

Longtime friends find recipe for success with new Uptown steakhouse

Callie Hietala
Staff writer

A new restaurant recently opened its doors in Martinsville and has already amassed a loyal following. The new steakhouse, which features smoked and grilled wings, ribs, and burgers in addition to several steak options, opened on July 2 and has stayed busy ever since, according to owner Clifton Barrow, a Martinsville native.

Roosky's Bar & Grill has long been a dream of Barrow, a native of the Martinsville-Henry County area, though not for the reasons you might expect.

"It's not about food or selling food," he said. "It's about people.

Every table is different. I'm a people person, and you have to be able to relate to each one of those tables on a personal level, so it's very dynamic. It takes a special person to be able to make that relationship with each individual table because there can be two completely opposite tables right next to each other. But it's good to see them smile and enjoy the food too."

He said he initially tried to open a restaurant shortly after leaving the military but discovered that, at the age of 23 and with little capital for the venture, "it just wasn't possible."

Barrow graduated Magna Vista High School in 2007 and joined the Marine Corps, serving in Iraq for most of 2009. The name of his

restaurant takes its name from his time in the military.

"My Navy corpsman, he's from Mississippi, had a habit of putting words on top of words," Barrow explained. "My last name is Barrow, but he called me Baroosky, and Baroosky got shortened to Roosky over time." That name now adorns the doors of the building at 54 West Church Street.

After leaving the military, Barrow said he moved to Daytona, FL, where he earned a B.S. in aviation maintenance and safety science from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in Daytona Beach. While there, he also managed a Buffalo

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Rooksy's, a new steakhouse in Martinsville, opened its doors in July. The restaurant is the longtime dream of owner Clifton Barrow (right), who opened the location with the help of friend and General Manager Jeremy Phillippi, who shared in Barrow's dream.



Francis Zehr

Zehr remembered as a 'fierce advocate,' dedicated community servant

By Staff Reports

A sitting member of the Henry County School Board died suddenly last week, but the dedication and commitment with which he served the community will be long-remembered.

Francis E. Zehr, 70, who represented the Ridgeway District, died July 29.

"Francis Zehr was a fierce advocate for the needs of the students, teachers and staff of Henry County Public Schools," said Tom Auker, chairman of the school board. Zehr's "contributions to the advancement

of the area's education system, and, more importantly, his friendship will be treasured and deeply missed."

Working alongside Zehr was a privilege, Auker said, because Zehr "brought wisdom to the school board and worked extremely hard for the welfare of the students, teachers and administration. There were some challenging times, but we were always friendly, kind and congenial. I will miss his humor and thoughtfulness as we carry on."

Schools Superintendent Sandy Strayer said "Mr. Zehr was a devoted commu-

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New COVID-19 vaccine to be available

Taylor Boyd
Contributing writer

Virginians will have another vaccine choice by the middle of August if they're seeking a COVID-19 vaccine.

The two-dose Novavax vaccine is available to adults aged 18 years and older, but currently cannot be used as a booster or third dose for immunocompromised people.

A July 23 Virginia Department of Health (VDH) release stated that testing showed the vaccine was 90 percent effective against lab-confirmed, symptomatic infection and 100 percent effective against moderate and severe disease.

"Though not tested when the Omicron variant was circulating, the company said the vaccine could generate an immune system response to it. Studies are underway," the release stated.

Virginia's State Vaccination

Coordinator and VDH's director of Division of Immunization Christy Gray said Novavax uses technology that has been commonly used for decades in vaccines against hepatitis B and whooping cough (pertussis).

"The Novavax COVID-19 vaccine offers an option to individuals who may have an allergic reaction to mRNA vaccines or who have a personal preference for receiving a vaccine other than the one based on the mRNA technology," the release stated.

As of August 2, in Henry County, 50.7 percent of the population, or 25,505 people, had been fully vaccinated; 56.3 percent of the population has received at least one dose, and 58.7 percent of the adult population is fully vaccinated.

In the City of Martinsville, 62.3 percent of the population, or 7,694 people, are fully vaccinated; 69.8 percent of the population has

received at least one dose, and 76.1 percent of the adult population has been fully vaccinated.

In Patrick County, 43.2 percent of the population, or 7,559 people, had been fully vaccinated; 48 percent of the population had received at least one dose, and 49.6 percent of the adult population is fully vaccinated.

As of Tuesday, August 2, information from the Virginia Department of Health (VDH) websites suggests there have been 1,605 cases and seven deaths in Henry County over the past 13 weeks. In Patrick County, 394 cases and zero deaths were reported. In the City of Martinsville, 303 cases and no deaths were reported over the past 13 weeks.

Information from the VDH website stated there have been 13,533 cases, with 271 deaths, in Henry County. In Patrick County,

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Patrick County man dies after fall

A Patrick County man died of injuries he sustained in a July 16 fall, according to a news release from Patrick County Sheriff Dan Smith.

Mabry Slate Hall, 22, of Claudville, succumbed to his injuries on July 28 at Wake Forest Baptist Hospital in Winston Salem, N.C.

On July 16 at 12:14 a.m., the Patrick County Sheriff's Office 911 Emergency Communications Center received a call requesting rescue for a man who had fallen down a flight of stairs. When rescue personnel arrived on scene at 509 South Mayo Drive, they requested assistance from the sheriff's office, Smith said.

Patrick County Sheriff's Sgt. Winfred Hill and Deputy Faith

Hubbard responded to the scene and began an investigation into the circumstances surrounding the fall.

Deputies determined that allegedly 15 to 20 people had been at the residence, most of whom were gathered outside on the driveway and carport. Numerous witnesses were interviewed over the course of several days, according to the sheriff. Statements from those witnesses alleged that Hall and Devin Dickenson, 19, of Ridgeway, became involved in a physical altercation. Both parties reportedly fell over a railing surrounding a flight of stairs in the carport.

Smith said that both men sustained head injuries as a result of the fall.

Hall was transported from the scene by rescue and subsequently airlifted to Wake Forest Baptist Hospital in Winston Salem, N.C.

Dickenson was treated and released from Sovah Health in Martinsville.

Smith noted that Hall had been transported and Dickenson had been taken from the scene before law enforcement arrived at the scene.

The findings of the investigation, led by Lt. Steve Austin, are being reviewed by Patrick County Commonwealth's Attorney Dayna Bobbitt, Smith said.

"This is a heartbreaking event for our community. Please pray for comfort for Mabry's family and friends," Smith wrote in the release.

National Night Out event Tuesday draws a crowd



Martinsville Police officers Brooke Mason, Jayme Clark, Deputy Chief Rob Fincher, Capt. Jim Minter and Sgt. Robbie Jones were among the city police officers who attended Tuesday's National Night Out event.

Sharon West-Duel
Contributing writer

As in many communities Tuesday, Martinsville residents and law enforcement officers met at the Uptown Martinsville Farmers' Market to mark the 39th Annual National Night Out.

"This is what it's all about, the police and community coming together to show there's a force against crime in the communities," Martinsville Police Chief Eddie Cassidy said. "We take every opportunity we can to enhance our relationship with the citizens. Our citizens help us so much with crime control and prevention in our neighborhoods."

Sponsored by the National Association of Town Watch and co-sponsored by the Martinsville Police

Department, National Night Out is an annual community-building campaign that is intended to strengthen police-community partnerships, increase awareness of crime and drug prevention, and send a message to criminals that neighborhoods are mobilized and fighting back against crime.

An announcement from the police department invited residents to "lock their doors, turn on porch lights, and spend the evening with their neighbors."

Noting that the pandemic had restrained some of the one-on-one contact with residents, Cassidy said National Night Out helps reestablish this vital contact. He commended Martinsville residents for their willingness to always support the police.

The department's proactive

approach to crime reduction as "intelligence lead policing," Cassidy said, adding that the department constantly monitors its patrols to know where crimes are being

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

Saturday, August 6

Please join the Providence United Methodist Church family on at 5 pm to celebrate the faithful work of paying for our new educational wing. The loan was obtained in April 2006 and now has been paid in full. The celebration will start in the new reception hall and then move to the picnic shelter, with special guests, food, music, and most importantly, the burning of the note.

Back to School Bash at Blackberry Baptist Church, with bouncy houses, games, and food from 4-6 p.m. The church will distribute school supplies to each child.

Monday, August 8

The Martinsville City School Board will hold its regular monthly meeting at 6:15 p.m. in the Martinsville City Municipal Building, located at 55 W Church St., Martinsville.

Wednesday, August 10

The American Red Cross will host a blood drive at the Martinsville Elks Lodge (300 Fairy Street Ext., Martinsville) from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. To schedule your donation appointment, visit redcrossblood.org.

Friday, August 12

Join Piedmont Arts (215 Starling Avenue, Martinsville) for an opening reception in honor of the museum's new exhibits, "Private Domain," "Continuity: Color + Texture," "Seasons," and "Colors of the Appalachian Trail and Works by Pat Coleman." This event is free and open to the public. Complimentary wine and light refreshments will be served.

The American Red Cross will hold a blood drive at Blackberry Baptist Church (3241 Stones Dairy Road, Bassett) from 1-6 p.m. To schedule your donation appointment, visit redcrossblood.org.

Saturday, August 13

The Dan River Basin Association will host its annual Smith River Clean Up at 9 a.m. at the Smith River Sports Complex, 1000 Irisburg Road, Axton. Meet at the River Access. For more information, visit www.danriver.org or follow Dan River Basin Association on Facebook.

Piedmont Arts (215 Starling Avenue, Martinsville) hosts a Purrfect Art Family day from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. in the Gravelly-Lester Art Garden. Have a bark-tastic time with Piedmont Arts and the SPCA of Martinsville and Henry County enjoying critter-themed storytelling with Gael Buck, face painting, bubble art, crafts, Zumbini music and movement workshop, and a performance by Pirates of the Piedmont. Support our furry friends by bringing a donation for the SPCA to this free family event.

Tuesday, August 16

The American Red Cross will hold a blood drive at The Community Fellowship (2674 Virginia Avenue, Collinsville) from 12:30-5:30 p.m. To schedule your donation appointment, visit redcrossblood.org.

Thursday, August 18

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 on-site 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 Ext., Martinsville) from 12-6 p.m. To schedule your donation appointment, visit redcrossblood.org.

Friday, August 19

Henry County Parks and recreation hosts Movies in the Park at Jack Dalton Park (3300 Kings Mountain Road, Collinsville). Friday night's movie is Boss Baby: Family Business. Music and games begin at 7:30 p.m. and the movie begins at 8:55. Drinks, candy, and snacks are available for purchase!

Don't miss the 2022 TGIF Concert Series in Uptown Martinsville! Located in the Bridge Street parking lot at 65 West Main Street, the Rotary Clubs of Martinsville and Henry County present an evening of music with The Pizzaz Band. The show begins at 7 p.m.

Sunday, August 21

The Spencer-Penn Centre (475 Spencer-Penn Road, Spencer) will host a Sock Hop from 2-5 p.m. with the ever-popular DJ What! spinning all genres of music. Admission is \$5.

Tuesday, August 23

The American Red Cross will host a blood drive at the Virginia Museum of Natural History (21 Starling Avenue, Martinsville) from 1-6 p.m. To schedule your donation appointment, visit redcrossblood.org.

Wednesday, August 24

The American Red Cross will host a blood drive at New College Institute (191 Fayette Street, Martinsville) from 1-6 p.m. To schedule your donation appointment, visit redcrossblood.org.

Sunday, August 27

The Spencer-Penn Centre (475 Spencer-Penn Road, Spencer) will host a basic canning class from 9 a.m. until 12 p.m. The cost is \$15 for members and \$20 for non-members. Pre-registration is required. To register, call (276) 957-5757.

Friday, September 9

The Spencer-Penn Centre (475 Spencer-Penn Road, Spencer) will host its popular music night with band Gap Civil. Doors open at 5 p.m. and music begins at 6:15. Admission is a \$5 donation. Concessions will be sold.

Piedmont Arts (215 Starling Avenue, Martinsville) hosts Savory September: The Art of Tailgating. Bring your crew and all your wacky tailgating traditions for a night of friendly rivalries, great food, and ice-cold refreshments. Food and custom cocktails by local chefs. Tickets are \$50 and can be purchased at PiedmontArts.org.

Saturday, September 10

The Southside Survivor Response Center will celebrate its second annual Community Without Limits at Jack Dalton Park in Collinsville from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. Attendees at this free event will enjoy free lunch, giveaways, a DJ, games, face painting, a dance contest, and more! For more information, call (276) 734-0040.

The Spencer-Penn Centre (475 Spencer-Penn Road, Spencer) will host an advanced canning class, Soups and Such, from 9 a.m. until 12 p.m. The cost is \$15 for members and \$20 for non-members. Pre-registration is required. To register, call (276) 957-5757.

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.

Henry County Parks & Recreation invites you out for a trek along the trail! Meet as 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 brl.lib.va.us.

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

MHC Coalition for Health and Wellness offers no contact Medicaid application assistance for eligible Virginia residents from birth to 64 years of age. No sign-up fees, no premiums, no deductibles. Including Children's Medicaid/FAMIS, Pregnancy Medicaid and Adult Health Care -19 to 64 years old. Questions can be answered, and applications completed by phone. In-person application assistance is available from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Thursdays at The Community Storehouse.

Call or text Ann Walker 276 732-0509 to see if you qualify.

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

Virginia's Sales Tax Holiday is Aug. 5-7

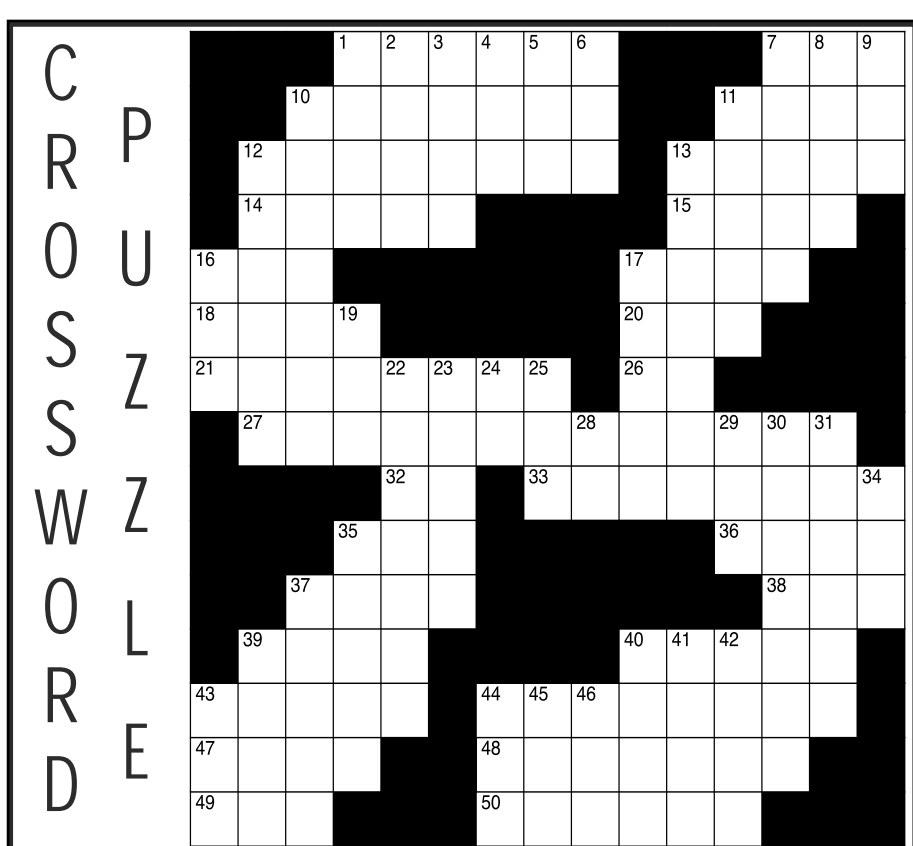
Take a holiday from sales tax August 5 - 7, during Virginia's Sales Tax Holiday. The holiday begins at 12:01 a.m. Aug. 5 and ends the following Sunday, Aug. 7, at 11:59 p.m.

During the sales tax holiday, consumers may buy qualifying school supplies, clothing, footwear, hurricane and emergency preparedness items, and Energy Star™ and WaterSense™ products without paying sales tax.

Eligible items, according to tax.virginia.gov, include school supplies, clothing, and footwear, qualified school supplies - \$20 or less per item; qualified clothing and footwear - \$100 or

less per item; hurricane and emergency preparedness products; portable generators - \$1,000 or less per item; gas-powered chainsaws - \$350 or less per item; chainsaw accessories - \$60 or less per item; other specified hurricane preparedness items - \$60 or less per item; Energy Star™ and WaterSense™ products; qualifying Energy Star™ or WaterSense™ products purchased for noncommercial home or personal use - \$2,500 or less per item.

Detailed lists of qualifying items and more information for retailers can be found in the Sales Tax Holiday Guidelines.



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|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| CLUES ACROSS | 32. A blood group | CLUES DOWN | 23. Hasidic spiritual leader |
| 1. Disco light | 33. Takes to task | 1. Fish of the genus Alosa | 24. Aluminum |
| 7. London radio station | 35. Prints money (abbr.) | 2. Rock singer Turner | 25. Considerate and solicitous care |
| 10. Aerospace Co. Morton | 36. Airbus manufacturer | 3. Muslim weight from 1 to 5 pounds | 28. Popular Canadian phrase |
| 11. Capital of Puglia, Italy | 37. A instance of selling | 4. Turkish unit of weight | 29. Consumed food |
| 12. A phantom or apparition | 38. 12th month (abbr.) | 5. Bovine genus | 30. Hayfields |
| 13. Packed wine | 39. Baseball's Ruth | 6. Popular shade tree | 31. About Andes |
| 14. The ocean below 6000 meters | 40. 1959 Nobel biochemist Severo | 7. The principal foundation of La ___ Tar Pits | 34. Secondary School Certificate |
| 15. 1st dynasty: AKA Xia | 43. Weights deducted to obtain net | 8. Spanish hero soldier | 35. Pen maker Castell |
| 16. Every | 44. To lie scattered over | 10. Brains egg-shaped grey matter | 37. Brand of clear wrap |
| 17. Six (Spanish) | 47. 6th Jewish month | 11. Fundamental | 39. Past tense of bid |
| 18. His ark | 48. Physical maltreators | 12. Bast | 40. Resort city on Lake Biwa |
| 20. Segment or a circle | 49. Founder Franklin | 13. Small angels | 41. Big Bear was chief |
| 21. Pres. Johnson or Obama | 50. Published | 16. Not or | 42. A group of cattle |
| 26. 12th Greek letter | | 17. S Pacific island group | 43. The bill in a restaurant |
| 27. The First Lady | | 19. Ad ___ : impromptu | 44. People of the Dali region of Yunnan |
| | | 22. Gen. ___ DeGaulle | 45. One point S of due E |
| | | | 46. Pig genus |

City schools provide information on free meal policy

Martinsville Public Schools outlined its policy for providing free meals to all children served under the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs. Each school and/or central school nutrition office has a copy of the policy, which may be reviewed by any interested party.

All schools in the division will be participating in the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) as implemented under the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010. Enrolled students will be provided a nutritious meal for breakfast and lunch each day at no charge to the household.

Households will not be required to submit a meal application form to receive meals at no charge. Each household will receive a letter informing them of the program, including contact information for any questions.

Longtime Friends from page 1

Wild Wings and an Olive Garden while in school full-time and raising two daughters.

“All that prepared me for this, because if you can manage all of those things, a restaurant, once everything is going, is definitely difficult but still doable,” he said.

In 2016, he went to work for Honda Aircraft in Greensboro, then moved home to Martinsville in 2020, working for Georgia-Pacific as a safety manager. He said he made the decision to return to the area to be closer to family.

Barrow said he decided to make another attempt at a restaurant again a few years ago. “I looked at the old Dairy Queen building in Laurel Park, then COVID hit,” he recalled. He decided that, once again, he would need to put his dream on hold.

That pause proved to be an opportunity, as Barrow used the time to enroll in the Martinsville-Henry County Chamber of Commerce’s Startup small business program, which Barrow said proved incredibly helpful.

“There were a lot of things that I didn’t even think about prior to Startup. It really laid a good foundation for me to ask certain questions and to look into certain resources that I wouldn’t otherwise have looked into or known about. Just the knowledge alone is worth the time,” Barrow said.

Eventually, he said, “COVID wound down, this building presented itself as an opportunity, and I didn’t have any choice but to jump in.”

Barrow said he decided on a steakhouse because, “based on the demographics in the area, that’s what was missing. We’ve got a couple of BBQ places, but no place that really sells a good steak, so that was the focal point of the menu—high-quality meats and steak.”

He built the menu with Roosky’s General Manager and longtime friend, Jeremy Phillippi, who had long shared Barrow’s restaurant dream.

Phillippi said he had been in the restaurant business since the age of 18, moving into restaurant management at the age of 21. “I hired Clifton as a busboy when he was 16-years old,” he recalled. “That’s how we got to be friends. He told me at that point that he had a vision, that he was going to have a restaurant, and here we are.” Phillippi said the friends sat down and wrote a menu for their dream restaurant several times over the years.

Beginning in Nov. 2021, the pair spent 8-months renovating the space, which Barrow rents from property owner Tim Martin. “Tim has been awesome to work with,” Barrow said. Barrow left his job at Georgia-Pacific in January to focus full-time on his new endeavor, going six-months without a paycheck as he worked to open the restaurant he had dreamed about for much of his adult life.

The restaurant is divided into two parts by a wall. On the back side of that wall, farthest from the entryway, is the bar area. Barrow said he liked the space both for its size as well as the ability it offered to serve family diners as well as those looking for a bar or late-night atmosphere.

“Families can go in on one side and never have any interaction with the bar,” he said, “which makes some families comfortable, they feel comfortable bringing their children here.”

The layout, he said, is a different approach than

many other local restaurants. “Most of them, the bar is the focal point of the restaurant,” he noted. On nights when those bars are showing Sunday Night Football or another sporting event, “the sports fans get loud, and it carries over into the dining part.”

Leading up to the opening, Barrow said Roosky’s encountered the same staffing issues that have plagued many businesses since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, though he attributes his issue more to a lack of time than a lack of willing employees.

“Our opening date was very up in the air” because of uncertainties with when various licenses, permits, and even food supplies would arrive, Barrow said. He did not want to offer someone a job then keep pushing their start date back because the business was not ready to open.

Now, however, the restaurant is fully-staffed with 49 employees on the payroll. “Once word got out that we’re open and we’re busy,” employees came onboard, he said.

Both Barrow and Phillippi agree that how they treat their staff is central to how they run their business.

“You’re only as good as your people,” said Barrow. “If you don’t have good people, you don’t have anything. Our management style is probably different than some other places. I’ve got an open door policy—anybody can come to me with any problems they have, and I’ll take care of it. Respect is a big thing. We can disagree, but we’ve got to respectfully disagree. That’s been hand-over-fist beneficial because people realize, ‘I can say what I want to say but I’ve got to be respectful about it.’”

“Our people are our people,” Phillippi said. “We want everyone to be happy at work,” rather than just coming in to collect a paycheck. “They say that if you enjoy what you do, you never work a day in your life.”

With licenses, permits, and much of the staff in place, Roosky’s opened to the public on July 2 following two soft openings. The community response, Barrow said, has been overwhelming. The restaurant has run out of many menu items more than once but, Barrow said, “it’s not because we ordered the same amounts each time, we increased our order, but we had more people.”

“Me being a local hometown boy that everybody knows, they’ve done nothing but be supportive,” he said. “Even on our rougher nights, everybody’s been patient and understanding and it’s only gotten better since then. I’ve had some people come in two or three times every week since we’ve been open because the food quality’s there. At first, it took a little longer to get the food out, but now our ticket times are down and we’re where we need to be.”

Phillippi, who is charged with running the back-of-house part of the business, said that getting procedures mastered in the kitchen was a speedbump the new business encountered upon opening.

“It’s easier when you don’t have anybody barking down your neck,” he said, then, once open, “suddenly you’ve got a bunch of people and you realize, ‘I’ve got to speed up on this. I can’t just take my time and make it look pretty, I’ve got to make it look pretty but I’ve got to rush.’”



Roosky’s is located at 54 West Church Street in Martinsville. The space is divided, with the front part of the restaurant dedicated to family diners or those who want a quieter atmosphere, while the back contains the bar and several televisions.

Numerous times over the years, Phillippi recalled, the two friends sat down to write a menu for their dream restaurant.

The current menu includes a number of steaks, ribs, wings, and burgers—the build your own burger and the smothered hamburger steak are quickly becoming some of the restaurant’s most popular menu items, Barrow and Phillippi said—they sell more than 50 hamburgers each day, on top of their smothered burger steak sales. Barrow said they plan to add some signature burgers to the menu in the near future.

Overall, Barrow describes his relationship with Phillippi as yin and yang—the two balance out each other’s strengths and weaknesses.

It seems that, in Roosky’s, the two have found a recipe for success, as even at 3 p.m. on a Friday, as the pair shared their story, several diners were enjoying a meal and other servers were talking about taking a break before the restaurant became busy later that evening.

However, the two are not yet done.

“There are definitely some growth opportunities here,” Barrow said, adding that eventually, they hope to offer a low-country boil at one of the larger tables in the back of the restaurant for those who reserve the table 4 to 5 days in advance. He envisions the boil spread out on butcher paper that covers the table.

“That’s an experience,” Barrow said, smiling at the thought. “People will come here for that experience.”

Roosky’s is located at 54 West Church Street in Martinsville. For more information, including open days and hours, find Roosky’s Bar & Grill on Facebook

Zehr Remembered from page 1

nity servant and experienced educator with a passion for supporting the students and staff of Henry County. His advocacy will be missed.”

“There will never be another Francis. This is not just a loss for me personally as a friend and colleague but for our community,” said Teddy Martin II, vice chairman of the Henry County School Board.

“My two biggest mentors as a local board member have been Curtis Millner and Francis Zehr. I cannot say how much it means to me that each took the time over the years to impart their knowledge to try to make me a better board member,” said Martin, who also serves as president of the Virginia School Boards Association.

“Francis happily shared stories from his decades of public service as a member of the Board of Supervisors, School Board, and schoolteacher, and his beaming pride in his wife Karen, children, and grandchildren, many of whom I am proud to have met. Francis and I would talk and have dinner together before and after meetings often throughout the years. ‘The Big Z’ would speak of myself, Tom Auker and him as the ‘Three Amigos’ and ‘Lock, Stock and Barrel.’ He said he and Auker were ‘A to Z’ but when I joined it became ‘A to Z with an M in the middle,’ Martin recalled.

Zehr also “was a big supporter of my nomination for Regional School Board Chair and President of the Virginia School Boards Association,” Martin said. “I would not have become those, or be the board member I am today without him. I am glad I was able to help him achieve the distinction of being the one member to have been elected to chair both the Board of Supervisors and the School Board. As I told him, I was glad he got promoted to the School Board.

“Please keep his family in your thoughts and prayers,” he added.

During his time on the two county boards, Zehr was the only member to serve

as chairman of each board.

“I am deeply saddened to hear of the passing of Francis Zehr. I had the privilege of knowing Francis over the years as a colleague, a friend, and as a source of inspiration,” said Jim Adams, chairman of the Henry County Board of Supervisors,

Zehr “was the epitome of what it meant to be a public servant and he put the best interests of Henry County at the center of every decision he made as a member of the Board of Supervisors,” Adams said. “He was a true advocate for our schools during his tenure on the school board and his steadfastness during deliberations was only matched by his compassion for our students and teachers. On behalf of the Board of Supervisors, I would like to extend my condolences to the family of Mr. Zehr.”

Adams said Zehr was well-liked by his students, noting that many approached him to chat at public events.

“Francis was a person who had devoted himself through years of service, and this was recognized by the community and respected,” Adams said.

“Service to an area is something that every individual does not readily embrace,” Adams said. “There are special people set aside like Francis that see it as a calling, and they answer that need. That is a void that can’t easily be filled.”

In a statement on the Ridgeway District Volunteer Rescue Squad’s Facebook page, Zehr was “a genuinely remarkable advocate for the Ridgeway district. Mr. Zehr has served on our Board of Directors for many years and supported the squad in many endeavors.”

Memorial contributions may be made to the Ridgeway District Volunteer Rescue Squad, at P.O. Box 611, Ridgeway, VA 24148; or the Ridgeway District Volunteer Fire Department, at P.O. Box 4, Ridgeway, VA 24148.

A memorial service for Zehr will be held at a later date.

New COVID-19 Vaccine Available from page 1

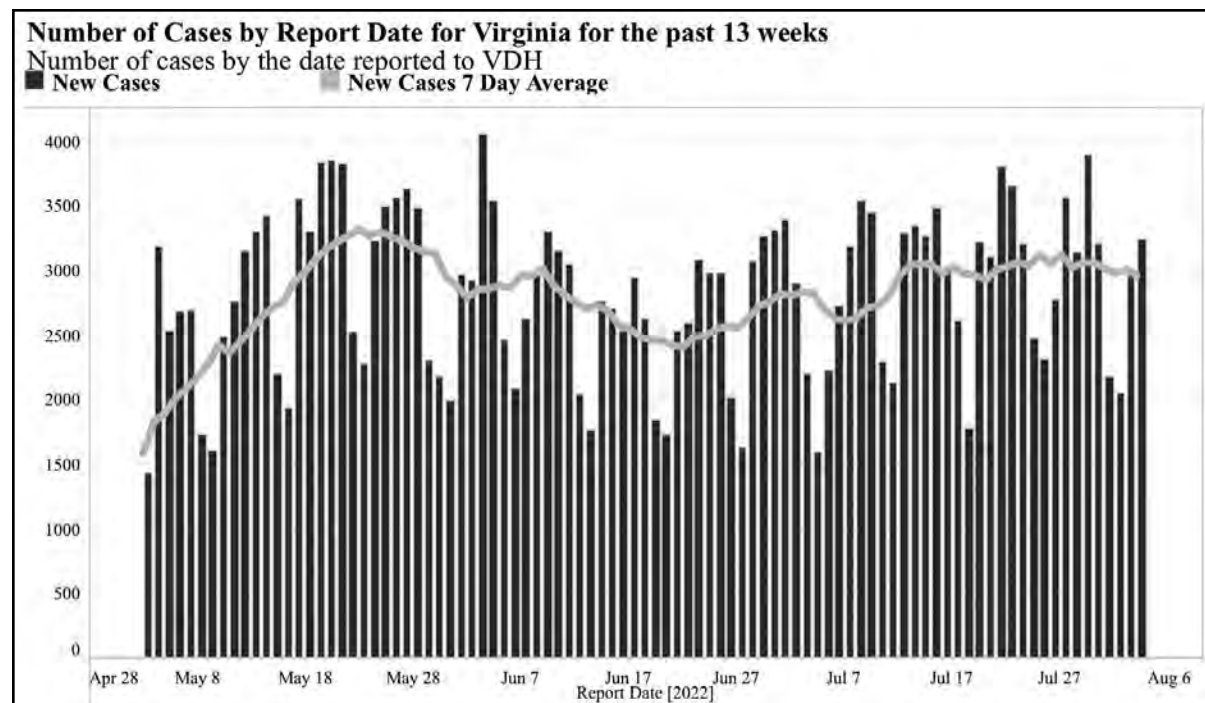
4,053 cases and 97 deaths were reported. In the City of Martinsville, there have been 3,701 cases, with 123 dead.

The data also suggests there are 1,965,090 cases in the state, with 54,062 hospitalized, and 20,969 dead from the COVID-19 virus. Information from the CDC suggested there have been 91,189,391 cases in the United States and 1,025,365 dead from coronavirus. The CDC website’s COVID Data Tracker states

there are 21,178 people hospitalized from COVID-19 and 107,924,198 people aged five and older, or 34.5 percent, have received their first booster dose.

The VDH website suggests there are 9,309 outbreaks in Virginia with 149,334 outbreak associated cases. The West Piedmont Health District currently has nine outbreaks.

For more tips on how to stay safe, visit www.vdh.virginia.gov or www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov.



Data from the Virginia Department of Health (VDH) website suggests Virginia has a new case 7-day average of about 3,000 COVID-19 cases. As of August 6, there were about 3,300 new cases in Virginia.

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OPINION

My super sincere and extremely heartfelt apology

I wish to apologize to all of my friends on Facebook. Recently, I made a post that was over the top and completely out of character, and for this, I need to apologize.

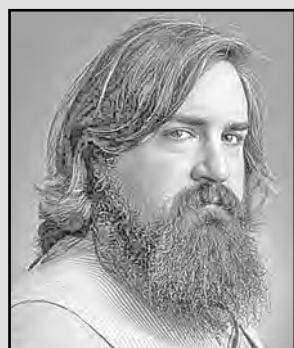
This is not who I am.

When I made that post, which was about a former employee of mine, I was under the influence of alcohol. As we all know, alcohol is a mysterious substance that causes completely alien thoughts to enter your brain, things that you would never in a million years think while sober. It was wrong of me to voice those thoughts on Facebook.

It was wrong of me to say

that this former employee of mine had “pleased more men than Monday Night Football.” It was wrong of me to say that she’s “easier than a college athlete’s course load.” I certainly never should have said that she “got more <redacted> than a La-Z-Boy at a nudist colony.” And I definitely shouldn’t have done all this while drunkenly harassing her at her new place of employment.

I never should have made these statements on Facebook, and I certainly shouldn’t have shared them on my personal page, my business page, my LinkedIn, and several online



By Ben R. Williams

obituary guestbooks. These statements are not who I am. They are cruel, unprofessional, and ignorant, and I cannot possibly imagine that I am any of those things, so you can see where I’m coming from here.

These comments were misplaced and should have never been shared publicly. They

should have been shared privately in group chats, or in the locker room at the country club.

You have to understand that when I made these comments, it never occurred to me that there was a real live person who could be severely impacted. But I understand that now.

Because that person is me, and in the name of all things holy, I need you all to stop dragging me online and come back to my businesses.

How was I to know that eventually I might have to face the consequences of my own actions? What are the odds of that, one in a billion? It’s never happened before. I’m in uncharted territory here, folks. Frankly, I’m scared.

Please believe me when I say that I deeply regret the

hurt that I’ve caused. The hurt to my businesses. The hurt to my brand. And what if I develop political ambitions some day? It truly breaks my heart.

And of course, there’s the hurt I’ve experienced personally. People are saying all kinds of cruel things about me on Facebook, and now they’re even harassing me at my place of business! What kind of person does a thing like that?

Anyway, I apologize. I will do my best to learn from this and move forward in a positive manner. And whether you’re a friend, a colleague, or even some trifling tart, I hope you’ll forgive me.

And if you’re a former customer, I hope you’ll come back and give us another shot.

No long T-shirts, bandanas, or durags, though.

Every day is special

Bryan Golden
Contributing writer

Every day you wake up is a special day. It is filled with potential and opportunity. Yet too many people start their days in a foul mood. They drag themselves out of bed to prepare to endure another day. Starting on Monday, their objective is to make it to Friday. Then, on the weekend, Sunday becomes stressful as the clock clicks down to Monday.

It’s a shame to allow a bad attitude to cause you to lose sight of how special each day is. As you become jaded, each day looms as a challenge to get through rather than something to savor. Although we all face problems, it is our outlook that determines how successful we are in dealing with them.

Here are some tips for getting back on track so that you begin recognizing every day as special. Start with appreciating all of the things in your life you can be thankful for. Look past the fog and negativity. Regardless of what you are dealing with, there are many things which you can be appreciative of.

Developing this attitude of gratitude grounds you in the positive. Review your list of good things on a daily basis. This habit gets your day started on the right foot. The foundation you build makes it easier to recognize each day as special.

The things you are thankful for are your bright spots. They will energize you when you appreciate them. One bright spot alone can out shine all of your problems. Even if yesterday was a low point, every new day is a special opportunity to turn things around.

An appreciation of all the miracles in your life will boost your attitude of gratitude. Start with the miracle that is you. This wonder dwarfs the challenges you are facing. Pay attention to details. All miracles, regardless of how small, should be fully appreciated.

Adjust your perspective. Instead of looking at what’s wrong, identify what is right with each day. Everyone has problems, and each problem has a solution. Rather than being saddled with another day of problems, you have a new opportunity to find solutions. Taking this approach lets you focus on what is right instead of fixating on what is wrong.

Determine what needs to be fixed. This means separating problems from symptoms. Problems are a cause while symptoms are the result. When ignored, symptoms will create secondary problems. Every day is another special opportunity to identify and fix problems. You will become more frustrated and problems will worsen when you fail to take corrective action.

Cut free from the shackles of the past. Don’t lament what you could have, would have, or should have done. When you hold onto your past it pollutes your future. The value of the past is to teach us what didn’t work and what did. Each day is a special opportunity for a new start.

Every day is another chance to accomplish what you put off yesterday. Taking action is the only way to accomplish anything. Stop procrastinating today and get into gear. Each day you delay, is a day lost you will never get back.

Cultivate positive thoughts. Purge negative words and concepts from your self-talk. Your mind believes whatever you tell it without discrimination. If you tell yourself you can do something, you are right. If you tell yourself you can’t do something, you are also right. Your thoughts are as special as each day because they determine the direction of your life.

As you can see, every day is indeed special. Take advantage of the new opportunities that constantly present themselves. Use the time you are given rather than wasting it. Believe in yourself and your ability to have the life you want.

Bryan is the author of “Dare to Live Without Limits.” Contact Bryan at Bryan@columnist.com or visit www.DareToLiveWithoutLimits.com Copyright 2022 Bryan Golden

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Martinsville Invocation Request

On July 20th a post was published from the Martinsville City’s official Facebook page: “Calling All Faith Leaders: We looking for [sic] members of clergy from various churches and religions to offer an invocation once a month during our city council meetings and other events.”

Some might read this and ask, “What do they mean by ‘clergy’, and what do they mean by ‘invocation?’” Some might be asking, “How’s this going to work for the ‘separation of church and state?’” I’m a Christian, but I think the post/request is total nonsense.

Is the city going to allow a spokesman from the Nation of Islam to come and offer a prayer to “Allah?” Will a Jewish Rabbi be invited to pray to God while denying Jesus of Nazareth as the Messiah? Will the local priest from the Romanist sect be invited to pray to Mother Mary?

Historically Baptists have not allowed Pedobaptists (Presbyterians, Episcopalians, Methodists, Lutherans, and Romanists) to observe the Lord’s Supper with them, citing their lack of immersion for their reasoning. If a Baptist cannot take communion with any of the above listed sects, then I don’t know how they, Baptists, would be able to be led in prayer by one of them, Pedobaptists. I agree with the Baptists on that one: I wouldn’t take communion with Pedobaptists either.

This is where someone asks, “Caleb, why do you want to cause trouble?” I’m not causing trouble; these divisions already exist before I wrote this. I’m just asking how the city is going to do this monthly “invocation” and keep from having a theological debate arise? I’m fine with the debates taking place, and par-

ticipating in them, but I’ve found most local sectarian preachers don’t like to debate. They don’t know mind preaching against other sects in the privacy of their four walls, but they don’t seem to want to debate publicly. If you read Acts 17:17 you’ll see that the Apostle Paul debated publicly.

Again, this is where someone says, “Caleb, I figured you’d be all for this.” You want to pray? Then do it at home in your closet like Jesus said in Mathew 6:6. What I don’t care for is the city’s pandering to the “religious crowd” by getting the “token pastor” to come up and say a few words to God on our behalf. Who’s behalf? One of the city council members owns two bars in town. I don’t think she’ll be leading the “invocation” anytime soon.

In closing someone says, “In times like this I don’t think we can turn away prayer.” Well, to that I say I’d rather citizens start acting the way God commanded us to act. If folks are unwilling to do that first, then I don’t think God’s going to be listening to these monthly “invocations”: “For the eyes of the Lord are over the righteous, and his ears are open unto their prayers: but the face of the Lord is against them that do evil” (1Pet. 3:12).

*Caleb Robertson,
Martinsville*

Application Period Underway for Cooling Assistance

The Virginia Department of Social Services (VDSS) will provide cooling assistance to qualifying households this year through the Virginia Energy Assistance Program (EAP). Applications are currently being accepted and can be submitted until Monday, August 15.

To qualify, a household must have a child less than six years of age, an adult 60 years or older, or an individual with a disability living in the home. Income requirements, based on a household’s gross monthly income (before taxes), can be found here. Individuals and families in need of Cooling Assistance are encouraged to apply even if they are unsure of their eligibility status.

Assistance is available for:
Payment of electric bills to operate cooling equipment
Payment of security deposits for electricity to operate cooling equipment
Repair of a central air conditioning system or heat pump
Purchase of a whole-house fan, including ceiling

or attic fans

Purchase and installation of a window unit air conditioner

Households that previously received approval for Cooling Assistance in 2022 for a one-time benefit of \$600 for the payment of an electric bill do not need to submit additional applications for this type of assistance during the current application period.

Applications (available in English and Spanish) can be submitted to a local department of social services, online via CommonHelp, or by calling 1-855-635-4370. Eligibility is determined by the local department of social services. All applications must be submitted by August 15.

The Energy Assistance Program is funded by the federal Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program block grant. Last year, VDSS served over 69,000 households with Cooling Assistance through the EAP. To learn more about Cooling Assistance and other assistance programs available, visit the VDSS Energy Assistance webpage.

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See more at www.henrycountyenterprise.com

Four new members to serve on P&HCC Board



Sean Adkins



Belinda Bryant



Robert Foster



Dr. Shana LeGrant

Patrick & Henry Community College Board added four new members: Sean Adkins, Belinda Bryant, Robert Foster, and Dr. Shana LeGrant. These members were appointed by their respective localities to fill vacancies that arose last year.

Adkins is the director of Economic Development for Patrick County. His career has almost entirely been spent as a public servant for non-profits and local governments in the fields of community and economic development. He earned his undergraduate degree in Business/Organizational Studies from the University of Connecticut, his Master of Public Administration (MPA) degree from the University of Miami, and originally came to Virginia for the PhD program in Public Policy at Virginia Tech.

Bryant received her Bachelor of Science, with a major in Social Work, from Longwood University through New College Institute. She graduated from PHCC in 2016 with an Associate in Arts and Science (General Studies) with a minor in Human Services and is currently employed at HopeTree Family Services as a Regional Director for their DDM (Developmental Disabilities Ministry) program. She travels to four group homes within a two-hour radius from Martinsville.

Foster is a native of Henry County and attended Patrick Henry Community College earning a Certificate in Architectural Drafting and Associate Degree in General Studies before

transferring to Radford University, where he earned a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice with a concentration in Probation and Parole in 1988. He has been employed with the Virginia Department of Juvenile Justice for over thirty years, serving as a Probation Officer, Probation Supervisor, Court Service Unit Director and beginning in 2011 serving as the Regional Program Manager for the Western Region of the Commonwealth.

Dr. LeGrant is a Technical Assistance Associate at the North Carolina Early Learning Network, Frank Porter Graham Child Development Institute. She has two decades of successful experience in providing support and training to preschool through fifth grade teachers across the state of North Carolina. Dr. LeGrant holds a B.S. in Elementary Education, an M.S. in Curriculum and Instruction, an Ed.S. in Curriculum and Instruction, and a Doctorate in Education. Her research revolves around teacher self-efficacy for delivering literacy instruction to students in early childhood classrooms, grades preschool through second grade.

Adkins was appointed by Patrick County to fill the unexpired term of Dr. Clyde DeLoach. He will be eligible for his first full four-year term in 2023.

Bryant, Foster, and Dr. LeGrant were appointed to represent Henry County and began their first four-year term in July 2022.

Inaugural STEM camp set to begin at VMNH

An inaugural program is taking place this week at the Virginia Museum of Natural History in Martinsville. It is the "Ishango STEM Summer Camp" and is being put on for the first time by the nonprofit Integrative Centers for Science and Medicine.

A total of 17 local middle and high school students are taking part in the five-day summer camp. Paleoanthropologist Noel Boaz, ICSM President and a Senior Fellow of the VMNH, is leading the camp. Each day is spent in experiential learning about the African World Heritage archaeological site of Ishango, where the famous 20,000-year-old "Ishango Bone," one of the most ancient mathematical artifacts in the world, was discovered.

Campers learn from 3D-printed copies of the artifact such skills as coding their own names in Base 2 and finger counting to 60 in Base 12 with their hands. They build their own paper microscopes to investigate specimens in the "microcosmos" and use a camera lucida app to draw specimens

from the "macrocosmos" in Martinsville's city park. Other skills learned include gel electrophoresis and polymerase chain reaction to investigate the genome and how to identify the major species of human ancestors in the fossil record using "Bone Clone" casts.



Campers using "Foldscopes" which they constructed to study human blood cells.



"60" in Base 12 using African hand counting.



Deciphering the "Ishango Bone".

Submissions sought for Rock Spring Art Show

The Reynolds Homestead, in partnership with Bull Mountain Arts, issued a call for submissions for the annual Rock Spring Art Show. Submissions will be accepted August 20-23, 2022.

"We are excited to be able to host this important art event for our region and we encourage all area artists to submit original art," said Julie Walters Steele, director of the Reynolds Homestead. "We realize the important role art has played during the pandemic as a source of relaxation and reflection, and we look forward to seeing the art created by area residents during this time."

The Rock Spring Art Show is open to artists 18 years of age or older who live in Patrick, Henry, Franklin, Floyd or Carroll counties in Virginia, or Surry or Stokes counties in North Carolina. Any Patrick County native, or member of Bull Mountain Arts, regardless of residence, may enter.

Entries must be the artist's original work and completed in the past three years. The entry fee is \$25 per artist; members of Bull Mountain Arts may enter for \$20. Those interested in joining Bull Mountain Arts

may do so when submitting art. Each artist is eligible to enter two works of art.

Art may be submitted in the following categories: Oil Painting, Acrylic Painting, Watercolor Painting, Drawing, and 2D Mixed and 3D Media.

There is no restriction on size, however, two-dimensional art must be framed and wired for hanging. All 3D artwork must be freestanding or include its own display apparatus. Quilts should have a sleeve on the back for a hanging dowel to be inserted.

Submissions of artwork will be accepted at the Reynolds Homestead as follows: Saturday, August 20 from 1-4pm; Sunday, August 21 from 1-4pm; Monday, August 22 from 9-4pm, and Tuesday, August 23 from 9-4pm.

The opening reception and awards ceremony for the Rock Spring Art Show will be held Thursday, September 8 at 6 p.m. at the Reynolds Homestead. Prizes will be awarded to winners in each category. Everyone is invited to attend the reception for an opportunity to meet the artists. The art will be on

exhibit September 11 through October 29 and will be open for viewing Mondays-Fridays from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. and on Sundays, 1-4 p.m.

For more information about the Rock Spring Art Show and to download an entry form, please visit www.reynoldshomestead.vt.edu.

If you are interested in volunteering to assist with art submissions and hanging, you may sign up for volunteer hours by contacting the Reynolds Homestead by phone or email.

The Reynolds Homestead is seeking sponsors for awards and the reception. If you are willing to help support the Rock Spring Art Show, please contact Terri Leviner at 276-694-7181 ext. 21. Your support would be greatly appreciated.

If you are an individual with a disability and desire an accommodation, please contact the Reynolds Homestead at 276-694-7181 during regular business hours at least 10 business days prior to the event.

The Reynolds Homestead is an outreach and engagement unit of Virginia Tech.

GENEDGE Alliance names Martin Human Resources Director

Teddy Martin is now the Human Resources Director based at GENEDGE headquarters in Martinsville.



Teddy Martin

In his new role, Martin will strive to support the development of employees and trusted third party associates through direct coaching as well as advisory services to the management team. He will also assure that processes are compliant with Commonwealth of Virginia, federal and local law in addition to managing delivery of required and optional trainings for the business, among other duties.

Before coming to GENEDGE, Martin had been working in human resources for more than seven years, beginning as an Assistant Recruiter and later promoted to Associate Recruiter at The Results Companies in Martinsville.

He then advanced his career by moving to AmeriStaff Employment & Staffing Solutions, overseeing recruiting efforts for seven regional offices as their recruiter. His next advancement took him to Patrick & Henry Community College beginning as HR Benefits Specialist and Business Office Specialist before his last role as the HR Generalist. While at P&HCC, Martin contributed significantly to the growth of the college, as well as

GENEDGE.

Martin has a passion for education and continues his tenure as a member of the Henry County School Board. Simultaneously, he serves as the President of the Virginia School Boards Association (VSBA). A graduate of Western Governors University/ Salt Lake City, Utah, Martin holds a

Master of Science in Management and Leadership. In addition, he holds a Bachelor of Science in Interdisciplinary Studies in Elementary Education (PK-6) from Old Dominion University/Norfolk, Va. He earned an Associate of Arts and Sciences in Business Administration from Patrick & Henry Community College/Martinsville, Va.

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OBITUARIES

Clifton Ray Ashworth

Clifton Ray Ashworth "Shysta," 49, of Danville, VA passed away Wednesday, July 27, 2022 at his home. He was born March 22, 1973, in Martinsville, VA to Carolyn Taylor Ashworth and Jimmy D. Ashworth.

In addition to his parents, he is survived by his son, Luke Ashworth; stepsons, Hunter Goad and Tyler Goad; Shelly Brown Ashworth; brother, Jimmy Ashworth (Michelle); niece and nephew, Lane and Carlee Ashworth; brother-in-law, Keith Warrick (Jessie); and niece, Evelyn Warrick.

He was preceded in death by his sister, Angela Marie Ashworth.

Clifton worked in construction for J.W.



Squire and was a member of Spring Street Baptist Church. He loved the outdoors and enjoyed hunting, fishing, riding four wheelers, and relaxing on the beach. He also loved watching racing and was Jeff Gordon's biggest fan. Most of all, he loved being on the ball field with his boys and was always there for his friends.

A funeral was held on Monday, August 1, 2022, at Norris Funeral Services, Martinsville Chapel with Pastor Billy Smith officiating. Burial was at Roselawn Burial Park.

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

Dale Dillon Mills

Brenda Chaney Moore, 57, of Bassett, VA passed away Monday, July 25, 2022 at her home. She was born February 11, 1965 in Martinsville, VA to the late Clarence David Chaney and JoAnn Felts Chaney. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Robert Neal Moore.

Brenda worked as a spinner for Nilit and was a member of the Eagles Club #3739.

She is survived by her sisters, Wilma Cline (Tim) and Kathy Chaney (Randy); nieces, Tonya Fowler (J.R.) and Jessica Bowers (James); nephew, Damian Chaney; great-nieces and nephews, Madison Osborne, Gavin Osborne,



Salem Fowler, Adreiana Bowers, Jasmine Bowers, and David Bowers; best friend, Donna Redd; and godchildren, Vashawn Gray and Lacario Gray.

A memorial service will be held at 3 p.m. on Saturday, July 30, 2022 at Norris Funeral Services, Martinsville Chapel with a visitation one hour prior to the service from 2 to 3 p.m. The family will receive friends other times at the home of Kathy Chaney, 1380 Orchard Drive, Bassett, VA 24055.

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

Shanelius Charles Hird

Shanelius Charles Hird, 38, of Martinsville passed away Sunday, July 31, 2022, at his home. He was born November 17, 1983, in Martinsville, Virginia to James Warren Woodson and Rev. Cornelia Johnson Preston.

Charles served in the Army National Guard and was a member of Mountain View Baptist Church. He loved football and singing. He was a member of the gospel group Redeemed Sonz. He loved the Dallas Cowboys, UNC Tarheels, shoes and movies. Charles loved God, his family and most of all his children.

Baptized at an early age at Pilgrim Missionary Baptist Church he had a great love for music. He began singing in the children's choir and continued singing throughout his life. He was in the theater program at Magna Vista High School and Patrick Henry Community College. He was a 2001

graduate of Magna Vista High School.

Surviving are his parents, daughter, Alexis Hird; son, Bryan Hird; sisters, Yashenna Nichols and Mary Dodson; brother, Laviano Hird; nieces and nephews, Jeremiah, Reggie, Shane, Angel, Layla and A'Maya; and numerous aunts, uncles, cousins and other family members; special friends, Nicki Medina, Mario Hairston, Rob Haynes and Deshawn Strickland.

The funeral will be held Saturday, August 6, 2022, at 11 a.m. at Wright Funeral Service Chapel, with the Rev. Kaven Smith officiating. Visitation will be one hour prior to the service. Burial be at the Johnson Family Cemetery, Red Oak Road, Martinsville, Virginia.

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

George "Tommy" Thomas Holley

George "Tommy" Thomas Holley, 64, of Martinsville, Virginia passed away Monday, August 1, 2022, at his home. He was born March 8, 1958, in Fieldale, Virginia to the late Jesse Judson Holley, Sr. and Ruth Ann Walker Hughes. He was a trustee of The Eagles Aviary, and enjoyed music, motorcycles, fishing, gardening and camping.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his brothers, Jesse Judson Holley, Jr. and Michael Shawn Holley.

He is survived by a daughter, Cheyenne Shaffer; and sisters, Rebecca Holley Pierce and Melissa Holley Solomon; nieces, Tiffany Williams, Christy Solomon; nephews, Michael Holley and Judson Holley;

and a host of great nieces and a great-nephew.

A memorial service will be held on Sunday, August 7, 2022, at 4 p.m. at Wright Funeral Service Chapel with Pastor Neil Pressley officiating. Visitation will be 30 minutes prior to the service. Burial will be private.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in memory of George "Tommy" Holley to Martinsville Henry County SPCA, 132 Joseph Martin Highway, Martinsville, Virginia, 24112.

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

Ada Lee Childs Hamlett

James "Jimmy" Robert Lawrence, 78, of Martinsville, Va. passed away on Monday, July 25, 2022. He was born December 9, 1943 in Henry County to the late Edgar Jennings and Frances Eanes Lawrence. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his wife, Mary Frances Joyce Lawrence in 2014; his sister, Roslyn Roberson and his niece, Anna Maria Ogle.

Jimmy is survived by his sister, Nancy Draper; niece, Kimberly Woolf and nephew, M. Gregg Roberson.

Jimmy attended Martinsville Schools. He retired from American Furniture with

more than 35 years of service. In his younger days, Jimmy used to ride and help break horses at Martin Stables Jimmy also raced "Big Red" at Leatherwood Race Track. He was an avid NASCAR fan and especially liked Tony Stewart.

A graveside service was held on Friday, July 29, 2022 at Ridge View Memorial Gardens in Eden, N.C. and was officiated by Pastor Tommy Albertson.

McKee-Stone Funeral Home, Martinsville, VA is serving the family.

To express condolences online, please visit www.collinsmckeeastonemartinsville.com.

Michael Eugene Powell

Michael Eugene Powell, 54, of Ridgeway, Virginia passed away Monday, July 25, 2022. He was born July 13, 1968, in Danville, Virginia to the late Marvin Frank Powell and Verlie Rowland Powell. He enjoyed working, cutting trees, fishing, going to the river, but most of all he loved his children.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his sister, Myrtle

Alley. He is survived by his wife, Jennifer Lawless Powell; sons, Aries Powell and Gabriel Powell; step-daughters, Athena Workman and Stacie Workman; and brother, Daniel Powell.

All services will be private.

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

Blue Ridge Airport among those to receive federal funds

Blue Ridge Airport in Martinsville is among those to receive a portion of the \$5,511,125 in federal funding from the Department of Transportation's Federal Aviation Administration for regional airports in Virginia, according to a release from U.S. Sens. Mark Warner and Tim Kaine.

The Blue Ridge Airport will receive \$216,688 for the final phase of expanding the existing terminal apron to accommodate increased use, the release stated.

"This funding will support a series of important projects in different stages at regional airports throughout the Commonwealth," said Kaine, D-Richmond and Warner, D-Alexandria. "These airports serve the transportation needs of thousands of Virginians every year and we are happy to see this funding go towards critical improvements."

The remainder of the funds will be distributed as follows:

- \$4,555,463 for Lonesome Pine Airport in Wise, VA for the final phase of rehabilitating runway lighting.
- \$450,090 for Chesapeake Regional Airport in Chesapeake, VA for the removal of non-hazard obstructions in order to comply with FAA standards.
- \$178,200 for Freeman Field in Louisa County, VA for the construction of new taxiways.
- \$110,684 for William M Tuck Airport in Halifax County, VA for replacing path indicators, end identifier lights, and runway lighting systems.

Recently, Warner and Kaine announced nearly \$6 million for airports across the Commonwealth, in addition to \$50 million to Virginia airports apportioned earlier this month. The senators also announced nearly \$400 million for Virginia airports secured through the bipartisan infrastructure law in November of last year.

Public input sought on plan for Philpott Lake

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers recently released a draft Feasibility Report and Environmental Assessment on the reallocation of existing water storage at Philpott Lake. The study was conducted through a request from the Henry County Public Service Authority, Henry County to address current and future water supply needs for south-central Virginia. The study examines alternatives for the most cost-effective means of providing additional water, including actions other than reallocation, and their environmental impacts.

The Recommended Plan transfers approximately 5,200 acre-feet or 4.0 million gallons of water storage per day from Philpott Lake to municipal and industrial water supply for Henry County over a 50-year period (2023-2072). This reallocation constitutes approximately 3.58 percent of the total active storage at the reservoir. There will be no impacts to the authorized purposes of Flood Risk Management and Low Flow Augmentation at the lake, except for a minor impact to hydropower generation.

The Corps is seeking public review and comment on the Recommended Plan. The release of this draft study begins a 30-day period, during which the public and agencies can submit comments. A public information meeting will be jointly held by the Corps and the Henry County Public Service Authority during the review period. Additional information will be provided concerning the time, location, and format for this meeting.

Once the review period closes on August 29, the Corps will respond to comments received, and incorporate comments and responses, into a final report. If the final report is approved, then a water storage agreement will be signed between the Federal government and the Henry County Public Service Authority.

A copy of the draft document is available at:

www.saw.usace.army.mil/Locations/District-Lakes-and-Dams/Philpott/Reallocation-Feasibility-Study/ and comments may be submitted to philpott-reallocation-feasibility-study@usace.army.mil.

Rental housing scams reported

Renting a home or apartment is a big expense but it could be an even bigger one if the rental is a scam. Criminals copy legitimate listings and

look for easy cash by collecting the first month's rent, deposit, and application fees and then bolt before handing over the keys. Numerous versions of rental frauds abound — some are bait-and-switch while others will attempt to rent out properties that are already leased or otherwise unavailable.

These fake rental schemes happen every year and would-be renters are losing hundreds or even thousands of dollars. When renting a place, watch out for scammers who ask you to sign before

seeing anything or request payment via wire transfer, peer to peer apps or cash. Do your research on the property and owner and read agreements carefully.

Be a fraud fighter. If you can spot a scam, you can stop a scam.

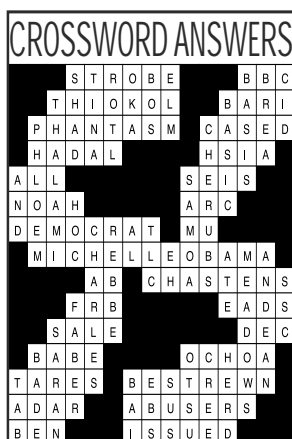
Visit the AARP Fraud Watch Network at www.aarp.org/fraudwatchnetwork or call the AARP Fraud Watch Helpline at 1-877-908-3360 and speak to trained staff or volunteers for help with a fraud encounter.

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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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For sale?

If you've read this far, you can see how effective a classified ad in the Henry County Enterprise can be.

Call 276-694-3101 or email submissions@theenterprise.net to place your ad.

HELP WANTED

Patrick & Henry Community College in Martinsville, VA has the following job openings: **Director of Human Resources, Educational Talent Search Advisor, Nursing & Health Sciences Assistant, CDL Driver, Switchboard Operator, Janitor, Workforce Grants Specialist, Workforce Grants Advisor, Science Lab Assistant, MHC After 3 After School Instructor, and Adjunct Faculty in Communication Studies (Speech)-Patrick County and Main Campus Sites, English, Mechatronics, NCCER Plumbing, Nursing, and Welding.** For details and application information please visit <http://patrickhenry.edu/>, scroll to the bottom of the page, and click on Employment Opportunities. Patrick & Henry Community College is an Equal Opportunity Employer and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, age, or veteran's status. Women and minorities are encouraged to apply.

Mid Atlantic Textile Company

Mid Atlantic Textile Company is seeking reliable full-time/part-time employees to work first shift. They are in need of a washroom attendant, folders, and a route driver (valid driver's license required). Inter-

HELP WANTED

ested people should call David at 276-694-2421 or visit the plant at 636 Mayo Court, Stuart (across the road from Ten Oaks Dobyns plant).

Help Wanted?

Let our readers know you're hiring with a classified ad in The Enterprise for as little as \$8 a week.

Call 276-694-3101 or email submissions@theenterprise.net to get the word out to potential hires.

YARD SALE

Yard Sale

Multiple Family Yard Sale Mini Flea Market August 11-13. Thursday and Friday 8-4, Saturday 8-1 661 Collinstown Road, Dry Pond.

Come out! Lots of items!

Yard Sale?

An ad in our classifieds will let people know about all the great stuff you're selling.

Call 276-694-3101 or email submissions@theenterprise.net to get the word out and get them to your yard sale.



ATTENTION

Attention PCHS Class of 1977

45th class reunion, Saturday, Sept 17th 2022, 6p.m.-11:30p.m.

Live music, BBQ dinner, BYOB w/bar set up Patrick County location TBA.

\$25 per person, casual dress

Email Cathy Turner at ctburton58@gmail.com if you plan to attend and how many will be attending with you, no later than Aug 1st.

Make check payable to Cathy Turner Burton, \$25 per person

Mail to 334 E. Church St, B7, Martinsville, VA, 24112 no later than August 17th.

COUNTY OF HENRY BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

Pursuant to Section 15.2-2204 of the Code of Virginia, a series of public hearings has been scheduled for **August 24, 2022, at 1:00 p.m.** in the Summerlin Meeting Room of the County Administration Building, Kings Mountain Rd., Collinsville, Virginia. The purpose of these public hearings is to receive citizen input into the possible issuance of Special Use Permits for the following cases.

Case S-22-11 Fredrick Wooden / Larry Jones

A request for a Special Use Permit was received under Section 21-902 of the Henry County Zoning Ordinance to allow for the establishment of a recreational hookah bar in an existing restaurant building. The property is located at 2089 Virginia Ave in the Collinsville District and is zoned Commercial District B-1, as shown on Tax Map 29.7(70)/55-58.

Case S-22-12 Michael Crowley, PE; Crowley Professional Engineers Firebird and Thunderbird Solar

A request for a Special Use Permit has been received under Section 21-1801 through 21-1808; and 21-302 of the Zoning Ordinance to allow for the construction of 2-Large Scale Solar Energy Facilities. The properties are generally bounded by Ebony Dr and Aladdin Dr, in the Ridgeway District, and zoned as Agricultural District A-1. The project consists of 2 tracts, one of approximately 40.96-acres, and the second approximately 33.38-acres. The Tax Map number is 51.9/147. The proposal is to develop a 5 MW and 3 MW facility.

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

Lee H. Clark, AICP
Director of Planning, Zoning & Inspection



The best place to find it, sell it, buy it, and announce it.

Martinsville Speedway unveils the format for the ValleyStar Credit Union 300

Martinsville Speedway introduces the format for this year's ValleyStar Credit Union 300, the nation's biggest, richest and most prestigious NASCAR Late Model Stock Car race, on Saturday, Sept. 24.

The ValleyStar Credit Union 300 will have a \$110,000 purse with \$32,000 to the race winner. The 200 lap feature race will include three segments: 100 laps, 75 laps and 25 laps. Stage 1 and Stage 2 winners will each receive \$1,000.

On Friday, Sept. 23, four hours of practice will be followed by single car qualifying under the lights. The fastest qualifier will receive a \$5,000 bonus. The full 40-car field for the feature will be determined in heat races on Saturday, Sept. 25. There will be four heat races of 25 laps and no last chance race.

"This year's format heightens the challenge as every racer will compete in a heat race in the ValleyStar Credit Union 300," said Martinsville President Clay Campbell. "Martinsville Speedway remains one of the fiercest race-tracks that challenges the best in motorsports, so we look forward to this year's ValleyStar Credit Union 300 raising the heat of competition once again in the nation's biggest, richest and most prestigious NASCAR Late Model Stock Car race."

In the ValleyStar Credit Union 300 feature, the leader of each lap will receive \$25 with \$5,000 available in the laps led bonus pool. If the race concludes in overtime, there will be unlimited attempts at a Green White Checker finish.

The Virginia Triple Crown will be awarded at the ValleyStar Credit Union 300. The first two legs of the Virginia Triple Crown were held at South Boston

Speedway on Saturday, July 2 and Larry King Law's Langley Speedway on Saturday, July 23. To view the current Virginia Triple Crown standing, click here.

The driver who records the best average finish between the three venues is declared the winner of the Virginia Triple Crown and receives a paycheck of \$7,000. Second place takes home \$2,000 while third place obtains \$1,000.

To download the ValleyStar Credit Union 300 and Virginia Triple Crown logos, click here.

Leading up to the ValleyStar Credit Union 300, Martinsville Speedway will host the Henry County Fair on Sept. 21-24. The Henry County Fair will include fun, family friendly attractions including state fair quality rides, an assortment of delicious fair foods, fun games of chance, animal exhibits, a petting zoo and live music performances nightly. The Henry County Fair will be open on Sept. 21-22 from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m., Sept. 23 from 5 p.m. to 11 p.m. and Sept. 24 from 12 p.m. to 11 p.m. To learn more about the Henry County Fair, visit henrycountyvafair.com.

On Friday, Sept. 24, practice for the ValleyStar Credit Union 300 will be held from 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. followed by single car qualifying under the lights beginning at 8:00 p.m.

On Saturday, Sept. 25, the Fan Garage/Pit Experience (i.e. driver autograph session) will be free to all fans with a ticket from 12:45 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. Heat races will begin at 3:00 p.m. Pre-race festivities begin at 5:30 p.m. with the feature ValleyStar Credit Union 300 green flag at 7:00 p.m. The Campbell Family Foundation will host a fireworks extravaganza following the ValleyStar Credit

Union 300 feature.

Tickets for the ValleyStar Credit Union 300 are \$30 unreserved. Youth 12 and under are free with a paying adult. Pit passes are \$60. GA camping is available for the weekend for \$40. Reserved camping is sold out. SkyDeck passes are \$59 and Club47 passes are \$149. Parking is free for the event. Coolers are allowed, but must be soft-sided and no larger than 14"x14"x14". Tickets are available for purchase at the ticket office, via phone at 877-RACE-TIX or online at martinsvillespeedway.com.

For more information on the ValleyStar Credit Union 300, visit www.martinsvillespeedway.com/events/valley-star-credit-union-300.

2022 NASCAR Season

As part of its 75th Anniversary season, Martinsville will host the NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour season finale on Thursday, Oct. 27 and penultimate races of the Xfinity Series Playoffs in the Dead On Tools 250 on Saturday, Oct. 29 at 3:00 p.m. and the Cup Series Playoffs in the Xfinity 500 on Sunday, Oct. 30 at 2:00 p.m. In short track battles that can only happen at Martinsville, the fall races will crown the Whelen Modified Tour champion and set the field for the Xfinity and Cup Series championships the following week at Phoenix Raceway.

The ValleyStar Credit Union 300, the nation's biggest, richest and most prestigious NASCAR Late Model Stock Car race, will return for an evening of intense competition on Sept. 24.

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

USDA extends flexibility to continue helping get formula to WIC families

The U.S. Department of Agriculture is extending a key funding flexibility in the WIC program that has allowed state agencies and their infant formula manufacturers to work together to provide more options for WIC families in need of formula. Under this flexibility – which is now extended through the end of September – USDA is covering the added cost of non-contract formula to make it financially feasible for states to allow WIC participants to purchase alternate sizes, forms, or brands of infant formula.

"Ensuring families have the formula they need continues to be an all-hands-on-deck, cross-sector effort, and USDA remains fully engaged," said Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack. "WIC families are counting on us, and we will continue to use all the tools at our disposal to get them the nourishment their babies need."

In general, WIC state agencies have contracts with one of three manufacturers to provide formula to WIC infants who are partially or fully formula fed. Using the new authority provided by the Access to Baby Formula Act, USDA recommended in May that state agencies that contract with Reckitt Mead Johnson (RMJ) or Gerber seek contract flexibility to allow alternate formulas if the contracted size, form, or brand of formula is unavailable. To help make this financially feasible, USDA is covering the additional costs of these alternate formulas while supplies remain impacted and will continue to do so through September 30, 2022.

The USDA also previously provided flex-

ibility to temporarily allow alternate formula in states that contract with Abbott, the third formula manufacturer and the subject of the voluntary formula recall in February. Abbott is currently covering that cost difference through September 30.

Within hours of the recall, the USDA's Food and Nutrition Service provided guidance to WIC state agencies and offered flexibilities to help them respond. The agency continues to provide ongoing assistance and support to states so they can adapt to the situation as it unfolds, approving nearly 500 waiver requests to date.

Working closely with the Department of Health and Human Services, FDA, and the Biden-Harris Administration, recent USDA actions include:

Coordinating cross-government to rapidly transport safe specialty and regular formula into the country through Operation Fly Formula.

Providing a toolkit and guidance to WIC state agencies and stakeholders to assist with distributing imported formula.

Calling on states to take advantage of all available WIC flexibilities and waivers that could help those they serve and providing extensive, tailored technical assistance to facilitate the process. Now, nearly all state agencies have applicable waivers in place.

Providing guidance to Child and Adult Care Food Program operators that may provide formula to infants in their care to help them navigate the impacts of the shortage.

More information about USDA's response can be found on Food and Nutrition Service's Infant Formula Shortage Response webpage.

Power company to issue request for battery storage systems

Appalachian Power is moving forward with plans to incorporate battery storage to improve electric service reliability and help meet clean energy requirements under the 2020 Virginia Clean Economy Act (VCEA).

A formal request for proposals (RFP) from battery energy storage system (BESS) manufacturers will be issued Monday, Aug. 1. The company is seeking three systems totaling 7.5 megawatts for installation on the rural Glade-Whitewall circuit that provides power for customers in Washington County, Virginia.

Battery storage systems work by filling the gap when the normal flow of electricity is interrupted for reasons such as lightning or fallen trees. Outages will still occur, but with battery storage customers on the Glade-Whitewall circuit will experience fewer interruptions.

"Reducing the frequency and duration of outages in heavily forested, remote areas is a challenge," said Chris Beam, Appalachian Power president and chief operating officer. "Deploying technology is one way to improve reliability, while also meeting our goals under the Virginia Clean Economy Act to add a mix of renewables and battery storage to our energy portfolio." The VCEA requires Appalachian Power provide 100 percent carbon-free energy in its Virginia service territory by 2050.

Proposals must be submitted by October 1. Any proposals selected by Appalachian Power through the RFP process are conditional upon and subject to approval by the required regulatory authorities.

Businesses seeking to submit a proposal can access criteria, required forms, and other specifics online at www.appalachianpower.com/go/rfp.

Appalachian Power has 1 million customers in Virginia, West Virginia and Tennessee (as AEP Appalachian Power). It is part of American Electric Power, which is focused on building a smarter energy infrastructure and delivering new technologies and custom energy solutions. AEP's approximately 16,700 employees operate and maintain the nation's largest electricity transmission system and more than 224,000 miles of distribution lines to efficiently deliver safe, reliable power to nearly 5.5 million customers in 11 states. AEP is also one of the nation's largest electricity producers with approximately 31,000 megawatts of diverse generating capacity, including 7,100 megawatts of renewable energy.



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National Night Out

from page 1

committed and what crimes are being committed. The two combined are incorporated into efforts to further prevent crime.

Officers also want to be a resource and help residents in other matters, particularly what he referred to as "quality of life issues," such as improper yard maintenance, which could include issues like grass that needs to be mowed.

A booth at the event featured free booklets offering tips on how citizens can prevent crime, including activities books and engaging reading material for children that demonstrates how they also can help reduce crime.

Martinsville Police Officer Coretha Gravely, who has long aided the department in its community policing efforts, said she enjoys helping youngsters and seniors in the community. Gravely was among many officers attending the event.



Martinsville Police Officer Coretha Gravely manned a booth during the city's National Night Out event, greeting residents and distributing information about crime prevention.

McGruff the Crime Dog made an 'appearance' of sorts Tuesday in Martinsville. McGruff is a mascot for the National Crime Prevention Council and has been helping youngsters stay safe for nearly 30 years.



Residents and law enforcement officers talked throughout the evening.



THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING OUR COMMUNITY MEETING!

Our team is excited to be a good neighbor in Pittsylvania & Henry County.



If you have any additional questions about the project, please go to our website and Facebook page to learn more!

Learn More at www.axtonsolarva.com | Follow us on Facebook @AxtonSolarVa