

# HENRY COUNTY ENTERPRISE

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## Harvest Foundation celebrates milestone with new community-based committee

**Maddy Oliver**  
Contributing writer

At the celebration of its 20th anniversary, the Harvest Foundation announced its new Project Hope, a new project that will bridge the gap that was created by a lack of opportunity for community involvement.

The project includes a committee of community members who vote on grant proposals submitted by local residents. This committee differs from the foundation's usual grant process in that community members

submit the grant proposals and the committee members decide which proposals receive funding.

Foundation president Kate Keller said the project was established as part of a "new strategic plan" centered around "working to create opportunities to engage relationships."

Books and Crannies owner DeShanta Hairston is one of the members of this new board. She joined the board with the belief that "our community could use a spark of hope." Hairston said that the members of this new committee are united by a com-

mon desire to better their community.

"We all have this collective idea that we want better," Hairston said.

Proposals may be submitted by local 501(c)3 non-profit organizations or by community groups who are not non-profits but have a fiscal sponsor. This committee began out of the foundation's desire to ensure that everyone in the community is equally represented and able to experience the positive effects

See **Committee**, page 8



Harvest Foundation president Kate Keller announced the new Project Hope at the celebration of the Harvest Foundation's 20th anniversary celebration.



Virginia Attorney General Jason Miyares spoke at the Southern Area Agency on Aging and Henry County/Martinsville TRIAD S.A.L.T. meeting on Friday, Aug. 12.

## Miyares among guest speakers at Martinsville event

**Taylor Boyd**  
Staff writer

Virginia Attorney General Jason Miyares was the guest speaker at the Southern Area Agency on Aging's Henry County/Martinsville TRIAD S.A.L.T. (Seniors and Law Enforcement Together) meeting on Aug. 12.

Miyares, who was among several other speakers, said he believes that 90 percent of life's problems can be traced to either poor or missed communication, especially for seniors.

"One of the ways to solve that problem is to

have those lines of communication. So, bringing people and bringing groups together to talk about what we're seeing to protect our seniors" is important, he said.

It is especially important now because more and more activities are being done online.

"It's a blessing, but it also means increasingly we're more vulnerable," he said.

He said seniors also are feeling the effects of a uniquely Western phenomenon where they feel they are not valued in society.

"In almost every culture

See **Miyares**, page 2

## DRBA hosts annual Smith River Cleanup

**Maddy Oliver**  
Contributing writer

More than 50 volunteers came out to lend a hand at the 13th annual Smith River Cleanup hosted by the Dan River Basin Association (DRBA) on August 13. Volunteers, old and young, collectively removed 1,000 pounds of litter from the river during the three-hour cleanup.

Team members were from North Carolina and Virginia, including employees from Boxley and Purina, the City of Martinsville Sheriff's Inmate Workforce, and concerned community members. Some volunteers paddled in water craft, making their way down the river in canoes, kayaks, and Jon

See **DRBA**, page 2



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Local community members from North Carolina and Virginia, Boxley and Purina employees, and the Martinsville City Sheriff's Inmate Workforce manned the cleaning crews.

## Community supported 20th annual Short Family ride

**Maddy Oliver**  
Contributing writer

The 20th annual Jennifer Short Memorial Scholarship Bike/Car Ride on Aug. 13 raised nearly \$3,000 to benefit Bassett High School students.

Sixty-six participants registered for the event that is held annually to honor the Short family - Mike, Mary, and their 9-year old daughter Jennifer, who were killed in 2002. The case is still unsolved.

In addition to registration fees, raffle tick-

ets, T-shirt sales and a generous donation of \$500 from the Fraternal Order of the Eagles, pushed the total raised to \$2,768, according to Ray Reynolds, organizer.

The money will be placed into the fund for the Jennifer Short Memorial Scholarship, a scholarship that offers financial assistance to Bassett High School students in Jennifer's honor. The ride has raised more than \$40,000 in scholarship money since it began 20 years ago.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Riders began at CrossPoint Church in Ridgeway and ended at the Jennifer Renee Short Memorial Bridge in Rockingham County, N.C.

## Childhood dreams come true for new salon owner



Britney Bowman, owner of New You Hair Studio in Collinsville.

**Maddy Oliver**  
Contributing writer

Since she was a young girl, Britney Bowman dreamed of being a hair stylist. Whenever she saw people, she thought about how she could make them look and feel like their best selves.

She followed this passion through high school and her young adult life, renting booths to do hair. At each salon she visited, there seemed to be something missing, so Bowman took matters into her own hands and took the next step.

After 13 years as a stylist, Bowman opened up her own salon, New You Hair Studio, in Collinsville.

"I loaded my son up

one day and said, 'We're not coming home until I find a building to open my salon,' and it just unfolded that day," she said.

She said her motto is "Don't be afraid to transform."

Her hope is that the salon will be a place for her clientele to be unafraid, embrace their styles and transform into who they want to be, Bowman said, adding that she wants to create a place that is more than just a salon.

She envisions it serving as a retreat for her clients, and the freedom of opening her own salon allowed her the ability to cultivate the environment to match the vision.

"I wanted a place that's

more than just you coming to get your hair done. I love having a personal relationship with my clients and servicing the whole family," she said.

See **Dream Salon**, page 2

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 FOR MORE UPDATES



# 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](mailto:newsreporter@theenterprise.net))

## 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.

## Saturday, August 20

The Smith River Fest will be held at the Smith River Sports Complex from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., presented by SOVAH Health – Martinsville. Vendors and activities such as fly-fishing lessons, river tubing, live music, a kids' zone, and more. Admission and parking are free.

## 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](http://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.

# DRBA

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boats. Others walked alongside the river, picking up debris along the banks.

The cleaning effort focused on the section of the Smith River from South Martinsville to the Smith River Sports Complex, with additional sites for land-based Cleanup located at DuPont Road, Frith Road, Marrowbone Creek, Fisher Dam, and Eggleston Falls.

After the cleanup, volunteers returned to the Smith River Sports Complex for lunch and raffle prizes. The food was donated by Boxley and supplied by Hugos

Restaurant and Sports Bar. Raffle prizes were donated by the Virginia Museum of Natural History, Henry County, DRBA and individuals. The complex supplied the tables and chairs for the lunch.

DRBA has hosted the cleanup for the past 13 years with the help and partnership of local organizations and the county.

Brian Williams, program manager of DRBA, said the cleanup teams notice a little less litter in the river each year. He added that DRBA stresses the importance of the

To schedule your donation appointment, visit [redcrossblood.org](http://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.

## Tuesday, September 13

The Blue Ridge Regional Library will host Book BINGO at the Bassett Branch (3969 Fairystone Park Highway, Bassett). Light refreshments will be provided. Space is limited, so please register by call-

cleanup and that everyone in the community benefits from a cleaner river.

DRBA's mission is to protect the natural resources of the Dan River Basin. It uses a combination of education, recreation, and stewardship and works to create river accesses and trails, educate the community on how to protect our natural resources, and maintain our resources through monitoring and cleanups. In addition to Henry County, the Dan River Basin includes 16 counties in Virginia and North Carolina.

ing (276) 629-2426.

## Saturday, September 17

The Spencer-Penn Centre, 475 Spencer-Penn Road, Spencer, is hosting the MHC is for Book Lovers Book-fest, from 11 a.m. until 5 p.m. Attendees will enjoy vendors, food trucks, and meet and greets with attending authors. Admission is free.

## Saturday, September 24

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.

## Sunday, September 25

The Spencer-Penn Centre, 475 Spencer-Penn Road, Spencer, will host a Barn Quilt class from 1 p.m. until 5 p.m. Supplies are provided. Pricing is based on size: 12" by 36" exterior \$75, 24"x24" exterior \$65, 36"x36" exterior \$85. Pre-registration is required by Monday, September 16. 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](http://martinsvilleuptown.com).

The Louise R. Lester Spay/Neuter Clinic is hosting wellness clinics the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month. Clinics are by appointment only—no walk-ins will be accepted. Call (276) 638-7297 to schedule your appointment.

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

# Miyares

from page 1

on the planet whether you're in Asia, Africa, or Latin America, your seniors are revered, and they are honored, and they are respected because they have wisdom," he said.

Noting that the country has experienced much trauma in the last two years due to the pandemic, he said, "we've shut down 300 million Americans to beat the virus, but sometimes I don't know if we got our arms around the consequences of that."

Miyares noted that isolation is one of the worst things people that have depression or addiction can experience.

"We just socially isolated 300 million Americans for a year and a half, and so we're dealing now with those ramifications, and back into that is a mental health crisis unlike anything this country has ever seen," he said.

This in turn, led to an addiction crisis unlike anything the country has ever seen.

"We have lost 100,000 Americans that will no longer be at Thanksgiving dinner or birthday parties to overdoses," he said.

When he was asked to speak at the event by TRIAD personnel, Martinsville Commonwealth Attorney Andrew Hall said he was told that people wanted reassurances that they are not forgotten.

"You are not forgotten. You are not alone in this. I know these are scary times and there are folks out there that don't see us as human beings, they see us as potential targets," he said.

Hall said people can avoid making themselves potential easy targets by knowing who they're dealing with. "If someone contacts you via the internet or phone or even face-to-face and it sounds too good to be true, then it's usually because it is too good to be true," he said.

Like many people, Hall pays his bills online.

"We're going to have to use electronic stuff, but know who you're dealing with," he said, adding people should not give out their social security numbers or dates

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 [brll.lib.va.us](http://brll.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. Call (276) 647-9585.

The Blue Ridge Regional Library hosts its new book club, "Books and Brews," at Mountain Valley Brewing, 4220 Mountain Valley Road, Axton. Talk about the month's books while sipping on a good beer. The club meets the first Thursday of each month at 5 p.m. The book for September is The Good Daughter by Alexandra Burt.

of birth, especially if being pressured to do so.

Hall said the worst thing people can do is isolate. He believes people should be involved in organizations and attend functions, especially those aimed to help the elderly, and count on family and friends.

"Do not isolate because again, these folks that we're dealing with that see you as targets, they're looking for you'll be isolated. Maintain relationships and be involved," Hall said.

Del. Wren Williams, R-Stuart, said there was a lot of heartache during the COVID-19 pandemic when it came to the elderly in nursing homes and other facilities.

"I'm not completely sure where any of the authority in any of those restrictions came from, but are there any thoughts or potential things we can do to sort of never let that happen again," he asked.

Williams also spoke about the scam situations that target seniors.

"I've been able to get people away from these scams in the legal field and avoid the scams and stop the scams and sort of vet them," he said.

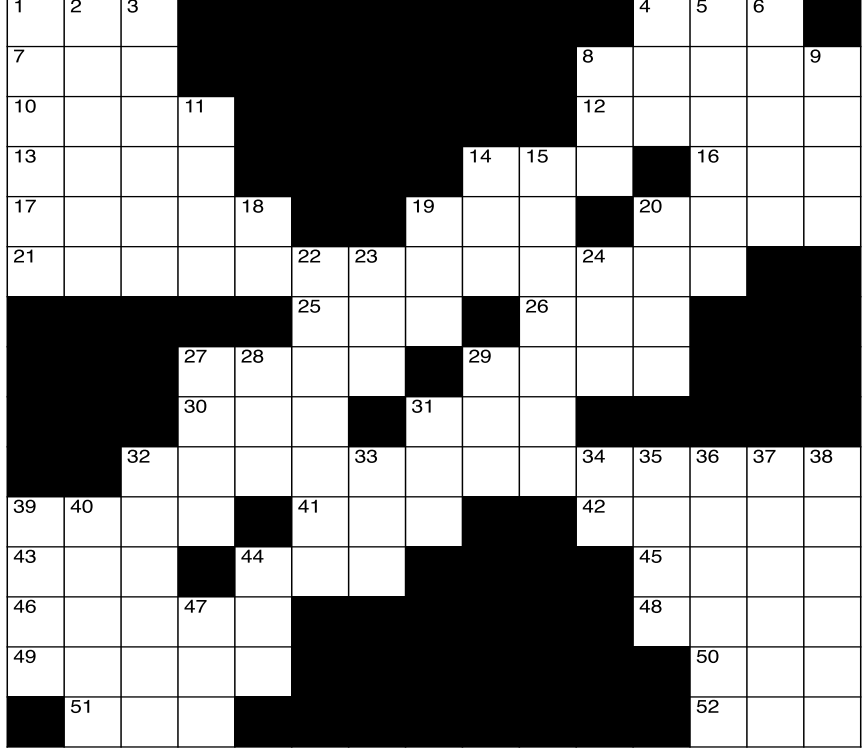
Martinsville Police Chief Eddie Cassidy said larceny is one of the current trends facing law enforcement. "It seems folks are liking to try and go through cars again in the city of Martinsville. We had 15 the other night that folks went through. So, I remind everyone please lock your doors," he said.

Cassidy also said to call the police if you felt uncomfortable in your own neighborhood.

"We would rather respond to your neighborhood and find nothing than you not call us and something happens," he said.

The Southern Area Agency on Aging works to provide services to promote the health, quality of life, and independence of seniors, those with disabilities, and their caregivers to enable people to live with dignity and choice.

## CROSSWORD PUZZLE



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|---|---|--|
| <p><b>CLUES ACROSS</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Midway between east and southeast</li> <li>4. Sun up in New York</li> <li>7. Japanese honorific</li> <li>8. Czech name for Prague</li> <li>10. Ochocinco's first name</li> <li>12. Steep cliffs (Hawaiian)</li> <li>13. Scots word for "home"</li> <li>14. Upper class young woman (abbr.)</li> <li>16. Monetary unit of Albania</li> <li>17. Raise</li> <li>19. Drain of resources</li> <li>20. Uncultured, clumsy persons</li> <li>21. Hikers use them</li> <li>25. Retrospective analysis (military)</li> <li>26. Tibetan form of chanting</li> <li>27. Influential European statesman</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>29. Soluble ribonucleic acid</li> <li>30. Monetary unit of Romania</li> <li>31. Round green vegetable</li> <li>32. Well acquainted with</li> <li>39. Ribosomal ribonucleic acid</li> <li>41. Basics</li> <li>42. "The Godfather" actress Keaton</li> <li>43. Snake-like fish</li> <li>44. Tall deciduous tree</li> <li>45. Russian river</li> <li>46. Long Balkans river</li> <li>48. Ancient Greek coin</li> <li>49. Senegal's capital</li> <li>50. Unwell</li> <li>51. Snout</li> <li>52. Low bank or reef of coral</li> </ol> | <p><b>CLUES DOWN</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Abstain from</li> <li>2. Vast desert in North Africa</li> <li>3. Cover the crown of a tooth</li> <li>4. A major division of geological time</li> <li>5. Urban center</li> <li>6. Crook</li> <li>8. Parts per billion (abbr.)</li> <li>9. Questions</li> <li>11. A pack of 52 playing cards</li> <li>14. Recording of sound</li> <li>15. Pithy saying</li> <li>18. Atomic #22</li> <li>19. Soviet Socialist Republic</li> <li>20. Plant with ridged seedpods</li> <li>22. Innate</li> <li>23. Investigative body for Congress (abbr.)</li> <li>24. Soda receptacle</li> <li>27. Spanish stew: __ podrida</li> <li>28. Viet Cong offensive</li> <li>29. Large body of water</li> <li>31. Beginning military rank</li> <li>32. Dissimilar</li> <li>33. Counteroffensive system (abbr.)</li> <li>34. Shows who you are</li> <li>35. Chinese dynasty</li> <li>36. Type of verse</li> <li>37. African nation</li> <li>38. Quite</li> <li>39. Former Bucks star Michael</li> <li>40. Showed again</li> <li>44. Body part</li> <li>47. Steal</li> </ol> |
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# Juvenile being held after a firearm was found on school property

A Bassett High School student was arrested after a firearm was found on school grounds, according to a release from the Henry County Sheriff's Office.

The incident began to unfold on August 16 around 11:30 a.m., when the staff at Bassett High School learned about the weapon and informed the School Resource Officer (SRO).

The SRO immediately located and detained the student in question.

The weapon was reported by another student, who was shown the gun and told an adult. A search of the juvenile's backpack yielded a loaded 9mm pistol.

A 16-year-old male from Collinsville was charged with possession of a firearm on school property - a felony, possession of a concealed weapon and possession of a firearm under the age of 18.

The boy is being held in the W.W. Moore Juvenile Detention Facility in Danville.

Authorities praise the student who reported the firearm to school faculty.

"The actions of the student who reported this are commendable and allowed Henry County Sheriff's Office School Resources Officers and BHS staff to act quickly and ensure the school campus remained safe," the release stated.

The Sheriff's Office urges parents to speak to their children about the importance of reporting any safety concerns to school staff, a School Resource Officer, or 911.

"If you see something, say something," authorities said in the release.

Anyone with information about the incident is asked to call the Henry County Sheriff's Office at (276) 638-8751 or Crimestoppers at 63-CRIME (632-7463). The Crimestoppers Program offers rewards up to \$2,500 for information related to crime. The nature of the crime and the substance of the information provided determine the amount of any reward.

# New College Institute declares intention to open Lab School

The New College Institute (NCI) has submitted an Intent-to-Apply Letter to the office of the Secretary of Education, to establish an innovative Lab School to benefit the region's students.

NCI, already a local leader in experiential learning programs, intends to partner with the regional K-12 school systems, its existing Virginia college and university partners, and regional businesses to ensure the success of the innovative Lab School in Southside.

Virginia's new Lab School initiative, "the College Partnership Laboratory School Fund" is a part of Gov. Glenn Youngkin's higher education agenda that creates partnerships between public and private universities and colleges, as well as private companies and local K-12 schools. The lab schools which have a specific focus, such as the STEM fields or a particular skill or industry — will create learning environments that engage students in "hands-on" learning and will provide them with the skills needed to be successful in the 21st century workforce.



The Lab Schools initiative is considered to be an alternative form of public education that engage diverse approaches to learning that will produce immediate results for its students.

Since its inception, NCI has continued to provide an innovative platform to educate students in a modern and industry-oriented learning environment. That is why New College believes that it is perfectly positioned to provide students in the Lab School programs with the knowledge, skills and talents required in not only in the industry fields that it currently engages in (Information, Healthcare, and Manufacturing M a i n t e n a n c e Technologies), but also in other emerging high paying career fields.

The NCI Lab School plan will center around expanding its successful program of combining long-term industry partnerships and experiential learning/mentorship experiences with regional businesses to produce education pathways that will result rewarding and high paying careers for its students.

NCI Board Chairman State Sen. William M. Stanley, Jr. wholeheartedly supports the NCI's Lab School Initiative.

"New College Institute continues to cultivate partnerships with our K-12, higher education, and industry leaders to create new educational opportunities that will not only create a ready workforce pipeline for the economic revitalization of our region but will also provide real financial opportunities that will help to greatly improve

the lives of our students," he said. "NCI's mission and structure are perfect for Governor Youngkin's Lab School initiative, and we stand ready to make

Lab Schools a successful educational opportunity for the students in our area."

For questions or to learn more, please contact

Dr. Susheela Shanta, NCI Coordinator of K-12 Programs & Institutional Data, at 276-403-5623 or email [sshanta@newcollegeinstitute.org](mailto:sshanta@newcollegeinstitute.org).

# Four candidates express interest for interim school board position

**Maddy Oliver**  
Contributing writer

Four Ridgeway residents announced their intention to seek the interim Ridgeway district school board seat left vacant by the passing of Francis Zehr.

The four are Champ Hardie, Japhet LeGrant, Sidney McClure, and Morris Tinch.

The selected interim member will serve on the school board from September 1 to November 30, until an elected member is chosen by the community in the November 8 election.

The candidates will have their voter status verified by the Henry County Registrar, as all candidates must be registered

voters in the Ridgeway District. Interim candidates will be interviewed by the school board at 5 p.m. on Monday, August 22 in the School Board meeting room on the 3rd floor of the Henry County Administration Building. The candidate selected to fill the position will be announced later in the week.

Ridgeway voters who are interested in having their name on the Nov. 8 ballot must receive the required number of support signatures to be considered. For additional questions, call Henry County Registrar Dawn Stultz-Vaughn at (276) 634-4698 or visit the Registrar's Office, located at 3300 Kings Mountain Road, Collinsville.



Japhet LeGrant



Sidney McClure

# A salon takes root in Collinsville

Beauty is alive and well in Collinsville, and a new salon, the True Roots Beauty Bar, seeks to offer the community another place to get dolled up.

Located at 4743 Kings Mountain Road, True Roots Beauty Bar offers a range of salon services including hairstyling and coloring, manicure and

spa treatments, and haircuts for men, women, and children.

The beauty bar opened its door in a grand opening on July 25 and celebrated with a ribbon cutting on August 3.

Owner Cindy Boyd opened the salon on a leap of faith. She wanted to step out and do her own thing and take a path that allowed her to spend more time with her grandchildren. She also wanted to create a welcoming and safe environment for her patrons.

ing, and it makes everyone excited to come into work!" Burch said. "Our clients also love the calm and inviting atmosphere."

Boyd hopes that in the long term, the business will be prosperous, and hopes to one day expand the salon.

"This has just been a dream for myself and

everyone with me. And it makes me feel good knowing I can help their dream as well as mine," she said.

True Roots Beauty Bar is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. and Saturdays from 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. Walk ins and appointments are accepted. Call at (276) 622-2944.



For many people, their hair and appearance are special to them, and they don't trust just anyone to do it. Boyd understands this, and she wanted to create a place where they trusted they would get a job well done. "[I wanted] people to have somewhere to come where they felt comfortable getting their hair done," Boyd said. In return, the community has opened up its arms to create a welcoming environment for the new blossoming business as well. Boyd said the most surprising part of opening the salon so far has been, "The support of the community, following us on our journey."

Alyson Burch is a stylist at True Roots, and she can already feel the comforting environment that Boyd set out to create. Stylists and clients alike feel welcome in the space.

"It's peaceful, relax-

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# OPINION

## Pronouns: The Devil's part of speech

Many people today are upset about the use of pronouns. As a brief refresher if the reader of this column doesn't remember the reader's experience in grade school, pronouns are one of the main parts of speech. Pronouns are used instead of repeating a name in multiple sentences that are in close proximity. Pronouns include I, he, him, her, it, me, she, them, they, us, we, and you, and there are also possessive pronouns, such as their, my, his, her, our, your, and so forth.

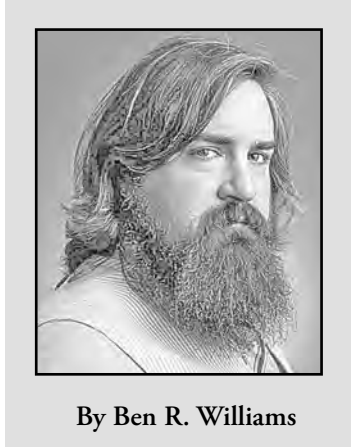
But don't look for those words in this column. The writer of this column, Ben Williams, will not be using a single pronoun in the entirety of this column. And Ben Williams hopes that other people follow suit because pronouns are the devil's playground.

Many people agree with this assessment. Take Wisconsin's Kettle Moraine School District, which recently decided to ban pride flags and the use of pronouns in e-mails.

Kettle Superintendent Stephen Plum said, "the expectation is that teachers and administration will not have political flags or religious messaging in their [sic] classroom or on their [sic] person. This expectation includes Pride flags."

Parents within the school district agreed with Plum's approach. Parent Renee Brinkman said, "I'd like them [sic] to stay in the academic portion of it [sic] and any political views should stay at home at the dinner table."

Already, the reader of this piece can see the imprecision in Renee Brinkman's use of pronouns. Who is this mysterious "them" Renee Brinkman is referring to? Presumably, "them" refers to the teachers. Renee Brinkman should have just said teachers because by using pronouns, Renee Brinkman has made this reader think that Renee Brinkman may have accidentally been respecting the



By Ben R. Williams

wishes of a non-binary person, thereby violating the policies of the Kettle Moraine School District.

Another parent, Christi Sturrock, said that "they're [sic] going to be exposed to all sorts of aspects of the world, but I [sic] do think at especially elementary school age we [sic] should be protecting our [sic] children a little bit so that parents can take the lead on educating politically for their [sic] own

children."

With all due respect to Christi Sturrock, five pronouns is far too many to include in a single rambling sentence, and this author would expect better from Christi Sturrock given Christi Sturrock's opposition to pronouns. Bear in mind, the Kettle Moraine School District policy states in black and white that "this expectation prohibits pronouns, political language, religious views, etcetera," from e-mails sent by district educators. If the school district simply wanted to ban employees from including the employees' preferred pronouns in the employees' e-mail signatures, the school district could have easily said so. However, the school district has stated that pronouns are banned entirely, and the writer of this column applauds the school district's position.

Precision is important, after all. Pronouns muddy the waters and make sentences confusing. For example, in President John F. Kennedy's 1961 inauguration speech, President John F. Kennedy famously said, "Ask not what your country can do

for you — ask what you can do for your country."

This author gives President John F. Kennedy's speech a C-. This author can barely understand what the sentence means. Wouldn't the speech have sounded so much better if President John F. Kennedy had said, "Ask not what this country, the United States of America, can do for the person listening to President John F. Kennedy deliver this speech, ask what the person listening to President John F. Kennedy deliver this speech can do for the United States of America."

The sentence is clear, the sentence is precise, and most importantly, the sentence flows beautifully, if you ask the author of this column.

Some people are going to have a difficult time adjusting to a new, pronoun-free world. Some people may even write this author angry e-mails, insisting that this author is incorrect and pronouns are useful.

However, as the saying goes, "let the male individual who is without sin cast the first stone."

## NCI Board presents funds to NSBE Chapter

New College Institute Board Chairman, State Sen. William Stanley, Jr., presented a \$25,000 check to the Martinsville Henry County Junior Chapter of the National Society of Black Engineers (MHC NSBE Jr) toward the creation and development of a Robotics Program.

"Robotics is such an important part of educating our young men and women for the 21st century workforce, and I am honored on behalf of the members of the NCI Board of Directors to award this check to the Martinsville Henry County Junior Chapter of the National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE). These funds will greatly impact the lives of these young students and will help them compete in Robotics competitions on both the state and national levels," said Stanley, R-Moneta. "Ultimately, these competitions will

have a profound effect on the NSBE Robotics team members' future lives, and will give them the skills that they can carry with them into their future careers. I would like to thank my colleagues at NCI for bringing this opportunity to fruition, and we all look forward to being a partner with the NSBE robotics team and cheering them on in their future competitions."

Helen Howell, Adviser for the MHC NSBE Jr. Chapter, was on hand to accept the check on behalf of NSBE. She expressed her excitement about the prospect of allowing more students to engage and participate in Robotics-related field trips and activities, where they had previously been incapable of accommodating every interested student due to limited funds.

"We're so very happy to be able to receive this check today. This

check is going to open up more doors for our students and give more students an opportunity to be involved in the robotics program, which we haven't been able to do in the past," Howell shared.

Howell has been a fervent supporter of NSBE and has successfully pursued and obtained numerous opportunities for the chapter's students to help them gain leadership experience and to provide more exposure to STEM careers.

The Martinsville/Henry County National Society of Black Engineers Chapter was chartered in 1999 and was the first NSBE Jr. chapter to be established and chartered in Virginia. The chapter has a 100 percent graduation rate from high school, and every student member has either enrolled in college or enlisted in the military.

The organization has become an integral part of local academic programming. Additionally, the Martinsville/Henry County NSBE Jr. organization has inspired many parents to return

to school and pursue or complete academic degrees.

The National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE) is one of the largest student-governed organizations based

in the United States. NSBE, founded in 1975, supports and promotes the aspirations of collegiate and pre-collegiate students and technical professionals in engineering and technology.



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### Give us your view:

The Henry County Enterprise encourages letters from our readers on topics of general interest to the community and responses to our articles and columns. Letters must be signed and have a telephone number where you can be reached to be considered for publication. All letters will be verified before publication. The Henry County Enterprise reserves the right to deny publication of any letter and edit letters for length, content and style.

If you have news about or an upcoming event for your organization, company or church, email dhall@theenterprise.net and/or call (276) 694-3101

## Meadows of Dan man held on multiple charges in connection with Wednesday incident

A Meadows of Dan Man was arrested following an alleged domestic dispute on Wednesday, according to Patrick County Sheriff Dan Smith.

Throughout Wednesday morning, a man allegedly sent multiple detailed and violent electronic messages to his wife and another person, stating his intent to go to her workplace and shoot her and others, Smith said.

The man's wife is employed by Capewell Aerial Systems in Meadows of Dan, and managers there immediately notified the Patrick County Sheriff's Office about the threats, Smith said.

Patrick County Sheriff's Lt. Steve Austin and Deputy C.L. Elgin responded to the scene, where they were talking to the management

team when the man allegedly drove into the company's parking lot.

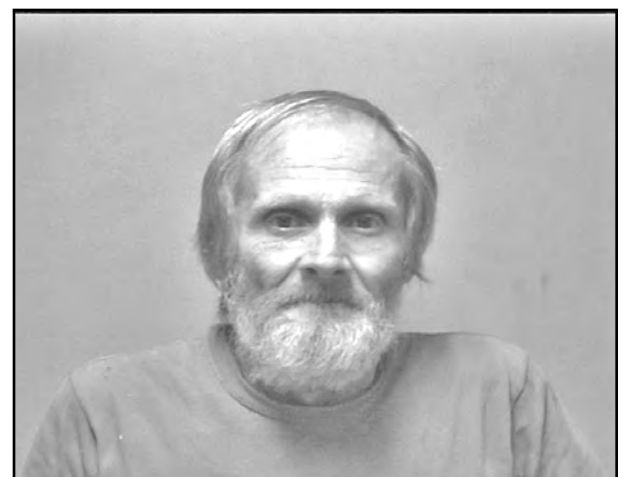
Elgin and Austin approached the man, they allegedly saw a rifle in the vehicle beside him, Smith said. The man was taken into custody at the scene. "The suspect arrived at his wife's workplace within minutes of his last threat to her, armed with a loaded high-powered rifle and extra ammunition," Smith said. "Our deputies arriving before most likely averted a tragedy," he added in the Thursday news release.

Keith Edward Hughes, 56, of 1153 Willis Road, was taken into custody on August 10 at approximately 10 a.m. In addition to attempted murder, he also was charged with stalk-

ing, communicating threats in writing, and domestic assault, Smith said.

Hughes is being held without bond in the Patrick County Jail.

The case remains under investigation. Anyone with information is urged to contact Investigator Tennille Jessup at (276) 692-5885, or Austin at (276) 692-5950.



Keith Edward Hughes, of Meadows of Dan, is being held without bond in connection with an alleged domestic dispute.

## Griffith's staff to hold office locally

Ninth District U.S. Rep. Morgan Griffith's staff will be available locally on August 24.

Staff will be in Martinsville from 10 – 11:30 a.m. in the City of

Martinsville Municipal Building, City Manager's Conference Room, 55 W. Church Street, Martinsville.

Staff are scheduled to be in

Patrick County from 12:30 – 2 p.m. in the Patrick County Administration Building, Conference Room, 106 Rucker Street, Stuart.

See more at [www.henrycountyenterprise.com](http://www.henrycountyenterprise.com)

# Evictions on the rise in Virginia after rent relief ends

**Edwin J. Viera**  
*Virginia News Connection*

With Virginia's Rent Relief Program ending, a flood of eviction cases has emerged. Established during the pandemic, the program was designed to help tenants who were having trouble paying their rent, but it stopped accepting applications in mid-May. Prior to the closure, landlords could have informed tenants who were behind on their rent about the program, and

could even apply for it on their behalf. Christie Marra, director of housing advocacy for the Virginia Poverty Law Center, said when she spoke with tenants, she found something entirely different. "They have filed all their paperwork to get the emergency rental assistance," Marra observed. "And when they call to check on the status of their application because they have an eviction hearing coming up, the people who run the

program tell them that they haven't received the necessary paperwork from the landlord." The Rent Relief Program has also seen delays in processing applications. Marra feels some problems could be prevented if landlords continued to give tenants a 14-day grace period. The grace period put in place by the legislature ended June 30. Marra cited the growing number of eviction cases as a good reason for an ongoing rental assistance program in the state.

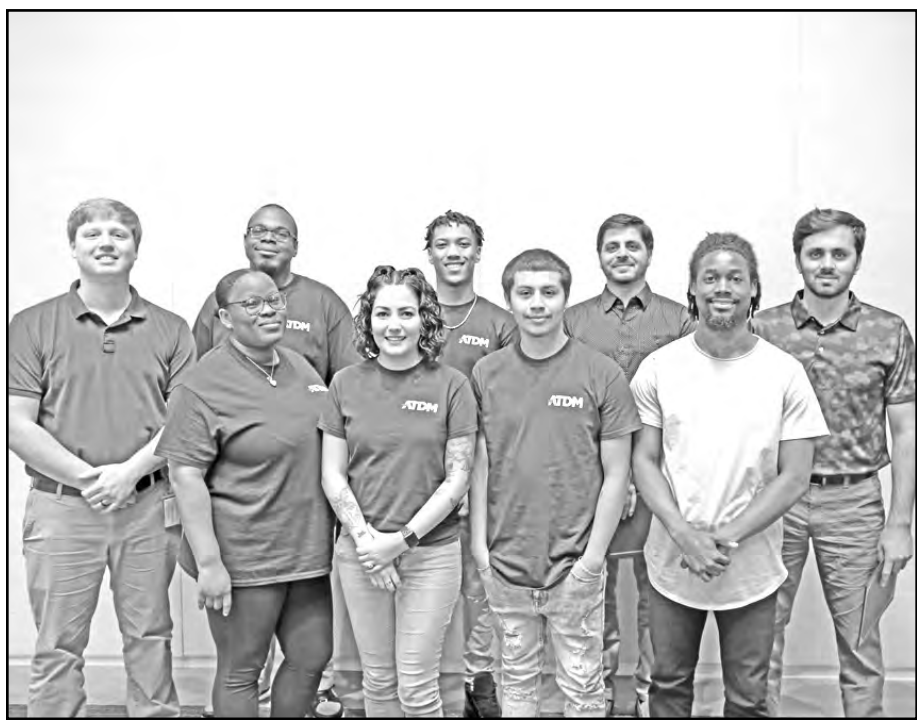
Another factor in the eviction spike is a lack of affordable housing for Virginia renters. According to the National Low-Income Housing Coalition, a person working at the state minimum wage of \$9.50 an hour would have to work 88 hours a week to afford a one-bedroom apartment at the average market rate of just over \$1,000 a month. Marra believes the height of the pandemic was a better time for tenant law. "I think we have a system

that I think everybody now knows is not tenant-friendly," Marra asserted. "It became more tenant-friendly during the pandemic. But unfortunately, most of the improvements that were made to the landlord-tenant law in Virginia during the pandemic were time-limited, and they expired." She added Virginia renters would also benefit from a state-funded housing voucher program, and more funding allocated for the federal Housing Choice voucher program.

## Third cohort graduates from Accelerated Training in Defense Manufacturing



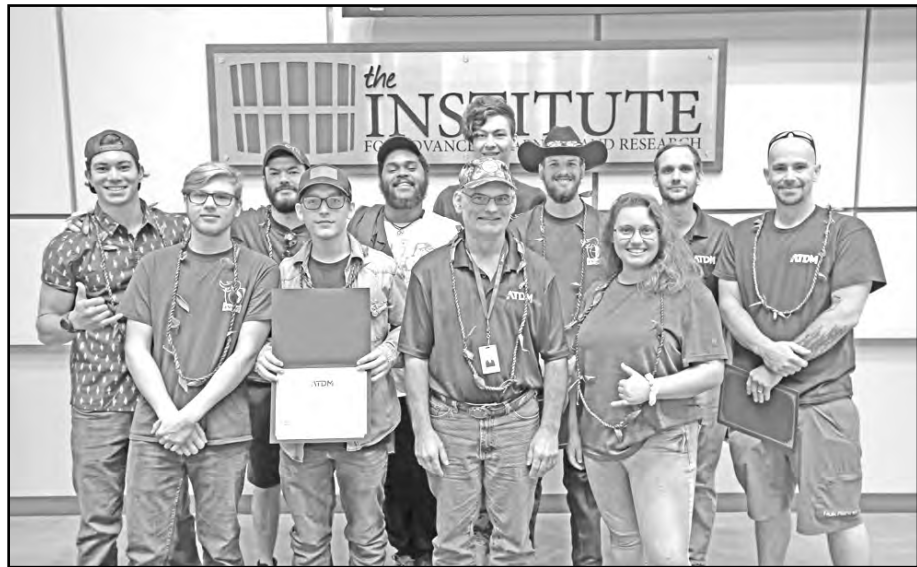
**Dr. Debra Holley, ATDM Director at IALR, and Dr. Jerry Wallace, Danville Community College President, award certificates to completers of the third cohort of the DoD initiative to prepare workers for skilled trades positions in the defense industry – the Accelerated Training in Defense Manufacturing Program. Thirty-five individuals from 14 states finished the 16-week program on Aug. 5 and have already received job offers from Newport News Shipbuilding, Electric Boat and BWX Technologies.**



**Completers of the Accelerated Training in Defense Manufacturing (ATDM) Additive Manufacturing program receive their completion certificates and are accompanied by DCC additive manufacturing instructor Eric Collier (left).**



**ATDM CNC Machining participants pose with their certificates of completion, along with DCC precision machining instructor Justin Owen (left) and DCC machining technician Wesley Cifers (right).**



**DCC welding instructor Brian Penny (front, center) celebrates with completers of the ATDM Welding cohort as well as DCC welding technician Darrell Buchanan (second from right).**

As a high-performance manufacturing hub, Danville offers an innovative training model that more recently includes a federal pilot project attracting participants on a national scale to defense industrial base trades. The third cohort of students, including 35 adult learners from 14 states, graduated from the Accelerated Training in Defense Manufacturing (ATDM) program on Aug. 5. This 16-week, hands-on curriculum rapidly develops skilled workers with industry recognized credentials for employment in the defense industry. ATDM trains workers in key trades to fill skill gaps in welding, CNC machining, quality control inspection and additive manufacturing. The program was developed as a public-private consortium between the U.S. Department of Defense, Institute for Advanced Learning and Research (IALR), Danville Community College (DCC), Phillips Corporation and The Spectrum Group, in coordination with maritime defense industry partners and Navy stakeholders. Scaling the ATDM program is a priority effort planned in the Submarine Industrial Base budget, and a key enabler in the Navy's ability to reach and sustain the required submarine production cadence, deliver on the construction of the Navy's number-one priority Columbia Class submarine, and ensure sustainment of existing platforms. This program is also positioned to have a significant impact across

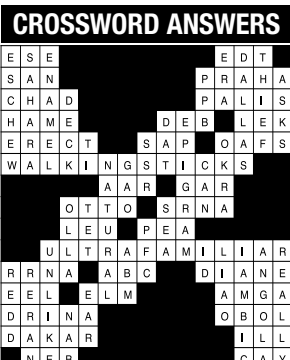
all maritime programs and platforms, and includes addressing workforce constraints at shipbuilders, shipyards and the sub-tier supply chain. "At every level in our industrial base, manpower readiness is not a choice, it is an absolute requirement for success. The people graduating from the ATDM program are how I know our Navy and Nation will continue leading in the maritime domain," said Admiral Scott Pappano, Program Executive Officer, Strategic Submarines. "There is nothing more important than ensuring we have the workforce to lead, innovate, and execute our Navy's programs and platforms, and this pipeline provides these men and women with an incredible opportunity to join our mission in family-sustaining careers that are in critical demand." IALR is leading the multi-year pilot project to test and evaluate ATDM as a training platform for regional training centers supporting the defense industrial base. The pilot project is funded through the National Imperative for Industrial Skills initiative which was launched in 2020 by the Industrial Base Analysis and Sustainment Program Office (IBAS) in the office of the Undersecretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment. "IALR continues to serve as a leading model of intentional, effective workforce development initiatives to generate a sustainable pipeline of work-ready talent for high-performance manu-

facturers and other target sectors," said Telly Tucker, president of IALR. "We thank our ATDM partners and congratulate these students on their accomplishments; knowing that we played a role in securing a high-quality job for these men and women while also helping our nation's defense manufacturers is extremely fulfilling." The ATDM curriculum is customized to the skills and training needs of the naval shipbuilding and sustainment sector of the defense industrial base. Training takes place in Danville on the campuses of IALR and DCC, and DCC serves as the curriculum provider. "We're incredibly proud of the DCC Knights who have completed the ATDM training," said Dr. Jerry Wallace, president of Danville Community College. "Thanks to our strong partnership with the Institute for Advanced Learning and Research, access to this unique, specialized training is available right here in Danville. These students have mastered skills over the last four months that will propel them forward into high-paying careers, impacting the defense manufacturing industry for years to come. We can-

not wait to see where their hard work and dedication leads them." Phillips Corporation serves as the technology provider for the ATDM training program, and provides the latest equipment for high-quality, industry-focused training. "Phillips Corporation is very pleased to continue our training and advanced manufacturing roles with IALR's ATDM program," said Rick Morgan, Director, Phillips Corporation. "A terrific example of success related to the mission of this program is that Phillips has hired a recent ATDM graduate of one of the four training programs, in this case a member of the additive manufacturing training cohort. Our new employee, a Marine Corps veteran, will be living and working in Danville for Phillips Corporation on additive and other advanced manufacturing projects as part of Phillips' continuing commitment and dedication to 'Team Danville' programs." IALR hosted an ATDM

completion ceremony on Aug. 5. Dr. Debra Holley, ATDM Director, and Dr. Jerry Wallace, DCC President, awarded completion certificates. Commissioner Daniel Gade with the Virginia Department of Veterans Services served as keynote speaker. Students hailed from Hawaii, California, Texas, Florida, Oklahoma, North Carolina, Virginia, West Virginia, Indiana, Maryland, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York and Massachusetts. Of the 35 graduates, two are Navy veterans, two are active Navy personnel, and three are Afghan allies. Fourteen of the students were incumbent workers, sponsored by their employers to advance and expand their skills; sponsoring industry partners included Norfolk Naval Shipyard, Curtiss-Wright (New York), Bearon Manufacturing (Pennsylvania), and others. The remaining graduates are working with ATDM placement staff to gain employment; to date, students have received offers from Newport

News Shipbuilding, Electric Boat and BWX Technologies. The Institute for Advanced Learning and Research serves Virginia as a regional catalyst for economic transformation with applied research, advanced learning, economic development, manufacturing advancement and conference services. IALR's major footprint focuses within Southern Virginia, including the counties of Patrick, Henry, Franklin, Pittsylvania, Halifax and Mecklenburg along with the cities of Martinsville and Danville. For more information, visit [www.ialr.org](http://www.ialr.org). Danville Community College is a two-year institution of higher education under the state-wide Virginia Community College System. DCC's service area includes the City of Danville, Pittsylvania County, and Halifax County. For more information about the college's more than 100 programs of study, visit [www.danville.edu](http://www.danville.edu).



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# OBITUARIES

## Elizabeth “Betty” Sell Hendricks

Elizabeth “Betty” Sell Hendricks, 97, resident of King’s Grant Retirement Community in Martinsville, Va. passed away on Thursday, August 11, 2022. She was born in Chicago, Illinois on October 18, 1924 to Fred H. Sell and Mildred Winget Sell Porter.



ber and former deacon at First Presbyterian Church of Martinsville. Betty loved her family dearly and especially all of her grandchildren and great grandchildren. She loved living at King’s Grant where she especially enjoyed walking and spending time with her many friends.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Francis Patrick Hendricks; brother, William Sell and daughter-in-law, Kathleen “Kit” Hendricks.

The family extends their sincere appreciation for everything King’s Grant provided that made King’s Grant a place Betty called home.

She is survived by her sons, Richard P. Hendricks and Steven W. Hendricks (Cindy); grandchildren, Richard Hendricks, Jr. (Christina), Elizabeth “Beth” Larsen (Matthew), Heather Stein (Jesse), Patrick Hendricks (fiancé Nikki Kureczka); great grandchildren, Carter and Charlotte Larsen, Camden and Oliver Stein.

A memorial service was held on Saturday, August 13, 2022 at Victory Chapel at King’s Grant, officiated by Reverend Mark Hinchcliff. Interment will take place at Estates of Serenity in Marion, Indiana at a later date.

Betty was a former resident of Danville, Va. and a graduate of Averett College. She was a librarian at Sacred Heart School in Danville, Va. and later served as the librarian at King’s Grant. She was a mem-

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the King’s Grant Fellowship Fund, 350 Kings Way Road, Martinsville, VA 24112.

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

To express condolences online, please visit [www.collinsmckee.stonemartinsville.com](http://www.collinsmckee.stonemartinsville.com).

## Anne E. Mayo

Anne E. Mayo, 95, of Galax, VA passed away on Saturday, August 13, 2022, at Waddell Nursing Home. She was born on August 15, 1926, in Leesville, VA to the late Leo Douglas English and Charlotte Carter English. In addition to her parents, she is preceded in death by her husband, William Bryon Mayo; sisters, Doris English Hurd and Abbie English Mitchell; brothers, Aubrey Bruce English, Leo Douglas English, Jr., Carlton Carter English and Clyde Carter English.



She is survived by her daughters, Deborah Overfelt (Lloyd) of Galax, VA and Cheryl Fick (Mac) of Fredericksburg, VA; grandchildren, M.J. Fick, Jr., Jeremy Overfelt, Eric Fick, and Carlie McLeod; great-grandchildren, Mason Fick, Lilith Fick, Mackenzie Fick, Cora McLeod, Kaden Overfelt, and Calla McLeod.

Mrs. Mayo was a member of First Baptist Church of Collinsville where she was a member of Iva Turner Women’s Missionary Union Circle and homemakers Sunday School Class. She was past president of the Lady Lioness Club.

The funeral was held on Thursday, August 18, 2022, at Norris Funeral Services with Rev. Larry Cheek officiating. Entombment was at Roselawn Abbey.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to a charity of your choice.

Norris Funeral Services, Martinsville, VA is serving the Mayo family. Online condolences may be made at [norrisfuneral.com](http://norrisfuneral.com).

## Jane Ann Gaines

Jane Ann Gaines, 75, of Martinsville, Virginia passed away Sunday, August 14, 2022, at Carilion Roanoke Memorial Hospital. She was born October 28, 1946, in Camden, New Jersey to the late Brutt Watkins and Cleopatra Gaines Collins. She enjoyed cooking and helping people and was a member of New Beginnings Church.

children Malik Price and Raven Price-Hairston; great-grandchildren, Ky’lan Price and Jalil Hairston and a host of nieces and nephews.

She is survived by her son, Theodore Green (Helen); brothers, Charles Gaines (Sharon) and Billy Watkins; grand-

The funeral was held on Friday, August 19, 2022, at Wright Funeral Service Chapel with Pastor Alfred Echols officiating.

Wright Funeral Service & Crematory is serving the family. Online condolences may be made at [www.wrightfuneralservices.net](http://www.wrightfuneralservices.net).

## Roger B. Riggs

Roger B. Riggs, 81, of Ridgeway, VA passed away on Friday, August 12, 2022, at Kindred Hospital Greensboro. He was born on August 22, 1940, in Montcalm, WV to the late Ivory Floretta Riggs and Hobert Mason Riggs. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his wife, Lavada Riggs.

Richard Riggs, and Christopher Riggs; and four great-grandchildren.

He is survived by his sons, Ronald Lee Riggs, and Rodney Lee Riggs; grandchildren, Hannah Shay Riggs, Loren Holley Jackson, Kaylee Madison Horne,

Visitation was held on Wednesday, August 17, 2022, at Norris Funeral Services. Funeral service was held on Thursday, August 18, 2022, at Norris Funeral Services. Burial followed at Roselawn Burial Park.

Norris Funeral Services, Martinsville, VA is serving the Riggs family. Online condolences may be made at [norrisfuneral.com](http://norrisfuneral.com).

## Helen Jo DeShazo

Helen Jo DeShazo, 55, of Spencer, Va. passed away at her home with a smile on her face on Saturday, August 13, 2022. She was born April 24, 1967 in Martinsville, Va. to the late Thomas Dalton DeShazo, Jr. and Josephine “Jo” Baron DeShazo. She was also preceded in death by her brother, Charles Barnard DeShazo.



Workshop. She loved life, singing, dancing and she always left you smiling. There were no bad days for Helen and her last love was her very special caregiver, Tim Ferguson, who didn’t leave her bedside the last 8 months of her life.

She is survived by her sister, Julie DeShazo; brother, Thomas “Tommy” Dalton DeShazo, III; and her niece, Hunter Elizabeth DeShazo.

All services will be private.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Old Well Christian Church, 110 Old Well Road, Spencer, VA 24165.

Helen Jo was in the first graduating class of Magna Vista High School and was employed for 23 years at MARC

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

To express condolences online, please visit [www.collinsmckee.stonemartinsville.com](http://www.collinsmckee.stonemartinsville.com).

## Center receives funding boost from Kiwanis



The Kiwanis Club of Bassett recently donated \$1,000 to the Bassett Historical Center to assist with the continuing operation of the facility. Stuart Warren (right), Vice President of the Kiwanis Club, presents the check to Fran Sneed of the Bassett Historical Center.

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## Warner, Kaine discuss benefits of Inflation Reduction Act

U.S. Sens. Mark R. Warner and Tim Kaine recently highlighted some of the ways in which the Inflation Reduction Act will benefit Virginians.

their families who rely on the fund to access benefits. In Virginia, thousands of miners and their families have received benefits through the trust fund since it was established, including approximately 2,600 Virginians last year alone.

“Virginians have a lot to benefit from the Inflation Reduction Act. This historic legislation will help lower Virginians’ prescription drug and energy costs, help them access health care, and tackle climate change, which has had a devastating toll on communities all across the Commonwealth,” said Kaine, D-Richmond, and Warner, D-Alexandria. “We were proud to vote for this bill and urge the House of Representatives to pass it and get it to President Biden’s desk ASAP”

**Lower Prescription Drug Costs:**  
The bill allows Medicare to negotiate drug prices for seniors and people with disabilities—a provision Warner and Kaine have long fought to pass to lower prescription drug costs.

**Clean Energy and Climate Provisions:**  
The bill will reduce carbon emissions by roughly 40 percent by 2030.

The bill establishes a \$2,000 cap on out-of-pocket costs for prescription drugs for seniors covered under Medicare Part D. In 2020, more than 36,000 Virginians with Medicare Part D spent more than \$2,000 out-of-pocket on their prescription drugs.

The bill incentivizes investment in and production of renewable energy technologies like solar power and the Coastal Virginia Offshore Wind project. The legislation expands the 48C investment tax credit for clean energy manufacturers, with \$4 billion reserved for use exclusively in coal communities. All clean energy tax credits include a bonus for meeting domestic manufacturing requirements related to steel, iron, or other manufactured components. The bill also expands tax credits for residential clean energy and home efficiency improvements.

The bill expands the Low-Income Subsidy program, a program that currently helps cover prescription drug costs for over 11,000 low-income Virginians with Medicare.

According to a recent analysis, the clean energy provisions are expected to create nearly 1 million jobs per year.

The bill provides free coverage for vaccines under Medicare Part D and improves access to vaccines under Medicaid and the Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP). In 2020, nearly 85,000 Virginians received a vaccine covered under Medicare Part D.

The bill includes tax credits for clean medium and heavy duty trucks, such as those produced at the Volvo Trucks New River Valley Plant.

**Affordable Health Care:**

The bill includes a \$7,500 consumer credit for the purchase of new electric vehicles and incentivizes that vehicles are produced in North America.

During the pandemic, Congress enhanced subsidies under the Affordable Care Act (ACA) to help lower health care premiums for millions of Americans. The Inflation Reduction Act would extend these enhanced subsidies for three years through 2025 to help make Virginians’ health insurance more affordable. Over 300,000 Virginians have ACA coverage in 2022.

The bill includes \$9.7 billion for financial assistance to rural electric cooperatives to improve resilience and affordability.

The Center for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) estimated that Virginians with ACA insurance would have seen a \$71 increase in their premiums for the next coverage year if these subsidies weren’t extended.

The bill includes \$2 billion for the USDA Rural Energy for America Program to provide competitive grants and loan guarantees to farmers, ranchers, and rural small businesses for renewable energy systems or energy efficiency improvements.

**Black Lung Benefits:**  
The bill permanently extends the Black Lung Disability Trust Fund excise tax at a higher rate, providing more certainty for miners, miner retirees, and

The bill includes \$20 billion to help farmers and ranchers adopt agriculture conservation practices that improve landscape resilience.

**Tax Fairness:**  
The legislation takes steps to make sure that the largest corporations and wealthiest Americans pay their fair share in taxes, without increasing taxes on small businesses or families making less than \$400,000 a year.

The bill also provides funding to modernize Internal Revenue Service (IRS) systems and improve customer service when paying taxes. This will help ensure the IRS has the resources it needs to process tax returns quickly, get rebates to taxpayers faster, and address challenges Americans have when filing taxes.

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**Fayette Area Historical Initiative**

Position Title: Executive Director  
Fayette Area Historical Initiative (FAHI), 211 Fayette Street Martinsville, VA 24112  
Closes: August 29, 2022, 5:00 P.M.  
Salary Hiring Range: \$40,000- \$50,000 annually, depending on qualifications and experience  
Job Type: Full-Time, 40 hours per week with some evenings and weekends required for special events or other duties to meet the Museum's mission  
The Organization: Fayette Area Historical Initiative (FAHI), a 501©3 organization, was established in 2004 and has served the community for 18 years. Located at 211 Fayette Street, Martinsville, VA 24112, its mission is historical preservation of the Fayette Street neighborhood and the African-American community. Although its mission is to collect and preserve African-American heritage and culture, FAHI

**HELP WANTED**

invites visitors from diverse populations to understand the African-American experience; all ethnicities, genders, socio-economic classes, and professions are invited.  
Essential Job Functions:

- serve as a spokesperson and liaison between the Board of Directors and the community
  - oversee Museum's daily operations, staff and volunteers, education and public programming, and external communications
  - lead board development, recruitment, and training
  - manage assets and optimize financial operations
  - lead the development and execution of the strategic plan
  - oversee the development, management, and preservation of museum collections
  - oversee and participate in fundraising efforts, including grant writing, special events, requests to local, state, and national foundations, and community partnerships/collaborations
- Key Qualifications:
- Excellent communication skills (verbal and written), effective listening, and positive interpersonal skills
  - Highly organized, detail-oriented
  - Demonstrated use of current technology and social media, including Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram
  - Experience with museum collections, successful grant writing
- Preferred Professional Characteristics:

**HELP WANTED**

• Bachelor's degree in history, education, or a related field of study- preferably with an African-American emphasis

• Experience at a museum or similar combination of education and experience

How and when to apply- Interested candidates should submit a cover letter, résumé, and three references no later than August 29 to the following email address: fahichair@gmail.com or mail to: Attn: Joyce Staples, Fayette Area Historical Initiative, 211 Fayette Street, Martinsville, VA 24112. This position will close on August 29 at 5:00 P.M. Applications will not be accepted after the closing date listed above. Fayette Area Historical Initiative is an equal opportunity employer.

**Help Wanted**

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

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**City council candidate meets with religious leaders**

**Maddy Oliver**  
Contributing writer

LC Jones, who is among the candidates vying for a seat on Martinsville City Council met with local religious leaders on Aug. 13, and presented information about his background, qualifications, and dedication.

Currently Jones is a School Resource Officer (SRO) at Martinsville Middle School and has been with the Martinsville Police Department for eight years. A Martinsville native, Jones graduated from Fieldale-Collinsville High School in 1999

and later graduated from Liberty University with a bachelor degree in Criminal Justice.

Jones' platform is based on several issues, including Martinsville's increasing eviction rate, homelessness, mental health issues, and the fact that he said the city leads the state of Virginia in incarcerations.

While Jones believes that Martinsville and Henry County should work together for the benefit of both parties, he is firmly against reversion. He said reversion will cause more problems for the city than it will solve, such as double taxation, displacement of students, and the issue of job loss among city employees.



LC Jones is one of the candidates for Martinsville city council.

**CEA Summit East to be presented in October**



Indoor agriculture is one of the main research topics for many of today's top agricultural organizations.

The agricultural industry in southern Virginia is one that is rapidly growing, and many organizations are stepping up to the plate to help exponentiate this growth. Two of these organizations, The Controlled Environment Agriculture Innovation Center and The Indoor Ag-Con, are teaming up to host the CEA Summit East in Danville, on Oct. 25 and 26.

The event seeks to showcase the CEA industry and stimulate growth through thought leaders, keynotes lead by researchers and experts, panels, and breakout sessions. The Summit will also feature tabletop exhibits and networking opportunities to help encourage learning and development in the agricultural sector. It is a joining together of business and academia to provide a well-rounded exhibition of everything the industry has to offer.

The hosts of the sum-

mit are two driving forces in the growing agricultural industry. The Controlled Environment Agriculture Innovation Center is a joint venture between the School of Plant and Environmental Sciences at Virginia Tech and the Institute for Advanced Learning and Research (IALR). They are housed in an indoor agricultural complex on the IARL campus that focuses on hydroponic and soilless/production systems. They work with many of the top names in the industry of various projects. The two parties of this partnership both bring a lot to the table. The School of Plant and Environmental Science at Virginia Tech seeks to educate the next generation of agricultural professionals through research and extensive programs. IARL brings the business side to the partnership. Located in Danville and Pittsylvania County, the

organization seeks to discover and drive advancements in the economic development through conferencing and partnership.

Indoor Ag-Con hosts trade events to help promote and educate the practice of indoor farming, typically through the use of hydroponics, aquaponics, and aeroponics. Its goals reach many corners of the industry, including produce, legal cannabis, alternate protein, non-food crops, and more.

The CEA Summit hopes to reach a wide audience of those interested in agriculture, from seasoned and experienced industry members to new and interested prospects. The summit will be held at the Institute Conference Center, part of IALR's campus. More information about the events, including information programming and registration, can be found at www.ceasummit.com

**Submissions sought for art show**

In partnership with Bull Mountain Arts, the Reynolds Homestead will accept submissions for the annual Rock Spring Art Show on Aug. 20-23.

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 also enter.

Entries must be the artist's original work and have been completed in the past three years. The entry fee is \$25 per artist; members of Bull Mountain Arts may enter for \$20. Each artist is eligible to enter two works of art. Those interested in joining Bull Mountain Arts may do so when submitting 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 1-4 p.m.; Sunday, August 21 from 1-4 p.m.; Monday, August 22 from 9 a.m.- 4 p.m., and Tuesday, August 23 from 9a.m. - 4 p.m.

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.

# THE MARTINSVILLE 7

**INITIATIVE**  
will present the unveiling of

## "WHO WERE THEY"

**SATURDAY AUGUST 27** 10AM-1PM **2ND EXHIBIT**

Displayed at FAHI

Fayette Area Historical Initiative Museum  
211 Fayette Street | Martinsville, VA 24112

Face Mask Are Requested  
But Not Required

*A Reception Will Follow*

### MORE INFORMATION

CORDELIA F. HOLLAND

INITIATIVE

P.O. Box 5424 | Martinsville, Virginia 24112

Phone: 276-226-4318

info@Martinsville7Initiative.org

Cell: 276-806-3983

www.Martinsville7Initiative.org

## Committee from page 1

the foundation has on the community.

Those interested must submit a Request for Proposal by Sept. 16 by visiting the Harvest Foundation's website at [www.theharvestfoundation.org](http://www.theharvestfoundation.org). The website will guide applicants through the process and provides a list of the types of projects that will be considered.

The foundation is seeking proposals that are likely to have a quick turnaround.

Latala Hodges, direc-

tor of communications, emphasized the foundation does not want an applicant's lack of experience in grant proposals to discourage them from submitting an application. She encouraged anyone with questions or problems to contact her at [lhodges@theharvestfoundation.org](mailto:lhodges@theharvestfoundation.org).

The Request for Proposal states, "one way to return hope to a region is through community connectivity."

Established in 2002, the Harvest Foundation's

goal is to ensure everyone in the Martinsville-Henry County communities have the same opportunities. It promotes projects that not only benefit the economic development, education, and quality healthcare, but also aids in creating equality in the availability and ease of access to these services.

Groups who need help obtaining a fiscal sponsor may contact program officer India Brown at [ibrown@theharvestfoundation.org](mailto:ibrown@theharvestfoundation.org), or Hodges.



DeShanta Hairston, owner of Books and Crannies, is one of the community members on the new Project Hope committee.

# AXTON SOLAR COMMUNITY GRANT PROGRAM

Our community grant program seeks to provide community groups and organizations with funds to further their mission and hands-on work in Henry & Pittsylvania counties. Any local entity that meets the following criteria may apply for a grant.



**Fall Deadline:**  
**September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

**Apply today by going to our website:**

<https://www.axtonsolarva.com/community-grant-program>

Learn More at [www.axtonsolarva.com](http://www.axtonsolarva.com)  
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