



Martinsville City Public Schools Director of Early Childhood Services Sheilah Williams discusses the Summer Food Program with the school board during its Monday evening meeting. Williams explained the program, which provides free meals to children and low-cost meals to adults, will return to its pre-pandemic protocols, including the requirement that meals must be consumed on-site. Meals will also be provided to offsite locations hosting summer activities for students. You do not have to be a student to qualify for the free and reduced-cost meals. Information about meal service locations and operational hours is available on both the city and county schools' websites.

County, city schools offer free and low cost summer meals

Callie Hietala
Staff writer

Henry County Public Schools (HCPS) and Martinsville City Public Schools (MCPS) are participating in the Summer Food Service program, which provides free meals to children under the age of 18 and low-cost meals to those aged 18-years or older.

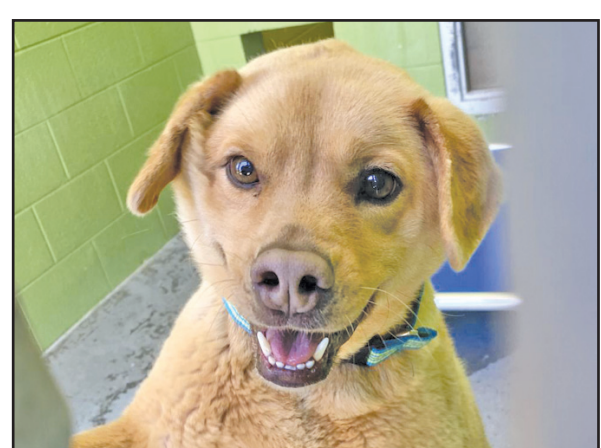
See related stories, pages 4 and 9

"We are excited to announce that Martinsville City Schools will be par-

ticipating in the summer feeding program this summer, which provides free breakfast and lunch to children 18 and under in our community and those participating in our summer learning programs," said MCPS Director of Early Childhood Services Sheilah Williams, who discussed the matter with the city school board at its regular Monday meeting.

The program's protocols, eased during the years of the pandemic, have returned for this summer, said Williams. "All meals must be con-

See **Summer Meals**, page 10



Chez, a 4-year-old male retriever is one of nearly 100 animals currently being housed at the Martinsville-Henry County SPCA, which has reached capacity. The organization has lowered its adoption fees in an attempt to help these cats and dogs find their forever homes.

SPCA "desperate for adoptions," lowers adoption fees

Callie Hietala
Staff writer

The Martinsville-Henry County SPCA is full and "desperate for adoptions," according to a post on the organization's Facebook page posted on Tuesday. To that end, the shelter is lowering its adoption fees to help ease any financial barriers for potential adopters.

Currently, adoption fees are \$25 for adult dogs 35 pounds and heavier, \$50 for adult dogs under 35 pounds, and all cats and kittens are \$5.

The fees include spay/neuter, microchip, age-appropriate vaccines, and deworming.

"We haven't had this many animals in several years," said SPCA Executive Director Catherine Gupton,

who said there are nearly 100 animals currently at the SPCA. She said the organization hasn't seen such high numbers since it began reducing its puppy program due to capacity issues.

Having so many animals takes a toll on SPCA resources, Gupton said.

"We are spending more for food and vaccines and we are having to house animals in spaces that we would not normally house them in just to make space."

The situation also is taking its toll on staff and volunteers, she added, saying it is difficult "knowing that more animals are pouring into the pounds daily that we're not able to help because none of the animals in our building are getting adopted, so we don't have space open to bring in more."

See **SPCA**, page 2

Parker, Carter Bank honored at Piedmont Arts' Hooker Awards

Callie Hietala
Staff writer

Longtime Piedmont Arts employee and life-long arts supporter Barbara Parker along with Carter Bank & Trust, "two influential centerpieces of our community" were honored this week, joining a short list of individuals and businesses who have received Piedmont Arts prestigious Clyde Hooker Award for their shared "belief that the arts are crucial to building and sustaining a thriving community," said Piedmont Arts Executive Director Heidi Pinkston during the Tuesday night ceremony.

Pinkston welcomed those in attendance at the ceremony, saying that, for 20 years,



Piedmont Arts Executive Director Heidi Pinkston (center) with this year's recipients of the prestigious Clyde Hooker Awards, Barbara Parker (left) and Carter Bank & Trust, represented by bank CEO Litz Van Dyke (right).

Piedmont Arts has been businesses that support Piedmont Arts and the "recognizing exceptional individuals and

See **Hooker Awards**, page 9

Recreation, education, stewardship: DRBA celebrates 20 years

Callie Hietala
Staff writer

The Dan River Basin Association (DRBA) celebrated its 20-year anniversary last Saturday with a ceremony held at Eden City Hall in North Carolina, the same place the nonprofit held its first organizational meeting two decades ago.

In addition to looking back at the work DRBA has completed over the years and discussing future goals, the organization

also presented its annual volunteer awards, recognizing individuals and organizations that have helped DRBA in its mission of protecting and promoting the 3,300-square mile Dan River Basin region through recreation, education, and stewardship.

Fairy Stone State Park Manager Adam Layman received the Service to DRBA Award which, DRBA Board President Mark Estes said was given to individuals who stand out as a volunteer during the year both in terms of time and effort.

"DRBA thrives on partnerships as a means of leveraging resources to enhance projects beyond the capabilities of the individual organization," he said.

Estes acknowledged Layman's tireless efforts in the work needed to propel the future Virginia Mayo River State Park project forward. A ribbon cutting for the parking lot and multi-use trail system at the site of the future park, located in Spencer, VA, was held on Earth

See **DRBA**, page 6



The recipients of the Dan River Basin's (DRBA) annual volunteer awards were recognized last Saturday at DRBA's 20th anniversary celebration in Eden, NC. From left: Dr. Joe Keiper, representing the Rotary clubs of Martinsville and Henry County, which collectively received the Corporate Partner Award; Patrick County Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Rebecca Adcock received the Volunteer of the Year Award; Fairy Stone State Park Manager Adam Layman received the Service to DRBA Award; Eden Mayor Neville Hall accepted the Community Partner Award on behalf of the City of Eden; and Paul Johnson received DRBA's highest honor, the Spirit of the Dan Award. DRBA treasurer Shawn Gorman also received the Service to DRBA Award but could not attend the celebration.

First Friday returns to Uptown

Callie Hietala
Staff writer

"For much of our history, the courtroom has served not just

as a local center of the law and government, but as a meeting ground, cultural hub, and social gathering place," said former U.S. Supreme Court Justice Lewis F.

Powell, Jr.

This quote was included on the Facebook event page for Uptown

See **First Friday**, page 6



An estimated 150 people gathered on the plaza of the historic Henry County Courthouse for the year's first, First Friday open mic event. First Fridays are a fundraiser for the Martinsville-Henry County Historical Society and will be held on the first Friday of every month through October.

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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, June 11

The Charity League of Martinsville and Henry County hosts Take Me Out to the Ball Game/Mini Touch A Truck at Hooker Field in Martinsville. Bring the kids out for a fun evening at the ball field! In addition to the mini Touch A Truck, other children's activities will also be provided. Be sure to stay for the ball game! The event begins at 5 p.m. Tickets are \$3 for adults; kids 12 and under are free.

Tuesday, June 14

The Martinsville-Henry County Chamber of Commerce will hold a Flag Day celebration. Flags will be raised by the Martinsville City Sheriff's Color Guard at 11 a.m., and attendees will have the opportunity to spin a prize wheel.

Thursday, June 16

Uptown Partnership presents Third Thursdays in Uptown in collaboration with the Virginia Museum of Natural History. The events will be held in the Franklin Street/Depot Street parking lot in Martinsville. Food trucks will be present from 11 a.m. until 9 p.m. with entertainment from DJ What and beer sales from Mountain Valley Brewing from 5-9 p.m. This event is free and open to the public.

The American Red Cross will host a blood drive at the Martinsville Elks Lodge (300 Fairy Street Extension, Martinsville) from 12-6 p.m. To make your donation appointment, visit redcrossblood.org.

Friday, June 17

The American Red Cross will host a blood drive at the Sanville Ruritan Club (3451 Stones Dairy Road, Bassett) from 1-6 p.m. To register for your donation appointment, visit redcrossblood.org.

Saturday, June 18

The Virginia Museum of Natural History (21 Starling Avenue, Martinsville) is hosting its first ever Wildlife Festival! Join the museum for a scientific celebration of creatures big and small, furry and scaly. The festival will include animal

taxidermy mounts, specimines from the collection, live animals including an American alligator, animal-themed face painting, wildlife-themed activities and crafts, and special presentations by the Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources and other wildlife experts. For more information including pricing, visit www.vmnh.net.

Mountain Valley Brewing in Axton is hosting Pour for Paws to benefit the Martinsville-Henry County SPCA. \$1 for every pint sold goes to the SPCA as well as proceeds from the brewery's giving tap!

The Bassett Hwy 57 Cruise-In will take place in downtown Bassett from 3-7 p.m. See hundreds of classic cars and trucks while enjoying great food and music along the beautiful Smith River. There will be a 50/50 drawing to benefit the Patrick-Henry Volunteer Fire Department. Admission is free. Visit bassettcruisein.com for more information.

Sunday, June 19

The Martinsville-Henry County Historical Society's Sunday Afternoon Lecture Series will feature "History's Greatest Map Mistakes" with Historical Society board member and cartographer Zack Fleming beginning at 3 p.m. at the Martinsville-Henry County Heritage Center and Museum (1 East Main Street, Martinsville.) This talk is free and open to the public.

Monday, June 20

The American Red Cross will host a blood drive at the Martinsville-Henry County YMCA (3 Starling Avenue, Martinsville) from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. To schedule your donation appointment, visit redcrossblood.org.

Tuesday, June 21

End the first day of summer, the longest day of the year, and International Yoga Day with sunset yoga on the beautiful brick plaza of the Martinsville-Henry County Heritage Center & Museum (1 East Main Street, Martinsville.) Instructor Sheila Hubbard will guide yogis of all experience levels during this free event. First-timers are especially encouraged to attend. For more information, visit <https://fb.me/e/3gy1BNFJi>.

Interested in playing some music? Come on out to bluegrass open jam nights at the Spencer Penn Center (475 Spencer-Penn Road, Spencer)! The sessions are held every first and third Tuesday from

7-10 p.m. in the Alumni Hall/Spencer Room and are free to all musicians, though donations are welcome. Refreshments will be available to purchase.

Wednesday, June 22
The American Red Cross will host a blood drive at the Collinsville Church of Christ (2115 Daniels Creek Road, Collinsville) from 1-6 p.m. To schedule your donation appointment, visit redcrossblood.org.

New College Institute's (NCI) L.I.F.E. will host a program on dementia from 12-1:30 p.m. at NCI (191 Fayette Street, Martinsville.) What is dementia? How common is it? What are the signs? These are just some of the questions that will be answered by SOVAH Health's Dr. Matthew Arroyo. To register, visit https://share.hsforms.com/1M_qNSGshRp-SIQs_gN_2wFQ4gd0j.

Thursday, June 23

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

Friday, June 24

Henry County Parks and Recreation invites you to enjoy the movie "Sing 2" at Jack Dalton Park! Admission is free for all. Drinks, snacks, and candy will be available for purchase. The movie begins at 8:55 p.m.

Friday, July 1

The Martinsville-Henry County Historical Society hosts Uptown First Friday on the plaza of the historic Henry County Courthouse (1 East Main Street, Martinsville) from 6-9 p.m. Enjoy open mic hosted by Kat and Dennis Calfee, food, and a cash bar. Admission is free!

Saturday, July 2

The Dan River Basin Association will host its monthly First Saturday Outing (FSO) with a 4-mile paddle on Philpott Lake from Ryan's Branch Recreation Area to Calico Rock. To enjoy cool morning temperatures, participants will meet at 9 a.m. at the Ryan's Branch launch on Fairy Stone Park Road. Participants are asked to dress in layers of quick-drying fabric, to expect to get wet, to provide their own boat, paddles, life jacket for each boater, lunch and water, and are required to sign

a waiver. For more information, contact Wayne Kirkpatrick at wynbytk@embarqmail.com or at (540) 570-3511.

Calling all lovers of board games! Come by the Martinsville branch of the Blue Ridge Regional Library (310 East Church Street) between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. for a monthly Board Game Day. Bring your friends and your favorite games or try one out of the games on hand at the library. Monthly Board Game Days will be held the first Saturday of every month and are free and open to the public.

Sunday, July 10 through Friday, July 15

Fort Trial Baptist Church will hold a Vacation Bible School. School will be held from 6:15-8 p.m. for children ages 2-5, from 6:15-8:30 p.m. for grades K-12, and adult sessions will begin at 7 p.m. Each night will have a different emphasis. For more information or to register, visit www.forttrialbaptist.com/events.

Friday, July 15

Henry County Parks and Recreation invites you to enjoy the movie "Space Jam: A New Legacy" at Jack Dalton Park! Admission is free for all. Drinks, snacks, and candy will be available for purchase. The movie begins at 8:55 p.m.

ONGOING

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.

The Louise R. Lester Spay/Neuter Clinic is hosting wellness clinics every Tuesday. Clinics are by appointment only—no walk-ins will be accepted. Call (276) 638-7297 to schedule your appointment. Beginning in April, the clinics will be held on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month, rather than weekly.

Patrick & Henry Community College is organizing a virtual Leadership Learning Community! If you have leadership questions, P&HCC can connect you with answers through this virtual community. Participants have the opportunity to collaborate and brain-

storm current, real-time challenges and successes with fellow leaders while learning from each other or gaining insights from professionals skilled in areas of concern. Sessions will be held from 4-5 p.m. every other Wednesday through June 22. Prices range from \$225 for 12 sessions all the way to \$25 for individual sessions. For more information or to register, visit ph.augusoft.net or call (276) 656-0260.

Henry County Parks & Recreation invites you out for a trek along the trail! Meet a group and walk along a different trail each week. Explore the trails of Martinsville-Henry County, make new friends, and get some fresh air and exercise. Call the HCPR Senior Services office at (276) 634-4644 to find out where the week's trek is happening! Trail Trekkers meet Thursday of each week (weather permitting) at 1 p.m. in the fall and winter and 9:15 a.m. in spring and summer.

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. Call (276) 647-9585.

Residents among JMU's spring 2022 honors graduates

James Madison University announced the following local resident graduated with honors during the May 2022 commencement exercises.

Haley Warren, of Ridgeway, graduated Cum Laude with a bachelor's degree in nursing.

Guadalupe Rivera, of Martinsville, graduated Magna Cum Laude with a bachelor's degree in elementary education.

Other local students who graduated during the May 2022 commencement exercises are:

Michael Taylor, of Bassett, graduated

with a bachelor's degree in computer science.

Karli Foster, of Collinsville, graduated with a master's degree in public administration.

Emily Sigmon, of Collinsville, graduated with a master's degree in speech-language pathology.

Hannah Dodrill, of Martinsville, graduated with a bachelor's degree in health sciences.

Caitlyn Wray, of Martinsville, graduated with a master's degree in education.

Anna Lewis, of Ridgeway, graduated with a bachelor's degree in international affairs.

SPCA from page 1

While animals at the SPCA will stay indefinitely until they are adopted, the inability to take in more animals means that "if the pounds get full, then the pounds face having to euthanize the animals," Gupton explained.

She said that, while the SPCA "always takes on a higher majority of the cost than we get from adoption fees," lowering those fees to help ease the pathway for adoption means the organization is shouldering an even heavier financial burden.

Gupton noted that the local SPCA is not the only shelter facing capacity issues.

"This is a problem that is occurring nationwide," she said. "There's a critical overpopulation of animals coming into shelters, so even our rescue partners are not able to step forward and help the way they normally would because they themselves are overwhelmed with animals."

She said that one theory among members of the animal welfare community is that the increase in animals filling shelters and pounds is related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

"As a country, we had to prioritize medical supplies getting to those who needed care, so spay and neuter surgeries were reduced or even stopped in some cases, so there have been more animals breeding. We're also seeing an influx of people who adopted an animal because they were lonely during the shutdown who have now gone back to work and are not finding the time to invest in the animal."

Gupton said that, when someone comes to adopt an animal, the SPCA is "looking for families who are truly looking for a member of their family. We're not looking for adopters who are just going to stick an animal outside on a chain. We're looking for loving homes that are interested in putting in their best effort to provide the correct care for the animals that they adopt."

SPCA hours are Tuesday through Friday from 12-6 p.m. and Saturday from 12-4 p.m.

An adoption application as well as information on animals currently available for adoption are available at www.spcamhc.org.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

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	58							59		

CLUES ACROSS

1. Slovenian mountain

5. Growl

9. Where things stand

11. Made a sharp sound

13. Female spirit in Irish folklore

15. Deteriorate with age

16. A way to save for retirement

17. The Big Apple

19. Intestinal pouches

21. City in New Hampshire

22. Giving a bad impression

23. Samsung laptops

25. Without (French)

26. Scientist's tool (abbr.)

27. System of one more computers

29. Captures

31. Authentic

33. Female mammal's

nipple

34. Pandemonium

36. Satisfy

38. Arrived extinct

39. Shipborne radar (abbr.)

41. Network of nerves

43. Monetary unit

44. Showed old TV show

46. They help you hear

48. One who eliminates

52. Congress' investigative arm

53. Parties

54. Most supernatural

56. Takes illegally

57. Breathes while asleep

58. Sea eagles

59. German surname

CLUES DOWN

1. Looks at for a long time

2. Solution for diseases

3. Belonging to a thing

4. Former Packers fullback

5. Contemptible person

6. One billionth of a second (abbr.)

7. Helps

8. Final section of the large intestine

9. Invests in little enterprises

10. Look for

11. Unbeliefs

12. Susan and Tom are two

14. Female sheep

15. A poet writes it

18. Affirmatives

20. "Full House" actress Barber

24. Traveled rapidly

26. Long upholstered seat

28. Set wages

30. Peter Gabriel song

32. Sides of a jacket

34. More beautiful

35. Actress Kate

37. Furniture with open shelves

38. Indicate

40. The cost of a room

42. Gets rid of something

43. Impudence

45. No No No

47. Drunkards

49. Middle eastern country

50. High energy lasers (abbr.)

51. Primary component of ribosomes

55. An informal debt instrument

Sovah Health to pay \$4.36 million to settle claims of Controlled Substance Act violations

Sovah Health has agreed to pay the United States \$4.36 million to settle claims that the hospital system violated the Controlled Substances Act (CSA) on numerous occasions between 2017 and 2020. As part of the resolution, Sovah Health further agreed to be subject to a period of four years of increased compliance and oversight during which any failure to comply with its obligations may result in contempt of court findings that could result in additional monetary sanctions and injunctive relief. The settlement is the third-largest civil penalty ever obtained from a hospital system under the Controlled Substances Act and the largest ever in the Fourth Circuit.

The claims center around Sovah Health's failure to have effective controls in place to prevent the diversion of powerful painkilling prescription opioids. Sovah Health is a regional health care delivery system comprised of a hospital with two campuses - Danville and Martinsville. In 2017, Danville (formerly Danville Regional Medical Center) and Martinsville (formerly Memorial Hospital of Martinsville & Henry County) united to form Sovah Health.

From 2017 to 2019, a Sovah Health employee (a former Danville pharmacy technician) diverted more than 11,000 Schedule II controlled substances from Sovah Health, according to a release from the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Western District of Virginia.

From January to May 2020, a second Sovah Health employee (a former registered who worked at Sovah Health-Danville) tampered with Fentanyl vials and hydromorphone injectables by replacing the controlled substance with saline and diverting the controlled substance, the release stated.

The United States alleged Sovah Health failed to provide effective controls and procedures to guard against the diversion of controlled substances, filled orders for controlled substances without a system in place to disclose suspicious orders of controlled substances, and failed to maintain readily retrievable records of controlled substances.

"As opioid overdose deaths skyrocket, it is critical that health care companies are held accountable when they fail to effectively safeguard these powerful prescriptions within their facilities," said U.S. Attorney Christopher R. Kavanaugh for the Western District of Virginia. "The oversight provided by this resolution will ensure future compliance involving these important but potentially deadly substances, and the United States Attorney's Office for the Western District of Virginia will continue to vigorously pursue these cases with our federal and local partners in order to protect Virginia's communities."

The "settlement sends a clear message to all registrants that it is essential to maintain effective controls to prevent the diversion of controlled substances" said DEA Washington Division Special Agent in Charge Jarod Forget. "DEA is dedicated to combat the prescription drug abuse problem in Virginia and throughout the country and to hold all DEA registrants accountable."

"The FDA oversees the U.S. drug supply to ensure that patients receive medicines that are safe and effective," said Special Agent in Charge George A. Scavdis of the FDA Office of Criminal Investigations Metro Washington Field Office. "We will continue to protect the public health by holding accountable health care companies that fail to safeguard their prescription drug inventory and thereby compromise their patients' health and comfort."

"With opioid deaths and overdoses at record-breaking highs, especially across Southside Virginia, there must be zero tolerance of trusted health professionals engaging in drug diversion," said Colonel Gary T. Settle, Virginia State Police Superintendent. "For the safety and protection of Virginia's communities, our Virginia State Police Drug Diversion special agents, in collaboration with our local and federal public safety partners, will continue to aggressively pursue investigations related to the illegal distribution of Fentanyl and other prescription drugs."

The agreement resolves Sovah Health's potential civil and criminal liability based on the investigation. As part of the resolution, Sovah Health has committed to additional compliance measures including, but not limited to, having cameras at all Automated Dispensing Machines to capture the activity of placing/removing controlled substances; promptly reporting losses and diversion of controlled substances; taking and reporting disciplinary action taken against employees found to have been responsible for theft, diversion or loss of controlled substances; maintaining a mandatory random drug testing program for employees; and conducting a full physical inventory of all federally scheduled II-V controlled substances more frequently than required by law.

Assistant U.S. Attorneys Justin Lugar and Randy Ramseyer represented the United States in this matter.

The investigation was conducted by the Food and Drug Administration - Office of Criminal Investigations, the Drug Enforcement Administration - Roanoke Resident Office Diversion Group, and the Virginia State Police.

CDC shifts county, city to medium COVID transmission level

Callie Hietala
Staff writer

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) indicates that Henry County and the City of Martinsville are currently classified as having a medium level of community COVID-19 transmission. Both were listed as having low transmission levels when the CDC launched its new community transmission data tool earlier this year.

To calculate COVID community levels, the CDC examines three metrics, according to information available on its website: new COVID-19 admissions per 100,000 population in the past 7-days, the percent of staffed inpatient beds occupied by COVID-19 patients, and total new COVID-19 cases per 100,000 population in the past 7-days.

"New COVID-19 admissions and the percent of staffed inpatient beds occupied represent the current potential for strain on the health system," the website states. "Data on new cases acts as an early warning indicator of potential increases in health system strain in the event of a COVID-19 surge."

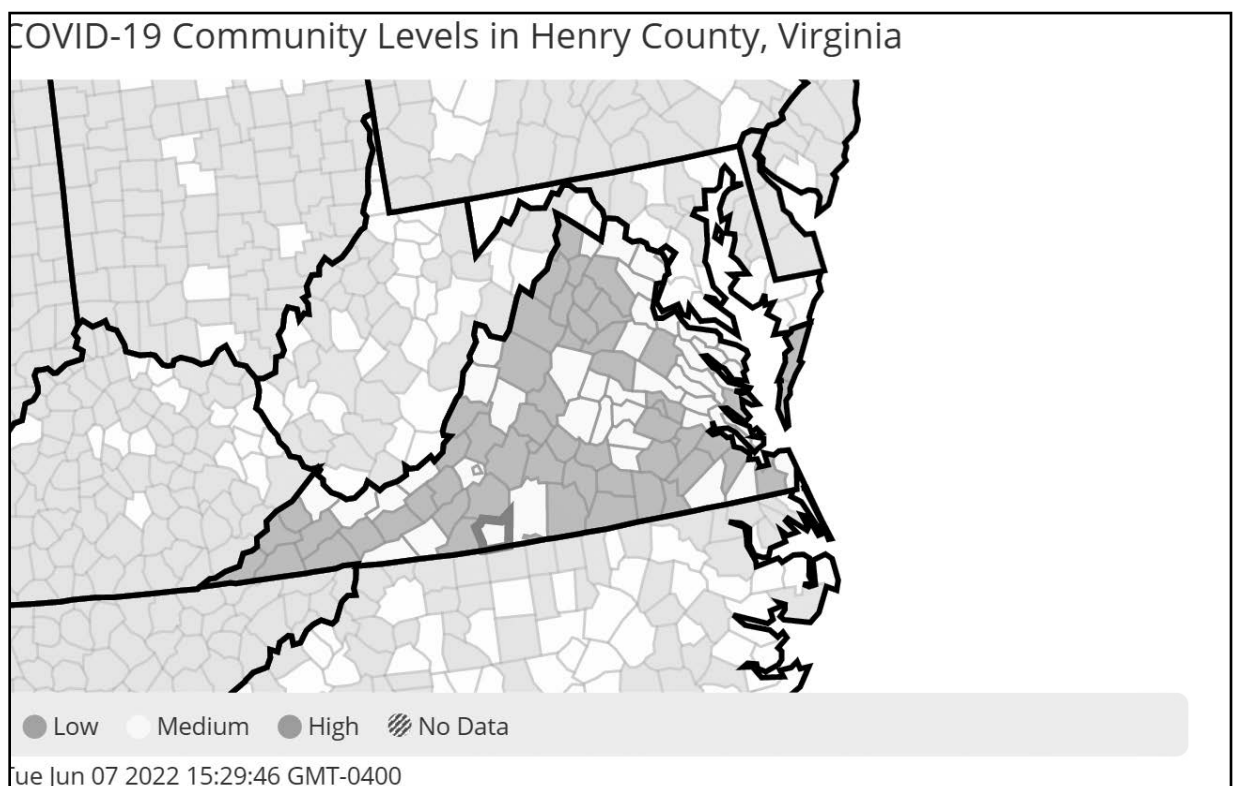
The website also pro-

vides guidance for those living in communities with low, medium, and high transmission levels.

In areas with a medium transmission level, individuals who are immunocompromised or have a high risk for severe disease should speak to their healthcare provider about whether they should wear a mask and take other precautions, such as testing. High-risk people should have a plan for rapid testing, which could include having at-home tests or access to testing.

Those living in areas of medium transmission levels who live in a household or have social contact with someone at high risk for severe disease should consider self-testing to detect infection before contact, and consider wearing a mask when indoors with high-risk people.

For localities experiencing a medium level of COVID transmission, the CDC website recommends maintaining improved ventilation in public indoor spaces and consider implementing screening testing or other testing strategies for people who are exposed to COVID-19 in workplaces, schools, or other community settings as appropriate.



A map from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) website shows the levels of community COVID-19 transmission as of Monday, June 7. Henry County is outlined in thick gray. Both the county and the City of Martinsville have been upgraded to a medium COVID transmission level.

Data on the CDC website indicate that 39.3 percent of the total population of Martinsville have been fully vaccinated against COVID-19, while 45.9 percent of the total population has received at least one dose of the vaccine. Half the population of city residents, 50.6 percent, 18-years of age or older have been fully vaccinated. Of those who have been fully vac-

inated in the city, only 0.7 percent have received a first booster dose.

In Henry County, 39.4 percent of the total county population has been fully vaccinated, while 45.1 percent have received at least one dose. Just over 46 percent of the county population aged 18 or older has been fully vaccinated. Of those who have been fully vaccinated, 21.9 percent

have received their first booster dose.

According to the Virginia Department of Health's website, statewide 73.8 percent of the population has been fully vaccinated while just over 3 million Virginians have received a booster dose.

Free at-home COVID-19 tests are available via the United States Postal Service. Thus far, the federal government has

made 3 rounds of free at-home test kits available to households, totaling 16 free test kits available to each household.

Free, at-home COVID test kits can be ordered via COVIDTests.gov.

Everyone in Virginia aged 5 and older is eligible for the COVID-19 vaccine. To find a vaccination location, visit www.vaccinate.virginia.gov.

Formula shortage hits health district

Taylor Boyd
Staff writer

The West Piedmont Health District (WPHD) is working to combat the baby formula shortage by providing formula and information to those in need.

Nancy Bell, public information officer for the WPHD, said the district is currently working with partners like the Franklin County Perinatal Education Center to help caregivers get access to formula.

Participants in the WIC program may drop off recalled formula and pick up available formula at the local offices.

"They get some formula, and we get some formula through our WIC (Women Infants and Children) program, and we're trying to work together to make sure our babies locally get what they need one way or another," she said. "Whatever we get we freely share."

Bell said the problem is that there

are a lot of different types of formula on the market, and sometimes babies can only use one specific type.

"It's hard to get the exact one that a mom or dad needs. I would really hate to be in that situation right now. It must be very frustrating and scary," she said.

While it is unknown how long the shortage will last, Bell expects the supply to improve in the next three months as formula production is expected to increase.

"I'm sure everyone's scrambling trying to help. I know there are family and church groups that are trying to see what they can get ahold of. Some parents have been very good about trying to share," she said.

She has also not heard of any babies going to hospital for dehydration in the health district even though "that is happening across the country."

The Virginia Department of Health (VDH) website advises

families to not use 'home' recipes for making one's own formula, dilute the formula, or alter package instructions "as these practices can have severe, at times fatal, consequences for the infant."

Families are also encouraged to only purchase a 10-14 day supply each time, because stockpiling will only make the shortages worse.

"Consider purchasing formula online. Only purchase from well-established distributors and pharmacies. However, do not buy formula online from a vendor outside the United States, as it is not guaranteed to be FDA (Food and Drug Administration) compliant," the website stated.

Parents and caregivers are encouraged to go to www.vdh.virginia.gov or visit their local health department for additional information on the formula shortage. For information regarding Virginia WIC-approved formulas and substitutions, visit www.VirginiaWIC.com.



LIVESTOCK AUCTIONS

EVERY SATURDAY AT 1 P.M.

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

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

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

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

OPINION

Regarding term limits

When I was a kid, I felt certain that I would always have a finger on the pulse of pop culture. I'm now 37 years old, and needless to say, it hasn't panned out.

Take YouTube, for example. There are a few YouTube channels I watch; I check out RedLetterMedia for hilarious movie reviews, I watch Doug Demuro's car reviews, and I always tune in to the latest videos from pinball wizard Bowen Kerins in the hope that his strategies will rub off on me.

However, there is an entire world on YouTube that I don't understand. I just looked up a list of the most famous YouTubers and I don't know any of these people, but millions of young folks watch them every day. These are people who have made millions of dollars by doing stuff like recording their kids unboxing toys. I cannot fathom why anyone would spend time watching videos of children they don't even know. There are about three kids in the world that I actually enjoy being around, and even then, I'm not watching a 15-minute video of them taking a toy out of a box.

But beyond pop culture ephemera, my values are different from the values of Gen Z.

For example, I love old cars, but Gen Z does not, for the most part. Some of this is due to environmental concerns, some of it is due to absurd prices, and some of it is a simple lack of interest.

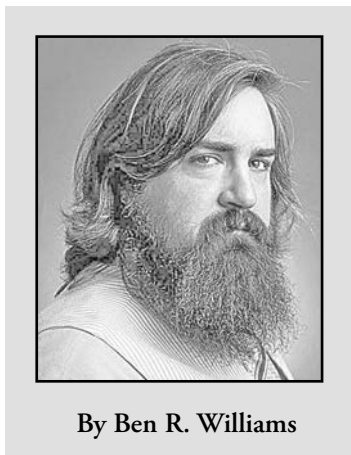
Gen Z is also more accepting of folks who are different. Back when I was in high school, the word "gay" was routinely used as an insult or as a synonym for "bad." That's generally not the case anymore, and good riddance.

While my values and interests are different from those of the next generation, it's neither a good thing nor a bad one. But it does make me wonder: if I'm still kicking 50 years from now, just how alien will the newest generation of young folks seem to me? It will be like we're from two different planets.

And that brings us around to the actual point of this column: term limits.

Many of our elected officials are old. Really old. And while many readers may think I'm a partisan hack, this is an issue that both parties need to grapple with.

For example, California Senator Dianne Feinstein, a Democrat, will be 89 years old in June. It's been widely reported that her mental faculties are



By Ben R. Williams

in steep decline. Our second oldest Senator, Republican Chuck Grassley of Iowa, will turn 89 in September.

Of course, Feinstein and Grassley are spring chickens compared to the late Sen. Strom Thurmond, who completed his eighth term in January of 2003 at the age of 100 and then died that June. It's remarkable to think that the one-time face of the Dixiecrat Party was still actively serving as a Senator in the 21st century.

If you were on a hiring committee for literally any job and someone in their late 80s applied, you probably wouldn't hire them. You would be concerned about their health and their mental acuity. You'd be nervous to get in a car if they were behind the wheel. And yet we have no problem with the elderly steering the direction of our country.

"Now Ben," you might be saying, "I bet you don't think that Joe Biden is too old to be President!"

Actually, I do, and so is Donald Trump. Joe Biden is 79, and if Trump runs again in 2024, he'll be 78.

With some exceptions, my concern with the old folks running our country isn't so much about mental decline. My concern is that our nation is being led by people who have absolutely no relevant experience with the realities of the world today.

First off, there are few things more infuriating than watching a Congressional hearing about anything involving cutting-edge technology. Remember when Iowa Rep. Steve King (not the author, the scarier one) asked Google CEO Sundar Pichai a question about an image that popped up on his granddaughter's iPhone, despite the fact that the iPhone is made by Google's rival? Or what about the time the late Sen. Orrin Hatch asked Mark Zuckerberg how Facebook makes money if it doesn't charge users, forcing Zuckerberg to explain the concept of "ads" to him? This is not terribly complicated stuff, yet the majority of folks in Congress apparently haven't interacted with technology in a meaningful way since they programmed their Betamax player to record the episode of Dallas where J.R. gets shot.

But beyond that, how can any politician in their 70s or 80s understand the challenges that younger Americans face today? How can they understand the difficulty of finding an affordable place to rent, much less buy? How can they understand the effect of inflation on a minimum wage salary? For that matter, how can they even conceive of what it's like to live on minimum wage?

We need term limits, and we need a mandatory retirement age. I propose 70, the age at which you can retire and receive full Social Security benefits (at least for now; by the time I retire, I probably won't be eligible for full benefits until I'm 120 years old).

To any older readers, I do want to make one thing clear: I like old people. In fact, I aspire to be one someday. But when someone is in their 80s or older — particularly when they have spent a long and lucrative career in a field that insulates them from the real world — there is nothing they have to say that's relevant to my life.

Of course, there may come a day, many years from now, when I feel differently on this topic. Hopefully when that happens, some younger person will write a column about how I need to be quiet and step aside. My feelings won't be hurt; I'll never see it because I won't be able to figure out how to work my futuristic holoPhone.

City schools to participate in Summer Food Service Program

Martinsville City Public Schools will participate in the Summer Food Service Program, with meals to be provided to all children without charge and are the same for all children regardless of race, color, national origin, sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation), age or disability, and there will be no discrimination in the course of the meal service.

Meals will be provided, on a first come, first serve basis, at the sites and times as follows:

Boys & Girls Club of the Blue Ridge @ Uptown Ministry - 145 E. Church Street; Martinsville, VA 24112, Monday – Friday starting on Monday, June 6, to Friday, July 22. Breakfast will be available from 8 - 8:30 a.m., and lunch will be available from 12:15-1 p.m.

Back to School Events @

Uptown Ministry:

- Saturday, July 9 – Breakfast will be served 9–10:25 a.m., lunch will be available from 10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.

- Saturday, August 6 – Breakfast will be served from 8–10:25 a.m., lunch from 10:30 a.m. – 12 p.m. 2) Boys & Girls Club Teen Center - 311 E. Church Street; Martinsville, VA 24112, Monday – Friday starting on Monday, June 13 to Friday, July 22. Breakfast will be available from 8 - 8:30 a.m. and Lunch will be available from 12:15-1 p.m.

- 3) MHC After 3 @ Patrick & Henry Community College (PHCC) – 645 Patriot Avenue; Martinsville, VA 24112, Monday, June 6 – Friday, July 22. Breakfast will be served from 8-9 a.m., lunch from 12-12:50 p.m.

- 4) First United Methodist

Church – 146 East Main St.; Martinsville, VA 24112, Monday, June 6 to Friday, July 22. Breakfast will be served at 8:15–9 a.m., lunch from 11:15 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

- 5) Boys & Girls Club of the Blue Ridge @ Albert Harris Elementary – 191 Fayette St., Martinsville, VA 24112, Monday – Friday, July 18 – 22, will be located at New College Institute (NCI) – 191 Fayette Street; Martinsville, VA 24112. Breakfast will be available from 8-8:30 a.m. and lunch from 12–1 p.m.

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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

SUMMER EATS

FREE MEALS FOR KIDS & TEENS

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800 Ainsley St, Martinsville, VA
Monday – Thursday
June 6 – 30, 2022 (Closed Fridays)
Breakfast – 8:00 – 9:00 AM
Lunch – 11:15 AM – 12:00 PM
*Closed Monday, June 20, 2022

Albert Harris Elementary School
710 Smith Rd, Martinsville, VA
Monday – Thursday
June 6 – 30, 2022 (Closed Fridays)
Breakfast – 8:30 – 9:30 AM
Lunch – 11:00 AM – 1:30 PM
*Closed Monday, June 20, 2022

Martinsville High School
351 Commonwealth Blvd., Martinsville, VA
Monday – Thursday
June 6 – July 21, 2022 (Closed Fridays)
Breakfast – 8:00 – 8:30 AM
Lunch – 12:00 PM – 12:30 PM
*Closed Monday, June 20, 2022 and Monday, July 4, 2022

Martinsville Middle School
201 Brown St., Martinsville, VA
Monday – Thursday
June 6 – 30, 2022 (Closed Fridays)
Breakfast – 8:30 – 9:00 AM
Lunch – 12:00 PM – 12:30 PM
*Lunch 6/27-3 – 12 PM – 1:30 PM
*Closed Monday, June 20, 2022

Patrick Henry Elementary School
1810 Church St, Martinsville, VA
Monday – Thursday
June 6 – 30, 2022 (Closed Fridays)
Breakfast – 8:45 – 9:30 AM
Lunch – 11:00 AM – 1:30 PM
*Closed Monday, June 20, 2022

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Final UP community meeting ends on positive note



Uptown Partnership (UP) board member Derrick Ziglar leads a small group discussion related to the economic vitality arm of UP’s mission during the fourth and final community engagement session on recommendations made for Martinsville’s revitalization by a Richmond-based consulting group. Over the course of the meetings, the public has responded to those recommendations and offered up other suggestions of their own.

Callie Hietala
Staff writer

After a contentious meeting last month that included prominent uptown property owner Tim Martin walking out of the room, declaring, “I’m done,” the fourth and final Uptown community engagement session on recommendations for revitalizing Martinsville’s uptown area, which Martin did not attend, was a notably more positive event.

The structure of the final scheduled engagement session was different than those which came before it. Previously, Uptown Partnership (UP) Executive Director Kathy Deacon did the brunt of the speaking and facilitating engagement with the group, but this time took a step back, leaving the running of the meeting to members of the UP board who were on hand to facilitate small group discussions related to UP’s various committees: promotions (headed up by board chairman Liz Harris), design (with Rob King), organization (with Beverly Pitzer Lyle), and economic vitality (facilitated Derrick Ziglar.)

The meetings were held to allow community members the opportunity to learn about and react to a visioning plan and study completed by the Richmond-based consulting firm Downtown Economics. Throughout the four sessions, attendees offered their perspectives on various recommendations (some positive, others negative) and offered suggestions.

During the final session, board members shared information about the work of each committee and facilitated brainstorming sessions, encouraging the public to share their thoughts about existing recommendations, or making other recommendations. Those in attendance had the opportunity either to rotate between groups to contribute to several topics, switching every 15 minutes, or stay with one committee dis-

cussion for the duration of the meeting, depending on their range of interest.

For about an hour, the UP office was a din of noise as an estimated 30 people discussed topics of interest in small groups.

In one small group, facilitated by Lyle, Bryan Gravely discussed the importance of involving local churches with UP to help keep residents informed about the work of the organization, saying those venues would be a free but effective way to market UP and its goals.

Brandon Martin offered that schools are another good way to share information with a broad range of people, and further suggested the organization build better relationships with the media and well as use partnerships with other nonprofits.

In Ziglar’s economic vitality group, while some participants rotated in and out, Harvest Foundation Executive Director Kate Keller and Martinsville Director of Community Development Mark McCaskill remained for the duration of the meeting.

At one point, Ziglar discussed creating an inventory of spaces in the uptown area to help connect businesses with available offices in uptown. Ziglar, McCaskill, and Keller discussed combining the efforts of UP and the city to create a comprehensive list of uptown spaces.

Someone else, who identified themselves only as Will, inquired whether the city kept a list of people who were delinquent real estate taxes, to which McCaskill replied that the Treasurer kept such information.

Will said he previously did work in Richmond, where he found that “delinquent real estate taxes were an incredibly effective way of leveraging property owners who may not want to be involved, but shame is a really good tool for development as well as if you want to keep a nasty storefront, then it looks like you might be going to auction.”

McCaskill said city council recently authorized the hiring of a tax collection organization to help collect delinquent taxes.

“That’s timely, because I think a specialist is already getting started,” he said. However, he noted that “the owners we all have in mind but we’re not mentioning by name, I get the sense that they have actually paid their taxes.”

Behind Ziglar was a collection of post-it notes, covered with other recommendations connected to economic vitality. The notes had been collected over the course of the community meetings, with more added that day. Among the notes were several requests for electric vehicle charging stations, more uptown residential opportunities, and two-way streets.

One note stated, “force building owners to fix old buildings or sale (sic) to new investors so we can put diverse restaurants and shops in uptown.” Written on another was “we need high quality bars and restaurants.”

Another collection of notes related to the work of the promotions committee, and included several suggestions to bring back the Rives Theatre or another music venue, create more performance opportunities for a younger demographic, a request for live music every weekend in uptown, a desire for events geared toward highlighting or attracting different ethnic groups, and a suggestion for more nighttime social opportunities.

At the end of the small group discussions, attendees gathered together to reflect on the meeting.

“Did you learn something, or did you hear something new today,” Harris asked.

“It’s nice to know that I’m not the only one who wants to see Martinsville grow,” one woman said. “I thought I was alone in that.”

“You’re not alone,” Harris responded.

Travis Hundley, who, along with his wife, Mandi Jo, is pre-

paring to open The Wellness Bar in uptown said that he grew up in Martinsville, left, and moved back.

“When I moved back, Uptown looked the same,” he said. “It’s time to revitalize. We’ve got a new generation of people coming up, and if we want to get people in there, they’ve got to pick it. But they won’t. I would love to see my hometown come back to life.”

Mandi Jo said she felt discouraged at the last few UP community engagement meetings she attended because “I felt like I’m an outsider and these people were like, ‘I’ve been here this many years and my opinion matters more than yours’ and coming here today and hearing what people are saying and feeling the warm welcome that we got is really appreciated. I just wanted to say that this is home for me and we’re going to do something good for the community.”

Barbara Parker said she was encouraged to see that so many in attendance “feel like the arts is something that can really be a powerful tool at revitalizing uptown,” particularly with the use of murals and updates to facades which attract people. “This really isn’t an attractive place, and I’ve been here 25 years. I know not a lot has changed in 25 years, but this is the most enthusiasm I’ve seen from people who want to make this a better place. It’s happened in other communities and there’s no reason it can’t happen here. We just have to be the strong people because there will always be naysayers, but we can do this if we share that enthusiasm, and we all work towards a common goal.”

Harris asked if anyone heard any ideas mentioned during their discussions that were new or that had never occurred to them.

Among mentions of an ice cream shop and various spaces for the creation of public art, King said someone in one of his

groups mentioned green spaces on rooftops, which elicited an audibly positive reaction from nearly everyone in the room.

Ouss Sahhar said that the meeting generated many good ideas, with lots of discussion and involvement. “Let’s follow through,” he urged. “Let’s not drop the ball. The ball’s been dropped before. We’re here to make a difference. Let’s move forward and follow through.”

“What comes next,” asked Natalie Hodge.

“If there is a committee that speaks to you, get signed up,” Harris said. “Our team will be collecting all this feedback and conversation (gathered over the course of the four meetings), packaging it up, and building out next steps,” including the creation of a steering committee to being selecting and prioritizing projects.

“We have a smaller group of individuals that genuinely care,” Ziglar said. “But there is a larger group of people that care as well. They’re just waiting to see the action start. It’s us that can get this thing rolling and once the ball is rolling down the hill, it picks up speed. It starts with a small group of people like this that genuinely care and aren’t afraid of putting in the work.”

“This is your work,” Deacon told the group. “We’re just facilitating it.”

In a marked change from the previous three sessions, several people at the final meeting signed up to serve on committees. Harris said she recruited two new members for her promotions committee, while Ziglar said he also found a member for his economic vitality committee. At the end of the session, one man declared his intention to serve on the design committee.

Anyone interested in getting involved with UP can contact Deacon at kathydeacon@martinsvilleup.com. For more information on UP’s activities, visit Uptown Partnership on Facebook or www.martinsvilleUP.com.



UP board member Rob King talks with community members about what they would like to see happen in uptown with regards to design, a category which addresses streetscapes, parks, and public art, among other items. King said that one suggestion that came up through the day’s discussion was a desire to see rooftop spaces in uptown.

Enterprise reporter among those named to VSBA Media Honor Roll

Callie Hietala, a reporter with Henry County Enterprise and The Enterprise, was among those named by Martinsville City Public Schools to the Virginia School Boards Association Media Honor

Roll. Luis Romero, of BTW21, also received the honor.

“I was honored and more than a little surprised,” to be selected “alongside my friend and colleague, Luis,” Hietala

said.

A resolution approved by the school board stated, in part, that “much of the community’s knowledge and opinions about the public schools rely on responsible reporting by local media representatives who decide which news to share with the community, how much attention will be focused on various issues, and what the tone of the reporting will be.”

The addition of Hietala’s name called “attention to the ongoing responsible and exemplary nature of reporting on this community’s public schools. We express our appreciation for your balanced and accurate approach to sharing with this community both the challenges facing our schools and the successes achieved by the teachers and students,” the resolution stated.

Hietala, who primarily covers Martinsville and Henry County, said “We’re very proud of

what we do at the Henry County Enterprise. I’m proud of the work I’ve done, the stories I get to tell, and I’m grateful to the board and staff of MCPS for recognizing us for that work.”

“Callie’s love of the job, and for the communities she serves, is evident,” said Debbie Hall, editor. “She is a valued, talented and dedicated member of our team. It is an honor and a pleasure

to work with her.”

Publisher Michael Showell said, “Callie represents exactly why I am in this business. I congratulate her for the recognition by the VSBA.”

Hietala is nearing the first-year anniversary of her employment with The Enterprise and Henry County Enterprise. Both newspapers and several others in Virginia are published by Virginia Media, Inc., which is a

subsidiary of Lewisburg, West Virginia-based Mountain Media, LLC.

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Callie Hietala

DRBA

from page 1

Day this year.

Bringing that park into existence, Estes said, comes with many challenges, and Layman played an “integral part” as a liaison between the state, DRBA, the Department of Conservation and Recreation, the Eco Ambassador Council and other organizations to “lead this monumental task to a successful outcome. Adam has been a steadfast component of the communications end in the coordination.”

As previously reported, Fairy Stone staff also assisted with the construction of the parking lot and trail system at the park.

Shawn Gorman, treasurer of the DRBA board, received the Service to DRBA Award. “His work has impacted DRBA on multiple levels,” Estes said, including serving on multiple board committees and as an officer of the board.

“He has been instrumental in maintaining and guiding our organization into a solid and sound financial position through policy development, fiduciary, and corporate proceedings,” said Estes.

Rebecca Adcock, executive director of the Patrick County Chamber of Commerce, received the DRBA Volunteer of the Year Award, which Estes said was presented to an individual who goes above and beyond to serve, promote, educate, and actively participate to strengthen the organization.

Estes credited Adcock, who he said was a long-time member and donor, with growing an annual fundraiser into a consistent source of funds for trail development and enhancements. Additionally, “though professional work as a chamber director, she has constantly promoted DRBA events and activities regionally,” he said.

Eden Mayor Neville Hall accepted the DRBA Partnership Award on behalf of the City of Eden. Estes said this award traditionally goes to a municipality or state organization that has shown support and dedication to DRBA’s mission through collaboration, participation, and collective actions.

“Eden City Hall is where DRBA began,” Estes said. “Two decades later, we are meeting in the same building to celebrate

two decades of partnership and mutual success ... DRBA’s partnership with the City of Eden has spanned the life of DRBA and continues forward as strong as ever.”

Estes presented two Corporate Awards during the ceremony. The awards, he explained, are given to business or civic organizations that have helped DRBA achieve a project or provide a service that would not have been likely to have happened without the resource leveraging of that partnership.

The first recipient was Nestle Purina, a company which, “even before they opened their doors (at their Eden location), they were seeking partnerships with organizations in the region to established corporate goodwill in their new location.”

In 2021, the Purina Trust Foundation granted DRBA \$21,500 to help establish a park in Rockingham County and even sent a crew of volunteers to help build a trail at the park, he said.

The second Corporate Award went collectively to the three Rotary clubs of Martinsville and Henry County which, Estes said, “joined together to make a huge impact in 2021” through several projects.

The first was the Inspire Clean Water Project, which focused on bringing awareness to storm drains and how litter and pollution end up in the Smith River because there are no filters between the drains and the waterways.

The clubs joined with teens from the local Boys & Girls club to mark 12 drains with the inscription, “no dumping, drains to the river” to inspire people to understand how storm drains work and discourage littering within the city, he said.

“The marked storm drains are designed to increase public awareness of storm drain use, how storm drains empty water directly to the river without treatment, and how storm drains affect the health and ecosystem of the Smith River and local streams and waterways,” he said.

Next, an art contest was held which included all K-12 students in Martinsville and Henry who created artwork

around the central theme, “what a healthy river looks like.” Winners are currently in the process of painting their creations on actual storm drains in Uptown Martinsville.

Later, permanent medallions will be installed to remind people that storm drains enter into the river.

The Rotarians also participated in the creation of a nature detour trail at Jack Dalton Park, Estes said. The clubs funded and provided volunteers to build a natural surface trail that leads through the woods with educational signage which “allows people to learn something new about the value of native planting.”

DRBA board member Paul Johnson received the Spirit of the Dan River Basin Award, the organization’s highest honor which, Estes explained, was bestowed on individuals “who exhibit extraordinary service to DRBA and our communities within the Dan River Basin. This award recognizes a level of dedication and service that reflects and embodies the mission of the Dan River Basin Association to promote and preserve the natural resources of the Dan River Basin through education, stewardship, and recreation.”

Estes acknowledged Johnson’s support and service to DRBA has spanned the lifetime of the organization, including serving on the board for 12 years.

“I feel like I’m looking at a room full of people who did big, great things for DRBA and all I’ve ever done is 100 little things, but 100 little things eventually add up to something,” Johnson said. “I do not see spirits or try to talk to spirits, but if I could, I would try to ring up Forrest Altman on the astral plain and thank him for infecting me with the spirit of the Dan.”

Johnson recalled working as the librarian at the South Boston Public Library when he met Altman, who said he was working on a book about the Dan River.

“He left us with a sense of regional identity,” Johnson said. “At the beginning, he had that spirit and I caught it and here we are. Thank you for this

award. I humbly accept it.”

DRBA in 2021

Estes said that DRBA has around 100 projects going on at any one time. “It’s incredible how much is going on at the Dan River Basin Association,” he remarked. “We’re unique ... we’re good stewards of what’s here in our great river basin, and we make sure everybody knows what a value this is. We also want you to get out and enjoy it.”

As busy as the organization is, and with as much as it has accomplished over the last two decades, Estes said the goal-posts continue to keep moving. “Every year we do more and more.”

Over the last 20 years, DRBA has indeed accomplished a great deal.

Executive Director Tiffany Haworth recounted a number of accomplishments just within in the past year.

Some of those highlights included facilitating 13 Trout in the Classroom programs and the planting of 100 trees with the growing Trees in the Classroom.

Haworth said that 2021 also saw the launch of the Eco Learning Portal, an online resource for teachers which allows them to download full programs without DRBA staff having to visit the school, thus allowing more instructors to access DRBA’s educational programs.

All told, “over 6,000 youth were inspired by our environmental education programs” in 2021, Haworth said, crediting Education Outreach Manager Krista Hodges for leading the youth education effort.

Additional accomplishments included training 50 new volunteers to be water quality monitors, advancing the organization’s goal “to have every stream and waterway monitored throughout the basin,” Haworth said.

The group also hosted its first basin-wide safety forum focusing on improving safety in outdoor recreation for river and trail users. The forum was attended by more than 80 people, according to Haworth.

The completion of the Paw Park at the Smith River Sports Complex in Axton was also

among DRBA’s accomplishments for the year. Haworth shared that her staff believe the 2.5-acre park “is the only wild and free dog park in the entire Commonwealth of Virginia,” allowing dogs to explore off-leash while their owners walk the trail.

A trail also was opened in Spencer in 2021, this one with several stations including a meditation garden, butterfly boardwalk, education station, and a family picnic area all over the course of a half mile.

The 2021 accomplishment that elicited the loudest and most excited response from the crowd was the upholding of the ban on uranium mining in Virginia. Haworth said that, when the case was brought before the state supreme court, her organization worked closely with lawyers and the commonwealth’s attorney to successfully have the ban upheld by the court. Applause filled the room after Haworth’s pronouncement.

“This is just a handful of what we did in 2021,” Haworth said, and thanked those in the room for their support. “We couldn’t do it without everyone in this room and thousands of others who aren’t here today,” she said.

“The report that you just heard doesn’t scratch the surface of what we do,” said Estes, who added that being the president of DRBA is one of the greatest honors of his life.

“The diversity along this basin, the history of this basin, it’s just incredibly rich and we’re part of the process of preserving it for the next generation, and education is part of that,” he said.

He urged those gathered in the room that morning to help forward DRBA’s mission through leading by example. “For some people, the best lesson they’ll have is watching you. Not something on paper, not what you say, but what your actions are.”

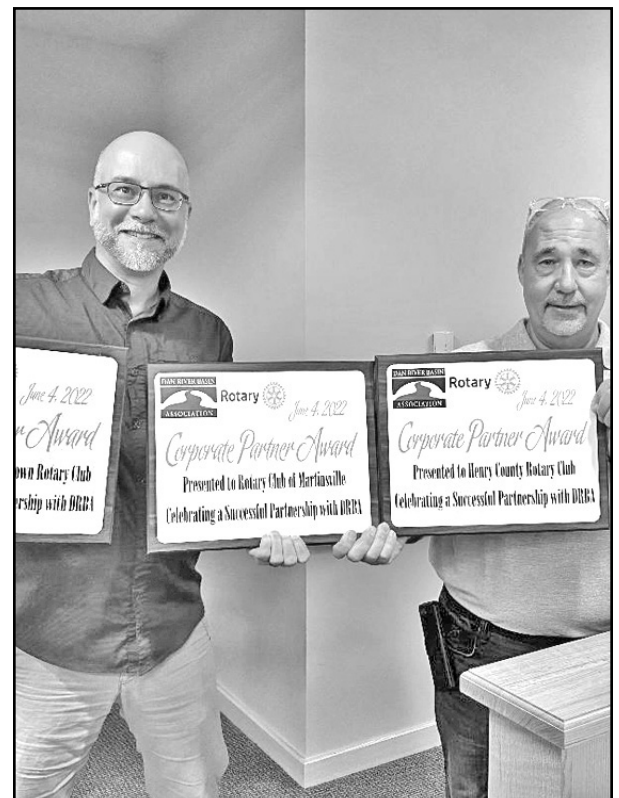
In keeping with one arm of DRBA’s mission, recreation, those who stayed after the morning’s ceremony were able to choose between an afternoon hike on the Smith River Greenway or a relaxing float on the river.



Patrick County Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Rebecca Adcock (left) accepts the Volunteer of the Year Award from DRBA Board President Mark Estes.



DRBA Board President Mark Estes (right) presents Fairy Stone State Park Manager Adam Layman with the Service to DRBA Award for his work in facilitating the future Mayo River State Park in Virginia.



Dr. Joe Keiper (left) accepts DRBA’s Corporate Partner Award on behalf of the three Rotary Clubs of Martinsville and Henry County for their work on several projects in the service region.

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First Friday

from page 1

First Friday, which rang in its second year of monthly open mic performances in the plaza of the historic Henry County courthouse in Uptown Martinsville last week, transforming the former courthouse into the kind of social gathering place Powell mentioned.

The blazing temperatures earlier in the week dropped on Friday which, coupled with a cool and constant breeze, made for perfect weather for this year’s First Friday kickoff. About 150 people attended the event, enjoying beer from Scuffle Hill Brewing, food from Hugo’s Restaurant and Sports Bar, and music from talented local musicians during an

open mic hosted by Kat and Dennis Calfee of the band Above the Fray.

First Fridays began as Uptown Open Mic in spring 2021. What was initially planned as a one-time event to celebrate the closing of an exhibit and raise awareness of the museum met with such great success that the board of the Historical Society voted to continue the gatherings, which were rebranded as First Friday and help raise funds for the nonprofit organization.

The Calfees return this year to host the open mics, which last Friday had a full lineup including a number of familiar regulars from last year as well as many new talents who performed

a variety of tunes from instrumental to country to pop to rock ‘n roll.

First Friday events are not just for music—the Historical Society welcomes any kind of performer to share some stand-up comedy, read a poem or short story, do a dance, or even show off a magic trick or two.

Uptown First Friday will take place Aug. 5, Sept. 2, and Oct. 7 from 6-9 p.m. Admission to the event is free and all ages are welcome. Each event will have food as well as a cash bar in addition to the open mic hosted by the Calfees.

First Fridays are sponsored by the Historical Society’s annual sponsors, Carter Bank & Trust and The Lester Group.



CLASSIFIEDS



PUBLISHER'S NOTICE

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

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Sets, Leather Sofa, Pots/Pans,
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& clothing, China, Glassware,
Corning ware, Garage full of
tools, TV's, patio furniture, Dan-
bury Mint Model Cars, Western
Items, Collectibles. Too Many
Items to List. ONE DAY ONLY,
SATURDAY, JUNE 11TH, 8

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low Signs off of Rt 58.

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ences Assistant, Janitor, Build-
ing and Grounds Technician,
Workforce Grants Specialist,
Workforce Grants Advisor, Sci-
ence Lab Assistant, MHC After
3 Program Leader, MHC After
3 After School Instructor, Head
Tennis Coach, and Adjunct Fac-
ulty in Communication Studies
(Speech)- Patrick County and
Main Campus Sites, English,
Mechatronics, NCCER Plumb-
ing, Nursing, and Welding. For

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mation please visit <http://patrickhenry.edu/>, scroll to the bottom of the
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religion, sexual orientation, gen-
der identity, disability, age, or vet-
eran's status. Women and mi-
norities are encouraged to apply.

PIEDMONT COMMUNITY SERVICES

Piedmont Community Serv-
ices, serving Martinsville, Henry,
Franklin and Patrick counties,
has the following job opening:

Full time position with benefits
available for a Residential Man-
ager (Position Number CS-543-
15) for group home in Patrick
Springs, VA serving adults with
intellectual disabilities. Duties
include developing & imple-
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providing training for adults with
intellectual disabilities in inde-
pendent living skills, personal
hygiene, leisure/recreational
skills & community inclusion.
Experience working with group
home, program management,
& staff supervision. Evening &
some weekend hours required.
Bachelor's degree in human
services with at least one year
experience working with adults
with intellectual disabilities. Must
meet QDDP qualifications. Sal-
ary commensurate with educa-
tion & experience as it relates to
the position, residence in close
proximity to Patrick Springs VA
preferred.

A Piedmont Community Ser-
vices application is REQUIRED
& may be obtained online
at [http://www.piedmontcsb.org/](http://www.piedmontcsb.org/ApplyOnline.html)
ApplyOnline.html

PCS provides excellent ben-
efits & is an Equal Opportunity/
Affirmative Action employer.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This notice serves to inform the public that construction plans and
specifications along with all completed environmental assessments
and studies for the proposed 2.96-mile extension to the Dick & Willie
Passage Trail (Phase 6A) are available for review and comment at the
Henry County Administration Building, 3300 Kings Mountain Road,
Martinsville, VA 24112, Engineering and Mapping, Room 208 during
normal business hours or on the County's website,

www.henrycountyva.gov/engineering-and-mapping

A 30-day comment period will run from June 11, 2022 through July
11, 2022.

The new trail segment, known as Phase 6A, will extend from the
southern end of the existing trail (Phase 5) and will connect to the ex-
isting Phase 6B at the Spruce Street trailhead. Phase 6B is a 2.45-mile
stretch of trail that runs from the Spruce Street trailhead to the Smith
River Sports Complex and was completed in 2020. The new trail seg-
ment will be located within an existing cleared sanitary sewer corridor,
and no significant environmental impacts are anticipated.

Funding assistance is being sought from various local, state, and
federal sources for Phase 6A.

If you have questions or comments regarding the project and asso-
ciated environmental assessments or would like to see more detailed
documentation, please contact Tim Pace, P.E., Director of Engineering
with Henry County at 276-634-2559 or tpace@co.henry.va.us by July
11, 2022.

Notice of Public Meeting

The City of Martinsville Planning Commission and Architectural Re-
view Board will hold a joint public meeting on June 23, 2022, be-
ginning at 1:00 p.m. and held at the New College Institute located
at 191 Fayette Street. The meeting is being held for educational and
training purposes and will be conducted by representatives from the
Virginia Department of Historic Resources. This opportunity will pro-
vide attendees with information on the roles and responsibilities of a
historic review board, standards for historic renovation and design,
the City's local historic districts, and National Register District Ex-
pansions. Questions can be directed to Hannah Powell at hpowell@ci.martinsville.va.us or (276) 403-5156.
Notice Submitted By: Hannah L. Powell, CZA
Community Development Specialist

TAKE NOTICE that the City Council of Martinsville, Virginia, at
its regular session to be conducted on Tuesday, June 14, 2022, at the
City Council Chambers, Martinsville Municipal Building (second
floor), 55 West Church Street, Martinsville, Virginia, shall conduct
the following public hearing at 7:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as
practicable:

Pursuant to Code of Virginia 22.1-29.1, for consideration of two
appointments to the School Board for the City of Martinsville, for one
3-year term ending June 30, 2025, and one unexpired 3-year term en-
ding on June 30, 2024.

No nominee or applicant whose name has not been considered at
this public hearing shall be appointed as a school board member.
The public is encouraged to attend and comment.

Leon Towarnicki, City Manager

NOTICE OF HEARING/FILING OF PETITION SEEKING DETERMINATION OF DEATH IN RE: KEITH ALLAN FETTER

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that Petitioners, Jennifer Lynn Fetter and
Joseph Fetter, by counsel, have filed Petition in the Henry County Cir-
cuit Court to declare Keith Allan Fetter of Henry County, Virginia,
deceased.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that Petitioners, by counsel, will appear
before the Honorable James McGarry, Judge of the Circuit Court for
Henry County, 3160 Kings Mountain Rd. B, Martinsville, VA 24112,
on July 19, 2022, commencing at 9:00 a.m., and there present evi-
dence and argument in support of their Petition, which pleading hav-
ing been previously filed.

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:
Panagiotis C. Kostopanagiotis, Esquire
Daniel, Medley & Kirby, P.C.
110 North Union Street
Danville, VA 24541
Telephone (434) 792-3911
Facsimile: (434) 793-5724
Counsel for Petitioners

Panagiotis C. Kostopanagiotis, Esq.



New Orleans-based artist Mike Doussan was the final artist featured in the
inaugural Music in the Box spring concert series, co-sponsored by Move to
Martinsville and TheatreWorks Community Players. Doussan invited his son (right)
to join him onstage for several numbers. Series organizers already are looking at
potential fall dates for additional shows.

It's a wrap on spring concert series

Music in the Box
(MITB), co-spon-
sored by Move to
Martinsville (MTM)
and TheatreWorks
Community Players
(TWCP), wrapped up
its first spring concert
series last Friday with
New Orleans-based ar-
tist Mike Doussan.

MTM President
and MITB Committee
Chairman Dean
Johnston said it was "a
very successful launch
of a new music series
in Uptown Martinsville"
which hosted 5 shows
beginning in March.

"We've been looking
for a place to revive the

Uptown music scene
after losing the Rives
Theatre," Johnston said.
The TWCP board was
open to hosting music
in their black box the-
ater between theatrical
productions. Everything
we need is there" includ-
ing a room with good
acoustics, a stage, light
and sound equipment,
"not to mention a great
sound engineer in Dr.
Tom Berry."

MITB will turn the
theater back over to
TWCP for its sum-
mer programming, but
is eyeing some dates in
the fall to add additional
shows.

While music moves
backstage for the
time being, MITB
will remain active,
Johnston promised.
"We will be promot-
ing music options in
our area. There's a lot
of good outdoor music
scheduled in the com-
munity, and we will do
our part in promoting
those options. MITB
will likely host a few
music shows outside of
the theater as well."

To keep up to date
with MITB, like Music
in the Box on Facebook.
All shows also will be
posted on the TWCP
website, www.twcp.net.

Sunset Yoga on the Plaza set for June 21

The Martinsville-
Henry County
Historical Society
will sponsor "Sunset
Yoga on the Plaza" on
Tuesday, June 21, at 8
p.m., on the courtyard
of the Historic Henry
County Courthouse.

Yogis of all levels are
welcome to this free
event.

If you have a yoga
mat anLead by Sheila
Hubbard, founder
of Just Breathe Yoga
& Bodywork, the
event will celebrate
International Yoga
Day and the Summer
Solstice.

blocks, please
bring them; if not,
loaners will be avail-
able. Participants will
enjoy bottled water and
snacks.

"This event is the
perfect opportunity for
first timers and begin-
ners. Take advantage
of this free event in a
relaxed, nonjudgmental
environment with an
experienced instructor
and supportive co-yogis.
According to Johns
Hopkins Medicine,
yoga improves strength,
balance, and flexibility;
helps with back pain
relief; can ease arthri-
tis symptoms; benefits
heart health; relaxes
you to help you sleep
better; can mean more
energy and brighter
moods; helps to man-
age stress; and promotes
better self-care," John
Phillips, Historical
Society President, said.

Hubbard has been
striving to promote
health and healing
in the area through
many modalities since
1998. She is a Board-
Certified Massage
Therapist and holds a
Virginia State License
in Massage Therapy.

She also is a Clinical
Aromatherapist, a
Karuna Reiki Master, a
Bodytalk Practitioner,
a Reflexologist, and a
Registered Yoga
Teacher.

"I believe there is a
yoga class for every-
one and am devoted to

serving the community
through healing," she
said.

The International
Day of Yoga aims to
raise awareness world-
wide of the many ben-
efits of practicing yoga.
Originating in India,
yoga is an ancient phys-
ical, mental, and spiri-
tual practice. The word
'yoga' derives from
Sanskrit and means to
join or to unite, sym-
bolizing the union of
body and conscious-
ness. For more infor-
mation, visit <https://fb.me/e/12RUY96xo>.



Sheila Hubbard will lead "Sunset Yoga on the Plaza," on June 21. The event is sponsored by the Martinsville-Henry County Historical Society.

HONOR ROLL

Martinsville City Schools' fourth Nine Weeks Honor Roll, Counselor's List, and Principal's list students.

Albert Harris Elementary
3rd grade Honor Roll
Abbas Amaqnullah, Jackson Branch, Victor Doninguez-Machuca, Melondy Farrow, Hayilaa Hairston, Jasmine Hairston, Kaiyden Hairston, Shaelen Hairston Smith, Aria Lewis, Tanasia Lewis, Christian Millner, Mariah Mose, Andrea Nowlin, Yatzael Ramos-Tellez, Jahaziel Reyes-Rodriguez, Yahya Rodriguez, Jaliyah Smalls, Jamarius Titus, Asia Wiggins, Yahir Yanes Alvarado

3rd grade Principal's List
Jamarion Burgess, De'Mya Campbell, Maccabeus Daniels, Kendrick Floyd, Jaidence Hairston, Trinity Hairston, Fernando Isidro-Carrillo, Riley Seay, Jasmin Nolasco, Cameron Price, Destiny Richmond, Jayden Santiago-Aparicio, De'Coyia Smith, Zoey Toney, Addison Wilson.

4th grade Honor Roll
MaRiyah Brandon, Donte Camack, Jr., Hope Hairston, Alondra Hernandez-Hernandez, Isaiah Hodges, Amelia Humphrey, Fredy Jimenez-Romero, Tonydia Millner-Moore, Kamren McMillan, Jakevon Preston, London Preston, Jy'Mir Pritchett, Delany Ramos-Tellez, Quandel Richards, Janiasah Richardson, Skylar Robertson, Makenzie Smith, Jordyn Thomas, Jahiem Turner, Ty'jon Waller, Ma'Kiya Walton, Haley Weaver, Lamerius Woods, Michelle Yanes-Videa.

4th grade Principal's List
Alyce Arrington, Michelle Alston, Ayleen Arrington, Kevin Avila-Santiago, Alan Carrillo-Tamayo, Janette Carrillo-Llamas, Jayden Clark, Jeffrey Cousins, Damarion Davis, Princeton Dillard, Mala Eccles, Luis Hernandez, Asonti Hodge, Taimir Manns, Freddy Munoz, E'Mya Preston, YaMaurie Reynolds, Kyndell Stable, j'Siyah Wilson.

5th grade Honor Roll
Camereon Brown, Christopher Davis, Maria Flores, Rachiyah Hunt, Trinity Mitchell, Anthony Murillo-Villanueva, Diarion Turner, Malik Waller.

5th grade Principal's List
Fabian Devora Guerrero, America Ramos Tellez, Emely Amaya Turcios, Gavin Wilson.

Patrick Henry Elementary
3rd grade Honor Roll
Haylee Clark, Chloe Curry, Tamar'e Davis, Brooklyn DeShazo, Alanna Gerlach, Bryson Gilbert, Jade Holland-Dallas, Jamison Jackson, J'Amira Lockett, Aubree Mahan, Kennedy Koy-Monroe

Martin, JaZai Moore, Samuel Olivares-Rosas, Bryan Perez-Zuniga, Bradley Richardson, Dominic Torres, Kaydien Valentin.

3rd grade Principal's List
Takeria Beal, Remington Crockett, Archer Deatherage, Lily De'Jesus, Madilyn Dowling, Morgan Dowling, Wyatt Hoyer, Ayden Jones, Josiah Law, Taylor Moore, King Ray, Tadley Tayborn, Katherine Wall, Bentley Williamson, Dillon Wilson.

4th grade Honor Roll
Matthias Bannister, Jaden Briggs, Ethan Christopher, Ja'Veonna Coles, Appalania Gravely, Jaymi Henriquez-Ramos, Amauri Johnson, Macari Long, Amare Martin, Arielle Mitchell, Allison Mooney, Khimora Moore, Bryson Penn, Kyra Penn, Julie Pham, Kendall Price

4th grade Principal's List
Zariyah Bouldin, Litzy Rosas, Skyla Euceda, Elaina Hairston, James Hall, Caden Harris, Jewel Martin, Jairo Mata, Emma Packer, Daniya Penn, Alayah Price, Kyla Steward, Mariah Thompson, Maya Williams.

5th grade Honor Roll
Tyliric Barbour, Zyad Bayoumy, Kourtnee Bradner, De'Kerea Bruce-Flood, Mahcori Chapman, Aubrey Davis, J'Caryous Day, Kyrie Dillard, Nadia Dominguez Gonzalez, Zamiyah Estes, Ayden Hagwood-Scott, Azaan Hairston, Zimari Hairston, AR'Asia Johnson, Summer Jordan, Isaia Lopez Valentin, Nyjurrian Martin, Jayden Myers, Mason Newsome, Jeremiah Porter, Aurora Rankin, Jayce Ratliff, Ayden Roberts, Tre'vion Rouse, Maheva Simon, Adreal Stultz, Kailyn Venable, Chiya Williams.

5th grade Principal's List
Bridgette Brent, Olivia Campbell, Mackenzie Church, Rider Cobb, Levi Dillon, Marisol Garcia-Macias, Dre'dyn Hairston, Zoey Hannans, Zackary Harter, Kirsten Henderson, Emillio Martin, Amarriyah Matthews, KaVaughn Muse, Logan Osborne, Josiah Porter, Lesley Ratcliff, Samson Ray, Dominic Robinson, Caleb Troncoso, Isabel Troncoso Price, William Wray, Arianna Ybarra.

Martinsville Middle School
6th Grade Counselor's List
Mekhi Akins, Cristopher Avila-Santiago, Latoya Bradner, Mason Cassell, Ja'Da Eggleston-Wade, Jayden Farris, D'Anna Fields, Harmoni Hairston, Leeayla Hairston, Aubrey Hill, Navaih Hood, Trinity Martin, Justine Richardson, Keaija Richrdson, Addison Williamson.

6th Grade Principal's List
Jaryus Brim, Abbigail Campbell, Brennan Coleman, J'Kobe Covington, Cordell Daniels, Keyara

Dillard, Hudson Grant, Benjamin Haley, Jonathan Hudson, McKenna Mahan, Zion Perkins, Colby Robertson, Xavier Rodriguez, Erzart Shahini, Veronica Smith, Symphony Talley, Zaina Talley, Viet Vo, William Wall, Paris Waller, Noah Wright.

6th Grade Honor Roll
David Argueta, William Bela, Eland Blankenbaker, Vincent Correa, Ny'Kerion France, Brandon Gearheart, Leonardo Hernandez Mata, Isabella Hurd, Keilaj'ah Morrison, Aileen Nolasco, Kaden Paitsel, Ja'Corian Turner, Lilly Wall, Ashley Yanes Videa.

7th Grade Counselor's List
Noah Aaron, Rodina Bayoumy, Elizabeth Cason, Charles Cousins, John Dillon, Parris Giles, Crystal Gravely, Tyson Hairston, Jr., Alyana Hairston, John Hundley, Jorge Lara-Diaz, Travion Long, Da'veono Lowe, Caish Moyer, Eriikka Ortiz-Soriano, Trinitee Prunty, Dulce Romero-Jimenez, JuanDel Santiago, Isaiah Stone, Olivia Turner, Caleb Valentine, Jarquavis Vaughn, Rache Waller, Jr.

7th Grade Principal's List
Jaden Ayoub, Zalyela Berger, Serenity Bradshaw, Kayra Carr, Angeliah Eccles, Carrie Hudson, Julie Nguyen, Ariyanna Nowlin, Chance Price, Jayce Prillaman, Joshua Redd, Briana Reid, Logan Richardson, Keira Tatum.

7th Grade Honor Roll
Kavia Brim, Sherman Dillard, Fernanda Dominguez-Machuca, Jordan Foster, Kamare Gravely, Tyneah Harrell, Randy Hernandez, Addison Hickman, Ky'Asia Keen, Sariyah Little, Caden Martin, De'Mari Martin, Aniyah Millner, Sariyah Millner, Leila Moore-Thompson, Jazmin Mota-Ocampo, Tristan Niblett, Jaden Porter, Kenyon Reid, Amyah Richardson, Tyrese Smith, Desmond Snyder, Ja'Vonna Stubblefield, NaSir Turner.

8th Grade Counselor's List
KeAndre Beal, Treytan Beamer, Brianna Brown, Maurice Campbell, Quentin Chism, Taylor Cobb, Alessio Cox, Kevin Kellenbenz, Myasia Long, Jayden Matthews, Juan Medina, Kamaury Mitchell, Gregory Moore, Gavin Muse, Tynijah Richardson, Jorge Santiago, Jared Santiago-Martinez, Decarion Spencer, Jayden Stockton, DeShaunna Taylor, E'Zavion Tinsley.

8th Grade Principal's List
Aubrey Blankenbaker, Sincere Cook, Victor Correa, Shatavia Dillard, Zaniah Dillard, Caesar Draper, Chekiya Galloway, Josue Garcia, KaNyah Giggetts, Lacario Gray, Myssia Hairston-France, Melody Harris, Mya Hayes, Ny'Asia Hood, Aerran Kellam, Avianna Watkins, Rilynn Williams.

8th Grade Honor Roll

Kymani Brim, Emanuel Castro Rivera, Monserath Castro-Santiago, Noah Cousins, Jemea Craghead, Gabriel Davis, Majorie Davis, Kamori Dillard, Nadea Elam, Natally Enriquez- Santiago, Darius Fitzgerald, Layla Garrett, London Hairston, Serenity Hairston, TyShawn Hairston, Ja'Kayla Harris, Abigail Hernandez, De'Nyiran Hodge, Kalece Hylton, Jahrine Jones, Shawn Joyce, KaMya Keen, Beyonce Lara Diaz, Nyasia Long, Yoshikoe Moyer, Camarie Niblett, Jun Olea, JaVier Penn, Xavier Perkins, Jailyn Reynolds, Kirra Ritenour-Shelton, Janetzy Rodriguez, Daisia Salda, Nassiah Scott, TaMarion Siddle, Imanie Thomas, Raihana Tunstall, Diamond Turner, Josue Velasquez-Zaldivar, Riley Wilkins, Kaira Womack, Morgan Niblett.

Martinsville High School
9th grade A
Anne Agee, Sontrell Daniels, Ava Grant, Aidan Hood, Isabella Hood, Ashley Lintag, Gavin Luther, Alondra Machuca Tiznado, Monseratt Machuca Tiznado, Skyla Martin, Rickyah Mitchell-Hairston, Mary Smith, Benjamin Torres Orozco, Brooke Turner, Isabella Vega, Kaya Yates, Noah Young.

9th grade AB
Elvin Amaya Turcios, Naun Andrade Paredes, Yadira Carrillo Tamayo, Gavin Carter, Keara Carter, Ana Compton, Hayden Cundiff, Kassidy Dodson, Xavier Dunham, Ruby Flores, Lauren Hall, Deniyah Hightower, Kasey Inman, Synaya Maxwell, Kennedy McPherson, NaBria Millner, Amondre Moseley, John Nguyen, Jacey Pamintuan, Karianne Richardson, Ayona Stultz, DeArrieon Williamson, Connor Worthington.

9th grade B
Christian Brooks, Esmeralda Castillo-Ocampo, NaDasia Cobbs, Dale Cochran, Aliyah Hairston, Abigail Haskew, Vanessa Lovo Portillo, Sayvion Milton, Ana Serrano Rodriguez, Imani Smith, Jamey Stockton, Joshua Tarpley, Jayden Williams.

10th grade A
Ryan DiMingo, Jkylan Finney, Catalina Franco, Briana Garcia-Macias, Latrell Hairston, Gabriel Haley, Khionna Howard-Hamilton, Makenzie Hylton, Arlette Jaramillo Mata, Adam Mounkaila, Martiniano Orozco, Nayti Patel, Elijah Pickett, Cortay Price, John Ratliff II, Mason Rorrer, Skyler Spence, Christopher Talley II, Saniyah Turner, Tyra Valentine, Jackson Via, Destiny Witcher, Reagan Wright.

10th grade AB
NyQuis Bradley, Aleeyah Galloway, Traveon Grant, Jaccob Hairston, Zaylon Lea, Natalie Loreda, Mallori Lowe, Fonshay Moyer, AJ Neaves, Anh Nguyen,

Kaylee Rea, William Stanley, Ahmyr Washington, Whitney Williams.

10th grade B
Jaiana Brinson, Tyler Carr, DeQuan Dandridge, Kaitlynn Daughtry, Robert Davis, Tiquasia Dodson Waller, Paris Fulp, Caleb Joyce, Natalie LaPrade, Manuel Rodreiguez Perez, Nweike Ugbomah-Otunya, Jordan Vaughn, Makayla Warren .

11th grade A
Tanaysia Blackstock, Marcel Breedlove Jr., James Farris Jr., Matthew Gilbert, Nijel Gravely, Pamela Haddock, Usman Khan, Natalia Martin, Amanda Mosser, Faith Munoz, RG Olea, KeAund Smith.

11th grade AB
Jimena Amaya Romero, Mirna Amaya Romero, Eyad,Bayoumy, Marcaisa Becker, Demitri Blackwell, Takiya Brim, Kendaysha Briscoe, Hayden Calfee, Mikiyah Carter, Niseer Ellis, Nadia Flores, Zane Gardner, Trenati Hairston, Katherine Hall, Camryn James, Kimberly Lopez-Valetin, Lesli Marchorro Macias, Hanh Nguyen, Joseph Nguyen, Ashlynn Patten, Myia Pettie, Ciara Ramey, Kimberly Ramirez-Santiago, Papiion Ritenour Shelton, Kristofer Robertson, Adrienne Smith, Deonna Street, Ashanti Wilson.

11th grade B
Ludwin Chavez-Lopez, Kayla Solomon.

12th grade A
William Agee, Patrick Ashby, Kyarah Broadwater, Savannah Brown, Nakya Chism, Michael Gilbert, Traven Gilley, Omarion Hairston, Lauren Hruza, Audrey Hundley, Elisha Jackson, Alfonso Lara Alvarado, Taiona Martin, Mabel Martinez-Colindres, Akayla Penn, Viktorya Pickett, Clarence Plunkett, Alivia Stout, Michael Walker, Tyasia Wright, Joseph Ziglar.

12th grade AB
Keyounah Adams, Jyasiah Bradshaw, Assir Byers, Alexus Carson, Hannah Church, Joseph Collins, Symphanie Collins, JaMere Eggleston Smith, Jaylen Eggleston, Lorianna Elliott, Assyria Flowers, James Garnes, Ashton Hairston, Diondre Hairston, Makyah Hairston, Blake Hernandez-Laguna, Keyshawn Kirby, Denise Lara Diaz, Kamiya Martin, Jasiyah Moss, Michalin Penn, Nytera Penn, Jaheim Pettie, Nytwazia Richardson, Logan Smith, Sophie Stewart, Caleb Sunkins, Sidney Tran, Onyinye Ugbomah-Otunuya, Omarion Williams.

12th grade B
Brendan Bower, Maite Joachim-Lopez, Christian Pounds, Cameron Rountree, Zion Thornton.

OBITUARIES

Patricia Ann Keys McAlevy

Patricia Ann Keys McAlevy, 79, of Bassett, VA passed away on Friday, June 3, 2022, at Sovah Health of Martinsville. She was born on November 29, 1942, in Franklin County, VA to the late Herman Keys and Katie Staples Keys, sister, Yvonne Jacobs and brothers, J.C. Keys and Robert Earl Keys.

Ms. McAlevy served in the United States Navy and attended Collinsville Church of the Brethren.

She is survived by her son, Victor McAlevy; grandchildren, Alexandria



McAlevy, Seth McAlevy (Taylor), and Sebastian McAlevy; brothers, Ray Keys and Randy Keys (Janice). Also surviving are many nieces, nephews, cousins, and great-grandchildren.

A memorial service was held on Sunday, June 5, 2022, at Norris Funeral Services. Pastor Roy McVey officiated.

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

Sandra Jones Holthausen

On Wednesday June 1, 2022, Sandra Jones Holthausen passed away peacefully in her home surrounded by family, following a brave 3-year battle with cancer. She was born May 17, 1943, to Grover Cleveland Jones & Frances Viar Jones in Henry County, VA. In addition to her parents, she was predeceased by her husband Robert "Bob" Dean

Holthausen, Sr. & two sisters, Patsy Rozyski & Dixie Payne.

Those left to cherish her memory are sons, Robert Anthony "Tony" Hancock & wife Gail & Mark Edward Hancock; stepsons Robert "Bobby" Holthausen, Jr (Anita) & Gregg Holthausen (Brenda); grandchildren Alyson Hancock (fiancé Jeffrey Sweeney) & Zachary Hancock; step-grandsons Logan Holthausen (fiancée Saylor Wagoner) & Taylor Holthausen; step-great-granddaughter Braylen Holthausen. Surviving are sisters, Brenda Bryson (Burnham "Butch"), Phyllis Sheppard; & brother, Grover "Smokey" Jones (Jeanette); also, several nieces & nephews.

Sandra loved all of her family with her whole heart and enjoyed most the time



spent with them. She will be truly missed by each of her loved ones. Travel, reading all the books, & loving her special pets Bonnie (dog) & Garfield (cat) gave her such joy.

Sandra was a graduate of Fieldale High School. Most of her career was spent in sales from cars to modular homes to furniture. Just prior to her retirement she was co-

owner of Seller's Mart with her sister Brenda.

A special thank you to Dr. Erin Saks and the team at Carilion GYN Oncology & Infusion Center, Carilion 10 S Oncology Nurses & Staff, & Mountain Valley Hospice for excellent care & support.

You may consider a donation in her memory to your local (no-kill) animal shelter or pet rescue, or your local library.

A visitation will be held to celebrate Sandra's life on Friday June 17, 2022, from 6 to 8 p.m. at Norris Funeral Services, Martinsville, VA.

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

James Frank Flood

James Frank Flood, 57, of Martinsville, Virginia passed away Tuesday, May 31, 2022, at Carilion Roanoke Memorial Hospital. He was born December 26, 1964, in Martinsville, Virginia to the late Johnny James Flood and Bessie Hairston Flood. He had worked for Hooker Furniture for over thirty years. He enjoyed partying, watching television and spending time with his friends. He was especially close to his sister Janet.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by sisters, Janet Flood, Cynthia Flood and Yolanda Hamlett; and

brother Michael Flood.

James is survived by sons, Tyriq Flood and James D. Flood; sister Delsina Niblett; brothers, Everett Flood, Johnny Flood and Maurice Flood; grandchild, Genesis Flood; and a host of nieces, nephews and other family and friends.

A funeral was held on Monday, June 6, 2022, at Wright Funeral Service Chapel. Burial will be private.

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

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

Free meals are available for local youngsters

The Henry County School division's Nutrition Department is participating in the Summer Food Service Program.

Groups who are hosting students/children during the summer months for any type of activities, (day camps, Vacation Bible Schools, tutoring, etc.), can receive free meals or snacks to give to the children who come to their site. Acceptance and participation requirements for these programs are the same regardless of race, color, national origin, sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation), age or disability and there will be no discrimination in the course of the meal service. To get more information or to set up a site to receive meals, call 276-638-1159 and ask about the Summer Food Service Program. Meals will be provided, on a first-come, first-served basis, at the sites listed on the Henry County School Nutrition website at: <https://www.henry.k12.va.us/>. Click the "Summer Meal Program" link on the Home page, then HENRY COUNTY OPEN SITES FOR SUMMER. All open sites will be closed for the week of July 4th through 8th.

Meals will also be provided at closed, enrolled sites through the Summer Food Service Program. (Some meals may not be provided for July 4 – 8). Meals will be provided at the sites listed on the "Summer Meal Program" link under

HCPS CLOSED ENROLLED FEEDING SITES.

In accordance with federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation), disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity.

Program information may be made available in languages other than English. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication to obtain program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audio-tape, American Sign Language), should contact the responsible state or local agency that administers the program or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.

To file a program discrimination complaint, a Complainant should complete a Form AD-3027, USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form which can be obtained online at: <https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/USDA-OASCR%20P-Complaint-Form-0508-0002-508-11-28-17Fax2Mail.pdf>, from any USDA office, by calling (866) 632-9992, or by writing a letter addressed to

USDA. The letter must contain the complainant's name, address, telephone number, and a written description of the alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of an alleged civil rights violation. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted to USDA by mailing the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; fax (833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or email program.intake@usda.gov. This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Crown Holdings, Inc. to expand Henry County facility

Due to increased demand for its products in several segments of the aluminum beverage can industry, Crown Holdings, Inc. is adding an additional 168,000-square-foot to its production facility now under construction in Henry County's Commonwealth Crossing Business Centre.

The company anticipates the need for additional storage capacity in the continually expanding aluminum beverage can market. With the expansion of the warehouse, Crown's Commonwealth Crossing facility will now have 523,000-square-foot under roof.

Crown's original Commonwealth Crossing plans were announced January 28, 2021, by then Gov. Ralph S. Northam, and its \$145 million facility was the largest single initial announcement in Henry County's history. With the recent announced expansion, that investment continues to grow.

Founded in 1892 and headquartered in Yardley, Pennsylvania, Crown Holdings, Inc., through its subsidiaries, is a leading global supplier of rigid packaging products to consumer marketing companies, as well as transit and protective packaging products, equipment, and services to a broad range of end markets. Ranked #286 on the Forbes Fortune 500, Crown Holdings has operations in 47 countries employing over 33,000 people.



ple. Operating in Virginia for more than 60 years, the company has facilities in Frederick County and the City of Suffolk as well as subsidiary operations in Henry County and Pittsylvania County, employing more than 200 total employees.

"Seeing a company expand even before it opens its origi-

nal facility isn't the norm, but Crown isn't the normal company either," said Jim Adams, chairman of the Henry County Board of Supervisors. "We are thrilled with this news, and we are more confident than ever that Crown will be a jewel for this community."

"This is tremendous news

from Crown Holdings and confirms their decision to locate a new beverage can facility in Henry County. We are most appreciative of Crown's continued faith in our community," said Larry Ryder, chairman of Martinsville-Henry County Economic Development Corp.'s (EDC's) Board.

Hooker Awards

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arts in our great community."

During that time, Pinkston continued, 19 individuals and businesses have received the Hooker award.

"These past recipients are a group of leaders that are seen daily and ones that work under the radar, but all making an important contribution to the arts in our community," she said. "The all understand the value of the arts and its potential to raise individuals and communities. It is a noble and honorary club."

Barbara Parker

Pinkston said Parker had been "passionate about the arts since the age of nine when she was constantly getting in trouble for drawing in class." Even in college, where Parker was a theater major concentrating in costume design, she skipped more than a few classes to spend time in the theater doing what she loved, Pinkston said.

Parker spent summers at the Utah Shakespeare Festival and Red Barn Theatre, Pinkston said, meeting her future husband Andy, an aspiring singer and actor at a playhouse in Austin, TX, "and followed him around the country and finally to New York City and Broadway."

Twenty years, five states, two children, and several different career paths later, Parker and her family came to Martinsville 25-years ago, Pinkston said. There, she became Piedmont Arts' part-time program coordinator and, just a few years later, the Director of Programs, creating a number of programs still offered at the museum today.

Pinkston credited Parker with creating the performing arts series, bringing world-class performances to the area including Chinese acrobats, symphonies, and ballets.

Additionally, Parker created Standards of Learning (SOL) Treasure Chests for educators to enhance hands-on learning about cultures and ancient civilizations.

In 2005, Pinkston said, Parker helped start the community theater TheatreWorks, which has presented more than 60 musicals and plays to date.

"The Big Read always comes to mind when thinking of Barbara's accomplishments," said Pinkston. The community-wide reading project one year spotlighted the novel "To Kill a Mockingbird," and, in another year, the author Edgar Allan Poe. "I feel sure everyone

in M-HC read or re-read "To Kill a Mockingbird" and all of Poe's literature," Pinkston said. "Barbara made sure of it."

"In 2016 after the death of her daughter, journalist Alison Parker, Barbara retired from Piedmont Arts and founded the For Alison Foundation, a non-profit organization dedicated to providing arts opportunities for children in southern Virginia," Pinkston said. "In the last 6-years, the foundation has given grants for more than 1,000 students to experience the arts from music and dance scholarships for the Roanoke Youth Symphony Orchestra and the Star City School of Ballet to Piedmont Arts to help support dance residencies, and Dance Español with the Southwest Virginia Ballet."

In 2019, Parker was appointed by Gov. Ralph Northam to the Virginia Commission for the Arts, Pinkston said.

"Her passion for the arts and her belief that it can change lives continue to be the driving force in her life," Pinkston said, before presenting Parker with her award, which was handmade by George Alderman.

In her acceptance, Parker said she recalled the very first Hooker Awards ceremony 20-years ago "when Piedmont Arts created this award to honor a true champion of the arts, Clyde Hooker. His legacy has lived on, and I am truly honored to be here."

Noting that when she came to Piedmont Arts just two weeks after her family relocated to the area, Parker said, "I could never have imagined the opportunities I would have and the new friends I would meet.

"This place was much more than a job," Parker said. "It was continuing education. I was given opportunities that just don't happen at larger museums," including curating exhibits on Jamestown, ancient Mali, ancient Greece, and Shakespearean costumes. "I learned about ancient Egypt, Chinese art, and Australian aboriginal art. I led tours for hundreds of students and planned family days. I watched kids in Minds in Motion become confident team players and experience the joy of dance, and I cried at every single end-of-year performance."

While it was difficult to retire from the organization after 19-years, Parker said "the

For Alison Foundation is helping to provide opportunities for talented students to pursue their creative passions outside of the classroom, and be inspired to become the artists and performers of the future."

Parker thanked Pinkston and the rest of the current Piedmont Arts staff who, she said, "are doing an incredible job taking Piedmont Arts into its seventh decade of bringing artistic excellence to southern Virginia. I am so proud to have been a part of it all."

Parker received a standing ovation from the audience.

Carter Bank & Trust

Guy Stanley, first vice president of the museum's board of directors, presented Carter Bank & Trust with its Hooker award.

He said the organization has been generous to Piedmont Arts, providing an energy audit, becoming a corporate sponsor and sponsoring other events. Bank employees volunteer at the museum as well as serve on the board and its committees.

"I couldn't talk about Carter Bank & Trust without mentioning Mr. Worth Carter, who passed away in 2017. Mr. Carter founded his bank in 1974 and over 42 years founded 10 community banks and in 2006 combined them into Carter Bank & Trust. Piedmont Arts wants to thank Mr. Carter for his generosity to the community and the arts," Stanley said.

Stanley recounted a personal story of a vacation to Mexico. Sitting around a fire one evening, another guest heard Stanley was from Martinsville and asked if he knew Worth, which Stanley replied that he did.

"They're saving our company," the man told Stanley. "That shows you the influence that they have," he said.

"They are more than a bank," Stanley continued. "They are ambassadors and advocates to the communities they serve. Carter Bank & Trust cares about you, your family, your business, and our community. They believe their active community engagement and support are essential in earning trust, enriching lives, and building lifetime relationships and they live by those words."

Chief Executive Officer Litz Van Dyke accepted the award on behalf of the bank and its associates.

He noted that, though he

did not know J. Clyde Hooker, Jr., for whom the award was named, "he obviously had a tremendous impact on the community which we strive to do as well. We really do care about our communities."

Van Dyke noted that several bank employees currently serve on the boards of Piedmont Arts.

"A vital community needs a vital arts program, and Piedmont Arts provides that. We're awfully lucky to have the asset we have in this community, and we're honored to accept this award."

Arts in Education Awards

Director of Programs Sarah Short presented Ed Dollinger and Clifton Jones with Arts in Education awards, an honor she said was created in 2005 "to honor those who believe exposure to the arts is not only an important part of the education of a child, but vital in the overall development of children both in and out of the classroom. These community members, educators, and administrators work to ensure that students in Martinsville and Henry County are provided with arts experiences that will inspire and enrich their lives."

Jones, a counselor at Campbell Court Elementary School, was the first recipient recognized for his efforts in bringing Dance Español to the school for "a special day of outdoor programming."

As the community continues to navigate the COVID-19 pandemic, Short said schools are challenged to keep students engaged even with virtual learning, limited staff and resources, quarantines, and other obstacles.

"Clif works with both Piedmont Arts and the For Alison Foundation to ensure that students are provided with high-quality performing arts education throughout the school year, no matter the difficulties faced," Short said, and presented Dollinger with his award for the impact he has made on local youth.

"His unique ability to guide youth of many ages through intricate community projects while keeping the students at the center is praiseworthy," Short said. "One striking thing about Ed is the excitement you can feel radiating from him when he is in a room with young artists. He is so encouraging to all students and finds ways to celebrate their unique interests and abilities so that

their confidence and passion is immediately improved. He pushes youth to dig deeper and think bigger about what art is and what it can be.

"Ed, we are in awe of your stamina and dedication in all that you do to keep the arts relevant and impactful in the community," Short said.

Scholarship recipients

Brian Stanley, of the Piedmont Arts Scholarship Committee, presented two students, Onyinye Ugbomah-Otunuya and Emily Maxey, with scholarships to support their interest in pursuing arts education.

Ugbomah-Otunuya received the Nicodemus D. Hufford Memorial Scholarship which, Stanley said, is given annually to a graduating senior from Martinsville or Henry County who wishes to pursue a degree in the arts.

"The generosity of the Hufford family, along with their passion for helping the youth of Martinsville and Henry County pursue the arts, has allowed Piedmont Arts to award this scholarship since 1987, with 83 arts students having received funding," he said. "Many of these students now have successful careers in education, performing and visual arts, and other related fields."

Ugbomah-Otunuya plans to pursue a degree in graphic and animation design at Longwood University.

Stanley then presented the Harold Knowlton Work Memorial Scholarship to Maxey, who has already been attending the University of Lynchburg and is working toward becoming a music therapist.

This scholarship, said Stanley, was created in 2008 for college students pursuing a degree in the arts and is funded through the Work Memorial Scholarship Fund established by Work's wife, Julia.

"Julie and Harold shared a lifelong passion and respect for education and the arts," said Stanley. "This memorial scholarship ensures that their legacy of learning and imagination lives on by supporting the artists of future generations."

He said, "we know her (Maxey's) artistic talent, combined with her warm presence and empathetic spirit, will make her a wonderful support for youth managing life's challenges through artistic expression."

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Summer Meals

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sumed onsite, and parents are no longer able to come by and pick up a meal for their children nor will we be able to provide bulk meals," Williams said, explaining that the division can no longer send multiple meals home at the same time.

She said that any student who wanted a meal should stop by the main office at any school site- all are open- to sign in.

Anyone over the age of 18, including adults who want to enjoy a meal with their child, can purchase one for \$4.50, she said.

Williams pointed out that mealtimes vary across the open sites, but information is posted on school marquee boards, on the Martinsville City School web and Facebook pages, and on flyers which she encouraged board members to help distribute and post.

"Martinsville High School will remain open for the entire summer," Williams said. "Their last feeding day will not be until July 22, so they'll be open to provide breakfast and lunch for our community throughout the summer along with our partnering sites, Patrick & Henry Community College, the Boys and Girls Club, and First United Methodist Church."

"You also serve people who just walk up too, right," asked Schools Superintendent Dr. Zebedee Talley.

"We will," Williams affirmed. "If they're under 18, it's free of charge. Over 18 is \$4.50."

She further clarified that parents do not have to be present for a child to claim a meal.

For a complete list of participating sites for MCPS, see inside or visit www.martinsville.k12.va.us and click on School Nutrition under the Departments dropdown menu.

For a complete list of participating sites for HCPS, see the spotlight section at www.henry.k12.va.us.

In other matters, the board:

*Heard an update on the MCPS band program from band directors Brian Joyce and Grayson Givens. Joyce reported that enrollment for band appears to be increasing.

*Heard from Dr. Heather Tolbut who was one of 25 people selected nationwide for the Lincoln Fellowship Program. Tolbut told the board that she recently earned her doctoral program and that her dissertation looked at the impact of diversity and diversity training on school systems.

"The focus of the Lincoln Fellows is to look at how to increase social justice, inequality, and diversity not only in school systems but in social policy as well. Through the program I will have the opportunity to meet and talk with policy makers in Washington, D.C. as well as spend a week at the Lincoln Presidential Library," said

Tolbut.

She said she was looking forward to bringing resources and knowledge from the fellowship back to the school division.

*Heard year-end reports from representatives of each of the division's schools. Most speakers remarked on the challenges faced returning to school after the pandemic necessitated virtual learning and continued to necessitate other changes to the school routines once in-person learning resumed.

Williams, who also is the principal of Clearview Early Learning Center told the board that "the 2021-2022 school year began like no other with temperature checks, mask-wearing, social distancing, contact tracing, desks surrounded by plastic barriers and all the other uncertainty that we experienced due to COVID-19."

However, she said, "our staff and students quickly adjusted to a new normal and our teachers hit the ground running." She said the teachers were "very resilient and found new ways of getting things done."

Other school representatives also credited their teachers for their work during a uniquely challenging school year.

*Approved the consent agenda.

*Authorized Talley to assign personnel for the upcoming school year.

*Appointed Assistant Superintendent of Instruction Dr. Angilee Downing, Executive Director of Special Education & Student Services Dr. Cynthia Tarpley, and Executive Director for Administrative Services Travis Clemons as authorized designees to act in the absence of the superintendent for the upcoming school year.

*Adopted the annual Virginia School Boards Association Policy Services Agreement for the upcoming school year.

*Recognized members of the Martinsville High School track and field team who recently competed at the state level.

*Approved a request to apply for federal funds in the amount of \$1,514,077.92 under the Elementary Secondary Education Act Consolidated Application.

*Approved a request to apply for the Title III, Part A Language for English Learners and Immigrant Students grant funds in the amount of \$13,071.69.

*Approved the annual Virginia Public School Authority technology reimbursement resolution.

Dates of interest:

*June 20: Juneteenth holiday, schools closed

*July 4: July 4 holiday, schools closed

*July 27-29: new teacher orientation

*August 1: all teachers and staff return

*August 4: open house, all schools


*August 5: convocation


*August 8: first day of school, next regular school board meeting

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