville-Henry County.

"I would like to contribute to growing our efforts around economic development, health and education, especially looking at opportunities to serve our Hispanic/Latino community," Ortiz-García said. "Our community as a whole has great potential to continue to grow, and I am excited to be part of that in my role on the Harvest Foundation's Board of Directors."

Ortiz-García brings her expertise in the areas of public health and disease prevention and control, as well as her knowledge of the Hispanic/Latino population to the board. She received her bachelor's degree from the Pontifical Catholic University of Puerto Rico and her master's from the Ponce School of Medicine.

Smith is filling an unexpired term on the board and will start her tenure immediately. Hodge and Ortiz-García begin their service on January 1, 2022.

Visit www.theharvestfoundation.org to learn more about the foundation and its role in serving Martinsville-Henry County.

Martinsville City Schools announce Honor Roll, Counselor's List, and Principal's list students

Albert Harris Elementary Honor Roll

Cam'Ron Agrueta-Turn, Yahir Yanes Alvarado, Tylan Belcher, Stacey-Ann Brown, Jamarion Burgess, De'Mya Campbell, Miriam Carter, Semaiya Craighead, Maccabeus Daniels, Damarion Davis, Gavin Davis, Edward Davis, Kendrick Floyd, Zion Grant, Hayilaa Hairston, Jasmine Hairston, Jy'Quirian Hairston, Kaiyden Hairston, Trinity Hairston, Amara Hemphill, Asonti Hodge, Isaiah Hodges, Fernando Isidro-Carrillo, Zoe Jones, Aria Lewis, Tanasia Lewis, Shaurya Mahajan, Safari Manns, Sofia Marcial, NaLayah Martin, Destiny Millner, Riley Moore, Mariah Mose, Nyseir Preston, Yatzeal Ramos-Tellez, Destiny Richmaond, Jahaziel Ryes-Rodriguez, Antonella Rodriguez, Fernando Juan Sebastian, Jaiyah Smalls, De'Coyia Smith, Shaelen Hairston Smith, Kyndell Stable, Madalyn Stable, Jamarius Titus, TyJon Waller, Kaleb Jones-Walton, Asia Wiggins, Addison Wilson, Lamerius Woods, Rania Womack.

Principal's List

Alan Carillo-Tamayo, Jayden Clark, Jeffrey Cousins, Victor Dominguez-Machuca, Maia Eccles, Layce Everhart, Journee Fitzgerald, Cashante Gordon, Hope Hairston, Jaidence Hairston, Luis Hernandez, Makiah Hunter, Christian Millner, Jasmin Nolasco, Cameron Price, Quandel Richards, Jayden Santiago Aparicio, Jordyn Thomas, Zoey Toney, Ma'Kiya Walton, Haley Weaver, Addison Wilson.

Henry Elementary

3rd grade Honor Roll

Takeria Beal, Haylee Clark, Chloe Curry, Tamar'e Davis, Brooklyn DeShazo, Alanna Gerlach, Aubree Mahan, Samuel Olivares-Rosas, Bentley Williamson.

3rd grade Principal's List

Remington Crockett, Archer Deatherage, Lily De'Jesus, Madilyn Dowling, Morgan Dowling, Jade Holland-Dallas, Wyatt Hoyer, Jamison Jackson, Ayden Jones, Josiah Law, Taylor Moore, Bryan Perez-Zuniga, King Ray, Tadley Taborn, Katherine Wall, Dillon Wilson.

4th grade Honor Roll

Mickeal Belcher, Jaden Briggs, Jaydah Burnette, Ethan Christopher, Ja'veona Coles, Ja'Miyah Dailey, Dania Fields, Ya'Niya Hines, Issac McIntosh, Allison Mooney, Imani Newsome, Isabella Palmer, Bryson Penn, Dania Penn, Kyra Penn, Michelle Simacek, Mariah Thompson, Jeremiah Titus, Zakiyah Webster.

4th grade Principal's List

Mathias Bannister, Zariyah Bouldin, Litzy Rosas, Skyla Euceda, Appalania Gravely, Elaina Hairston, James Hall, Jewel Martin, Jairo Mata, Arielle Mitchell, Emma Packer, Kendall Price, Kyla Steward.

5th grade Honor Roll

Tyliric Harbour, Kyrie Dillard, Levi Dillon, Nadia Dominguez Gonzalez, Marisol Garcia-Macias, Shaddai Griffin, Ayden Hagwood-Scott, Azaan Hairston, Dre'dyn Hairston, Kingston Howard-Hamilton, Jamarion Hunt, Summer Jordan, Jayden Myers, Jesiah Niblett, Ayden Roberts, Tre'vion Rouse, Maheva Simon, Kailyn

Venable, William Wray, Arianna Ybarra.

5th grade Principal's List

Zyad Bayoumy, Bridgette Brent, Olivia Campbell, Mahcori Chapman, Mackenzie Church, Rider Cobb, Aubrey Davis, Zimari Hairston, Zoey Hannans, Zackary Harter, Kirsten Henderson, AR'Asia Johnson, Emillio Martin, NyJurrian Martin, Amariyah Matthews, KaVaughn Muse, Mason Newsome, Logan Osborne, Jeremiah Porter, Josiah Porter, Aurora Rankin, Samson Ray, Lesley Ratcliff, Jayce Ratliff, Dominic Robinson, Isabel Price, Chiya Williams.

Martinsville Middle School

6th Grade Counselor's List

Mekhi Akins, Cristofer Avila-Santiago, Rebekah Barrow, Latoya Bradner, Zhedrick Capulong, Ava Craig-Childs, Nicholas Davis, Keyara Dillard, Brandon Gearheart, Acoma Hairston, Harmoni Hairston, Leonardo Hernandez Mata, Jonathan Hudson, Demetria Johns, NyKira Johnson, Dariona King, Levi Martin, Joshua Medina, Keilaj'ah Morrison, Keaija Richardson, Addison Williamson, Ashley Yanes Vida.

6th Grade Principal's List

David Argueta, Jaryus Brim, Abbigail Campbell, Akcem Clark Jr., Brennan Coleman, Vincent Correa, Leeayla Hairston, Benjamin Haley, Isabella Hurd, McKenna Mahan, Kaden Paitsel, Zion Perkins, Erzart Shahini, Veronica Smith, Symphony Talley, Zaina Talley, Ja'Corian Turner, Viet Vo, Lilly Wall, William Wall, Paris Waller, Noah Wright.

6th Grade Honor Roll

Mason Cassell, Carson Cole, Kira Compton, J'Kobe Covington, Cordell Daniels, NyKerion France, Hudson Grant, Aileen Nolasco, Faith Pack, Phyllis Thompson.

7th Grade Counselor's List

Kyndall Benton, John Dillon, Fernanda Dominguez-Machuca, Jordan Foster, Alyana Hairston, Tyneah Harrell, Randy Hernandez, Brittney Hinshaw, Nikita Hodge, Aaliyah Johnson, Jorge Lara-Diaz, Sariyah Little, Da'veono Lowe, Jayce Prillaman, Trinitee Prunty, Joshua Redd, Briana Reid, Kenyon Reid, Betty Sifuentes, Desmond, Snyder, Isaiah Stone, JaVonna Stubblefied, Zavian Turner, Maria Velasquez-Zaldivar, Jamauri Williams.

7th Grade Principal's List

Jaden Ayoub, Serenity Bradshaw, Kayra Carr, Angeliah Eccles, Carrie Hudson, Ky'Asia Keen, Julie Nguyen, Tristan Niblett, Anyana Nowlin.

7th Grade Honor Roll

Noah Aaron, Sherman Dillard, Mikayla Mally, Caden Martin, Aniyah Millner, Sariyah Millner, Jaden Porter, Amyah Richardson, Logan Richardson, Tyrese Smith, Gillian Soper, Keira Tatum, NaSir Turner, Caleb Valentine.

8th Grade Counselor's List

Kamori Dillard, Zaniah Dillard, Nadea Elam, Josue Garcia, Kelly Hairston, Serenity Hairston, Myssia Hairston-France, JMarion Harper, Ja'Kayla Harris, Ny'Asia Hood, Myasia Long, Nyasia Long, Parker Lusk, Jayden Matthews, Jailyn Reynolds, Kirra

Ritenour-Shelton, Jared Santiago-Martinez, Imanie Thomas.

8th Grade Principal's List

Treyllan Beamer, Sincere Cook, Jemea Craghead, Marjorie Davis, Caesar Draper, Nataly Enriquez-Santiago, Aliyah James.

8th Grade Honor Roll
 Quentin Chism, Victor Correa, Noah Cousins, Chekyla Galloway, Layla Garrett, Ka Nyah Giggetts, Lacario Gray, Melody Harris, De'Nyiran Hodge, Aerran Kellam, Beyonce Lara Diaz, TaMarion Siddle, Avianna Watkins, Kaira Womack.

Martinsville High School

9th grade A

Naun Andrade Paredes, Ana Compton, Xavier Dunham, Ruby Flores, Ava Grant, Aniya Hairston, Lauren Hall, Abigail Haskew, Kimberly Hernandez, Aidan Hood, Isabella Hood, Gavin Luther, Monserrat Machuca Tiznado, Kennedy McPherson, Rickyah Mitchell-Hairston, John Nguyen, Terriah Roberts, Luz Santiago Garcia, Mary Smith, Brooke Turner, Isabella Vega, Jayden Williams.

9th grade AB

Anne Agee, Elvin Amaya Turcios, Christian Brooks, Caleb Burgess, Yadira Carrillo Tamayo, Keara Carter, NaDasia Cobbs, Sontrell Daniels, Kassidy Dodson, Marcos Dominguez Machuca, Tommy Farmer, Nathaniel Green, Aliyah Hairston, Deniyah Hightower, Amiya Keen, Jose Lara-Alvarado, Ashley Lintag, Uriel Lopez-Chavez, Alondra Machuca Tiznado, Skylia Martin, Jacey Pamintuan, Jaylen Solomon, Kalem Tomlinson, Cayden Walker, Zerah Wyche, Kaya Yates, Noah Young.

9th grade B

Montel Bradner, ANya Butler, Gavin Carter, Esmeraldo Castillo-Ocampo, Brianna Chigwerewe, NyAsia Cobbs, Dale Cochran, Aiyana Coles, Noah Cook, Hayden Cundiff, Jamirah Farris, Azetta Hairston, De Montaye Hairston, Kamryn Kirby, Zoe Lewis, Lamien Lowe, Honesty Martin, Saniya Martin, Skylyar Miller, MBria Millner, Shawn Moon II, Amondre Mosely, Connor Mosely, Kendryck Redd, Jacqueline Servin Hernandez, Ayona Stultz, Benjamin Torres Orozco, Connor Worthington, Tynetta Wyche.

10th grade A

Ryan DiMingo, Jkyan Finney, Aleeyah Galloway, Briana Garcia-Macias, Gabriel Haley, Arlette Jaramillo Mata, Mallori Lowe, Adam Mounkaila, Nayti Patel, Elijah Pickett, Cortay Price, John Ratliff II, Kaylee Rea, Mason Rorrer, Skyler Spence, Christopher Talley, Tyra Valentine, Jackson Via, Destiny Witcher, Reagan Wright.

10th grade AB

Tyler Carr, DeQuan Dandridge, Kaitlynn Daughtry, Paris Fulp, Latrell Hairston, Caleb Joyce, Jose Juan Sebastian, LynAsshia King, Martiniano Orozco,

See Honor Roll, page 6

CROSSWORD ANSWERS

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

OBITUARIES

Marcia Lynn MacDonald

Marcia Lynn MacDonald, 64, of Martinsville, VA passed away on Monday, October 25, 2021 at Carilion Franklin Memorial Hospital. She was born on June 7, 1957, in Windsor, VT to the late John MacDonald and Doris Lobdell MacDonald. In addition to her parents, she is preceded in death by her sister, Gail Hill, half-brother, Marty Martin, and her niece, Debbie Atwood.



Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society.

She is survived by her husband of twenty-three years, James C. White, half-brothers, Robert and Terry MacDonald, niece, Tammy Cousino (Dean), and her great-nephews, Andrew, and James Atwood.

A celebration of life will be held at a later date.

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

Mrs. MacDonald was a member of

Cari Lord Zimmer, nee Lewis

Cari Lord Zimmer, nee Lewis, died gracefully on Wednesday, October 27, 2021, shortly after her 64th birthday. The greatest loves of her life included her husband of thirty-five years, William John, and her children, Andrew (Caitlin), Kathleen Pickett (Christopher), and Sarah, two grandchildren, Jacob and Altea, and of course her gardening. Almost every area of Martinsville, VA was touched by her beautiful planting.



ing was never allowed in her kitchen, but she was known for using the triple threat while driving.

Late in life she contracted Multi System Atrophy (MSA) and finally succumbed to it. Each day brought new challenges which were met head on. Cari lived for the day as it was presented and did not complain about her "bad luck."

She was predeceased by her parents, Carolyn and Richard Lewis and is survived by her siblings, Robert, James (Marie) and Anne (Frank Underwood) and several nieces, nephews, cousins, one very special aunt, several "adopted" sons and daughters, and two dogs.

Before becoming Martinsville's Flower Queen, Cari earned a degree in music therapy from the University of Wisconsin - Eau Claire. She became an executive secretary and set up a customer service, and marketing department for W.H. Brady Company in Hillsboro, North Carolina.

After moving to Martinsville, Cari pursued her interest and love of gardening and landscape design. She was a true renaissance woman, well-known for her exquisite taste and fabulous cooking, especially baked goods. The use of swear-

The memorial service for Cari will be held on Friday, November 5, 2021 at 11 a.m., Christ Episcopal Church, with Nick Hull officiating. A luncheon reception will be held next door at the Parish House. Memorial donations may be made to Christ Episcopal Church, Mountain Valley Hospice and Palliative Care, or the SPCA.

Cari leaves many friends and acquaintances to cherish thoughts of her, especially those close to her during the final years of her life. Many, many thanks are given to her doctor, Ben Lewis, very close friends, Debbie and Lucy, and compassionate caregivers, Pat and Regina.

Now, as Cari would say, go plant something!

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

Mrs. Connie Turner Wood

Mrs. Connie Turner Wood, age 69, of Woolwine passed away on Friday, October 29, 2021, at her home. She was born on December 3, 1951, in Radford, Virginia to the late Ralph W. Turner and Lillian Conner Turner. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her grandson, Jesse Wood Sheppard. Connie retired from the United States



ed husband of 54 years, Benny Wood of the home; two children, Wendy Sheppard and Justin Wood, all of Woolwine; two grandchildren, Sarah Sheppard (Austin Parrott) and Kirstin Wood; one great-grandchild, Hazel Parrott; one sister, Stephanie Martin (Terry) of Woolwine; brother-in-law, Ronnie Wood (Peggy) of Winston Salem, North

Postal Service as Postmaster with 35 years of service. She had a distinguished career, winning many awards. She was a member of the National Association of Postmasters of the United States, where she served as secretary/treasurer of the Virginia Chapter of NAPUS. She was a member of Woolwine United Methodist Church. She served many years as a Girl Scout leader. Connie was known for her flare for scrapbooking, enthusiasm for genealogy, stamp collecting, passion for camping and traveling, and especially her wonderful cooking. Most of all, she enjoyed spending time with her family and friends.

Carolina; her beloved dog and constant companion, Emma; and nieces and nephews.

A Celebration of Life service for Mrs. Wood will be held on Sunday, November 7, 2021, at Moody Funeral Home Chapel at 4 p.m., with Pastor Shaun Draughn officiating. The family will receive friends two hours prior to the service on Sunday at the Funeral Home. Burial will be private. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Jesse Wood Sheppard Memorial Scholarship Fund, c/o Stuart Rotary Club, P.O. Box 562, Stuart, VA 24171. Online condolences may be sent by visiting www.moodyfuneralservices.com.

Mrs. Wood is survived by her devot-

*******AUCTION*******

HUGE 2-DAY ESTATE & PERSONAL PROPERTY AUCTION

FRIDAY, NOV. 12 @ 6:00 pm & (Doors open at 4:00 pm)

SATURDAY, NOV 13 @ 10:00 am (Doors open at 8:00 am)

GOLD & SILVER JEWELRY, KNIVES, FURNITURE, COINS & COIN PROOF & MINT SETS, CRYSTAL LAMPS, FENTON, MUSIC BOXES, BOXED DOLLS, CARNIVAL & MILK GLASS, TOOLS & MORE!!

HORSE PASTURE VOL. FIRE DEPT.

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Election

from page 1

Unofficial Election Results

DISTRICTS	BLACKBERRY				HORSEPASTURE				IRISWOOD				COLLINSVILLE				REED CREEK				RIDGEWAY				TOTAL			
	BASSETT #2	CUNVILLE	SCOTT'S TANYARD	FIELDALE	HORSEPASTURE #1	HORSEPASTURE #2	SPENCER	AXTON	IRISBURG	MT. OLIVET	MOUNTAIN VALLEY	COLLINSVILLE #1	DANIELS CREEK	COLLINSVILLE #2	MOUNTAIN VIEW	BASSETT #1	FIGSBORO	STANLEYTOWN	OAK LEVEL	DYERS STORE	FONTAINE	HILLCREST	RIDGEWAY #1	RIDGEWAY #2	ABSENTEE	TOTAL		
<i>Governor</i>																												
Glenn A. Youngkin - R	177	578	924	239	560	178	637	281	476	389	305	313	293	526	277	253	430	719	248	260	482	198	669	503	2,997	12,912		
Terry R. McAuliffe - D	113	72	144	81	187	288	150	163	202	302	121	74	115	174	147	116	84	92	63	70	159	80	151	122	2,265	5,535		
Princess L. Blanding - LP	0	2	4	2	1	5	2	0	4	3	4	2	2	1	1	1	2	3	1	1	7	2	3	1	21	75		
<i>Lieutenant Governor</i>																												
Winsome E. Sears - R	171	557	911	234	554	185	628	279	470	393	291	298	288	518	277	252	426	696	245	253	476	193	657	502	2,958	12,712		
Hala S. Ayala - D	114	85	152	83	193	285	156	159	206	290	129	90	114	180	145	113	85	105	63	75	167	85	161	126	2,279	5,640		
<i>Attorney General</i>																												
Jason S. Miyares - R	174	565	914	242	546	177	630	270	462	377	296	301	287	513	276	248	423	710	243	256	473	193	655	498	2,961	12,690		
Mark R. Herring - D	112	77	153	77	198	295	157	169	212	308	127	87	116	186	149	117	91	99	66	75	169	86	162	132	2,288	5,708		
<i>Member House of Delegates 9th District</i>																												
Wren M. Williams - R	172	570	929		554		635									255										1,235	4,350	
Bridgette N. Craighead - D	113	77	139		191		150									110											720	1,500
<i>Member House of Delegates 14th District</i>																												
D.W. "Danny" Marshall II - R						47			489	410											488	200	680	517	993	3,824		
S.M. "Rhett" Deitz - D						40			189	271											151	79	137	103	758	1,728		
<i>Member House of Delegates 16th District</i>																												
Les R. Adams - R				242		144		280			303	306	292	536	284		430	710	249	265						848	4,889	
Chance B. Trevillian - D				75		238		155			116	78	107	157	138		78	87	59	65						654	2,007	
<i>Member Board of Supervisors Iriswood District</i>																												
Eric J. Phillips								86	265	239	127																368	1,085
Garrett L. Dillard								160	193	270	106																557	1,286
Billy Dean White								150	109	79	167																140	645
Eric W. Bowling								31	104	67	18																83	303
<i>Member School Board Iriswood District</i>																												
Benjamin E. Gravely								393	602	592	349																1,048	2,984
<i>Member Board of Supervisors Collinsville District</i>																												
Joseph A. "Joe" Bryant											211	191	382	50													561	1,595
Andrew C. Palmer											163	192	301	153													352	1,161
<i>Member School Board Collinsville District</i>																												
Elizabeth A. Durden											188	188	393	229													565	1,563
Ray P. Reynolds Jr.											182	206	289	165													345	1,187
<i>Member Board of Supervisors Blackberry District</i>																												
Jimmie L. "Jim" Adams	242	545	905																								429	2,121
<i>Member School Board Blackberry District</i>																												
Thomas E. Auker	232	524	882																								401	2,039

Henry County

his win. "While I wish the results would have been in my favor, I want to congratulate Joe Bryant on his re-election to the Collinsville District Board of Supervisors race. This has been an experience and I want to thank all of my supporters from the bottom of my heart. I will continue to be active in the community and stay in tune with the Board of Supervisors to make sure our voice is being heard," Palmer said.

In Iriswood, Garrett Dillard emerged victorious in the four-way contest that included Eric Phillips, Eric Bowling, and Billy "Dean" White. Dillard won 1,286 votes, Phillips was a close second with 1,085, while White earned 645 votes and Bowling got 303, according to the unofficial results on the state's elections website.


Incumbent Dr. David Martin did not seek reelection.

In the race for the Collinsville District seat on the Henry County School Board, 1,563 ballots were cast for Elizabeth Durden, who won over Ray Reynolds, Jr., with 1,187 votes. The two were running for the seat currently held by Dr. Merris Stambaugh, who did not seek reelection.

Durden thanked voters and "everyone that researched me as a candidate, asked questions about where I stand, shared concerns, and showed confi-



UNOFFICIAL ELECTION RESULTS

DISTRICTS	MARTINSVILLE						TOTAL	
	ALBERT HARRIS SCHOOL	MARTINSVILLE CITY SCHOOLS ADMIN. OFFICE	MARTINSVILLE CITY HOUSING OFFICE	MARTINSVILLE HIGH SCHOOL	MARTINSVILLE MIDDLE SCHOOL	VIRGINIA MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY	ABSENTEE	TOTAL
<i>Governor</i>								
Glenn A. Youngkin - R	6	583	13	217	297	124	70	1,675
Terry R. McAuliffe - D	138	300	241	356	268	170	308	2,206
Princess L. Blanding - LP	1	8	2	6	8	4	7	40
<i>Lieutenant Governor</i>								
Winsome E. Sears - R	6	570	14	223	290	125	72	1,660
Hala S. Ayala - D	137	314	239	352	270	167	309	2,218
<i>Attorney General</i>								
Jason S. Miyares - R	7	572	11	212	290	123	66	1,644
Mark R. Herring - D	137	315	241	359	278	171	317	2,246
<i>Member House of Delegates 16th District</i>								
Les R. Adams - R	5	593	14	221	295	127	73	1,695
Chance B. Trevillian - D	133	279	228	338	262	165	301	2,112
<i>Commonwealth's Attorney</i>								
G. Andrew Hall	107	783	190	484	483	244	334	3,280
<i>Sheriff</i>								
Steve M. Draper	119	783	223	505	499	264	340	3,421
<i>Commissioner of Revenue</i>								
Ruth L. Easley	116	767	208	512	494	258	347	3,377
<i>Treasurer</i>								
C.L. "Cindy" Dickerson	117	777	206	500	490	261	345	3,378

Martinsville

dence in me through their votes." She said she was humbled and honored to be elected and that she "looks forward to representing the voice of our district and getting to work on behalf of our students, teachers, and community."

Reynolds thanked those who voted for him and

congratulated the winners. "I may have lost," he said, "but the voters of Henry County won. Voters realize now that the Board of Supervisors can be held accountable."

In the Blackberry District, Board of Supervisors Chairman Jim Adams and current School

Board Chairman Thomas Auker both ran for reelection unopposed, as did Benjamin Gravely for the Iriswood District seat on the Henry County Board of Supervisors.

Unofficial results indicate that Adams received 2,121 votes in his race, Auker got 2,039 votes, and

Gravely earned 2,984.

In Martinsville, Commonwealth's Attorney Andrew Hall (3,280 votes), Treasurer Cindy Dickerson (3,378 votes), Sheriff Steve Draper (3,421 votes), and Commissioner of Revenue Ruth Easley (3,377 votes) were all unopposed in their reelection bids, according

to results from the registrar.

Absentee ballots may be accepted until noon on November 5, according to the state Board of Elections. Therefore, results are incomplete. Results will be certified on November 15.

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

HOLIDAY DEADLINES SET



Please note the following early deadlines due to the Thanksgiving holiday:

- Classifieds, obituaries, display ads, calendar items and all editorial content for **The Enterprise** are due by noon on Thursday, Nov. 18.
- Classifieds, obituaries, display ads, calendar items and all editorial content for **Henry County Enterprise** are due by noon on Monday, Nov. 22.

For additional information, email trisha@theenterprise.net; dhall@theenterprise.net, or call (276) 694-3101.

Honor Roll

from page 5

Manuel Rodriguez Perez, Paige Taylor, Aniya Torrence, Makayla Warren.

10th grade B

Tyana Craig, Catalina Franco, Tristian Giles, Natalie LaPrade, Marcus Long, Abbygail Neaves, Anh Nguyen, Josue Rosas Lopez, Ahmyr Washington.

11th grade A

Pamela Haddock, Natalia Martin, Aysha Robles, KeAundre Smith.

11th grade AB

Demitri Blackwell, Hayden Caffee, James Farris, Jr., Nadia Flores, Zane Gardner, Kendra Gill, NiJel Gravely, Nasia Hairston, Ronnie Jackson Jr., Lisette Mata, Kimberly Lopez Valentini, Chavis Martin, Joseph Nguyen, RG Olea, Ashlynn Patten, Myia Pettie, Papion Ritenour Shelton, Kayla Solomon, Deonna Street,

Eyad Bayoumy. 11th grade B

Tanaysia Blackstock, Ludwin Chavez-Lopez, Marissa Espinosa, Matthew Gilbert, Lizbeth Jaramillo Mata, Jahmal Jones, Elijah Judkins, Amya Martin, Allanah Milton, Amanda Mosser, Meraj Naimatulah, Kristofer Robinson.

12th grade A

William Agee, Alexis Agee, Savannah Brown, Assir Byers, Alexis Carson, Dylan Cochran, JaMere Eggleston Smith, Lorianna Elliott, Makayla Evans, Michael Gilbert, Traven Gilley, Ashton Hairston, Diondre Hairston, Jaliyah Hairston, Omarion Hairston, Lauren Hruza, Audrey Hundley, Keyshawn Kirby, Marquias Lampkins, Alfonso Lara Alvarado, Tanya Leftwich, Taiona

Martin, Jasiyah Moss, Akayla Penn, Nytera Penn, Viktorya Pickett, Bryson Stokes, Alivia Stout, Zion Thornton, Sidney Tran, Onyinye Ugbohah-Otunuya, Michael Walker, Joseph Ziglar.

12th grade AB

Keyounah Adams, Jyasia Bradshaw, Jahiem Brim, Assyria Flowers, JaMirah Gravel, Denise Lara Diaz, Jaylan Long, Jovanny Machuca Tiznado, Jamier Manns, Kamiya Martin, Kiley Patten, Reynolds Anessia, Logan Smith, Sophie Stewart, Caleb Sunkins, Caira Valentine, Tyasia Wright.

12th grade B

Nakya Chism, Makyah Hairston, Conner Harlowe, Edward Harrison, Elisha Jackson, Maite Joachin-Lopez, Joshua Martin.

A new, free video series brings plants up close and personal

The Flora of Virginia Project is getting you even closer to Virginia's beautiful—if sometimes daunting—array of plant species with seven new online video modules that make the Flora of Virginia easier to follow and understand.

The Flora is now available as an app, which describes 3,360 plant species native to or naturalized in Virginia, providing current classifications and scientific names, habitat and status data, distribution maps, photographs, botanical illustrations, and keys for identification. The modules, served from the Vimeo video platform, are suitable for a range of audiences wanting to learn more about the state's plant life. The modules were created by the Flora Project's education committee, and they're free.

"These modules are a convenient way to provide information on using and enjoying the Flora of Virginia—to a much broader audience than we can reach at only in-person presentations," said Marion Lobstein, who co-chaired the committee behind the videos. Designed to demystify the Flora—which can be imposing even in app form—the modules cover the following topics, each title linked to its online video presentation:

1. A Tour of the Flora
2. Using the Flora App
3. Basic Botany
4. Taxonomy (plant classification and nomenclature)
5. Keying (systematic ways of identifying plants)
6. Plant Families
7. Habitats

For Lobstein, a professor emeritus of biology at Northern Virginia Community College, Manassas, reaching such a broad audience via these videos is a dream come true.

"The modules can be used by educators, Virginia Native Plant Society members, Master Naturalists, Master Gardeners—really anyone who's interested in identifying and appreciating the beautiful and diverse plants of Virginia," she said.

Committee co-chairman Ann Regn, with the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality and a well-known environmental educator in the state, worked to ensure alignment with the Virginia Standards of Learning and herself created the module on habitats.

"Each video stands alone," Regn said, "but together they provide a comprehensive approach

to understanding and using the Flora. Each one lasts about an hour and is divided into three or more sections. Time stamps and descriptions let viewers navigate to a specific topic or area of interest."

Each module also links to resource materials for deeper investigations. The modules' creators are also their presenters: Lobstein; Regn; Sally Anderson, Flora secretary and past president of the Virginia Native Plant Society; Michelle Prysby, adviser, former Flora board member, and director of the Virginia Master Naturalist program; and flora assistant and former recording secretary Jan Hodges, a biologist and marine educator.

Instrumental was guest participant Linda

Wilcox, Virginia native-plant enthusiast (and Lobstein's former student), now living in Indiana. Volunteer Mark Murphy edited the videos for online presentation, including the use of closed captions, which will allow broader accessibility, and the addition of introductory and closing music.

The Flora of Virginia Project was formed in 2001 to produce the first plant manual for the state since 1762's Flora Virginica—published in the Netherlands and in Latin. The Project published Flora of Virginia in 2012; it sold out in 10 months and was reprinted in 2013. In 2017, the Flora of Virginia Mobile App was launched for Android and iOS devices. A major update was released last December.

City of Martinsville, Virginia is preparing to carry out Martinsville Pine Hall Housing Rehab through the use of Virginia Community Development Block Grant Funds. In the implementation of this project the following kinds of contracts will be issued and procurements made:

- a. Housing Rehabilitation Specialist
- b. General Contractors for Housing Rehabilitation and Substantial Reconstruction
- c. Housing Demolition Contractors
- d. Construction materials for housing rehabilitation and substantial reconstruction, such as lumber, wiring, roofing materials, windows, doors, etc.

City of Martinsville, Virginia is soliciting the participation of minority-owned and female-owned businesses, contractors and suppliers in carrying out this project. Such businesses may be included on appropriate bid and procurement lists by submitting a written request within ten (10) days of this notice. Requests should state the name, address, product or service, and how the firm qualifies as a minority or female owned business concern.

Such requests should be addressed to:

Brandy Dudley
PO Box 5268, Martinsville, VA 24115
Phone: (276) 638-3987
Fax: (276) 638-8137
bdudley@wppdc.org
TDD Virginia Relay : 711

All above-referenced procurements will be made on a competitive basis.

Notice of Public Hearing

A public hearing for the City of Martinsville Planning Commission will be held on November 18, 2021 at 5:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers at the City of Martinsville Municipal Building located at 55 W. Church Street, Martinsville, VA, 24112, for those parties in interest to the following request:

APPLICATION FOR SPECIAL USE PERMIT - Application of Smith Wholesale, Inc., Applicant and Owner, requesting a Special Use Permit with possible conditions, to allow for the operation of an office and self-storage facility, on property located at 204 Broad Street and currently zoned C-C, Corridor Commercial District. Self-storage facilities are a permitted use in C-C zoning districts by issuance of a Special Use Permit by Martinsville City Council. Any comments or questions can be directed to Hannah Powell, Community Development Specialist, at (276) 403-5156 or hpowell@ci.martinsville.va.us.

Notice Submitted By:

Hannah L. Powell
Community Development Specialist

Henry County Enterprise Publication Dates:

Saturday, November 6, 2021

Saturday, November 13, 2021

PUBLIC NOTICE

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT HANDICAPPED REGULATIONS

This notice is published pursuant to the requirements of 24 CFR Part 8, Nondiscrimination Based on Handicap in Federally Assisted Programs and Activities of the Department of Housing and Urban Development, as published in the Federal Register on June 2, 1988. 24 CFR Part 8 prohibits discrimination against qualified individuals because of their handicapped status.

Martinsville, Virginia advises the public, employees, and job applicants that it does not discriminate on the basis of handicapped status in admission or treatment or employment in, its programs and activities.

Martinsville, Virginia has designated the following as the contact to coordinate efforts to comply with this requirement.

Such inquiries should be addressed to:

Leon Towarnicki
P.O. Box 1112
55 West Church Street
Martinsville, VA 24114
Phone: (276) 403-5185
Fax: (276) 403-5280
DD Virginia Relay: 711
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

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 woodworking, design, tile, closet & garage organizers, repairs, etc. Originally based in Palm Beach County- References Bob Morehouse Phone: 276-930-1703 Cell: 561-

SERVICES

881-8292 E-Mail: Bob@Woodwrx.net Website: Woodwrx.net\
CLAYTON KENDRICK PAVING
Gravel hauling and spreading/grading, paving and seal coating. 35 years' experience in

SERVICES

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

HELP WANTED

KREAGER WOODWORKING, INC.

Is seeking full time employees for 1st and 2nd shift. Open positions include CNC operators, general woodworking machine operators, forklift drivers, and floor help. We offer major medical insurance 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!
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1580 Greensboro Road
Martinsville, VA 24112
(276) 632-1286



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Digital/Online

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

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

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

City of Martinsville, Virginia is preparing to carry out Martinsville Pine Hall Housing Rehab 2021 through the use of Virginia Community Development Block Grant Funds. In the implementation of this project the following job types may be available:

Carpenter, Electrician, Plumber, Roofer, General Laborer

In carrying out this project, City of Martinsville, Virginia, its contractors, and subcontractors will, to the greatest extent feasible, utilize qualified persons who permanently reside within the City of Martinsville for employment and training positions.

All job openings will be listed with the local office of the Virginia Employment Commission. Persons qualified for the jobs listed should register at the following location:

Virginia Employment Commission
233 Commonwealth Blvd W
Martinsville, VA 24112

Additionally, the following contracts and procurements will/may be made:
Contracts with housing rehabilitation specialist, general contractors, demolition contractors.

Procurement of general building materials for housing rehabilitation and substantial reconstruction, such as lumber, electrical materials, roofing materials, windows, doors, etc.

City of Martinsville, Virginia will, to the greatest extent feasible, use businesses located in and owned by persons residing in the City of Martinsville, Virginia.

Any person residing or firm located in the above-named localities may request to participate in procurement opportunities associated with this project by contacting the following person within ten (10) days of this notice:

Brandy Dudley
PO Box 5268, Martinsville, VA 24115
Phone: (276) 638-3987
Fax: (276) 638-8137
bdudley@wppdc.org
TDD Virginia Relay : 711

Written requests should include the name, address, product or service and phone number.

All-above referenced procurements will be made on a competitive basis. The names of businesses who respond to this notice will be included on procurement lists for this project. Names of job seekers will be given to contractors.

Pilot from page 1

“It’s a model for modern care,” said Jabs, who toured the health department, spoke with personnel, and watched a demonstration of the new program from Salem’s telehealth registered nurse Jeanine Bomber and telehealth coordinator Lindsay Gill.

During a regular appointment, Bomber and Gill explained, a veteran’s vitals will be checked by a nurse, including blood pressure, temperature, weight, and heart rhythm. That data is automatically logged on an iPad by the medical equipment being used and sent in real time to the patient’s primary care provider in Salem, who is participating in the visit via video call. This allows veterans to enjoy continuity of care while reducing their amount of travel time to their medical appointments.

Gill said that having the registered nurse performing the checkup also means that someone with medical knowledge is available to perform other assessments as needed and as directed by the patient’s physician. Being examined by familiar V.A. staff like Bomber helps with their comfort level, she added.

All equipment needed for the program is contained in a dedicated telehealth case, which holds an iPad, extra batteries, and instruments to take vitals and other medical data. There is also a mobile hotspot to use when regular Wi-Fi connection is not possible and gloves, wipes, and other cleaning supplies. All told, the fully-loaded case weighs around 30-40 pounds and costs about \$7,000.

“It’s not a big resource investment, but it has huge dividends,” said Rebecca Stackhouse, medical center director for the Salem V.A. The new program is her brainchild. She said the idea came to her when talking about the ATLAS (Accessing Telehealth through Local Area Stations) program, which also provides telehealth care to veterans. Stackhouse told Jabs and Maxwell that she had seen a similar setup of mobile medical equipment at an emergency management conference and thought something similar could be used to help veterans, particularly in rural areas.

“We are rural,” Stackhouse said, which presents “significant geog-

raphy challenges to veterans in getting to us.” This new program brings care to them.

Currently, the program, which is still just a few weeks old, is focused on primary care but already the team is hoping to expand both range of service and variety of care including podiatry and mental health services. Stackhouse said they plan to expand into Patrick County next. “We know there’s a need and we want to get that need met,” she said.

After her tour, Jabs addressed a small crowd in the lobby of the health department.

“Becky Stackhouse in the Salem V.A. has been such a leader in innovative ways to serve veterans,” said Jabs. “She has been able to take healthcare and put it in a box,” allowing V.A. nurses like Bomber to travel around and see veterans with reduced driving time. Living in rural areas, “the driving is just different,” she said.

Jabs told the crowd that she would spread the word about what she observed during her visit across the state and called the program “a leap forward with telehealth.”



Acting Secretary of Veterans and Defense Affairs Kathleen Jabs addressed a small crowd, including health department employees and members of city council, in the lobby of the Henry/Martinsville Health Department.



Bomber (left) and Telehealth Coordinator Lindsay Gill, both of the Salem V.A., demonstrate for Jabs how the instruments in the traveling case are used to upload medical data in real time to a patient’s primary care physician participating via video chat from Salem.



Jabs (far left) participated in a check presentation of \$1,000 for the Southern Area Agency on Aging’s Miles for Vets program with Martinsville Mayor Kathy Lawson, Mandy Folman (representing the agency), and city councilmembers Danny Turner and Tammy Pearson. The funds were raised by C-PEG, Martinsville Sherriff Steve Draper, and Turner.



The Salem V.A.’s Medical Center Director Rebecca Stackhouse (left) presented U.S. Army Veteran Donald Holley, who was brought in for his telehealth checkup by his wife Andrea Holley, with a Vietnam Veteran Lapel Pin.



Jabs, Lawson, Turner, and Pearson also presented a check for \$500 to Thomas Spencer (center), commander of the Martinsville-Henry County Veterans Honor Guard.

State board prescribes revisions to Virginia Standards of Quality

The Virginia Board of Education prescribed revisions to the Standards of Quality for the commonwealth’s public schools at its Oct. 21 business meeting.

The Standards of Quality describe the foundational

instructional programs and support services all schools must provide and drive approximately 85 percent of state funding for local school divisions. The Constitution of Virginia requires the Board of Education to prescribe

Standards of Quality for the public schools of Virginia, subject to revision only by the General Assembly.

The 2021 prescriptions build upon the board’s work during the 2019 review cycle and represent evidence-based

proposals to create a stronger system of support for students, teachers and support staff, and are designed to align additional state resources with areas of need.

“The Board of Education has again prescribed a strong set of research-driven Standards of Quality prescriptions that, if implemented, will address systemic inequities, help mitigate the impact of poverty on learning and improve outcomes for all Virginia students,” Board of Education President Daniel Gecker said following the meeting. “As support continues to build throughout the commonwealth for these prescribed Standards, we are hopeful that the General Assembly will adopt the policies embedded in them and make the necessary investments to strengthen Virginia’s public education system for all students.”

The 11 prescribed revisions and estimated biennial costs, approved by the Board of Education during its October business meeting are:

- **Enhanced At-Risk Add-On** — Consolidates the current At-Risk Add-On as well as the state Prevention, Intervention and Remediation programs into a single, expanded fund that is distributed to divisions for instructional interventions based on their concentrations of students in poverty. It also includes language directing school boards to equitably distribute experienced, effective teachers and other personnel among all schools, and prohibits the clustering of ineffective teachers in any school or group of schools. (\$87.5 million)

- **Teacher Leader and Mentor Programs** — Establishes a new Teacher Leader program and expands the Teacher Mentor program. (\$229.9 million)
- **Reading Specialists** — Sets a minimum staffing ratio for reading specialists in grades K-5 determined by the number of students failing third-grade Standards of Learning reading assessments. (\$77.9 million)
- **English Learner Teachers** — Sets a scaled staffing ratio based on proficiency level of students and the instructional staff required to support these students. (\$30 million)
- **Principal Mentorship** — Establishes a statewide principal mentorship program. (\$2.4 million)
- **Work-Based Learning Coordinators** — Provides regional coordinators to support work-based learning and the implementation of the Profile of a Virginia Graduate. (\$2.4 million)
- **Elementary School Principals** — Requires a full-time principal for every elementary school, regardless of enrollment. (\$19.1 million)
- **Assistant Principals** — Sets a ratio of one full-time assistant principal for each 400 students. (\$154.3 million)
- **Class Size Reduction and Experienced Teachers for K-3** — Moves the state K-3 class size reduction program from the Appropriation Act to the SOQ. (No state cost)
- **Specialized Student Support Personnel** — Establishes a ratio of four specialized student support personnel per 1,000 students for school nurses, social workers, psycholo-

gists, and other licensed health and behavioral positions. (\$102.5 million)

- **School Counselors** — Establishes a ratio of one school counselor per 250 students. (\$106.4 million)

Using the 2019 SOQ prescriptions as its starting point, the Board of Education’s Committee on the Standards of Quality began the 2021 SOQ review process in June. Subsequent meetings in July, September and this month provided a forum for continued discussion and public engagement on the needs of the commonwealth’s public schools. Except for adjusting for SOQ changes made since 2019 and a few technical changes, the SOQ Committee recommended that the Board of Education reassert its commitment to its 2019 SOQ prescriptions.

“Since the last review cycle two years ago, legislation aligned with the board’s recommendations improved ratios for school counselors and English learner teachers, established a specialized student support personnel category, removed staffing flexibility, and expanded at-risk add-on funding,” Gecker said. “We are grateful for the progress made to date, however none of the board’s 2019 prescriptions have been fully implemented.”

The newly prescribed SOQ revisions — and legislation necessary to enact the new standards — will be communicated to Gov. Ralph Northam and the 2022 General Assembly, along with budget estimates required to support the new requirements and staffing ratios.

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