

HENRY COUNTY ENTERPRISE

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Housing project in Villa Heights underway

By Taylor Boyd

The Henry County Board of Supervisors recently heard an update on the Villa Heights Community Housing Project, which will provide 16 site-built new, affordable, single-family homes.

Lee Clark, director of Planning, Zoning, & Inspections, said the county cleaned up a few structures of the Villa Heights area using a section of the county's existing code.

Now, "we're going to turn that into 16 new site-built homes," he said, adding the homes will be a "mixture of two-bedroom and three-bedroom units."

Clark said he believes the project will be transformative for that community.

"What was there for a number of years had created an environment that wasn't healthy, and I think we're

(See Housing Project p. 2)



Lee Clark, director of Planning, Zoning, & Inspections, gave an update on the Villa Heights Community Housing Project.



Homeless individuals often visit places like the Virginia Harm Reduction Coalition office to cool off.

Localities urged to consider opening a cooling shelter

By Jessica Dillon

Two women are leading the charge to create a cooling center to serve the homeless population in Henry County and Martinsville: Ariel Johnson, who is director of the MHC Warming Center, and warming center volunteer Nancy McMillian.

Johnson explained the warming center exists for colder months, but after March, the weather starts to heat up. But during warmer months like June, July, and August, this becomes a health hazard due to the risk of heat stroke, heat exhaustion, and sun poisoning.

"They sleep in that (heat), they do everything in that," said Johnson, who added that homeless people visit the Harm Reduction Center just to cool off.

McMillian takes food and supplies to homeless individuals throughout the week.

"They won't let them go into the library, they don't have anywhere to go, and we don't have the cooling places for them," she said, adding that the stigma around homeless individuals keeps them from finding places to stay cool or warm up in the summer.

"They don't bite, they are some of the sweetest individuals," said McMillian, who works at the warming shel-

ter but noted there are limitations on when it can open. For now, the warmer months aren't part of its schedule.

With the current local housing crisis, the number of individuals who are considered homeless has risen. The World Population Review currently states that there are 6,529 homeless individuals living in Virginia, and the Collinsville area has seen an influx of homeless individuals in recent years.

With summer bringing blistering heat, many homeless individuals, as well as individuals who work with them, are asking for a cooling shelter to help combat heat-related illnesses.

Bobby Morton, one of the men that McMillian regularly supports, has had issues with the summer weather.

"I've already had a heat stroke. Everyone needs a place to keep cool during the summer," Morton said, urging the community to look out for the homeless population.

Adam Willard, another man affected by homelessness, said that he became homeless after a divorce.

He says a cooling shelter is needed to help mitigate heat-related health issues. In the meantime, he's doing what he can to keep himself and others cool.

"I have a cooler that I try to keep

(See Cooling Shelter p. 2)

Youngkin recommends city for ARC funding

By Debbie Hall and Taylor Boyd

Gov. Glenn Youngkin recommended a handful of localities/projects to receive Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) funds, including the City of Martinsville. The ARC will finalize approval of these project awards later this year. If approved, Martinsville would receive \$700,000 for its MiNet expansion.

"These projects represent the innovation and strong entrepreneurial spirit of the Appalachian region," Youngkin said in a release. "ARC plays a pivotal role in empowering our Appalachian communities to address their unique challenges, capitalize on their unique assets and drive positive change throughout the region."

Mayor LC Jones said the city is blessed and thankful for Youngkin's support.

"The governor has always been very favorable to Martinsville, and the projects and progress we've got going on here in Southside Virginia," Jones said, adding that the city has "heavily invested into our MiNet, our local broadband."

Jones said the city has invested in broadband expansion in the city sector that includes the Druid Hills area.

"It's the Druid Hills area that will be our first area of focus simply because we've already started working out there, so we're just going to try and complete that area then expand on into other areas of the city," he said.

The ARC funding is "really going to be able to allow us to expand our program. So, it is a blessing to get it, and we're looking forward to getting moving and expanding it a little further as

(See ARC Funding p. 2)

The local history of modern foot races



Runners take off in the Harvest Moon Run. (Contributed photos)

By Jessica Dillon

The Martinsville Mile is set to be held on the Dick & Willie Trail at 7 p.m. on July 20, one of many reasons for the area's rich history of foot races, courtesy of help from the local YMCA and Joe Philpott, who works to promote the events to the public.

Currently, races are scheduled throughout the year, but this wasn't always the case, and COVID-19 threw a wrench into many runners' plans back in 2020.

The community now hosts a roster of different races outside of the races that Philpott works with, including The Great Goblin Gallop and the Mud Run, held during the Smith River Fest.

"Miles of Martinsville is really the running arm of the community" and the YMCA, said Philpott, who added that the races started in 2011 when Brad Kinkema, the current executive director of the YMCA, came to town.

"He got the idea that we would have this running group called Miles of Martinsville and that we



The Turkey 2 Miler takes place before runners' holiday feasts.

would have several races per year," Philpott said, adding that the goal was to engage the running community.

"The first one I remember was the Martinsville half-marathon in March of 2011," Philpott said. The race started at the YMCA and went through the city of Martinsville. "It was a pretty big event."

"After that, we began having around a half-dozen races a year," he said. These races happen year-round, but the ones hosted in the heat are typically shorter to account for the health of the runners.

There is typically a race during the winter that involves the Dick & Willie. Originally, the race was 9 miles long, but to accommodate different types of runners. "It was the same course, but you turned around at two and a half miles.

"It was a small race, but we had a good following. We had runners coming in from around the region," Philpott said.

During the Nail the Rail Winter Race, golden railroad spikes were distributed to runners who made



A pace car sets the speed for runners.

it in under 60 minutes. The run times for winning a golden railroad spike have since been adjusted for both men and women to give runners of all ages a chance at the creative prize.

A Super 5k was added in 2012 as part of the Youth in Motion Program. The Turkey Day 5K and Light up the Night 5K were added the same year. The Martinsville Mile started the same year, initially named the Martinsville Speedway Mile.

The Martinsville Mile has also been known as

(See Foot Races p. 2)

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Housing Project

(cont. from page 1)

going to do is going to be transformative and actually a big positive for that” community, he said.

Clark said the county currently owns the sites after it took possession of the properties through judicial processes. “We’re going to use them to our benefit now,” he added.

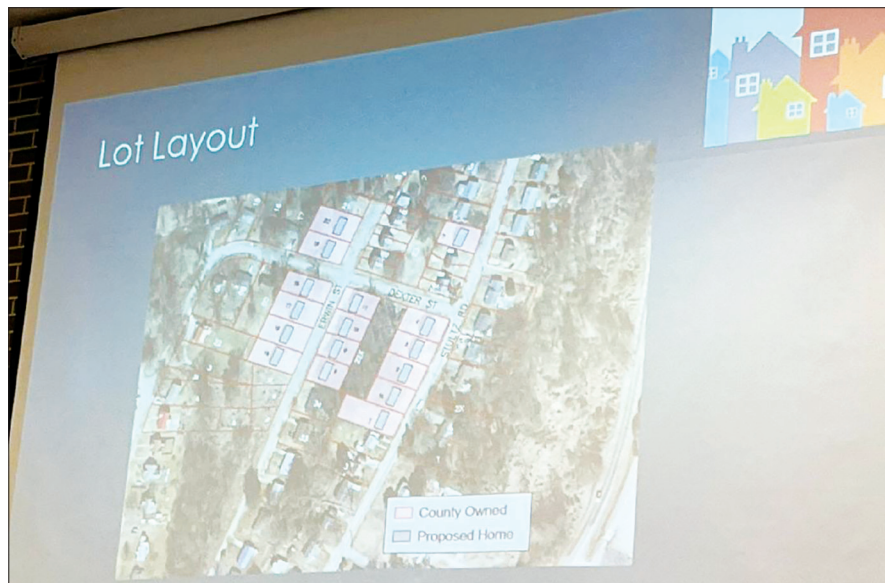
Clark believes the housing project will attract some current commuters to make a move.

“Just over 8,500 people travel into Martinsville-Henry County to work. These are the people that we’d love to attract to not only work here, but also live here,” Clark said. “We believe that housing studies support this concept and what we also believe through those studies is there is a lack of the type and price range of the housing here that people desire. That’s exactly what we’re going to try and capitalize on.”

The county will be working with Virginia Housing on the project. That agency has invested \$20,000 so far in the site planning and surveying to clean the property lines up.

“You as a board have already invested \$228,000 for the acquisition and demolition of the dilapidated structures there,” he said.

The West Piedmont Planning Dis-



The housing project will include lots on Erwin Street, Dexter Street, and Stultz Road.

trict Commission (WPPPC) will hold the ownership of the lots for the county during the development phase, Clark said, and explained “that’s just a legal maneuver that keeps the county from acting like a Housing Authority, which we are not. But Piedmont can hold those properties for us while we develop them.”

The Harvest Foundation will be a significant partner in the project, Clark said, with the details “yet to

come.”

Moving forward, Clark said there is one more property that was recently acquired.

“We’re going to be clearing that lot, probably within the week. Immediately after that, we’re going to be surveying those 31 lots into 16 normal sized, normal dimensioned building lots suitable for new construction,” he said.

Building plans will also be final-

ized and the county will start meeting with contractors to get price estimates, feedback, and ideas on the best way to do this from a value-standpoint, Clark said.

“I’ve got some good ideas that I know will work to make these units more affordable. Then the final aspect that I plan to do is bid these out. We’ll probably bid them out three at a time, get them constructed, and then put them on the market for sale,” he said.

A realtor will be used to sell the properties, Clark said, and noted that neither the county, WPPDC, Harvest, and Virginia Housing are using the project to make money.

Rather, “we’re in this to invest in our community and create a better housing stock, and a desirable housing stock, that we think will meet the needs of our citizens and actually attract more citizens for us in this community,” Clark said.

“The biggest reason why people live outside the area and come into our area to work is that we don’t have the type of housing here that they desire,” he said. “That’s what our goal is here. To try to create the type of housing that they desire.”

ARC Funding

(cont. from page 1)

soon as possible,” Jones said.

Vice-mayor Aaron Rawls said the city is thankful to Youngkin and ARC for the funding opportunity.

“We’ll make the most of it. MiNet is a big feature of our community, and our goal is to make it available to every resident and business in the city. The ARC funding helps us reach that goal,” Rawls said.

Established in 1965, the goal of the ARC program is to assist the region in achieving economic parity reflective of the nation’s overall economic growth. The Virginia ARC region encompasses 25 counties and eight independent cities in Southwest Virginia. ARC grants are aimed at supporting the goal of building a strong and sustainable asset-based economy by funding projects that serve as cat-

alysts for bringing jobs and prosperity to Appalachian communities, all while preserving their character.

Martinsville was one of 13 projects Youngkin recommended to receive funding, others include \$1 million each to Buchanan and Lee counties for a wastewater treatment plant replacement and Phase 1 of a sewer project respectively.

Youngkin also recommended the award of \$700,000 grants to each The Town of Big Stone Gap. Dickenson County Public Service Authority, Lee County and the Town of Pulaski for water and/or broadband projects and the expansion of a training school.

Wise County would receive \$545,642 for the first phase of a sewer project, while Friends of SWVA and Round the Mountain: SWVA’s Arti-

san Network were each recommended to receive \$300,000.

The governor also recommended \$50,000 to the City of Galax to revitalize the Rex Theatre.

If all of Youngkin’s recommendations are approved, a total of \$7.4 million in ARC funds would be awarded. The grants will create jobs, improve infrastructure and support local businesses in Virginia’s Appalachian Region.

“As we grow Virginia’s economy, we must ensure that Appalachian regions, communities and residents are not left behind,” said Secretary of Commerce and Trade Caren Merrick. “By investing in targeted, community-identified projects, we are offering support where localities need it most and building a stronger, more resil-

ient Appalachia.”

“ARC funding plays a pivotal role in transforming underserved Appalachian communities in a way that preserves the unique history, ambiance and assets of the region,” said Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development Director Bryan Horn. “The flexibility of the ARC program allows us to offer targeted assistance to fill funding gaps and empower Virginia’s unique Appalachian communities.” The Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) works with localities and stakeholders in the region to develop strategic projects, which are evaluated by DHCD and the Governor, to be recommended to the federal commission for approval.

Cooling Shelter

(cont. from page 1)

ice in for anybody that comes by. We even give out rags to help them stay cool,” he said, adding “one of the ways we keep our tent cool is to put it up on pallets. It’s like an underpinning under a trailer, which helps keep it cool.”

The area’s homeless set-up a camp at what they refer to as the “swamp,” Willard said, adding that even though the area stays cool, it’s teeming with mosquitoes and is

plagued by areas where chemicals were dumped in the water.

“Right where the shelter is built, there are a bunch of 55-gallon barrels under the ground,” he said. “If you don’t mark where they are at, you will drop waist deep into sludge.”

He said that he doesn’t know what the chemicals are, but the area has trouble keeping fish and that there is a strange film on the

water.

“When it would rain, the water would get fresh, the fish would come in and feed, but then they would leave,” he added.

The water has caused several individuals’ wounds to get infected, and it’s not a safe environment to live in.

“I can stay warm, but you can only take so many clothes off. It’s a whole lot harder to stay warm than

stay cool,” he said, adding that even when it is open, the warming shelter also has a few issues.

“They don’t count the windchill, only the stationary temperature,” he said. Still, there are more ways to stay warm in winter than there are to stay cool in the summer.

“What we need is at least somewhere to cool down or warm up for a bit, maybe get a hot cup of coffee, then go back to our camp,” he said.

Foot Races

(cont. from page 1)

the Smith River Mile, UpTown Martinsville Mile, Bee City UpTown Martinsville Mile, the Martinsville Dick & Willie Mile, and now, simply, the Martinsville Mile.

Races went on for years before COVID-19 hit, canceling the half marathon, Harvest Moon, and Turkey Day in-person races. To promote running, a virtual half-marathon was conceived where runners could submit GPS data as proof of their distances and times.

This took the place of the 10th in-person annual race, Philpott said. “We had a hundred and some people that still registered for it and chose to run the race virtually.”

Runners could do the half-marathon anywhere of their choosing. While the race didn’t give awards due to terrain differences affecting run times, participants were sent shirts. “We had people from all over the country” participating, he said.

“It was a tragic thing that we had to cancel the race, but people got on board,” and by 2021 and 2022, the half marathon came back in person. It wasn’t held in 2023 due to logistical issues.

“Part of the reason was we had to do a lot with the city and closing off streets, and there were some problems with merchants, so we just thought it would be better not to do it,” Philpott said, adding that based on feedback received due to the cancellation, organizers brought the race back for 2024.

On April 27, “we had the SOVAH Health Half-Marathon and 5-K,” Philpott said. “That was a good race. We had some serious run times.”

The Martinsville Mile is the next race set to take place and attracts both local and out-of-town runners. Philpott said the races help to draw business to the local area, which in turn helps to bolster the economy.

Additionally, the races have helped to enhance the community. The Holiday Run Festival raised money and collected donations that Grace Network then distributed to families in the local community. The Harvest Moon Run encourages a family-friendly atmosphere.

The Youth in Motion program is also in place to encourage young boys and girls to run. The YMCA also partnered with the Elster Foundation to give away the Hugh Gerlach Determination Award during the SOVAH Health Run Spring Challenge.

Several races are scheduled for 2024, including Harvest Moon Run 5K-8K and Dancing on Depot on September 13, Turkey 2 Miler on November 28, and the Holiday Run Festival on December 7.

The presenting sponsor for this Martinsville Mile is Lester Building Supply. The event will be run on a one-mile downhill section of the area’s

iconic Dick & Willie Passage Trail. The race will start near the intersection of the Uptown Connection Trail and the Dick & Willie Trail and finish near the Liberty Street Trailhead.

All ages, speeds and experience are welcome. Two heats are planned. One for faster runners expecting to finish in seven minutes or faster. A second heat will include those expecting to run the course in over seven minutes plus walkers. The results from both heats will be combined to determine overall and age group winners.

For more details and online registration, interested runners should visit the race website at <http://www.milesinmartinsville.com/races.cfm>. The online registration deadline is midnight July 17.

More information is available on the website at <http://www.milesinmartinsville.com>. Questions can be emailed to race officials at braverunner67@gmail.com.

American Express, Main Street America award grant to Wigs Unlimited

Wigs Unlimited was among the grant recipients for the Backing Small Businesses Grant Program. The awards were announced on Tuesday, June 25, by American Express and Main Street America.

“My goal is to become Martinsville/Henry County’s one-stop shop for wig and mastectomy products. We are known for our expertise on wigs and now we are building our reputation to include mastectomy products,” said Ella Wickham, owner of the business.

“Our mission is to provide a local place for those on their cancer journey where they can get the products they need in a safe and caring environment. The funds from this grant will allow us to make the necessary upgrades that will al-

low us to be fully Medicare/Medicaid accredited,” Wickham added.

The local business was among the 500 small business owners who have been awarded \$10,000 through the Backing Small Businesses grant program announced by American Express and Main Street America. The program’s 2024 grant recipients represent U.S. small businesses across all 50 states, plus D.C. and Puerto Rico. Later this year, grantees will have the opportunity to apply for an additional \$30,000 enhancement grant that will be awarded to 25 small businesses.

Since launching in 2021, Backing Small Businesses has provided over \$9 million in grants to 1,180 small business owners nationwide. American Express and Main Street America initially

created the grant program to help economically vulnerable small business owners recover from the COVID-19 pandemic and grow their businesses.

This program is part of American Express’ “Backing Small” initiative to provide financial support and resources to small business owners experiencing economic hardships. Other Backing Small grant programs include Backing Historic Small Restaurants and Backing International Small Restaurants. Backing Small is an extension of American Express’ longstanding commitment to support small independent businesses globally, including through its Shop Small movement and Small Business Saturday campaign, celebrating its 15th anniversary this year.

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

Monday, July 15

Patrick & Henry Community College Board Meeting, 12:30 p.m., Hooker Exhibit Hall, Frith Economic Development Center, 645 Patriot Ave., Martinsville.

PSA Board of Directors Regular Meeting, 6 p.m., Administration Building Fourth Floor Conference Room, 3300 Kings Mountain Rd, Collinsville.

Events

Saturday, July 13

Etiquette Made Easy, 2:30 p.m., Martinsville Main Library, 310 Church St E, Martinsville.

Back2school Registration, 9 a.m. to noon, email emailback2school@gmail.com or call 276-565-8234 for more information.

Tuesday, July 16

Word Mastery, 2 p.m. to 7 p.m., NCI, 191 Fayette St, Martinsville.

Wednesday, July 17

Mustang's Back2School Game, 7 p.m., Hooker Field, 450 Commonwealth Blvd. E, Martinsville.

Thursday, July 18

MS Excel, 2 p.m. to 7 p.m., NCI, 191 Fayette St, Martinsville.

Friday, July 19

Water Bath Canning For Beginners, 1 p.m., Henry County Parks and Recreation Center, 395 John Redd Blvd, Collinsville.

Franks + Drinks, 6 p.m., Gravely-Lester Art Garden, 207 Starling Ave., Martinsville.

Pack the Bus Weekend, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Martinsville Walmart, 976 Commonwealth Blvd, Martinsville.

Movie in the Park, 7:30 - 10:30 p.m., Jack Dalton Park, 130 Jack Dalton Rd, Collinsville.

Saturday, July 20

Stephen Mark Rainey Book signing, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., Magnolia & Main Books, 810 Main Street, Ridgeway. Rainey is known for his books of the "scary" variety, and some of them are set in a fictionalized version of Martinsville and the surrounding area. Several of his novels in the Ameri-Scares series for middle-grade readers will also be available.

49th annual Elgin Reunion at Fairystone Fire Station, Stuart. Potluck starts at noon.

Pack the Bus Weekend, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Martinsville Walmart, 976 Commonwealth Blvd, Martinsville.

Sunday, July 21

Pack the Bus Weekend, 1 to 6 p.m., Martinsville Walmart, 976 Commonwealth Blvd, Martinsville.

Tuesday, July 23

Back2school Registration, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., email emailback2school@gmail.com or call 276-565-8234 for more information.

MHC Longwood College/University Alumni are invited to join other alumni for a Happy Hour and Dinner on July 23. Happy Hour begins at 5 p.m. and Dinner at 6 p.m. (Dutch Treat) For more information, check the Facebook group or email mmargrave@yahoo.com.

Thursday, July 25

Cricut Creations: Design Space & Permanent Vinyl, 5:30 p.m., NCI, 191 Fayette St, Martinsville.

ONGOING

Bassett Train Station Farmers' Market will be open through September 24 on Tuesdays, 5-7 p.m.

Uptown Farmers Market will be open Saturdays 7:30 a.m. to noon through November 16, and Wednesdays from 7:30 a.m. to noon through 10 to September 25.

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.

The Bassett Ruritan Club hosts breakfast on the 2nd Saturday of each month from 6 - 10 a.m. The cost is \$8 for adults and \$4 for children under 12. All you can eat sausage, fried bologna, eggs, cooked apples, sausage gravy, made from scratch biscuits, made to order pancakes, coffee and juice. Dine in or carry out.

AWANA meets at Blackberry Baptist Church on Sundays, from 4-6 p.m.

The Bassett Ruritan Club hosts Rook Music & More on Fridays from 10 a.m. - noon. Play Rook, work puzzles, make a craft and listen to a mixture of bluegrass, country & gospel music by different bands each week. If you want, bring a snack to share. This event is free to the public. Any donations received will go to the Bassett Ruritan Club to pay for electricity etc.

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.

TOPS FIELDDALE VA 0626 meets Tuesdays at 5:30-6:30 p.m. at the Bassett Public Library, 3969 Fairystone Hwy, Bassett. New members welcome. For more information, please call Patti Farmer (276) 358-0489.

The Fontaine Ruritan Club hosts Bingo every Tuesday at 1903 Joseph Martin Highway, Martinsville. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. 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.

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.

A collective effort is underway to provide resources to farmers

With changes to the Virginia unlicensed farm use vehicle laws now enforceable as of July 1, the Virginia Farm Bureau Federation (VFBF), Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV), Virginia State Police (VSP), and Virginia Sheriffs' Association (VSA) saw an opportunity for partnership and created an all-in-one resource to support those issuing placards, enforcing the regulations, and utilizing the farm use exemption.

Beginning July 1, pickup trucks, panel trucks, and SUVs claiming the unlicensed farm use vehicle exemption with a gross vehicle weight rating less than or equal to 7,500 pounds are required to display a DMV-issued permanent farm use placard on the vehicle's front and rear. Permanent placards are available for a one-time fee of \$15 and are valid for the lifetime of the vehicle. These DMV-issued placards are assigned to a specific vehicle upon application and are not transferable. If a farmer has a qualifying vehicle under these new requirements, they are encouraged to apply for the DMV-issued permanent farm use placard as soon as possible.

"We know Virginia's farmers are working hard to ensure they are compliant, and we truly believe that this brochure will be immensely helpful as they determine which plate or placard is right for them," said Virginia DMV Commissioner Gerald Lackey. "We are grateful for

this opportunity to collaborate with our partners, and we are very happy to be able to share this with the public."

This comprehensive resource demonstrates what is possible through partnership and collaboration. Designed to be a helpful tool for all parties impacted by the changes to farm use, the VFBF, DMV, VSP, and the VSA worked to ensure all frequently asked questions were answered in the brochure and have prioritized its distribution amongst their membership and employees.

"The Virginia State Police understands the complexity of the changes to Virginia's farm use tags," said VSP Colonel Gary T. Settle. "That's why this collaborative outreach is so important. The ultimate objectives for our agencies are to ease the process and achieve full compliance with these new laws."

The unlicensed farm use vehicle exemption has been a resource for Virginia farmers for over 50 years. The 2023 General Assembly approved changes to the exemption to address abuses by the non-farming community, while continuing to protect a program critical to Virginia's number one private industry. The VFBF, DMV, VSP, and VSA have continued to develop a strong partnership in the one-year grace period provided by the 2023 legislation and are eager to provide a smooth transition for all.

"The Virginia Sheriffs' Association welcomes this partnership to educate and inform our community members of the new standards in effect July 1, 2024," said VSA President and Frederick County Sheriff Lenny Millholland. "We look forward to a smooth and seamless transition in the implementation and enforcement of the new laws."

Virginia farmers are encouraged by this partnership and have worked diligently in the last year to ensure compliance by the July 1 enforcement date.

"Many farmers, including myself, rely on farm use vehicles each growing season," said VFBF President Wayne F. Pryor. "Virginia Farm Bureau is grateful for the partnership of the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles, the Virginia State Police and the Virginia Sheriffs' Association to ensure that these changes do not burden those properly utilizing the program."

Farm Bureau's hope "is that the 'A Farmer's Guide: Virginia Farm Use Plates' brochure will provide clarity on the new changes to the farm use law and make the program easier to navigate," said VFBF Local & State Advocacy Specialist Katelyn Jordan. "Virginia farmers have long relied on the farm use exemption, and they are eager to become compliant with the new requirements and preserve access to the program."

Bank launches free high-interest checking account

As part of its 50th anniversary celebration, Carter Bank has launched its newest account offering: Lifetime Plus Checking.

A free, no fee, no minimum balance checking account that pays 5.00% interest on balances up to \$15,000 if the customer meets three simple criteria, Lifetime Plus Checking builds on the foundation of one of the Bank's initial products, Lifetime Free Checking.

When customers make 15 debit card transactions per statement cycle, enroll in eStatements and have at least one ACH or Direct Deposit per statement cycle, they

will receive an interest rate of 5.00% APY on the first \$15,000. Additionally, ATM fees are refunded up to \$15 per cycle, emphasizing the Bank's commitment to providing value with no hidden fees.

For account balances exceeding \$15,000, the interest rate continues at 5.00% on the first \$15,000, with a subsequent rate of 0.50% applied to the remaining balance.

For customers who do not meet these criteria, the account pays 0.05% interest.

For more information, visit carterbank.com.



Class of 1960 celebrates reunion

The GW Carver High School, Fielddale, VA Class of "60" celebrated its 64th Class Reunion on Saturday, June 15, 2024, at the Smith River Missionary Baptist Association Center, (the former Richard H. Clarke Elementary School).

This was the last class in the Henry County School System that started school walking. (Buses were not provided for African American students until 1948 when the former Irisburg Elementary School was opened.) There were 105 students to graduate that year, (a record for Henry County), and 54 classmates passed on and 12 were unable to attend for health reasons. Twenty-four classmates attended the

reunion. They are, (from left to right), front row: Howard Riley, Iris (Stone) Patterson, Patricia (Manns) Hairston, Doris (Woody) Branch, Shirley (Flood) Hairston, Veola (Hairston) Dones, Gertie (Perkins) Martin, Gloria (Hairston) Millner, Brenda (Finney) Draper.

Second row: Rebecca (Cooper) Gravely, Margaret (Clark) Moore, Shirley (Foster) Brim, Geneva (Smith) Jones, W. Lee Millner, Rose (Barner) George, Faye (Matthews) Thomas, Mary (Green) Martin, Beatrice (Martin) Napper, Mary Spencer, Wedell (Moore) Turner, Curtis R. Millner.

Third row: Vernon Hairston, Samuel M. Wimbush and not pictured; Elizabeth (Stockton) Thompson.

Letters to the Editor Guidelines

Henry County Enterprise welcomes letters to the editor and/or reader viewpoints of 500 words or less. Submissions may be edited for clarity, length, legal ramifications or general taste at the editor's discretion. We reserve the right to refuse to publish submitted letters for the same reasons. All letters must be signed by an individual and include community. Letters that do not meet these guidelines will not be considered for publication. Viewpoints and opinions expressed in letters selected for publication are the opinions of the writers, and do not necessarily reflect the views of Henry County Enterprise.

OPINION

Are the Olympic Games Fair?

On July 26, the 2024 Summer Olympic Games are set to begin in Paris.

These competitions provide countries from all over the world the opportunity to showcase their best athletes.

The United States holds an illustrious record in the Games. Most recently in Tokyo, the United States placed first in medals won (113) as well as gold medals (39).

In Tokyo, most aspiring Olympic athletes played by the rules and worked their tails off to perfect their craft.

Unfortunately, this can't be said of every athlete.

Earlier this year, the New York Times broke news of twenty-three Chinese swimmers who tested positive for banned performance-enhancing substances before the Tokyo Games.

Despite this revelation, the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) cleared the swimmers to compete in the Tokyo Games and didn't inform the rest of the athletes!

Five of those swimmers had a medal finish.

Subsequently, eleven of those twenty-three were selected to participate in this year's Paris Games too.

Doping in sports has prompted bipartisan Congressional attention before. In 2017, the Oversight Subcommittee of the House Energy and Commerce Committee launched a hearing to discuss ways to strengthen the international anti-doping system.

Olympic swimmer Michael Phelps, the most decorated athlete in Olympic history with a record twenty-eight medals, was a witness at that 2017 hearing.

During that hearing, Phelps emphasized: "If we allow our confidence in fair play to erode, we will undermine the power of sport and the goals and dreams of future generations."

Some changes were made at WADA.

Now as Chairman of the Subcommittee, I asked Phelps to return and he agreed to testify again because the earlier changes were ineffective. I held a hearing on June 25th to discuss WADA and things Congress can do to help ensure a level playing field.

Accompanying Phelps as a witness to this hearing was U.S. swimmer Allison Schmitt. Although not as world-famous as Phelps, she won ten Olympic medals (4 gold) in her career. Wow!

The Chinese doping scandal is a deeply personal issue for Schmitt. She missed out on another Olympic gold medal at the Tokyo Games. In the 800-meter freestyle relay, her team placed 2nd to the Chinese. Some of those Chinese competitors are a part of the list of twenty-three who failed their drug test.

Also in attendance at the hearing was U.S. Olympic swimmer, Allison Wagner. Although she was not a witness for the hearing, she finished 2nd in the 1996 400-meter individual medley. The gold medalist from that race, an Irish swimmer, was sus-



Morgan Griffith

Representative

pected to be a user of performance-enhancing drugs.

During the hearing, it became clear that doping issues partly stem from inconsistency in testing athletes.

I advocated a simple solution. Investigations should be performed in the same manner and that every violator receives the same punishment, regardless of nationality.

Phelps concurred with the idea and cited one year where he was tested over one 150 times, while other Olympic delegations received only thirty or forty tests.

Schmitt went into graphic detail of her tests, an uncomfortable and awkward reality (see the June 25th hearing recording, 1:02:18).

But she acknowledged that this is what she signed up for. And others should be held to the same standard to keep the sport clean.

The witnesses railed against WADA for not showing up to support athletes.

Travis Tygart, head of the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency (USADA), testified WADA - which consists of a former member of China's Olympic Committee - should not allow individuals from various national Olympic Committees to serve on WADA.

It would have been nice to make recommendations in-person to WADA. However, WADA decided not to accept the Subcommittee's invitation to testify!

Earlier in June, WADA also declined to testify to the German Bundestag (parliament).

This demonstrates to me that WADA is not interested in addressing anti-doping concerns. Moreover, it calls into question WADA's commitment to provide a level playing field for all athletes.

If there is no responsible authority to enforce equal and fair measures, how can Olympians trust the outcomes of competitions?

How can athletes put their faith into a system that is subjected to abuse by cheaters?

As the biggest contributor to WADA (nearly \$3.7 million this year), the United States should reevaluate the funds we send them.

NBC, which has a \$7.5 billion contract with the International Olympic Committee (IOC), and other sponsors could also exercise influence to promote clean competition.

Phelps and Schmitt have represented their country admirably. I am determined to see reform as future generations aspire to compete at the Olympic Games.

Call my offices with questions, concerns, or comments: Abingdon, (276) 525-1405; Christiansburg, (540) 381-5671, or via email at <https://morgangriffith.house.gov/>.

P&HCC's New Student Welcome Day Returns for 2024

This August, Patrick & Henry Community College will once again host Welcome Day orientation events for students who will be attending in the 2024-2025 school year. The Welcome Day mission is to make connections with students, make sure they are ready for their first day of school and get them acquainted with student services and departments. Last year, over 370 students and families attended the orientation event.

Attendees will receive important information to help them prepare for their first day of class. The event will be open to the public on Tue, August 6th from 11am to 1pm and Wed, August 7th from 4pm to 6pm in the West Building on P&HCC's main campus. New and returning students are encouraged to attend this event.

At Welcome Day, students will log into their virtual accounts, create their student id, learn about student clubs/programs, locate their classes, and tour the main campus. Students who have not yet registered for fall classes will be able to do so on site at Welcome Day. There will be free prizes and giveaways, snow cones,

games and fun activities for new PHamily members to enjoy as well.

"Being a first year college student can be very exciting. You are establishing a new community and a future for yourself. However, it is not without nerves about academic expectations. Welcome Day is about helping the student navigate this transition with support and to feel set up for success before the first day of class. This event is not only a celebration for the new academic year, but it is also a part of P&HCC's caring campus approach. The staff believes in taking time to help students feel comfortable on campus and confident about their new journey as a college student," said Lindsey Bishop, P&HCC academic advisor.

Students who have already applied to P&HCC can RSVP to attend by emailing Lbishop@patrickhenry.edu or calling (276) 656-0302. Prospective students who would like assistance in applying to P&HCC are encouraged to email admissions@patrickhenry.edu or reach out to advising at advising@patrickhenry.edu or (276) 656-5482.

Lost and found travel tips

A whole lot of trouble would be saved for poor Grandma if she'd just start crawling under beds and behind couches 30 minutes earlier.

The texts start coming in when we're about 20 miles along in a 600-mile drive.

It's a picture of a blue shirt and the message, sent to four or five of us: "Does this belong to anyone?"

Another ping of the phone, a picture of a ring, and the message, "Whose is this?"

A third ping, a third picture: "I found this sock behind the washer."

A little panic runs through me as it does every year around this time: Did I leave any underwear lying around? Please God don't let Grandma come across any undies. It would be just plain embarrassing to have a photo of those sent over the family chat, and in fact, just to have anyone else pick them up. Hopefully Grandma has the presence of mind, or can read our minds enough, to just pretend she didn't find any panties at all, and throw them away.

And how can it be possible we have left things behind, after we, ourselves, have crawled under beds and behind couches, scoured the bathroom, shaken out the sheets, checked the mud closet and boot racks, peeked behind chair and lifted up cushions?

Even more, what kind of magic does Grandma have that she can find everything so quickly after we have left - after a team of us has done our own search?

Finally, we got home and unpacked, and I was one boot short.

These were my great new pair of solid, sturdy, quality hiking boots that I had been very excited about. Yet only one made its way



Holly Kozelsky

out of the car.

Considering how small are the items that Grandma finds we have left behind - a ring, for goodness' sake?! - how can a stray boot not have been obvious?

Grandma's so dedicated about mailing stuff that she'd definitely go through the trouble of carefully wrapping, packing and mailing a hefty, dirty boot, which seems so much more complicated than mailing a shirt, a sock and a ring. I don't want Grandma to go through that trouble, and plus, I'd be embarrassed to ask Grandma about the boot. If she hadn't found it yet, she'd go through trouble looking for it now and making yet another trip to the post office to mail it out, when it could just stay there at the house until we come back at Thanksgiving.

(Of course, so could have the shirt, the ring and the sock, but that was my favorite shirt, and I felt a little sense of mourning to be without it and gratitude that Grandma is so very much on the ball.)

The day after our return, the teenager is sent out to clean up the car after our long trip (isn't it a real treat when they get old enough to be so helpful?).

"I found your other boot," she says later in an offhand way.

Whew. It seems like we're caught up.

Until this process is repeated again at the Thanksgiving trip.

Letter To The Editor

Rivermont Heights Homicide

On July 7th Star News reported that a shooting occurred at the 1400 block of Rivermont Heights. Two people were taken to Martinsville hospital; one was treated and released and the other, a nineteen-year-old, was pronounced dead in the hospital.

When the Martinsville church of Christ hosts their annual two-week Gospel tent meeting, they knock every door in town to personally invite each resident. This year our tent meeting was June 17-28. In that time my team and I knocked every single door on Rivermont Heights.

Many will look at "rough neighborhoods" and think, "Get your act together." However, we, members of the Martinsville church of Christ, went into the neighborhood and invited them to worship with us. We were out there personally inviting them to change their lives with Jesus' help.

While knocking doors in the neighborhood, we actually saw the police called to the 1400 block. I have no clue why, but police were on the scene. Whatever the trouble might've been, there was no trouble for us. Most treat us kindly, and I think most appreciate us trying to make a difference. I make sure to tell each person "We are not taking up any money!" Everyone appreciates that!

It's unfortunate that a whole neighborhood gets labeled as "rough" because of a couple of "bad apples." While on Rivermont Heights I talked to a young man on his front porch. He had tattoos all over his face, but he called me "sir" the whole time we talked. I doubt I was any older

than him, he was just being polite. Isn't that something? I think so. I made a return trip to that man's house to deliver him a free book, Muscle and a Shovel, and a note thanking him for being "neighborly."

Also, on Rivermont Heights I met a woman watching her grandbabies. "Ya'll having fun with Grandmama?" I asked. She replied in a low tone, "They're worrying their Grandmama." We both laughed. I made a note of their address and returned to give "Grandmama" a copy of Hurlbut's Story of the Bible for Young and Old to read to those grandbabies. Every child needs to grow up hearing the Biblical stories and that Jesus loves them.

I'm not trying to toot my horn here, but trying to give the idea that this is how we change lives: by interacting with people living these lives. Citizens who "have it together" cannot say, "change!" from a distance, but must go in close and invite the people.

I think it's worth mentioning that we don't go into neighborhoods and just hand out money. Instead, we give away free books (Bibles).

In closing I ask, "Are you a member of a church that WORKS in the community? Do you work to change peoples' inner man, or just put food in their belly? Can you find 'your church' in the Bible?" I think these are important questions to ask ourselves. "Is my religion active and Biblical, or is it just inherited?"

Caleb Robertson,
Martinsville

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OPINION

Pretzel logic

Back in the '80s when I was a tiny child, my parents opened a savings account for me. Over the years, I've added money to this account and taken money out of it, but it's been awhile since I last touched it.

Just last week, I got a letter in the mail from the bank. It said that my savings account had been inactive for two years and I needed to sign the enclosed letter and mail it back so they would know I was still interested in my money. Otherwise, per state law, the government of Virginia would begin taking money out of the account every month until such a time as there is no more money to take.

I went to the bank on my lunch break and presented my signed letter to the teller. She asked me if I wanted to deposit a dollar into my account; the letter, she said, was not enough to let the government know I still wanted my money. Being a high roller, I gave her two dollars.

As I walked back to my car, I found myself reflecting on our state and federal government.

My paycheck is taxed. My property is taxed. My car is taxed. I once got a bonus from the state that was taxed, and that bonus was presumably paid for with taxpayer money, so even my taxes have been taxed.

Now, I'm not one of these sovereign citizen lunatics who don't believe in paying taxes and think they're immune to traffic laws if they say they're "traveling" and not "driving," a strategy that has never once worked in a court of law. I'm not opposed to paying taxes. Taxes are very useful. I like to have paved roads and fire departments. It's all the other stuff I'm displeased with, like paying for drones that make children abroad fear the sky or paying for a police officer to go on paid leave because an acorn fell near him and he unloaded 40 rounds into a passing jogger.

Every time I pay my taxes in April, I think to myself, "if I were paying this kind of money to a private industry and they provided this level of service, I would sue them, and I would win."

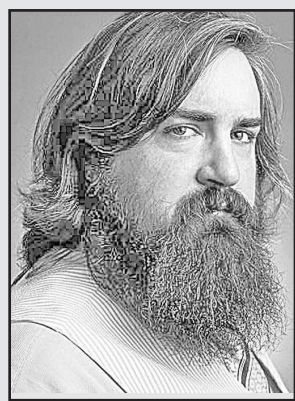
And against this backdrop, I get told that if I don't put a dollar in my savings account to let the government know I still want my money, they'll just come in and start taking it.

It's not about the dollar. It's about the fact that the government can't even wait until I'm infirm or dead before they start trying to seize my assets.

We need some respite in this country. We need some relief. But where will that relief come from?

Thankfully, I have a brilliant plan.

Fact 1: In recent years, the federal government has collected about



By Ben R. Williams

five trillion annually in taxpayer money. If we were to divide that amount by 365, we arrive at about \$13.6 billion dollars per day.

Fact 2: Apple is worth about \$3.5 trillion, Microsoft is worth about the same, Coca-Cola is worth about \$272 billion, and PepsiCo is worth \$226 billion.

The solution: we should let major multibillion dollar corporations pay to sponsor our nation for a day. On those days, Americans don't have to pay a single cent in taxes.

What would this look like?

Let's say PepsiCo decides to get in on this plan to promote a new product from one of the dozens of companies beneath their umbrella. After they pay their \$13.6 billion, the federal government will announce that August 8th is no longer just some Thursday; it's Rold Gold Pretzels® Presents Thursday, August 8th!

When that day arrives, the President will make an important announcement to all Americans. He will say that after much deliberation, he has realized that Rold Gold® Tiny Twists Cheddar are the only pretzels that have the cheesy crunch that truly satisfies. Between the one-of-a-kind flavor and crispy texture, these pretzels are going to take your snacking to a whole new level. Also, we're at war with Iran.

But what's the benefit to PepsiCo of dumping \$13.6 billion into our federal government? Well, I'll tell you this much: if Rold Gold Pretzels® paid my taxes for a day, I would never again find myself reaching for a bag of pretzels from those goldbrickers over at Snyder's of Hanover. I'd be a Rold Gold Man® for life.

Now, I can hear some of you out there saying that my plan seems like a nightmare scenario from some dystopian science fiction movie where corporations run the government.

I would counter that we're already living in a nightmare dystopia where corporations run the government, so we should at least get weird with it and try to have a little fun.

More than \$2,000 raised at pride event



Clients and artists wait for tattoos.

By Jessica Dillon

The newly established Martinsville Pride Coalition, in conjunction with Blu Tattoo in Uptown, held its first fundraising event on June 23 and raised more than \$2,000. Many local businesses teamed up to help raise money for the coalition and give members of the LGBTQIA+ community a place to congregate.

The event had the shop filled with different customers, with many willing to wait several hours to get a pride tattoo. Food items, haircuts, piercings, and 3D printed goods were some of the other items being offered to help benefit the coalition. Volunteers worked to help run the event, and provide face paint for children who were too young to get official body art.

"I feel like the pride event went really, really well. We had a lot of people, and it was a great turnout," said Carter Tanney, a tattoo artist. "For not planning a lot of planning, I feel like we had a really great turnout."

Owner Lara Blair said that two of her clients "got a little misty, and teared up a little bit," while getting their tattoos. Another customer said, "it was



Blu Tattoo staff celebrate a successful event. (Photos contributed by Sierra Cochran and Hunter Swinney of Grace & Jade Photography)

the first time they had felt comfortable getting a tattoo in more than four years."

Zackary Hopper, who drove from Greensboro, N.C., said, "I was really quiet about who I was as a person, and I am learning about the various ways to express who I am, which brings me to the event in Martinsville."

He said that he felt it was important to support the LGBTQIA+ scene in Virginia and that traveling to the event was "fun." He had a rose with the

bisexual pride flag colors placed on his arm.

"I feel like I am truly myself now, and there's no better way to mark such an important time in my life with artwork that reflects that for me," he said.

More benefit events are planned with the Friday 13th event. The Pride Coalition will host a health relationship series on Thursdays from 6 to 7:30 p.m., July 11 to August 6 at the Virginia Harm Reduction Coalition office in Collinsville. It is open to all.

SCC encourages a review of insurance before summer excursions

Summer has arrived, and the State Corporation Commission (SCC) Bureau of Insurance (Bureau) encourages Virginians to assess their insurance coverages before hitting the road, the beach or the water.

"Don't let a lack of insurance coverage put a damper on your summer fun," said Virginia Insurance Commissioner Scott A. White. "Anticipate summer hazards now to minimize their potential financial damage by ensuring your insurance coverage is adequate and up to date."

Know your coverage

In the event of a theft, a medical emergency, an injury on your property, or damage to your home or vehicle, know the limits of your coverage and if you need additional insurance. Also understand your insurance deductibles and how to file a claim.

Swimming pools

Do you have a pool? Homeowners policies will typically provide "other structures" coverage for in- or above-ground permanent pools. Smaller non-secured pools are typically protected by personal property coverage. Contact your company or agent to confirm what your policy will cover.

Keep an inventory

When it comes to personal property, the Bureau reminds Virginians to review and update home inventories to help determine appropriate coverage for belongings and help with the

claims process if damage or other property loss occurs. Free smartphone apps like the National Association of Insurance Commissioners' (NAIC) – NAIC Home Inventory – makes creating a home inventory quick and easy.

High water can affect anyone

Homeowners, renters and commercial insurance policies issued in Virginia typically do not cover damage due to flooding, surface water or storm surge. The federal government's National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) offers flood and flood-related insurance coverage. Bear in mind there may be a 30-day waiting period for policies to take effect; trying to get coverage right before an impending storm or potential flood might be too late. Contact the NFIP at 1 800-427-4661 or visit floods.gov for more information, or contact your insurance agent or company regarding coverage options.

Travel considerations

If summer includes travel plans, understand your health insurance coverage in case you need medical treatment at an urgent-care facility or hospital. Keep policy information and insurance cards with you and be sure emergency contact information is current. If you buy travel insurance, understand what is and isn't covered before your trip, including any exclusions for pre-existing conditions.

Autos and RVs

Review your auto insurance policy prior to hitting the road. Check liability limits to en-

sure proper protection against personal injury or property damage because of an accident. Keep a copy of your insurance card with you and know what to do if an accident occurs.

Recreational vehicle (RV) insurance covers risks similar to auto insurance including collision, comprehensive and liability coverage. Personal belongings on board, equipment and attached accessories such as awnings and satellite dishes may require additional coverage. Virginia does not require individuals to purchase RV insurance, but lenders may require it.

Boats and other watercraft

Boat owners are encouraged to evaluate their insurance coverages before getting out on the water. Policy coverage on boats includes collision, property damage liability, bodily injury liability and comprehensive. Additional coverage options available include medical payments, personal property, roadside assistance, damages and injuries suffered in accidents caused by uninsured or underinsured boaters. Personal watercraft (PWC) may require separate coverage. Depending on the size, type and value, some watercraft may even be covered as part of your homeowners policy.

For more information about these or other insurance-related topics, contact the Virginia Bureau of Insurance in Richmond at 804-371-9741 or toll-free at 1 877-310-6560, or visit its website at scc.virginia.gov/pages/Insurance.

See more at www.henrycountyenterprise.com

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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

LEGAL

Notice of Public Hearing

A public hearing will be held before the Martinsville Architectural Review Board on July 18, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. in Council Chambers at the City of Martinsville Municipal Building located at 55 W. Church Street, Martinsville, VA, 24112, for those parties in interest to the following request:

1) APPLICATION for CERTIFICATE of APPROPRIATENESS- Application of Hairston Funeral Home, Applicant, and LKC Inc., Owner, requesting a Certificate of Appropriateness to allow for the addition of windows, awnings, and signage to the existing building located at 301 Fayette Street. Exterior changes to buildings within the Historic District require review by the Architectural Review Board and the granting of a Certificate of Appropriateness. Any comments or questions can be directed to Hannah Powell, Community Development Specialist, at (276) 403-5156 or hpowell@ci.martinsville.va.us.
Notice Submitted By: Hannah L. Powell, CZA
Community Development Specialist

LEGAL

Notice of Public Hearing

A public hearing for the City of Martinsville Planning Commission will be held on July 17, 2024 at 4:00 p.m. in Council Chambers at the City of Martinsville Municipal Building located at 55 W. Church Street, Martinsville, VA, 24112, for those parties in interest to the following request: **REQUEST for RIGHT OF WAY ABANDONMENT-** Application of Derek Brown, Applicant and Owner, requesting the city's abandonment of an approximate 2500 square foot section of the right of way at property located at 406 James Street. The abandonment of streets, alleyways, right of ways or easements are a request that require review and approval of the Planning Commission and City Council, as it will amend the city's adopted Comprehensive Plan. Any comments or questions can be directed to Hannah Powell, Community Development Specialist, at (276) 403-5156 or hpowell@ci.martinsville.va.us.
Notice Submitted By: Hannah L. Powell, CZA
Community Development Specialist

LEGAL

ORDER OF PUBLICATION Case No. JJ018039-03-00
COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
VA. CODE § 8.01-316
HENRY COUNTY J & DR - JUVENILE
Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court
Commonwealth of Virginia, *in re* DALTON, JANYAHA HENRY-MARTINSVILLE DSS v. BENJAMIN WASHINGTON
The object of this suit is to:
TERMINATE THE RESIDUAL PARENTAL RIGHTS OF PUTATIVE FATHER, BENJAMIN WASHINGTON AND THE RESIDUAL PARENTAL RIGHTS OF THE UNKNOWN FATHER AND IN THE EVENT BENJAMIN WASHINGTON IS NOT THE BIOLOGICAL FATHER OF JANYAHA DALTON, A CHILD BORN 9-17-2023 TO MOTHER, BRANDI DALTON.
It is ORDERED that the defendant appear at the above-named court and protect his interests on or before 07/29/2024 at 2:00 p.m.
06/18/2024

LEGAL

ORDER OF PUBLICATION Case No. JJ018040-03-00
COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
VA. CODE § 8.01-316
HENRY COUNTY J & DR - JUVENILE
Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court
Commonwealth of Virginia, *in re* DALTON, JAYCE HENRY-MARTINSVILLE DSS v. BENJAMIN WASHINGTON
The object of this suit is to:
TERMINATE THE RESIDUAL PARENTAL RIGHTS OF PUTATIVE FATHER, BENJAMIN WASHINGTON AND THE RESIDUAL PARENTAL RIGHTS OF THE UNKNOWN FATHER AND IN THE EVENT BENJAMIN WASHINGTON IS NOT THE BIOLOGICAL FATHER OF JAYCE DALTON, A CHILD BORN TO MOTHER, BRANDI DALTON.
It is ORDERED that the defendant appear at the above-named court and protect his interests on or before 07/29/2024 at 2:00 p.m.
06/18/2024

LEGAL

COUNTY OF HENRY BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE
Pursuant to Section 15.2-2204 of the Code of Virginia, a public hearing has been scheduled for **July 24, 2024, at 1:00 p.m.** in the Summerlin Meeting Room of the County Administration Building, Kings Mountain Rd., Collinsville, Virginia. The purpose of this public hearing is to receive citizen input into the possible issuance of a Special Use Permit for the following case:
Case S-24-04 Patricia J. Adkins
A request for a Special Use Permit has been received under Section 21-602 of the Henry County Zoning Ordinance to allow for the establishment of a Class B Home Occupation. The specific business will be a hair salon. The property is located at 1107 Hilltop Drive, in the Collinsville District, and is zoned Suburban Residential District S-R, as shown on Tax map 28.6(63)/95,96.
The application for this request 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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As part of our expansion program, our company is looking for part time Work from home Account Manager and sales representatives, it pays \$1700 monthly plus benefits and takes only little of your time. Please contact us for more details. Requirements - Should be computer literate. 2-3 hours access to the internet weekly. Must be over 24yrs of age. Must be Efficient and Dedicated. If you are interested and need more information, contact: Kenneth.bbraun.com@outlook.com for more details.

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

New Dentist Joins Martinsville Smiles

Blake D. Brockbank, DDS, of Richmond has joined Martinsville Smiles family dental practice, becoming the fourth full-time dentist in the office.

A native of Salt Lake City, Utah, Brockbank is a graduate of Brigham Young University and the VCU School of Dentistry. Following in the footsteps of his father, grandfather, and great-grandfather, Dr. Brockbank is a fourth-generation dentist and has been surrounded by dentistry his whole life. He and his wife fell in love with Virginia and are thrilled to be a part of the Martinsville Smiles family.

Dr. Brockbank's top priority is to provide excellent care for his patients, and he strives for every patient to leave his chair with a smile. He loves caring for patients of all ages, backgrounds, and situations. Staying up to date with the latest technologies and techniques in dentistry is one of his professional priorities. Offering a variety of treatment options, Dr. Brockbank works with his patients to determine the best treatment that meets their individual needs. Fluent in Spanish, he is happy to conduct visits in Spanish per patient request.

"Dr. Brockbank adheres to the

Martinsville Smiles high standards of dental practice" said Dr. Mark Crabtree, managing partner of Martinsville Smiles. "He is well trained and has solid experience while being committed to personalized care for each patient."

Martinsville Smiles is welcoming new patients. For an appointment with Dr. Brockbank, call (276) 632-9266 or visit www.martinsvillesmiles.com. Appointments are being made now.

In his free time, Dr. Brockbank spends a lot of time outside playing sports, disc golfing, or hiking. In inclement weather, he can be found watching college sports or playing board games. He and his wife, Kaylee, have been married for five years and welcomed a baby girl in May.

Martinsville Smiles has developed a personalized preventive program of regular examinations, cleanings and education to help patients keep their teeth healthy. "Healthy teeth should last a lifetime," said Dr. Crabtree. "Martinsville Smiles provides comprehensive dental care for the entire family."

Martinsville Smiles was founded by Dr. Fred B. Caffey in 1960 and continues to be locally owned. Dr. Crabtree acquired the practice

in 1985 and Dr. Charles Jenkins joined Martinsville Smiles in 2010 and Dr. David Stafford came on-board in 2016. Dr. Crabtree is a graduate of Fieldale-Collinsville High School, Wake Forest University and the VCU School of Dentistry. He is a former Mayor of Martinsville and past-president of the Martinsville-Henry County Chamber of Commerce.

Dr. Jenkins is a graduate of Laurel Park High School, Virginia Commonwealth University and the VCU School of Dentistry. He has been a Supervisory Dentist for the Dental Hygiene Program at Danville Community College and has participated in multiple Mission of Mercy (MOM) Projects, which aid patients in underserved areas throughout the state of VA. He has served on the Advisory Board for the National College of VA and on the Campaign Team for the United Way of Martinsville and Henry County. As an active member of Granbery Methodist Church, he has served in many leadership activities.

Dr. David Stafford has participated in several Mission of Mercy projects in Virginia and has volunteered for the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life. On the state level Dr. Stafford has served on the



Blake D. Brockbank, DDS, of Richmond has joined Martinsville Smiles family dental practice, becoming the fourth full-time dentist in the office.

Ethics and Caring Dentist Committee and currently serves on the Virginia Dental Association Board of Directors and is Chairman for the New Dentists Committee.

Drs. Crabtree, Jenkins and Stafford have been awarded Fellowship in the International College of Dentists, the American College of Dentists and have been recognized for their leadership as Fellows in the Virginia Dental Association.

Martinsville Smiles has been frequently voted the best dental practice in southwest Virginia.

In sun or shade, protect your skin against harmful UV rays

Whether you venture outdoors on a clear day or a cloudy one, it's always important to protect your skin against dangerous sun rays. Skin cancer is on the rise.

The National Cancer Institute estimates there were 100,640 new cases of skin melanomas and 8,290 related deaths in the U.S. last year. In 2021, there were an estimated 1.4 million people living with melanoma of the skin.

About 6.1 million people nationwide are treated annually for basal and squamous cell carcinoma—the most common types of skin cancer.

"These are frequently seen in folks that spend a lot of time outdoors—like farmers, landscapers and loggers," noted Amy Johnson, family nurse practitioner and Virginia Farm Bureau Farm Safety Advisory Committee member.

Most skin cancers are caused by too much exposure to ultraviolet light—an invisible kind of radiation that comes from the sun, tanning beds and sunlamps. The sun's UV rays tend to be strongest from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the U.S., according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Even on an overcast day, up to 80% of the sun's UV rays can penetrate the clouds, accord-

ing to the U.S. Food & Drug Administration.

"It's possible to burn on overcast and shaded days, so sunscreen should be part of your daily routine when spending time outdoors," Johnson advised.

She added that "anyone with a history of sun exposure should have a yearly skin check with a qualified health professional."

Johnson also recommends paying attention to skin lesions and scheduling an evaluation if any are changing color, shape or size, or if new lesions appear rapidly. Many can be removed through simple in-office procedures if caught early enough.

To reduce skin cancer risk, the CDC and FDA offer the following recommendations:

- Check the UV Index each day. If the index is 3 or higher in your area, protect your skin from too much exposure to the sun. Many smartphone apps and weather websites provide this information.
- Apply broad-spectrum sunscreen with an SPF of 15 or higher to all uncovered skin before going outside. Check the expiration date.
- Reapply sunscreen every two hours and after swimming, sweating or toweling off. Read sunscreen labels for information about its wa-

ter resistance and reapplication instructions.

- Wear protective clothing like long-sleeved shirts, long pants and skirts. Clothes made from tightly woven fabric offer the best protection, and darker colors may offer more protection than lighter colors.

- Wear a tightly woven wide-brimmed hat that shades your face and ears and the back of your neck.

- Stay in the shade whenever possible. Even when in the shade, use sunscreen or wear protective clothing.

- If you take medications, ask your health care professional about sun care precautions—some medications may increase sun sensitivity.

It's also important to protect your eyes from UV rays and reduce the risk of cataracts. Sunglasses that block both UVA and UVB radiation offer the best protection, and wrap-around sunglasses offer additional coverage by shielding the entire eye socket.

Some spray sunscreens have been recalled and shouldn't be used. To find out if your sunscreen has been recalled, visit fda.gov/drugs/drug-safety-and-availability/drug-recalls.

For more sun safety information and tips, visit cdc.gov/skin-cancer/sun-safety.

STD Resources, Testing

The Well Project recently launched multimedia resources for healthcare providers to incorporate HIV prevention into overall women's wellness and healthcare. Providing for Women's Well-Being: A Sexual Health Conversation Guide for Clinicians includes shareable infographics and discussion points created in collaboration with experts on provider engagement, Carmen Logie, PhD, Tonia Poteat, PhD, MPH, PA-C, and Andrea Weddle, MSW. These educational tools are part of its SHE/HER/THEY (Sexual Health Education/HIV Empowerment Resources/Treating HIV Equally) programming focused on improving engagement in care, health outcomes, and well-being for women living

with and vulnerable to HIV and include messaging to help guide these crucial conversations on topics.

There are more options for testing than ever before. VDH-funded testing is usually free or low-cost. Testing for STDs, HIV, mpox, and viral hepatitis is available throughout the state. This includes:

local health departments, healthcare clinics, community-based organizations, and pharmacies.

Find out what works best for you and make testing part of your normal healthcare routine.

Visit dh.virginia.gov/disease-prevention/testing to find information, testing resources, and next steps after testing.

The Latest in Amazon Impostor Scams

Criminals love to impersonate big businesses and the bigger the better. One of the largest targets of impostor scams last year was Amazon. According to the Federal Trade Commission, 44,000 reports about scammers using Amazon's name were filed last year, with \$19 million reported lost. Here are two of the latest versions of an Amazon impostor scam to be on the lookout for.

Complex scams that involve an Amazon impostor, a bank impostor and someone pretending to be a law enforcement investigator are trending. These scams have a heightened sense of legitimacy because the victim believes they are speaking to different independent entities who are all confirming the same threat. In reality they are talking to multiple criminals who are all part of the same scheme.

False membership renewal messages are another trending

form of Amazon impostor scams. Because many customers aren't aware of when their membership expires these messages can seem legitimate. The criminals also create real looking websites where you can share your payment information.

Whenever doing business, renewing a membership or dealing with a suspicious charge with any retailer, it is safest to do so at their official website or through their official customer service lines. Do not rely on links or phone numbers emailed or texted to you. These run a higher risk that you'll be connected directly to a crook.


The AARP Fraud Watch Network is a free resource for all. Learn how to proactively spot scams or get guidance if you've been targeted. Visit aarp.org/fraudwatchnetwork or call our dedicated helpline to speak to a fraud specialist at 1-877-908-3360.

"History of Community Police Departments" to be part of lecture series

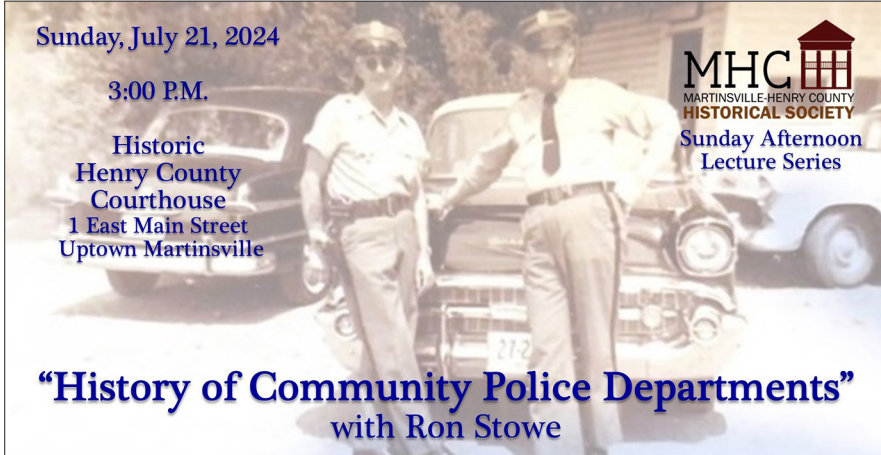
Sunday, July 21, 2024

3:00 P.M.

**Historic
Henry County
Courthouse
1 East Main Street
Uptown Martinsville**



**Sunday Afternoon
Lecture Series**



**"History of Community Police Departments"
with Ron Stowe**

The Martinsville-Henry County Historical Society will host its monthly Sunday Afternoon Lecture, "History of Community Police Departments," with Ron Stowe, at 3 p.m. on Sunday, July 21, at the Historic Henry County Courthouse.

Stowe will discuss the history of the three police departments that no longer exist in Henry County. All three of the police departments started in the 1920s with the growth of the furniture and textile industry in the area and the mill towns that grew around them. Each of the companies funded their individual police departments, although the county also contributed. The Stanleytown Police Department closed in June 1980 when the business climate significantly changed. Bassett Police Department began to downsize in the mid- to late 1980s and eventually closed. The Fieldale Police Department kept one officer into the 1990s before it closed.

The son of the Stanleytown Police Department's last Chief of Police, Stowe grew up in Stanleytown and graduated from Bassett High School. He attended Danville Community College and then



Ron Stowe will present the "History of Community Police Departments" at 3 p.m. on Sunday, July 21.

followed in the footsteps of his father, Melvin Stowe, by joining the Henry County Sheriff's Office in 1975. In 1980, he moved to High Point, North Carolina, where he continued working in law enforcement at the High Point Police Department and retired as a captain.

Admission to the lecture is free, made possible by corporate sponsors, Carter Bank & Trust and The Lester Group. The Historic Henry County Courthouse is fully handicapped accessible. The Martinsville-Henry County Heritage Museum will be open following the presentation.

City school division wins second national award

On the heels of recent accolades for its data-driven storytelling, Martinsville City Public Schools has earned a second Award of Excellence from the National School Public Relations Association (NSPRA) for its district website.

The NSPRA Awards of Excellence celebrate outstanding communications and public relations efforts across the U.S., and this latest recognition further underscores MCPS's commitment to transparent, effective communication within its community.

"Our website is more than just a place people go to look up an email address or the week's lunch menu," said Callie Hietala, MCPS Communications and Community Outreach Coordinator. "It is often the first window into our school community for our families, for potential employees, and even for families considering moving to our area. It is a hub of information, a recruiting tool, and a selling point for our district. As such, we wanted a website that was bright and inviting, easy to navigate, and a true reflection of the vibrant school community we have here at MCPS."

The district's current website, launched last year, features user-friendly navigation, engaging content, photos of daily activities, and up-to-date information about school events, programs, and achievements. It serves as a central hub for news and resources, ensuring that families, students, and staff have easy access to the information they need.



"We understand the importance of first impressions," Hietala said. "Our goal with this website was to create a welcoming entryway that not only informs our community but celebrates the accomplishments and spirit of our district."

Hietala "continues to do an outstanding job highlighting the success of Martinsville City Schools and its students and staff," said MCPS Superintendent Dr. Zebedee Talley. "She is an integral part of our division and deserves recognition for her integrity in communication."

Earlier this month, the school division received an Award of Excellence in Writing from NSPRA for an article that appeared on their website early in the school year. These awards highlight MCPS' ongoing commitment to excellence in communication.

Veteran benefits protected in agreement

Each of the leaders of Virginia's public colleges and universities, including the chancellor of the Commonwealth's community college system, have agreed to take all necessary action to ensure no student or prospective student is further adversely impacted by the gap in time from July 1 to when HB 6004 and SB 6012 are passed and signed to fully repeal and reverse the tuition waiver eligibility changes to the Virginia Military Survivors and Dependents Education Program and other similarly impacted programs.

"I personally spoke with the Presidents of all 16 public colleges and universities in the Common-

wealth, as well as the Chancellor of the Virginia Community College System, and everyone agreed to not allow this gap in time to disadvantage or harm our military heroes, first responders, and their families," Gov. Glenn Youngkin said when making the announcement last week.

"I look forward to the House and Senate returning on July 18th as announced and sending to my desk HB 6004 and SB 6012, which fully repeal the damaging language, without caveats or conditions, and provide a total of \$65 million in each year of the biennium to this important program," Youngkin added.

Get ready to go Back2school with The Community Fellowship

The Community Fellowship and partnering organizations have provided more than 38,000 children with a new pair of shoes, a new pair of socks and a backpack filled with school supplies for the last 18 years, and this year will be no different.

The kickoff for the organization's Back2school 2024 was July 7, but families still have time to register from now until the last registration event on July 23.

New this year, students can pre-register online as well as find participating locations and times to come in person to complete the registration at www.gob2s.com. Pre-registering will help ensure all of the paperwork is completed before arrival and prevent delays.

Students must come in person to have their feet measured at one of the organization's participating locations, July 13, 9 a.m. - 12 p.m., and July 23, from 6-8 p.m. Children's feet are measured during the registration events to ensure that they receive shoes that fit them appropriately.

Laptops and tablets will be available on those dates/times to help with registrations for anyone unable to register in advance.

The Community Fellowship also will host a Back2school event at 7 p.m. on July 17 at the

Mustangs Game. Students can be registered and measured for shoes at this event, too.

A Pack the Bus Weekend will be held at the Martinsville Walmart, with donations to 'pack the bus,' for the items that are needed to fill backpacks. The event will be held July 19 and July 20, from 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. and July 21, from 1 - 6 p.m.

On July 30, up to 400 volunteers will gather to pack the backpacks full of school supplies during the Fill the Back Packs event at 6 p.m., 700 Commerce Court, Martinsville.

The Special Needs Day to serve Special Needs youngsters is Friday, August 2.

On Saturday, August 3, backpacks with school supplies will be distributed to students, along with shoes and socks.

Each year, up to 20 locations serve children and their families in the community and beyond. Many of these locations provide free haircuts and offer a clothing closet as well. Additionally, the organization has partnered with local school systems to provide meals at each registration as well as at the main outreach event.

Annually, the organization serves nearly 4,000 children and has more than 1,000 volunteers and as many as 100 partner churches.



A new DG Market is now open at 1815 Daniel Road in Axton. The store anticipates it will employ 10 to 15 people. To see available positions or apply, visit www.dollargeneral.com/careers.

Dollar General opens new DG Market in Axton

Dollar General's new DG Market at 1815 Daniel Road in Axton is now open. The new DG Market store format features an expanded selection of fresh meats, fruits and vegetables, as well as the same categories, brands and products customers trust Dollar General to carry.

"We are excited to provide Axton residents with our new DG Market format and look forward to welcoming customers to our new location," said Matthew Simonsen, Dollar General's senior vice president of real estate and store development. "At Dollar General, we are committed to serving our customers with a pleasant shopping experience and strive to be a good corporate citizen. The new DG Market format will provide the Axton community with closer access to fresh and healthier foods and a convenient location to purchase the items they want and need at everyday low prices. We hope our customers will enjoy the new store."

To commemorate the opening of DG's new location, Dollar General plans to donate 100 new books to a nearby elementary school to benefit students ranging from kindergarten to fifth grade.

DG stores are proud to provide area residents with an affordable and convenient store location to purchase household essentials including food, cleaning supplies, paper products, over-the-counter medicines, hygiene products, baby items and more through its mission of Serving Others. In addition to the national and private branded products customers trust Dollar General to carry, the new Axton location includes the Company's new stylish, on-trend home décor and an ex-

panded party preparation selection.

Dollar General plans to create new jobs in the Axton community as the store is expected to employ approximately 10-15 people, depending on the individual needs of the store. Individuals interested in joining the DG team may review available positions and apply online at www.dollargeneral.com/careers. The company provides employees with competitive wages, world-class and award-winning training and development programs and benefits including day-one telemedicine eligibility as well as health insurance coverage options, 401K savings and retirement plans, tuition reimbursement, paid parental leave and adoption assistance to eligible employees.

Additionally, DG strives to be a good neighbor and is committed to the communities it proudly calls home, evidenced by unwavering support of literacy and education initiatives through the Dollar General Literacy Foundation. The addition of the Axton store opens the opportunity for schools, nonprofit organizations and libraries within a 15-mile radius of the store to apply for Dollar General Literacy Foundation grants. Since its inception in 1993, the Dollar General Literacy Foundation has awarded more than \$250 million in grants to nonprofit organizations, helping more than 21.5 million individuals take their first steps toward literacy or continued education. For more information about the Dollar General Literacy Foundation and its grant programs, visit www.dgliteracy.com.

Normal hours of operation may be found through the Dollar General app.



back2school

Register for Saturday, August 3, 2024

Scan QR Code*
for locations and times to register
IN PERSON
for new socks, new shoes and a backpack
filled with school supplies.



Registration Dates:
Saturday, July 13, 2024
Tuesday, July 23, 2024

All grades Pre-K - 12 Welcome!
emailback2school@gmail.com
For questions or special needs:
276-565-8234

*If unable to scan QR Code, visit:
www.gob2s.com

This event has a major impact on students and families as well as the volunteers who serve them.

Piedmont Arts welcomes new members to the Board of Directors

Piedmont Arts' Board of Directors welcomed new appointments on July 1.

Joining the Board for the 2024-2028 term are William Gravely, Janet Lewis, and Beverly Lyle. All three are dedicated to the improvement and care of Martinsville and Henry County and have displayed a long held and vested interest in the arts.

William Gravely is an outstanding previous board member at Piedmont Arts. He is retired from the furniture business and has served on the board of Patrick and Henry Community College, the Boys and Girls Club of the Blue Ridge, Chatmoss Country Club, Martinsville Kiwanis Club, and the Martinsville Chamber of Commerce. He was the 2015 Hooker Award recipient for his longtime support of Piedmont Arts.

Janet Lewis is the Secondary English Coordinator for Henry County Schools. She coordinates with Piedmont Arts annually to bring arts programming into the schools. She has been a longtime supporter of Piedmont Arts and values the connection of the arts and education.

Beverly Lyle works in Community Development and Fair Lending at Carter Bank & Trust. She is currently on the board of Grace Network and a member of Vestry at Christ Episcopal Church. Previously, Beverly was on the board of The United Way of Henry County & Martinsville and Uptown Partnership. She annually coordinates volunteers from Carter Bank & Trust for Piedmont Arts' Family Days, an invaluable service.

They will serve with the current executive com-

mittee, which includes Anne Smith, President; Olivia Garrett, First Vice President; Ben Gravely, Second Vice President; Tracie Heavner, Secretary; Dru Ingram, Treasurer; and Shana LeGrant, Immediate Past President. Other board members include DeShanta Hairston, Anne Smith, James Souter, Lucy Coleman, Charlie Knighton, Tim Parker, Effie Cuenca, Ben Gravely, Andy Hynes, Tekela Redd, Jason Spratley, and McKay Ullstein. Piedmont Arts is honored for these individuals to join the Board of Directors and are grateful for the entire board's insight, vision, and leadership.

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

UVA, USC enrolling rural residents for online weight management study

University of Virginia School of Medicine researchers, together with colleagues at the University of South Carolina, have received a grant from the National Institutes of Health to determine if online behavioral weight-management programs for rural residents can be improved by adding a human touch. The goal is to help residents of rural areas, where in-person weight-loss programs can be scarce.

People living in rural areas experience significantly higher rates of both obesity and chronic illnesses associated with obesity. Many rural areas also have an increasing lack of access to healthcare resources. So, finding better ways to help rural residents manage their weight could have big benefits for both individuals and society. "Weight loss of as little as 5% to 7% can reduce obesity-associated co-morbidities," said UVA researcher Becca Krukowski, PhD, one of the principal investigators. "Although lifestyle interventions successfully produce weight losses of this magnitude, access to weight management programs is limited in rural areas. This study will examine how digital interventions can be optimized for delivering weight loss programs to rural populations."

More than 600 volunteer participants will be enrolled in a core online 24-week weight-loss program and randomly assigned to receive one of two forms of feedback on their self-monitoring efforts, as well

as potentially receiving additional components including weekly group video sessions and individual coaching calls. The study is currently enrolling the last few participants for a group starting in August 2024 and will continue accepting applications for future start dates through the end of 2025.

Ultimately, Krukowski and her team hope their research will lead to optimized online weight-loss programs that will be more accessible to rural residents than in-person programs. That would increase the public-health benefits of the programs and will inform public health policy decisions such as whether the programs should be covered by Medicare, Medicaid and other health insurance companies.

"The iREACH study is an exciting opportunity for rural residents to have access to a cutting-edge behavioral weight loss program and also contribute to science," Krukowski said. Over the next year and a half, she and her collaborators will enroll and provide the iREACH program for a total of 616 men and women, with the goal of determining which approach, or which combination of approaches, is most effective at promoting weight loss and subsequent weight maintenance.

The trial is IRB No. HSR220408. For more information, visit <https://www.ireachstudy.org/> or call 1-866-271-7217, or email the study coordinator, Teace Markwalter, at ireach3@mailbox.sc.edu.

FDA bans forever chemicals in food packaging

The Food & Drug Administration (FDA) recently announced that companies are voluntarily phasing out the use of "forever chemicals" in food packaging, including fast-food wrappers, microwave popcorn bags and takeout containers that are grease-, oil- and water-resistant. Companies told the FDA it could take 18 months to "exhaust the market supply from the last date of sale" of these products, though it is unclear when that would be. Forever chemicals, or PFAS, are man-made compounds that can potentially accumulate in the body over time and take years to break down in nature. Certain PFAS, which stands for per- and

polyfluoroalkyl substances, have been implicated in a number of serious health effects, including some cancers, high blood pressure, disruption of the endocrine system and changes in liver function. Until the food packaging that contains forever chemicals are completely out of the market, here are steps you can take to minimize exposure from the foods you eat, PFAS experts said.

Cut back on fast food (and greasy wrappers)

Skip microwave popcorn

Avoid nonstick cookware

Store leftovers in glass containers

Drink filtered or bottled water

Check the source of the fish you eat

Crossing the Lines

News snippets from outside the city/county lines ...

Stunning light show caps holiday activities



A dazzling display of fireworks lit up the skies in and around Stuart on Thursday at DeHart Park. The spectacular, nearly 45 minute Patrick County Fourth of July Fireworks Display capped Independence Day celebrations and mes-

merized youngsters. Several on-lookers "oohed, aahed," and clapped as the fireworks exploded with kabooms and whistling sounds, rivaling thunderstorms that rolled through the county earlier in the day. (Photos by Jamie Hall)

Childhood friends reunite on business venture



A Little Bit of Everything, a store that sells what the name suggests, recently opened in a storefront on U.S. 58, beside Circle K in the former Papa Larry's building.

Started by Chris DeBruhl and

Darren Diggs, the store is set to have a grand opening on Saturday, July 13 from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. with free hotdogs and drinks, and door prizes to "make it a fun day for everybody," DeBruhl said.

Businesses team up to help Christmas Cheer

After learning a primary donor is unable to continue providing the bulk of the toys distributed by Patrick County Christmas Cheer, The Landmark Center and Blue Ridge Therapy Connection are teaming up to hold a Christmas in July Toy

Drive to benefit Christmas Cheer. The agency is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization that serves children ages 0 - 12 throughout Patrick County. According to Chris Lester, director of the organization, 485 children were served last year.

Clarification

Martinsville City Council candidate John R. Wilson III did not work for DuPont. He was the Noland Plant Representative for DuPont. When the DuPont facil-

ity shut down, he took over a Noland Facility in Florida that was under contract to a NASA contractor and worked on that contract for more than 20 years.

Homestead Creamery expands in Franklin County

Gov. Glenn Youngkin announced Wednesday that Homestead Creamery Inc. will invest more than \$2.5 million to renovate and expand their Franklin County production facility. The company will construct a new ice cream production room and install additional production and refrigeration equipment and freezers, in response to increased customer demand for their premium churned ice cream products. Through this expansion, the company will add two new jobs, and purchase an additional \$1.9 million of Virginia-produced cream over the next three years.

"On the heels of celebrating Virginia Dairy Month and Virginia Agriculture Week, today's announcement of Homestead Creamery's expansion and investment in Franklin County and in Virginia's dairy industry is another example that Virginia is on the move. I'm grateful to Homestead Creamery for their investment into one of Virginia's top milk-producing counties and for supporting the growth of Virginia's dairy industry—the fourth largest commodity in the Commonwealth," said Youngkin.

"Homestead Creamery was the very first recipient of an AFID Facility Grant in 2012. I am extremely pleased that we could partner with the company again with another AFID Facility Grant to support this expansion project," said Secretary of Agriculture and Forestry Matthew Lohr. "This project builds on the success of a small, Virginia company and positions Homestead for future growth opportunities."

Founded in 2001 in Burnt Chimney (Franklin County), Homestead Creamery, Inc. utilizes high-quality A2A2 milk from its network of local dairy farms to produce a variety of premium drinkable milk, ice cream, eggnog, and other dairy products that are sold through retail and wholesale networks. The company also operates an on-site retail market and deli featuring a variety of its dairy products along with Virginia's Finest and Virginia Grown products. Homestead has grown steadily over the years and now sells its dairy products and specialty lemonade in approximately 100 stores across Virginia. Homestead Creamery's super-premium ice cream is available in twenty-nine flavors across 13 states and Washington D.C.

"Gratitude fills our hearts as we extend our sincerest appreciation to the Governor's Office, Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (VDACS) and Franklin County, for their generous support of this project," said Homestead Creamery, Inc. Controller Jesse Novak. "This grant will fuel

our vision for impactful building improvements, empowering us to better serve our customers and community. Together, we're nurturing growth, innovation, and prosperity. Thank you for believing in our mission and investing in our future."

"We are thrilled to support Homestead Creamery in their expansion efforts here in Franklin County," said Ronnie Thompson, chairman of the Franklin County Board of Supervisors. "This investment not only underscores the strength and quality of our local dairy industry but also promises continued economic growth and job creation within our community. I am proud of the support my colleagues on the Board of Supervisors have shown and we are grateful for the collaboration with the Governor's Office and VDACS which has made this project possible. Together, we are continuing to foster a prosperous future for Franklin County."

"Thanks to my grandparents and uncles, I understand the hard work and dedication that being a dairy farmer requires. I would like to thank Homestead Creamery for their continued support of Franklin County's dairy history and this expansion announcement which furthers that commitment," said Del. Will Davis.

"I congratulate Homestead Creamery on this expansion announcement. It is great to see a small, locally owned business succeed and the effects that this expansion will have on Franklin County and dairy producers in the surrounding area," said Sen.

William Stanley.

The Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (VDACS) worked with Franklin County to secure this expansion project for the Commonwealth. Governor Youngkin approved a \$20,000 grant from the Governor's Agriculture and Forestry Industries Development Facility Grant program, which Franklin County will match with local funds.

The Agriculture and Forestry Industries Development Facility Grant program supports agribusinesses of all sizes including produce companies, dairy processors, meat and poultry processors, specialty food and beverage manufacturers, greenhouse operations, forest product manufacturers and more. The fund can also support aquaculture projects such as oyster production and nurseries producing native plants for stormwater BMPs.

Interested businesses may contact their local economic development office or the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services for more information.



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www.raniasrestaurant.com

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12 pc. Stuff Mushrooms\$15.99
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with rice & lemon butter


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6 Tips On How To Discuss Your Mental Health With Others

By Stan Popovich

It can be frustrating to struggle with your mental health and to get your family and friends to understand where you are coming from.

Although most people may be understanding, there is usually one or two people who will make things more challenging for you.

As a result, here are six suggestions on how to deal with the people you know regarding your mental health situation.

1. Listen to the professionals: Your friends may mean well, but when it comes down to it, the professionals are aware of your circumstances more than anyone. It is important that you listen and follow the advice from your doctor or medical professional rather than following the advice from your friends and other people you may know.

2. Don't argue with others: It is important that you do not get into arguments with those who are giving you a tough time. It is not your job to worry about how others may view your circumstances. Focus on managing your mental health rather than trying to get everyone's approval.

3. Choose your friends wisely: Distance yourself from those who won't make an ef-

fort to help understand what you are going through. You need to surround yourself with positive and supportive people. If you have problems or issues with a particular person, then it's best to keep your distance and hang out with those people who are more supportive.

4. Attend a mental health support group: There are many mental health awareness support groups in any given area. Many hospitals, churches, and counselors in your area will be able to provide you with a list of these organizations. These groups will be aware of your situation and can give you additional advice regarding your concerns.

5. You are not alone: There are millions of people around the world who struggle with their fears, anxieties, and depression. Many of your relatives and friends more than likely struggled with anxiety and stress sometime in their life. Do not feel that you are alone when it comes to your mental health situation because there are all kinds of people around you who can relate.

6. Your goal is to get better: Focus on how you can handle the anxieties and stresses in your life rather than arguing with others who are giving you a difficult time.



This isn't a public relations event where you need to get approval from everyone. This is your life, and you need to be more concerned about getting your life back on track rather than pleasing everyone else.

Stan is the author of "A Layman's Guide to Managing Fear" which covers a variety of techniques that can drastically improve your mental health. For more information, please visit Stan's website at <http://www.managingfear.com>.

Report shows help is needed to maintain 988 staffing levels

Edwin J. Viera

Virginia News Connection

A new report found Virginia's mental health crisis response can improve.

The "A Better Response" report from the mental health advocacy organization Inseparable reviewed how states can bolster their 988 crisis response services. Virginia has an 87% response rate for 988 calls just under the 90% national standard.

Bruce Crusier, executive director of the nonprofit Mental Health Virginia, thinks the state has done well so far with financing but more work needs to be done to get the state where it needs to be.

"Ultimately, the staffing has to be priority because without proper training and enough help then people will burn out, get frustrated, and then leave," Crusier pointed out. "Because again, there's such a shortage of mental health professionals."

The federal Health Resources and Services Administration put all of Virginia under a mental health professional shortage. Crusier noted there is no easy solution. He thinks funding can be allocated in the next budget for a multipronged approach to build

up Virginia's mental health workforce and remove barriers to people who want to practice in the state. If you or someone you know is in crisis, call or text the National Suicide and Crisis Lifeline at 988.

Inseparable's report showed a host of improvements to national systems can ensure states have the best crisis response systems. Virginia has already taken one step by establishing sustainable financing for 988 and crisis response services.

Angela Kimball, chief advocacy officer for Inseparable, said states need to have appropriate accountability measures.

"By having these accountability pieces, this allows legislators to oversee the system over the long haul," Kimball pointed out. "And to set up the structures for continuous learning, continuous system improvement."

She added data collection, annual legislative reporting and system coordination are three ways to ensure the system's high standards. Kimball added system coordination between 988 and 911 is key to reducing reliance on first responders for mental health emergencies.

Virginia Ready Initiative to Sunset Operations in Q4 2024

Virginia Ready Initiative, a statewide nonprofit, has been a catalyst for community change in workforce development, investing over \$6.4M in four years to support over 6,400 career-minded scholars to receive an in-demand credential, obtain career readiness skills, and connect them to family sustaining career opportunities. To date, over 6,300 scholars have already received their credential and another 135 scholars are in the pipeline to obtain their credential by September 15. Virginians were able to gain real-world skills and enhance their career prospects through credentialing. Since inception, over 68% of Virginia Ready Scholars have gained employment.

Founded in 2020 as a COVID-19 initiative by Suzanne and Glenn Youngkin, the mission continued to rapidly reskill Virginians for in-demand careers and develop their workplace readiness skills, creating partnerships with some of the largest employers and institutions across the state, including the Virginia Community College System (VCCS), Dominion Energy, Genworth Financial, Sentara Health, and others.

After four successful years, the Virginia Ready team and board have determined the impact of the mission can scale faster by shifting to invest in established organizations dedicated to credentialing and non-traditional education that will lead Virginians on career paths toward economic mobility.

This legacy of partnership will continue, by investing back the organization's remaining funds into nonprofits making significant strides

across the state (and regionally). These include United Way of Southwest Virginia - EO, United Way of South Hampton Roads, United Way of Greater Richmond & Petersburg, the Community Foundation of Harrisonburg and Rockingham County, and Claude Moore Charitable Foundation/Claude Moore Opportunities.

The organizations were selected based on geographic region, their commitment to showing impact data and their alignment with the Virginia Ready mission objectives:

*Connecting scholars to high-quality, industry-specific training programs.

*Supporting career advancement in individuals' careers.

*Driving economic growth and prosperity in Virginia by developing career-minded citizens.

*Being a skills-first ally in the workforce by providing equal access.

*Building strong partnerships with businesses, educational institutions, and community organizations.

Virginia Ready has also recently released an Insight's Report - that is publicly available on their website detailing deeper insights into Virginia's workforce development challenges. Findings and learnings cited include ways to identify and tackle areas that are preventing Virginians from career success, such as skills misalignment, inadequate access to training, economic disparities, lack of career readiness, and need for rapid reskilling. It is the hope of Virginia Ready that like-minded nonprofits in Virginia will carry on their learnings to transform and accelerate the career potential of every Virginian.



Two Video Projects Produced for VADOC Win Emmy Awards

The Virginia Department of Corrections (VADOC) is proud to announce that two projects produced for the Department by Bookend Creative were honored with Emmy Awards at the 66th National Capital Chesapeake Emmy Awards on June 22.

The first Emmy was in the Crime/Justice Long Form Content Category for "The Victim Impact Program."

The second Emmy was in the Societal Concerns - Short Form Content for "The Virginia Department of Corrections Presents One Pill Can Kill." This video was funded in whole by SAMHSA grant #1H79TI085746. The views expressed do not necessarily reflect the official policies of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services or the Executive Brand of the Commonwealth of Virginia. Trade names, commercial practices or organizations mentioned do not imply endorsement by the U.S. Government or the Commonwealth of Virginia.

"The VADOC is honored to be recognized in association with this prestigious accomplishment," said VADOC Director Chad Dotson. "The stories told were exceptional and highlighted the Department's mission to address serious issues regarding substance use, the many lives that crime can impact, and much more. We are thankful to those who have shared their stories, and as a Department, we are committed to addressing these issues to ensure the safety of all Virginians in our communities. I also thank Michael Park, Victor Nash, and the

team at Bookend Creative for their excellent work on these videos."

"Receiving this Emmy is not just a professional honor, but a tribute to the incredible team and volunteers whose dedication and passion made this achievement possible," said VADOC Victim Services Director Amber Leake. "Thank you all for believing in our vision and making it a reality."

"Fentanyl poisoning continues to plague the Commonwealth and this video is one of many steps the Department has taken to bring awareness and education to the deadly impacts of fentanyl," said VADOC Reentry & Recovery Services Administrator Jessica Lee. "We remain grateful to the families who shared their stories in hopes of preventing future overdose deaths. We honor Adam, Danny, Makayla, Scott, and other Virginians who lost their lives due to fentanyl by spreading the truth about fentanyl and connecting individuals to needed resources."

The Capital Emmy Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences recognizes outstanding individual achievement in the region by conferring annual merit awards. The Emmy Award is the "gold standard" in the television profession across all media platforms.

Watch Bookend Creative's Michael Park accept the Emmy award and deliver remarks via the Capital Emmys YouTube.

To see more videos from the Virginia Department of Corrections, visit our YouTube Channel.

Continued claims for unemployment insurance increase

Last week, Virginia Works noted that 2,112 unemployment insurance weekly initial claims were filed during the week ending June 29, which is 4.2 percent lower than last week's 2,205 claims and 15.1 percent lower than the comparable week of last year (2,487). Nearly 83 percent of claimants self-reported an associated industry; of those reported, the top five industries (56 percent) were Administrative and Support and Waste Management (215); Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services (211); Health Care and Social Assistance (195); Retail Trade (160); and Accommodation and Food Services (136).

Continued weeks claims (16,433) were 2.4 percent higher than last week (16,046) and were 23.4 percent higher than the comparable week of last year (13,313). Nearly 93 percent of claimants self-reported an associ-

ated industry; of those reported, the top five industries (59 percent) were Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services (2,429); Administrative and Support and Waste Management (2,240); Health Care and Social Assistance (1,637); Accommodation and Food Services (1,379); and Retail Trade (1,376).

A person who has already filed an initial claim and who has experienced a week of unemployment files a continued claim to claim benefits for that week of unemployment. On a weekly basis, continued claims reflect a good approximation of the current number of insured unemployed workers filing for UI benefits, and are a good indicator of labor market conditions. While continued claims are not a leading indicator, they provide confirming evidence of the direction of the economy.

Middle School History Teacher publishes book about Patrick County

Beverly Belcher Woody, a Martinsville Middle School teacher, and Tom Perry's Laurel Hill Publishing announced the publication of "Patrick Pioneers Part One." Written by Woody, the 400 page book includes 100 thoroughly researched stories of Patrick County people and places.

The book will be available for purchase during the 'Tom Talks History' program, at 2 p.m. on July 28 at the Ararat Ruritan Club, which is located at 4711 Ararat Highway in Ararat, Virginia. Book sales will help raise funds for the Perry Family Scholarship, which gives \$500 each year to at least one Patrick County High School senior. To be considered for the scholarship, applicants must write a 1,000 word essay on a historical topic of their choice. Eight scholarships have been given in honor of Historian and Author Thomas D. "Tom" Perry's parents Erie Meredith and Betty Hobbs Perry.

Woody was born and raised in the Big A community of Patrick County, Virginia. She grew up with a passion for history, conducting her first interview with mountain folks at the age of 10.

Upon graduation from Patrick County High School, Woody spent the next seventeen years working in local textile mills. When the factories closed, Woody earned an associate's degree in paralegal studies from Patrick & Henry Community college and worked for local district and circuit courts as a deputy clerk for the next fifteen years.



Beverly Belcher Woody is pictured next to the tombstone of her great-great-great grandmother.

While working for the court system, Woody earned her bachelor's degree from Old Dominion University, took master's courses from Averett and Liberty University, and completed her master's in education at Regent University. At the age of 50, Woody left the court system and earned her teacher licensure in history and English.

Woody teaches US History to sixth graders at Martinsville Middle School and writes a weekly local history column called Patrick Pioneers for Patrick County's oldest newspaper, The Enterprise.

Beverly Belcher Woody, a Martinsville Middle School teacher, has published "Patrick Pioneers Part One." Initial copies of the 400-page book will be for sale during the 'Tom Talks History' program, at 2 p.m. on July 28 in Ararat.

Woody serves as Regent of the Patrick Henry National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution and is on the Board of Directors of both the Patrick County Historical Society and Museum and the Martinsville-Henry County Heritage Museum. She was named "Teacher of the Year" in 2023 by the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW).

Woody and her husband Mark live in the Snow Creek section of Franklin County, Virginia with their assortment of animals. Woody may be reached at rockcastlecreek1@gmail.com.

Virginia's 'ahead of the curve' in advancing universal broadband access plans, officials say

Amid a national movement to close the digital divide, Virginia continues to lead the way toward universal broadband access.

Broadband providers, vendors, state officials and other stakeholders heard about Virginia's progress in extending broadband infrastructure during the Mid-Atlantic Broadband Summit in Richmond in June.

Last summer, Virginia netted \$1.48 billion in federal Broadband Equity, Access and Deployment grant program funds. The nationwide program awards \$42.45 billion to expand high-speed internet access through funding, planning, infrastructure deployment and adoption programs.

The Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development, the lead agency for administering the program, and Virginia Tech secured an additional \$250 million in BEAD funding for correcting the Federal Communications Commission's national broadband map early last year.

Virginia has been "ahead of the curve" in deploying broadband, noted Tamarah Holmes, Virginia's broadband office director. She highlighted innovative efforts like initiating the development of a state-wide broadband availability map in 2010 and launching the Virginia Telecommunication Initiative in 2017 to spearhead expansion efforts.

Since 2017, VATI has awarded \$935 million to connect over 300,000 locations to broadband—leveraging \$1.2 billion in private and local resources. In April, 5,000 locations received access to broadband through the program, Holmes said.

Virginia also was the first state to submit its BEAD 5-Year Plan and initial proposal.

"While we've made some progress, of course we have a long ways to go," Holmes noted.

BEAD funds will build upon VATI's work to reach the remaining unserved homes, businesses and community institutions across Vir-

ginia that lack existing broadband infrastructure.

The Virginia housing department launched the BEAD challenge process last fall to confirm that all locations without access to high-speed internet and participation in an existing deployment project are included in the initiative. Virginia "challenged" over 1.9 million service claims on the national broadband map and added over 80,000 unserved and underserved locations.

DHCD has since narrowed its initial list of over 162,000 BEAD-eligible locations to around 115,000 locations, which they are working to finalize with the National Telecommunications and Information Administration.

"We all have the same goal in the room, for the BEAD program and the state broadband office of getting to 100% coverage across Virginia," said Chandler Vaughan, senior policy analyst for Virginia's broadband office. "But getting to 100% is only as good as the maps are."

The Virginia broadband office will launch its BEAD application process for broadband providers after Virginia's challenge process results and initial proposal are approved.

The summit included an afternoon workshop to help prepare providers for the multi-staged application process, which state officials hope to start up this fall. Virginia's broadband office also plans to push out more technical assistance resources in the coming months.

Virginia's 5-Year Plan also outlines goals for improving broadband affordability and adoption through technological skills training and other programs.

"The wide-ranging benefits of connectivity, including smart farming, building a business online, and telehealth, will keep Virginia competitive in a fast-changing, connected world," the plan states.

To access the approved plan or more information on the state's BEAD program, visit dhcd.virginia.gov/bead.

For Better, For Worse

Dr. Glenn Mollette

Words are easier than actions. For example, "for better, for worse." Couples traditionally say these words when they marry. They mean the words at the time. They have no idea what they are saying.

No one can really know what they are saying because they are clueless about what the future will bring. Sticking together in marriage is easier when it's all "for better." Often life changes direction and it seems everything becomes "for worse."

Financial difficulties, troubled children, aging parents, life failures, addictions, personality disorders and sickness all have a way of cooling the marital flame.

When a couple first marries everything is about love and nothing else matters. However, eventually everyone faces problems. Sometimes they come early in life and sometimes not until the later years of life. Make no mistake, if you and your spouse live long enough you will face difficulties that will mentally and physically push you to and beyond your limits.

We have to grasp the fact that no matter who you live with there will come a time when you will be a caregiver or need someone to take care of you. The only way to avoid this is to die while you are still physically and mentally independent. There is some kind of

weird blessing about just falling over dead or not waking up one morning. It's a shock to those left behind but you avoid the nursing home and some of the crippling disabilities that eventually happen in life.

None of us want to just fall over dead during our active years. We all want to live to a 100 and then just suddenly move over into heaven. This may be the way you will go and maybe you won't. None of us know how our lives will end. I suppose it's best that we don't know.

If you are blessed with a mate, reach a mutual understanding early on that you are going to see each other through the tough times. It might be all on you to do the caregiving, and that's never easy but it's easier than being the one inflicted with the illness. If you are the care giver you can get some rest and restore. The person who is sick never gets a break.

Sadly, some people can't hold out and give up. People are human beings and not machines. People wear down and are often unable to cope when sickness and troubles are more than they can handle. Try to not be condemning of these people as you are not the one living their lives.

If two people can mutually hang tight through the "for worse" period of life they can help each other to discover a little more

"better" even during the very worst of times.

For more insights into this column please read First Corinthians chapter 13 from the Bible. Keep in mind that hard times are not easy times, but you can find

peace by seeing yourself and your mate through the "worse" times of life.

Find books by Glenn Mollette at Amazon.com Learn more about his books, columns and music at GlennMollette.Com.

Puzzle Answers!

SNOWFLAKES
solution

THINGS CANADIAN

joy and

T	O	M	S	T	A	L	E	S	E	J	A	I	L	S	L	A	Y		
O	N	I	T	A	R	A	G	O	N	A	R	N	E	T	U	N	E		
M	E	N	U	C	O	M	M	A	N	D	C	I	T	E	R	I	T		
B	U	T	N	O	I	D	I	P	O	O	R	A	E	G	I	S			
S	P	Y	G	L	A	S	S	C	L	U	B	S	A	N	D	W	I	C	H
J	A	C	K	E	T	B	L	U	R	B	S	T	E	R	N	U	M		
A	D	H	E	R	E	S	E	E	S	T	O	I	T	A	P	E			
D	D	A	Y	M	I	L	K	S	P	A	R	T	Y	F	A	V	O	R	
E	S	P	D	I	D	A	C	I	L	I	A	I	R	E	N	E			
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D	A	T	E	S	Q	U	A	R	E	S	P	O	S	S	E	K	N	O	X
A	T	E	U	N	E	A	S	I	E	R	S	C	R	O	O	G	E		
M	E	M	O	P	A	D	T	A	B	L	E	T	E	N	N	I	S		
C	A	K	E	P	O	P	S	S	I	C	E	M							
T	H	E	A	T	E	R	O	R	G	A	N	S	T	E	I	N	W	A	Y
R	A	I	N	S	F	L	E	A	O	A	T	N	A	I	V	E			
A	I	D	A	G	I	L	L	A	F	T	E	R	D	I	N	N	E	R	
C	R	E	D	A	R	E	S	B	E	R	N	I	E	C	A	R	B		
T	Y	R	I	A	G	E	N	E	S	E	A	S	O	N	E	T	T	A	

SCRAMBLERS
solution

1. Repute; 2. Impede; 3. Parse; 4. Launch

Today's Word
MUSTACHE

FEAR & KNIGHT
answer

C	R	O	W	D				
I	O							
I	M	P	O	S	E			
O	N	E			I			
W	M	E	N	A	C	E		
A	O				E	O		
R	R				W	E	P	T
I	D	L	E					
L								

Weekly SUDOKU
Answer

4	2	8	7	5	1	3	9	6
1	9	7	3	4	6	2	8	5
3	6	5	2	9	8	7	1	4
9	4	6	5	1	7	8	2	3
8	7	2	9	6	3	4	5	1
5	3	1	4	8	2	6	7	9
7	5	3	6	2	9	1	4	8
6	1	4	8	7	5	9	3	2
2	8	9	1	3	4	5	6	7



PUZZLE TIME



FEAR & KNIGHT

By: rj johnson

DOUBT? ... OR DARE!

CPO
SOMPIE
DOCWR
♥ DIEL
NEACEM
♥ NEO
PWTE
OLERM
OWO
DWIRNA
♥ EWSNI
♥ IREM

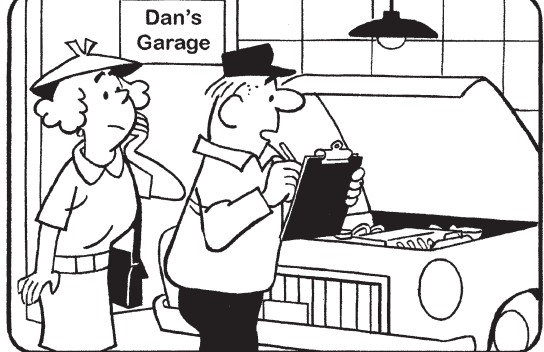
Unscramble these twelve letter strings to form each into an ordinary word (ex. HAGNEC becomes CHANGE). Prepare to use only ONE word from any marked (♥) letter string as each unscrambles into more than one word (ex. ♥RATHE becomes HATER or EARTH or HEART). Fit each string's word either across or down to knot all twelve strings together.

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Light is moved; 2. Shape of grille is different; 3. Belt is higher; 4. Arm is moved; 5. License plate is smaller; 6. Cap is different.

MAGIC MAZE • THINGS CANADIAN

D N L J G E G N I K S C S Z
X V L T R P F P N L S J H E E
C A Y L W L U M B E R J A C K
V O O B A B U R N E T R A N E
P N L N K B I E Y G A R E I N
C B N Z X W T E E S I V U V I
S E K A L I K O S B E S E O T
L R P O L C M L O J I L G R U
E S R O O D T U O F D B P P O
A Y P H X T N E M A I L R A P
W U T S Q P O N L K J H G F M

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally. Unlisted clue hint: FURRY DAM BUILDER

- Caribou
- Flannel
- Football
- Hockey
- Lakes
- Lumberjack
- Maple syrup
- Moose
- Outdoors
- Parliament
- Politeness
- Poutine
- Provinces
- Rubaboo
- Skiing

Super Crossword

POSTPRANDIAL

ACROSS

1 Male cats

5 "Unto the Sons" author Gay

11 Perp's place

15 Overwhelm, as with humor

19 Getting the task done

20 Region next to Catalonia

21 Minnesota ex-governor Carlson

22 Something to belt out

23 "Save As," "Print" or "Select All"

25 Name as a source

26 Liturgical act

27 "Alas, it wasn't to be"

28 Africa's Amin

29 Destitute

30 Sponsorship

31 Small telescope

34 Diner classic

37 Ancient Celtic priest

39 Join together in a labor group

40 Message on a protective book cover

45 Breastbone

49 Holds fast (to)

50 Makes sure the task gets done

54 Kong or Koko

55 6/6/1944

56 Extracts via udders

58 Small gift for shindig guests

61 Purported psychic skill

62 — job on (messed up)

63 They propel paramecia

65 Actress Dunne

66 Spot in a hotel to book a room

70 Happen next

73 South African grassland

74 —-edged pages

75 Positive vote

78 Certain fruit bar

81 Sheriff's aides

83 U.S. tort holding gold

84 Scarfed down

85 More restless

87 Miserly sort

89 Stationery store product

92 Ping-Pong

94 Sweet snacks on sticks

98 Cry to an attack dog

99 Source of music to accompany silent films

103 Big name in concert pianos

108 Drizzles or sprinkles

109 Dog botherer

110 Cereal grain

112 Guileless

113 Verdi opera heroine

114 Fish's respiratory structure

115 Where the starts of eight answers in this puzzle might appear

118 Street — (rep in the city)

119 War god

120 Senator Sanders

121 Low- — diet

122 Model Banks

123 Heredity unit

124 See 95-Down

125 Kett of old comics

DOWN

1 Burial sites

2 Barely ahead

3 Like many toothpastes

4 Attacked like a bee

5 Confucian "way"

6 Upper limb

7 Antifungal brand

8 "Good grief!"

9 Part of SST

10 Put a stop to

11 British actor Derek

12 Melodic passage

13 While being shipped

14 Filmom's Spike or Ang

15 Person scattering seeds, say

16 Brother of Nintendo's Mario

17 Shenanigan

18 "Good grief!"

24 More chilly

29 Play on words

30 Wood-dressing tool

32 Twin of Apollo

33 Diminish

35 Engine oil, for short

36 —-gritty

38 Twilight time

40 Precious green stone

41 Tosses in

42 British fellow

43 Lock unlocker

44 Alters in size, as a photo

46 Church area with pews

47 Resting atop

48 Nothing more than

51 Cut and dried soup veggie

52 "Dynamite" singer Cruz

53 Chimps' cousins

57 Future pupae

59 Clenched hand

60 Genesis boat

62 Low grades

64 "— be a shame if ..."

66 Really regret

67 Wang of dress design

68 Examine minutely

69 Person voted in to a seat

70 Cheese from Holland

71 Statistics expert Silver

72 Goblet part

75 Auth. unknown

76 Bear or Berra

77 Past partners

79 Seismic occurrence

80 Being harshly criticized

82 Balls

83 "— Tiki"

86 "— deal!"

88 Actress Leah

90 Quebecois' national anthem

91 Butter bits

93 Takes heed

95 With

124-Across, dreaded time of the year for many allergy sufferers

96 Last words of a threat

97 Links org.

99 Land parcel

100 Fur-covered

101 Duck variety

102 Charge-free

104 "Twin Peaks" actor Jack

105 Be the champion of

106 Ward off

107 — Buena Island

111 Gillette razor

114 Chokey

115 Crunchable muscles

116 — de Janeiro

117 Lion locale

Strange BUT TRUE

By Lucie Winborne

• If you emptied a glass of water into the ocean and waited long enough to ensure that it was thoroughly mixed and distributed throughout the world's seas, then each glass of water taken from the ocean would contain around 250 molecules from that original glass.

• Euclid is the most successful textbook writer of all time. His "Elements," written around 300 B.C., has gone through more than 1,000 editions since the invention of printing.

• The Romans used poisonous lead as a sweetening agent.

• People who have had strokes in the left frontal lobes of their brains resulting in severe language loss are better able to detect lies than people without brain damage.

• Generally, centipedes do not have 100 legs. For that matter, millipedes don't have 1,000 legs. Different species of centipedes have between 30 and 346 legs, while different species of millipedes have between 40 and 750 legs.

• The east coast of Canada is closer to London, England, than the west coast of Canada.

• Sorry, Chicago, you so-called "Windy City" — you're not the windiest city in America, or even close: That honor goes to Great Falls, Montana, with an average hourly wind speed of 13.4 miles.

• The last United States president to be born in a log cabin was James Garfield, on Nov. 19, 1831.

• What's in a name, indeed! A 1964 piece by avant-garde American composer La Monte Young is titled "The Tortoise Recalling the Drone of the Holy Numbers as They Were Revealed in the Dreams of the Whirlwind and the Obsidian Gang, Illustrated by the Sawmill, the Green Sawtooth Ocelot, and the High-tension Line Stepdown Transformer."

Thought for the Day: "Basically, the first half of life is writing the text, and the second half is writing the commentary on that text." — Richard Rohr

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

	2		5	3	
	7		6	8	
3		2			4
	4		7	2	
	2	9			1
5			8	6	
	3	2		4	
6			5	9	
8	1				7

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦

- ♦ Moderate
- ♦♦ Challenging
- ♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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SNOWFLAKES

by Japheth Light

There are 13 black hexagons in the puzzle. Place the numbers 1 - 6 around each of them. No number can be repeated in any partial hexagon shape along the border of the puzzle.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦

- ♦ Easy
- ♦♦ Medium
- ♦♦♦ Difficult

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Play Better Golf with JACK NICKLAUS

MATCH YOUR PUTTER TO YOUR STROKE.

IF YOU PUTT BEST WITH A LONG, FLOWING ACTION, GO FOR A LONG-SHAFTED, HEAVY-HEADED CLUB.

IF YOUR NATURAL STYLE IS A MORE RAPPING OR TAPPING TYPE OF STROKE, YOU'LL ALMOST CERTAINLY PUTT BEST WITH A FAIRLY SHORT-SHAFTED, LIGHT- OR MEDIUM-WEIGHT CLUB.

SCRAMBLERS

Unscramble the letters within each rectangle to form four ordinary words. Then rearrange the boxed letters to form the mystery word, which will complete the gag!

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Viva Raw voluntarily recalls certain pet food

Viva Raw LLC, Hillsborough, NC is voluntarily recalling dog and cat foods, including the Viva Turkey for Dogs Ground, Viva Turkey for Dogs Chunked, Viva Turkey for Cats, Viva Pure Turkey, and Viva Beef & Turkey for Puppies, all manufactured under Lot 21244. This lot, which includes these five products, is contaminated with *Listeria monocytogenes* and poses a potential health risk to people and pets, according to a notice at www.fda.gov/safety.

Listeria monocytogenes can cause serious and sometimes fatal infections in pets eating contaminated products. People can become exposed to this pathogen through multiple routes such as handling the contaminated products, contact with pets that have eaten contaminated products and/or contact with surfaces that have touched contaminated food, such as bowls, utensils, or countertops. The risk of human illness from *Listeria monocytogenes* contaminated pet food increases if people do not thoroughly wash their hands after handling the food or having contact with their pet, or by not thoroughly cleaning contaminated surfaces.

Healthy people infected with *Listeria monocytogenes* may experience some or all of the following symptoms: nausea, vomiting, aches, fever and diarrhea. *Listeria monocytogenes* infections can spread through the bloodstream to the nervous system (including the brain), resulting in meningitis and other potentially fatal illnesses. Pregnant women are especially susceptible to *Listeria* infection, which can result in miscarriage. The young, the elderly, and people with weak immune systems are more vulnerable to infection. People exhibiting signs of *Listeria monocytogenes* infection after having contact with recalled product(s) or a pet that has eaten



recalled product(s) should contact their healthcare providers.

Listeria monocytogenes illnesses in pets are rare, and infected pets may display symptoms such as mild to severe diarrhea, anorexia, fever, nervous, muscular and respiratory signs, miscarriage, depression, shock and death. Pets exposed to contaminated food can be infected without showing symptoms. Infected pets, even if they do not show symptoms, can act as carriers and transfer *Listeria monocytogenes* through their feces and saliva into the home environment and to people and other pets in the household. If your pet has eaten the recalled product(s) and has symptoms of *Listeria monocytogenes* infection, please contact your veterinarian.

The products were distributed directly to consumers in all fifty states and the District of Columbia.

Only products from Lot 21244 are affected, Viva Raw is notifying all customers who were shipped any Turkey or Beef & Turkey for Puppies products between May 16 and June 28, 2024.

No illnesses related to this lot have been reported to date.

The product is distributed as frozen 1 lb. bricks in clear vacuum packaging. Please see the examples of some of the product labels. There are no expiration dates for these products.

The issue was discovered during a facility inspection conducted by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and The North Carolina Department of Agriculture (NCDA). The FDA tested samples of Viva Turkey for Dogs and found samples from Lot 21244 were positive for *Listeria monocytogenes*. All products produced in Lot 21244 were slated for destruction. However, we have since learned some of the product from this lot was inadvertently released from the warehouse.

If you find that you have prod-

ucts from Lot 21244, please contact Viva Raw at info@vivarawpets.com for a refund on any remaining product—you should then destroy the food in a way that children, pets, and wildlife cannot access. Do not feed the recalled product to pets or any other animals.

The FDA recommends humans do not touch the contaminated food product with their bare hands. While wearing gloves or using paper towels, place the contaminated food in a sealed plastic bag and throw it in the garbage. Areas that may have come in contact with the contaminated product should be sanitized. Do not sell or donate the recalled products.

If you have any questions, email info@vivarawpets.com or call/text (919) 371-8882 between 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. EST Monday to Friday.

Submit your community news and photos to dhall@theenterprise.net and be sure to like the Henry County Enterprise on Facebook

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Police officers sworn in, promoted Monday

The Martinsville Police Department held a Swearing-in and Promotion ceremony in the Martinsville Circuit Courtroom on Monday. New officers are Ryan O'Hara, Matthew Huxley, Dakoda Harmon, Christina Frick,

Khalil Morris, and Joel Hernandez. New Detectives are Tucker Brown, Adam Parnell, and Steven Rogers (not pictured). Newly promoted Sergeants: Jason Griffith, William Warnick, and Johnathan Cox (not

pictured). Newly promoted Lieutenant: Justin Willard (not pictured). Newly promoted Captain: Benjamin Peters.



Martinsville Police Capt. Benjamin Peters (right) is pictured with Martinsville Police Chief Robert "Rob" Fincher. Peters was among those promoted and/or sworn-in during a Monday ceremony.



Martinsville Police Sgts. William Warnick (left) and Jason Griffith (right) are pictured with Police Chief Rob Fincher (center).



New Martinsville Police Officers were sworn in Monday: Ryan O'Hara, Matthew Huxley, Dakoda Harmon, Christina Frick, Khalil Morris, and Joel Hernandez. Police Chief Rob Fincher is pictured on the left.



Martinsville Police Chief Rob Fincher (left) is pictured with a group of officers at a swearing in and promotions ceremony held Monday.



Chief Rob Fincher (left) is pictured with new detectives Tucker Brown and Adam Parnell.



Martinsville Police Chief Rob Fincher (left) is pictured with a group of officers at a swearing in and promotions ceremony held Monday.

We are hiring!

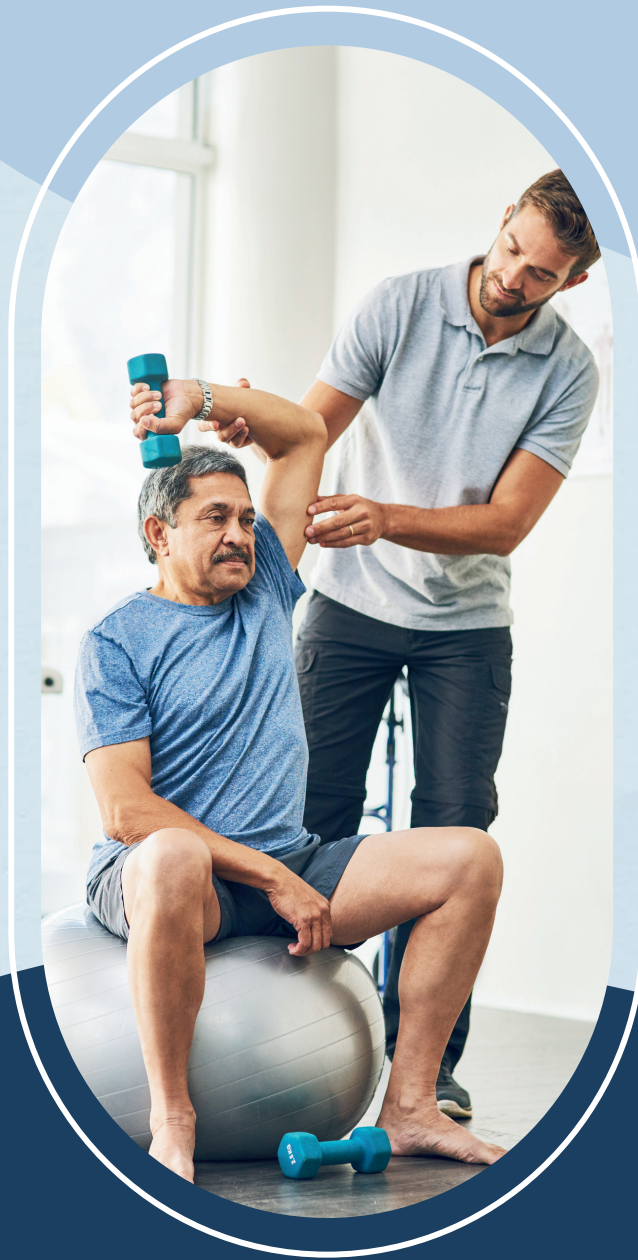
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w / resume/CV to cress.jones@spectrummed.com

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