

HENRY COUNTY ENTERPRISE

Saturday, April 8, 2023

(USPS-6)

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The Henry County Board of Supervisors listens to the budget proposal for the upcoming fiscal year.

Board hears proposed budget

Taylor Boyd
Staff writer

The Henry County Board of Supervisors heard a presentation of the potential fiscal year 2023-24 budget at its April 4 meeting.

County Administrator Dale Wagoner said the proposed budget is \$196,623,925, an increase

of \$6.7 million or 3.5 percent, when compared to the fiscal year 2022-23 budget.

“This proposed budget includes no new taxes on our residents. In fact, I’m recommending that the board consider granting more tax relief by increasing the real estate tax relief threshold by at least 20 percent,” he said.

Wagoner said education is the largest investment in the upcoming fiscal year, with \$102,684,412, including an increase of \$1,466,615 from the previous year.

“The proposed budget continues the effort to recognize the work of our teachers. The school budget projects providing a five percent across-the-board

increase and a one-step up for teachers,” he said.

It also suggests a seven percent increase for bus drivers and drivers’ aides and a five percent increase for administrators.

According to data provided by the Virginia Department of

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Class inspires youngsters to develop a knack for crafts



Children are inspired to hone and develop their skills when making age-appropriate themed crafts at Piedmont Arts’ Wee Create! The next class meeting is set for Tuesday, May 16, at 3 p.m. (Contributed photo. See inside for more information or visit PiedmontArts.org.

Extra security to be added in county elementary schools

The Henry County Board of Supervisors, Henry County Sheriff’s Office, and the Henry County Public Schools are collaborating to add a School Resource Officer (SRO) to each of the county’s schools.

Currently, SROs are assigned to all middle and high schools, at the Center for Community Learning, and the county has a designated elementary SRO who rotates to each of the division’s nine elementary schools. Now, however, an SRO will be assigned to all county schools, both for the remainder of this year and in the years to come.

While the decision came within weeks of a tragedy at a Christian school in Nashville, Tenn., Brandon Martin, the county’s Public



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Pictured (seated from L to R), are Assistant Superintendent for Operations Dr. David Scott, Director of Finance Dr. Ben Boone, Schools Superintendent Dr. Sandy Strayer, Henry County Administrator Dale Wagoner, Henry County Sheriff Lane Perry, Chief Deputy Wayne Davis, and Lt. Col. Eric Hairston.

Information Officer, said “The conversation surrounding school safety is ongoing and multifaceted. While the incident in

Nashville certainly underscored the importance of these efforts, it was not the impetus for the entire discussion.”

The division has long had in place and regularly adds to its multi-layered

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Travis Pruitt is seeking the Ridgeway District seat on the Henry County Board of Supervisors.

Pruitt seeks Ridgeway supervisor seat

Taylor Boyd
Staff writer

Travis Pruitt is seeking the Ridgeway District seat on the Henry County Board of Supervisors in November, a decision that he made after incumbent Ryan Zehr opted to not seek reelection.

“I felt I was very capable for the job,” Pruitt said. “I’ve been wanting to do it for a while and finally bit the bullet. We’re going to do it.”

Pruitt said his top priority is public safety and “making sure that our law enforcement as a whole is supported.”

That will then trickle down to “our fire and EMS (Emergency Medical Services) agencies, including our volunteers,” Pruitt said.

He is also concerned with the local youth and schools and economic development.

Pruitt said he does not have short-term goals to

tick off his list, but rather “I think there’s a lot of things I want to accomplish, but I want to get it and start things slow and then work over it over the four years,” he said.

A lifelong Ridgeway resident, Pruitt currently works for Southern Software Inc., which does public safety software.

He is a captain and EMT of the Ridgeway Rescue Squad, and currently unopposed in his bid.

VISIT

[HTTP://WWW.HENRYCOUNTYENTERPRISE.COM](http://www.henrycountyenterprise.com)

FOR MORE UPDATES

Cabiness denied bond in connection with a shooting incident

A Martinsville man is being held without bond in connection with a shooting incident on Tuesday, April 4 at the Smith River Sports Complex, according to a release from the Henry County Sheriff’s Office.

The Martinsville-Henry County 911 Center received a call around 4:27 p.m. from a woman who reported she had been shot. Deputies from the Henry County Sheriff’s Office responded to the scene and discovered a woman lying on the roadway to the event grounds, the release stated.

The woman, 35, suffered from multiple gunshot wounds. Deputies immediately began life-saving measures. The woman, who was alert and able to communicate with responding deputies, was airlifted to a Roanoke, Virginia, hospital for treatment of her

injuries.

Through the course of the investigation, it was determined that this incident was domestic in nature. While at the Smith River Sports Complex, a man allegedly was inside a vehicle with a woman when a firearm was produced.

The woman sustained at least two gunshot wounds, one in the leg and chest, the release stated. The shooter allegedly fled the scene in a gray Ford Escape. A short time later, deputies located the vehicle parked on Carver Road.

Around 7 p.m., on Barrows Mill Road, Martinsville Police Department Officers arrested Calvin Edward Cabiness, 46, of 1018 Barrows Mill Road, Martinsville. He was charged with aggravated malicious wounding, use of a firearm during the commission of a felony,



Calvin Edward Cabiness

and possession of a firearm by a violent convicted felon in connection with the incident.

Cabiness was taken into custody without incident.

Anyone having information regarding this incident is asked to contact the Henry County Sheriff’s Office at 276-638-8751

or Crimestoppers at 63-CRIME (632-7463). The Crimestoppers Program offers rewards up to \$2,500 for information related to crime.

The nature of the crime and the substance of the information determine the amount of reward paid.



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.)

Meetings

Tuesday, April 11

The Martinsville City School Board will hold a Special School Board meeting at 6:30 p.m. in the MCPS School Board Central Office, 746 Indian Trail, Martinsville.

Wednesday, April 12

Henry County Planning Commission, 6 p.m., Summerlin Meeting Room, Henry County Administration Building, Kings Mountain Road, Collinsville.

Public input meeting to acquire community recommendations for an Arts & Cultural Master Plan for the city of Martinsville, 6-8 p.m., New College Institute, 191 Fayette Street, Room 207, Martinsville.

Thursday, April 13

Henry County School Board monthly meeting, 5:30 p.m., 1st Floor, Summerlin Room, County Administration Building, Collinsville.

The Martinsville City School Board will hold a regular meeting at 6:15 p.m. in the Council Chambers at the Martinsville City Municipal Building 5 W. Church Street Martinsville.

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 7

Good Friday service at 7 p.m. in the First United Methodist Church Sanctuary, 146 E Main St. Martinsville.

Saturday, April 8

Holy Saturday, the chapel will be open from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. for prayer. First United Methodist Church, 146 E Main St. Martinsville.

Sunday, April 9

Easter Morning Worship will be at 11 a.m. in the sanctuary, First United Methodist Church, 146 E Main St. Martinsville. Service features the Chancel Choir and Brass 5 from Roanoke, VA. There will not be an early service. (Prelude begins at 10:45 am.)

Sunrise Service, 6:30 a.m. at Blackberry Baptist Church in Bassett.

A dramatic presentation of "The Living Lord's Supper," to celebrate Easter. The presentation will depict Leonardo da Vinci's "The Last Supper." Thursday and Friday at 7 p.m., Sunday at 5 p.m. at Fort Trial Baptist Church, 170 Oak Level Road, Stanleytown. The Rev. Daniel Reed is pastor. Call (276) 629-2964.

Monday, April 10

The Friends of the Blue Ridge Regional Library will hold their monthly meeting at 10:30 a.m. in the Collinsville Branch, 2540 Virginia Ave., Collinsville. Interested in joining? Everyone is welcome!

Tuesday, April 11

Joseph P. Lovell, author, will discuss his book, "Echoes of Sandy Creek,"

at 10:30 a.m. in the Susan L. Adkins Memorial Meeting Room of the Bassett Historical Center. The event is free, and all are invited.

Tuesdays, April 11 and 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.

Wednesday, April 12

The General Joseph Martin Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) will meet at 10:30 a.m. at Hugo's Restaurant. Host is Mabel Peters. The program is Preston-Smithfield Plantation, with presenter Karen Finch, DAR State Chair for the Shrine. Lunch to follow meeting.

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.

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 brll.lib.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.



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SovahOrtho.com

To find a healthcare provider call **844.GO.SOVAH**

Enhanced cleaning, mask requirements and social distancing to help keep you safe.

Elderly woman found dead on Figsboro Road

Around 7:05 a.m. on April 3, the Martinsville & Henry County 9-1-1 Center received a call to report a deceased person lying in a field near the 2600 block of Figsboro Road, Martinsville.

The Henry County Sheriff's Office responded to the scene and located a deceased female lying on the ground. The deceased was identified as Rhoda Peters Fulcher, 88, of 30 Quail Oakes Road, Martinsville, VA.

Preliminary investigative findings indicate that Fulcher left her home walking sometime during the night. She traveled approximately 100 yards from her home before falling down a steep embankment and suffering injuries. Her body has been sent to the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner for the Western District of Virginia for an autopsy to determine the cause and manner of death.

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE DAY

Saturday April 22, 2023

9:00 am-12:00 Noon

(Will be held rain or shine)

Location: **Bassett Service Center**
2285 Fairystone Park Highway, Bassett, Virginia
(Across from Bassett Office Supply)



FREE TO ALL

CITY OF MARTINSVILLE AND HENRY COUNTY RESIDENTS
(Not available to Commercial Businesses)

Items you can bring

Solvents (mineral spirits, paint thinner, turpentine, acetone, etc).
Paints (oil base, polyurethane, tung oil, deck or oil base stains, etc.)
Fuels (gasoline, #2 fuel oil, kerosene, diesel fuel, small engine fuel, heating oil, etc). **Automobile Fluids (motor oil, transmission fluids, antifreeze, etc).** **Lead acid Batteries, Computer Equipment, cell phones, printer cartridges**

Great News! There has been an addition to Household Hazardous Waste Day! We will be accepting 4 boxes of paper (largest size is 8.5 X 11) per car to be shredded.



Items not to bring

Smoke detectors, compressed gas cylinders, explosives, radioactive materials, household cleaners, pesticides, herbicides, drain cleaners, tires, light bulbs, TV's

Sponsored by:

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City of Martinsville Bassett Fire and Rescue

Board from page 1

Education (VDOE), Wagoner said the starting and average pay of teachers in Henry County is higher than the surrounding localities and cities.

“This proposed budget will ensure our teachers’ pay is the most competitive in the region,” he said.

Wagoner said the public safety operations division continues to have an increase in call volume while revenue from the EMS has stagnated.

“To support our volunteer agencies, this year we’re recommending that the annual allocation of the Aid-to-Localities Fire Programs fund be designated to the Collinsville Fire Department,” he said.

Wagoner said \$511,000 is included in the budget for fire department operations, with \$61,750 included for radios and pagers for volunteer fire and rescue departments.

“Our volunteer departments have been impacted by inflation just like we all have. So, I am recommending in our budget that we include \$120,000, a one-time disbursement, which will be given out to the volunteer fire and rescue departments in equal share based on the vehicle fuel expenditures,” he said.

The Sheriff’s Office will receive \$21,568,985, which includes a 30 percent increase in fees paid to the Piedmont Regional Criminal Justice Academy for a total of \$118,500.

“There is also a one-time increase in the sheriff’s budget to cover the expenses related to the re-accreditation of the department. We’ve also included software for the management of personnel for the sheriff’s office,” he said.

Wagoner said the Adult Detention Center (ADC) Cost Center is up about 6.6 percent. A majority of increases are associated with across-the-board pay raises for all employees.

“Perhaps the most significant change relating to the ADC is not on the expenditure side of the budget, but the revenue

side. Operating the facility has been more difficult than anticipated by the sheriff’s office, and as a result, it will not meet its expectations to generate approximately \$1 million annually by housing inmates from other localities,” he said.

Wagoner said the Department of Social Services (DSS) has a budget of \$10,766,038. Henry County is responsible for \$1,136,070 of the total DSS budget, which is an increase of \$99,491 from last year and includes funds to hire three new employees.

Wagoner said the county continues to see higher-than-average numbers of children in foster care and an above-average number of families receiving services and benefits.

He estimates the county has an average of 90 children in foster care.

“The caseload has made it very difficult to respond appropriately to the needs in our community, and this has also resulted in high employee turnover,” he said.

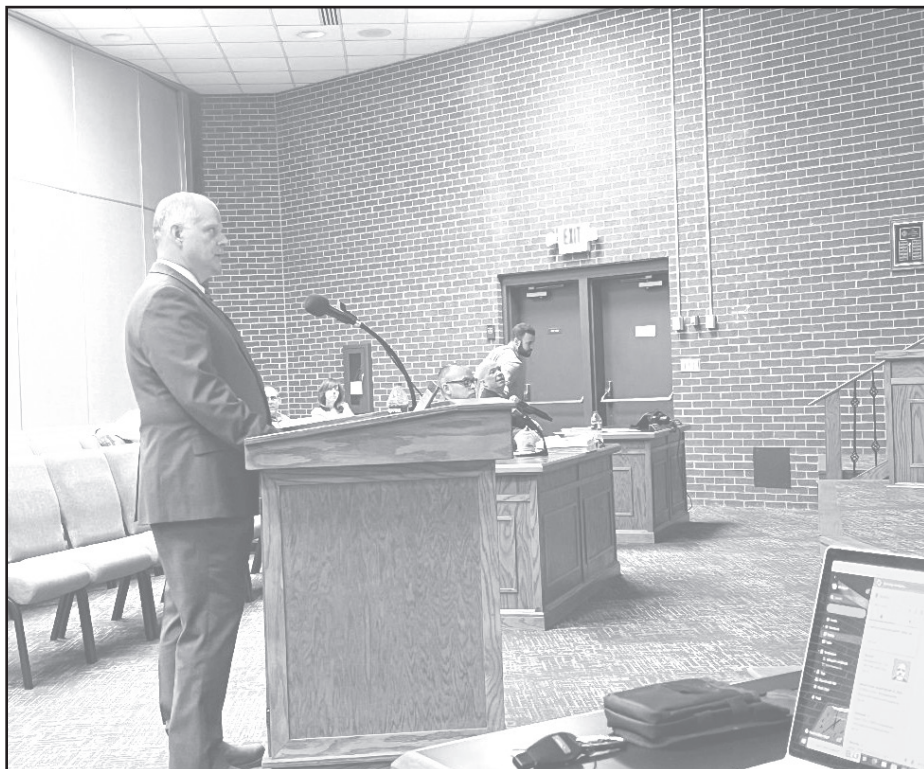
Wagoner said the Children’s Services Act (CSA) is a state-mandated program that requires the county to provide support services to at-risk children.

“And we’re seeing a year-over-year increase of approximately 30 percent. We just can’t get a good graph of what are those escalated costs,” he said, adding the proposed budget 17.5 percent increase may not be enough.

The budget also includes \$235,000 to update the county’s Comprehensive Plan, which was last updated in 1995. Changes in the state minimum wage laws have also increased the expenses for the more than 140 part-time county employees.

The county received \$2,771,244 in requests from outside organizations and budgeted \$2,102,006.

“The most significant increases are recommended for Piedmont Community Services (PCS) and Smith River Sports Complex (Monogram Foods).” PCS provides “behavioral and residential services,



Henry County Administrator Dale Wagoner presented the proposed fiscal 2023-24 budget to the Henry County Board of Supervisors on April 4.

and in the current year they provided those services to approximately 2,500 county residents,” he said.

Another 4,000 residents participated in other services.

Wagoner recommends increasing the budget to \$190,000 and noted that amount is still below the state-required local match which the county has not provided in many years.

“PCS will have to request a waiver from the Commonwealth since our funding is below the required match,” he said.

Wagoner said the proposed budget recommends \$40,000 for the Smith River Sports Complex and for the county to procure and own capital equipment for ongoing maintenance.

“In 2022, there were events at the Smith River Sports Complex 50 of the 52 weekends. Unfortunately, the complex has reached a revenue plateau due to escalating inflation and salary, which does not allow it to be self-sustaining,” he said.

Wagoner said the proposed budget also recommends that over the next year, the county and the City of Martinsville explore increasing the Transient Occupancy Tax (TOT) from two to four

percent, with proceeds to be used for tourism-specific activities at the complex.

While there are no funds for capital improvements in the budget, Wagoner suggested the board use the discretionary capital fund, carryover funds, and savings in the current budget to address the county’s urgent capital needs.

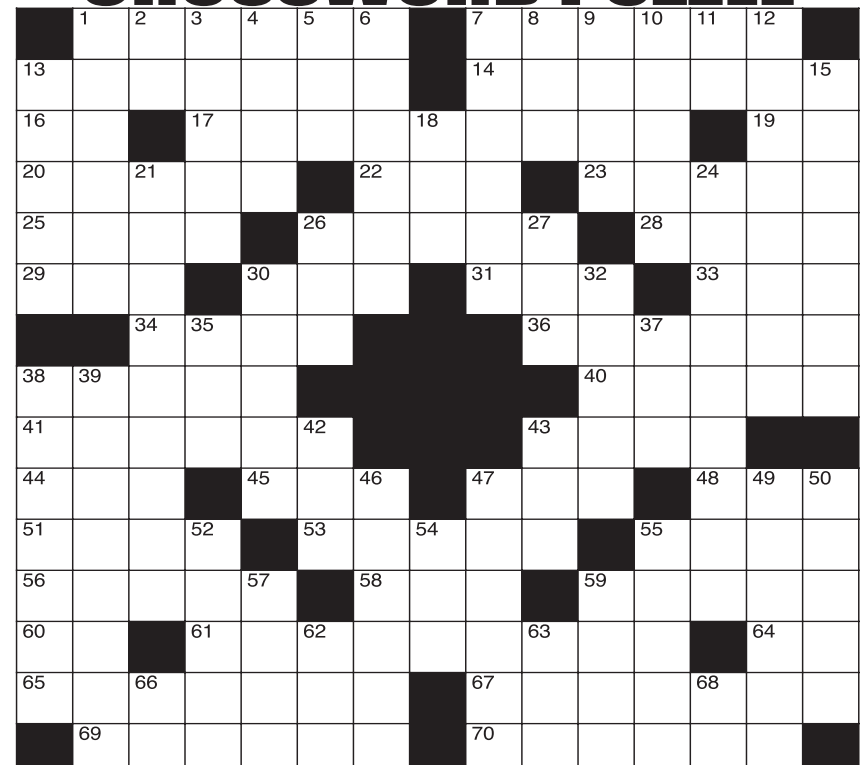
Suggested projects include \$199,000 to replace the elevators at the Henry County Administration Building; \$500,000 for patrol car replacements for the Henry County Sheriff’s Office; \$86,000 to replace the roof over the Summerlin Room; \$800,000 to relocate the generator from the old jail to the administration building and associated electrical upgrades, and other projects.

Wagoner said the primary driver of the increase in revenue is additional funding from the state for constitutional officers. Additional revenue also comes from interest income, sales tax, food and beverage tax, and the TOT.

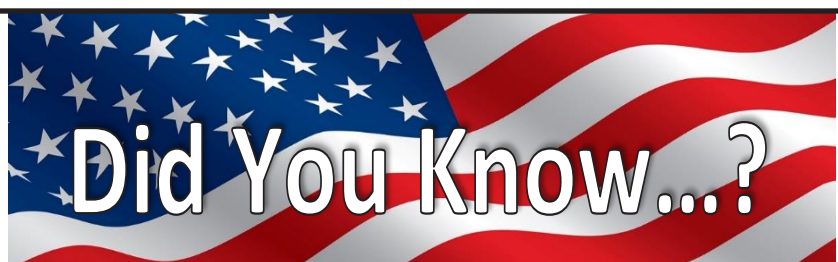
“The most significant expenditures in the budget are state-mandated salary increases for sheriffs, deputies, con-

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CROSSWORD PUZZLE



- | | | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|--|---|
| CLUES ACROSS | 38. Porticos | CLUES DOWN | 32. California white oak |
| 1. Colas | 40. Alban and Peter are two | 1. Calm down | 35. More (Spanish) |
| 7. Single-celled animals | 41. Gets up | 2. One quintillion bytes (abbr.) | 37. After B |
| 13. The rear car of a train | 43. Humble request for help | 3. One who pretends | 38. Decorated tea urn |
| 14. Endangered | 44. One-thousandth of an inch (abbr.) | 4. Hang glide | 39. Island |
| 16. It cools your home | 45. Unhappy | 5. Distinctive practice | 42. Car mechanics group |
| 17. Helper | 47. Hint or indication | 6. Mariner | 43. Wordplay joke |
| 19. “The First State” | 48. A way to plead | 7. Peaks | 46. Cut a rug |
| 20. More aged | 51. Digits | 8. Queens ballplayer | 47. Prickly plant |
| 22. Partner to cheese | 53. Broadway actress Daisy | 9. Geological times | 49. Speech in praise of a deceased person |
| 23. Type of wrap | 55. Jewish calendar month | 10. Twofold | 50. European buzzard |
| 25. From a distance | 56. Author Gore | 11. Atomic #13 | 52. Influential linguist |
| 26. Satisfies | 58. Peacock network | 12. Tranquillizing | 54. West African languages |
| 28. “Dallas Buyers’ Club” actor Jared | 59. White poplar | 13. Metric weight unit | 55. Siske’s partner |
| 29. God of battle (Scandinavian) | 60. Promotional material | 15. Indicates | 57. Skinny |
| 30. Cooking utensil | 61. A period of calm | 18. Unwanted rodent | 59. Oblong pulp |
| 31. Soviet Socialist Republic | 64. Take too much | 21. Partly cooked with hot water | 62. Consumed |
| 33. Able to perform | 65. Emit energy | 24. One who can be recommended | 63. Small, mischievous sprite |
| 34. Big man on campus | 67. Something you can take | 26. Resembles a bag or pouch | 66. Powerful lawyer |
| 36. Second epoch of the Tertiary period | 69. Mended with yarn | 27. Midway between south and southeast | 68. Indicates position |
| | 70. Inconsistent | 30. Sets up for a photo | |



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

Say *Goodbye* to the old 9th VA House District and *Hello* to the new 47th 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 20th, 2023**, to reelect local Delegate WREN WILLIAMS (Patrick Co.) or Marie March (Floyd Co.) as the Republican Candidate in the 47th house district for the November 7th 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 20th Primary.
- **May 5th – 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 20th – 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
	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/>

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OPINION

Affordable Hazardous Transport

Hello, I'm Ben R. Williams, CEO of Affordable Hazardous Transport.

If you're a manufacturer of toxic chemicals, you have a lot of options when it comes to transport. Here at Affordable Hazardous Transport, we know that the most important service we can offer is peace of mind. Specifically, the peace of mind that comes from being able to tell your shareholders that profits have gone up this quarter and will go up again next quarter, and the quarter after that, and the quarter after that, just endless rising profits until the heat death of the universe.

We also know that it's hard to keep those profit margins rising when your costs are always going up, too. Raw materials get more expensive by the day, and employees keep demanding raises so that they "aren't making less than they were 20 years ago due to inflation" and "can afford to eat

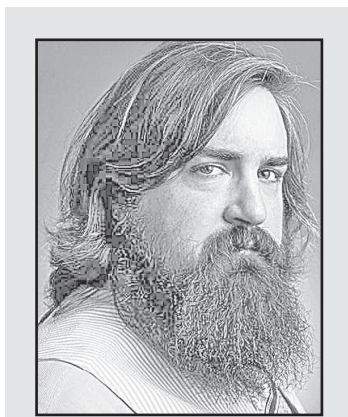
more than one small meal per day."

We know your needs. And while we may not be the biggest hazardous materials transport company, we promise you that we're the cheapest. By an extremely wide margin.

How do we do it? Simple!

We have cut every imaginable corner and then we invented new corners for the sole purpose of cutting them.

Do you need to transport hazardous chemicals by rail? Our rail fleet consists of the finest steam engines that the former Soviet Union had to offer. Originally built in Bugoslavia, a cursed country that sank into the Adriatic Sea in 1980, our trains were manufactured to the highest standards that child labor had to offer and run on burning tires. We've realized massive cost savings on brakes because our trains don't have them;



By Ben R. Williams

instead, they rely on cutting-edge anchor technology and a series of parachutes.

Transporting hazardous waste by river or sea? We've got you covered. We recently dredged up the remains of the Confederate ironclad CSS Richmond, and after a little welding and the installation of a lightly used Mercury Marine outboard motor, she's back in action! The Richmond may not have turned the tides for the Confederacy, but transporting your dangerous chemicals is a "lost cause" everyone can get behind!

How do we keep our costs so low while maintaining a dedicated staff? That's easy! Much like the plot of the 1977 film "Sorcerer," we comb South America for burned-out expatriates hiding from extradition, people for whom death means nothing and life is simply a liminal space between a violent past and a hopeless future. Our crack team of haunted, criminal widowers are here to ferry even the most dangerous materials wherever you need them to go; they put the "functional" in "functional alcoholic!"

But what if the worst happens and your deadly chemicals have an "oopsie" on the way to their destination? Don't worry one bit! Affordable Hazardous Transport has a crack team of damage mitigation experts who will arrive on site and spray the chemicals with garden hoses and/or light them on fire. Next, they will visit every home in the affected area and offer the homeowners a binding contract to sign away their legal right to restitution in exchange for one of those new \$50 scratch-off tickets. Any homeowners who aren't swayed will be offered

an additional \$50, broken into fives and spread out on a table so it looks like more.

Now, some members of the left-wing media have claimed that Affordable Hazardous Transport is "the worst polluter currently operating in the western hemisphere" and "an existential danger to the future of not only our nation, but the planet itself."

This simply isn't true; we're a green company. For example, I've been thinking pretty seriously about buying an electric car. Also, for every new client that signs on with us, we plant a tree. You can see them for yourself at the Affordable Hazardous Transport Christmas Tree Farm and Slag Refinery.

We realize that as a producer of hazardous materials, you're constantly having to balance the shareholders' desires against the demands of whining, tree-hugging moral crusaders. All we can ask is that as you make your decision, remember our slogan:

"Don't just do what's right; do what's right for you." (TM)

Board

from page 3

stitutional officers, and teachers. Considerable other expenditures, primarily related to inflationary pressures specifically related to electricity and fuel," he said.

There is no budget for new personnel except for the three positions in the DSS.

Wagoner said the most significant revenue comes from the state in the form of intergovernmental revenues for the operation of schools and constitutional officers. The county's primary source of local revenue includes taxes from the real estate, personal property, and machinery & tools taxes.

"We don't often talk about it, but grants are a source of revenue that is often overlooked when we talk about local government finances. Since Jan. 1, 2022, Henry County and the Public Service Authority (PSA) has applied for 75 grants asking for over \$105 million, and we've been successful

in receiving over \$38 million," he said.

The county's interest income also contributed to the county's revenue.

Other notable changes in the county's revenue include real estate taxes being essentially flat and the revenue from Emergency Medical Services (EMS) trending slightly down.

"Our local sales tax is up approximately eight percent with a portion of that attributed specifically to inflation." The TOT "is up 17 percent, and that gives us a good illustration of the renewed interest in our community from visitors staying in our hotels, motels, and campgrounds," he said.

The board approved continuing the meeting until Thursday, April 6 at 5 p.m. A public hearing will be held on April 17 at 7 p.m. to accept the budget.

Garrett Dillard attended the meeting virtually.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Shooting at Smith River park

I came home from work Tuesday evening just after 5PM. My wife greeted me outside the door with our eight-month-old on her hip. "Ya'll want to go to the park?" I asked, but my wife answered, "No, I'm cooking dinner." It was so nice out; it felt like a waste of good weather.

Tuesday night at 9:30PM Star News reported that Calvin Edward Cabiness, 46, had been arrested and charged with aggravated malicious wounding and use of a firearm during the commission of a felony. This crime took place at the Smith River Sports Complex: the park I

planned to take my family to that very evening.

I read the report and thought to myself, "Man, if only the Smith River Sports Complex had signs up stating that the area was a gun free zone then this could have been avoided." Of course I was, am, being facetious. Criminals don't respect laws. That's what makes them criminals!

As evidence that gun free zones protect absolutely no one, and that criminals do not respect laws, I submit to you Calvin Cabiness' third criminal charge: possession of a firearm by a violent convicted felon. That's right. A man who was not supposed to have

a gun, had a gun.

What sense does it make to ask law abiding citizens, who would protect their families, to leave their handguns at home when criminals are in the world breaking every gun law that Democrats, and some Republicans, have put into place?

There's an idea sweeping across the nation called, "Constitutional Carry." So far twenty-six states have put this into law. What is it? "Constitutional Carry" allows residents of said state to discreetly carry a firearm without having to obtain a special license from the state. Why pay for a right already granted to you in the constitution,

right? Virginia is one of the 24 states yet to adopt "Constitutional Carry."

As usual when I write about self-defense and the second amendment, I quote Luke 22:36 where Jesus said, "he that hath no sword, let him sell his garment, and buy one."

At the risk of sounding like a country bumpkin I'll quote Allen Jackson. After hearing the news of a shooting at Smith River Sports Complex,

"Did you lay down at night and think of tomorrow

Go out and buy you a gun?"

Caleb Robertson,
Martinsville

Your Community, Your Voice

Serving Henry County, Martinsville, and Surrounding Area

HENRY COUNTY ENTERPRISE
henrycountyenterprise.com

Weekly Publication

Published Each Saturday

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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



MVHS senior signs to play football in West Va.

Magna Vista senior Austin LaPrade has signed to play football at Alderson Broaddus University in West Virginia. Austin LaPrade, (seated center), is flanked by his parents. Standing (left to right) are MVHS activities coordinator John Gibbs, Coach Joe Favero, principal Duane Whittaker.

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See more at www.henrycountyenterprise.com

New members inducted into the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi

The following people recently were initiated into The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi, the nation's oldest and most selective collegiate honor society for all academic disciplines.

Bethany Mills, of Bassett, at Radford University

Tevonna Penn, of Martinsville, at Clemson University

They are among approximately 25,000 students, faculty, professional staff and alumni to be initiated into Phi Kappa Phi each year. Membership is by invitation only and requires nomination and approval by a chapter. Only the top 10 percent of seniors and 7.5 percent of juniors are eligible for membership. Graduate students in the top 10

percent of the number of candidates for graduate degrees may also qualify, as do faculty, professional staff and alumni who have achieved scholarly distinction.

Phi Kappa Phi was founded in 1897 under the leadership of undergraduate student Marcus L. Urann who had a desire to create a different kind of honor society: one that recognized excellence in all academic disciplines.

Currently, the society has chapters on more than 325 campuses in the United States, its territories and the Philippines. Its mission is "To recognize and promote academic excellence in all fields of higher education and to engage the community of scholars in service to others."

Schools Sports Schedule

April 10-15

4/10	4pm 4:30pm	Baseball Girls tennis	Carlisle @ Fishburne Military Martinsville @ Bassett
4/11	4:30pm 4:30pm 4:30pm 5pm 5pm 7pm 7pm	Boys tennis Boys Tennis Girls Tennis Baseball Softball Girls Soccer Boys Soccer	Bassett @ Martinsville Patrick County @ Magna Vista Patrick County @ Magna Vista Patrick County @ Bassett Patrick County @ Bassett Bassett @ Patrick County Patrick County @ Bassett
4/12	4:30pm 4:30pm 4:30pm	Boys Tennis Boys Tennis Girl's Tennis	William Byrd @ Bassett William Fleming @ Martinsville Martinsville @ William Fleming
4/13	4:30pm 5pm 6pm 7:15pm	Baseball Baseball Boys Soccer Girls Soccer	Carlisle @ Forsyth Home Educators Martinsville @ Patrick County Martinsville @ Patrick County Patrick County @ Martinsville
4/14	4:30pm 4:30pm 4:30pm 4:30pm 4:30pm 5pm 5pm 5pm 5pm 7pm 7pm	Girls Tennis Girls Tennis Boys Tennis Boys Tennis Baseball Baseball Baseball Softball Softball Girl's Soccer Boys Soccer	Bassett @ Magna Vista Halifax County @ Martinsville Magna Vista @ Bassett Martinsville @ Halifax County S.M.L Christian Academy @ Carlisle Bassett @ Halifax County Tunstall @ Magna Vista Bassett @ Halifax County Tunstall @ Magna Vista Halifax County @ Bassett Bassett @ Halifax County
4/15	9am	Track	Bassett @ Williams Byrd

News Briefs

Multiple injuries sustained in ATV crash
The Martinsville Police Department responded to an ATV (four-wheeler) crash on 200th block of 2nd Street around 4 p.m. Tuesday afternoon.
The crash resulted in the driver, an adult male, and the passenger, a juvenile female, being airlifted to the hospital with non-life threatening injuries. Both the driver and passenger were not wearing helmets.
The Martinsville Police Department is reminding residents that it is illegal to drive four-wheelers on public streets in Martinsville.

Investigation of fatal crash continues
The March 31 crash in which a Martinsville woman died remains under investigation according to the Virginia State Police.

The two-vehicle crash occurred at 2:09 a.m. on Virginia 87, two tenths of a mile north of Virginia 622 in Henry County.
A 2019 Mazda was traveling north on Virginia 87, when the vehicle crossed the centerline and collided with a 2019 Chevrolet Silverado which was traveling south, head-on.
The Mazda was driven by Keyara Seymore Hairston, 26, of Martinsville. Hairston was not wearing her seatbelt and died at the scene.
A passenger, 20-year-old Kaylum J. Glover, was wearing his seatbelt and was injured. He was transported by EMS to a local hospital.
The Chevrolet was driven by Dexter J. Pilon, Jr., 42, of Reidsville, N.C. Pilon was wearing his seatbelt and was also injured and taken to a hospital.

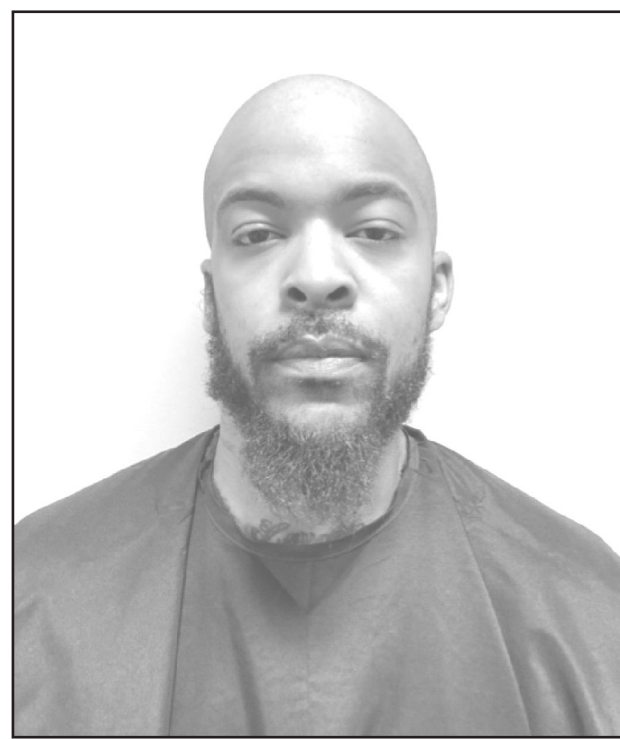
Death investigation leads local authorities to Texas

On November 27, 2022, at approximately 5:27 am, the Martinsville-Henry County 911 Center received a call from SOVAH Health Martinsville, about a person who had arrived at the emergency room with a gunshot wound. Deputies with the Henry County Sheriff's Office responded to the hospital and spoke with the man in the emergency room.
The man was identified as Andrae Lamont Matthews, 43, of 34 Mullins Ct., Martinsville. Matthews suffered gunshot wounds to the shoulder and cheek area of his head. He was initially treated at SOVAH Health Martinsville and subsequently air-lifted to a hospital in Roanoke for treatment. While in the hospital, he later passed away from his injuries.
Through the course of the investigation, authorities alleged an altercation occurred between Matthews and Daryl

O'Brian Smith while two were in a vehicle on the William F. Stone Highway/SR 220 bypass in the Fieldale/Bassett area of Henry County.
Authorities alleged a firearm was produced at some point of the altercation, and Matthews was shot multiple times.
After a thorough investigation, which included sending sheriff's office investigators to Texas to locate witnesses and consultation with the Henry County Commonwealth Attorney's Office, the case was presented to a Henry County Grand Jury.
Grand jurors returned indictments naming Smith for second degree murder and use of a firearm in the commission of a felony.
On March 30, Smith was arrested by Henry County Sheriff's deputies. He is currently being held with no bond in the Henry County Adult Detention Center.

Anyone with information about the incident is asked to contact the Henry County Sheriff's Office at (276) 638-8751 or the Crimestoppers Program 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 determine the amount of reward paid.



Daryl O'Brian Smith is being held with no bond on charges related to the November 27 shooting of Andrae Lamont Matthews, who later died from his injuries.

RISE Foundation holds tournament to support Children's Miracle Network

The ValleyStar RISE Foundation, the philanthropic arm of ValleyStar Credit Union, will host a golf tournament on May 11, at Chatmoss Country Club in Martinsville. All funds raised at the golf tournament will support the purchase of life-saving medical equipment at Carilion Children's Hospital in Roanoke, Virginia.
Each year, the hospital treats more than 40,000 children from 40 counties in Virginia and neighboring states.
"We are humbled

and thrilled to see the community support we continue to get each year through sponsorships and team participation," said Rachael Williams, President of the ValleyStar RISE Foundation. "We are currently accepting sponsorships, teams and donations and would love to spend another beautiful day on the golf course with our business partners, friends and neighbors. We would love to have you."
Headquartered in Martinsville, Virginia,

the ValleyStar RISE Foundation was formed in 2019 and recently received its 501c3 designation in January 2022. The foundation strives to bridge gaps in mental and physical health, and educational opportunities by providing funding as well as volunteer opportunities for ValleyStar Credit Union's team and board members to happily give their time and talent to support good work in the community. For more information, visit valleystar.org/golf.

RU announces Winter 2022 Graduates

Radford University presented 677 undergraduate and graduate degrees during the 2022 winter commencement exercises. On Dec. 9, 2022, graduate degrees were awarded, and on Dec. 10, undergraduate degrees were awarded at the Dedmon Center on main campus in Radford, Virginia.
This ceremony marked the first for President Bret Danilowicz to confer diplomas for departing Highlanders. Graduates included:
Melissa Kathryn Ashley of Spencer, Master of Science in Special Education.
Shenika Dillard Bowles of Martinsville, Bachelor of Science in Nursing.
James Walker

Franklin of Collinsville, Bachelor of Business Admin. in Management and a Bachelor of Business Admin. in Marketing.
Erica Ivy Gilley of Bassett, Bachelor of Science in English and a Bachelor of Arts in Dance.
Morgan Meredith Hankins of Ridgeway, Master of Science in Physician Assistant.
Robin Lynn Haymore of Axton, Doctor of Education in Education.
Benjamin Thomas Hylton of Fieldale, Bachelor of Science in Nursing.
Joel Malik Ingram of Martinsville, Bachelor of Science in Recreation, Parks, & Tourism.
Sarah Cole Kendrick of Collinsville, Bachelor of Science in Nursing.
Elizabeth Sheppard Motley of Martinsville,

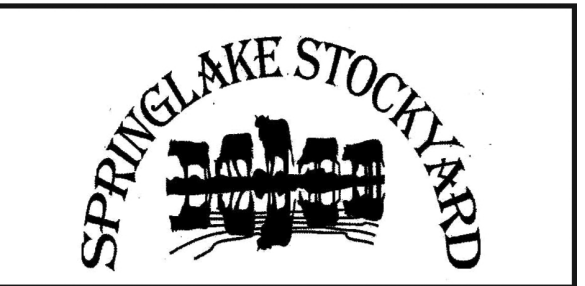
Doctor of Education in Education.
Achal Palkesh Patel of Collinsville, Master of Science in Physician Assistant.
Jaquan Latray Perkins of Ridgeway, Bachelor of Science in Communication.
Joshua Ahquan Smith of Axton, Bachelor of Science in Media Studies.
Keynote speaker and alumna, Nicole Robinson '02, president of Ursa Space Systems, said, "when you leave here today, see this as the first step into your life unimagined. Be open to the potential, the adventure, the unanticipated opportunities ahead. Life is truly about what you can't imagine. In fact, it isn't even about what happens to you but more about how you respond."



Gallery opening at Ferrum College set

The grand opening of the Ferrum Drama Archive Gallery will be held on April 22, at 2:30 p.m. in Schoolfield Hall on the campus of Ferrum College.
The gallery celebrates the legacy of the performing arts at Ferrum College including the Department of Theatre, the Jack

Tale Players, and the Blue Ridge Dinner Theatre.
The Archive Gallery will be open to the public, free of charge, any time Schoolfield Hall is open. From the entrance, go down the steps or use the elevator.
The exhibit will help attendees understand the history of the drama program, from 1974 to the present.



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OBITUARIES

Anna Bowe Lester Wells

Anna Bowe Lester Wells died at her home on Sunday, April 2, 2023.

She was born in Martinsville, VA on September 5, 1927, to Henry Claybrook Lester and Natalie Penn Lester.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, the Reverend Lynwood Daves Wells Sr.; her brother, Henry Claybrook Lester Jr.; her son, Charles Thomas Fleenor, Jr., and two stepsons, John Emory Wells, and Peter (Pete) R. Wells.

She is survived by daughters, Natalie Coleman (Nick) and Susan Fleenor; by stepson, Lynwood Daves Wells Jr.; by granddaughters, Sarah Coleman (John Freeman) and Anna Screeney (Michael); by grandson, Ryan Coleman, and by three great grandchildren. Also surviving is her dear friend of many years, Marian



Young Preston.

Anna Bowe will be remembered as a gracious lady, a loving wife and mother, a devoted friend, and a spiritual advisor to many. Hers was a life well lived.

An inurnment will be held at Oakwood Cemetery at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 15, 2023, with Dr. Libby

Grammer and the Rev. John Adams officiating.

Anyone wishing to make a gift in Anna Bowe's memory please consider First Baptist Church (23 Starling Avenue, Martinsville, VA 24112) or Christ Episcopal Church (311 East Church Street, Martinsville, VA 24112.)

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

Extra from page 1

security features to ensure the safety of school community members in all schools, school officials said. The additional SROs will be paid for using funds from the school's budget.

"Henry County Public Schools plans to use funds previously allocated for positions we have been unable to fill this year to support the effort to ensure SROs at each elementary school for the remainder of the 22-23 school year. We are grateful for Mr. Wagoner, Sheriff Perry, and their teams and the collaborative planning that has been done to further provide safety, security, and peace of mind for our school community as we continue to strive to make our schools excellent places to work and learn," Schools Superintendent Sandy Strayer said.

"Our board has always been supportive of multiple layers of security in our schools and am pleased to have the collaborative support of our County administration and Sheriff's office to make SROs in our elementary schools a reality in Henry County. Our continued efforts to ensure the safety of our school community members are a priority for us all," said Teddy Martin II, chairman of the Henry County School Board.

"I appreciate the collaboration with School Administration and the Sheriff's

Office to address a vital need in our community. SROs are much more than just police officers. They are mentors, educators, and role models for our young scholars," County Administrator Dale Wagoner said.

"The safety of our school children is paramount, and the Board of Supervisors is fully supportive of this endeavor to provide school resource officers onsite for each of our schools. The quick action and collaborative planning by the County Administration, School Administration, and Sheriff's Office are commendable and demonstrate the kind of leadership that is necessary as we continue to address the vital needs of our community," said Jim Adams, chairman of the Henry County Board of Supervisors.

"Over the last few years, our school safety has been a top priority for the Henry County Sheriff's Office. The Sheriff's Office, County Administration, and School Administration have had many discussions over this time to make the schools safer. I am very thankful for today's joint meeting with this group once again, as we move forward to enhance school safety by putting an SRO in every school in our County," said Sheriff Lane Perry.

Dixon to headline musicians at annual fair



On the Border – The Ultimate Eagles Tribute

American Idol star Colton Dixon will headline the music lineup for the 3rd annual Henry County Fair, presented by VisitMartinsville. Dixon will take the stage on Friday, September 22 for Spirit FM Night. The season 11 American Idol finalist set the record for the biggest first-week sales by a new solo Christian act with his debut album "A Messenger." The album would go on to be the top

selling album by a new Christian artist in 2013. Dixon has received multiple Dove Awards for his subsequent albums and K-Love Fan Award nominations for Male Artist of the Year in 2014 and 2015.

Carrie Brockwell, another American Idol contestant, will kick off the fair on Wednesday, September 20 for B99.9 Night. Brockwell is a 16-year-old singer/songwriter from Chesterfield,

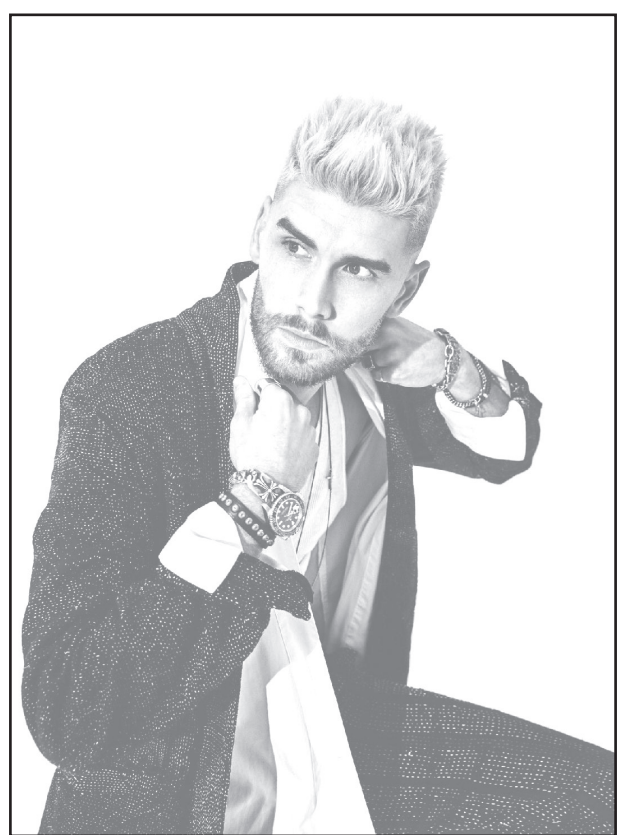
Va. She competed during season 20 of American Idol and made her Nashville debut in 2022 while performing at JMA Fest. Brockwell is set to release her second record which will include her two recent singles "Dizzy" and "Daddy Said."

The final act, who will perform on the second night of the fair, is On the Border – The Ultimate Eagles Tribute. On the Border has earned

critical acclaim and a loyal following. The band performs every big Eagles hit, from ballads such as "Desperado" and "Lyin' Eyes" to rockin' classics such as "Life in the Fast Lane" and "Heartache Tonight." The six-man group has also performed on AXSTV's show "The World's Greatest Tribute Bands."

The fair will be held Sept. 20-23 at the Martinsville Speedway. All concerts will take place inside the fairgrounds on the Bassett Furniture Stage. The concerts will be held at 7 p.m. each night and are included in the \$5 gate admission. All-inclusive tickets will be available at www.colterides.com.

For more information on the music acts, visit <https://www.coltondixon.com/>; <https://www.carriebrockwellmusic.com/> and <https://ultimateeagletribute.com/home>.



Colton Dixon



Carrie Brockwell

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

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

See more at www.henrycountyenterprise.com

Oakstone Health and Nutrition opens in Uptown Martinsville

by Tara Lucas

Registered Dietician, Samantha Turner, has opened Oakstone Health and Nutrition in the West Piedmont Business Development Center, located at 22 East Church Street in uptown Martinsville. Oakstone Health and Nutrition is a dietician private practice that specializes in medical nutrition therapy, also known as nutrition counseling. "It's really just meeting with people one-on-one to figure out their

individualized nutrition needs," Turner said. "It's not a blanket, one-size fits all approach." Turner's goal is to help people improve their nutrition habits without giving up foods they love. "In this area, we are kind of used to that southern cooking, fried foods, and things like that. All foods can fit in a healthy nutrition plan," she said. It's important to find a balance between foods an individual loves and foods they should be eating for health. With a passion for nutrition, Turner didn't learn

a lot about nutrition and its importance growing up. However, she wants to share her passion and nutrition education with local residents. She hopes to educate the local community on what healthy eating actually looks like without fad diets and social media myths. "I want to be the nutrition expert for people to answer those questions and make them feel comfortable with improving their nutrition habits," said Turner. The local area has dieticians in facilities such as a dialysis center, Sovah

Health, and health department, but "they are pretty packed at their establishments," Turner said. "This practice was to be able to help them reduce the burden, fill the gaps, and get people in. "Oakstone Health and Nutrition assists individuals with chronic conditions such as diabetes, heart disease, chronic kidney disease, eating disorders, as well as individuals

who need assistance with weight management," she said. Anyone interested in nutrition counseling, may speak with their doctor who can refer them for services. Some insurances require a referral. "As a dietician, I am not allowed to diagnose anyone with a medical condition," Turner said. Some insurances do not require a referral.

Individuals should contact their insurance provider to see if a referral is required. There is additional information on the insurance and referral program on the website www.oakstonehealthandnutrition.com. Turner sees clients by appointment only on Tuesdays and Wednesdays of each week. Potential clients can also call (276) 358-2448 for more information.



Samantha Turner, dietician, has opened the new Oakstone Health and Nutrition in Martinsville.



Samantha Turner (center) is pictured with her husband Brandon Turner, parents Derek Seay, and Lisa Seay, and Martinsville-Henry County Chamber of Commerce officials at a recent ribbon cutting to mark the opening of Oakstone Health and Nutrition in Martinsville.

CLASSIFIEDS

PUBLISHER'S NOTICE

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

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Notice of Public Meeting

The City of Martinsville Planning Commission and Architectural Review Board will hold a joint public meeting on April 19, 2023, beginning at 4:00 p.m. and held in Council Chambers located in the Martinsville Municipal Building. The meeting is for members of both boards to discuss the current Historic Preservation Overlay (HP-O) District in the Zoning Ordinance and the current Historic District Guidelines. The purpose of the discussion is to determine if amendments to both the HP-O District and the Historic District Guidelines would be beneficial for growth and development in the city. Questions or comments can be directed to Hannah Powell at hpowell@ci.martinsville.va.us or (276) 403-5156.
Notice Submitted By:
Hannah L. Powell, CZA
Community Development Specialist

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PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE - COUNTY OF HENRY, VA
FY 2023-24 SCHOOL BOARD BUDGET, TOTAL COUNTY BUDGET AND TAX LEVIES
Pursuant to Section 15.2-2506 of the Code of Virginia, a public hearing will be held on April 17, 2023 at 7:00 P.M. in the Summerlin Boardroom of the Henry County Administration Building, 3300 King's Mountain Rd, Collinsville, VA, to RECEIVE CITIZEN COMMENTS REGARDING THE CONTEMPLATED SCHOOL BOARD BUDGET AND THE TOTAL COUNTY BUDGET COLLECTIVELY TOTALING \$196,623,925, INCLUDING THE SETTING OF A REAL ESTATE TAX RATE OF NOT MORE THAN \$0.555 PER \$100 ASSESSED VALUATION, SETTING A PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX RATE OF NOT MORE THAN \$1.55 PER \$100 ASSESSED VALUATION, and SETTING MACHINERY AND TOOLS TAX RATE OF NOT MORE THAN \$1.55 PER \$100 ASSESSED VALUATION. Citizens may view the Proposed FY 2023-24 Budget on the County's website at www.henrycountyva.gov or the Henry County Administration building. The Board of Supervisors may consider any public input received prior to taking final action on the budget.

COUNTY OF HENRY, VIRGINIA SUMMARY OF REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES PROPOSED FOR FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024	
General Fund:	
General Property Taxes	\$ 30,698,708
Other Local Taxes	22,370,000
Permits, Fees & Licenses	65,500
Fines and Forfeitures	99,000
Revenue from Use of Property	2,300,500
Charges for Services	288,554
Miscellaneous Revenue	80,000
Recovered Cost	3,738,788
Non-Categorical Aid State	3,700,828
Shared Expenses (Categorical)	13,096,773
Categorical Aid State	101,595
Payments in Lieu of Taxes	3,500
Categorical Aid Federal	216,285
Non-Revenue Receipts	25,000
Reserve Funds	0
Total General Fund Revenue	\$ 76,785,031
Special Funds:	
Law Library	19,600
Central Dispatch	2,277,572
HCO/MTSV Industrial Site Project	0
Special Construction Grants	0
Industrial Development Authority	1,721,484
Children's Services Act	5,120,196
Fieldale Sanitary District	0
Marina	196,416
Self-Insurance Fund	14,841,800
Henry-Martinsville Social Services	10,766,038
School Fund	102,684,412
School Textbook	920,000
School Cafeteria	6,820,249
TOTAL, ALL BUDGETED REVENUES	\$ 222,152,798
Less: Interfund Transfers	(25,528,873)
NET REVENUES	\$ 196,623,925
EXPENDITURES	
General Fund:	
General Government Administration	\$ 4,264,492
Judicial Administration	3,855,095
Public Safety	25,161,068
Public Works	4,978,017
Health and Welfare	874,259
Education	62,414
Parks, Recreation & Cultural	2,375,532
Community Development	2,793,044
Nondepartmental	321,020
Capital Projects	0
School Capital - 1% Sales Tax	5,152,000
Debt Service	2,098,573
Operating Transfers Out	24,849,517
Total General Fund Expenditures	\$ 76,785,031
Special Funds:	
Law Library	19,600
Central Dispatch	2,277,572
HCO/MTSV Industrial Site Project	0
Special Construction Grants	0
Industrial Development Authority	1,721,484
Children's Services Act	5,120,196
Fieldale Sanitary District	0
Marina	196,416
Self-Insurance Fund	14,841,800
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TOTAL, ALL BUDGETED EXPENDITURES	\$ 222,152,798
Less: Interfund Transfers	(25,528,873)
NET EXPENDITURES	\$ 196,623,925

COUNTY OF HENRY, VIRGINIA CONTEMPLATED TAX LEVIES For Year Ending June 30, 2024						
	Tax Levies (Per \$100 of assessed value)					
	Mobile Homes Real Estate	Other Personal Property	Machinery/Tools Business Equipment	Motor Vehicle License Fee Cars	Motorcycles	Trailers
FY '22-'23 General Fund						
General Fund Levy	\$0.555	\$1.55	\$1.55	\$20.75	\$12.00	\$12.00
Proposed FY '23-'24						
General Fund Levy	\$0.555	\$1.55	\$1.55	\$20.75	\$12.00	\$12.00
The effective reimbursement rates for the Personal Property Relief Act on a quality vehicle is 30.06%						
The State Law requires that property be assessed at fair market value, which is defined for the purpose of motor vehicles as loan value and business equipment and machinery & tools as the following percentage of original cost:						
	Year 1	97%				
	Year 2	87%				
	Year 3	77%				
	Year 4	67%				
	Year 5 til Disposed	57%				

Copies of the proposed budget are one file in the office of the County Administrator, King's Mountain Road, Collinsville, VA, on the website at www.henrycountyva.gov, and at Blue Ridge Regional Library in Martinsville, Bassett, Collinsville, and Ridgeway.
Dale Wagoner
County Administrator

HENRY COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD CONTEMPLATED BUDGET FOR YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2024

In compliance with Section 15.2-2503 of the 1950 Code of Virginia, as amended, the following budget synopsis is prepared and published for information and fiscal planning purposes only. The inclusion of any item in the budget does not constitute an obligation or commitment on the part of the Board of Supervisors to appropriate funds for the item or purpose. The budget has been prepared by the County Administrator based on estimates and requests to the Board of Supervisors from various agencies and County departments. Final approval and release of funds for any item is the responsibility of the Board of Supervisors.
Pursuant to Section 15.2-2506 of the 1950 Code of Virginia, as amended, a public hearing will be held by the Board of Supervisors on the school budget to receive citizen comments and suggestions on April 17th at 7:00 P.M. in the Summerlin Meeting Room of the Henry County Administration Building on King's Mountain Road in Collinsville, Virginia. All citizens are invited to attend and offer any comments or suggestions. The Board of Supervisors will consider any public input received prior to taking final action on the budget.
Proposed FY 2023-2024 School Budget

Revenues:	
State Funds	\$ 70,620,860
County Funds	19,351,186
Federal / State Grants	11,000,000
Other Funds	1,712,366
Total Revenues	\$ 102,684,412
Expenditures:	
Instruction	\$ 63,651,603
Administration/Attendance and Health	4,470,073
Transportation	7,988,827
Operation & Maintenance	7,990,886
Facilities	535,000
Debt Service/Transfers	3,333,048
Technology	3,729,090
Federal / State Grants	11,000,000
Contingency Reserves	50,000
Less Reduction in Requested Local Funds	(64,115)
Total Expenditures	\$ 102,684,412
Copies of the proposed budget are on file in the office of the County Administrator, King's Mountain Road, Collinsville, Virginia, on the Henry County website, www.henrycountyva.gov, and at Blue Ridge Regional Library in Martinsville, Bassett, Collinsville, and Ridgeway. Dale Wagoner County Administrator	

Spring is the perfect time to learn new skills at Piedmont Arts

If you have ever wanted to learn an art or craft, there is no better time than the present and there is no better place than Piedmont Arts. Whether you are honing existing skills or trying something new, the roster for spring classes at Piedmont Arts is full of exciting opportunities for all ages. Sign-ups are available on the Piedmont Arts website and admission prices vary depending on the class, materials required, and the instructor.

On Thursdays April 6, May 4, and June 1 at 9:30 a.m., certified Bob Ross technique instructor Naomi Hodge-Muse will be teaching a Bob Ross painting class. Learn his famous painting techniques and create your own happy little painting of a natural landscape. The next three classes will focus on painting a Hidden Stream, a Secluded Beach, and a Blue River. Students are asked to bring a roll of paper towels but all over supplies will be provided. Advance registration is required, and tickets are \$75 for members and \$85 for non-members.

Wee Create! is a set time for themed crafts for young children (ages 2-6) and their trusted adults. These crafts are curated and taught by Piedmont Arts' Education Coordinator, Sarah Short. The next meeting time for this class is on Tuesday, May 16 at 3 p.m. Adult supervision and advanced registration are required. This class is free for members and \$10 for non-members with \$5 for every additional child.

Chix with Stix is a group

for knitters who 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. These meet-ups are free to members and non-members will be asked to pay \$5 at the door. Advanced registration is required.

The Busy Bee's Craft Meet is an informal circle to socialize, learn and share with fellow crafters. Bring your lap-sized hand-craft, such as cross-stitch, knitting, crochet, paper crafts, hand sewing, needle felting, etc. Led by Jennifer Reis and Lara Blair. Advanced registration is required. The Craft Meet will meet on Saturdays May 13 at 3 p.m., June 17 at 3 p.m., and July 1 at 3 p.m. Admission is free for members and \$5 for non-members.

In addition to these recurring classes, Piedmont Arts also hosts an array of one-time classes. The first will be an Indigo Shibori: Natural Dyeing on Fabric course. Experience the magic of natural dyeing with instructor Jennifer Reis. Participants will learn how to prepare the dye vat; techniques of binding, stitching, clamping, and other pattern-making options; the dye process itself; and final preparation of finished products. Everyone will get one silk scarf and three tea towels to dye - additional scarves and tea towels will be available for purchase and participants are wel-



Members of the Teen Arts Council take a pottery class with artist George Alderman.

come to bring personal, white/cream, fabric items of cotton or silk to dye as well. Advanced registration required. Admission is \$55 for members and \$60 for non-members.

Paint by Prompt with Ashley Ullstein on May 18 at 5:30 p.m. This event is for ages 18 and up. This fun "Sip and Paint" is all about expressing your own unique style. In this two-hour class, students will use a series of randomly chosen painting prompts to lead them in creating an abstract piece of artwork. Each student will have their own supplies and with everyone's unique interpretation of the given prompts. No two paintings

will be alike. Open to all levels, all materials provided. Aprons or protective clothing are recommended. Bring your own beverage and snacks. Admission is \$75 for members and \$80 for non-members.

More information on these courses, the instructors, and how to register are available on the Piedmont Arts website. Please feel free to call the museum with questions as well.

Piedmont Arts is a non-profit art museum located at 215 Starling Ave., Martinsville. Museum hours are Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Admission is free. Learn more at PiedmontArts.org.



Gravely to Deliver Commencement Address at P&HCC's 2023 Graduation Ceremony

Retired Patrick & Henry Community College (P&HCC) professor, Joe Gravely will deliver the commencement address for P&HCC's 2023 graduation ceremony. Gravely instructed countless numbers of nursing students as a faculty member at P&HCC from 1992 to 2017.

During the ceremony, Gravely will be appointed Professor Emeritus, as approved by the Local College Board on March 20, in recognition of his 24 years of service and dedication.

Gravely's contributions to the college are only outmatched by his groundbreaking dedication to the field of nursing. In 1975, he was the first African American male nurse hired at Martinsville Memorial Hospital. When he started his career at P&HCC, he was the first male nursing instructor in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Since his retirement, he has remained active in the community and offers his service on multiple fronts, including his current term of service as a member of the Board of Directors for Southside Survivors Response Center. His service and dedication to empowering families and individuals to break free from violence is a statement of his love for his community.

Greg Hodges, president of P&HCC said, "Professor Gravely has touched countless numbers of hearts and lives in our community. Twenty years ago, I started my career at Patrick & Henry Community College as an early childhood education faculty member, and Joe was one of the first ones to meet me and welcome me to the campus. He has remained a source of inspiration and encouragement to me and so many others. I am thrilled that he will be delivering this year's P&HCC commencement address."



AXTON SOLAR

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 to learn more or follow us on Facebook @AxtonSolarVA