

# HENRY COUNTY ENTERPRISE

Saturday, July 22, 2023

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## County to consider bid to dissolve authority, shift sports complex to Parks & Rec

**Debbie Hall**  
Staff writer

The Henry County Board of Supervisors will consider a resolution to dissolve the Southern Virginia Recreation Facilities Authority (SVRFA) and add the Smith River Sports Complex (SRSC) to the county's Parks & Recreation Department.

The board meets at 3 and 6 p.m. on Tuesday, July 25, in the Summerlin Meeting Room, located in the Henry County Administration Building.

Its 3 p.m. agenda includes a resolution from the Southern Virginia Recreation Facilities Authority (SVRFA), which operates the Smith River Sports Complex. In a letter to both the City of Martinsville and the county, the authority has asked to be dissolved and authorized to transfer all assets and operations to the county.

Scott Prillaman, chairman of the SVRFA board, noted in the letter that the current model of funding for the sports complex is not sustainable. Inflation and limited access to top-tier tournaments have restricted its ability to be profitable as a stand-alone organization, Prillaman wrote.

He noted that his board believes "the continued operation of a premier facility can best be accomplished by the county."

Officials in both the city and county must agree to dissolve the authority.

The city is expected to consider a similar

See **County**, page 3

## Probe of Short case continues as benefit ride nears

**Debbie Hall**  
Staff writer

A benefit ride held in honor of a slain Henry County girl is entering its 21st year and law enforcement agencies may take another look at unsolved cases after a recent charges in a 13-year-old case in New York.

Rex Heuermann, 59, was charged with three counts each of first-degree murder and second-degree murder in connection with the 2007 - 2010 deaths of three women who were found in 2010 near Gilgo

Beach, NY.

Heuermann, a New York architect, has pleaded not guilty to all counts.

He reportedly owns property in other areas, including Las Vegas and Chester County, S.C.

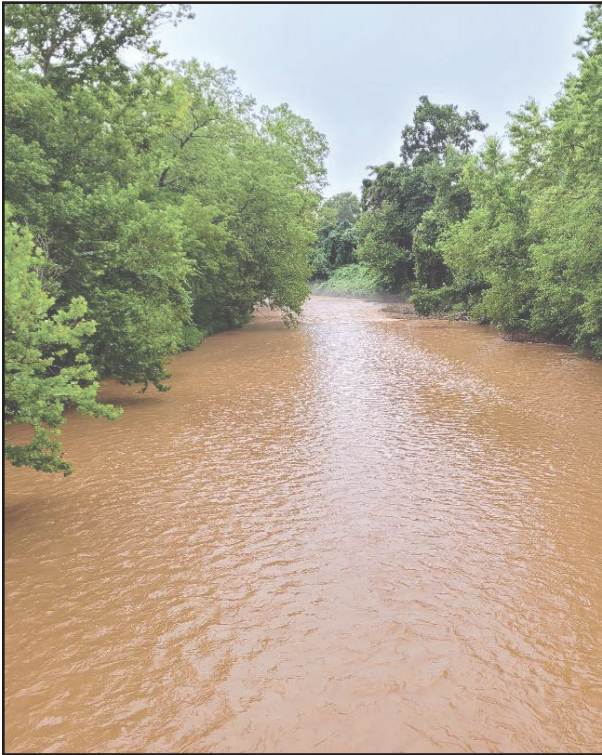
Henry County Sheriff Wayne Davis on Wednesday said he had not heard about Heuermann's South Carolina property, and was not familiar with the route he would take to get there.

However, "we're open to exploring all options"

See **Case**, page 3



## Runoff causes water to appear muddy



The Smith River looked brown in several areas upstream following heavy rains last week.

PHOTOS BY PAT DELANEY

## Troop visits Boy Scout ranch in New Mexico

**Taylor Boyd**  
Staff writer

In June, Boy Scout Troop #168 in Ridgeway took a two-week long trip to visit Philmont Scout Ranch in New Mexico, the Boy Scouts of America's premier high adventure base.

Assistant scoutmaster Doug Foley said he, Scout Master Barry Farmer, and Robert Fincher, lifelong friend, and Martinsville City Police chief, took six scouts on the backpacking trip.

Fincher and I, have "been in scouts our whole life, and so we actually went to Philmont when we were scouts. It was such a great trip, we never got over it," he said.

Foley said 37 years later, he and Fincher returned, in the same troop and with their sons.

"We just got the opportunity to go back with our sons. It was something I think personally we wanted to do because we had such a great experience at Philmont, but then you get the opportunity to go back with your sons, and it makes it even better," he said.

Philmont is owned by the Boy Scouts of America and encompasses over 140,000 acres of mountain wilderness in the Sangre de Cristo range of the Rocky Mountains.

"The scouts own all

of this land out there, and they really cherish the land. They don't let it get polluted or messed up with anything. They're really picky about this land and it's just beautiful. It's just something you really can't get anywhere else," he said.

Foley said the group hiked over 70 miles during the trip, often hiking between six and nine miles each day.

"It's a backpacking trip. Philmont tries to do their best to keep it as rustic and as real as can be as far as being in the back country. So, you have an itinerary and you walk so many miles each day, and you walk to camps and stations," he said.

At the stations, he said the group participated in things like fly tying, archery shooting, rock climbing. The group went to the site of an old gold mine and panned for gold, and enjoyed various other activities.

"Besides the stations,

See **Troop**, page 7

## Hotel project at former National Guard Armory gains city's support



**By Staff Reports**

The Martinsville City Council and the Martinsville Land Bank Authority passed a resolution on July 11 to support plans for an 80-unit Holiday Inn Express that will be built at the former National Guard Armory.

The property, located at 315 W.

Commonwealth Boulevard, was deemed to the city in October after being declared surplus by the state. Since then, several inquiries have been made about its potential use.

In April, a request for proposals was issued to seek development options. City staff recommended that the

See **Hotel**, page 7



PHOTOS BY KALPAK SHAH, CEO OF THE KAYAK HOTELS GROUP

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# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

## Meetings

The Martinsville-Henry County Lions Club regularly meets on the second and fourth Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. at the Pacific Bay Restaurant, 530 Commonwealth Blvd, Martinsville.

### Tuesday, July 25

The Henry County Board of Supervisors is scheduled to meet at 3 and 6 p.m. in the Summerlin Room of the Henry County Administration Building on Kings Mountain Road.

## Events

### Friday, July 22

Christmas in July Alcohol Ink Painting Workshop with Melani Helms from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Cost \$40 (includes all supplies) Join us as we use alcohol ink to paint beautiful ornaments. Experiment with several techniques. Imagination Lavender Farm, 3590 Green Hill Drive, Martinsville. Call (276) 734-2828 to reserve your spot. Free light lunch provided. Reduced Christmas Items available in Gift Shop.

### Tuesday, July 24-Wednesday, July 25

The 5th annual Michael C. Jarrett Basketball Clinic, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Martinsville-Henry County Family YMCA. The clinic is for boys and girls, aged 6 to 16. Coaches include George Bell, former Globetrotter, television and screen actor; Bill Adkins, a former basketball player at Carver High School and Averett College, and David Cunningham, who has played baseball and football at Guilford College.

The camp costs \$20 per day, or \$30 for both days. For more information, call Jarrett at (757) 237-2644 or email him at [mcjarrett4833@gmail.com](mailto:mcjarrett4833@gmail.com).

### Friday, July 28-Saturday, July 29

The Friends of the Blue Ridge Regional Library are hosting a book sale in the basement of the main branch, 310 E. Church St., Martinsville. Friday, July 28, 2-5 p.m. is "Members only" (you can join at the door) & Saturday, July 29, 9:30 a.m.-2 p.m., is open to the public. We have lots of "new to us" books in young adult, children's, cookbooks, fiction, gardening, hoodies, & many more great finds! ALL paperback books are .50¢ & ALL hardback books are \$1, unless otherwise marked. All proceeds go back into the library system.

### Saturday, July 29-Sunday, July 30

The Patrick & Henry Men's Basketball team will be hosting their second camp of the year from 9 a.m.-12 p.m. each day. The camp is open to boys and girls aged 8-12. Previous camps have been fun filled events with the right mix of skill training and fun games for children interested in basketball. Don't miss out, register now. The \$40 cost covers both days of the camp (no deposit required). To register, contact Coach Mayshack at [cmayshack@patrickhenry.edu](mailto:cmayshack@patrickhenry.edu).

### Tuesday, Aug. 1

Historian and Virginia native, Phillip Andrew Gibbs will lead a program at the Bassett Historical Center about his book, "Murder and Mountain Justice in the Moonshine Capital of the World," linked to moonshine and drugs in Franklin County, circa 1978. The free program begins at 10:30 a.m. in the Susan L. Adkins Memorial Meeting Room.

### Friday, Aug. 4 - Sat., Aug. 5

Theatre [in the] Works- Improv in the Blackbox is BACK! Come laugh with us as our Improvisers create scenes based off of YOUR suggestions right on the spot, much in the same way as "Whose Line is it

Anyway." The event begins at 7 p.m. (theatre opens at 6:15 p.m.). Tickets are \$10 at the door (no advance/online tickets) - suggested rating PG-13.

### Saturday, August 5

Music at the Imagination Lavender Farm – 3590 Green Hill Drive, Martinsville, (276) 734-2828. The show is from 5-8 p.m. Liv Sloan with Austin Janey and Griffin Haley jazz-influenced classics, soulful blues, and 50's Motown. No cover charge but donations appreciated. Bring a chair and coolers welcome. Concessions will be available.

Storytime at the Spencer Penn Centre, at 10 a.m. This monthly program will include special readers, crafts, and other fun activities. The free program is fit for all ages. No registration needed.

### Friday, August 11

Music Night at Spencer Penn. 2 Young 2 Old will play in Alumni Hall. Gate opens at 5 pm with the band starting at 6:15 p.m. Admission is a \$5 CASH donation. Come enjoy some great mountain music and dancing! Concessions, including our ever-popular hotdogs will be sold.

### Saturday, Aug. 19

The third annual Uptown Music Fest, 6-8 p.m. at the Virginia Museum of Natural History. The MWW Foundation will host the fest that features live music with performances by Matt Crowder & BDE and The Low Low Chariot and JD Sutphin back for a short time from Nashville. Food vendors will be on site. Bring your lawn chair for concert seating and let the music move your feet! Event is rain or shine. Sponsors include The Lester Group, BTW 21, Martinsville Uptown Farmers Market, Chamber's Partnership for Economic Growth (CPEG), and the Virginia Museum of Natural History. Free admission for those aged 12 and under. Tickets are \$10 in advance and may be purchased at <https://www.facebook.com/uptownmusicmh/> OR on Eventbrite.

Slick Jr. and the Reactors are among the performers during Music at the Imagination Lavender Farm, 3590 Green Hill Drive, Martinsville (276) 734-2828. The show is 5 to 8 p.m. Bring a chair and cooler and enjoy an evening of outstanding music influences, including Muddy Waters, Howlin' Wolf, Buddy Guy, the Allman Brothers, Grateful Dead Sam Cook and Marvin Gay. No cover charge but donations appreciated. Concessions will be available.

The Smith River Fest, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Monogram Foods Smith River Sports Complex. Ride the river, learn to fly-fish, browse vendors, and challenge yourself in the Helgramite Hustle 5K Mud Run. Join us as we celebrate the Smith River and it's 45 miles of scenic beauty flowing through our community and the nearly 20 miles of shared-use trails that make up the Smith River Trail System. Admission and parking are free.

### Sunday, August 20

80's Sock Hop at Spencer Penn, from 2-5 p.m. \$5 admission, free for Spencer Penn members.

## Ongoing

### Saturdays through November 18

Martinsville Uptown Farmers' Market is open from 7 a.m. to noon, with the freshest fruits and veggies, homemade snacks, locally raised beef, and more. July 5-September 27, the market is open Wednesdays from 7 a.m. to noon.

Tuesdays in September - A series of four genealogy classes will be offered at the Bassett Historical Center on Tuesdays in September (5, 12, 19, 26), from 10 a.m. until noon. Classes are free and open to the public, but there will be a limit of 12 participants. Call (276) 629-9191 to register.

Zumba is held Tuesdays and Thursdays at Spencer Penn, beginning at 5:45 p.m. Join Body by Jenise for a great, fun workout. The drop-in price is \$8.

The Blue Ridge Regional Library offers free one-day passes to the Virginia Museum of Natural History and the Henry County YMCA with your library card. The passes are good for one day and exclude special events. There is a wait period before you can check out the pass again. For more details and exclusions, visit [brrl.lib.va.us](http://brrl.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.

Book Bingo on the 4th Tuesday of the month at the Martinsville Branch of the Blue Ridge Regional Library, 11 a.m. to noon. Call (276) 403-5430 to register.

Medicaid eligibility renewals have resumed. Martinsville-Henry County Coalition for Health and Wellness (MHCCHW) offers Medicaid/FAMIS application and renewal assistance for Virginia residents from birth to 64 years of age in-person: Wednesdays 10 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. at Community Storehouse, 128 E. Church St (lower level of the old Leggett Building) in Martinsville, or by phone, Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. MHCCHW's specially trained Medicaid/FAMIS Outreach Advocate is available to help. Call or text Ann Walker at (276) 732-0509 to learn more or for an appointment.

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.

Trail Trekkers meet as a group on Thursdays (1 p.m. Fall & Winter; 9:15 a.m. Spring & Summer) and walk along a different trail each week. Explore the trails of Martinsville-Henry County, make new friends, and get some fresh air and exercise. Call Henry County Parks & Recreation (HCPR) Senior Services to find out more at (276) 634-4644.

Ride and Dine Friday afternoons with members of the Henry County Bike Club. Fellow cyclists meet at the Liberty Street access point of the Dick & Willie Trail to put in some miles and refuel with lunch at a different eatery each week. For more information, call Marti at 276-358-1312. Rides are year-round but are canceled if it's raining or if the temperature is below 50 degrees.

## Upcoming Vacation Bible Schools

### Sunday, July 9 - Friday, July 14

Twists & Turns Vacation Bible School at Fort Trial Baptist Church, 170 Oak Level Road, Stanleytown. 2 to 5 years, 6:15 to 8 p.m.; completed K-12th grade, 6:15 to 8:30 p.m.; adults, 7 p.m. Online registration, <https://www.forttrialbaptist.com/events/>. For transportation, call the church office at (276) 629-2964.

### Monday, July 10 – Friday, July 14

Keepers of the Kingdom Vacation Bible School at Hillcrest Baptist Church, 18075 A.L. Philpott Hwy., Ridgeway. Register now to get a free T-shirt by visiting online at [hbcrldgeway.myanswers.com](http://hbcrldgeway.myanswers.com). For more information, visit [hbcrldgeway.org](http://hbcrldgeway.org).

### Friday, July 21 – Sunday, July 23

Vacation Bible School with FBC & Chatham Heights Baptist Church at sister church, Chatham Heights Baptist Church. Children up through sixth grade will have times of learning, play, and spiritual growth. Meals and snacks will be provided. Bible school schedule os Friday, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. and Sunday, 6 p.m. Rally for the kids followed by a Pool Party at the Elks Lodge

## Land Transfers

The following land transfers were filed in the Henry County Circuit Court Clerk's Office in June.

Secretary of Housing and Urba to Ruben Romero, 0.336 acres, Collinsville District.

Phillip Douglas Aaron to Alik D. Wimmer, Lot, Collinsville District.

Kayla T. Adkins to Kimberlie Willard Ruimerman, Lot, Reed Creek District.

Atlantic Trustee Services L.L. to SU&P Property Management, Inc, 2.088 acres, Horsepasture District.

Birgit Homes, LLC to Dallas Wilson, 2.7 acres, Iriswood District.

Randolph C. Campbell to Florida Rodriguez Ramirez, 1.389 acres, Horsepasture District.

Gladis Campuzano-James, AKA to Melissa A. Pendleton, Lot, Reed Creek District.

Iriswood District.

Cynthia Lynn Cundiff Cross to Homestead Mulch & More, LLC, 2.36 acres, Reed Creek District.

Antonio Degiovanni to James C. Blankenship, Lots, Reed Creek District.

Crystal L. Denning; Sole Heir to Barry I. Cox, Sr., 4.046 acres, Horsepasture District.

Digital Business Crop, A Cali to Christopher D. Stockard, 5 ¼ acre, no district given.

acres, Iriswood District.

Justin D. Emmert to James O. Lawson, Jr., 0.626 acres, Iriswood District.

Equity Trustees, LLC to Roanoke Homes and Rehab LLC, 0.70 acres, Iriswood District.

Fannie Mae AKA Federal National to Wayne Hoffer, 1.65 acres, Horsepasture District.

Rita F. Ford to David McCarthy Sr., Lot, district not listed.

GD Ridgeway, LLC to Ridgeway Industrial, LLC, Lots, Ridgeway District.

Frances Wood Gray to Maria Idalia Juarez Galvin, 7.1293 acres, no district given.

Michael E. Griffith to Linc Realty, LLC, Lot, no district given.

to Loretta Kidd, Lot, Horsepasture District.

Bobby J. Hollandsworth to Tyler P. Cotner, Lot, Horsepasture District.

Home Bridge Real Estate LLC to Terrell Parker, Tract, no district given.

Jerry Wayne Hopkins to Orville Nathaniel Gregory IV, Lot, Blackberry District.

Linda F. Hube to Abigail Leigh Melvin, 11.0115 acres, Blackberry District.

Wilbert Harold Ingram to Ruben Ramos Torres, 7.050 acres, Blackberry District.

Shirley F. Jamison to Michelle Marie Scott, 1.50 acres, Ridgeway District.

Carl Richard Johansson to Jesse Grant Meeks, 7.129 acres,

Ridgeway District.

Melanie S. Jones to Nicola Dangerfield, 8.259 acres, Blackberry District.

Barbara A. Kaufman to Mark C. Lebeau, 5.135 acres, Reed Creek District.

Charles N. Keatts to Ricardo A. Morales, Lot, Collinsville District.

Lisa I. Kester to Price Rentals LLC, Lot, Collinsville District.

James M. Lackey Jr. to Samantha Hughes Zola, property, Collinsville District.

Precious Kimberly Lampkin to Austin Cole Agner, 2.001 acres, Iriswood District.

David B. Lavinder to Tony L Naff, Lot, Reed Creek District.

Jacob Ferguson

# County from page 1

action at its meeting on Tuesday.

If the board concurs with this request, county staff recommend that the facility become part of the county's Parks and Recreation Department under the leadership of Director Roger Adams. Additionally, the Harvest Foundation has provided a \$250,000 grant to help the county with the costs associated with transitioning SRSC to county operations.

In other matters Tuesday, the board will:

\*Consider a resolution honoring Leon Towarnicki, City Manager and longtime county resident. Towarnicki is set to retire on July 31, with 41 years of service.

\*Consider a resolution Honoring Hilda Mabry, Office Administrator for the Commonwealth's Attorney's Office. Mabry will retire on July 31, with 34 years of service.

\*Hear an update from Piedmont Community Services. The agency's new mobile unit will be available in the parking lot for tours. The update will include the services planned for the community through that unit.

\*Hear a monthly report from Treasurer Scott Grindstaff on delinquent tax collection efforts.

\*Hear an update from the Martinsville-Henry County Economic Development Corp. from Mark Heath, president/CEO.

\*Consider an additional appropriation for a Regional Planning Grant Match regarding Opioid Abatement Funds. Both the county and city were recently awarded a \$20,000 grant from the Virginia Opioid Abatement Authority to study and identify community-based options for the most effective long-term use of funds for abatement. The city will serve as the project manager and fiscal agent. Both localities are required to contribute a match of \$10,000 for the project.

\*Consider an additional appropriation of \$240,000 from various accounts to cover overages in the Children's Services Act (CSA) Program fund. The cost of providing services to certain at-risk youth continues to escalate, resulting in expenditures exceeding the budgeted amount.

\*Consider an additional appropriation of \$95,000 in grant funds received from the Harvest Foundation to conduct an Economic Impact Study related to the Martinsville Southern Connector route and award a contract to the Martinsville-Henry County Chamber's Partnership for Economic Growth (C-PEG),

which is serving as a conduit for the contract with a research firm called SIR.

\*Consider an additional appropriation of \$50,000 in grant funds received from the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development. The funds will be used to assess specific community needs related to housing and related infrastructure and to develop a plan for addressing the identified needs.

\*Consider an additional appropriation of \$10,000 from the Department of Housing and Community Development for the execution of a United Way Individual Development Accounts (IDA) Planning Grant. The funds ultimately will be used to offer free training to local residents on topics related to financial management.

\*Consider awarding \$235,710 contract to Fidelity Power Systems to relocate the existing generator providing emergency power to the 911 Center and other emergency equipment within the administration building. Before the eventual demolition of the previous jail, the emergency power network, including the generator, must be relocated to an area identified behind the administration building.

\*Consider an additional appropriation of \$55,423 received from the Virginia Department of Health's Return to Locality Funds. The Return to Locality funds are derived from a fee for each vehicle registered in Henry County. Authorized expenditures of the funds are for items such as emergency medical services training, supplies, and/or equipment. Consistent with that distribution model, the four volunteer EMS agencies are projected to receive \$11,085 each, and Public Safety will receive \$11,084.

\*Consider an additional appropriation of \$15,000 from State Asset Forfeiture funds to cover travel-related expenses for FY24, as requested by Commonwealth's Attorney Andrew Nester.

\*Consider a resolution to update signature authority for the Adult Detention Center inmate fund. The inmate fund comprises cash on inmates at the time of their arrest or contributions to them from their family members. These funds can only be used for the health and welfare of specific county inmates. Granting signature authority to specific sworn law enforcement personnel will ensure the

Sheriff's Office can effectively conduct day-to-day transactions related to the fund's purpose, as requested by Sheriff Wayne Davis.

\*Consider an additional appropriation of \$7,200 from State Asset Forfeiture funds to cover the cost of sending two investigators to Cellebrite certification training, as requested by Sheriff Wayne Davis.

\*Consider an additional appropriation of \$219,679 for Henry County Public Schools. The school division received the funds from the Virginia Department of Education, due to recalculations performed by the state using the actual average daily membership (school population) totals for all school divisions.

\*Consider a Budget Amendment due to Revised Estimates of State Funding. The School Board is asking the county to approve an amendment to their FY24 operating budget to reflect an estimated reduction in state funds of \$1,666,062.

\*Consider Commitment Statements as requested by the Blue Ridge Soil and Water Conservation District. The agency plans to request funds through the Natural Resources Conservation Services (NRCS) to address needed spillway capacity upgrades for two dams located in Henry County, Leatherwood #2A, and Leatherwood #3. The dams primarily provide flood protection, and the improvements will increase their resiliency and mitigate against future damage from large storms. The Blue Ridge SWCD is requesting the Board's support of these funding requests by agreeing to serve as a sponsoring local organization.

\*Consider meeting in closed session to discuss appointees to the Blue Ridge Regional Library Board, Community Policy and Management Team, and Roanoke River Basin Association; discuss pending legal matters; the acquisition/disposal of real estate and as-yet-unannounced industries.

At its 6 p.m. meeting, the board will:

\*Hold a series of public hearings: on a Budget Amendment Appropriating Grant Funds for Site Work at Commonwealth Crossing Business Centre; a Rezoning Application for Homestead Mulch & More, LLC / Zachary S. Hawks; a revision of the county's Comprehensive Plan and a proposed amendment to its Zoning Ordinance.

\*Hear an update on General Highway Matters.

# Case from page 1

in unsolved cases, including the 2002 slayings of the Short family, Davis said.

The bodies of Michael and Mary Short were found Aug. 15, 2002, in their Oak Level home. Each suffered a single gunshot wound to the head. Their 9-year-old daughter, Jennifer Renee Short, was missing and presumed abducted by her parents' killer or killers. Human remains found in Rockingham County, N.C. about six weeks later were confirmed to be those of Jennifer. She, too, suffered a gunshot wound to the head. No arrests have been made in the case.

The Shorts were considering a move to South Carolina at the time of their deaths, according to reports at the time, and the couple had talked to a local real estate agent about selling their Henry County home. Michael Short had been searching for a job with a mobile home moving company in the coastal region of

South Carolina, reportedly visiting areas that included Bennettsville, Florence, Conway and Myrtle Beach.

Chester County is situated just off Interstate 77, between Charlotte, N.C. and the state capital in Columbia.

Heuerman bought property there in 2022. Relatives have lived in the area for about two decades, according to online reports.

The investigation in New York is ongoing, as authorities there seek information in the death of a fourth woman, and cases of missing persons and murders are being revisited nationwide, according to online reports.

As the probe continues, preparations for the Jennifer Short Educational Scholarship Benefit Ride. Typically held on the second weekend in August, this year's ride is set for Saturday, Aug. 19.

Ray Reynolds, who organized or helped orga-

nize the event for 20 years, stepped down last year.

Reynolds said he kept the date of the second weekend because it fell closest to the anniversary of the deaths, and it was set aside out of respect for the family. He will be unable to attend this year's event due to a pre-planned vacation.

The ride is being organized this year by the Fraternal Order of Eagles, 210 Mill Creek Drive, Bassett.

"With the Eagles Club being in charge, I am certain the ride will still be successful" regardless of the date, Reynolds said. "I cannot thank them enough for all they have done for the community in the past."

He noted that proceeds from the event are presented to the Bassett Kiwanis Foundation, which along with the Community Foundation serving Western Virginia, acts as the fiscal agent for the scholarship fund and awards a scholarship to a Bassett High School

graduate each year.

When Reynolds stepped aside, more than 60 students had been awarded scholarships and more than \$40,000 raised throughout his tenure.

Bikes, cars and trucks are welcome to participate. The cost is \$20 per bike/car, and \$5 per passenger. Registration begins at 10:30 a.m., with kickstands up at 12:30 p.m. The event will include door prizes and a 50/50 drawing. A meal will also be provided, and T-shirts are for sale.

For more information, visit <https://www.facebook.com/events/1422196071956453/?ref=newsfeed>.

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**CROSSWORD PUZZLE**

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**CLUES ACROSS**

- Eurasian shrubs
- Strikes and rebounds
- Group of advisers
- Modern necessity
- Top lawyer in the land
- Philadelphia university
- Of I
- Functions as a laser
- Basketball phenomenon
- Jeremy
- Famed island
- Parent-teacher groups
- Distributes
- Self-immolation by fire ritual
- Ad
- Circulation problem (abbr.)
- Brother or sister
- A famous "Squad"
- Stage actor Anthony
- Violent seizure of property
- Sa-like civities
- Sound units
- Counts on
- Dad
- Woman (French)
- A digital tape recording of sound
- Polish Baltic peninsula
- Recipe measurement
- Requests out of dire need
- Precious stone weight unit
- The immaterial part of a person
- Anoint
- Golf score
- Supernatural
- Northwest Territories
- Can be made suitable
- A professor's helper
- Having a toothlike edge
- Got atop a horse
- Judged
- Static balance between opposing forces

**CLUES DOWN**

- Flowing
- Computer department
- Lasts
- DiFranco and Samsonyan are two
- de sac
- Merchant
- Hosts film festival
- State of agitation of fuss
- A way to praise
- Opaque gems
- McKinley is one
- Smallest interval in classical Western music
- Famed designer Lauren
- Occupies
- Small island (British)
- Misuse of the sacred
- Covers with a thin sheet
- Most valuable player
- Title of respect
- Investigated discreetly
- Belonging to the bottom layer
- Black tropical American cuckoo
- Musical genre
- Indicates one is in mourning
- Secured forever
- Bodily cavity
- A dog is one
- Chose to do something
- Annoy persistently
- Large hotel rooms
- Beg
- Docket
- Subway dwelling rodent
- Sources
- Mild Dutch cheese
- Spanish city
- Consumed
- Ballplayer's tool
- Midway between north and east
- Atomic #3

# OPINION

## Floyd, VA and the importance of local elections

One of the nice things about living out in the woods in Patrick County is that I'm only about half an hour from Floyd. My girlfriend and I take advantage of this all the time; we routinely head up to Floyd to grab a meal (the Garlic Gheraldi pizza at Gheraldi's on Locust Street is the finest pizza I've ever known), or check out the plants at Lichen or Knot, or hit up Red Rooster Coffee, or grab a beer at Buffalo Mountain Brewery, or check out the Farmer's Market, or do any number of fun things. It's an awesome little town.

One of the things I love about Floyd is the mix of people who coexist there. On any given day, you'll see an old man in bib overalls enjoying some bluegrass next to the hippest hippie to ever kick a hacky sack. That's a goal more of this country should aspire to.

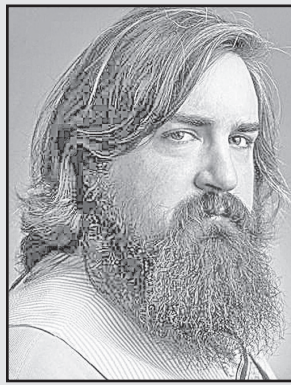
Recent events, however, have left me concerned.

Cardinal News recently reported that at the June 27 meeting of the Floyd County Board of Supervisors,

Supervisor Levi Cox made a motion to rescind the non-profit June Bug Center's \$4,500 appropriation in the FY 2023/2024 budget. It seems that a group out of Roanoke called the Downtown Divas had rented the space to host a drag show during Pride Month, and a local pastor in attendance at the meeting had commented to the board that the show was "disgusting, vulgar, and perverse."

Supervisor Kalinda Bechtold seconded the motion, but not because of the drag show; she objected that the June Bug Center had participated in a Juneteenth celebration hosted by Floyd C.A.R.E. (Community Action for Racial Equity), saying that she felt the June Bug Center "colored out of their lines" when they participated in the event.

Thankfully, Supervisors Jerry Boothe and Linda DeVito Kuchenbuch rightly voiced concerns that pulling the funding could be a "slippery slope" and the motion was tabled until the board's July 11 meeting.



By Ben R. Williams

At the July 11 meeting, the board approved the June Bug Center's appropriation and chose not to discuss the decision with the public, and also declined to respond to media inquiries.

I can only speculate as to the reason the board decided to clam up at the following meeting. If forced to speculate, I would say that they should increase that reason's hourly fee because they're giving some solid legal advice.

I could write a column about how drag shows are not inherently sexual and our nation's sudden concern over drag and trans people is nothing more than culture war B.S. to rally the base against a perceived enemy.

I could also write a column about how there's really only one reason to object to celebrating a federal holiday commemorating the end of slavery, and if you believe for one second that the objection involves a purely philosophical argument over a non-profit's role in the community, then I've got some magic beans to sell you.

Instead, this is a column about the importance of voting in your local elections.

I know too many people who never miss a Presidential election but fail to show up at the polls for state or local elections. Everyone knows who the President is, and most people know who their Governor is, but how many people can name every member of their city council or board of supervisors?

Yet realistically, these are the folks who have the biggest impact on our day to day lives. If I'm concerned about the need for a traffic light at a dangerous intersection, or if I want to get a water line installed on my road, I'm not going to mail a letter to Joe Biden. That's the kind of thing you bring up at a meeting of your local government, along with any other concerns you may have, no matter how nonsensical or wackadoo. It's a great system.

Problems arise, however, when voters become apathetic about who's getting elected to their local government. Hypothetically speaking, a councilman or supervisor could get elected and decide to steer the community in the direction dictated by their personal morality, and hypothetically, that direction might run counter to the laid-back, artistic, inclusive atmosphere that's a big part of what makes the community great in the first place.

To further compound this problem, small-town newspapers all over the country are getting hacked and slashed to bit and often don't have the manpower to cover every single board meeting, and if the media isn't there to keep an eye on these folks, they can make all sorts of decisions that you and I won't even find out about until it's too late.

It's fortunate that in this case, the media did shine a light on the board's objections about the June Bug Center, and that attention likely caused the board to change course.

In the long run, though, it's up to the voters to make informed decisions at the polls and decide whether we want our elected officials to represent us, or represent the latest cable news talking point.

## News from the 9th: Prescription Drug Monitoring



Morgan Griffith  
Representative

Recently, I was in line at my local pharmacy to pick up a prescription for my son. Ahead of me in line was a woman picking up her prescription. While waiting for my turn, I overheard the conversation happening between the woman and the pharmacist.

The pharmacist informed her that her prescription, which used to have a \$45 copay, would now cost \$240. I suspect this is because the Pharmacy Benefit Manager (PBM)

required the drug manufacturer to raise their price.

PBMs do this because they charge a percentage of the list price, so while they claim a higher discount offsets the price for the consumer, it doesn't always work out that way. And if you have a medicine that is working, PBMs manipulating the price to enhance their profits is not appropriate.

In this situation of course, I couldn't help but interject. I asked the woman if she had inquired about the cost of her drug without insurance, because we have heard testimony that due PBM manipulation and a lack of transparency in drug pricing, it might be cheaper if she paid cash than use her insurance.

Further, in this scenario, you can be required by your insurance company/PBM to try a new medicine. This also requires consultation with your doctor, and you may be like the lady at my pharmacy, who wasn't able to get her medicine that day and left to consult her doctor.

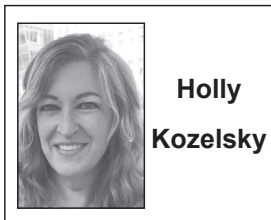
The point of health insurance is so that if we get sick, or need medication, we are not financially devastated by the high costs associated with the health care we receive.

Unfortunately, with respect to prescription drugs, the incentives for insurance companies/PBMs are backwards.

The insurance companies should be acting in a quasi-fiduciary relationship with their insurers. After all, the insured, his/her employer, or a government run program is paying the insurance company to protect the insured

See 9th, page 7

## Lessons in Betrayal



Holly Kozelsky

and silhouette that always suits you, and perhaps by a company that has consistently proven to have good quality, fit and durability.

It also comes as a shock. You look at the one you've loved for so long, who has made you so happy, and it hits you with a jolt that things just aren't working out anymore and, in fact, it's time to part.

A favorite blouse or dress or outfit is special. Wearing it makes you feel on top of the world.

You wear it for special occasions, or when you want to impress. The garment that suits you to a T is great to wear when you're having (or expect to have) a great day, part of all elements of perfection coming together. It also is a great comforter when you are preparing to face a terrible day: It shores up your confidence and helps you put your best foot forward.

We come across these rare treasures in different ways. Every now and then, it's love at first sight: You see it in the store or boutique and know immediately it's for you. It's in a color

Betrayal hurts.

and perhaps by a company that has consistently proven to have good quality, fit and durability.

Don't we feel victorious to make such a valuable find?

Sometimes, it sneaks up on you like a surprise. It may be something that normally you'd never wear; you only tried it on because it was on sale for a really deep discount, or a friend you were shopping with picked it out and insisted you try it on, or it was a gift you just put on once to be polite.

That kind of unexpected success really buoys us up with possibilities that we never knew existed.

Then follow many months or years of happiness with that favorite garment. Until ...

Until, one day, it no longer holds its magic.

The change may be gradual, a slow loss of thrill – or it may come as an abrupt shock.

You pull it out of the closet, and a hot wave of – is that disgust? – comes over you.

"What was I thinking?" you think.

See Lessons, page 7

## LEGAL NOTICES

Your Community, Your Voice  
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# HENRY COUNTY ENTERPRISE

henrycountyenterprise.com

### Weekly Publication

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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

ORDER OF PUBLICATION Case No. CJ23000017-00  
COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA  
VA. CODE §§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316, -317, 20-104  
HENRY CIRCUIT COURT  
3160 Kings Mountain Rd., 3rd Floor, Martinsville, VA 24112  
Commonwealth of Virginia, *in re* Henry-Martinsville Department of Social Services v. Donald Martin  
The object of this suit is to:  
Terminate all residual parental rights to daughter McKenzie Rose Rector.  
It is ORDERED that Donald Martin appear at the above-named court and protect his interests on or before September 21, 2023 at 9:00 a.m.

July 11, 2023

COUNTY OF HENRY  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

Pursuant to Section 15.2-2204/2205 of the Code of Virginia, a series of public hearings have been scheduled for **July 25, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.** in the Summerlin Meeting Room of the County Administration Building, Kings Mountain Rd., Collinsville, Virginia. Following these public hearings, the Board may take action to adopt proposed amendments to the Henry County Comprehensive Plan and to the Henry County Zoning Ordinance. Following are the specifics of the public hearings.

The Board will take comments regarding a proposed amendment to the Henry County Comprehensive Plan to amend Chapter 3: Community Facilities, Services and Utilities, Subsection I, to add language addressing Renewable Energy.

The Board will also take comments regarding a proposed amendment to the Henry County Zoning Ordinance Section 21-224: Location, appearance, and operational requirements, to add language addressing Project Area Limit.

The full text of these proposed amendments may be viewed in the Department of Planning, Zoning & Inspection between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.  
Lee H. Clark, AICP  
Director of Planning, Zoning & Inspection

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**CD Prillaman teaches a local preschool class how to plant on the new Pollinator Path.**

## Pollinator Path at Piedmont Arts in bloom with possibilities

Piedmont Arts has officially cut the ribbon on its new Pollinator Path. Preliminarily funded by the Harvest Foundation's Project Hope grant, the Pollinator Path has grown beyond anyone's imagination. Stretching from the museum's parking lot to the corner of Starling and Mulberry, this addition to the landscape of Martinsville is something the entire community can be proud of.

With the help of the Pollinator Path committee and hundreds of volunteers from local garden clubs, school clubs, after-school programs, and churches, the Pollinator Path has started to bloom. Led by Piedmont Arts and CD Prillaman of Prillaman



**Executive Director Heidi Pinkston getting her hands dirty at one of the community work days.**

See **Pollinator**, page 8



**Piedmont Arts board members and staff cut the ribbon on the newly finished Pollinator Path.**

## Land

from page 2

Lewis Jr. to Matthew D. Kendall, Parcels, Iriswood District.

Bonnie A. Martin to Stefanie Malinowski Brown, Lot, no district given.

Victor McAlevy to Cody Richard Spears, 5.036 acres, Reed Creek District.

Paul D. McCoy to Garrey Poole, 0.396 acres, Blackberry District.

James G. Miller to Jeffery David-Donald Roberts, 1.745, Horsepasture District.

Karli Renee Miller to Brian Roop, 1.322 acres, Ridgeway District.

Marvin Webster Millner to Jacob Allen Meeks, Lot, Horsepasture District.

Donald Leon Mills to Steve Cotton, 11.237 acres, Blackberry District.

Geneva Frances Mitchell to Richard E. Wright, 0.308 acres, Collinsville District.

Ryan Taylor Mize to Angel G. Medrano, 3.42 acres, Horsepasture District.

Dolphus McKinley Moran to Jose Noe Coca Gomez, 4.2 acres, Reed Creek District.

Robert J. Morris to William M. Gilley, 0.675 and 0.618 acres, Blackberry District.

Pamela L. Morton to Christopher J. Marlowe, Lot, Ridgeway District.

Robert Reid Mullins Jr. to Matthew Peterson, 36.029 and 17.127 acres, no district given.

Donna Lynn Nester to James David Johannes II, property, no district given.

Patrick Henry Farms Corporation to Maddy Holdings, LLC, 2.788 acres, Iriswood District.

Randy D. Peters to Todd L. Grant, Lot, Iriswood District.

Ronald Rickert to Melanie R. Nuckols, 13.18 acres, Reed Creek District.

Andrea Kathe Rorrer; co-execut to Mayo Village LLC, Parcels, Horsepasture District.

Doris Spencer Scales to Billes, LLC, 11.920 acres Horsepasture District.

Harden L. Shelton Jr. to DDT Properties LLC, Lot, Horsepasture District.

Joseph Ryan Shepherd to Charles N. Keatts, 0.376 acres, Collinsville District.

Mark Carrington Spillman to Candice Price, Lot, Ridgeway District.

Pamela Kaye Stone to Jimmy L. Manuel, Lots, Blackberry

## Local companies participate in VALET program

Hooker Furniture, Inc. in Martinsville was among 11 companies across Virginia to graduate from the Virginia Economic Development Partnership's (VEDP) Virginia Leaders in Export Trade (VALET) program, and Solid Stone Fabrics in Henry County is among the 13 companies to join the two-year program.

VALET, which now has 375 graduated companies, assists Virginia exporters that have firmly established domestic operations and are committed to international exporting as a growth strategy.

"International trade is a key component of advancing economic growth and prosperity in Virginia, and the VALET program is a vehicle that provides the tools and resources for our existing businesses to expand into the global marketplace," said Gov. Glenn Youngkin. "We congratulate these Virginia companies on taking proactive steps to grow international sales and look forward to their future success."

VALET is a two-year international business acceleration program that provides participating companies with international sales plan development services, assistance from a team of experienced international service providers, international business

meetings with potential partners, educational events, and customized market research. There are currently 53 companies participating in the VALET program and 428 Virginia companies have been accepted to participate in the program since its inception in 2002.

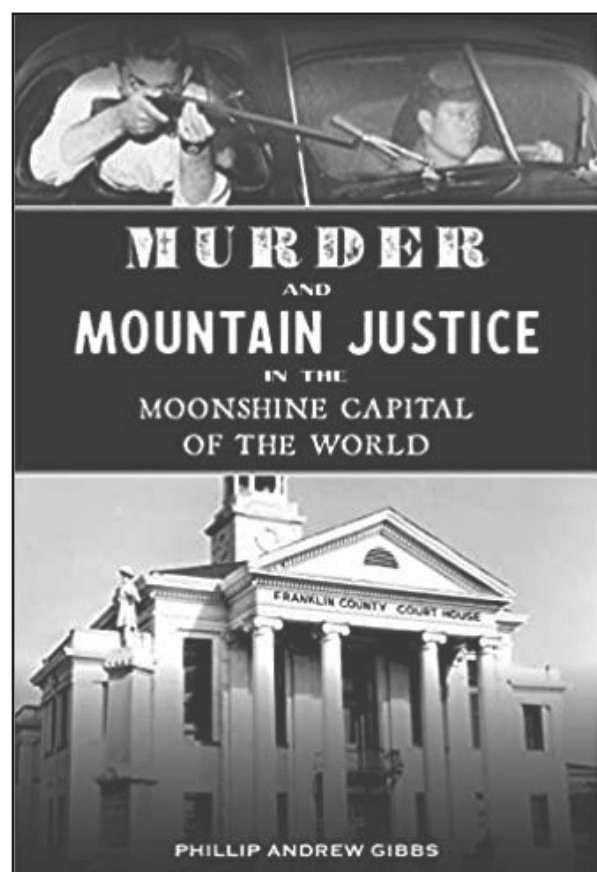
Virginia exports over \$51 billion in goods and services annually. Exports of the Commonwealth's products and services are critical to economic growth, supporting more than 257,000 jobs and generating \$2 billion in annual tax revenue. VEDP offers numerous programs to assist Virginia companies with selling into the global marketplace and has a network of international market research consultants covering 122 countries around the globe.

The Virginia Economic Development Partnership was created by the Virginia General Assembly in 1995 to encourage, stimulate, and support the development and expansion of the economy of the Commonwealth. To accomplish its objectives of promoting economic expansion within the Commonwealth, the Partnership focuses its efforts on business recruitment, expansion, and international trade development.

## Historian, Virginia native to lead program

A story of hard spirits and defiant souls, Franklin County, Virginia has long been known as the Moonshine Capital of the World. That history can seem romantic, but the county has a dark and violent past. The descendants of the Scots-Irish who settled its rugged mountains openly defied the law and employed their own notions of justice to defend their traditions and livelihood. During Prohibition, the production of moonshine skyrocketed, but the liquor didn't stop flowing from the mountains when the eighteenth amendment was repealed. County and state officials struggled to maintain order in a region where unsolved murders, strange disappearances, and senseless killings were a way of life. The peak came in 1978, with nine murders linked to moonshine and drugs in the county.

On Tuesday, August 1, at 10:30 a.m. at the Bassett Historical Center, come and hear the historian and Virginia



**Featured is the cover of Phillip Andrew Gibbs' book, "Murder and Mountain Justice in the Moonshine Capital of the World." The book is available on Amazon.**

native, Phillip Andrew Gibbs, tell the story of that horrific year and the history behind it in his book, "Murder and Mountain Justice in the Moonshine Capital of

the World."

The program is free and open to the public. It will be held in the Susan L. Adkins Memorial Meeting Room.

Fund Societ, 0.755 acres, Horsepasture District.

Truist Bank to Hertzler Contracting LLC, Lot, Horsepasture District.

Anthony Troy Tucker, FKA to Danny Lee Merriman, 0.8353 and 3.8163 acres, Ridgeway District.

Shelia J. Turner to Steven Castagna, 0.505 acres, Horsepasture District.

Mark A. Vernon to James Matthew Whitt, Lot, Ridgeway District.

Virginia Housing Development A to Gary Smith, 0.549 acres, Collinsville District.

Michael E. Wagner to Tony Wayne Grubb, Lots, Reed Creek District.

James Douglas Walker to Clyde J. Foster III, Lot, Martinsville District.

Frances C. White to Quest Trust Company FBO Christ, Lot, no district given

Bobby Jo Willard to Kenneth L. Gnos, Lot, no district given.

Sherri Stroop Wilson; Trustee, to Robert W. Stone, Parcels, no district given.

Charles T. Wimbish; Executor to Rosa Shelton, Lot, Collinsville District.

William Jerry Wimbish to Marty Alan Lawson, 0.955 acres, Reed Creek District.

Michael Ray Wood to Crystal Kay Hardy Johnson, 0.6 and 0.6 acres, Horsepasture District.

Melissa M. Young to Gilberto Mendoza De La Rosa, 0.474 and 0.183 acres, Horsepasture District.

See **Land**, page 3



## Briefs from page 6

from Martinsville and a student at Carteret Community College (Morehead City), was awarded a Skill Point Certificate in Marine Service Technology.

More than 6,000 students competed at the national showcase of career and technical education. The SkillsUSA Championships is the largest skill competition in the world and covers 1.79 million square feet, equivalent to 31 football fields or 41 acres.

Skill Point Certificates were awarded to all national contestants who met a threshold contest score. The Skill Point Certificate represents workplace readiness in the occupational specialty and students can add the certificate to their employment portfolio as an indicator of proficiency.

Students were invited to the event to demonstrate their technical skills, workplace skills and personal skills in 110 hands-on competitions including robotics, automotive technology, drafting, criminal justice, aviation maintenance and public speaking. Industry leaders from 650 businesses, corporations, trade associations and unions planned and evaluated the contestants against their standards for entry-level

workers. Industry support of the SkillsUSA Championships is valued at over \$36 million in donated time, equipment, cash and material. More than 1,200 industry judges and technical committee members participated this year. All SkillsUSA Championships competitors were honored on Friday night, June 23 at the SkillsUSA Awards Session at State Farm Arena.

“More than 6,000 students from every state in the nation participated in the 2023 SkillsUSA Championships,” said SkillsUSA Executive Director Chelle Travis. “This showcase of career and technical education demonstrates SkillsUSA at its finest. Our students, instructors and industry partners work together to ensure that every student excels. This program expands learning and career opportunities for our members.”

The SkillsUSA Championships event is held annually for students in middle school, high school or college/postsecondary programs as part of the SkillsUSA National Leadership & Skills Conference. The national, nonprofit partnership of students, instructors and industry is a verified talent pipeline for America’s skilled workforce that is working to help solve the skills gap.

## 9th from page 4

from high-cost medicine, not help raise the cost.

That’s why I introduced H.R.3285, the Fairness for Patient Medications Act. It ensures that no patient pays more than the price their insurance company or PBM negotiated for the drug.

Under my bill, if the drug is highly-rebated, a patient would not be required to pay more than the insurance company is paying for the drug from the previous year once all the discounts are accounted for.

In other words, your insurance company, or their PBMs, shouldn’t be making extra profit by charging you a higher copay than they paid for the medicine themselves.

Bottom line, this legislation is about fairness.

This bill is included in the larger legislative package, the PATIENT Act of 2023, which has passed out of the Energy and Commerce Committee and hopefully will be on the House floor soon.

H.R.3285 isn’t the only legislation I have been working on in the prescription drug space this Congress.

I’ve also introduced H.R.4099, the RECONNECTS Act of 2023, which amends the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize the prescription drug monitoring program for an additional five years in an effort to prevent overdoses of controlled substances.

This program allows for greater collaboration and tracking of opioids within states and across state lines.

It is important that our monitoring efforts extend across state lines, as many folks live short distances from state borders and can cross state lines to access prescription drugs. The 9th

District is no exception.

Whether it be Martinsville, Bristol, Bluefield, or Galax – it’s important that health authorities are able to receive complete information about prescribing and patient behaviors in a timely fashion in order to facilitate a meaningful response.

H.R.4099, as part of the larger SUPPORT Act of 2023, will next be considered by the full E&C Committee.

The SUPPORT Act is itself a reauthorization of the SUPPORT for Patients and Communities Act, a bipartisan bill, passed in 2018, to address the opioid crisis.

In a recent field hearing in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, the Committee examined the impact of the legislation five years on. We heard from Emily Keller, Special Secretary of Opioid Response, Office of Maryland Governor Wes Moore. When I asked her if the prescription drug monitoring program was working, she said she “had seen success.”

This program was in the bill I wrote, which was included in the 2018 Support Act, to enhance prescription drug monitoring across states.

I and other E&C Republicans have made tackling addiction and real drug price reform and transparency a top priority of this Congress. Like the lady at my pharmacy, we all should know the real prices of our medicines.

If you have questions, concerns, or comments, call my Abingdon office at (276) 525-1405, my Christiansburg office at (540) 381-5671, or via email at [www.morgangriffith.house.gov](mailto:www.morgangriffith.house.gov).

## Troop from page 1

just walking the miles every day and experiencing the beauty of the mountains of New Mexico is pretty cool,” he said.

Before the group went on the trip, a snowstorm warning was issued in the mountains, with some of them expected to have 12-foot snow drifts.

“We were at some pretty high elevations; we were over 11,000 feet. The highest mountains around here are around 5,000 feet, so once you start getting higher in elevation, the temperatures really get cold at night. We were down in the 30 (degrees Celsius) at night,” he said.

During the trek, Foley

said he had the opportunity to see the boys change and evolve.

“They kind of worked as a group, and they become more responsible for themselves while they’re out there,” he said.

He noted the boys had to carry all their own cooking equipment, food, camping gear, and other necessary items.

“When you leave on your trek, what you got is what you have. So, everything you have to survive for those two weeks is in your backpack,” he said.

Foley said the group only ate backpacking food for the entire two weeks.

“Which is kind of

rough on you. You’d be surprised how much you crave hamburgers or steak or any type of sweets, because you don’t get that while you’re out there. You’re just basically eating freeze-dried food or anything that’s dry packaged,” he said.

Foley said it is common for visitors to Philmont to recall what a great trip it was and how they’d like to go back.

“I think a lot of the kids sometimes don’t really appreciate it when they go out when they’re young, but when they look back on it, they’re going to think, ‘that was such an awesome experience,’” he said.

Foley believes it’s the best scouting experience as it really challenges one physically and mentally.

“You really have to be prepared for the trip. Some of the adults that went with us had to lose some weight before they went because they’re real strict on height and weight requirements. It’s just an awesome trip,” he said.

Foley added there are talks about possibly going back for another trek.

“I won’t rule it out, but it’s a commitment to go out there as far as taking time off work and what it costs per person to go,” he said.

## Lessons from page 4

It’s out of style, and how long have you not realized that? Or, worse, it just doesn’t look good. It doesn’t look that great on the hanger, and it looks even worse on you.

There’s even a feeling of embarrassment: “How long did I go around looking dowdy in this but thinking I looked good?”

Mourning washes hot and heavy over you. You’ll have to get rid of that item, but you’re losing not only

that blouse or dress, but worse, you are losing the feeling of beauty and invincibility it once gave you.

Life loses a little bit of its sparkle.

What can be your next go-to garment for your best days and your worse ones?

A frantic look through the closet doesn’t reveal anything that can take its place.

We are back in the world of the normal and dull.

Until – we come across the next great find.

## Hotel from page 1

council proceed with a proposal from Kayak Hotels, LLC, for the development of approximately 3.5 acres of the property.

Kalpak Shah, CEO of the Kayak Hotels Group, presented plans for the hotel project, estimating a \$10 to \$12 million investment from the company. Projected estimates include a \$125,000 cost per guest room. Each room will include a refreshment zone, with an under-counter refrigerator, microwave, coffee maker and extra supplies. Also, among the design features, units will include strategically placed room lighting and a large window to maximize sunlight, according to the presentation.

Lit mirrors in the bathroom will offer “fresh illumination that is both welcoming and functional,” while a groutless tub/shower will be easier to maintain, according to the presentation.

The great room will provide comfortable and flexible seating, as well as a TV feature wall, which will add texture to the space as well as create comfort and intimacy.

The market, situated in a visible location, will include a full-size refrigerator and freezer to allow space for a variety of items. Base cabinets that are used for extra storage can be locked for security purposes. A coffee and tea bar will be placed outside the main breakfast space to reduce congestion. Operable doors to the breakfast area allow the breakfast bar space to be closed off when not in use.

Long term, the anticipated job creation will include a General Manager, Sales Manager, Front Desk Supervisor, Front Desk Clerks, Executive Housekeeper, Housekeepers, Maintenance Engineer, Houseman, Breakfast Hosts and a Laundry Person.

Other benefits to the local economy include subcontractors, local labor for construction, purchase of materials, and professional engineers. In addition to the more than \$220,000 in annual tax revenue the hotel is expected to generate once completed (based on a 65% occupancy rate), it also will solve the area’s shortage of rooms.



**An 80-unit Holiday Inn Express will be built at the former National Guard Army site in Martinsville.**

The building will have four floors and 108 parking spaces, with a fitness center and an indoor pool, multiple site entrances and a Porte-cochere (type of portico) to provide a welcoming entry to the hotel.

Optional features include a patio to extend the great room space and flex meeting space.



# New P&HCC College Board Vice Chairperson Named

The Patrick & Henry Community College Board has elected Ms. Jewell Drewery (Martinsville) its vice chairperson. Drewery has served on the P&HCC Board since January 2022 and is the chairperson of the Legislative Committee and a member of the Executive Committee of the board. She joins chairman Robert Haley (Henry County) in board leadership and will assume the role of board chairperson in July 2024.



**Jewell Drewery**

Drewery is a 1995 graduate of Martinsville High School and attended Hampton University. She is an agent with Rives S. Brown Realtors in Martinsville, VA.

# Pollinator

from page 5



**A volunteer scatters wildflower seeds on one of the freshly tilled flower beds.**

Landscaping Dimensions LLC, native plants and flowers have taken root and have cultivated an entire ecosystem all their own.

This project, while now past phase one, is gear-

ing up for the next phases which will include educational raised beds, bee hives, public art, and eventually connecting to the Silver Bell Trail on the Dick and Willie Trail System, making this pathway a con-



**Volunteers from numerous organizations showed up to grow something together.**

ected part to the larger Martinsville and Henry County community. Please reach out to Lauren Ellis, Programs and Public Relations Coordinator, for more information on how to get involved.

Piedmont Arts is a nonprofit art museum in Martinsville. Museum hours are Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Admission is free. Learn more at PiedmontArts.org.

# Martinsville Speedway and the YMCA Team Up to Host Holiday Run Festival

Martinsville Speedway has partnered with the YMCA to host a Holiday Run Festival on Saturday, Dec. 2, the same day as the annual Christmas Toy Drive, the track recently announced.

The Holiday Run Festival will feature the Southside 10K and the Youth in Motion 5K, with 100% of each entry fee going directly towards the toy drive's fundraising efforts, benefiting both the Martinsville-Henry County YMCA and Grace Network of Martinsville and Henry County. This will be the 29th year Martinsville Speedway has hosted the toy drive giving fans the opportunity to drive around the historic half-mile by donating to the cause.

"The Annual Christmas Toy Drive is one of our

favorite events here at Martinsville Speedway, bringing the community together to support those in need during the holiday season," said Clay Campbell, Martinsville Speedway President. "We're thankful for our partners at YMCA for helping us expand those efforts by introducing the first ever Holiday Run Festival."

Those in the greater Martinsville region can start their morning with the Youth in Motion 5K, beginning at 9 a.m., or the Southside 10K, beginning at 10 a.m., then trade their running shoes for tires during the track laps event at the speedway from 6 p.m. – 8 p.m. Community members can donate an unwrapped toy or \$25 for the opportunity to drive laps around the iconic Virginia track in their personal vehicles.

For laps around the track, drivers must sign waivers and be 18 years of age or older with a valid state-issued driver's license. All participants must adhere to Virginia state laws regarding the usage of seat belts and child safety restraints.

"The team at Miles in Martinsville is very excited to partner with Martinsville Speedway to present the 2023 Holiday Run Festival," said Joe Philpott, an official of Miles of Martinsville. "We have historically run a December 5K for the benefit of our local Youth in Motion program. The program is designed to develop fitness and self-esteem in young people through the use of mentors and running. This partnership will allow us to add a 10K competition and create a true festival atmosphere. We think that the opportunity

to run at the Speedway will be attractive and exciting to runners of all ages."

The donated toys and monetary donations will be distributed to area children through Grace Network of Martinsville and Henry County, which is a faith-based, first-stop center for resources for families in crisis. The organization supports those in the community who need support to keep a roof over their heads, homes warm and lighted, and food on the table with short-term assistance and long-term solutions. To learn more about the Grace Network of Martinsville and Henry County, visit [gracenetorkmhc.org](http://gracenetorkmhc.org).

Martinsville Speedway will also host the NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour season finale on Thursday, Oct. 26, and penultimate races of the Xfinity Series in the Dead On Tools 250 on Saturday, Oct. 28, at 7:30 p.m. and the Cup Series in the Xfinity 500 on Sunday, Oct. 29, at 2:00 p.m. In an intense short track battle that can only happen at Martinsville, the races will set the field for the respective series for the NASCAR Championships the following week at Phoenix Raceway.

The ValleyStar Credit Union 300, the nation's biggest, richest and most prestigious NASCAR Late Model Stock Car race, will also return for an evening of intense competition on Saturday, Sept. 23 at 7:00 p.m.

Tickets to the NASCAR Playoff weekend and the Valley Start Credit Union 300 are available for purchase via phone at 877-RACE-TIX or online at [martinsvillespeedway.com](http://martinsvillespeedway.com).

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