

## Carver Road residents hear update to concerns



Several residents of the Carver Road and John Spencer Court communities attended a meeting at the Carver Road Ruritan Club to hear updates on their concerns about a company's impact on the community.

**Taylor Boyd**  
Staff writer

Residents of the Carver Road and John Spencer Court communities held a community meeting Monday for an update about issues related to Teal-Jones Pine Products, a nearby company.

During the April 10 meeting, Van Drewery noted the company is a multi-million lumber operation and purchased the property in 2021.

"Even though we may not like where they're located, they're here, and I don't think they're going anywhere. So, we have to address the concerns that we have with them being in our community," he said.

Drewery said those who live close to the lumber yard deal with noise at all hours of the day, dust, mud, safety, and trucks entering and exiting the property causing traffic delays along the road.

"Those things affect all of our safety. So, we feel like some changes need to take place," he said.

Henry County Deputy County Administrator JR Powell said county staff began working on the issues the community brought up following the Feb. 28 meeting which several residents attended.

At that time, many expressed concerns about dust, noise, traffic jams caused by the logging trucks, road drainage,

safety, and a host of other issues.

Powell said the safety concerns were "first and foremost, the one thing that concerned us right off the bat. There was a discussion of debris flying off the trucks, mud in the road, gravel in the road, mulch in the road, as well as trucks blocking the roadway of Carver Road."

Powell said the administration contacted the

See **Carver**, page 3



PHOTO BY RAY REYNOLDS

State Sen. William M. "Bill" Stanley, Jr.

## Stanley qualifies as the GOP nominee

By Staff Reports

State Sen. William M. "Bill" Stanley, Jr. R-Glade Hill, qualified to be on the November ballot as a candidate for the Republican Party in the newly drawn 7th State Senate District.

Stanley said he learned the information on Friday from Eric Phillips, chairman of the 7th Senate Legislative District Committee.

Phillips "also informed me that since no other candidate had filed for election for

the Republican nomination, I am officially the Republican nominee for the 7th District," Stanley said. "I am truly honored to be the candidate for this senate seat, and I want to thank everyone who signed our petitions and worked so hard for us during the nomination process."

Stanley is the incumbent in the current 20th State Senate District.

The new district includes Patrick, Henry, and Franklin counties, as well as Grayson, Carroll, and Floyd counties, part of Wythe County, and the cities of Martinsville and Galax.

## Historical Society breaks ground on a new addition

by Tara Lucas

The Martinsville-Henry County Historical Society recently broke ground on a 12,250-square-foot addition to the Heritage Center & Museum, which is located in the Historic Henry County Courthouse.

The addition, which will be three stories and located at the rear of the current facility, will house a massive collection of artifacts and antiques curated by Dr. Mervyn King.

King has an extensive collection of artifacts that will be housed in the new facility once it's completed. His collection includes Marklin vintage and antique toys/trains, Native American artifacts, firearms from the Revolutionary War, toma-



Johnathan Phillips, president of the historical society, Virginia King, and Dr. Mervyn King break ground on a new addition to the Martinsville-Henry County Historical Society Heritage Center & Museum.

hawks, and various other items.

King amassed his collection over his years of being an anesthesiologist in Martinsville. Due to his career demands, he

couldn't go play golf or participate in recreational activities that required him to be away because he was on call. So, he began acquiring items for his collection from pickers that

would come to town bi-weekly to sell and trade items.

The addition will include a meeting room

would come to town bi-weekly to sell and trade items.

The addition will include a meeting room

See **Historical**, page 8

## Rawls leaves his day job to focus on Martinsville

By Tara Lucas

Vice Mayor Aaron Rawls will resign from his day job effective April 14, with plans to take a few months and pursue projects in the city.

Rawls, Chief Information Officer for Madison Taylor Marketing, made the announcement at a Tuesday meeting of the Martinsville City Council.

Rawls said he plans to "take a few months to just focus on Martinsville. I make no promises I will get all of these done," but the more people who are interested in and join the effort, "the more traction" those projects will get.

One area he said is near and dear is ordinance and code enforcement of vacant properties. "It's time to bring out the stick," Rawls said.

Other focal points he listed are event planning, city cleanup efforts, energy efficiency, and weatherization plans, overnight emergency shelter and transportation programs, and traffic and parking issues.

Anyone who is interested in helping work in either area is encouraged to contact Rawls.

Also at the meeting Tuesday:

\*City officials heard from representatives of the Richmond-based law firm Sands Anderson PC, which the city selected to serve as the city attorney. Attorneys Steve Durbin and Jesse Bausch represented the firm at the meeting.

"We pride ourselves on a real depth of knowledge because we specialize in local government," Durbin said. The firm represents multiple counties and has experts in the areas of land



Attorneys Jesse Bausch (right), and Steve Durbin, (left) representatives of the Sands Anderson PC, a Richmond-based law firm addressed members of Martinsville City Council. The firm was selected to act as city attorney.

use, real estate, and various other areas.

\*Heard the week of April 23-April 29 has been deemed National Library Week. Council member Tammy Pearson read a proclamation for National Library Week recognizing

Blue Ridge Regional Library for the services it provides within the local community.

"During this week we encourage all residents to visit the Blue Ridge

See **Rawls**, page 5

## Special meeting to be held on proposed budget, siting agreement

By Staff Reports

Three public hearings are slated to be held when the Henry County Board of Supervisors holds a special meeting on Monday, April 17.

The meeting, which begins at 7 p.m. in the Summerlin Boardroom of the Henry County Administration Building, will include public hearings on the proposed school and county budget, which collectively totals \$196,623,925.

Also included is setting a real estate tax rate of not more than \$.555 per \$100 assessed value, setting a personal property tax rate of not more than \$1.55 per \$100 assessed value, and setting the machinery and tools tax rate of not more than \$1.55 per \$100 assessed valuation.

The board will also accept public input on a proposed Siting Agreement between Henry County and Axton Solar, LLC.

A copy of the complete proposed agreement may be viewed in the County Administrator's Office on Kings Mountain Road, between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

**VISIT**  
HTTP://WWW.  
HENRYCOUNTY  
ENTERPRISE.COM  
**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 [dhall@theenterprise.net](mailto:dhall@theenterprise.net).)

## Meetings

### Wednesday, April 19

Martinsville Planning Commission and Architectural Review Board will hold a joint public meeting on April 19, beginning at 4 p.m. in Council Chambers, located in the Martinsville Municipal Building.

## Events

### Friday, April 14

Red Cross Blood Drive from 1 to 6 p.m. at Blackberry Baptist Church in Bassett.

Music Night at the Spencer Penn Center. New River Line will play in Alumni Hall. Gate opens at 5 p.m. with the band starting at 6:15 p.m. Admission is a \$5 donation. Concessions will be sold.

Look & Learn Makeup Master Class with Angel Moyer, professional makeup artist and owner of Angel Face Beauty Company, Collinsville Library, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. To register or for more information, call (276) 647-1112.

### Through April 17

Celebrating King Holiday/Black History ‘23 Exhibit Theme — “Together” (Artifacts, Visual Arts, Books & Magazines, Writings, Unpublished Papers) Opens Sundays at noon and other times by appointment, Morning Star Church Fellowship Hall 2839 Stoney Mountain Road, Martinsville. Call (276) 650-8755 or (276) 252-3270, or email [tcmpastorsm55@gmail.com](mailto:tcmpastorsm55@gmail.com) for more information.

### Wednesday, April 19

A Family Council hosted by United Way of Roanoke Valley and Ready Region West is scheduled for 6:15 p.m. at YMCA Early Learning Center at Smith Memorial Methodist Church, 2703 Daniels Creek Road, Collinsville. All councils are offered virtually and in person. Register at <https://form.jotform.com/223196215161147>.

### Friday and Saturday, April 21-22

Rattlesnakes, copperheads, pythons, turtles and a spectacular lineup of additional live reptiles are set to take the spotlight during Reptile Festival 2023 at the Virginia Museum of Natural History from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information, go to [www.visitmartinsville.com/blog/reptile-festival-2023-at-virginia-museum](http://www.visitmartinsville.com/blog/reptile-festival-2023-at-virginia-museum).

### Saturday, April 22

12th Annual Pig Cookin! BBQ contest at the Spencer Penn Centre from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Event includes a Cruise-In, Pig Pattie Bingo, Barnival, Craft and Vendor Booths, Concessions, and more. Free admission, food sales start at 11 a.m. This is a cash only event. For any questions, contact the centre (276) 957-5757 or [spc.susan@yahoo.com](mailto:spc.susan@yahoo.com).

Earth Day Family Day at Piedmont Arts, 215 Starling Ave., Martinsville, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., with plenty of activities for children, from face painting and games to nature-themed arts and crafts. A ribbon cutting ceremony for the new Pollinator Path will be held immediately after.

### Tuesday, April 25

Chix with Stix, 10:30 a.m., Piedmont Arts. Knitters are invited to work together in the Piedmont Arts classroom on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month. Sessions are self-guided and provide a space to socialize while creating. Bring your own supplies. Free to members. \$5 for non-members (pay at the door). Advanced registration required.

### Friday-Saturday, April 28-29

TheatreWorks Community Players will present The Play That Goes Wrong at 7 p.m. in the Blackbox Theatre 44 Franklin St, Martinsville. Tickets are \$15 online at [www.twcp.net](http://www.twcp.net) or at the door for each show. Contact [info@twcp.net](mailto:info@twcp.net).

### Sunday, April 30

TheatreWorks Community Players will present The Play That Goes Wrong at 2 p.m. in the Blackbox Theatre 44 Franklin St, Martinsville. Tickets are \$15 online at [www.twcp.net](http://www.twcp.net) or at the door for each show. Contact [info@twcp.net](mailto:info@twcp.net).

### Friday-Saturday, May 5-6

TheatreWorks Community Players will present The Play That Goes Wrong at 7 p.m. in the Blackbox Theatre 44 Franklin St, Martinsville. Tickets are \$15 online at [www.twcp.net](http://www.twcp.net) or at the door for each show. Contact [info@twcp.net](mailto:info@twcp.net).

### Sunday, May 7

TheatreWorks Community Players will present The Play That Goes Wrong at 2 p.m. in the Blackbox Theatre 44 Franklin St, Martinsville. Tickets are \$15 online at [www.twcp.net](http://www.twcp.net) or at the door for each show. Contact [info@twcp.net](mailto:info@twcp.net).

## ONGOING

Free ‘Shred Days’ set for April, hosted by ValleyStar Credit Union.

April 29, The Home Depot, Danville, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

May 19, Martinsville Speedway, Martinsville, 1 to 6 p.m.

May 20, ValleyStar Collinsville branch, Collinsville, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

June 3, ValleyStar Roanoke branch, Roanoke/Rocky Mount, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

RSVP for reminders as the date(s) approaches, or for more information, visit ValleyStar Credit Union’s Facebook.

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 [brrlib.va.us](http://brrlib.va.us).

The Fontaine Ruritan Club hosts Bingo every Tuesday at 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.

The Disability Rights and Resource Center (DRRC) will be represented at the Henry-Martinsville Health Department in Martinsville every third Wednesday afternoon to provide information to health department visitors about DRRC and its services.

MHC Coalition for Health and Wellness (MHCCHW) offers “no-touch” Medicaid/FAMIS application assistance for Virginia residents from birth to 64 years of age. No sign-up fees, no premiums, no deductibles. MHCCHW’s specially trained Medicaid/FAMIS Outreach Advocate can answer questions, and help you apply by phone Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. In-person assistance is available on Wednesdays 10 am to 1:30 at Community Storehouse 128 E. Church St. (lower level of the old Leggett Building) Martinsville. Call or text Ann Walker at (276) 732-0509.

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. Call (276) 647-9585.

# Drug Court program growing in Martinsville-Henry County

Dewey was on probation in two counties and didn’t see a way out. On advice from his lawyer, he joined the Drug Court treatment program in Halifax County as a last-ditch effort to save his life.

“I don’t know about anyone else, but I was down to the animal level when I came in (to Drug Court),” Dewey said. “I started having seizures as a result of my substance use, and I didn’t know how to function in society anymore. I would be dead somewhere if not for Drug Court.”

Dewey, 26, said he was heading toward serious jail time or death. He said when he finally trusted himself and the Drug

Court process, that’s when things started to turn around.

“I knew I needed that structured environment and a pre-step plan that was clear to follow,” he said. “The probation officer for Drug Court made all the difference. She was compassionate and understanding but also firm. She believed in me before I believed in myself, and that was key to my recovery. When I changed my attitude and took accountability for my actions, I was able to really take advantage of the program.”

The Harvest Foundation will invest \$336,480 over the next three years to support start-

up costs for the Piedmont Adult Drug Court, located in Martinsville-Henry County. The court, established in October 2021, admitted its first participants in April 2022. The National Institute of Justice studied the drug court model for a decade. The study showed that the program “reduced recidivism by as much as 40 percent and resulted, on average, in public savings of \$6,744 per participant.”

Sheryl Agee, senior operating officer at Harvest, said it’s part of the foundation’s mission to the community to research and fund innovative solutions that address barriers hindering people from a positive future.



Pictured from left to right are Kelly Koebel, senior assistant director of clinical services at Piedmont Community Services, Sheryl Agee, senior operating officer at The Harvest Foundation, Quincy Gravely, justice support supervisor at Piedmont Community Services, and Greg Preston, executive director of Piedmont Community Services.

“We feel this program is one of those solutions — it bridges the gap between our criminal justice system and treatment, a key step in long-term sobriety,” she said. “People who complete drug court programs are significantly less likely to be arrested again compared to those sentenced within the traditional system. Research shows that drug courts reduce crime and affect real and positive change in people’s lives.”

According to the Office of the Medical Examiner for Virginia, drug overdoses in Martinsville and Henry County run higher than state averages. Per 100,000, Virginia’s average is 27.1 compared to Henry County at 31.7 and Martinsville at 56.7. Law enforcement estimates that 80 percent of all arrests are drug-related, and re-incarceration rates for drug-related offenders average 70 percent. The Department of Social Services reports that 60

percent of children in the foster care system have parents who have abused illegal substances.

“Having grown up in this community, I have seen the damage that substance use disorders have on individuals, their families, and our community,” said Kelly Koebel, senior assistant director of clinical services at Piedmont Community Services. “I am so grateful to The Harvest Foundation for helping to support the Piedmont Adult Drug Court as we work to provide intensive wrap-around services to those suffering from substance use disorders so they can find lasting recovery.”

The Piedmont Adult Drug Court is a rigorous program with pending drug or drug-related charges. The program is a minimum of 12 months, with extended stays considered based on the participant’s progress. Following successful com-

pletion, the judge can rule in three ways: dismissal of the original charge; reduction of the original charge to a lesser charge with no active jail time to serve; or a suspended sentence.

“The Piedmont Adult Drug Court is extremely grateful to The Harvest Foundation for this significant grant, which will help us to fulfill our mission to reduce drug abuse and criminal recidivism in the local community,” said Martinsville Circuit Court Chief Judge G. Carter Greer.

Sandra Haley, public defender for Martinsville, Henry, and Patrick counties, added, “The Piedmont Adult Drug Court is a promising alternative to incarceration for folks who qualify, and it provides people with evidence-based tools to learn how to live in recovery.”

Judge Greer and Haley are part of the Piedmont

REGISTRATION  
NOW OPEN!

SUMMER AND FALL  
SEMESTERS

SUMMER  
Catch up.  
Get ahead.  
*Classes begin May 23!*

FALL  
Register early.  
Get what you want.

Educate your mind.  
Follow your dream.

Patrick & Henry  
Community College

P&HCC is an EEO institution.



# Carver

from page 1



**Henry County Deputy County Administrator JR Powell spoke to Carver Road residents at a community meeting on April 10. Pictured (seated at the table) is Debra Buchanan, who represents the Horsepasture District on the Henry County Board of Supervisors. Henry County Sheriff Lane Perry is pictured in the background.**

Henry County Sheriff's Office and the Virginia State Police to make them aware of resident concerns on March 1.

Henry County Sheriff's Office Col. Wayne Davis said he met with Brian Fietz, the general manager of Teal-Jones, on March 3.

"The purpose was to discuss some of your concerns" about potential violations from the law enforcement side, Davis said.

"While I was there, I explained to him how you guys felt about it and explained the importance of becoming good corporate neighbors in this community," he said.

One of the issues discussed was the trucks backing up on U.S. 58. Davis said Fietz told him he was looking into constructing a truck holding lot to help with potential

traffic.

"So, the trucks no longer back up on the highway so you can get them off the left-hand side and make the trucks out of the way," he said.

Davis said mud and debris on the roadway also were discussed.

"A couple of things we discussed to mitigate those issues is he'd be adding more gravel to the exit lots so that it would get off of the trucks," Davis said, adding that Fietz "also said he would be purchasing a sweeper for a skid steer, in which it would be used daily to keep the driveways swept and the roadway."

Davis added Fietz assured him the company would make all efforts to get all the tree bark off the trucks before they get onto the roadway.

Fietz told the Henry County Enterprise in

March that the company was aware of concerns about mud coming off trucks leaving the mill.

"I have reached out to them a few times to discuss their concerns and come up with solutions. I have also met with the county administrator to discuss this matter," he said, adding the company regularly washes the mud off the roads inside the mill yard.

It also has "ordered a rotary sweeper to further reduce mud on trucks leaving the site. We've also planted trees along the property line to reduce noise," Feitz said, adding the company is open to any other constructive ideas.

The operation, Fietz said, is an important part of the community, and employs numerous local residents while producing products used in everyday



**Members of the Henry County administration spoke to residents. From left to right: Henry County Deputy County Administrator JR Powell, county attorney George Lyle, Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) Assistant Resident Engineer David Kiser, and Henry County Director of Planning, Zoning, and Inspections Lee Clark.**

life.

The company, he added, is committed to being good neighbors and minimizing any impacts from its operations. "Working constructively with the county and residential neighbors is part of that," Feitz said.

At the meeting Monday, Lee Clark, director of the county's Planning, Zoning, and Inspections office, said the land has been used for lumber production since the 1950s. When zoning was introduced in the county in 1989, the land was grandfathered in as a sawmill.

In addition to the land on which Teal-Jones currently operates, the business also purchased the adjoining 25 acres, which is zoned as agricultural.

"Overlaying the aerial photographs of what the original property

where the plant is located on now, they have not encroached buildings over onto the agricultural property," he said.

Clark said he's researched how much area has already been disturbed for the creation of the parking lot area and log storage.

"I don't consider where they have logs stored to be disturbed area, just where they've graded and graveled out there, and right now they're right at under one acre. Which does not require them to have permits from the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)," Clark said, adding the company has a land disturbance permit.

Clark said the storage of logs by itself is not an issue, but the potential truck holding area "starts to give me a little bit of concern about expanding,

not just the agricultural use of storing logs on it, but using it more as an accessory for the industrial uses next door."

Clark plans to discuss this issue with company representatives and work to determine the next step regarding the truck holding area.

County attorney George Lyle said the county does not regulate industrial noise. The noise ordinance is primarily focused on loud parties, amplified sounds, concerts, and things of that nature.

In his discussions with Teal-Jones, Powell said the company noted the noisiest part of the job was the debarking of the logs, which is done during the second shift.

"That second shift currently is running all

See **Carver**, page 7

# Reptile Festival to slither into Virginia Museum of Natural History

Rattlesnakes, copperheads, pythons, tortoises, and many additional live reptiles are set to take the spotlight during Reptile Festival at the Virginia Museum of Natural History (VMNH) in Martinsville on Friday, April 21 and Saturday, April 22 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day. The festival - which aims to educate visitors about the importance of reptiles and dispel misconceptions about these often misunderstood animals - also offers visitors the opportunity to interact with reptile experts and participate in a wide variety of festival activities ranging from reptile-themed crafts to balloon animals and face painting.

"Reptile Festival will definitely provide museum visitors with the wow

factor," said VMNH Visitor Services & Events Manager Robbie Hendrix-Wirt. "Among many other offerings, the event will feature an incredible lineup of live animals on exhibit, which includes some of the most iconic reptiles from right here in our neck of the woods and throughout the world."

Some of the live animals scheduled to appear at Reptile Festival include:

- Blacktail Rattlesnake
- Sidewinder Rattlesnake
- Timber Rattlesnake
- Tangerine/Albino Western Diamondback Rattlesnake
- Cottonmouth
- Eastern Copperhead
- Northern Copperhead
- Broadband Copperhead
- Cobra
- Cantil Viper
- Longnose Viper
- Puff Adder

- Eastern Rat Snake
- Leucistic Rat Snake
- Corn Snakes
- King Snakes
- King/Corn Snake Hybrid
- Ball Python
- Woma Python
- Boa Constrictor
- Louisiana Pine Snake
- Jaguar Carpet Python
- Calabar Burrowing Python
- African Egg-eating Snake
- Crowned Leafnose Snake
- Coachwhip
- American Alligator
- Bearded Dragon
- Crested Gecko
- Leopard Gecko
- Argentine Black and White Tegu
- Blue-tongued Skink
- Box Turtle
- Alligator Snapping Turtle
- American Snapping Turtle

- Musk Turtle
- River Cooter
- Cherry Head Red-footed Tortoise
- African Spurred (Sulcata) Tortoise
- Russian Tortoise

The festival also features some of the region's most prolific reptile experts, including the museum's very own Assistant Curator of Herpetology

Dr. Arianna Kuhn, who will be one of multiple presenters providing live stage shows during the event. A complete list of presenters and show times will be made available on the museum's website prior to the festival.

Reptile Festival also features the return of crowd favorite exhibitor Larry Mendoza of the Virginia

Herpetological Society.

"Larry Mendoza amazed visitors during the museum's last Reptile Festival with his incredible exhibit of live reptiles, and we're thrilled to have him on-board to exhibit again this year," said Hendrix-Wirt. "Not only does he have an

See **Reptile**, page 7

SUPPORT  
COMMUNITY  
JOURNALISM

WE OFFER FLEXIBLE  
ADVERTISING PACKAGES,  
IN PRINT, ONLINE, OR BOTH.

SPECIAL DEALS AND PROMOTIONS  
OFFERED THROUGHOUT THE YEAR!

CALL US TODAY AT (276) 694-3101

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

	1	2	3		4	5	6		7	8	9	
					11				12			
13	14				15				16			17 18
19					20		21	22				
23							24					
			25				26					
27	28	29					30			31	32	33
34										35		
36			37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44		
			45				46					
47	48	49					50				51	52 53
54							55					
56						57	58		59			
		60				61			62			
		63				64			65			

CLUES ACROSS

1. Atomic mass unit  
4. Criticize mightily  
7. Sino-Soviet block (abbr.)  
10. Stand in for  
11. Everyone has one  
12. Brew  
13. Rectify  
15. Popular Dodge truck model  
16. Beef or chicken intestine  
19. Satisfy  
21. Of a particular people or localized region  
23. Movements in quick tempos  
24. Able to pay one's debts  
25. Fleshy bird beak covering  
26. Dueling sword  
27. Helps  
30. Court is in it  
34. Touch lightly

35. Airborne (abbr.)  
36. Of one  
41. Baked good  
45. Jai \_\_ sport  
46. About aviation  
47. Low oval mound  
50. Rugged mountain ranges  
54. Compel to do something  
55. A way to carve  
56. Sao \_\_, city in Brazil  
57. Mustachioed actor Elliott  
59. American Idol runner-up Clay  
60. A way to soak  
61. Car mechanics group  
62. Born of  
63. Time zone  
64. Sea eagle  
65. Even's opposite

CLUES DOWN

1. Sharp mountain ridge  
2. Thin, fibrous cartilages  
3. Provides new details  
4. Muscular weaknesses  
5. Ottoman military title  
6. Banes  
7. Horse-riding seats  
8. Arms of a shirt  
9. Narrow path along a road edge  
13. Viper  
14. Disfigure  
17. Variety of Chinese language  
18. Portray in a show  
20. Wrongful act  
22. No (slang)  
27. State of agitation  
28. \_\_ Diego  
29. One point east of due south  
31. 007's creator  
32. The NBA's Toppin  
33. Midway between north and

northeast  
37. Examples  
38. \_\_ Gould, actor  
39. The habitat of wild animals  
40. Artful subtlety  
41. Infielders  
42. Keep under control  
43. Herb  
44. Distressed  
47. A way to go down  
48. Type of acid  
49. Take by force  
51. Collected fallen leaves  
52. Shout of welcome or farewell  
53. Monetary unit  
58. Swiss river



# OPINION

## On whiskey snowflakes

I saw a hilarious viral video the other day.

The video begins with a man in bib overalls standing at his back door.

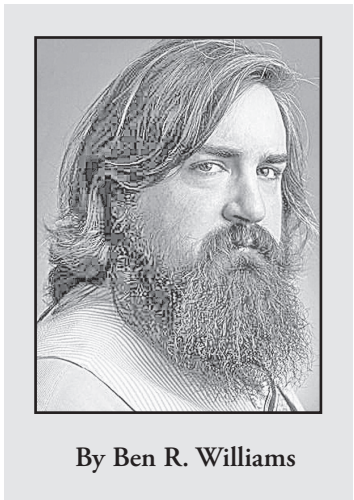
“As you all know, I am the biggest advocate and supporter of Jack Daniel’s whiskey,” the man said, which is something I did not know since I’ve never seen this guy in my life. “Have been for forty years of my life, if not longer. Here’s the deal: you went woke. ... So this is what I got for you guys.”

The gentleman then proceeds to haul out every Jack Daniel’s-branded item he owns and throw them one by one into the trash, including a bar mirror and multiple whiskey glasses. He then pours a truly remarkable quantity of Jack Daniel’s into a fire pit, including two bottles that he says cost \$250 and \$100 respectively, and then lights the whole mess on fire. Or at least he attempts to; Jack Daniel’s is only 80 proof, which isn’t a high enough proof to burn, and in my estimation as a man who enjoys a good bourbon, is basically brown water.

The reason the gentleman does all this is because some two-year-old Jack Daniel’s ads featuring drag queens visiting the distillery have recently resurfaced on conservative media and people are losing their minds.

There is something deeply comical about watching a man who assuredly refers to certain people as “snowflakes” have a big old diaper baby tantrum and smash his toys while wearing his cute little overalls. It’s even funnier since he already bought all this stuff; he’s literally burning his own money.

Of course, Jack Daniel’s isn’t the only alcoholic consumer product that people use to craft a remarkable facsimile of a personality. Bud Light is now under fire for partnering with a transgender TikTok personality named Dylan Mulvaney for a March Madness promotion. Also, they’re planning to once again produce rainbow-colored cans of Bud Light for Pride Month, and apparently if you drink terrible beer from a rainbow-colored can you instantly become gay



By Ben R. Williams

a production of “La Cage aux Folles” starring two Liberaces.

And so, predictably, these companies have been accused of “going woke.”

“Woke” is an interesting word. As a piece of slang, it actually dates back nearly a hundred years. Until recently, it was a term used in African-American Vernacular English (AAVE); “staying woke” basically meant “being alert to racial prejudice and discrimination.”

However, the meaning has largely changed. When Angry Whiskey Baby made his little video and accused Jack Daniel’s of having gone woke, he meant that they had become tolerant and accepting of marginalized communities, which to his mind is a bad thing.

Of course, you can’t say

“I’m boycotting this company because they’re tolerant.” Even a man burning \$500 worth of his own property has that much self-awareness. “Woke” serves as a dog whistle.

In a New York Post op-ed authored by conservative commentator John Cardillo in the wake of the Bud Light controversy, Cardillo opined that “brands have to stop listening to their woke creative teams and get in touch with their consumer demographics.”

And this point, ultimately, is what I find so amusing about the Jack Daniel’s/Bud Light backlash.

We live in a capitalist society, and as such, we enjoy the seven benefits and 43,000 drawbacks that come with the territory. One minor benefit of capitalism, in my opinion, is that it allows us to easily track the popularity of progressive ideals in real-time.

The reason for this is that no company in a capitalist society ever does something just because it’s the right thing to do. Every single decision that a major corporation makes is based solely on whether that decision will make the corporation more money.

Jack Daniel’s didn’t partner with drag queens because it was the right thing to do. Bud Light didn’t partner with a transgender person because

it was the right thing to do. These decisions were made because after years of painstaking market research and endless data collection, the numbers people at these companies determined that embracing marginalized groups would gain them more customers than they would lose.

That’s it. There’s no deeper meaning. The only statement these companies are making is, “wait a minute, gay people and transgender people ALSO have money!”

Of course, I certainly don’t think this is a bad thing — I fully support inclusivity. However, it’s telling that whenever June rolls around and companies begin putting rainbows on their products for Pride Month, my friends who are gay are among the first to roll their eyes. They know these companies just want their money.

At the same time, it’s comforting to know that despite what a vocal minority would lead us all to believe, the majority of folks in our society ARE becoming more tolerant and accepting, albeit sporadically and not without the occasional massive setback.

Fortunately, the ones who aren’t changing with the times are easy to spot. They yell a lot and smell like burnt whiskey.

## Card of Thanks



The Family of Lance Corporal Jay “Clay” Willard would like to thank the Martinsville and Henry County Veteran Honor Guard, all our family and friends, Pastor Zeke Zanatos, and Pastor Ed Hartman for all the cards, visits, food, flowers, and the friendship given to each of us on the March 12 Memorial Service. Special Singers, Crystal Turner, Karen Turner, Guy Lawless, and Shirley Freeman, May God Bless all of you.

*Love from the family.*



Local youngsters rehearsing for their upcoming performances of Treasure Island.

PHOTO BY PAT DELANEY

## Treasure Island, The Musical, comes to Ferrum

April 20-23, Ferrum College Theatre Arts will present Treasure Island, The Musical, which tells the story of Jim Hawkins, a young boy and his adventures after finding a treasure map.

Treasure Island, The Musical, is an adaptation of Robert Louis Stevenson’s novel by R. Rex Stephenson, and directed by Emily Blankenship-Tucker. The cast features Ferrum College students, locals and students from area elementary, junior high and high schools.

Show times are April 20, 21, 22 at 7 p.m. and on

April 23 at 2 p.m. Admission for adults is \$5 and for senior citizens and those under 18 are \$3.

On April 20, high school students get in for \$1, as long as there are available seats.

The April 22 performance also features a dinner & show option, with dinner at 5 p.m. and the show follows at 7 p.m. Adults are \$20, under 18 and senior citizens are \$17.

Treasure Island will be performed in the Flex Theatre, on the lower level of Schoolfield Hall.

Your Community, Your Voice

Serving Henry County, Martinsville, and Surrounding Area

HENRY COUNTY ENTERPRISE

henrycountyenterprise.com

Weekly Publication

Published Each Saturday

Michael Showell, *Publisher*

Debbie Hall, *Editor*  
dhall@theenterprise.net  
(276) 694-3101

Randy Thompson, *Advertising Manager*  
advertise@mainstreetnewspapers.com  
(540) 230-1129

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

## Friends of the Library to hold sale

by Tara Lucas

The Friends of the Library’s (FOL’s) next book sale will be on Saturday, April 22, in the basement of the Martinsville Branch Library. The sale, open from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., will feature a complete set of leather-bound Louis L’amour Collection books, a complete set of Zane Grey’s western novels, and a rare out-of-print book on Martinsville’s namesake General Joseph Martin by Denise Morrison. Most of the books are \$1, except the children’s books which sell for 25 cents.

While not part of the library system, the FOL assists the local library branches with financial support to aid programs and projects in the various branches. Recently the group contributed \$2,000 to help fund the Coffee Kiosk in the Martinsville branch.

Proceeds from book sales are distributed to the five area library branches. The books come from personal donations and



Pictured (left to right) are Mary Campbell, Betty Turner, and Lewis Turner. All are members of the Friends of the Library organization.

discarded books from the library branches, not purchases.

The Friends of the Library has pledged \$10,000 to the recent expansion project at Bassett Library.

“We have given \$5,000 already, and we will give them the other five,” said Betty Turner, a member of the FOL.

Each year the organization contributes \$5,000 to the local library branches. “It’s \$1,000 for every branch, Stuart gets \$1,000, Bassett, Ridgeway, Martinsville, and Collinsville. It goes towards their summer reading program,” said member Lewis Turner.

If anyone is interested in joining the FOL, applications are available at any branch. The group needs

individuals who are willing to help support library programs and volunteers who can assist with sales. The group also gets a first look at the books in most cases. FOL are invited to book sales on Friday nights before the public sale on Saturday mornings.

Books to donate to the sale may be dropped off at any branch.



# MARTINSVILLE SPEEDWAY

## Martinsville Speedway has been making memories with NASCAR from the start

By Holly Cain  
NASCAR Wire Service

Richard Petty's dominance and Darrell Waltrip's great run of success ultimately gave way to Jeff Gordon and Jimmie Johnson's modern-day records of triumph on the half-mile "paperclip" Martinsville (Va.) Speedway. And for all of its competitive challenges, Martinsville boasts a rare combination of sporting popularity — adored by fan and driver, alike.

From the iconic Martinsville hot dogs served at concession stands on the property, to the high drama on track — from Red Byron's three-lap victory in the inaugural Martinsville NASCAR premier series race in 1949 to Ross Chastain's "Hail Melon" last-lap, wall-hugging move to earn a position in the 2022 Championship 4 Round last Fall — so much of the action at Martinsville Speedway has become the stuff of NASCAR legend.

There are a certain few race tracks on the NASCAR Cup Series schedule that have not only survived the test of time, but provided hugely significant moments and milestones in the 75-year

history of the sport. Martinsville Speedway, which hosts the NOCO 400 Sunday (3 p.m. ET on FS1, MRN and SiriusXM NASCAR Radio) is unquestionably in that category.

It's been hailed the "Half Mile of Mayhem" but generally known as "The Paperclip" for its long straightaways and tight, slightly banked corners. It's bright red "Martinsville Hot Dogs" — topped with mustard, chili, slaw and onions — are as famous as its one-of-a-kind trophy, the grandfather clock.

It is the only current venue that has been on the NASCAR Cup Series schedule since NASCAR began and this week will host its 149th premier race.

"It was important to win that race and of course, I loved that track," NASCAR Hall of Famer and 11-time Martinsville winner Darrell Waltrip said of his great success there. "It just meant the world to me to win there."

"Those clocks are special. With the Azealia bushes that used to be there and parking on the back straightaway with the coaches, it's evolved, but it's still Martinsville, same old race track."

Waltrip recalled a cer-

tain open-wheel champion, who was set to make his Martinsville debut, figuring the half-miler was going to be "easy" compared to larger tracks on the NASCAR schedule.

"I remember Juan Montoya went there and he said, 'this place looks like a piece of cake' and he went out and nearly wrecked and came back in and said, 'well it's not as easy as I thought it was going to be,' Waltrip said with a laugh.

"He told me one thing I always thought was a great observation, 'in like a lamb and off like a lion.' It looks easy, two long straightaways and two loops, it's a paperclip. But it's probably one of the most difficult tracks you'll ever go to."

That may explain a Martinsville trend. For generations, when a driver figured out how to win at Martinsville, he won so much the clocks filled their homes.

Twelve drivers have won back-to-back races at Martinsville with NASCAR Hall of Famers Richard Petty, Jeff Gordon and Jimmie Johnson doing it three different times. Seven drivers have won three consecutive races at Martinsville, including current driver Denny

Hamlin (2009-10).

NASCAR's 'King' Richard Petty holds the all-time record for wins (15) and starts (67) at Martinsville. Waltrip's 11 trophies makes him the only other driver with double digit victories and his eight pole positions are most ever.

Former Hendrick Motorsports teammates Gordon and Johnson each have nine wins at Martinsville. The Hall of Famer Gordon has an incredible mark of 38 top-10 finishes in 47 Martinsville starts — 80.8 percent of the time he took the green flag, he finished among the top-10. Johnson leads all drivers with three victories from pole position.

NASCAR Hall of Famer Rusty Wallace has seven Martinsville wins while fellow Hall of Famers Cale Yarborough and Dale Earnhardt have six each. Morgan Shephard and the late John Andretti scored their first (Shephard) and final (Andretti) career wins at the track.

Joe Gibbs Racing's Hamlin leads all active drivers with five Martinsville grandfather clocks to his name; the Virginia-raised

See **Speedway**, page 7

## P&HCC to expand GO TEC Pathways with grant

Gov. Glenn Youngkin announced on March 24 more than \$8.1 million in Growth and Opportunity Virginia grants and of that, Patrick & Henry Community College will receive \$118,545.

P&HCC will use these funds to increase dual enrollment opportunities in welding for students in Henry County Public Schools and Martinsville City Public Schools. The program will enroll and train 27 students in two years, with participants able to pursue further certification upon graduation.

"This initiative will serve to expand the pool of qualified workers in our area and continue these students on a pathway to careers that provide family-sustaining wages in this high-demand field," said Rhonda Hodges, Vice President of Workforce, Economic and Community Development at P&HCC.

"We are so proud of the growth we've seen with GO TEC over the last few years. By investing in this program, we are taking direct steps to address workforce pipeline issues and investing in the youth in our region," said Tim Clark, GO Virginia Region 3 Council Chair. "We are excited to grow our regional partners with the projects funded at both Patrick & Henry Community College and Southside Virginia Community College."

The dual enrollment welding classes will begin in the 2023 fall semester.

GO TEC is a collaborative project that aims to develop the regional workforce in order to meet changing industry demands. The program begins to engage with the student at the middle school level and continues through high school dual enrollment and post-secondary programs. The focus of the project is to further develop the sectors of IT, advanced manufacturing and STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) by creating a talent pipeline that begins in K-12.

## Historical Society to host Garden Club Restorations Lecture

The Martinsville-Henry County Historical Society will host "Restorations of the Garden Club of Virginia" on Sunday, April 16, at 3 p.m., at the Historic Henry County Courthouse.

Cindy King Edgerton will present the lecture to kick off the 90th Anniversary of Historic Garden Week. A graduate of Lynchburg College, Edgerton is a life member of the Historical Society and a past president of the Martinsville Garden Club, Piedmont Arts, and Charity League. She owns and operates The One Starling. Organized in 1920, the Garden Club exists to celebrate the beauty of the land, to conserve the gifts of nature, and to challenge future generations to build on this heritage.

Since the first restoration in 1929 at Kenmore in Fredericksburg, the Garden Club of Virginia has used proceeds from its signature event, Historic Garden Week, to restore and preserve a vital segment of Virginia's landscape, with nearly 50 projects completed to date which includes the Historic Henry

County Courthouse. Knowledgeable gardeners at each restored location are responsible for ongoing maintenance, in close contact with the GCV and its Landscape Architect. Each garden is open to the public.

Current and former members of the Garden Club of Virginia are especially invited to attend to be recognized. Attendees are encouraged to share Historic Garden Week artifacts. The Sunday Afternoon Lecture series is free, made possible by corporate sponsors, Carter Bank & Trust and The Lester Group. The Historic Henry County Courthouse is fully handicapped accessible.

Historical Society President John Phillips said, "The Garden Club of Virginia, with its local clubs, is a significant asset to communities across the Commonwealth. Historic Garden Week may be for only a few days, but the lasting impression exists for many, many years. Our Historic Henry County Courthouse was fortunate to be the benefactor in 2015. The Historical Society enjoys our continuing, collaborative relationship."

## Rawls

from page 1

Regional Library," read Pearson.

\*Council member Lawrence Mitchell addressed a recent accident involving an ATV on Second Street in the City of Martinsville.

"I would like to appeal to the public, to families, and the children out there riding. This is a dangerous practice," Mitchell said. He wants to ensure residents are aware of the hazards and noted that recreational vehicles are not to be operated on city streets.

\*April was named Fair Housing Month.

\*A basketball game will be held on Saturday, April

15 at Martinsville Middle School between MHS juniors and seniors, who will play against faculty and staff members. The tickets are \$6 and will be sold at the door starting at 6:30 p.m.

\*The Garden Tour will be on April 19. Funds raised from the tour are used for beautification efforts, Pearson said.

\*Hazardous waste day is April 22 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the PSA warehouse in Bassett.

\*Drug Take Back Day is April 22. Drive through at the Martinsville Fire Department on Church Street, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.



Members of Martinsville City Council are pictured at a recent meeting.



Martinsville Mayor L.C. Jones and council member Tammy Pearson present a proclamation to the staff of the Blue Ridge Regional Library system recognizing April 23-April 29 as deemed National Library Week.

**NEWS | SPORTS | LOCAL PROGRAMS**

**21 BTW**  
Your Neighborhood Network

The Southside's  
#1 Local TV Station

**Movie Town 276-638-4040**

**NOW PLAYING:**  
Renfield (R)  
Super Mario Bros (PG)  
John Wick 4 (R)  
Dungeons and Dragons (PG-13)  
Jesus Revolution (PG-13)  
and Creed III (PG-13)

<http://www.movietowntheatre.com>  
or call for showtimes (276) 632-7400

Be sure to like the  
Henry County Enterprise  
on Facebook

**SPRINGLAKE STOCKYARD**

**LIVESTOCK AUCTIONS**  
EVERY SATURDAY AT 1 P.M.

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

For directions to our facility, weekly updates of upcoming events and current sale prices, please visit our website:  
[www.springlakeauctions.com](http://www.springlakeauctions.com).

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

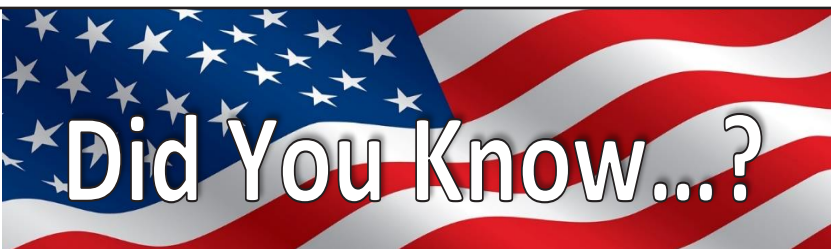
*We appreciate your business!*  
1069 SICKLE COURT, MONETA, VA 24121



# Local Sports Schedule

4/17-22

4/17	4:30pm	Girls Tennis	Halifax @ Bassett
	4:30pm	Girls Tennis	Patrick County @ Martinsville
	4:30pm	Girls Tennis	Magna Vista @ George Washington
	4:30pm	Boys Tennis	Bassett @ Halifax
	4:30pm	Boys Tennis	Patrick County @ Martinsville
	4:30pm	Boys Tennis	George Washington @ Magna Vista
	5pm	Baseball	George Washington @ Bassett
	5pm	Baseball	Patrick County @ Magna Vista
	5pm	Baseball	Martinsville @ Mecklenburg County
	5pm	Baseball	Carlisle @ Northwest Guilford
	5pm	Softball	Patrick County @ Magna Vista
	6pm	Girls Soccer	Bassett @ George Washington
	6pm	Boys Soccer	Bassett @ George Washington
	6pm	Boys Soccer	Martinsville @ Mecklenburg County
	7pm	Girls Soccer	Magna Vista @ Patrick County
	7pm	Boys Soccer	Patrick County @ Magna Vista
	7:15pm	Girls Soccer	Mecklenburg County @ Martinsville
4/18	4:30pm	Boys Tennis	Bassett @ George Washington
	4:30pm	Boys Tennis	Dayspring Christian Academy @ Carlisle
	4:30pm	Girls Tennis	Bassett @ George Washington
	4:30pm	Baseball	Blue Ridge @ Carlisle
	4:30pm	Girls Soccer	Southwest Virginia Academy @ Carlisle
	4:30pm	Boys Golf	Virginia Episcopal School @ Carlisle
	4:30pm	Boys Tennis	George Washington @ Bassett
4/19	4:30pm	Boys Tennis	Magna Vista @ Martinsville
	4:30pm	Girls Tennis	Martinsville @ Magna Vista
	5pm	Baseball	Magna Vista @ Bassett
	5pm	Baseball	Martinsville @ Tunstall
	5pm	Track	Bassett @ Magna Vista
	5pm	Track	Martinsville @ George Washington
	5pm	Softball	Magna Vista @ Bassett
	6pm	Girls Soccer	Martinsville @ Tunstall
	7pm	Girls Soccer	Bassett @ Magna Vista
	7pm	Boys Soccer	Magna Vista @ Bassett
	7:15pm	Boys Soccer	Tunstall @ Martinsville
	7:15pm	Boys Soccer	Martinsville @ Morehead
4/20	4pm	Boys Tennis	Covenant @ Carlisle
	4:30pm	Girls Soccer	King's Christian School @ Carlisle
	4:30pm	Girls Soccer	Martinsville @ George Washington
	6pm	Girls Soccer	George Washington @ Martinsville
	6pm	Boys Soccer	Carlisle @ Covenant
	6pm	Boys Soccer	Bassett @ Patrick County
4/21	4:30pm	Baseball	Magna Vista @ Halifax
	5pm	Baseball	Bassett @ Patrick County
	5pm	Softball	Magna Vista @ Halifax
	5pm	Softball	Patrick County @ Bassett
	7pm	Girls Soccer	Halifax @ Magna Vista
	7pm	Girls Soccer	Bassett @ Patrick County
	7pm	Boys Soccer	Magna Vista @ Halifax
	7pm	Boys Soccer	Bassett, Martinsville @ Floyd County
	7pm	Boys Soccer	
	7pm	Boys Soccer	
4/22	9am	Track	



Yikes! We've been REDISTRICTED due to the 2020 U.S. Census.

Say *Goodbye* to the old 9<sup>th</sup> VA House District and *Hello* to the new 47<sup>th</sup> comprised of Patrick Co., Western Henry Co., Floyd Co., Carroll Co., and the City of Galax. Consequently, the District Republican Party will participate in a state-run **PRIMARY ELECTION ON JUNE 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023**, to re-elect local Delegate WREN WILLIAMS (Patrick Co.) or Marie March (Floyd Co.) as the Republican Candidate in the 47<sup>th</sup> house district for the November 7<sup>th</sup> general election.

HOW DOES THIS EFFECT YOU AND HOW CAN YOU HELP?

If you'd like to keep your voice from Patrick County in the VA House of Delegates, here are some important dates\* and actions you can take:

- **Register immediately to vote** so you can participate in the June 20<sup>th</sup> Primary.
- **May 5<sup>th</sup>** – **First day to vote** in **PRIMARY** in person at registrar's office.
- **Voting Early** is the BEST way to keep someone from stealing your vote.
- **June 20<sup>th</sup>** – **Last Day to Vote in the Primary** at your local polling place but check in advance as some local voting districts have changed.
- **Spread the word** – Help get out the vote so your voice in southwest and southside Virginia will continue to be heard in Richmond!

\*\* FACTS TO CONSIDER WHEN VOTING:

Delegate	Session	House Bills Introduced	House Bills Passed	Success Rate
March	2022	20	1	1 of 20
	2023	15	0	0 of 15
	Total:	35	1	1 of 35
Williams	2022	14	6	6 of 14
	2023	15	7	7 of 15
	Total:	29	13	13 of 29

EFFECTIVENESS COUNTS. DON'T WASTE YOUR VOTE!

For more information or to find out how you can help PatCoVA PAC continue to deliver timely, factual information to local voters, please visit our Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/PatrickCountyPAC>.

Information sources: \*Patrick County Registrar and website <https://www.co.patrick.va.us/departments/registrar-office-of-elections>, \*\* <https://www.vpap.org/legislators/331499-wren-williams/> and <https://www.vpap.org/legislators/374469-marie-march/>

## Drug Court

from page 2

Adult Drug Court team, comprising judicial, law enforcement, and community service partners to function effectively. Quincy Gravely, justice support supervisor at Piedmont Community Services, supports the program through his role. He said, "I am grateful to The Harvest Foundation for helping Piedmont Community Services provide much-needed resources in our community. Drug treatment court helps individuals realize that their recovery does

not happen by chance but by change and accountability." Jurisdictions with drug courts show an 8 to 26 percentage point decrease in crime rates, according to the Office of National Drug Control Policy. The Piedmont Adult Drug Court program currently has six participants and plans to expand to serve 15 participants annually. Visit [piedmontcsb.org](http://piedmontcsb.org) or call (276) 632-7128 to learn more.

## Celebration of Life scheduled for retired judge

A celebration of life will be held for Judge J. Frank Greenwalt at 1:30 p.m. on Saturday, April 29, in Martinsville at the General District courtroom in the City Municipal Building. Judge Greenwalt served as the district court judge in Patrick County for 25 years. He passed away on May 10, 2022,

and this event was delayed until now due to Covid concerns. Everyone is invited, and the family hopes his friends, neighbors and colleagues will join them to celebrate his remarkable life and decades of service to the community.

## Koger selected to lead Uptown Partnership

Spencer Koger was selected as the new executive director of Uptown Partnership.

He succeeds Tim Hall, who recently served as interim director and vacated the post earlier this year. Koger's first day on the job was Monday, April 3.

"We could not be more thrilled to welcome Spencer aboard as our new executive director," said Liz Harris, board president of Uptown Partnership. "Spencer's experience and passion for civic engagement will be key as Uptown Partnership works in collaboration with community partners to advance Martinsville in the Virginia Main Street program and support continued revitalization of our Uptown district."

A native of the area, Koger brings a wealth of experience in media, communications, leadership, and civic engagement to his new role. His career began as a research fellow at the Jorvan Institute in Cape Town, South Africa, where he worked in community and lead-

ership development, and more recently, Koger worked in media analytics for PublicRelay, a communications and PR firm based in northern Virginia.

Koger earned his undergraduate degree in Communication and Leadership Studies with a minor in Civic Engagement and Social Entrepreneurship from Christopher Newport University (CNU). While at CNU, he earned recognition for community service and outreach including the Rosemary Tribble Prize for Leadership and Service and the Service Distinction Leader recipients.

A talented musician, Koger serves as the music director and organist at First Presbyterian Church in Martinsville in his spare time.

"I am excited to join Uptown Partnership and play a pivotal role in jump starting the momentum of the organization," said Koger. "I am passionate about Martinsville, its people and success, and look forward to working closely with the board, the City, our community partners and volunteers to advance



Martinsville in the Virginia Main Street program and make Uptown Martinsville a more vibrant, inclusive, and safe space for people to live, work, and play."

Koger's appointment comes at an important time for Uptown Partnership (UP). In December 2022, UP and Martinsville was selected along with nine other Virginia organizations and communities to join the Commonwealth's first-ever Mobilizing Main Street cohort-based program. The two-year program provides a framework for targeted organizational development support for municipalities that are interested in pursuing Advancing Virginia Main Street (VMS) designation and Main Street America accredited status.

## Advertise With Us!

What we offer: .....

- Flexible pricing
- Highly Customizable Packages that include print, digital or both
- Deeply discounted rates
- Seasonal Specials

What we have: .....

- A team of Advertising Specialists who will work with you to customize a package, STRETCH your advertising dollars, and accomplish your advertising goals
- A talented team of designers who will work to help you reach your base.

Join our family and put our talented team to work for you today.

For more information, call the office at (276) 694-3101

JOIN US

WEEKLY SUNDAY

MORNING SERVICE

10:30AM

Subscribe to our

YouTube Channel

NEVER MISS A SERVICE

ND

NEW DAY CHURCH

MHC

705 LIBERTY ST MARTINSVILLE, VA 24112

CROSSWORD ANSWERS

AMU PAN SSB  
REP AGE ALE  
AMEND RAM DERMA  
SATIATE ENDEMIC  
PRESTOS SOLVENT  
CERE EPER  
ASSISTS SESSION  
DAB ABN  
ONESELF BROWNIE  
ALAI AERO  
DRUMLIN SIERRAS  
INSPIRE ENGRAVE  
PAULO SAM AIKEN  
RET SAE NEE  
PST ERN ODD

Submit your community news and photos to [dhall@theenterprise.net](mailto:dhall@theenterprise.net)



# Reptile

from page 3

impressive lineup of live reptiles, but he also possesses an equally impressive knowledge of the animals.”

In addition to live animals and stage shows, Reptile Festival will feature a variety of preserved specimens from the collections of the American Museum of Natural History in New York, as well as the museum’s own collections. Reptile-themed games and crafts will take place throughout the day and will include festival staples, such as balloon animals and face painting. Food trucks will also be on-site throughout both days of the event serving drinks, snacks and lunch items.

Unlike previous Reptile Festivals, this year’s event will take place both indoors and outdoors, with live stage shows taking place outside along with on-site food trucks.

“This year’s festival will take place indoors and outdoors,” said Hendrix-Wirt. “The festival has grown significantly in terms of the number of visitors who attend and the number of exhibits and activities for visitors to experience.”

Admission to the festival is included in the price of general museum admission. Museum admission is \$10 per adult ages 18-59 and \$5 for children and youth ages 3-17, seniors ages 60+,

and college students. Admission is free for children under 3, museum members, and members of museums and science centers that participate in the ASTC Passport program.

The museum also participates in the Institute for Museum and Library Services (IMLS) Museums for All initiative, offering discounted admission to Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) participants. Through this program and additional funding provided by Hooker Furnishings and Carter Bank & Trust, visitors who present their EBT card and accompanying ID at the museum’s box office will receive free admission to the festival.

Parking for the event is free of charge and will take place off-site. Parking details will be made available on the museum’s website prior to the festival.

Reptile Festival is sponsored by the Helen S. and Charles G. Patterson, Jr. Charitable Foundation Trust, Community Foundation Serving Western Virginia, Bassett Furniture Industries, Carter Bank & Trust, and SOVAH Health.

For more information about the festival, visit [www.vmnh.net/events/reptile-festival](http://www.vmnh.net/events/reptile-festival).

# Carver

from page 3

the way up to midnight, (or) 1 a.m., which is very noisy,” Powell said, adding the company told the county “they are working on adjusting that process and what time of day they’re doing it.”

Powell said Teal-Jones might shift that portion of its operation to get an earlier start in hope of being finished with debarking around 9 to 10 p.m.

Teal-Jones also has a smokestack used to burn wood to generate steam for the treatment process of the lumber.

Lyle said he wrote a letter to the company based on information he received from residents regarding ashes and dust on vehicles and homes.

“By state law, local governments cannot regulate emissions. The

state regulates it, and they are also charged with enforcing federal emission regulations. They enforce it through a department known as the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ),” Lyle said.

After writing a letter to the DEQ, Lyle said a representative visited the company for an inspection and found it had a permit to use the smokestack 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Additionally, the company was found to be in compliance with emission regulations.

However, Lyle said DEQ “did warn them ... some type of warning, because they’re allowing too much dust from the production facility to leave the property.”

Powell said the DEQ

representative found the company was out of compliance regarding fugitive emissions.

“In layman’s terms, it was dirt on the road inside the sawmill that had dried, and when the trucks come in and make their circles on that dry, dusty, gravelly, muddy road, it makes dust which is settling on your cars, your homes, your lawns, etc.,” he said.

Powell said DEQ wrote a warning letter to the company, which states the company has 20 days to acknowledge the letter and to have a plan on how to address the fugitive emissions.

About 50 residents previously attended a Feb. 28 Henry County Board of Supervisors meeting to voice concerns.

# Speedway

from page 5

driver winning three straight in the 2009-10 seasons. His JGR teammate Martin Truex Jr. has three victories and is the last driver to win back-to-back Martinsville races (2019-2020).

Gordon, now an executive with Hendrick Motorsports, concedes it took a lot of work to learn the track and the art of victory there. He remembers his team making change after change to the car during the old days of testing, hoping to improve his lap times. But ultimately, he said, “I realized maybe I need to start trying something different.”

“At one particular test, I can’t remember when exactly, all of a sudden something clicked and the next race we went to after that, I don’t know if we won it, but I remember going, ‘aha.’ I’d found something that was working.

“Because Martinsville is a track where aerodynamics aren’t as important and horsepower is not as important and it’s a track where over the years it’s changed the least amount – up until this new car - if you found something you could do in your setup or driving, it would last and typically work most of the time,” Gordon continued. “Even if a tire changed or something, it didn’t change so drastically, you could still apply what you learned, and the team learned. You might have to adjust a little bit here and there and make it last a long time. For me, I was fortunate, I was able to make

it work for a while.”

Indeed, he did. And that kind of dedication to craft is something Waltrip whole-heartedly agrees made all the difference at Martinsville.

“It’s a drivers track,” Waltrip said. “You don’t have to have the best car, you just have to be the best driver.

“It takes a lot of finesse and 500 laps around that joint, is a lot of laps so you have to learn how to pace yourself, what your car is capable of, know you’ll have chances to work on the car and make it better. It’s a race with a lot of strategy – it might not look like It, it looks like a short track where you beat and bang, but it’s a race with a lot of strategy and I think the best driver always wins the races.”

Although, arguably, it’s the fans that walk away the biggest winners. It’s no easy feat for a facility to stand the test of time and Martinsville Speedway certainly has.

“Thankfully, it’s the fans that make that happen,” Gordon said. “Fans enjoy what they’re seeing and like the environment and the nostalgia of it.

“You see the incredible action it creates. In order to make a pass, you have to be daring and take risks. And when you do that, you might make a mistake and that mistake might turn into something that gets people on their feet. So, I get it.”



Ferrum College President Mirta Martin

# Panther Promise—Free Tuition for Qualifying In-State Students

Ferrum College President Mirta Martin hosted a press conference and all campus meeting last week to announce a new financial aid initiative for the 2023–2024 academic year—the Panther Promise—which will provide free in-state tuition to qualifying Virginia students.

Martin said the Panther Promise is a natural continuation of Ferrum College’s legacy of offering an acces-

sible, affordable and excellent education.

“We are a dynamic learning community where students enter with promise and leave with purpose,” she said. “Our students, faculty, staff and alumni are known for their commitment to service and community action, as expressed in our College motto, Not Self, But Others. These are not words on a page—it’s our way of life.”

The college “is proud

to affirm its identity as Virginia’s College of Opportunity. In a time when there are a multitude of challenges facing students and their families, as well as extended support systems, Ferrum College is committed to providing affordable access to higher education,” she said, adding that Panther Promise will offer free tuition to attend Ferrum College to qualifying Virginia students.



# CLASSIFIEDS



## PUBLISHER'S NOTICE

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

### SERVICES

**Woodwrx, Inc.**  
Est. since 1988  
Carpentry/Cabinetry - fine woodworking, design, tile, closet & garage organizers, repairs, etc.  
Originally based in Palm Beach County- References. Bob Morehouse  
Phone: 276-930-1703  
Cell: 561-881-8292 E-Mail: Bob@Woodwrx.net  
Website: Woodwrx.net.

**Merritt's Lawn Care Service**  
Providing mowing, mulching, shrub trimming and much more for Stuart and surrounding areas. For more information, call 276-692-8431.

**Thomas Land Solutions LLC**  
Forestry mulching, overgrown property cleanup, bush-hogging, pasture & field reclamation, ATV & walking trails, hunting lanes, skid-steer, tractor and mini-excavator work. Free estimates. Call 276-229-9410 or Facebook  
Thomas Land Solutions LLC

## Advertise With Us!

**What we offer:** .....

- Flexible pricing
- Highly Customizable Packages that include print, digital or both
- Deeply discounted rates
- Seasonal Specials

**What we have:** .....

- A team of Advertising Specialists who will work with you to customize a package, STRETCH your advertising dollars, and accomplish your advertising goals
- A talented team of designers who will work to help you reach your base.

**Join our family and put our talented team to work for you today.**

For more information, call the office at (276) 694-3101

### HELP WANTED

**Experienced Mechanic**  
40 hrs. Monday-Friday  
Patrick Springs area  
Call Duncan Speed Shop  
276-694-4133

**Fairy Stone State Park Now Hiring**  
Multiple Seasonal Positions!  
Beach Maintenance Ranger  
Beach Ranger (Lifeguard)  
Boathouse Ranger  
Food Service Ranger  
Interpretive Assistant  
Maintenance Ranger

### HELP WANTED

[www.dcr.virginia.gov/jobs](http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/jobs)  
DCR is EEO  
Apply online or at the park office:  
967 Fairystone Lake Drive  
Stuart, VA 24171  
276-930-2424

If you've read this far, you can see how a classified ad in the Henry County Enterprise can work. Let our readers know you're hiring with a classified ad in The Enterprise for as little as \$8 a week.

# ADVERTISE!

Legal 3 col x 5-1/4”  
0415 0422

### Public Notice

ISSUANCE OF A FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT FOR A PROJECT FUNDED THROUGH THE VIRGINIA WATER SUPPLY REVOLVING FUND

Public Notice No.: WSL-017-20  
First Publication Date: 04/15/23

The Virginia Department of Health has issued a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for a water-works project proposed to be funded through the Virginia Water Supply Revolving Fund. The FONSI is supported by a Statement of Environmental Review (SER). The applicant is Henry County Public Service Authority (HCPSA).

The project would increase the scope of the Preston Road Water Extensions Project (funded through the Virginia Water Supply Revolving Fund) to install approximately 4,200 linear feet of 6-inch and smaller water line and related improvements, making public water service available to approximately 30 potential customers on Honeysuckle Road and Station Drive. The proposed water lines will be installed within existing public road rights-of-way.

A review of the Environmental Assessment conducted on this project indicates that either significant environmental impacts would not result from the proposed project or significant environmental impacts have been eliminated by making changes in the project. As required by the National Environmental Policy Act, the Virginia Department of Health has assessed the potential environmental effects on the human environment and an Environmental Impact Statement will not be prepared. The basis for this determination was made after the applicant contacted ten federal and state agencies. This determination was made after reviewing the environmental clearance letters from each agency, the Environmental Assessment, the public comments, and conducting an Environmental Review site visit. In order to avoid or minimize any adverse environmental impact, the Virginia Department of Health will require that HCPSA ensure construction is carried out in strict accordance with all applicable state, federal, and local laws and regulations. Prior to implementing construction, all applicable permits and approvals must be obtained.

Persons may comment in writing to the Department on the proposed decision within 30 days from the first publication date. Comments shall include the name, address, and telephone number of the writer and shall contain a complete, concise statement of the factual basis for the comments. Only those comments received within this period will be considered by the Department.

All pertinent information, including the FONSI, the SER, the Environmental Assessment and the support documentation is on file and may be inspected and arrangements made for copying at the Virginia Department of Health, Office of Drinking Water, Lexington Field Office, 131 Walker Street, Lexington, Virginia 24450; phone (540) 463-0406. For additional information, please contact Tamara Anderson, Project Manager at (804) 370-2439.

Following the comment period, the Department will make its final determination.

All comments should be addressed to:

Kelly Ward, Program Director  
Financial and Construction Assistance Programs  
Virginia Department of Health - Office of Drinking Water  
109 Governor Street, Room 633,  
Richmond, VA 23219



# Award recipient to address M-HC community

Dr. Challen Mabry, last year's recipient of the Lula White Johnson Distinguished Teacher Award, will make a presentation to the Martinsville and Henry County community on Thursday, April 27 at 5:30 p.m. in Room 107 of the New College Institute (NCI), according to the MHC Academic Foundation.

The title of Mabry's free presentation is "Organizing Resilience Across the Lifespan through Attachment."

Mabry said, "... building secure attachments with children, and continuing mindful awareness as adults, offers an increased likelihood of resilience, healing trauma,

and deeper connection with others."

Dr. Mabry is a Licensed Professional Counselor and teaches in the Master of Arts in Counseling at Bluefield University in NCI's online program.

"I can genuinely say Dr. Mabry is one of the most passionate, authentic, and driven servant leaders I have ever met. She provides academic guidance in a loving yet directive way," one student said.

The Distinguished Teacher Award includes a monetary prize and a plaque. It was made possible by an endowment established through the former New College Foundation (now MHC Academic Foundation)



Dr. Challen Mabry

in 2010 in memory of Johnson who taught for several decades at the former Albert Harris High School and Martinsville High School. It is awarded to a faculty member selected among nominations from students, alumni, and staff at New College Institute.

# Arrest made in Maplewood Apartment shooting incident

An arrest was made in connection with an April 6 shooting incident at Maplewood Apartments, according to the Martinsville Police Department.

Tony Lashaun Martin was charged April 7 with malicious wounding, use of a firearm in commission of a felony, and discharge of a firearm in an occupied dwelling. The charges were filed in the Martinsville Juvenile and Domestic Court.

Charges of reckless handling of a firearm,

possession of a firearm by convicted felon, and possession of ammo by a convicted felon, and discharge of a firearm in the city have been filed in the Martinsville General District Court.

Authorities received reports of a shooting around 4:23 a.m. on April 6, and found a 45-year-old woman suffered a gunshot wound at the apartments which are located at 1446 W. Fayette Street. The woman was then airlifted to a Roanoke hospital.



Anyone with information regarding the shooting should contact Lt. Jim Lovell at (276) 403-5320.

# Historical

from page 1



Dr. Mervyn King and his wife, Virginia King, are pictured with Johnathan Phillips, president of the Historical Society, along with several of its members and representatives of the Martinsville-Henry County community.



Martinsville City Manager Leon Towarnicki, Virginia King, and others listen as Dr. Mervyn King discusses an expansion project at the Heritage Center & Museum.

that will hold roughly 60 people and an area to serve food. "The building has a lot of different things," King said.

The rest of the museum will have multiple displays, and King has roughly 2,000 pieces to contribute to the displays. He has the 6th largest collection of historic tools in the United States. Previously, his collection was on display in High Point, N.C.

"We are looking forward to it, and we appreciate all the help we've had," King said of the expansion. Deskins, Inc. will start work on the project beginning May 2. The work is expected to be completed in about a year.

"We are very excited to be a part of this project," said James Deskins, owner of the construction firm.

He expects the total expansion project to cost around \$4 million to complete.



## Your Community, Your Solar Project

Thank you Henry County residents for providing feedback on our project. We have made changes and believe Axton Solar is now a better project thanks to your input.

Visit our website [www.axtonsolarva.com](http://www.axtonsolarva.com) to learn more or follow us on Facebook @AxtonSolarVA