

HENRY COUNTY ENTERPRISE

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City alleges county vote was 'clear breach' of reversion agreement

Callie Hietala
Staff writer

A letter from Martinsville officials called out members of the Henry County Board of Supervisors, alleging the board's action was "a clear breach of the VSA," is "a violation of prior official commitments by the county," and "is extremely poor public policy" that "sets a terrible precedent for all future negotiations between localities."

The Wednesday letter signed by Martinsville Mayor Kathy Lawson followed a vote by the supervisors Tuesday to reject the Voluntary Settlement Agreement (VSA).

The letter stated, in part, that Martinsville will take action to enforce the agreement. Failing that, the city will pursue a fully litigated reversion, the let-

ter stated.

It was distributed to each supervisor, as well as County Administrator Tim Hall, County Attorney George Lyle, attorney Jeremy Carroll, of Guynn Waddell Carroll & Lockaby — the firm representing the county during reversion proceedings, members of city council, the Commission on Local Government, the Honorable Jane Roush, and the legislative delegation.

The letter noted that the city appreciated the "spirit of cooperation and honest dialogue" that resulted in the agreement (VSA), which "has now been approved three times by public votes of city council and twice by public votes of the county board."

"It was with considerable dismay that we

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Iriswood District Supervisor Dr. David Martin shares his concerns regarding reversion with the public prior to calling for a motion to reject the Voluntary Settlement Agreement.



In a majority vote Tuesday, members of the Henry County Board of Supervisors approved a motion to reject the Voluntary Settlement Agreement. The county negotiated the agreement with the City of Martinsville as part of Martinsville's bid to revert to a town.

County rejects reversion agreement

Callie Hietala
Staff writer

The Henry County Board of Supervisors voted 4-2 on Tuesday to reject the Voluntary Settlement Agreement (VSA) on the City of Martinsville's reversion to town status.

In a written response Wednesday, its chairman Jim Adams wrote that "community members in both the city and county made it crystal clear to the Commission on Local Government that they would like to see the process involve more citizen engagement and

more input from the two school systems."

With Tuesday's vote "not to move forward with the Voluntary Settlement Agreement, we are given another opportunity to do just that. We have the opportunity for every member of city council and the Board of Supervisors to come to the table and negotiate on behalf of our constituents."

Dr. David Martin, of the Iriswood District, made the motion to reject the VSA.

Debra Buchanan, vice-chairman and of the Horsepasture District; Joe Bryant, of the

Collinsville District and Ryan Zehr, of the Ridgeway District, joined Martin in voting against the agreement.

Adams, of the Blackberry District, and Tommy Slaughter, of the Reed Creek District, were in the minority in voting against Martin's motion.

While Buchanan and Bryant have consistently voted against the agreement, Martin and Zehr previously supported it.

Before he made the motion, Martin said the effective date of reversion recommended by the

See **Rejects**, page 6

Wagoner tapped to lead county when Hall retires

Henry County Administrator and Tim Hall told the Henry County Board of Supervisors Tuesday that he will retire in July.

Hall, who also serves as General Manager of the Public Service Authority (PSA), announced his retirement, effective July 1, during a Dec. 14 Henry County Board of Supervisors meeting.

"Public service is an honor, but it's also a 24/7 task," said Hall, who has served in the dual positions since August 2012.

The board unanimously voted to hire current Deputy County Administrator Dale Wagoner to fill Hall's position upon his retirement.

"With a heavy heart, because Mr. Hall has done an outstanding job as our county administrator and has the full support of the board," Vice Chairman Debra Buchanan, of the Horsepasture District, made a motion to accept Hall's retirement.

"Serving the people of Henry County, the members of the board



Henry County administrator Tim Hall will retire effective July 1, 2022.



Dale Wagoner, who currently serves as Deputy County Administrator, was tapped to serve in the dual roles beginning July 1.

of supervisors, and the PSA Board of Directors has been the honor of a lifetime. Working with the elected and appointed bodies, and with the wonderful employees in both organizations, is something I'll always cherish. No locality anywhere has better people, and our county and PSA staff are second to none too," Hall said.

"My tank is close to empty right now," he said, adding "I have no idea what will come next for me, but after a little downtime I look forward

to finding out."

Hall began his career in Henry County and the PSA as a Public Information Officer in December 1998, then served as the Deputy County Administrator/Assistant General Manager from March 2002 to August 2012. He previously worked as a newspaper and radio reporter for 10 years and worked in the Henry County school system for nearly eight years as a Public Information Officer, teacher and coach.



The Martinsville Seven in 1949 (NEA Service).

Collaborators seek funds for new Martinsville 7 documentary

Callie Hietala
Staff writer

The story of the Martinsville 7 will soon be seen on the big screen, thanks to a partnership between the University of Virginia's Center for Politics, Legacy Productions, and the Martinsville 7 Initiative.

The groups are collaborating on a documentary film analyzing the treatment of Black men in America and highlighting the story of the Martinsville 7. Profits from the film will go to the Martinsville 7 Initiative to fund its vision for a museum and programming, according to Glenn Crossman, director of programs for the center.

The Martinsville 7 were Joe Henry

Hampton, Frank Hairston, Howard Lee Hairston, James Luther Hairston, John Clabon, Booker T. Millner, and Francis DeSales—a group of seven Black men executed in 1951 for the alleged rape of Ruby Floyd, a white woman, in 1949. To date, it is the largest mass execution for a single-victim crime in Virginia's history. On August 31, Gov. Ralph Northam granted all 7 men posthumous pardons.

The documentary was announced at a gala event at New College Institute in Martinsville celebrating the pardons.

Crossman said the goal of the new documentary, which is still seeking funding, is "to tell the story of how America has treated Black masculinity for the past

See **Funds**, page 4

Health officials urge caution ahead of holiday gatherings

Callie Hietala
Staff writer

With COVID-19 still in the region, local health officials encouraged both the vaccinated and the unvaccinated to use caution when gathering this holiday season.

"We want everyone to gather safely for the holidays so they can be together to gather another year," said Dr. Sheranda Gunn-Nolan, chief medical officer with Sovah Health.

Particularly for families of mixed vaccina-

tion status, "any time you're indoors with a variation in vaccine status, it does put those that are not vaccinated at highest risk," Gunn-Nolan said, adding that she has had conversations with families who have made decisions to gather "and then the one unvaccinated person contracted COVID-19 and will not be there celebrating another year. That's something that will affect them for the rest of their lives."

For those family gatherings, Gunn-Nolan said that masks, social

distancing, and good hand hygiene are critical to helping mitigate risk. Some families are even asking loved ones to get tested before a holiday visit.

There are just over 30 patients hospitalized with COVID-19 across Sovah's Martinsville and Danville campuses, Gunn-Nolan said. She added that two-thirds of those are hospitalized in Martinsville. "More than 80 percent of those are unvaccinated," she said, and noted recent data indicated that the unvaccinated are 4.3

times more likely to get COVID-19.

"COVID-19 vaccinations continue to prevent 9 out of 10 COVID-19 deaths," she said, adding that the hospital system also is seeing an uptick in patients with post-COVID syndrome.

"It's a little different for everyone," she said of the symptoms, which can include shortness of breath and more serious medical events, like increased risks of heart attacks or strokes. Some patients develop post-COVID pneumonia

that could require them to be placed on life support.

Though the omicron variant has been found in Virginia, it has not yet been detected in the region, Gunn-Nolan said, adding it is a matter of time before that variant is discovered locally.

Omicron is "a significant mutation that could lead us down a pretty dark path," she said, adding that unfortunately, in terms of variants, "there are more to come."

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To find an appointment, visit **vaccinate.virginia.gov** or call **877-VAX-IN-VA (877-829-4682)**. Assistance is available in more than 100 languages. Those with hearing impairments should **dial 711**.

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, Dec. 18

The Horsepasture Volunteer Fire Department (17815 A.L. Philpott Highway, Ridgeway) will host a country buffet breakfast from 6-10 a.m. The cost for adults is \$8 and \$4 for children under age 10. All carry outs are \$8.

Studio 107 (105 E. Church Street, Martinsville) is hosting an open house from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. Several local artists will be selling items and doing demos of their art for the public to enjoy.

The American Red Cross is hosting a blood drive at Mount Hermon Church of the Brethren, 144 Mount Hermon Church Road, Bassett. To schedule an appointment, visit redcrossblood.org.

Dec. 18-22

The Bassett and Martinsville branches of the Blue Ridge Regional Library will host an exclusive Letters to Santa program, with a special Express Mailbox directly from the North Pole set up at both the Bassett

and Martinsville branches. Santa's helpers will be available to assist with taking photos and putting letters in the mailbox. They will also be handing out special treats to children who bring in their letters (while supplies last).

Monday, Dec. 20

The American Red Cross is hosting a blood drive at New College Institute (191 Fayette Street, Martinsville) from 10 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. To schedule an appointment, visit redcrossblood.org.

The Blue Ridge Regional Library system is celebrating its 2nd annual Holiday Cheer Food Giveaway. Each library branch will be providing meals for those in need in its signature red totes beginning Dec. 20 as long as supplies last. Patrons can stop by any one library branch to get a free tote that includes a meal. Totes will be distributed until all have been claimed.

Thursday, Dec. 30

The American Red Cross is hosting a blood drive at the Martinsville Elks Lodge (300 Fairy Street Ext., Martinsville) from 12-6 p.m. To schedule an appointment, visit redcrossblood.org.

Tuesday, Jan. 4

Martinsville City Council will hold a community conversation about reversion. The topic of this week's meeting is town/city changes. The meeting will begin at 6 p.m. in city council chambers. Each meeting is limited to twelve participants per session and anyone who wishes to participate must pre-register by emailing their name and address to town@ci.martinsville.va.us, calling (276) 403-5182, faxing (276) 403-5280, or mailing the City of Martinsville, attn: Karen Roberts, P.O. Drawer 1112, Martinsville, VA, 24114. Citizens must register by noon the day before each session. Spots will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis and priority will be given to city residents. The meetings will also be televised on MGTV-21 and linked on the city's website and social media.

Thursday, Jan. 6

Join Piedmont Arts for Art at Happy Hour from 5-7 p.m. This event offers a final chance to view the exhibits "Print/Imprint: Asheville Printmakers," "Carl Chiarenza" on loan from the Virginia Museum of Fine

Arts, and "Tools of Happiness" before they close. The event is free and open to the public. Complimentary refreshments are provided by the Piedmont Arts Guild. RSVP by Jan. 5 to (276) 632-3221 or online at PiedmontArts.org.

Friday, Jan. 14

Come join in the fun for Music Night at the Spencer-Penn Centre. Music begins at 6:15 in the Alumni Hall and concessions will be available.

ONGOING

Piedmont arts is hosting two exhibits, "Print/Imprint: Asheville Printmakers" and "Carl Chiarenza," on loan from the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts. Both exhibits are on display through January 8.

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 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 its 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 (15 Primary School Road, Collinsville) at (276) 647-9585.

Free at-home COVID-19 test kits available for curbside pickup at library branches

The Blue Ridge Regional Library system is partnering with the Virginia Department of

Health (VDH) to distribute free curbside pickup of COVID-19 at-home test kits to sup-

port access to testing resources in the area.

With an increased demand for testing

due to the spread of COVID-19, the library and VDH are offering test kits to residents. Neither a library card nor proof of residency is needed.

"VDH will be supplying no-cost, virtually guided rapid antigen tests using eMed-proctored Abbott BinaxNOW COVID-19 Antigen Card Home

Test to libraries as supplies are available," according to the release. "Libraries will offer a curbside pick-up location for community members as resources allow. Rapid antigen tests provide results in 15-minutes."

The tests are for take home use only and patrons will not be allowed to take the test in the library due to safety concerns. Please note the test will not work with our patron computers as they do not have cameras or microphones.

Tests require a photo ID, a computer, laptop or smartphone that has internet access with a camera and microphone. If you do not have Internet access, you can use the external Wi-Fi outside any one of our locations.

Each test kit will include a FAQ sheet that will be distributed via curbside service only at all branches on a first come, first serve basis while supplies are available.

Call your local branch to check availability and to schedule curbside pickup of the test. Please wear a face mask when picking up the test. The library is pleased to provide this service to make our community safer.



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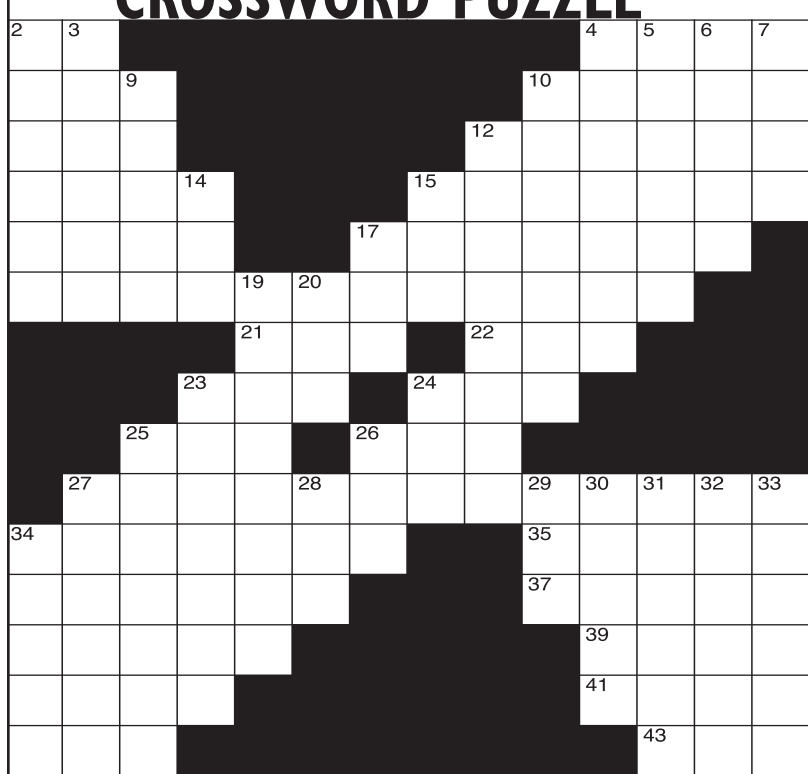
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y food in it	26. Wrinkled dog breed: Shar ____	1. Town in central Brazil	23. They steal on the high seas
insect	27. 20th century sex symbol	2. Large burrowing rodent	24. It's mightier than the sword
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score		19. Buildings	

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OPINION

On representation

Earlier this year, Daniel Craig had his final outing as James Bond in the film “No Time to Die.” Since then, I’ve seen plenty of articles debating who will take up the mantle and be the next James Bond.

One name that’s been bandied about for years is Idris Elba, and I’ve always thought he would be an excellent choice. He’s a fantastic actor who elevates everything he’s in (except maybe for “Cats,” but no one could have saved that atrocity). He’s effortlessly cool. It’s not hard to imagine beautiful women throwing themselves at him. He was even born in London and has the accent to boot!

However, there exists a vocal contingent of folks who are vehemently opposed to the idea of Idris Elba playing James Bond.

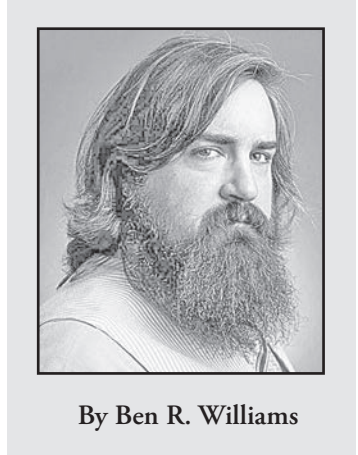
You’ll find these folks on the internet, complaining that casting Idris Elba as Bond is not merely a poor choice, but indicative of everything that’s wrong in the world today.

Their issue, you see, is that Idris Elba is Black, and they believe that James Bond cannot possibly be Black.

Now, if I were casting a Gerald Ford biopic, I would agree that Elba might not be the ideal choice to depict the 38th President. Unlike Gerald Ford, however, James Bond is not a real guy. He’s a fictional character. His race doesn’t matter. If I can accept that James Bond once went to outer space and shot a laser gun at a guy with metal teeth, I can certainly accept him being depicted by Idris Elba.

This isn’t the first time that a

certain hateful subsection of the internet has flipped out because a person of color was cast in a role.



By Ben R. Williams

In fact, this isn’t even the first time it’s involved Idris Elba.

I vividly remember the internet outrage when Elba was tapped to play gunslinger Roland Deschain in 2017’s “The Dark Tower,”

adapted from Stephen King’s sprawling seven-volume fantasy series. In the novels, Roland is described as basically looking like Clint Eastwood.

I’m a huge fan of the Dark Tower series and I thought Elba was a fine choice. I mean, the movie itself was a war crime, but Elba was the only good part.

For many years, I was baffled as to why people got so bent out of shape about color-blind casting. If it isn’t important to the story for some reason, who cares?

A few years ago, however, I saw something that made me realize why some folks get so upset.

On Halloween in 2018, I was in Uptown Martinsville photographing all the youngsters in their costumes (for the record, I was doing this for the newspaper, not because I’m a creep). There was one kid that stuck out in my mind. He was a little White kid dressed up like Black Panther.

The Marvel superhero movie “Black Panther” had come out earlier that year and it was an enormous hit. The title character was played by the late Chadwick Boseman, a phenomenal Black actor who was taken from us far too soon.

It warmed my heart to see that little kid dressed up like Black Panther. I imagine some parents out there might not have let their son wear a Black Panther costume, might have forced him to pick from one of the 4,783 White superheroes instead. But kids pick out Halloween costumes based on who they admire, who they want to become. Clearly, this little kid wanted to be Black Panther. He wanted to emulate him. He thought Black Panther was awesome, and I doubt the color of his skin ever crossed his mind.

And that, I think, is what some people are very, very afraid of.

True Holiday Spirit

Bryan Golden
Contributing writer

Among other things, the holidays are a time of giving and receiving gifts. The question most often asked of people is, “what did you get?” Much less frequently asked is, “what did you give?” Invariably, the inquiries concern material gifts. Purchasing a gift can certainly be thoughtful and a wonderful gesture, especially when it’s backed up by your actions.

However, the most valuable presents are those that aren’t sold in stores. When you give your love, your time,

help someone in need, aid another in solving a problem or overcoming an obstacle, you give something priceless.

The true spirit of the holidays is giving. When you give, you receive. You can get anything in life you want by helping enough others get what they want. But only if you give without expecting anything in return. The impact of giving isn’t limited to just the holiday season, it’s something that has value all year.

The power of giving is often underestimated. When you give unconditionally, you don’t just impact the

recipient; you start a chain reaction. By brightening the life of one person you also affect all those who they then touch.

No gesture of giving or kindness is too small. Holding the door open at a store, helping someone carry groceries to their car, letting another car in front of you, saying please and thank you, and saying hello to a stranger you pass on the sidewalk, are some of the many things you can do daily.

For family and friends, your time is one of the most precious gifts you can offer. Are you there for others when they

need you? Do you offer a hand without being asked? Do you help out when asked?

Too often, people get caught up in their own desires, thus losing sight of the needs of others. A person who tries to get through life by looking out for himself or herself first is invariably frustrated. Often this person views life as a competition to determine who can accumulate more.

On the other hand, those who are concerned for the wellbeing of others are happier, more content, and more satisfied. By giving without expecting, they in turn receive the things they need.

Giving is a simple concept that works every time it is applied. There will be people who don’t

appreciate what you do, but it doesn’t matter. You are giving without anticipating anything in return. Besides, there will be many more who are thankful for your efforts.

If you don’t treat others well, buying a gift won’t compensate for your behavior. The recipient might like what you give them but it won’t make up for your actions. You can’t bribe someone to forgive the way you treat them with a present.

The best gift you can receive is the joy of making someone else happy. Being unselfish is a wonderful way to live. When you give with no ulterior motives, your actions are seen as genuine. Should you expect something in

return, your behavior is always suspect. We all know people who do nice things only when they want something in return.

Make giving a daily routine. Don’t start and end with the holiday season. Every day is a good day to do something nice. When people feel good due to your actions, you can’t help but feel happy yourself. And that is priceless. The most significant action you can take is having a positive impact on the lives of others.

(Bryan is the author of “Dare to Live Without Limits.” Contact Bryan at Bryan@columnist.com or visit: www.DareToLiveWithoutLimits.com Copyright 2021 Bryan Golden)

Barbour graduates from Emory & Henry Health Sciences Campus

Journie Barbour, of Henry County, was among the 32 students to graduate on Dec. 11 with a Master of Occupational Therapy (MOT).

“I am very proud of our MOT Program and this Class of 2021. We have outstanding faculty and staff that provide such a rich learning experience for our students,” said Dr. Lou Fincher,

Senior Vice President and Dean of the School of Health Sciences at Emory & Henry. “I have no doubt that the members of the MOT Class of 2021 are going to make a meaningful impact on the lives of their patients. I am especially proud of these students’ significant achievements in the area of community service in support of this region.”

Funds

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400 years through telling the story of the Martinsville 7.”

He said the documentary team intends to include a representative from the families of the 7 on the film’s committee.

Since 1998, the UVA Center for Politics has been producing documentaries,” Crossman said. A series of films telling stories of the lives and legacies of past Virginia governors earned the center a reputation for telling a complete story, both good and bad.

“Everyone was not always happy with the final film, but the truth is not always pretty to look at,” he said.

According to Crossman, the center has earned four Emmy Awards from the American Academy of Television Arts and Sciences for its films.

The origins of the Martinsville 7 documentary are rooted in the filming of a previous movie, “Charlottesville,” the center’s first 2-part documentary and the film of which Crossman said he is most proud.

“Charlottesville” focused on, as Crossman described it, “what really happened in Charlottesville on August 11 and 12, 2017” during the Unite the Right Rally, telling the story from a Jewish perspective “simply because no other filmmaker had told the story this way,” Crossman said.

During filming for “Charlottesville,” Crossman recalled meeting a woman on the steps of the circuit court while awaiting a judge’s decision on whether Confederate statues would remain shrouded until their ultimate fate was decided. Crossman had just finished a conversation with Unite the Right Rally organizer Jason Kessler when he crossed paths with Tanesha Hudson.

“I immediately knew she had to be interviewed,” Crossman recalled. “Here was an unfiltered, grass roots activist on the ground, getting her hands dirty and doing the hard work. She makes no apologies for her unfiltered reactions to all that is wrong in local government and doesn’t care about fitting in with the polite Virginia way.”

Crossman said Hudson learned about the Martinsville 7 while on what he described as a ‘civil rights pilgrimage.’ Upon her return, she wanted to tell their story. “Over this past summer, we met for lunch and Tanesha brought up this idea again,” Crossman said. “The timing seemed perfect, and we both agreed to get the ball rolling.”

After the meeting with Hudson, Crossman said he learned about the Martinsville 7 Initiative and connected with its director, Faye Holland.

“We had never met, but there was an immediate connection,” Crossman said. “We both agreed on what needed to happen.”

Holland told Crossman she was meeting with Gov. Northam the following week, “and I was floored,” he said. “What were the chances that in the timespan of a few days, I would reconnect with Tanesha, speak with Faye Holland, and get the ball rolling so quickly on a new film project? The timing was uncanny.”

After Northam’s posthumous pardons for the 7 men, Crossman said he and Hudson visited Martinsville for the first time, meeting with Holland and walking through the uptown area.

“Our first stop was a private museum with a Confederate statue outside,” he said, referencing the Martinsville-Henry County Heritage

Center and Museum, which he and Hudson toured. “We had the opportunity to learn a lot about the history of Martinsville from one perspective. It finally dawned on us that we were standing in the courthouse where the Martinsville 7 were tried, yet there was nothing about them in the museum. It many ways, that illustrates a big part of why this film is so necessary,” he said.

“This needs to be a national story and not one that is kept behind the borders of Virginia,” he said. “Each of these men; all deserve for the true and complete story to be told, not one that immediately assumes their guilt or discounts the quick severity of their punishment.”

“Nearly every person that was ever executed in the state of Virginia for rape was Black,” Crossman said, adding that the Death Penalty Information Center (DPIC) is “not aware of any case in the United States where a white man was executed for raping, but not killing, a Black woman or child.” He said the DPIC’s data indicated that, of the 455 people executed for rape in the U.S. between 1930 and 1972, more than 89 percent, or 405, were Black.

“It is beyond time to tell this story and teach the American people about these tragic events,” Crossman said. “We feel strongly about bringing this story to light in a way that we hope the viewer will acknowledge the wrongs that were done to these 7 men and also the long history of Black oppression that, to this day, permeates most aspects of American life.”

To help with fundraising for the documentary, contact Crossman at (423) 270-4738 or gac4t@virginia.edu.

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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

OBITUARIES

Kenneth Lee Meadows

Kenneth Lee Meadows, 56, of Martinsville, VA passed away Tuesday, December 7, 2021. He was born March 7, 1965, in Martinsville, VA to Delina Compton Meadows and the late William Jewel Meadows. In addition to his father, he was preceded in death by his sister, Diane Deskins and brother, Wayne Meadows.

Mr. Meadows was the owner of Barker's Auto Salvage in Axton and was a member of Day Star Ministries.

In addition to his mother, he is survived by his wife, Debra Barker Meadows; son, Calvin Wayne Meadows (Jessica); sisters, Linda Davis (Larry) and Marie Deskins (Johnny); and brother, Donnie



Meadows (Teresa). Also surviving is his very special mother-in-law, Rosie "Nanny" Barker; sister-in-law, Somer Mueller (Ryan); brother-in-law, Brandon Barker (Valerie Price); one niece and several nephews.

The funeral was held on Saturday, December 11, 2021, at Norris Funeral Services. The Rev. Haywood Alcorn and Pastor Sammy Caldwell officiated. Burial was in Roselawn Burial Park.

Memorial donations may be made to St. Jude Children's Hospital.

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

Sheila Lynn Adams

Sheila Lynn Adams of Martinsville, VA passed away Thursday, December 9, 2021. She was born to the late Mary Byrd Adams and Edgar Noel Adams.

Sheila was a member of McCabe Memorial Baptist Church where she sang in the choir, served on several committees, and loved teaching her Sunday School class. She retired from Martinsville City Schools where she worked in the cafeteria.

A funeral service was held on



Saturday, December 11, 2021, at McCabe Memorial Baptist Church with Dr. G.H. Vaughan officiating. Burial was at Roselawn Burial Park.

Memorial donations may be made to McCabe Memorial Baptist Church, 107 Clearview Dr., Martinsville, VA 24112.

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

Carl Attison Bishop

Carl Attison Bishop, 97, of Martinsville, VA passed away Wednesday, December 8, 2021. He was born July 23, 1924, in Christiansburg, VA to the late Clyde Bishop and Addie Bishop. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by three brothers, Otho E. Bishop, Clyde E. Bishop, Jr., and Freddie R. Bishop; and two sisters, Elsie M. Landrum and Elva M. Slusser.

Mr. Bishop had been a member for 68 years of the First Presbyterian Church of Martinsville. He was a member of American Legion Post 42. V.F.W. Post 4637, Knights of Pythias #82 T.P.A. Post 1 and a former member Masonic Lodge #152 A.F. & A.M. He was also a member of Modern Woodmen of America. He had worked for 7 years for Kroger, 13 years for Martinsville Hardware Co. as owner/manager. He retired after 26 years of service to the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board as manager of ABC Store #132 in Ridgeway, VA.

He had served three years in WWII in the United States Army Air Force as a Military Police in 1378 Air Transport Command then served 13 months in



Korea in the 780th Field Artillery and the 142nd Q.M.B.N.

He is survived by his wife, Georgette Schaefer Bishop of Martinsville, VA; two daughters, Linda M. Bishop of Roanoke, VA and Karen Y. Beck and husband, Leslie of Anderson, SC; one son, Richard W. Bishop and wife, Ann of Midlothian, VA; one grandson, Justin T. Bishop of Henrico, VA; one great-grandson, Emory T. Bishop of North Chesterfield, VA; and one sister, Ruth Bishop Carter and husband Mason of Fort Collins, CO.

The funeral service will be held at 2 p.m. Friday, December 17, 2021, at Norris Funeral Services, with Minister Lee Ashley officiating. The family will receive friends from 1 to 2 p.m. Interment will be at Roselawn Burial Park.

The family requests memorial donations be made to the Martinsville/Henry County SPCA, 132 Joseph Martin Hwy. Martinsville, VA 24112.

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

Louise Wright Ruddle

Louise Wright Ruddle, 83, of Bassett, VA passed away on Saturday, December 11, 2021, at Stanleytown Health and Rehabilitation Center. She was born on January 21, 1938, in Patrick County, VA to the late Josiah F. Wright and Minnie Sue Whalen Wright. In addition to her parents, she is preceded in death by her brothers, Cecil Wright, John Wright, and Woody Wright.

Mrs. Ruddle was a member of Stanleytown United Methodist Church. She enjoyed traveling, photography, and pageants.

She is survived by her husband, Maurice D. Ruddle; daughter, Lisa Leigh Ernest (David); sister, Nancy Talbot; brother, Jim Wright; step-grandchildren, Nicole Ernest, and Drew Ernest (Emily) and her step-



great-grandchildren, Olivia Ernest and Charlotte Ernest.

The funeral Service was on Thursday, December 16, 2021, at Norris Funeral Services with Rev. David Westmoreland officiating. Entombment was at Roselawn Abbey.

A special thank you to Mallory Knight and the staff at Commonwealth Hospice for their care of Mrs. Ruddle. The family would also like to thank everyone who reached out to Louise, either by stopping by or sending a card to her, this meant a lot to her.

Memorials may be made to Stanleytown United Methodist Church or Blue Ridge Regional Library.

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

Locie Jett Goodwin

Locie Jett Goodwin, 88, of Martinsville, VA passed away on Monday, December 13, 2021, at Mulberry Creek Assisted Living. She was born on February 12, 1933, in West Virginia to the late Mary Fairy Reynolds Jett and Jacob Marshall Jett. In addition to her parents, she is preceded in death by her husband, Robert Lee Goodwin; son, Daniel Lee Goodwin; brothers, Emery, Marlin, Nobel, Hershall, Richard and Dewy; and her sisters, Violet, and Beulah Faye.

Mrs. Goodwin was of the Jehovah



Witness Faith.

She is survived by her sons, Robert Goodwin (Deborah) of Martinsville, VA and David Goodwin of Ridgeway, VA; sister, Orvie May Adkins of West Virginia; grandchildren, Heather Hylton (Dustin), and Shannon Dunn; great-grandchildren, Tanner Hylton, Robert Dunn, and Serenity Dunn.

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

Mollie Wilson Compton

Mollie Wilson Compton, 95, of Axton, VA passed away on Friday, December 10, 2021. She was born on June 6, 1926, to the late John D. Wilson and Annie Flanagan Wilson. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Henry Clay Compton, and brothers, William R. Wilson, and John A. Wilson.

Mrs. Compton is survived by her daughter, Joyce Compton Price (Richard) of Huntersville, NC; son, J.C. Compton (Gilda) of Axton, VA; grandson, Richard Grant Price of Charlottesville and special granddog, Little Joe.

A funeral was held on Tuesday, December 14, 2021, at Norris Funeral



Services, Martinsville Chapel, with Rev. Ron Mateer and Pastor Paul Secord officiating. Interment was at Roselawn Burial Park.

Memorial donations may be made to the Martinsville/Henry County SPCA, 132 Joseph Martin Hwy. Martinsville, VA 24112, or to a charity of your choice.

The family would like to extend a special thanks to Mrs. Compton's caregivers, Margaret Harris, Margaret Johnston, Rachel Scales, Joyce Sowers, Mary Wilson, and Mavis Rigney.

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

Lucille McAlexander Wilkins

Lucille McAlexander Wilkins, 85, of Bassett, VA passed away on Friday December 10, 2021. She was born on April 21, 1936, to the late Thelma Luther McAlexander and Dorcie Agnew McAlexander. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, David Earl Wilkins.

Mrs. Wilkins worked as a bookkeeper and was a member of Collinsville Church of the Brethren. She was president of Women's Fellowship at the church and active with the Keenagers of the church.



Mrs. Wilkins is survived by her son, David Wilkins and wife Angie Wilkins of Bassett, VA; and two grandchildren, Jacob Wilkins, and Kennedy Wilkins both of Bassett, VA.

A funeral was held on December 15, 2021, at Collinsville Church of the Brethren with Reverend Roy McVey officiating. Entombment was at Roselawn Abbey.

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

Breach

from page 1

learned of the county's rejection of the VSA on December 14 after we had received repeated assurances that it would be approved," the letter stated.

City officials allege hearing "from a variety of credible sources" that the county intends to try and "pursue a legislative change to the statutory framework for reversion in place since 1988, seeking to render reversion practically impossible," the letter stated, and added that would be "at least the fourth time" the county has tried to enact such a change.

"Such a dramatic change of course at this late stage indicates a deliberate repudiation of the jointly pursued process which we have relied upon, which both parties have now substantially performed, and which

has entailed significant expense," the letter alleged.

The recent action by the county board violates a resolution approving the agreement that was adopted by the county on Aug. 24 and stated, in part, that "It is the intention of the Board of Supervisors, after the Commission's review, to adopt the Agreement and thereafter to petition the appropriate Circuit Court to affirm and validate the Agreement and give it full force and effect," the letter alleged.

"As a result of this unfortunate event, the city has instructed its legal team to take steps to immediately enforce the VSA," the letter stated.

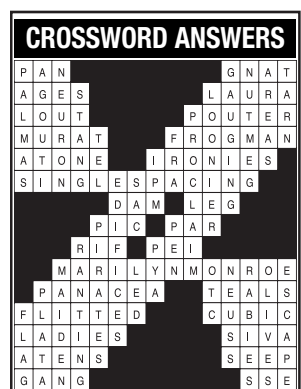
If the county's compliance is not mandated, the letter indicated the city will proceed by "seeking all remedies

available to it, including relief for damages incurred as a result of our detrimental reliance upon a settlement subsequently shown to have been negotiated in bad faith by the county."

Additionally, the city will pursue a litigated reversion which it anticipates will result in a more favorable outcome. According to the letter.

"Litigation will of course also result in significantly increased legal expenses being borne by the taxpayers of both city and county," it stated. "We are confident that the additional expense will not, however, alter the inevitability of reversion, or of annexation two years thereafter."

"The entirely avoidable responsibility for all of this is yours alone," the letter concluded.



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HOLIDAY DEADLINES SET



Please note the following early deadlines due to Christmas:

- The editorial deadline for the Dec. 25 edition of **Henry County Enterprise** is Tuesday, Dec. 21 at noon.

- Classifieds, obituaries, display ads, and calendar items, etc.

for **Henry County Enterprise** are due by 5 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 20.

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

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.

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Patrick & Henry Community College in Martinsville, VA has the following job openings: College Success and Great Expectations Coach, Educational Talent Search Advisor, Law Enforcement Officer, Science Lab Assistant, MHC After 3 Program Leader, MHC After 3 After School Instructor, and Adjunct Faculty in English, Legal Assisting, NCCER Plumbing, Nursing, and Welding. For details and application information

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COUNTY OF HENRY BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

Pursuant to Section 15.2-2204 of the Code of Virginia, a series of public hearings has been scheduled for **December 30, 2021, at 9:00 a.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-21-25 Bridges for Recovery-Bassett, LLC

A request for a Special Use Permit was received under Section 21-302 of the Henry County Zoning Ordinance to allow for the establishment of a Substance Abuse Disorder Organization / halfway house for women. The facility intends to be licensed for up to 16 residents at one time. The property is located at 9850 Virginia Ave in the Reed Creek District and is zoned Agricultural District A-1, as shown on Tax Map 5.8(5)26-29.

Case S-21-26 Timothy R. Osgood

A request for a Special Use Permit was received under Section 21-902 of the Henry County Zoning Ordinance to allow for the establishment of a billiard parlor/pool room and entertainment center in the existing building. The property is located at 2716 Virginia Ave in the Collinsville District and is zoned Commercial District B-1, as shown on Tax Map 29.7/56,56B.

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

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Rejects

from page 1

Commission on Local Government (CLG) did not provide sufficient time for the consolidation of the city and county school systems. He also noted that neither school system has been involved in reversion discussions or negotiations.

"We almost, by virtue of this statute, turned our backs on the future of this county and the city. And that (future) is our students," Martin, a retired educator, said. "It is very disappointing and disheartening for me as a former school superintendent to think that we could put the two largest employers in this community together with all their intricacies in a year and a half."

County Attorney George Lyle recommended "adoption of the ordinance approving the Voluntary Settlement Agreement. While the reversion of Martinsville represents a negative financial event for the county, the Voluntary Settlement Agreement creates a known outcome" and reduces litigation costs.

He cautioned that litigation could present "significant risks" to the county, including the loss of many key provisions contained in the agreement, like the 10-year moratorium on annexation.

Additionally, if fully litigated, the county may risk being assigned city debt and could lose the ability to create future voting districts, Lyle said.

"I think the Commission on Local Government, who has the most influential say in this matter, made it very clear in their ruling that the reversion of Martinsville from a city to a town is in the best interests of this community and the Commonwealth. I have no reason to believe that if we didn't have a VSA and we litigated it, that their opinion would change at all.

"The idea of resisting this and convincing the Commission on Local Government that it (reversion) shouldn't happen is extremely remote," he said.

Before the vote was taken on Martin's motion, Bryant made a motion to delay any action on the agreement until Garrett Dillard's tenure on the board begins in January.

Dillard is replacing Martin in the Iriswood District.

Bryant's motion died for lack of a second.

After the meeting, Adams said the agreement was "negotiated in good faith. Our experts have advised us as such. If it was a medical issue, you go out and you seek the best advice that you possibly can and you follow that advice and that's exactly what I'm doing. We sought the best advice that we could."

He noted that negotiations between city and county were mediated "by one of the highest people that could be involved with it, a former member of the Virginia Supreme Court.

"Attempts have been made in the past to circumvent state laws in regard to reversion and I honestly do not see that being turned upside down," he said, of past comments indicating that, with a Republican governor and a Republican majority in the house, local representatives could successfully alter the state's laws regulating the reversion of independent cities.

"It was the city's

choice by state law to revert. and only the city can stop that process," Adams said at the meeting. "I feel like what we have ... the best possible outcome (with the agreement). If we give it up, we lose all of it and by a vote today, we have given that up."

"I've got hopes that they will have an election in the city and maybe council will change to the point that they wouldn't want to move forward (with reversion) and I hope with the Republicans going in in Richmond, (laws) might be softened or changed, but I don't know if (the city) is going to let it lay that long," Slaughter said.

"I felt like what we had was the best that we possibly could get given the circumstances," he said. "It's something we're going to have to deal with now."

After the meeting, Martin said his understanding is that the issue now goes back to the commission. "Does that then offer us an opportunity to do something different than what was outlined in the voluntary agreement? My hope is that we take a pause, take a step back, and get it right," he said, adding that "both (school) boards have been left in the dark on this and I think it's a little outrageous."

Moving forward too quickly with reversion, not giving the school systems ample time to consolidate, "could be a fatal error."

After the meeting, Zehr said continued conversations with residents ultimately convinced him to change his vote.

"Anybody you talk to in the county is firmly against reversion, and they know it's not in the best interests of the county," he said, adding that conversations with city residents also give him hope the process still could be stopped.

"Up until this point, I thought that the settlement (agreement) was the best we could get," but hearing discussions of city residents, "I think they're looking for a change," he said.

However, the possibility of new city council members being elected in 2022 and ending reversion is "a long shot, Zehr said. "At this point, I think we let the Commission on Local Government decide and delay (reversion) until the next election so (city) citizens can have a voice."

The county's vote "doesn't make a bit of sense," said attorney Stephen Piepgrass, of Troutman Pepper, who is representing the city in the reversion process.

Any notion that a new election cycle could unseat pro-reversion council members and install new members who are against the process is "laughable," he said, and added that most city residents favor reversion.

Piepgrass said he believed that, through negotiations, city and county representatives reached "the best result for both parties and for the Commonwealth, but now it becomes an adversarial proceeding" which will be arbitrated by Justice Jane Roush.

Piepgrass said the thinks the results of arbitration will be "much more favorable for the city," and that the county should expect an uphill battle before the 3-judge panel, adding that any third party would certainly look askance because the

promises made in writing by the county were broken by the vote.

"The one thing that is certain is that reversion will happen. The question is how," Piepgrass said, and added that the city plans to move quickly with the process.

Reversion "is not something that's going to linger. We were on the one-yard line and the county fumbled," he said.

In other matters the Tuesday meeting, the supervisors:

*Received a report on the fiscal year 2021 audit from Kim Jackson, of Creedle, Jones, and Alga, P.C. The county received a clean audit, indicating the appropriate use of taxpayer funds.

*Approved the formation of a committee to draft redistricting changes of the county's magisterial districts to reflect updated Census data. The committee will include County Administrator Tim Hall, Lyle, General Registrar Dawn Stultz-Vaughn, GIS Manager Jason Gardner, Public Information Officer Brandon Martin, and Planning, Zoning, and Inspections Director Lee Clark. Public hearings will be held to receive citizen input.

*Approved the purchase of 56 acres adjacent to the Smith River Sports Complex and accepted the donation of another 60 acres from Newco, Inc. The combined 117 acres will be used for the future development of outdoor recreation space known as Riverview Park.

*Approved an additional appropriation of \$53,422.72 from Four-for-Life funds to be used for emergency medical services training, supplies, or equipment for the county's five volunteer rescue squads and the Department of Public Safety. Each of the six departments will receive \$8,903.78 to be spent by Feb. 1, 2022.

*Awarded a \$259,356 contract to Trane, Inc. to replace the primary chiller unit in the courthouse HVAC system. American Rescue Plan funds will be used for the purchase.

*Heard from County Treasurer Scott Grindsatff, who said that \$35,784.05 in delinquent personal property taxes were collected during the month and \$40,629.68 in real estate taxes.

*Approved the regional Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) for 2022.

*Scheduled the board's 2022 organizational meeting for Jan. 3 at 5 p.m. During the meeting, the board will set its 2022 meeting dates and elect a chairman and vice-chairman.

*Approved and presented a resolution recognizing the 70th anniversary of the charter for the Martinsville Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

*Appointed Cheryl Via, of the Horsepasture District, to the Blue Ridge Regional Library Board for a 4-year term ending June 30, 2027.

*Appointed Melissa Puckett to the Southern Area Agency on Aging board for a 3-year term ending Nov. 1, 2024.

*Reappointed Richard Hall, Terry Cundiff, Nubby Coleman, and Gary Gibson to the Patriot Centre/Commonwealth Crossing Business Centre Advisory Board for 2-year terms ending Dec. 31, 2023.

Bassett man sought in connection with undercover investigation

Henry County authorities are seeking information about the whereabouts of a Bassett man following an undercover drug investigation.

On December 1, investigators involved in the investigation into the distribution of methamphetamine executed a search warrant at 45 Blossom St., Bassett,

according to a release from the Henry County Sheriff's Office.

The release stated that approximately one pound of methamphetamine, multiple pounds of marijuana, and a small quantity of cocaine were seized. The estimated street value of the narcotics seized is more than \$10,000.

In addition, five vehicles, 18

firearms, and \$465,207 in U.S. currency were seized, according to the release.

A warrant has been issued on Timothy Edward Ross, 48, of 45 Blossom St., Bassett. He is currently wanted on one count of distribution of more than 100 grams of methamphetamine.

Ross is described as a black male, 6-feet, 2-inches tall and weighing 260 pounds.

This matter remains under investigation, additional charges are anticipated.

Anyone with information about Ross' whereabouts or narcotic trafficking operations is asked to contact the Henry

County Sheriff's Office at (276) 638-8751 or Crimestoppers at 63-CRIME (632-7463).

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



Timothy Edward Ross is wanted on one count of distribution of more than 100 grams of methamphetamine, according to a release from the Henry County Sheriff's Office.



Methamphetamine was among the items seized on Dec. 1, according to a release from the Henry County Sheriff's Office.



More than \$465,200 in U.S. currency was seized when a warrant was executed on Dec. 1, according to Henry County authorities.

Career Academy receives \$5,000 donation

Callie Hietala
Staff writer

Patrick & Henry Community College (P&HCC) presented a \$5,000 donation to Henry County Public Schools' Career Academy at the Dec. 9 Henry County School Board meeting.

The money comes from the National Center for Construction Education & Research (NCCER) and Build Your Future (BYF) which, for the past 9 years, has organized and promoted October as Careers in Construction Month (CICM), bringing together industry professionals, training programs, and government entities to raise awareness.

The Career Academy in Fisgboro is the county's career and technical education (CTE) center. It provides juniors and seniors from Bassett and Magna Vista High Schools the opportunity to prepare for careers in industrial maintenance, cybersecurity, cosmetology, and animal science upon graduation.

P&HCC was one of four institutions selected by NCCER from a nationwide pool of nearly 170 organizations to present \$5,000 in funding to a construction craft training program of its choice. Each of the 170 institutions made a pledge aimed to increase public awareness of career paths in construction and to inspire the next generation of craft professionals.

"Patrick & Henry Community College was proud to nominate Henry County Schools' Career Academy because it is committed to taking career and technical education to the next level,"

said Rhonda Hodges, P&HCC's Vice President of Workforce, Economic, and Community Development in a press release. "The Career Academy's objective is to make education applied, practical, and aligned with industry needs."

Dr. Greg Hodges, president of P&HCC, congratulated the school system for the success of the academy: "Our senior leadership team toured the Career Academy again last week and could not be more impressed with the work that you all are doing. We are delighted for our continued partnership in being able to take (your students) into our career and technical education programs at Patrick & Henry."

He added that, "we are delighted to extend our partnership with the CTE academy in training the next generation of technologists that we all know that we need."

In other matters, the board:

- *Reviewed the proposed draft calendar for the 2022-2023 school year. The calendar will be presented again to the board for its approval at its Jan. 6 meeting.

- *Heard an update from Lisa Millner, assistant superintendent for teaching and learning, regarding expenditures funded through the American Rescue Plan (ARP) ESSER III funding. Henry County Public Schools has received a total of \$18,063,913.32 in funding. At least 20 percent of the funds must address learning loss.

Millner said some of the funding has been allocated to hazard pay for



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Dr. Greg Hodges (far left), president of Patrick & Henry Community College, and Rhonda Hodges, P&HCC's vice president of workforce, economic, and community development (far right) present a \$5,000 check to the Career Academy's Director of Career and Technical Education Mike Minter (second from left) and academy students.

nutrition workers, help cover summer school and after-school tutoring expenses, compensate teachers covering classes due to a shortage of substitute teachers, fund one paraprofessional for each elementary and middle school, and pay additional nursing staff. Additionally, Millner said, they hope to use some of the funding to hire two new assistant principals.

Thus far, purchases using those funds include HVAC upgrades and equipment, transportation system upgrades, various online resources and platform subscriptions, updated furniture to allow for social distancing and efficient sanitization, COVID-19 testing kits, iPads, PPE and sanitizing products, among other items. In total, the schools have spent or allocated \$4,583,585.82 for

compensation and fringe, \$10,576,419.00 for purchased services, and \$2,903,908.50 for materials and supplies.

- *Heard from Assistant Superintendent of Operations and Administrative Services Dr. David Scott on the timeline for the development of a school budget for the next fiscal year. Chairman Thomas Auker appointed Terri Flanagan and Cheri Whitlow to represent the school board on the budget committee.
- *Approved the consent agenda.
- *Reappointed Leslie Ramey as clerk of the board and Monica Hatchett as deputy clerk. Each appointment is for a one-year term.
- *Approved the 2022 legislative agenda. Superintendent Sandy Strayer said agenda items include having mecha-

nisms in place to measure student growth outside of test results, funding requests for increased teacher and staff pay to help combat teacher shortages, funding for social-emotional learning and alternative education options for students as needed.

The board voted unanimously to amend the agenda to include several additions proposed by board member Teddy Martin, of the Reed Creek District, and president of the Virginia School Board Association. He requested including language that indicates the school board is an independent governing body with constitutional authority "and the reversion process should include us in that matter as well as the public as a whole," and that money from the 1 percent sales tax increase in Henry

County be used for new school expenses and not for previous expenditures.

- *Approved a policy revision to include Juneteenth as an additional holiday in the school calendar.

- *Heard the superintendent's report.

- *Voted 6-1 in favor of exploring a request from Vice Chairman Francis Zehr regarding the construction of a canopy at Drewery Mason Elementary School to provide additional protection from the elements when students are outside. Ben Gravely of the Iriswood District was the sole nay vote.

- *Paid tribute to outgoing school board member Dr. Merris Stambaugh of the Collinsville District. Elizabeth Durden will replace Stambaugh, who did not seek reelection, as the Collinsville representative in 2022.

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