

Towarnicki honored by city and county



Martinsville City Manager Leon Towarnicki (third from left) was presented with a key to the city by members of the Martinsville City Council at his final meeting Tuesday. He is flanked (left to right) by council members Tammy Pearson, Kathy Lawson, Mayor LC Jones, Vice Mayor Aaron Rawls, and Lawrence Mitchell. Towarnicki will retire on July 31, after 41 years of service to the city and its residents.



The Henry County Board of Supervisors and County Administrator Dale Wagoner presented a resolution to outgoing Martinsville City Manager Leon Towarnicki at a meeting Tuesday. Pictured, front row left to right, are Jim Adams, chairman of the Henry County Board of Supervisors, and Towarnicki; second row, Debra Buchanan, Ryan Zehr, Garrett Dillard, and Joe Bryant; back row, Wagoner and Tommy Slaughter.



More than a dozen residents attended the July 25 meeting of Martinsville City Council.

Key to Martinsville awarded in Tuesday ceremony

Taylor Boyd
Staff writer

Members of Martinsville City Council presented a key to the city to Martinsville City Manager Leon Towarnicki for his 41 years of service to the city and its residents.

At the July 25 meeting, Councilman Kathy Lawson read a resolution detailing his career, which began in 1982 when Towarnicki served as the city's engineer. In 1985, he was named the director of public works, and in 2011, became the interim city

manager.

About two years later, on March 26, 2013, Towarnicki became the city manager. He is stepping down on July 31.

"Throughout his entire career, Leon has consistently served the city and its citizens with an unerring sense of genuine duty, dedication, and compassion. Whereas Leon has for over four decades devoted himself to the steady improvement of the quality of life in Martinsville and has consistently been a gentle and devoted leader," she read.

Lawson said Towarnicki has

served a succession of city councils with calm, well-reserved, and ordered advice on a wide range of issues, provided advice on challenging city budgets and uninterrupted service to the public during the COVID-19 pandemic.

"While Leon was city manager the City of Martinsville undertook several major projects with Henry County, the Commonwealth of Virginia, the Harvest Foundation, and the Virginia Tobacco Commission to create a climate for

See **Key**, page 3

Charges may be filed in July 22 incident



The Virginia State Police were called in to conduct an independent investigation of an officer-involved shooting in connection with a July 22 incident in Martinsville. The investigation was requested by the Martinsville Police Department, in accordance with its standard procedures.

By Staff Reports

A Martinsville Police Officer conducting a traffic stop in connection with an alleged traffic violation around 2 p.m. on July 22 ended up discharging his duty

weapon to keep from being pushed over what authorities are calling "a steep embankment."

Martinsville Police Chief Robert Fincher explained in a release that the vehicle in question

See **Charges**, page 8

Operations at the sports complex remain the same – for now



A multi-purpose recreation facility, the Smith River Sports Complex is located on Irisburg Road in Axton.

By Taylor Boyd and Debbie Hall

Henry County Administrator Dale Wagoner on Wednesday said no immediate changes are planned in the current operations of the Monogram Foods Smith River Sports Complex.

"Our Parks & Recreation Department hasn't been involved in the day-to-day operations of the complex. For now, the complex will continue as it is to allow us

to evaluate the most effective and efficient organizational structure and operations," Wagoner said.

That decision followed Tuesday actions by both county and city officials, who respectively approved separate resolutions to dissolve the Southern Virginia Recreation Facilities Authority (SVRFA), which oversees the complex.

The authority previously submitted a letter to both

See **Operations**, page 7

County approves cap on solar panels

Taylor Boyd
Staff writer

In a spate of several actions Tuesday, the Henry County Board of Supervisors agreed to dissolve the Southern Virginia Recreation Facilities Authority and approved an amendment that will limit the total amount of acreage that can be permitted for solar farm development to one percent of the total land mass of the county.

The amendment to the county's existing zoning ordinance was passed in a 5-1 vote, with Iriswood Supervisor Garrett Dillard opposing the change.

The county has about 382 square miles of land mass. The one percent cap will limit the total acreage allowed for solar coverage to 2,445 acres. There are currently 10 approved

solar projects that span approximately 1,807 acres. Only one of those projects has been completed and is generating electricity. Another is currently under construction.

Before the vote on the change to the solar

See **County**, page 5

VISIT
HTTP://WWW.
HENRYCOUNTY
ENTERPRISE.COM
FOR MORE
UPDATES



COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

Meetings

Thursday, August 3

Henry County School Board meets at 5:30 p.m., Summerlin Room, Henry County Administration Building.

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

Events

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.

Saturday, July 29

Free Bibles will be distributed by the Chatham Heights church of Christ, from 10 a.m. until noon beside Bryant Radio, 3449 Virginia Ave., Collinsville.

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.

Exhibit Opening Reception - Compulsory Measures, 5:30 p.m. at Piedmont Arts. The gallery talk begins at 6:15 p.m. Free and open to the public. Complimentary wine and light refreshments. Live music.

Sunday, Aug. 13

Pleasant View Baptist Church will celebrate Homecoming. Dr. Wayne Falson, executive director of Virginia Baptist, is the guest speaker. Lunch will be served following the morning service. All are invited to attend.

Saturday, Aug. 19

The 7th annual Bike Ride, Car Show & Fish Fry will be held at Mt. Nebo Holiness Church, 30598 JEB Stuart HWY, Spencer, Va. Registration begins at 9 a.m. Ride leaves at 10 a.m. Motorcycles, Cars & Trucks are welcome. The \$20 entry fee per bike or auto includes a meal for the driver. The

Car/Truck Show includes Trophies for first, second, and third place & a People's Choice award. The entry fee is \$20.

Registration is from 9 to 10:30 a.m., when judging begins. Fish Fry starts at 8 a.m. and runs until. For more information, call David Hylton at (276) 692-5878.

Auditions for "Doubt, A Parable" (October performances), 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., TheatreWorks Community Players. Cast members needed are Female (age 40s - early 60s), Female (age 30s), Female, African American (age 20s - 30s), Male (late 20's - 40s). There are also opportunities to learn to be a director, stage manager, or set crew. Indicate interest at twcproduction@gmail.com.

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/uptownmusicmhc/> 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 its 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.

Auditions for "Doubt, A Parable" (October performances), 10 a.m. - 2

p.m., TheatreWorks Community Players. Cast members needed are Female (age 40s - early 60s), Female (age 30s), Female, African American (age 20s - 30s), Male (late 20's - 40s). There are also opportunities to learn to be a director, stage manager, or set crew. Indicate interest at twcproduction@gmail.com.

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 brl.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.

Axton man died from crash injuries

A two-vehicle crash on Tuesday resulted in the death of an Axton man, according to a release from the Virginia State Police.

The crash occurred on Tuesday, July 25, on Moorefield Bridge Road, two miles west of Mount Cross Road in Pittsylvania County.

According to the release, a 2005 Chevrolet Tahoe was traveling south on Moorefield Bridge Road, when the vehicle ran off the right side of the roadway, overcorrected, crossed the cen-

terline and struck a 2002 Mack truck.

The driver of the Chevrolet, Tyler Anthony Scott Gunnell, 22, of Axton, Va. was wearing his seatbelt and was injured in the crash. Mr. Gunnell was transported by Emergency Medical Services to SOVAH Health in Danville, where he later died.

The driver of the Mack, Jimmy L. Noble, 57, of Reidsville, N.C., was wearing his seatbelt and was not injured.

The crash remains under investigation.

City schools to host Back to School Open House

All Martinsville City schools will host their back-to-school open house on Wednesday, Aug. 9 from 12-7 p.m. This is a great opportunity for students and their families to meet teachers and staff, visit classrooms, and get acquainted with their school before classes begin on August 14. Each school will send information to families about their individual open house procedures. For more information, visit the Back to School page on the MCPS website at www.martinsville.k12.va.us.

SAAA seeks public input

Southern Area Agency on Aging is conducting a public hearing on July 27 at 1 p.m. for input from the community and review of its Plan for Aging Services for Fiscal Year 2024. The hearing will be held at the Henry County Administration Building, 3300 Kings Mountain Road, Martinsville, in the main board room at 1 p.m.

Contact SAAA at (276) 632-6442 to request an electronic copy of the

plan. Written comments regarding the plan may be submitted to SAAA at 204 Cleveland Avenue, Martinsville, VA 24112 or via email - tcfontaine@southernaaa.org. A virtual option for the public hearing is planned, contact Michelle Brim at mbrim@southernaaa.org to request Zoom link for the hearing.

The SAAA serves residents in Patrick and Henry counties.

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 hbcridge-way.myanswers.com. For more information, visit hbcridge-way.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.

Church to distribute free Bibles

FREE BIBLES will be distributed from 10 a.m. to noon on Saturday, July 29, beside Bryant Radio in Collinsville, at 3449 Virginia Ave. The Chatham Heights church (sic) of Christ will be handing out free Bibles to anyone in the community who would like to read the word of God. These are brand new, legible Bibles, containing both the Old and New Testaments, in a

translation that is both true to the manuscripts and also easy to understand. We can also provide contact information for our evangelist and information about our congregation. Free Bible studies are always available too. We are a smaller, autonomous, friendly group of Christians simply trying to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ so as many persons can be saved as possible. This information will also

be listed in the Events section of our website, at (www.chatham-heightscoc.com), on our Facebook page, and multiple other locations where we will advertise. No donations will be accepted. We do not want money. We want YOU to go to heaven! Current members of Chatham Heights are also encouraged to attend, to greet our neighbors in the community. Hope to see you all there.

Shanta receives Presidential Citation Award

The Virginia Technology and Engineering Education Association (VTEEA) recognized Dr. Susheela Shanta, the Coordinator of Academic Programs focusing on STEM education at the New College Institute (NCI) in Martinsville, with the prestigious Presidential Citation Award. This distinguished accolade was presented to Dr. Shanta by Amy Sabarre, President of VTEEA, during the Annual Conference held in Hampton, Virginia, on July 17-20.

The Presidential Citation Award is bestowed upon individuals who have demonstrated exceptional leadership and dedicated service in support of technology and engineering education, across the Commonwealth of Virginia. Dr. Shanta's outstanding contributions to the field and her unwavering commitment to fostering STEM education for all students made her a standout choice for this esteemed recognition.

Amy Sabarre, while presenting the award, shared heartwarming words about Dr. Shanta's remarkable journey and her profound impact on STEM education, "This next award is pretty special to me. This is called the Presidential Citation Award, and it's my choice. This next awardee was an engineer in her past life, and she also did urban development. She taught as an engineering teacher in Roanoke, Virginia, and at one of the Governor's STEM academies. She received her doctor-



ate from Virginia Tech in integrative STEM education and is now the Coordinator of Academic Programs that focus on STEM education at New College Institute in my hometown, Martinsville, Virginia. Susheela and I work on the Governor's STEM Advisory Board together. We both were appointed. She also served on writing the performance metrics for the Advancing Excellence in Engineering Education, and we worked together in that project. She is extremely knowledgeable, hardworking, kind, and she advocates for STEM education for all students. Most recently, she is working to create a state STEM ecosystem in the Martinsville area. It is my pleasure and honor to present this Presidential Citation to Susheela Shanta."

Dr. Shanta, upon receiving the award, expressed her gratitude and shared her perspective on her career and dedication to education, remarked, "I have always been fortunate to have had an opportunity in all stages of my career over 35 years to be able to make a living doing what is my passion: a holistic approach to community development. I believe that every individual (child or adult) needs to be able to access education that will prepare them for their future, and I believe as educators we are all trying to do that. I am truly surprised by this award today and am humbled by this acknowledgment and appreciation by my peers. Thank you!"

In addition to being honored with the Presidential Citation

Award, Dr. Shanta also showcased her expertise at the conference by presenting on the topic of "STEM Ecosystems: Fostering STEM Literacy for All and Preparing the Next Generation of Innovators." Her involvement in the conference further highlights her dedication to advancing STEM education and promoting a holistic approach to community development.

Dr. Shanta's exceptional contributions to the field of technology and engineering education have not only positively impacted her local community but have also inspired educators and students across the Commonwealth of Virginia.

NCI serves both Henry and Patrick counties.

Key from page 1

business and economic growth," she said.

During his tenure, Lawson said Towarnicki has been devoted to the improvement of the Martinsville-Henry County region. He was awarded the 2016 Fred Herring Award by the Martinsville-Henry County Chamber of Commerce.

Several others also spoke at the meeting. Former city councilman Chad Martin said, "When I first met him, serving as vice-mayor, there was something that he would do that I really just did not like. I would ask a question and he would go into a bright engagement of the history of the situation" to provide context, he said.

Martin said that was something he didn't understand and appreciate until later because the information helped him understand the situation and the gravity of potential decisions.

Towarnicki, Martin said, is never up or down, or right or left.

"He is the epitome of the phrase 'cooler heads prevail,'" he said.

Former mayor and council member Gene Teague said when he thought about Towarnicki, one of the first words that came to mind was professional.

"It's a professional job he did and continues to do and will continue to do. I know back in 2012 when we hired Leon, we had to talk him into putting in for the job, and I don't think he thought he could do it," Teague said. However, Towarnicki has "done an outstanding job and I'm glad we talked him into it."

Teague said Towarnicki is 'a get it done kind of guy,' and noted that throughout his tenure, Towarnicki has always been focused on getting everything done.

"When you think about all the projects across the city over the past 41 years, Leon's had a hand in almost all of those," Teague said, adding that Towarnicki is hardworking, respected amongst all the councils he's worked with, and state officials. He is solution-oriented, even-tempered, and wise.

Danny Turner, former city mayor and councilman for 14 years, said he enjoyed having Towarnicki there during his tenure to answer questions and assist him.

"He keeps you on the straight and narrow," he said.

Another former council member Jennifer Bowles said throughout his tenure with the city, Towarnicki has exemplified the true spirit of a public servant.

"Your unwavering commitment to Martinsville and tireless efforts to have a legacy that will shine on throughout time. From the start of your service to this very moment you have led with integrity, professionalism, wisdom, and a genuine passion for making this city a better place," she said.

In other matters, the council:
 *Approved the July 11 meeting minutes.
 *Approved a resolution to dissolve the Southern

See Key, page 4

Town officials question Stuart hospital project, table rezoning bid

Taylor Boyd
 Staff writer

Members of Stuart Town Council voted to table a request to rezone the hospital property meeting after Town Manager Bryce Simmons said he had it on good authority that Foresight Hospital and Health Systems will not open by the end of the year.



Town Manager Bryce Simmons discussed the proposed rezoning of the hospital property at a recent meeting of the Stuart Town Council.

See Town, page 5

NEWS | SPORTS | LOCAL PROGRAMS

The Southside's
 #1 Local TV Station

SUPPORT COMMUNITY JOURNALISM

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

SPECIAL DEALS AND PROMOTIONS OFFERED THROUGHOUT THE YEAR!

CALL US TODAY AT (276) 694-3101

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | | 4 | 5 | 6 | | 7 | 8 | 9 | | | |
| | | 10 | | | | 11 | | | 12 | | | | | |
| 13 | 14 | | | | | 15 | | | 16 | | | 17 | 18 | |
| 19 | | | | | 20 | | | 21 | 22 | | | | | |
| 23 | | | | | | | | 24 | | | | | | |
| | | | 25 | | | | | 26 | | | | | | |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | | | | | | 30 | | | | 31 | 32 | 33 |
| 34 | | | | | | | | | | | | 35 | | |
| 36 | | | 37 | 38 | 39 | 40 | | 41 | 42 | 43 | 44 | | | |
| | | | 45 | | | | | 46 | | | | | | |
| 47 | 48 | 49 | | | | | | 50 | | | | 51 | 52 | 53 |
| 54 | | | | | | | | 55 | | | | | | |
| 56 | | | | | | | 57 | 58 | | | 59 | | | |
| | | | 60 | | | | 61 | | | | 62 | | | |
| | | | 63 | | | | 64 | | | | 65 | | | |

CLUES ACROSS

- Sr. enlisted Army member
- Payroll firm
- Monetary unit of Macao
- Cooking vessel
- Cow sound
- Hairpiece
- Spoon-shaped surgical instrument
- Mother
- Remove from record
- Foolish
- Mailman
- Unit of data size
- Stirred
- Deceptive movement
- We all have one
- Direct from pasture beef animal
- A person's own self
- Helps little firms
- Deep, red-brown sea bream
- Tumbler
- A short section of a musical composition
- Young woman (French)
- Wings
- Wine bottles
- Thin layers of rock
- Opposite to
- American state
- Uncertainty about something
- Basics
- Indian seaport
- Owed as a debt
- Buffer solution
- Unit of work or energy
- Soviet Socialist Republic
- One point south of due east
- Born of

CLUES DOWN

- Small stem bearing leaves
- Female Bacchanalians
- Mediterranean city
- Measures electric current
- Arrived extinct
- Edible butterflyfish
- Causing wonder or astonishment
- Behaviors showing high moral standards
- Ancient Irish alphabets
- Footballer Newton
- Utilize
- Sum of absolute errors
- Opposite of the beginning
- Shoe company
- Algerian port city
- Girls organization (abbr.)
- Type of cell (abbr.)
- Swiss river
- When you hope to get there
- Fall behind
- Expresses distaste, disapproval
- Volume containing several novels
- Less sharp
- Food for the poor
- Having made a valid will
- Royal estates
- Relating to wings
- Japanese three-stringed lute
- Taking something through force
- Angry
- Before the present
- Showy ornaments
- Norway
- Comedienne Gasteyer
- Consume
- Founder of Babism

OPINION

Sundown town

Like most people, there are plenty of moments from my youth that I look back on and cringe so hard that my body involuntarily curls up like a salad shrimp.

For example, I was thinking the other day about an incident in high school. I was talking to a friend of mine and I told him that I'd recently been to Radio Shack. For some reason, I said, the manager kept surreptitiously following me around like he thought I was going to steal something.

"Yeah, that happens to me all the time," my friend said.

"Really?" I said. I was shocked. I had assumed I was followed because I looked scruffy, but my friend was one of the most clean-cut people I knew.

"Well, yeah," my friend said. "I'm black."

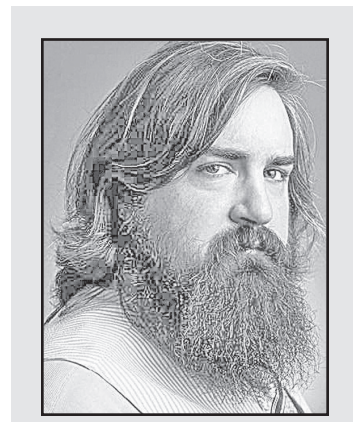
"Oh," I said.

A few years after that, I was in a restaurant that used to be on the outskirts of Patrick County. I was playing pinball when I noticed a little framed black-and-white photo

hanging next to the pinball machine. I leaned in and saw it was a photo from the 1925 Ku Klux Klan parade in Washington, D.C., in which 30,000 robed racists walked proudly through our nation's capitol.

I was stunned. How had I never noticed this before? I started looking around the restaurant, and suddenly I noticed things I'd never paid attention to before. There was a Confederate battle flag hanging on the wall, Hank Williams Jr.'s smiling face printed in the center of it, surrounded by text that read "If the South would've won, we would've had it made." There were multiple "We reserve the right to refuse service to anyone" signs hanging all over the restaurant.

I felt like Rowdy Roddy Piper in "They Live" after he puts on the magic sunglasses that allow him to see the world as it really is. How many times had I gone to that restaurant without ever realizing the owners were enormous racists? There's regular racism,



By Ben R. Williams

and then there's "hanging a photo of a Klan rally next to the pinball machine" racism. How had I been so blind?

A few years after that, I was working at a movie theater. My boss was black. We were standing on the stoop in front of the theater after work one evening, just shooting the breeze. My boss was wearing a suit; he was always a sharp dresser. I was wearing jeans and a T-shirt that probably had a picture of a wizard on it.

A police cruiser drove past the theater. It circled the block and looped back around, slowing down a bit this time. The third time it circled the block, the officer wasn't even trying to hide the fact that he was

staring down my boss and ignoring me completely. My boss shook his head.

"Happens all the time," he said.

"If he makes a fourth pass," I said, "I'm gonna pretend to mug you and blow his mind."

He laughed, but there wasn't much humor in it.

I've been thinking about incidents like these in the wake of the controversial music video for Jason Aldean's song "Try That in a Small Town." I have watched this music video, and it may as well have been titled "Don't Let the Sun Set on You Here." It's a song that literally features Aldean, the human equivalent of mashed potatoes, singing manfully about the wonders of vigilante justice while standing in front of a courthouse where a black man named Henry Choate was lynched by a mob in 1927.

It would be incorrect to say that this song has a racist subtext only because the song doesn't have subtext. The hatred is the text. The best thing you can say in Aldean's defense is that he doesn't write his own music.

Of course, a lot of people love this song and are falling all over themselves to defend

it. They simultaneously respond to its message while denying its message.

Over the years, I have observed a fascinating phenomenon. I've seen folks post memes on social media that are screamingly racist, but the moment they get called out, they deny that they have a racist bone in their body; in fact, they're offended that you would even dare to suggest such a thing.

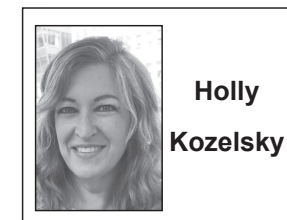
My suspicion is that they believe they aren't racist because they don't say racial slurs and they've never burned a cross in someone's yard. But the true pernicious racism that has infected American society doesn't look like a Klan rally.

It looks like a black person being followed in a store because they're assumed to be a thief. Or it looks like a business that quietly signals to customers who is and isn't welcome. Or it looks like a police officer circling a block three times because a well-dressed black man has the audacity to exist in public after sunset.

I hate Klansmen and Nazis, but there is one thing about them that I have to grudgingly respect:

If you call them racists, they don't argue with you.

Purging and Other Undignified Realities



Holly Kozelsky

The saying is "the calm before the storm," but when it comes to cleaning house, it's more like "the storm before the calm."

Because how ironic is it, really now – that the house is never more a disaster than when it's being well cleaned?

I'm not talking about the quick cleaning, when you shove clutter into drawers and closets, then dust and polish surfaces and mop or vacuum. No, what I'm talking about is when you finally come to a reckoning with those misused drawers and closets.

And their being full and less useful may not necessarily be the result of misuse by shoving

miscellany into them. It may simply be a factor of time: After so many months, or years, belongings accumulate and crowd the storage spaces.

Every now and then, when you're about to tackle housecleaning and chores, you get the feeling that it's not going to feel tidy and organized unless it is so to the very bones of the house.

Cleaning and reorganizing storage areas means getting stuff out of them first. That stuff has to go somewhere – piled on tables or dumped on the floor.

It requires a lot of decision-making and some really tough choices, usually more so mentally and emotionally than logically. There's all those clothes that once looked great, or will look great but you haven't worn them yet – and surely you'll lose those 5 pounds you've been meaning to forever, in

the near future, if you put your mind to it.

Or they still fit and hopefully they'll come back into style some day, or you need to get around to sewing on missing buttons, or you just need to find the right top to go with those pants.

That need to face uncomfortable realities also comes to sorting through the craft area: Will we really complete this project that's been setting idle for years? Will we use these materials again? And why, oh why, did we buy that expensive stuff we haven't gotten around to using?

In the kitchen, we have to get rid of expired food, and those exotic or unique ingredients that were purchased with the best of intentions but never made it into any recipes. Facing reality: What is the likelihood that we'll look up a recipe to use them, then go to the specialty store to buy the other ingredients the recipe calls for, then actually cook it?

In the various utility drawers we separate those pens and markers that write from those that don't.

There's a myriad of rubber bands and paperclips and doodads in assorted drawers: Will we collect them all together or just dump the stuff in the bottom of the drawer into the trash can?

After hours, or even days, of this deep organizing, we feel a real sense of accomplishment. Though the living room or kitchen or both are a shamble of messy stacks and piles of stuff, the back of the closet is the cleanest it's been in ages. It's a great feeling.

Then the doorbell rings. Someone has dropped by unexpectedly and catches you in a complete disaster area.

"Don't mind the mess," you say. "I've been cleaning."

To the contrary, it looks like you haven't cleaned anything in months, or longer.

Do they believe you? You see the reality of the situation in the other person's eyes.

After the unexpected guest leaves, the easiest thing to do is just shove everything back into the closets and drawers, and do some surface cleaning, just to restore your dignity.

Key from page 3

Virginia Recreation Facilities Authority. The Henry County Board of Supervisors also approved a similar resolution, paving the way for the Smith River Sports Complex to become part of the Henry County Parks & Recreation Department.

*Heard an update on the city's Industrial Development Authority.

*Allocated \$720,000 in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds for housing, branding, planning, and other uses.

*Approved the consent agenda.

*Heard an update from the Emergency Housing & Community Support Commission, which evaluated six properties to potentially house a warming shelter include the Salvation Army, the former Harmony Hall, and the former site of the Community Storehouse. Locations excluded from the list include the top floor of Piedmont Community Services (PCS), the former Catholic Church on Church Street, and the former Museum of Natural History building. Negotiations are currently underway with the Salvation Army.

*Heard from Rico Johnson, who owns the Corner Kitchen, which is currently located in the county. Johnson said he plans to relocate his business to Uptown Martinsville.

*Heard from Bowles, who noted issues on Forest and Askin streets, including cones in the road, trash, and trees. She also asked the council to provide a written response to her May 25 email.

*Heard from Tom Sally, who was representing the Warming Center. Sally thanked the council and the commission for the work each has done in the bid to address homelessness.

*Heard from Patrick H. Wright, who expressed concerns about the absence of lime sherbet on store shelves, and encouraged those who enjoy the treat to write companies and businesses to try and get the shelves restocked.

When asked about lime sherbet, Mayor LC Jones said, "I think it sounds good."

LEGAL NOTICES

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
REZONING PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

Pursuant to Section 15.2-2204 of the Code of Virginia, a series of public hearings has been scheduled for **August 9, 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 Planning Commission will make a recommendation on the applications to the Board of Supervisors.

The Henry County Board of Supervisors will conduct public hearings on the following applications on **August 22, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.** in the Summerlin Meeting Room of the County Administration Building, Kings Mountain Rd, Collinsville, Virginia.

The purpose of these public hearings is to receive input into the possible rezoning of property. Following are the specifics of the public hearings.

Case R-23-11 Lonnie D. Eggleston

The property is located at 3180 & 3186 Figsboro Rd, in the Reed Creek District. The Tax Map number is 18.4(2)B/18. The applicant is requesting the rezoning of approximately 13-acres from Rural Residential District R-R to Agricultural District A-1. The applicant plans to sell the property to a new owner that wishes to keep chickens and livestock.

Case R-23-12 Robert K. Mills

The property is located at 782 Fisher Farm Road, in the Ridgeway District. The Tax Map number is 52.7(22)/6.7. The applicant is requesting the rezoning of 2 lots from Suburban Residential District S-R to Commercial District B-1. The applicant wishes to bring the property into zoning compliance to allow for possible expansion.

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

Lee H. Clark, ACP

Director of Planning, Zoning & Inspection

Be sure to like
the Henry
County Enterprise
on Facebook

Your Community, Your Voice

Serving Henry County, Martinsville, and Surrounding Area

HENRY COUNTY ENTERPRISE

henrycountyenterprise.com

Weekly Publication

Published Each Saturday

Michael Showell, *Publisher*Debbie Hall, *Editor*

dhall@theenterprise.net

(276) 694-3101

Randy Thompson, *Advertising Manager*

advertise@mainstreetnewspapers.com

(540) 230-1129

Give us your view:

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

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



Scenic view from a cabin at James River State Park.

Camping Still Available at Several Virginia State Parks

It's not too late to book a week-long camping trip this summer. Virginia State Parks offer cabins, bunkhouses, lodges, campsites and yurts where guests can stay overnight and get a chance to experience the park after dark. Travelers should check the reservation system for availability.

"We offer a variety of overnight accommodations while guests stay at the park and enjoy the Eastern Shore," said Kiptopeke State Park Manager Sean Dixon. "I think our location provides the best summer getaway at a reasonable price. Whether you enjoy fishing, hiking, biking or water activities, our park has something for the whole family to enjoy."

Parks provide excellent views of the nighttime sky, allow you to hear local wildlife and offer a variety of programs to entertain those night-owls. There are stargazing programs, ranger guided sunset paddles, night hikes, moonlight canoe tours, campfire gatherings and even self-guided programs for those who prefer a solo adventure.

"Nothing beats the view of the James River like a sunset canoe paddle," said James River State Park Manager John Fury. "We have guided programs all summer long and will host an astronomy viewing on August 19 with special guests from the Richmond Astronomical Society and Rappahannock Astronomical Society. Be sure to book your stay and take advantage of the water during the day and stargazing at night."

For more information about Virginia State Parks' activities and amenities or to make reservations in one of the more than 1,800 campsites or 300 climate-controlled cabins, visit www.virginiastateparks.gov for more information.

Town

from page 3

"Right now, it's all talk," Simmons said at the July 19 meeting. "We don't have anything to approve."

Simmons asked if the council wanted to officially change the current zone since it does not have an "actual physical plan" to review that would help determine whether the property would meet the rezoning criteria.

Town Attorney Chris Corbett asked Simmons if he was implying that Foresight's plans for a medical facility may fall completely through, and another company could want the more than 10 acres for another purpose.

"I'm implying that they may not have a plan, and if they were to sell the property tomorrow it may be more flexible in its currently zoned criteria than establishing this as a hospital" zoned area, Simmons said, adding that he believes the town should not do anything until Foresight comes to the council for a clear zoning for the property.

The rezoning request is to change the property from Community/Regional/Commercial to a Medical Hospital Center District.

Mayor Ray Weiland said the council has the rezoning document ready, if and when

Foresight asks to alter the zoning.

"It's something that we can look at and see if it were to become a zoned property for the hospital medical center business that this would be an acceptable zoning verbiage," Weiland said. "If it were to happen, we could revisit this possibility and just keep this in our back pocket in a file somewhere until it's necessary."

"Our timeframe is sort of wide open right now," Simmons said. "We are not under any sort of deadline for approval to have this property rezoned for this proposed zoning verbiage."

County

from page 1

ordinance, the board amended its Comprehensive Plan to incorporate the long-range vision for renewable energy in the county. The cap is in addition to existing restrictions on solar development such as the 2.5 percent density requirement.

In other matters, the board:

*Approved the items of consent.

*Approved a resolution honoring Martinsville City Manager Leon Towarnicki for 41 years of service. He is retiring on July 31.

*Approved a resolution honoring Hilda Mabry, who is retiring from the Commonwealth's Attorney's Office.

*Heard an update from Piedmont Community Services (PCS).

*Heard the monthly report on delinquent tax collection efforts.

*Heard an update on the Martinsville-Henry County Economic Development Corp.

*Approved the commitment statements of the Blue Ridge Soil and Water Conservation District for improvements to the Leatherwood 2A and #3 dams.

*Conducted a public hearing and approved a request to rezone approximately 2.36 acres of the Reed Creek District from Suburban Residential District to Commercial District for a commercial landscaping sales establishment.

*Appointed Donata Worrell to the Blue Ridge Regional Library Board for a four-year term scheduled to end on June 30, 2027.

*Appointed Jonathan Martin to the Community Policy and Management Team for a two-year term scheduled to end on June 30, 2025.

*Reappointed Michael Ward to the Roanoke River Basin Association for a

one-year term scheduled to end on June 30, 2024.

*Heard an update on highway projects from Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) resident engineer Lisa Price-Hughes.

*Approved an additional appropriation of \$28,237,705 received through grants from the Virginia Economic Development Partnership's Site Readiness Program and the Harvest Foundation to assist with site work on Lot #2 at Commonwealth Crossing Business Centre.

*Approved an additional appropriation of \$10,000 to provide matching funds for a grant received from the Virginia Opioid Abatement Authority to study and identify community-based options for the most effective long-term use of funds for abatement.

*Approved an additional appropriation of \$240,000 to cover overages related to the Children's Services Act Program.

*Approved an additional appropriation of \$95,000 received through a grant from the Harvest Foundation and awarded a contract to the Martinsville-Henry County Chamber of Commerce's Partnership for Economic Growth to conduct an economic impact study related to the Martinsville Southern Connector route.

*Approved an additional appropriation of \$50,000 received through the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development to assess specific community needs related to housing and related infrastructure.

*Approved an additional appropriation of \$10,000 received through the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development to execute

Ridgeway firefighters get support, awards from town



The Town of Ridgeway donated \$16,000 to the Ridgeway District Volunteer Fire Department, including a \$15,000 grant the town received from the Commonwealth of Virginia State Fire Programs fund. Receiving the donation are firefighters Fire Chief A.J. Goins and Treasurer John Adams. (Pictured left to right)



Mayor Craig O'Der also presented medals of merit on behalf of the Ridgeway Town Council to Ridgeway District Volunteer Firefighters Earl Emerson, Chief A.J. Goins, and Allen Jackson for their meritorious service in response to the Spray Cotton Mill complex fire that occurred in January of this year in Eden, N.C. The Ridgeway Volunteer Fire Department was one of 23 agencies that responded to the request for aid by the City of Eden. Surrounding Fire Departments from Virginia to Summerfield, N.C. responded to the industrial fire. Fire Fighters Earl Emerson, Chief A.J. Goins, and Allen Jackson (pictured left to right) were the recipients of the medals recognizing their service.



A close up photo of the medals of merit, presented on behalf of the Ridgeway Town Council to Ridgeway District Volunteer Firefighters.



Hilda Mabry was honored for her 34 years of service as the Office Administrator for the Commonwealth's Attorney's Office. Mabry is pictured with the resolution alongside Henry County Commonwealth's Attorney Andrew Nester and members of the Henry County Board of Supervisors.

the United Way Individual Development Accounts Planning Grant which will provide for free training to residents on topics related to financial management.

*Awarded a contract to Fidelity Power Systems in the amount of \$235,710 for the relocation of the generator providing power to the 911 Center from the former jail to behind the administration building.

*Approved an additional appropriation of \$55,423 received from the Virginia Department of Health's Return to Locality Funds.

*Approved an additional appropriation of \$15,000 from State Asset Forfeiture funds to cover travel-related expenses for the Commonwealth's Attorney's Office.

*Approved a resolution to update

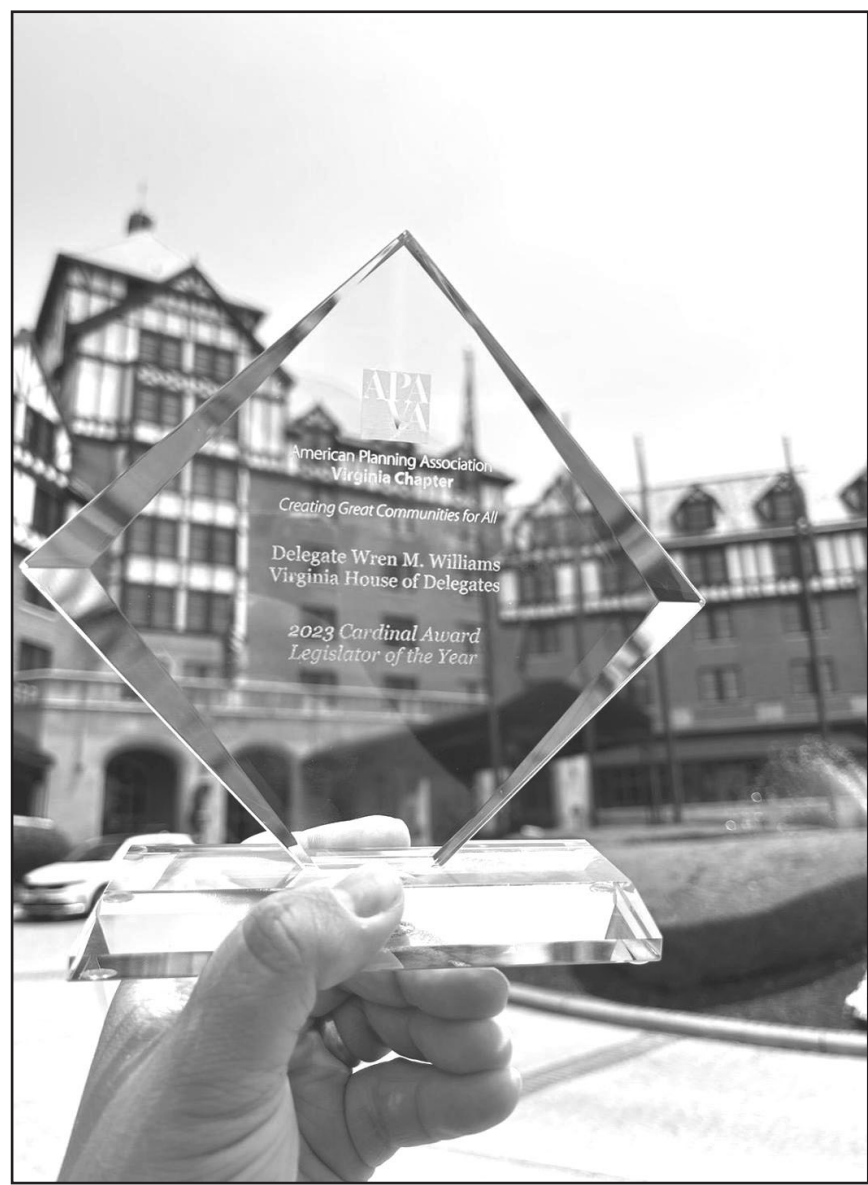
the signature authority for the Adult Detention Center inmate fund.

*Approved an additional appropriation of \$7,200 from State Asset Forfeiture funds to cover the cost of sending two investigators from the Sheriff's Office to Celebrite certification training.

*Approved an additional appropriation of \$219,679 from the Virginia Department of Education to provide additional revenue to Henry County Public Schools as the result of recalculations performed by the state using the actual average daily membership totals for all school divisions.

*Approved an amendment to the Henry County Public School's fiscal year 2024 operating budget totaling \$1,666,062 to reflect an estimated reduction in state funds.

Williams named Legislator of the Year



Del. Wren Williams, R-Stuart, received the 2023 Cardinal Award Legislator of the Year award from the Virginia Chapter of the American Planning Association (APA) at an annual conference held July 16-19 in Roanoke.



Piedmont Arts is grateful to its Board of Directors for their leadership in bringing the arts to Martinsville and Henry County.

New members to join Piedmont Arts' board

Piedmont Arts' Board of Directors saw new appointments and promotions within the board on July 1.

Dr. Shana LeGrant, technical assistance specialist at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, stepped into the role of president for this term. Anne Smith, CAO and president of domestic upholstery at Hooker Furnishings is first vice president. Olivia Garrett, regional programs director of institutional advancement at NCI stepped into the role of second vice president. Drury Ingram, corporate controller at Bassett Furniture, will serve as the treasurer and Tracie Heaver, the owner of Let's Be Well, LLC, will serve as the secretary. Guy Stanley is the

immediate past president. Piedmont Arts is thrilled to welcome these exceptional individuals to the board's list of officers and is grateful for their expertise and leadership.

In addition to the changes to the list of officers, Piedmont Arts also welcomes new members to its list of directors. Effie Cuenca of Martinsville; Benjamin Gravely of Martinsville; Andy Hynes, of Axton; Tekela Redd of Martinsville; Jason L. Spratley of Martinsville; and McKay Ullstein of Martinsville.

Returning directors are Theresa Bechtel, DeShanta Hairston, Lucy Coleman, Manly Boyd, James Souter, Caleb Moore, Charlie Knighton and Tim Parker.

JOIN US

WEEKLY SUNDAY

MORNING SERVICE
10:30AM

Subscribe to our
YouTube Channel
NEVER MISS A SERVICE

NEW DAY CHURCH
MHC

705 LIBERTY ST MARTINSVILLE, VA 24112

Rania's
RESTAURANT
BAR AND GRILL

147 East Main Street
Uptown Martinsville, VA
Reservations accepted
(276) 638-4462
www.raniasrestaurant.com

Weekly Specials

\$15.99 Prime Rib

\$15.99 Chicken and Shrimp Alfredo

\$15.99 Fresh Salmon and Rice

\$19.99 Seafood Siesta
(made with scallops, mussels and shrimp)

Hours: Tuesday - Saturday 11:30 am - 10 pm
Closed Sunday and Monday

Movie Town 276-638-4040

NOW PLAYING:
Haunted Mansion(PG-13),
Barbie(PG-13),
Oppenheimer(R), Mission
Impossible: Dead
Reckoning(PG-13), Sound of
Freedom(PG-13), and
Insidious: The Red
Door(PG-13)

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

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

Be sure to like the Henry County
Enterprise on Facebook

CLASSIFIEDS

PUBLISHER'S NOTICE

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

SERVICES

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

Be sure to like the
Henry County Enterprise
on Facebook

SERVICES

FOR SALE

House Painting, interior, exterior, also log cabins, and deck staining.
Call George Scott (276) 403-1589.

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

TWO (2) BURIAL PLOTS IN PATRICK MEMORIAL GARDEN. LOCATION: LEFT CENTER MAIN SECTION, PLOTS 558 A & B. INCLUDES TWO CONCRETE VAULTS, A VALUE IN EXCESS OF \$2500. ORIGINAL PURCHASE DOCUMENTS PROVIDED. TOTAL PRICE: \$3500.

See how a classified ad in the Henry County Enterprise can work.

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

LIVESTOCK AUCTIONS

EVERY SATURDAY AT 1 P.M.

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

For directions to our facility, weekly updates of upcoming events and current sale prices, please visit our website:
www.springlakeauctions.com.

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

We appreciate your business!

1069 SICKLE COURT, MONETA, VA 24121

CROSSWORD ANSWERS

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| S | A | G | S | A | T | D | A | I |
| S | L | U | B | N | A | S | U | A |
| E | C | R | U | E | K | I | N | G |
| A | U | T | O | B | I | O | G | R |
| E | A | U | | | | E | M | U |
| C | E | O | R | L | | E | U | L |
| H | U | D | S | A | M | A | S | |
| E | R | E | | A | A | R | | |
| L | I | M | B | I | C | H | I | |
| E | A | R | N | S | | A | H | E |
| | | | I | C | H | | T | A |
| M | I | C | H | E | L | L | E | |
| S | O | A | K | B | A | I | R | |
| E | L | M | S | A | C | R | I | |
| A | L | B | | E | E | C | | |

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

ADVERTISE!

Advertise With Us!

What we offer:

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

What we have:

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

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

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

OBITUARIES

Goolsby Jr., Malcolm (Pete) S.

Malcolm (Pete) S. Goolsby Jr. 94, of Martinsville, VA passed away on Tuesday, July 18, 2023, at Mulberry Creek Nursing Home. He was born August 4, 1928, in Williamson, WV to the late Malcolm S. Goolsby and Dolas Webster Goolsby. He was also preceded in death by his son: David Goolsby, daughter: Kathy Goolsby, sisters: Doretha Smith, Frances Jacobs, Roselle Clemons, and Catherine Thurman, brothers Dewey Goolsby, and Don Goolsby.

Malcolm worked at the Mountaineer Hotel in Williamson, WV, and later worked on the railroad as a



Conductor. He loved watching the West Virginia Mountaineer football and basketball teams play. He was of the Baptist Faith.

His sons survive Mr. Goolsby: Harold Goolsby of Portsmouth, OH, and Michael Scott Goolsby, sister: Brenda Helm of Woodbury, MN. Many

grandchildren and great-grandchildren also survive him. Also, several nieces and nephews including Arlene Taylor, Chris Johnson, Susan Horton, Robin Artis, Sherry Patrick, Paul Jacobs, Michelle Helm, Kimberly Helm, Brandon Clemons, and Stuart Miles.

A graveside service was held on Friday, July 21 at Henry Memorial Park, Bassett, VA, with pastor David Deisher officiating. Norris Funeral Services, Martinsville, VA is serving the Goolsby family. Online condolences may be made at norrisfuneral.com.

Davidson, Robert George

Robert George Davidson departed this life on July 18, 2023, in Bassett, VA. He was born in Silica, WV on March 9, 1938. He married the love of his life, Maxine Ruth Davidson on July 15, 1962, in Elkins, WV. He was a Christian by faith and his final wish was to go to his Heavenly Home to reunite with his beloved wife, family and friends who went before him.

Bob is survived by his three children, Victoria Rogers of Shawano, WI, Debra Allison and husband Jess of Benton City WA, and Vernon Louk and his wife Karen of Bridgeport WV. He is also survived by his niece, Sue Rice and nephew,



Bruce Davidson, sister-in-law Nancy Davidson and nephew, Clint and Shea Davidson.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Maxine Davidson, his parents, Vorse and Marie Davidson, and brothers, Eddie, Ralph, and Ronnie Davidson, and son-in-law, Doug Rogers.

He served in the United States Army and was proud to have served his country both at home and overseas.

He was a laborer his whole life and worked hard to care for his family. He and his wife were always eager to lend a hand to friends and family in need.

He was aided in his final days by his aide Ms. Annette Gebeau, whom he considered a friend.

He leaves behind his beloved pet, Willie, who was always by his side.

Norris Funeral Services, Inc. and Crematory, Martinsville, VA is serving the Davidson family.

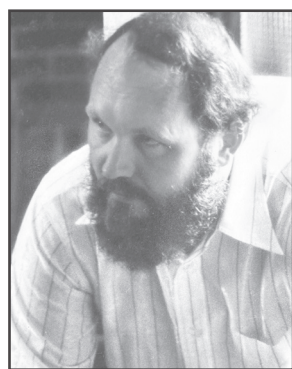
Online condolences may be made at www.norrisfuneral.com.

Stull, Charles "Charlie" Edward

Charles "Charlie" Edward Stull, 78, of New Castle, VA went to be with his Lord on July 21, 2023, with family by his side. Charlie was born on April 24, 1945, and graduated from William Byrd High School. He was a faithful follower of Jesus Christ - the way, the truth, and the life. Charlie proudly served in the United States Air Force from 1965 - 1969. While raising a family, Charlie worked as a lineman and underground electrician with Appalachian Power for 41 years.

Charlie was an extraordinary husband, dad, and grandfather. He never missed a dance recital, birthday party, or ball game. He loved and selflessly served his church. He never took any credit and was content to be a light for Jesus.

When life was chaos, Charlie was the calm. He carried himself with humor, strength, and gentleness. He lived a life of service, treated everyone with grace, and always cheered for



the Hokies. Even as he battled cancer, Charlie's wit and charm never wavered.

Charlie is survived by the love of his life, Linda Huffman Stull, wife of forty-six years; children, Susan Shea Stimeling, Lauren Stull (Gus Wilkinson), Charley-Gail Carroll (Matt); special niece, Bettina Ring (Paula Johnson); grandchildren, Jasmine Brown, Rhiannon Boitnott, Elinda Boitnott, Cade Wilkinson, Clay Wilkinson, Blair Wilkinson, Coleman Carroll, Emmett Carroll, Baby Carroll; great-grandchildren, Charley Brown, Layla Brown, Willow Brown, Kally

Shook, Rebel Ray; brothers, Carlyle Stull (Sharon), Chris Stull (Tammy); sisters-in-law, Eileen Stebar, Betty Ring; nephews, Billy Stebar, Carlyle Stull (Karen), Tyler Stull; niece, Hunter Leftwich (Steven); special friends, Ella Plunkett, Karen Davidson. Charlie was preceded in death by his parents, Carlyle "Boots" Stull and Nellie Stull along with many special friends.

His family will receive friends from 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm on Sunday, July 23, 2023, at Mountain View Christian Church, 4201 Craig Valley Dr., New Castle, VA 24127. Funeral services will be held at the church on Monday, July 24, 2023, at 11:00 am. Burial will follow at Brickey Cemetery where military honors will be rendered by the United States Air Force.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Craig County High School Football Program or Mountain View Christian Church.

Paitsel Funeral Home on New Castle is serving the Stull family.

FROM THE PULPIT

Using Bible words for Bible things

Eric Bridge

Evangelist at the Chatham Heights church of Christ

Recently I was called "pastor" again. No harm was meant by this of course. But it reminded me of the confusion that exists because folks just don't read their Bibles. My role at the Chatham Heights church of Christ is as their evangelist, and I do NOT have any authority within our congregation. I simply teach the gospel of Jesus Christ to anyone willing to listen.

Does it make a difference what titles and roles we assign people in the Lord's church? Apparently, it mattered to God, when His inspired apostle Paul wrote in Eph.4:11-12 "And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ," (NKJV) Let's look at these groups in greater detail.

"Apostles" were the 14 or so hand-picked by Jesus, Holy Spirit inspired,

amazing miracle performing, any foreign language speaking ambassadors of Christ to the entire world. It began with 12 in Jesus' earthly ministry, and in Acts we see Matthias replacing the deceased Judas, and finally Saul of Tarsus (later the apostle Paul) being added in Acts 9. These men exercised authority over the entire church in their public and written teachings from the Lord. We no longer have apostles like this today.

"Prophets" were men and women bestowed with the spiritual gift, from the Holy Spirit, to speak divine messages directly from the Lord. They had no authoritative positions in local congregations, but their messages were of course to be treated as binding doctrine. The gifts of the Holy Spirit were distributed by the laying on of the apostles' hands (Acts 8), so we no longer have "prophets" like this today. Then again, the apostles and prophets of old

See **Pulpit**, page 8

Operations from page 1

localities requesting the dissolution.

"It is noted in the letter from Scott Prillaman, chairman of the (authority) board, that their current model of funding for the Smith River Sports Complex is not sustainable," Wagoner said Tuesday. Prillaman "also noted that inflation and limited access to top tier tournaments have restricted its ability to be profitable as a standalone organization."

The authority also stated its belief that the county would best handle continued operations of the complex, Wagoner added.

"The facility is still a premier facility. They're still hosting top-tier soccer and Frisbee and other tournaments. It is the desire of the board of directors to keep it that way and as mentioned, they feel that the county can do that better than having an authority that's less dependable on outside funds for its operations," Wagoner said before the supervisors voted to approve the resolution.

Martinsville officials later approved a similar resolution, paving the way for the county to assume management of the complex, and for the assets to be transferred to the county.

Supervisors also approved a \$250,000 appropriation from the Harvest Foundation and authorized Wagoner to move the funds into the new appropriate line items to operate the complex.

Debra Buchanan, of the Horsepasture District, asked about the economic impact on the county once it takes over the complex.

Wagoner said when the complex was created, the funding was supplemented by the Harvest Foundation. However, "that funding has no longer been available to the (authority's) board of directors to use for operations."

Wagoner said he anticipates the revenue from sponsorships will continue to be a revenue source to offset the costs of operating the facility. He noted the complex has been operating on a shoestring budget for about two years.

"Ideally, that's not how we want to operate," Wagoner said. "I don't have a good number to tell you that it's going to cost exactly this amount, because we don't want to operate it just like it's been

operating for the last two years."

The complex "also provides a valuable service for our community," Wagoner said. "Over 800 children participated in rec league soccer at the sports complex this past year. That's a lot of children participating in that sport."

People from all over the country and several universities visit the facility to play soccer and Ultimate Frisbee, he said.

In a Wednesday release, Prillaman said the complex "has become well known for its quality facilities and operations, attracting thousands of people to this area each year, along with generating significant revenue for the community through taxes on hotels, food, and products.

"I am extremely proud of the great work the staff has done in keeping the operation running smoothly. However, the current model of funding for SRSC is not sustainable. It is our belief that the continued operation of a premier facility can best be accomplished by Henry County," he wrote in the release.

All assets and operations of the complex will be transferred to the county, to allow the complex to continue to operate normally, with current staff in place for events, games, and recreation leagues, while the county benefits from the additional staffing and financial assistance, according to the release.

"I believe Monogram Sports Complex will be a great addition to Parks & Rec., and this change will allow greater efficiencies and improved maintenance to the facility," Lloyd Barber, executive director of the complex, wrote in the release. "This will be a mutually beneficial arrangement for both parties and provide even more opportunities to the residents of Martinsville-Henry County. We're excited to see the growth for years to come."

The complex hosts youth, high school, college, and community events from January to December. In 2022, the sports complex hosted an event on all but two weekends of the year and over 300 days of the year, while bringing visitors to Martinsville from 25 different states and nine different countries, according to the release.



Ferrum College Students Study Different Bird Species

The May E-Term Environmental Science course at Ferrum College offered students a month of experiential learning in ornithology, the study of birds. Students spent most of the course out in the field learning about species-habitat relationships and became familiar with spring migratory and breeding bird species in Southwestern Virginia. They also became familiar with different sampling and capture techniques used in bird research.

Because of the course, students know the anatomical and physiological characteristics of

birds. They know different bird behavioral characteristics and their relation to environmental variables. They can list major characteristics of different orders of birds and major families. Lastly, students can identify common species of birds in southwestern Virginia - visual and auditory. Students who participated were a mix of those pursuing careers as natural resource managers, wildlife specialists and environmental scientists as well as future birdwatchers and those who were simply seeking another science credit.

"I think the students

enjoyed being outdoors and observing birds at different locations," said associate professor of forestry and wildlife Todd Fredericksen. "They were also able to capture birds in nets and handle them. We also had a wildlife rehab specialist bring in a barred owl for the class."

The class spent time in several locations, including Philpott Lake, Fairy Stone Farms Wildlife Management Area, Fairy Stone State Park, Blue Ridge Parkway, Booker T Washington National Monument, Grassy Hill Natural Area Preserve, and Ferrum College.

Market from page 1

farmers to test-market new varieties of fruits, vegetables or other products.”

Many markets often host promotions and events that draw big crowds, acting as social hubs and “allowing farmers to reach a larger or different audience than they might see visiting their farm or shopping their online stores,” Banks noted.

This all helps build connections, bridging the gap between urban and rural communities. According to the National Farmers Market Coalition, 72% of consumers know nothing or very little about farming—local markets can start conversations between farmers and consumers and

act as educational sites. They also can help address food insecurity, acting as a resource for those who might not have much access to fresh produce, as many markets accept Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program benefits, participate in Virginia’s Fresh Match program and Virginia’s Senior & WIC Farmers’ Market Nutrition Program.

According to the VFMA, the commonwealth has over 300 farmers markets. Some have been agricultural commerce centers for centuries, like the Alexandria Old Town Farmers’ Market. It was founded in 1753 and

is America’s oldest farmers market operating continuously at the same site. The Historic Roanoke City Market, founded in 1882, is one of Virginia’s oldest, continuously operating open air markets.

To find a farmers market near you, visit vdocs.virginia.gov/vagrown or vafma.org/virginiamarkets. For fun day-trip ideas to agritourism attractions connected to farmers markets, check out the Virginia is for Farmers Market Lovers Trail at lovevamarkeets.org.

To learn more about some of Virginia’s historic farmers markets, visit bit.ly/45924uL.

Pulpit from page 1

wrote the entire Bible, the complete revelation from God, so they are also no longer needed on this earth.

“Evangelists”, as we have discussed, were men with the desire and ability to teach the gospel of Jesus Christ, either from city to city or within a local congregation. They were also called “preachers” and “ministers.” We still have many in this role today, such as myself.

Then we come to the controversial “pastors and teachers.” Actually in most Bibles, Eph.4:11 is the only scripture where it is translated “pastor,” but it is the same Greek word for “shepherd.” They are the same role as “bishops/overseers,” as well as “elders/presbyters.” These were mature, married men, with Christian chil-

dren, who could teach the word of God and were to lead their local congregations. One other important note is that where they are mentioned, it is ALWAYS in the plural. The Lord never intended any ONE person to be in authority over other Christians.

“Saints” simply refers to all Christians. They are also called “disciples,” “believers,” “brethren,” “priests,” “children of God,” and “members.”

The “body” of Christ is of course the universal church of all the faithful, the saved, registered on earth and in heaven.

On a related note, deacons are also mentioned in the epistles, serving their local congregations.

Now let’s read Matt.23:5-9 “But all their works they do to be

seen by men. They make their phylacteries broad and enlarge the borders of their garments. They love the best places at feasts, the best seats in the synagogues, greetings in the marketplaces, and to be called by men, ‘Rabbi, Rabbi.’ But you, do not be called ‘Rabbi’; for One is your Teacher, the Christ, and you are all brethren. Do not call anyone on earth your father; for One is your Father, He who is in heaven.”

Where does that leave Father, Reverend, High Priest, Archbishop, Cardinal, Pope, Cleric, Vicar, Pontiff, Patriarch, Abbot/Abbess, Chaplain, Chancellor, Rector, President, “laity” versus “clergy,” persons being “ordained,” etc? What about the many names of denominations? If these are not in the word of God, are they “from heaven or from men?” Just food for thought. Scripture references and Bible studies are always available upon request.

Visit www.chathamheightscoc.com or email chathamheightscoc@gmail.com.

Interactive “Courthouse Karaoke” to be presented Aug. 4

The Martinsville-Henry County Historical Society will sponsor “Courthouse Karaoke” as part of Sounds on the Square on Friday, August 4, at 7 p.m., on the Plaza of the Historic Henry County Courthouse.

Admission is free. BJ’s Karaoke will guide you through your performance – solo, duet, or group. Beginning at 5:30 p.m., Scuffle Hill Brewing Company will serve craft beers and wine in non-disposable, collectable event cups. Ella’s Eats will sell Southern comfort food, and Bahama Sno-Shack will sell frozen treats. The Boys & Girls Clubs of the Blue Ridge will be in attendance for adoption of ducks in support of its annual fundraiser, Blue Ridge Duck Race.

Karaoke, a compound word formed from the Japanese words “kara=empty” and “okesutora=orchestra,” is a type of interactive entertainment usually offered in clubs and bars where people sing along to

recorded music using a microphone. The music is an instrumental version of a well-known popular song. Lyrics are typically displayed on a video screen, along with a moving symbol, changing color, or music video images, to guide the singer.

John Phillips, Historical Society President, said, “Courthouse Karaoke is your opportunity to be the star. Karaoke isn’t about talent; it’s about performing and having a good time.”

“Sounds on the Square” is coordinated by the Martinsville-Henry County Historical Society and sponsored by Carter Bank & Trust, Children First Pediatrics, Hooker Furnishings, The Lester Group, and Sarver Cleaning Services. The Historic Henry County Courthouse and Plaza are fully handicap accessible. The Martinsville-Henry County Heritage Center & Museum will be open during the event.

Charges from page 1



stopped on Evening Star Lane in Henry County. Shortly after, the front seat passenger, a man, allegedly got out of the vehicle with an AR-15-style rifle.

The officer ordered the man to drop the rifle. He complied and then allegedly fled the scene on foot.

The officer recognized the man and knew he was wanted on several felony charges. After radioing for assistance, the officer detained the others in the vehicle and ensured that the rifle was not taken.

Upon arrival, additional officers began searching the area, according to the release. Officers also learned that a Freightliner truck was allegedly stolen from a parking lot.

A second police officer traveling on Veteran Drive encountered the man allegedly driving a stolen truck, according to the release. In the section being traversed, the private road is only wide enough for one-way traffic. The officer’s vehicle allegedly was rammed head-on, and a man allegedly tried to push the officer’s vehicle out of the way with the truck, the release stated.

The patrol vehicle, with the officer inside, was pushed backward more than 50 yards, according to the release. Before the officer could be pushed off a steep embankment, he fired several shots from his duty weapon through the windshield of his vehicle into the cab of the truck. The man operating the truck was not hit by the gunfire, however, at that



point, he stopped the truck. The officer then took the man into custody without further incident.

Jonathan Easter, 38, of Ridgeway, is being held without bond at the Henry County Adult Detention Center on outstanding warrants of felony elude and possession of a firearm by a convicted felon in connection with previous incidents, according to the release. The Martinsville Police Department requested the Virginia State Police to conduct an independent investigation into the incident in accordance with the department’s standard procedures. The Henry County Sheriff’s Office has also provided considerable

assistance in the arrest and investigation of the incident.

The officer who was struck by the truck was treated and released for minor injuries at SOVAH Health Martinsville.

Additional criminal charges related to the July 22 incident will be filed after the investigation concludes and the findings are reviewed by the Henry County Commonwealth’s Attorney.

“We are all very thankful that no one was seriously injured,” Fincher said. “This incident is a good example of how our brave law enforcement officers are willing to risk their own lives daily to help protect the safety of our community.”

ONLINE AUCTION

Ends Friday, August 25th at 3 PM
Large Wooded Retreat for Sale at Auction in Martinsville VA
TBD Green Acres Circle, Martinsville, VA 24112

Bid Now at VAAuctionPro.com

Check out this exceptional opportunity to own a remarkable wooded retreat in Martinsville VA. This land is richly adorned with a stand of mature Virginia Pines and hardwoods, offering a great escape from the hustle and bustle of city life. This +/- 71.03 acre property provides ample space for your vision. The front portion offers level terrain, providing perfect locations for a dream home or secluded cabin. There are endless opportunities for hunting, camping, and recreation. Enjoy the wildlife and beauty provided by Tanyard Branch. Located conveniently behind the Green Acres Trailer Park, this property offers the best of both worlds with exclusion and easy access to amenities, schools, shopping, and dining options. Do not miss your opportunity to own this extraordinary property! Refer to Bidder Packet at VAAuctionPro.com for VA Forestry Stewardship Plan and Map.

Terms - 10% Buyer’s Premium will be added to final high bid to arrive at contract price. Earnest Money Deposit of \$10,000 required on the day of sale. Close on or before October 9th, 2023. Subject to seller confirmation. Property sold as is, where is with any and all faults. Buyer is expected to complete their own due diligence. Please note that during the last two minutes of bidding, if a new bid is placed, the clock is automatically extended one minute two minutes. Be sure to register to bid early to ensure you receive notifications regarding any changes to the Auction, Bidder Packet, and/or Pre-Auction offers received. Download Bidder Information Pack for complete terms and conditions, purchase contract, and maps at VAAuctionPro.com.

CONTACT – Broker & Auctioneer Matt Gallimore at 540-239-2585 or email gallimore.matt@gmail.com. You can also contact Realtor Michael Stevens at 276-952-8443 or email MichaelStevensRealtor@gmail.com.

102 S. Locust Street, Floyd, VA 24091 (540) 745-2005 VAAuctionPro.com Lic# 2907004059