

THURSDAY, JANUARY 29, 2026

(USPS-6)

www.henrycountyenterprise.com • \$1.50

## County officials explain reassessment process to residents

By Taylor Boyd

More than 50 Henry County residents attended the second real estate reassessment community information session on January 20 to learn what the assessment is, how it's done, and any potential impacts it could have.

### What is a Reassessment

Commissioner of Revenue Tiffany Hairston said the property reassessment is the formal review of property values conducted to ensure each property is taxed fairly based on its current market value.

"It's conducted by our office. Local governing bodies, we do it every four years. It's been five years since our last one due to getting an extension," she said.

Hairston's office uses arm's length sales to determine the property's value, or market value.

"Arm's length sales are sales that are good sales. If a relative sold a parcel to another relative, that is not considered a good sale. All the sales that went on through the county since January 1, 2022, we didn't use because it wasn't considered a good sale," she said.

The reassessment doesn't mean taxes will increase, Hairston said.

"Tax rates are set separate from their value, and it's always set after reassessments, so that will be sometime in the spring. We can't tell you what that's going to look like on your bill. It's just simply we're talking about assessed values here," he said.

All homeowners and business owners of both industrial and commercial properties are directly affected by the reassessment. Hairston said

tenants may be indirectly impacted if their landlords adjust rent based on tax changes.

Hairston said reassessments are made to fairly distribute the tax burden and redistribute everything to a fair market value.

Reassessments are also required by law at regular intervals to maintain transparency and equity.

If localities don't hold regularly scheduled reassessments, Hairston said the county could lose its state funding.

A locality could also lose funding if the sales study ratio isn't between 70 to 130, as it's considered proof that the reassessment failed to meet the burden of fair market value.

### Misconceptions

Hairston said the reassessments are not driven by a county's need to generate revenue.

"We do not do these to have a big revenue boom. The state doesn't even allow it. They have certain stipulations on what can happen based on these, so you're not going to see a big windfall of revenue coming through based off reassessments," she said.

Hairston's office also doesn't create reassessed numbers, but relies on methodologies.

"We contacted local contractors for the cost of building new. We made sure we got everything for this reassessment from Henry County," she said.

Hairston said her office is also out looking at properties in the county every day.

"We have a lot of parcels. We do the best we can to get to as many of them as we can. We're

(See County p. 6)



Martinsville Mayor LC Jones spoke briefly after the court hearing last week.

## Protective order against Rawls dismissed; petition to remove Jones moves forward

By Jessica Dillon

A protective order filed by Mayor LC Jones against Council member Aaron Rawls was dismissed Jan. 22, while a petition to remove Jones from office was verified and sent to Commonwealth's Attorney Patrick Flinn for review.

Jones filed the protective order following a heated Jan. 8 City Council meeting. He alleged Rawls posed a threat to his safety, citing a video in which Rawls could be heard saying he would "put them in the dirt" in reference to anyone threatening Council member Julian Mei.

Jones said he interpreted the comment as a threat against his own life. Rawls countered that Jones had been the aggressor on at least three occasions. Mei testified about the night Rawls made the comment and provided two additional examples of what he described as Jones acting "aggressively."

After dismissing Mei, Rawls requested the court wait for a second witness who was en route, but substitute Circuit Court Judge Wallace Covington denied the request. Covington said he had "not seen a case like this," but noted he had personal experience in politics.

Covington ruled there was no "imminent" threat to Jones, but told Rawls he had crossed a line with his comments and urged both officials to work together for the good of the city.

Later that evening, Flinn issued a press release confirming the petition to remove Jones had been verified. "The General Registrar was given a copy of the petition to certify it was properly filed; this included a review of the signatures. I have been informed that the General Registrar has completed that process and has certified the petition. Pursuant to VA Code 24.2-235(C)," Flinn said.

Flinn also filed a motion on Jan. 14, requesting that a special prosecutor review the case. He cited potential conflict of interest concerns. "I received a copy of this petition. I directly filed a motion with the Court. That motion was denied," Flinn said.

Flinn said he is reviewing the petition himself. (See Protective Order p. 3)



Business owners and city leaders met at Be Wicked Diner on Jan. 21 to discuss meals tax rates, marketing, and other issues affecting Uptown Martinsville.

## City leaders, business owners gather to address Uptown concerns

By Jessica Dillon

Business owners and city officials met Jan. 21 at Be Wicked Diner in Martinsville to discuss challenges facing Uptown businesses, including the city's meals tax and marketing issues.

The meeting was hosted by restaurant owners Kathy and David Kitzmiller. Along with business representatives, several city leaders attended, including Mayor LC Jones, Council

member Julian Mei, and Interim City Manager Rob Fincher.

David Kitzmiller raised concerns about the city's higher meals tax, which he said acts as a barrier for customers. "We've paid, since we opened in June, probably around \$50,000 for meals tax. But what that tax really is, is basically a tariff on people that want to come out to

(See City Leaders p. 2)

## Bassett business reopens after building damage



The baskets are filled with fresh produce at Bassett Farmer's Market, which reopened Jan. 12.

By Jessica Dillon

The Bassett Farmers' Market reopened Monday, Jan. 12, following months of repairs after the demolition of an adjoining building caused the market's roof to collapse last year.

Owner Tine Furr said the closure happened abruptly after county officials raised safety concerns about the neighboring two-story building.

"The county came in on Monday, inspection they had a com-

plaint about the adjoining building, the two-story, and wanted to inspect ours, which, of course, I agreed to," Furr said.

"On Tuesday, he brought in an architect to see the integrity of our building.

So, on that Friday, they came in, looking at what the inspector did, at 3 o'clock, after all of our vendors' deliveries, and gave us paper. We had till 8 p.m. to empty the building, and not to return," she said.

The adjoining building had been condemned, and officials were aware the farmers market roof could potentially collapse.

"We were very upset about it, but at the same time, we understood completely," Furr said. "So the day the county hired a contractor, which I will not name, to take that building down, as they were taking it down, it did fall over and collapse. So that day, there were a lot of uncertainties."

Furr said the contractor was fully responsible for the damage to the farmers

market building, but only replaced part of the roof.

"They did replace a partial roof. We had leaks back here that we never had before. We had water damage done to the walls. They refused to fix it," she said. "There wasn't an inch in our storefront that was not destroyed. They refused to fix that."

Furr said she and her husband decided to move forward with reopening the store on their own.

"We decided we weren't waiting. We were ready. Our community and us had been waiting for over a year," she said. "So we checked out of pocket and did what we had to do. We had to redo the whole storefront."

Because they had sold off equipment and products during the closure, Furr said

they rebuilt the store gradually.

"We had started over," she said. "So each week we just bought an ice cream cooler, and the next week, we made a produce stand. The next week, we just kept doing that until we could

(See Bassett p. 12)

VISIT HTTP://WWW.HENRYCOUNTYENTERPRISE.COM FOR MORE UPDATES



# 2026 Kickoff Dinner

## Colonel George Waller Chapter Sons of the American Revolution

Tuesday, February 10, 2026, 6:00 P.M.

Hugo's Restaurant & Sports Bar, Uptown Martinsville



Guest Speaker  
Sheriff  
Wayne Davis  
County of Henry

## Davis to speak at SAR Kickoff Dinner

The Colonel George Waller Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution will start the new year with a 2026 Kickoff Dinner on Tuesday, February 10, at 6 p.m., at Hugo's Restaurant & Sports Bar in Uptown Martinsville.

Henry County Sheriff Wayne Davis will be the guest speaker who will share insights into current developments in local law enforcement and discuss the evolution of the recently adopted 1777

Sheriff's Department uniform patch which honors the County's 249-year history.

During the dinner, the chapter will present Sheriff Davis with the Law Enforcement Commendation in recognition of his distinctive service and devotion in the field of law enforcement and public safety. Also, Scott Norman will receive the Bronze Good Citizenship Medal in recognition of his noteworthy community achievements. A brief

report from the Annual Convention of the Virginia Society of the Sons of the American Revolution will be presented, sharing any awards received.

"This event promises to be a memorable and meaningful evening of fellowship, recognition, and history, and we hope you will join us," Andy Doss, chapter president, said.

The public is welcome, and all attendees are responsible for

the costs of meals. The SAR is a non-profit, non-partisan organization dedicated to honoring Revolutionary War patriot ancestors by promoting patriotism, serving our communities, and educating and inspiring future generations about the founding principles of our country. If you plan to attend, please respond on the Facebook event at <https://www.facebook.com/share/17xbAbHeyg/> or email Doss at [andydoss@vt.edu](mailto:andydoss@vt.edu).

## City Leaders

(cont. from page 1)

eat and market them," he said.

He added that customers in the city pay 7 percent on meals, compared with 6.3 percent in the county. "They have to pay 7 percent more than they would when they step outside of city limits. I know it started out as 4 percent back in 1993. There's a small business impact. The Chipotles and McDonald's in the world, they can absorb that."

Fincher said the city is considering adjustments to avoid driving customers to the county. "We don't want to create this competition where people would rather go to the county than come to the city," he said. He noted that meals tax revenue has historically gone toward school capital projects, but state proposals could allow revenue to be used differently, such as a penny sales tax.

"It's this weird, delicate balance that we have to do in trying to determine which is the best source of being able to be operational, but at the same time, not penalize our businesses," Fincher said.

Jones agreed that the meals tax merits review. "I quickly just looked up 10 different counties and cities, and we were the highest across the board in that range. The two higher cities I found, Charlottesville and Hampton, were 7 to 7.5 percent. That makes no sense. I can see the impact of it, and I don't know what the actual revenue generation is from that 7 percent," he said.

Other topics included visitors struggling to find parking and difficulty accessing Uptown information. Several business owners suggested improved marketing and on-site resources.

"Sometimes they're waiting an hour or two for artwork to get drawn up. What are they going to do? Well, we're right here in Uptown, and there's all this great shopping," said Lara Blair, owner of Blu Tattoo. "Every client from out of town marvels at how adorable Martinsville is."

Blair added that local residents often overlook Uptown. "Who knew that Martinsville had this cute little Uptown? Why, it's like Floyd,



The meeting provided a forum for issues and potential solutions to be discussed.



Martinsville Mayor LC Jones, right, addressed the attendees.

like Asheville. We hear this all the time, and yet people here don't seem to appreciate it. If they do know it's here, they're still confused about parking and directions."

Attendees discussed having someone near the Big Chair in Uptown Martinsville to provide physical guides and mailers for visitors,

and explored other marketing strategies to help promote Uptown businesses.

In addition to the hosts, business owners attending the event include BluTattoo Studio, Glitzy Mermaidz, Phoenix Karate, Studio 107, SWVA Acupuncture, LLC, What's Your Sign?, and Bauble Noelle.

## Applications now accepted for nonprofit management program

The Dan River Nonprofit Network is now accepting applications for the 2026 Duke Nonprofit Management Certificate Program, a highly regarded professional development program designed to strengthen leadership and operational capacity within nonprofit organizations.

The program is ideal for nonprofit professionals, board members, volunteers, faith based leaders, and individuals transitioning from the private sector who are seeking a comprehensive foundation in nonprofit management.

"This program is a critical workforce development investment for our region," said Evelyn Riley, Executive Director of the Dan River Nonprofit Network. "Through our partnership with Duke, we are building a strong pipeline of nonprofit leaders who are better equipped to manage people, resources, and mission-driven work. With more than 250 alumni across

the region, the impact of this program extends well beyond individual participants – strengthening organizations, improving service delivery, and supporting the long-term health of our nonprofit sector that directly supports our community."

Applicants must live in and/or support nonprofit work within the Dan River Nonprofit Network service area, which includes Danville City, Pittsylvania County, Caswell County, Martinsville City, and Henry County. Participants are required to commit to attending all eight sessions, which are held on Tuesdays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on the following dates: March 24, 31; April 14, 21, 28; May 5, 12, 19.

Topics covered include Board Development and Governance; Financial Management; Human Resources and Employment Law; Teamwork and Organizational Culture; Planning and

Evaluation; Volunteer Engagement; Community Engagement and Collaboration; Succession Planning; and Nonprofit Compliance.

Due to grant funding, the program is offered at a significantly reduced rate. The cost is \$150 for Dan River Nonprofit Network members and \$400 for non-members (regular cost: \$2,250).

Applications are available at <https://link.danrivernonprofits.org/2026>. Duke Fee waivers may be available for participants needing financial assistance.

Contact Kirsten Aherron at [kirsten@danrivernonprofits.org](mailto:kirsten@danrivernonprofits.org) or 434- 285-2100 ext. 703. Those unsure of their membership status may contact Kellie Wyatt at [kellie@danrivernonprofits.org](mailto:kellie@danrivernonprofits.org) or 434-285-2100 ext. 702. Individuals who are not currently members may join the Dan River Nonprofit Network at <https://danrivernonprofits.org/join/>.

**email us**  
DHALL@THEENTERPRISE.NET

# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

## Meetings

### Thursday, January 29, 2026

Henry County School Board Public Hearing FY27 Budget Priorities - 5:30 p.m., Henry County Administration Building, 3300 King's Mountain Road, 3rd Floor Boardroom, Martinsville.

### Thursday, February 5

Henry County School Board meets, 5:30 p.m., Career Academy, 340 Ridgedale Drive, Martinsville.

## Events

### Thursday, January 29 - Saturday, January 31

Guess Who's Coming To Dinner? 7 p.m., Theatreworks, 44 Franklin Street, Martinsville.

### Saturday, January 31

9th House Grand Opening, 11 a.m., 15E Church St., Martinsville.

Dear Debbie Release Party, Magnolia & Main Books, 5 - 8 p.m., 810 Main Street, Ridge-way.

### Saturday, February 7

First Saturday Outing with the Dan River Basin Association, 10 a.m., an approximately 3.5 mile hike on the Paw Path and the Dick & Willie Passage Trail (D&W) starting from the river access at the Smith River Sports Complex in Axton. This hike is a moderate out and back, first on the natural surface Paw Path from the river access to the paved D&W along the Smith River and Mulberry Creek. Outings and meetings of the Dan River Basin Association are open to the public without charge.

Storytime, 10 a.m., the Hylton Library, 475 Spencer Penn Road, Spencer. Free program, fit for all ages, no registration needed.

Bug Day, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Virginia Museum of Natural History, 21 Starling Avenue, Martinsville.

### Friday, February 13

Music Night at Spencer Penn, with the White Oak Ramblers

Bluegrass Band in the Alumni Hall. Gate opens at 5 p.m.; the band starts at 6:30 p.m. Admission is a \$5 CASH donation. Concessions will be sold.

## Ongoing

Piedmont Arts' Food Drive for Grace Network Food Pantry. Donations of nonperishable food and hygiene products may be dropped off at Piedmont Arts during regular business hours — Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. For more information, visit [PiedmontArts.org](http://PiedmontArts.org).

BINGO on Mondays, Horsepasture Volunteer Fire Department, 17815 A.L. Philpott Highway, Ridgeway. Doors open at 5 p.m., games start at 7 p.m. Concessions are available.

Uptown Pub Run, Mondays, 6 p.m., meets at The Ground Floor, Martinsville.

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

Bassett Ruritan Club, 277 Philpott Dam Road, Bassett, hosts breakfast on the 2nd Saturday of each month, \$9 for adults, and \$4 for children under 12. All you can eat, sausage, fried bologna, eggs, cooked apples, sausage gravy, 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.

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.

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. Free, but donations will be used by the club to pay for electricity etc.

The Fontaine Ruritan Club hosts Bingo every Tuesday, 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.

Bingocize at Spencer-Penn Centre. Play Bingo and prevent falls with simple exercises. This free class is offered Tuesdays at 10 a.m.

Chair Aerobics at Spencer Penn Centre, Tuesdays at 9 a.m. with Judi Perrin; \$5 fee, 45 minutes of exercise, strength building and fun.

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

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.

The Martinsville-Henry County Democratic Committee meets on the first Thursday of the month at 6:30 p.m. at New College Institute on Fayette Street (park on Moss St.). RSVP at [mhcdeva.org/meeting-rsvp](http://mhcdeva.org/meeting-rsvp) for Zoom link.

## Solar advocates in Va. rally against proposed metering rule change



Around 45,000 Virginia households have a residential solar installation. (Adobe Stock)

### By Zamone Perez

#### Virginia News Connection

Clean-energy advocates are asking Virginia's utility regulator to reject a proposal from Dominion Energy to change metering rules for new solar panel users.

The proposal by Dominion Energy means people with solar panels installed might end up having to pay the company, even when they generated enough electricity to cover their usage. It would also change how excess energy is measured — from a yearly measurement to one every 30 minutes.

That means it would be virtually impossible for people to bank kilowatts during low-usage months to make up for high-usage months — and lead to higher energy bills for solar users.

Brandon Praileau, the Virginia program director with Solar United Neighbors, said the proposal could make solar a bad investment for individuals and communities.

"They would then have to pay a little bit if they were to produce the same amount and consume the same amount," said Praileau. "The

new rate that Dominion is proposing would leave them with some financial balance to pay to Dominion towards their energy bill."

Dominion has framed the issue as a matter of fairness to those who are not solar users — and reflects the real-time realities of energy usage that face the grid.

According to Environment Virginia, the Commonwealth is a leader in renewable energy generation. Solar arrays in Virginia generated enough electricity to power 750,000 homes in 2024.

Praileau added that if Dominion's proposal is approved, it could force many solar installers, often local businesses, to cut jobs.

"This proposal would literally have an outsized impact on people's abilities to feed their families," said Praileau. "If there's a downward trend in interest for solar, that means more smaller, residential installers may have to close or lay people off."

More than 5,000 people in the Commonwealth are employed in the solar industry, according to a George Mason University report.

## PRCJTA earns national accreditation

The Piedmont Regional Criminal Justice Training Academy (PRCJTA) has earned Cognia® Accreditation, a nationally recognized mark of quality for educational institutions. Cognia is a nonprofit organization that provides quality assurance for schools, school districts, and education service providers.

"Accreditation as conferred by the Cognia Global Accreditation Commission provides Piedmont Regional Criminal Justice Training Academy a nationally recognized mark of quality for our school," shared Ben Rea, Executive Director of PRCJTA. "It demonstrates to our community our commitment to excellence, our willingness to enact meaningful change based on evaluation and feedback, and our desire to be the best we can be on behalf of the students we serve."

Cognia recognizes schools across the globe that meet rigorous standards focused on productive learning environments, equitable resource allocation, and effective leadership. To earn Cognia accreditation, a school must submit to internal and external review. Earning accreditation from the Cognia Global Accreditation Commission means that the school meets Cognia Performance Standards and maintains a commitment to continuous improvement. Schools in good standing can maintain their accreditation for a six-year term.

Dr. Mark A. Elgart, president and CEO of Cognia, said, "Cognia Accreditation is a rigorous process that focuses the entire school and its community on the primary goal of ensuring all students can

flourish in engaging and equitable learning environments. We commend Piedmont Regional Criminal Justice Training Academy for meeting high standards and making progress on key indicators that impact student learning."

Cognia is the parent organization of the North Central Association Commission on Accreditation and School Improvement (NCA CASI), Northwest Accreditation Commission (NWAC) and the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Council on Accreditation and School Improvement (SACS CASI). Parents and interested community members can learn more about Cognia Accreditation at [cognia.org](http://cognia.org)

An Accreditation Celebration event is set to be held at 1 p.m. on Monday, February 23, at the New College Institute. This event is open to the public and will include remarks from academy leadership, as well as recognition of the accreditation milestone and other special events.

"We are incredibly proud of our partnership with the Piedmont Criminal Justice Training Academy and of their achievement in earning this accreditation," said Joe Sumner, New College Institute executive director. "This milestone reflects PRCJTA's unwavering commitment to excellence, innovation, and realistic training for law enforcement professionals. We look forward to continuing our partnership to expand advanced training opportunities—such as the MILO Range Theater Simulator—that prepare officers to serve and protect their communities with skill, confidence, and professionalism."

## Protective Order

(cont. from page 1)



Council member Aaron Rawls is pictured after the hearing in Martinsville.

self. "I am now tasked to promptly review the petition and to determine if valid grounds exist. I have already started this review, and it is my top priority. Please note, there is not a time limit on this review. This review must be thorough. As required by the statute, I will act promptly."

He asked the public for patience. "... This case includes multiple years of allegations that I must

review. I would like to remind the community that" a previous matter "that was handed over to the special prosecutor had over a thousand pages of documents. That matter did not include recent allegations. Additionally, for the Chief Law Enforcement Officer to now be involved reviewing an issue that is related to the electoral process, requires careful and thorough consideration."

## OPINION

## Tax Season Hurts a Little Less



**Morgan Griffith**

Representative

The issue of higher costs continues to be a major theme in conversations.

During the Biden-Harris Administration, I spoke with many Ninth District residents who voiced their concerns with the U.S. economy.

Despite Democratic officials' insistence that our economy was doing fine, many in the country felt differently.

Accordingly, in 2024, the American people elected a Republican trifecta in part to fix inflation, stimulate the economy and grow your pocketbooks.

I agree that Congress needs to do more to help lower costs. Our progress in accomplishing this goal should come into focus as Americans prepare for the tax filing season.

Monday, January 26, 2026, marks the first day of the tax filing season. From then until Wednesday, April 15, 2026, the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) will collect approximately 164 million individual tax returns!

For many Ninth District families, organizing W-2, 1099 and other tax forms can be a stressful and frustrating process.

While filing taxes is no fun, it is worth highlighting the pro-growth tax provisions that Congress passed last year and that President Trump signed into law.

I worked with Republicans to put together a reconciliation package, now called the "Working Families Tax Cuts," to help stimulate growth, strengthen our economy and provide tax relief

to all people, including working families.

Democrats claim this bill only benefits big businesses and the very wealthy.

But let's examine some of the provisions to see who actually benefits from the "Working Families Tax Cuts."

A signature provision in the reconciliation package is the permanent extension of the 2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA).

The TCJA provisions were set to expire at the end of 2025. If Congress did not act, American families would have seen dramatic tax increases.

Many families filing their taxes would have seen their standard deduction slashed from \$30,000 to \$16,000. This would have forced those families to pay even more in taxes.

I voted to stop this harmful tax hike!

Other essential working class-friendly provisions include no taxes on tips and no taxes on hourly overtime.

This brand new policy is bound to reward our restaurant servers, manufacturing workers and other blue-collar laborers by letting them keep more of their hard-earned money.

Republicans also delivered a "senior bonus", where those who collect social security retirement can claim an additional \$6,000 deduction.

The reconciliation bill not only provides tax help for working people, but for businesses and communities as well.

Republicans restored 100% bonus depreciation. This allows businesses to take an accelerated full depreciation in the year they purchase new equipment. This gives businesses more purchasing power in the present as opposed to waiting a few more years before they justify a purchase.

Accelerated depreciation helps all businesses. And yes, even big businesses.

But big businesses can shift assets around and cover the cost of a slower depreciation schedule. Small businesses often have cash flow issues and the ability to take the cost of the equipment

off their income taxes more quickly is a big advantage.

Further, rural businesses and communities are especially primed to capitalize thanks to the permanent extension of Opportunity Zones.

Also created in 2017, the bipartisan Opportunity Zone policy incentivizes investments in economically distressed regions of the country.

It is a win-win policy, where investors receive boosted tax incentives and local communities become engines for renewed economic activity and increased job opportunity.

In the reconciliation package, we sweetened the tax benefits for Opportunity Zones in rural regions. The investment threshold for improving a facility is reduced and the capital gains placed into rural investments are subject to a tax discount at a rate triple non-rural investments.

As Opportunity Zone eligibility and maps are determined ahead of 2027, I look forward to the economic prospects that Opportunity Zones bring to Virginia's rural communities.

We are already seeing our rural communities take advantage of tax policies that we promoted in the reconciliation package.

The New Markets Tax Credit (NMTC), which the reconciliation bill permanently extended, was recently credited for helping begin construction of a new medical office building in Tazewell, Virginia!

I believe that more community success stories will follow in rural Virginia thanks in part to the tax provisions that Republicans advanced in the reconciliation package.

Despite misleading claims, the reconciliation package tax policies are pro-small business, pro-rural, pro-working class and pro-growth!

As Republicans continue to work to rectify the inflation disaster created by the Biden-Harris economy, I am determined to promote policies that strengthen your financial prospects, boost your economic freedoms and protect you from harmful tax increases.



A photo from September 1953 of the original structure of the church (now the basement) that faces Daniels Creek Road. (Photo credit: Stone Memorial Christian Church)

## Community Chronicles

By **Jarred Marlowe**

For more than seventy years, Stone Memorial Christian Church has stood as a spiritual landmark in Collinsville, shaped by faith, community cooperation, and a shared commitment to Christian service.

The church traces its beginnings to September 1952, when a

three-week revival led by Duke Jones of Reidsville, North Carolina, stirred religious interest throughout the area. The revival prompted a community church survey that revealed growing support for establishing a new congregation in the expanding Collinsville community.

In February 1953, interested residents

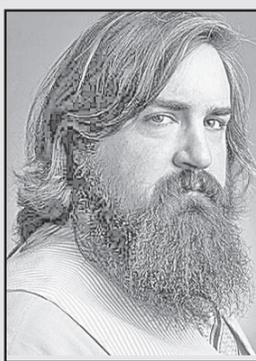
met at Calvary Christian Church in Martinsville to organize the new church. The name Stone Memorial Christian Church was selected in recognition of a generous donation from the Stone family in memory of Clayton M. Stone of Horsepasture. That gift provided the foundation for turning the congregation's vision into reality.

The church held its first official meeting on May 17, 1953, in the home of Paul and Elizabeth Shelton, where trustees were appointed and officers elected. Early worship services were conducted on Sunday evenings at Smith Memorial Methodist Church, reflecting strong cooperation among local congregations.

Soon afterward, land was purchased from Harvey Prillaman along Daniels Creek Road. Construction of the church's first sanctuary began in August 1953, and within one month the basement-level worship space was completed. Stone Memorial held its first worship service on September 27, 1953, followed by a dedication service later that afternoon led by the Rev. Barney Stevens. By October, the church counted 30 charter members and had elected its first elders and deacons. William Schuermann, a

(See Chronicles p. 5)

## What do they believe in?



By Ben R. Williams

In the wake of the murder of 37-year-old Alex Pretti at the hands of ICE agents in Minneapolis, we must ask ourselves the following question:

What, if anything, do President Donald Trump and his most ardent supporters actually believe in?

It's not law and order. If the goal of ICE was simply to deport criminal migrants, they wouldn't be in Minneapolis in enormous numbers. They would be in Texas or Florida. The only reason they're in Minnesota is because Governor Tim Walz had the audacity to join Kamala Harris' ticket and now he must be punished for it.

Do they believe in the Second Amendment? Clearly not, and I'll admit, that one came as a surprise. My entire life, I've been hearing conservative gun owners talk about how important it is for civilians to be armed in order to defend themselves from a tyrannical government. I constantly see people open carrying in grocery stores and restaurants. But suddenly, Pretti is labeled a criminal because he had a legally-purchased semi-automatic pistol that he never once touched and was removed from his person shortly before he was executed in the street like a dog by an ICE agent.

FBI Director Kash Patel said that "nobody who wants to be peaceful shows up at a protest with a firearm that is loaded with two full magazines." Trump posted to Truth Social that the gun was "loaded (with two additional full magazines!) and ready to go — What is that all about?"

If it's now a crime to own a pistol and two additional magazines for it, then an enormous number of people in this country are suddenly on the wrong side of the law, myself included.

Quite frankly, if you're anti-gun,

Trump has done more for your cause than any Democrat who's passed through the White House in my lifetime. He banned bump stocks in 2018, the same year he said that firearms should be taken from potentially dangerous people before they've had their day in court and their right to due process. Now he believes that simply owning and carrying a gun in public is indicative of criminal behavior.

Of course, he didn't believe that when Kyle Rittenhouse shot three people at a protest in Wisconsin in 2020. Rittenhouse was considered a hero and managed to become the most famous murderer who also resembles a barbecue restaurant mascot since John Wayne Gacy.

Do they believe in protecting our most vulnerable from violent criminals? No. So far, ICE's main achievements in Minneapolis seem to be shooting a mother of three in the face, executing a nurse from a VA hospital, and disappearing children. If an undocumented immigrant killed a mother and a nurse and kidnapped a bunch of children, he would be public enemy number one. When ICE agents do it, we are told that these folks got what they deserved.

Do they believe in supporting law enforcement? No, because ICE agents are only law enforcement in the most abstract sense. Generally speaking, law enforcement officers receive training and have to pass various tests and hit certain metrics. For ICE agents, the necessary qualifications seem to be "wanting a signing bonus" and "having a lot of unresolved anger due to a sneaking suspicion that you peaked in high school and you weren't even popular then."

So what, then, do Trump and his supporters actually believe in?

My suspicion is that Trump believes that if he keeps ICE in Minneapolis, someone is eventually going to shoot an ICE agent, at which point he can invoke the Insurrection Act, send in the military, and cancel the 2026 midterm elections. That may sound reactionary, but at this point, I'd be shocked if it doesn't happen.

As for Trump's supporters, they believe in Trump. They believe in him more than they believe in their loved ones, their values, their judgment, their morality, and the evidence of their eyes and ears.

To those folks, I say the following: the best time to get off this train was a decade ago. The second best time is now.

Column Sponsored by: **Dr. Mensink**

Your Community, Your Voice  
Serving Henry County, Martinsville, and Surrounding Area

**HENRY COUNTY ENTERPRISE**  
www.henrycountyenterprise.com

Published Each Thursday  
USPS - 6

PUBLISHER  
Michael Showell

EDITOR  
Debbie Hall - dhall@theenterprise.net

ADVERTISING MANAGER  
Wendi Craig - advertise@mainstreetnewspapers.com  
(276) 340-2445

GIVE US YOUR VIEW:  
The Henry County Enterprise encourages letters from our readers on topics of general interest to the community and responses to our articles and columns.

Letters must be signed and have a telephone number where you can be reached to be considered for publication. All letters will be verified before publication. The Henry County Enterprise reserves the right to deny publication of any letter and edit letters for length, content and style.

If you have news about or an upcoming event for your organization, company or church, email dhall@theenterprise.net.

The Henry County Enterprise (USPS-6) is published weekly for \$55 per year in state, \$56 per year out of state, by Virginia Media, Inc., P.O. Box 429, Lewisburg, WV 24901. Periodical postage paid at Martinsville, VA.

# OPINION

## Richmond Report: Week 2



**Del. Eric Phillips**

During the second week, Democrats pushed through legislation that would place a proposed constitutional amendment on the ballot related to congressional redistricting on April 21. If voters approve, the amendment would allow the General Assembly to temporarily redraw congressional districts for upcoming elections, before returning to Virginia's standard redistricting process after the 2030 census.

Worst of all is how they describe the amendment: Should the Constitution of Virginia be amended to allow the General Assembly to temporarily adopt new congressional districts to restore fairness in the upcoming elections, while ensuring Virginia's standard redistricting process resumes for all future redistricting after the 2030 census?

While the language of the proposal emphasizes "fairness," there are reasonable questions about both its impact and the way it has been advanced. Constitutional amendments typically receive extensive public review and debate. Rather than hold multiple hearings on the bill, they gave everyone, legislators and the public alike, only 30 minutes notice. No public comment, no chance for those opposed to give their input which usually accompanies changes of this magnitude.

As I mentioned last week, the power is in your hands now. We can stop this and the other amendments, but only if voters get to the polls and vote.

Last Monday was labeled Lobby Day in Richmond and it was great to see all the activity and groups visiting delegates and senators in the General Assembly Building and Capitol. It is always great to see friends from the district taking the opportunity to share their views on issues and ask for support on certain bills that may be coming before me in the House of Delegates. If you are planning to come to Richmond, please contact our office so that we can schedule a time to see you.



Piedmont Community Services and Danville Pittsylvania County Community Services.



Magna Vista High School Future Farmers of America.



Heidi Pinkston, executive director of Piedmont Arts in Martinsville.



Kaden Mellott of Magna Vista High School, and Lisa Laliberty from Martinsville Henry 4H.



Dr. Barbara Seymour, of Martinsville, representing Virginia Nurses Association.

## Chronicles

(cont. from page 4)

ministerial student from Lynchburg College, served as interim minister during the church's first year.

In 1954, Victor Whited, a student from Johnson Bible College in Knoxville, Tennessee, began preaching on weekends and became the church's first full-time minister in 1955. A parsonage was constructed that same year on Ford Street. Under Whited's leadership, the congregation grew steadily. Members volunteered their own labor in 1958 to help build a full sanctuary, completed in early 1959. Whited also introduced an innovative Drive-In Church service at the former Castle Drive-In Theater in Collinsville, allowing worshippers to attend services from their cars.

John Baldwin became minister in 1961 and served for twelve years, guiding the church through a major period of expansion. An educational building and fellowship hall were added in 1967 and dedicated in 1968. Lawrence Harris assumed leadership in 1973 as attendance continued to rise. By the late 1980s, the church had grown

large enough to require two Sunday morning services.

A capital campaign launched in 1991 funded construction of a new sanctuary. Ground was broken in 1993, and despite challenges such as an underground spring discovered during construction, the sanctuary opened in May 1996 and was dedicated later that year.

Youth ministry has remained a central focus throughout the church's history. In 1981, Greg Sexton became Stone Memorial's first full-time youth minister, followed by many others who continued that work. Today, under the leadership of Minister Tim Wood, Stone Memorial Christian Church continues its mission of worship, service, and outreach; honoring its past while looking confidently toward the future.

Jarred Marlowe is a local resident and historian. He is a member of the Col. George Waller Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution, the Blue & Gray Education Society, and the committee chair for the Martinsville-Henry County 250 Committee. He may be reached at marlowej15@gmail.com.

## Annual Farm Management Institutes set for February

The Farm Credit Knowledge Center will host its annual Farm Management Institutes at the West Virginia State Fairgrounds in Lewisburg, W. Va. on February 23, 2026, and at the Holiday Inn at Tanglewood in Roanoke, Va. on February 24. Dinner will be served at 5:30 p.m. and the program will begin at 6 both days.

Farm Management Institute is an annual free educational offering from the Farm Credit Knowledge Center in which participants will hear from Dr. David Kohl, Pro-

fessor Emeritus of Virginia Tech. Participants will have the opportunity to interact with Dr. Kohl as he covers two different topics at each location. Dr. Kohl will address the "Nuts and Bolts of Business Transition" in Lewisburg and "The Management Mindset of Business and Life" in Roanoke. In Lewisburg, Dr. Kohl will provide strategies, actions and tactics that are critical for success in developing, sustaining and growing agricultural businesses and operations. In Roanoke, Dr. Kohl will present

**STEP/STROLL SHOWCASE**

**February 5, 2026**

Walker Theatre  
P&HCC Campus

**FREE ADMISSION**

Doors Open at 5:30pm  
Exhibition Begins at 6:00pm

## Panhellenic Council to offer free event at P&HCC

The MHC Panhellenic Council will be partnering with P&HCC to present a Step/Stroll Showcase in Walker Theatre on February 5. This event is offered free to the community as we celebrate Black History Month. Please consider sharing with your audience - and we would love to see you there (live sharing is not permitted for this event because of music copyrights, but representatives for each group will be available for interviews fol-

lowing the event and photos and video clips are welcome).

"The members of the Panhellenic Council are honored to share both education and entertainment with the community as we celebrate Black History Month. We are excited to partner with Patrick & Henry to present the event for free on their campus and hope to see members of our community in the audience on February 5.," said Jerelle Carter, Panhellenic Council president.

key strategies that prioritize resilience, agility and nimbleness while navigating agricultural technology and innovation that may pose opportunities for your business while facing consumer demand.

Kyley Clevenger, Knowledge Center Director, shared, "Lifelong learning and networking are key components to success in any business. This year's Farm Management Institute will be beneficial and informative to agricultural producers of all experience levels,

and any size or scope of operation. Whether you are just starting the transition process for your farm, are midway through a transition or have already made the shift to the next generation, this program is for you."

Registration can be made by visiting FarmCreditofVirginias.com/Knowledge-Center/Events, calling 304-822-4173 ext. 2218 or by emailing the Knowledge Center at KnowledgeCenter@FCVirginias.com.

# CLASSIFIED

PUBLISHER'S NOTICE

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

**CLASSIFIED AD DEADLINE: MONDAY AT NOON**  
Call (276) 340-2445

## SERVICES

### Woodwrx

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

## FOR RENT

### Attention- Room For Rent

Nice & Clean, Double bed master room, fully furnished, from Martinsville 12 minutes. We rent to females 45 or older. 1 person \$369 plus \$32 for utilities, 2nd person \$137 plus \$19 for utilities. No smoking, pets or drinking in the house. Call or text: 276-790-5965.

## HELP WANTED

**Reynolds Home-**stead, within the Forest Resources and Environmental Conservation Department in the College of Natural Resources and Environment, is currently recruiting for a Farm-Forest Manager to support the FRRC with project development, installation, completion, and facility maintenance.  
Job Number: 535088; If interested, please apply through our job portal at the following link:  
<https://jobs.apply.vt.edu/jobs/farm-forest-manager-critz-virginia-virginia-united-states>

**REACH VIRGINIA** GROW YOUR BUSINESS  
REACH OVER 1 MILLION Virginia Readers Weekly  
Advertising Solutions starting at \$330  
Contact this newspaper today to get started.

**REACH VIRGINIA** GROW YOUR BUSINESS  
REACH OVER 1 MILLION Virginia Readers Weekly  
Advertising Solutions starting at \$330  
Contact this newspaper today to get started.

**REACH VIRGINIA** GROW YOUR BUSINESS  
REACH OVER 1 MILLION Virginia Readers Weekly  
Advertising Solutions starting at \$330  
Contact this newspaper today to get started.

## AUCTIONS

**ATTN. AUCTIONEERS:** Promote your upcoming auctions statewide! Affordable Print and Digital Solutions reaching your target audience. Call this paper or Landon Clark at Virginia Press Services 804-521-7576, landonc@vpa.net

## HOME IMPROVEMENT

January Kickoff Event!  
**WINDOWS • SIDING • ROOFING** — Premier Remodelers LLC. Early Season Savings — 100% Financing. Professional Installation. Licensed & Insured. 540-497-8567 | www.premierremodelers.com Limited Time Offer!

SunSetter. America's Number One Awning! Instant shade at the touch of a button. Transform your deck or patio into an outdoor oasis. Up to 10-year limited warranty. Call now and SAVE \$350 today! 1-844-746-2332

No more cleaning out gutters. Guaranteed! Leaf-Filter is the most advanced gutter protection for your home, backed by a no-clog guarantee and lifetime transferrable warranty. Call today 1-877-614-6667 to schedule a FREE inspection and no obligation estimate. Plus get 20% off! Seniors and military save an additional 10%. Restriction

apply, see representative for warranty and offer details

Prepare for power outages today with a Generac Home Standby Generator. Act now to receive a FREE 7-Year warranty with qualifying purchase. Call 1-844-947-1479 today to schedule a free quote. It's not just a generator. It's a power move.

Safe Step. North America's #1 Walk-In Tub. Comprehensive lifetime warranty. Top-of-the-line installation and service. Now featuring our FREE shower package and \$1600 Off for a limited time! Call today! Financing available. Call Safe Step 1-877-591-9950

Replace your roof with the best looking and longest lasting material steel from Erie Metal Roofs! Three styles and multiple colors available. Guaranteed to last a lifetime! Limited Time Offer – up to 50% off installation + Additional 10% off install (for military, health workers & 1st responders.) Call Erie Metal Roofs: 1-844-902-4611

The bathroom of your dreams in as little as 1 day. Limited Time Offer - \$1000 off or No Payments and No Interest for 18 months for customers who qualify.

BCI Bath & Shower. Many options available. Quality materials & professional installation. Senior & Military Discounts Available. Call Today! 1-844-945-1631

## SERVICES

**DIVORCE**-Uncontested, \$475+\$86 court cost. **WILLS**-\$295.00. No court appearance. Estimated completion time twenty-one days. Hilton Oliver, Attorney (Facebook). 757-490-0126. Se Habla Espanol. BBB Member. <https://hiltonoliver-attorneyva.com>.

Portable Oxygen Concentrator May Be Covered by Medicare! Reclaim independence and mobility with the compact design and long-lasting battery of Inogen One. Free information kit! Call 888-608-4974

We Buy Houses for Cash AS IS! No repairs. No fuss. Any condition. Easy three step process: Call, get cash offer and get paid. Get your fair cash offer today by calling Liz Buys Houses: 1-844-216-5028

Switch and save up to \$250/year on your talk, text and data. No contract and no hidden fees. Unlimited talk and text with flexible data plans. Premium nationwide coverage. 100% U.S. based customer service. For more information, call 1-855-262-5564

# LEGAL

## COUNTY OF HENRY REZONING PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

Pursuant to Section 15.2-2204 of the Code of Virginia, a series of public hearings has been scheduled for **February 11, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.** in the Summerlin Meeting Room of the County Administration Building, Kings Mountain Rd, Collinsville, Virginia. Following these public hearings, the Planning Commission will make recommendations on the applications to the Board of Supervisors. The Henry County Board of Supervisors will conduct public hearings on the following applications on **February 24, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.** in the Summerlin Meeting Room of the County Administration Building, Kings Mountain Rd, Collinsville, Virginia. The purpose of these public hearings is to receive input into the possible rezoning of property. Following are the specifics of the public hearings.  
**Case R-26-01 Patrick Rasmusel**  
The property is located at 300 Aladdin Dr, in the Ridgeway District. The property is shown on Tax Map 51.6/59.61. The applicant is requesting the rezoning of approximately 10.36-acres from Suburban Residential District S-R to Agricultural District A-1. The applicant wishes to use the property as a hobby farm, and to also allow for additional storage buildings.  
**Case R-26-02 Industrial Development Authority of Henry County**  
The property is located on the northeast side of Reservoir Rd, in the Ridgeway District. The property is shown on Tax Map 71.8/51R. The applicant is requesting the rezoning of approximately 117.9-acres from Agricultural District A-1 to Industrial District I-1. The applicant intends to develop the property for industrial use. The applications for these requests may be viewed in the Department of Planning, Zoning & Inspection between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.  
Lee H. Clark, AICP  
Director of Planning, Zoning & Inspection



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

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

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

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

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

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

Be sure to like the Henry County Enterprise on Facebook

## County

(cont. from page 1)

out all the time looking at commercial properties. People call up to come out to their property to see something specific, we're doing it all the time," she said.

In addition to the reassessment not being the tax residents pay, Hairston said they could also see a change in the value of their property even if they haven't made any improvements since the last reassessment.

"It's due to a market shift," she said.

**Residential Methodology**  
For residential properties, Hairston said there are models set up with all the same base rates, so everyone starts off the same.

The condition and location of the home and other issues beyond residents' control, like nearby solar farms, impact differences in reassessments between neighbors. "So, your square foot might be

bigger, their house might be built 10 years, 20 years after yours, I mean, all of these things go into creating the residential model," she said.

Hairston said her office applies adjustments depending on factors like the size of the dwelling, if it has heat and air conditioners, depreciation, extra features, like open porches, decks, basements, garages, and others

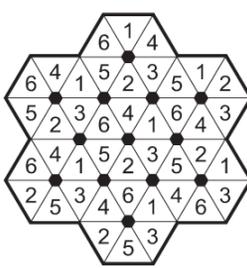
"All of those things factor into us getting the value for your property," she said, adding her office can't come inside someone's home unless they're invited by the homeowner.

Hairston also discussed the methodologies for commercial/industrial properties and income-based apartments.

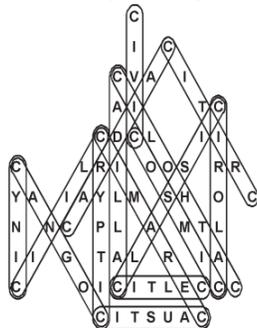
The entire two-hour information session can be viewed by going to [YouTube.com/HenryCounty,Virginia](http://YouTube.com/HenryCounty,Virginia).

## Puzzle Answers!

### SNOWFLAKES solution



### BEGINNING AND ENDING WITH "C"



### SCRAMBLERS solution

1. Caramel; 2. Code;
3. Inside; 4. Inept

Today's Word  
**INCOME**

### FEAR & KNIGHT answer



### Super Crossword

#### Answers

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

### Weekly SUDOKU

#### Answer

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

## SUPPORT COMMUNITY JOURNALISM

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

SPECIAL DEALS AND PROMOTIONS OFFERED THROUGHOUT THE YEAR!

CALL US TODAY AT (276) 340-2445



# Griffith introduces hemp-derived products legislation

U.S. Congressman Morgan Griffith, R-Salem, chairman of the House Committee on Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Health, and U.S. Congressman Marc Veasey (D-TX) introduced the Hemp Enforcement, Modernization, and Protection (HEMP) Act. This new measure is intended to create the pathway for federal regulation of cannabidiol (CBD) products. The bill creates a first-of-its-kind federal regulatory framework for hemp-derived (or CBD) products intended for human use within the Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

Currently, hemp-derived businesses operate with no federal guidance, causing states to adopt differing regulations of hemp-derived products. This has created a patchwork of state laws, essentially allowing for a wild west market for these products and raising serious public health concerns.

Griffith's HEMP Act is designed to create a future for American hemp products. By creating this pathway, it will

bring regulatory certainty and allow for safer products to be sold in the United States.

This bill only regulates hemp-derived products and not cannabis. In fact, cannabis is explicitly prohibited from being regulated through this pathway in the draft.

Following bill introduction, Griffith said, "Despite raising repeated concerns about the ongoing confusion regarding the safety, consumption and sale of CBD-containing products until a discussion draft of this bill was circulated, I believe we have yet to see meaningful progress at the federal level.

"I am proud to lead the effort in the House along with Representative Veasey to present a path forward for the federal regulation of CBD products. After discussions with stakeholders, federal officials and other relevant authorities, I believe the HEMP Act is a positive step forward to deliver federal clarity to the American hemp landscape, protecting consumers and providing a stable marketplace for

legitimate producers.

"I look forward to working with my colleagues, the Trump Administration and the FDA to perfect this bill," he added.

Griffith's measure follows months of circulating a discussion draft to receive input from industry leaders, stakeholders and agencies.

Under the HEMP Act, the FDA must initiate a rulemaking process to set milligram limits of CBD products. If the FDA fails to release a final rule within three years of the measure's enactment, federal law will automatically establish CBD intoxicating limits of 5 milligrams per serving and 30 milligrams per package.

Griffith is also a co-sponsor to H.R. 7024, the Hemp Planting Predictability Act. Federal poli-

cy related to the hemp industry was impacted by the November 2025 government funding package, which included a provision that virtually bans intoxicating hemp products. This provision is set to take effect in November 2026. The Hemp Planting Predictability Act is designed to protect American hemp farmers from what is virtually a ban on hemp products by providing a two-year extension.

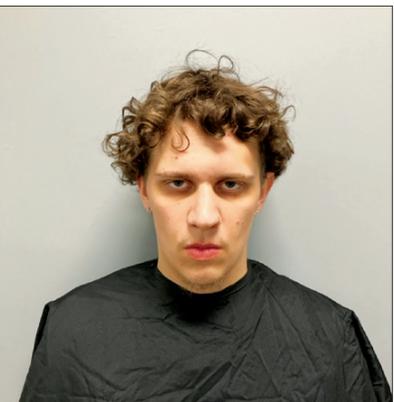
Since the 116th Congress, Griffith has worked to encourage the FDA to regulate hemp-derived products.

In fact, in September 2022, Griffith helped lead a letter with then-Health Subcommittee Chair Brett Guthrie to express frustration over President Biden's FDA and their inaction in regulating CBD products.

## Traffic stop leads to multiple arrests, items seized



Teyan Davon Jones



Dylan Scott Plogger



Some of the items seized in connection with the Jan. 20 traffic stop.

The Henry County Sheriff's Office Drug Interdiction Unit conducted a traffic stop on January 20 on Nicole Drive.

The driver of the vehicle was identified as Dylan Scott Plogger, who was found to have an outstanding drug related capias out of Franklin County, according to a release. The passenger was identified as Teyan Davon Jones.

During the stop, K9 Zajo was deployed for a free air sniff of the vehicle which allegedly resulted in a positive indication for the presence of narcotic odor. A probable cause search was conducted, and investigators located two baggies containing a white powder like substance. The substance had a combined weight of 41.8 grams and later tested positive for Fentanyl. Packaging material consistent with narcotics distribution was also located among the passenger's belongings.

Both Plogger and Jones were taken into custody.

Plogger, 22, was charged with possession of schedule I or II drugs (Fentanyl) and probation

violation (felony), from Franklin County. He is being held with no bond.

Jones, 35, also is being held with no bond on a charge of possession with the intent to distribute a Schedule I or II drug.

Investigators subsequently conducted a search warrant at 230 Nicole Drive, Martinsville. Inside a bedroom of the home, they allegedly found additional suspected Fentanyl along with scales, packaging material, and pills.

The vehicle involved, a 2005 Nissan Xterra, also was seized by law enforcement.

Fentanyl is an extremely potent synthetic opioid. As little as 2 milligrams can be fatal to most individuals. The amount seized in this case equates to approximately 21,000 potentially fatal doses.

Anyone with additional information regarding this case is encouraged to contact the Henry County Sheriff's Office at 276-638-8751 or Crime Stoppers at 63-CRIME. Information that leads to an arrest and conviction may be eligible for a cash reward.



Items seized by authorities are pictured.

## One sought after execution of search warrant

One man is being sought after a traffic stop led to search warrants being executed on Wingfield Orchard Road properties. The Henry County Sheriff's Office SWAT Team conducted the narcotics related search warrant on January 23, at two properties, 305 Wingfield Orchard Road and 323 Wingfield Orchard Road, in Henry County.

The issuance of the search warrant stemmed from a traffic stop conducted by the Narcotics Interdiction Team, according to a release from the Henry County Sheriff's Office.

During the search of the residence, investigators allegedly located an estimated 2.31 pounds of suspected methamphetamine, approximately 142 grams of suspected fentanyl, and approximately 18 grams of suspected psilocybin mushrooms.

The fentanyl seized is approximately 14,000 lethal doses of the deadly drug. Investigators also located packaging materials and an electronic scale that are consistent with the distribution of narcotics. A Ford backhoe was also seized from the property, the release stated.

As a result of the investigation, warrants were obtained for Rodney Allen Moore, 61. Moore is wanted on charges of possession of methamphetamine with intent to distribute more than 100 grams and possession of fentanyl with intent to distribute

"Fentanyl is one of the most dangerous substances we encounter, and it is destroying families across this nation," Sheriff Wayne Davis said. "These deadly drugs tear communities apart and take the lives of our loved ones. The Henry County Sheriff's Office maintains a zero-tolerance stance against those who choose to profit from narcotics at the expense of public safety."

Any person who has information regarding the location of Moore or narcotics distribution in the county is asked to contact the Henry County Sheriff's Office at 276-656-4200 or the non-emergency line at 276-638-8751. The Crime Stoppers Program offers reward money for tips that lead to an arrest and conviction. Tipsters may remain anonymous and can submit information through Crime Stoppers at 276-63-CRIME or through the tip411 app on a smartphone.

## Charges pending in fatal SUV crash

The Virginia State Police are investigating a single-vehicle crash, which resulted in a fatality. The crash occurred on Sunday, Jan. 25, at 5:15 p.m. on Moorefield Bridge Road, two tenths of a mile south of Red Bud Lane in Pittsylvania County.

A 2024 Can-Am Defender Side-by-Side was traveling south on Moorefield Bridge Road, when the vehicle lost control and overturned; partially ejecting the

passenger.

The driver, Corey Michael Pullin, 35, of Danville, Va., was injured and was taken to hospital. The passenger, 7-year-old Briggs Pullin was partially ejected and was transported to the hospital by EMS, where he later died.

Alcohol is believed to be a factor in this crash.

Charges are pending. The crash remains under investigation.

1-3-5-7-9

1-3-5

1-3-5

7-9

7-9

7-9

**tickets \$5**

**HOLLYWOOD CINEMA**

beside Walmart

276-656-3456 hollywoodcinema.net



# PUZZLE TIME



## FEAR KNOT

By: rj johnson

DOUBT? ...OR DARE!

ANC  
♥ DACERG  
ERMEC  
♥ ERDI  
♥ RIDONA  
GDU  
ONAR  
NEMIC  
♥ REA  
♥ EMREDA  
DANLE  
♥ OSGE

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 BOLTIHOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Back of chair is different. 2. Box is different. 3. Collar is missing. 4. Burner is missing. 5. Refrigerator handle is lower. 6. Stove hood is wider.

## MAGIC MAZE

● BEGINNING AND ENDING WITH "C"

EUROLJGCDAXVSPN  
KIFCAXVISCQOLJH  
ECAXVTCVARIPNLJ  
HFDCBYAIXVTTCRP  
OMKOICDCLGEIIDB  
CZXMLRIWOOSURRT  
YARIAYLMQSHOONC  
NLNCJPLIAGMTLFD  
IICGATALYRXIAWV  
CTSROICITLECCCP  
ONLKJCITSUACIGF

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally. Unlisted clue hint: SHE IS A STAND-UP —

Cadillac Caloric Cardiac Catholic  
Caustic Celtic Ceramic Civic  
Classic Clinic Cognac Cosmic  
Critic Cryptic Cynic

## Super Crossword THE THIRD PERSON

ACROSS

1 Go to  
7 Stoooge who sometimes replaced  
12 Sauna locale  
15 Defeater of Gore  
19 Time: Prefix  
20 On the briny  
21 Retained  
23 Old foxtrotdancer makes a two-in-one chess move?  
25 Makes lively  
26 Flow blockers  
27 Oct. preceder  
28 "All I Wanna Do" singer boasts?  
30 Prefix with propyl  
31 Winter hrs. in Philadelphia  
33 Lawman Wyatt  
34 Falsehood  
35 "The Finest Hours" co-star years deeply?  
40 America's first female astronaut takes a bus?  
45 Top-secret U.S. org.  
46 Starting on

48 Sanaa locale  
49 "Samson and Delilah"  
55 Conductor  
59 Big 20th-cen. conflict  
60 Actress — de Armas  
61 Universal rule  
63 "Eww, mice!"  
64 Harry Potter's skill  
66 "Play It as It Lays" co-star does a fusing job?  
72 "Middle Child" rapper  
73 In the past  
75 Spain's El —  
76 Really annoy  
77 "Broadcast News" co-star feels sore?  
80 Dirt Devil or DustBuster,  
82 "Botch" — (1952 song)  
83 Former TWA competitor  
84 Coll. in Columbus  
86 NYSE debut  
87 Rolo filling  
91 Frontwoman of Hole has a deep fondness?  
96 Cowboy rope

98 Italian money  
99 A, in Munich  
100 "Jerry Maguire" star goes sailing?  
105 "Coma" novelist makes dinner?  
110 "There — god!"  
111 Barber's cut  
113 Boise-to-Tucson dir.  
114 "Dr." of music  
115 Miami Heat great walks in water?  
120 Potentially shocking fish  
122 Writer Uris  
123 Came through, as a radio signal  
124 "Cheers" actress years?  
128 Settling fire for short  
129 Shire of film  
130 "Apparently!"  
131 Throw easily  
132 Golf gadget  
133 "Geez, that's rough!"  
134 Recluses

DOWN

1 Not alkaline  
2 Defeat soundly  
3 Quake  
4 Vast spans  
5 Dir. 135 degrees from  
6 G.P., for one  
7 Postpaid enc.  
8 URL start  
9 Immigrant's class, in brief  
10 Edwin of Reagan's Cabinet  
11 Old Turkish officials  
12 In a cutting way  
13 Like a runt  
14 Indigo dye  
15 Wild pig  
16 Innumerable  
17 1-year-old on "Family Guy"  
18 Steeds, in Westerns  
22 Sierra maker  
24 Sparkling  
29 History topic  
31 Exxon, once  
32 Trade blows  
36 Accrued qty.  
37 Indian bread  
38 This, in Peru  
39 —wester  
41 Subsidiary theorem  
42 Singer Sumac  
43 Singer Des—  
44 Officeholders  
47 Munich Mrs.  
49 Beetles and Golfs, in brief  
50 Famed flag-raising site of 1945  
51 Orbiting body, e.g.  
52 Spring month  
53 Firm bigwigs  
54 "Yes, yes!" in Mexico  
56 City in Israel  
57 Procedural form-filling  
58 Endorses  
62 Quirky  
65 Maj.'s superior  
66 Yale student  
67 "Stuck" actor Stephen  
68 "Road —" (1947 comedy film)  
69 In-favor vote  
70 Pale  
71 LAX takeoff guess  
73 Throat-check sounds  
74 Avocado dip, informally  
77 Former female mil. group  
78 Prefix with grain or color  
79 Irrefutable  
80 Color shade  
81 Bus. entities  
84 Other, to Jorge  
85 Snooty type  
88 Oval portion  
89 Pre-2001 space station  
90 It fills la mer  
92 1921 Karel Capek play  
93 Cravings  
94 Pet pests  
95 Artist Yoko  
97 WikiLeaks founder Julian  
100 Little goody or river  
101 New York city  
102 Yucatec speakers  
103 Put a stop to  
104 Noon nap  
106 Atoll unit  
107 Danish port  
108 Big chain of food stores  
109 Has a hunch  
112 "Hogwash!"  
116 French pals  
117 After taxes  
118 Correct copy  
119 Pinot, e.g.  
120 Filmmaker Kazan  
121 Panache  
122 Pork cut  
125 Graceful tree  
126 Fashion inits.  
127 Lav in a pub

## Weekly SUDOKU

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

© 2026 King Features Synd., Inc.

## Strange BUT TRUE

By Lucie Winborne

- The living room set of "The Addams Family" TV series was actually pink.
- About 1,350 potentially active volcanoes presently exist on Earth, with the majority of them found along a 25,000-mile-long, horseshoe-shaped ribbon bordering the Pacific Ocean that's commonly known as the "Ring of Fire."
- Chopsticks in Asia are about 2,000 years older than forks in Europe.
- The color red appears in nearly every shot of Stanley Kubrick's 1980 horror classic "The Shining."
- Michelangelo only signed one piece of art, the "Madonna della Pietà," and that was supposedly because he overheard his work credited to a rival and sneaked back to include his name on the sash across the Virgin Mary's chest.
- Philadelphia cream cheese doesn't hail from Philadelphia. It originated in New York.
- People spend roughly 10% of their waking hours with their eyes closed. That's OK, we know you're just thinking.
- No American president has been an only child.
- In 1954, the mayor of the wine-growing town Chateaufort-du-Pape in France issued a memorable decree that banned the "flying over, landing or taking off of flying saucers." It's unclear whether anyone ever considered how such an event should be handled should it defiantly occur.
- Shaquille O'Neal missed 5,317 free throws over the course of his career.
- Only three music companies are responsible for more than 80% of the music we listen to: Sony BMG, Warner Music Group and Universal Music Group.
- Spiders, like humans, can have arachnophobia. Small wonder, since certain species regularly eat each other: for food, after mating and for other reasons scientists don't yet fully understand.

\*\*\*

**Thought for the Day:** "You can make positive deposits in your own economy every day by reading and listening to powerful, positive, life-changing content and by associating with encouraging and hope-building people." — Zig Ziglar

© 2026 King Features Synd., Inc.

© 2026 King Features Syndicate, Inc. All rights reserved.

## 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

© 2026 King Features Synd., Inc.

## 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!

Mean  
**LIMPY** \_\_\_\_\_

Hue  
**DEASH** \_\_\_\_\_

Bask  
**LOWLAW** \_\_\_\_\_

Garb  
**TRAITE** \_\_\_\_\_

**TODAY'S WORD**

\_\_\_\_\_

© 2026 King Features Syndicate, Inc. All rights reserved.

## Advertise With Us!

What we offer: .....

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

What we have: .....

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

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

For more information, call the office at (276) 340-2445

## Play Better Golf with JACK NICKLAUS

TRY THE FOLLOWING TO HELP YOU MAKE MORE OF THOSE TESTY SHORT PUTTS. SWING THE PUTTER BACK TWICE AS FAR AS NORMAL, THEN STROKE THROUGH THE BALL A LITTLE EASIER.

© 2026 King Features Syndicate, Inc. All rights reserved.

THIS TECHNIQUE HAS OFTEN SMOOTHED MY STROKE AND RE-ESTABLISHED MY CONTROL OVER THE PUTTERHEAD, MOSTLY BY IMPROVING MY TEMPO. CHANCES ARE IT WILL DO THE SAME FOR YOU.

© 2026 King Features Syndicate, Inc. All rights reserved.

# Movement working to counteract MAHA misinformation



Make America Healthy Again is framing modern agriculture as contributing to Americans' health issues, but a movement called Growing a Healthier America is working to counter that narrative.

According to the Center for Food Integrity, the MAHA movement has shifted public perception around ingredients, food processing, modern agriculture and the role of farming in health. Emotionally charged narratives are creating confusion and eroding

confidence in the food system.

GaHA is the food system's coordinated, collaborative, values-led response. Led by the CFI, GaHA brings together farmers, food makers, retailers, scientists and health voices to reclaim the narrative, counter misinformation and strengthen trust across the entire food value chain.

Michael Whitmer, CFI vice president, told farmers attending the American Farm Bureau Annual Convention in Anaheim in

January that consumers have different ways of processing information. However, one thing CFI's research found is that shared values outweigh facts three to five times.

"Consumers need to know that you share the same values before they will believe your facts," Whitmer said. Because of that, anyone communicating information about farming needs to find common ground with consumers. "Food conversations can be emotional and personal."

The CFI analyzed more than 4,000 consumers to understand how Americans interpret truth, who they trust and how they engage with MAHA-aligned narratives. The researchers studied consumers' social values; political beliefs; where they work, live and play; and what information they read and share. Based on that research, CFI categorized consumers into several different "personas."

Whitmer focused on two of them during his workshop at the AFBF convention—the authenticity seeker and the comfort seeker.

Authenticity seekers make up 14% of the population and include everyone from baby boomers to

Gen Z. They are looking for "raw, unfiltered experiences of real people sharing about food," Whitmer said. This group believes that MAHA is on the right track to correct a broken food system.

But farmers can counteract MAHA's incorrect findings by sharing real, genuine stories with authenticity seekers.

For example, these consumers often believe that seed oils are an ultra-processed byproduct of industrial agriculture and they blame commodity crops. The way to counteract that belief is to demonstrate that farmers who grow things like corn and wheat are real farmers who care deeply about the way their food is grown.

Comfort seekers make up 43% of the population and also represent all age groups. For them, the truth about our food system is validated by trusted experts including dietitians, nutritionists and social media influencers. They believe these people have done their research for them and they can trust it.

Whitmer said stories about traditional farming appeal to their desire for resonance, tradition and security.



For more information, visit [CDC.gov/niosh](https://www.cdc.gov/niosh) and [AgriSafe.org](https://www.agrisafe.org).

## Noise-induced hearing loss is permanent, but preventable

From hairdryers to all-terrain vehicles, noise-induced hearing loss can spring from unexpected places.

"We need to remember that hearing loss is preventable, and we can do something about it," emphasized Charlotte Halverson, AgriSafe Network health coach and former clinical director. AgriSafe is a national educational nonprofit that teaches healthcare professionals, farmers and ranchers about important agricultural health and safety topics.

With constant exposure to loud machinery, equipment and livestock, agriculture is listed in the top three occupations that cause hearing loss.

"I grew up on a farm, and we never thought about wearing hearing protection," Halverson recalled. "We didn't know what we didn't know."

She now lives with relentless ringing and chirping in her ears—a symptom of noise-induced hearing loss. It also can affect blood pressure and pulse rate, and lead to depression, isolation, sleep disruptions and accidents.

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration defines any noise level of 85 decibels or greater as dangerous.

"If you have to raise your voice to be heard by someone an arms-length away from you, you're already experiencing hearing loss," Halverson cautioned.

The amount of hearing loss from noise exposure depends on the decibel level of the noise and the duration of exposure.

One minute with a chainsaw—reaching 120 dBA—"will put you in trouble," she noted.

Long exposures to lower noise intensities can still cause significant hearing loss—like power tools, ATVs, pressure washers, leaf blowers or push mowers.

"Hairdryers run at around 90 decibels," Halverson noted. "You don't think about that stuff. You can see why hairstylists some-

times start losing their hearing."

She recommends downloading the free NIOSH Sound Level Meter app to help measure noise intensity.

Consumers can choose from a wide variety of protective canal caps, earplugs and earmuffs.

When selecting the appropriate hearing protection, it's important to consider AgriSafe's "5 C's of Hearing Protection":

Comfort is key to consistent use.

Compatibility with other safety equipment.

Convenience to use or access in environments with intermittent noise.

Communication frequency and the need to hear speech.

Cost and affordability.

It's crucial to check the hearing protection device's Noise Reduction Rating, stamped as "NRR" on the label, and calculate the level of noise protection outside of a perfect factory setting:

Subtract 7dB from the NRR.

Divide that number by two.

Subtract that number from the measured average noise of the task or machine.

Aim for just enough noise reduction to bring exposure down to 75-85 dBA.

Wearing two types of protection won't double your protection, but offers around five extra decibels of noise reduction.

"Unfortunately, once we start hearing ringing and buzzing in our ears, we are already experiencing significant hearing loss," Halverson said. "Don't be afraid to get a hearing test and see if you need hearing aids."

Halverson encourages organizations and businesses to help raise awareness of noise-induced hearing loss by leveraging the wealth of resources online.

"Older people will say, 'Had I only known,'" she remarked. "A lot of this information wasn't available 45 years ago, but it is now."

## Soaring premiums force some Virginians to drop health coverage



According to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, nearly 400,000 people in the Commonwealth enrolled in the ACA marketplace in 2025. (Adobe Stock)

**By Zamone Perez**  
*Virginia News Connection*

The lapse of enhanced Affordable Care Act tax credits and rise in federal health insurance premiums have led more Virginians to opt out of coverage, and those who remain on the plans often pay more for less.

Rena Bumbray-Graves, a home caregiver in Woodbridge and member of the Service Employees International Union, faces hard decisions due to the increased costs. She went from paying around \$550 in monthly premiums to \$1,300. As a result, she has dropped her

plan in hopes of finding something more affordable.

Bumbray-Graves said the rising costs of monthly premiums, along with co-pays and prescription drugs, means she is rolling the dice on her financial and physical health.

"It made us very uncomfortable because, at the end of the day, if we can't find anything, the only option is to just go out of pocket and pray we don't get sick or anything," Bumbray-Graves explained.

President Donald Trump has threatened to veto a potential three-year extension of tax cred-

its which passed the House and is under consideration in the Senate. Some Republicans in Congress want more spending cuts in exchange for a shorter extension of the health insurance credits.

Nearly 400,000 people in the Commonwealth buy insurance through the Affordable Care Act marketplace. Bumbray-Graves noted because of the increase in cost, she will have to put off care which could prevent small health problems from becoming larger ones.

"I will have to figure out whether I'm sick enough to go to the doctor. Or if I'm going to die, I have no choice but to go to the doctor," Bumbray-Graves emphasized. "I won't be able to just have physicals and check-ups to make sure that my health doesn't decline. If I don't have those appointments, I won't find out I have something that is possibly preventive until it's too late."

A snapshot of Virginia's Affordable Care Act enrollment data from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services suggested thousands of people will choose not to enroll or drop their plan this year.

## Va. dairy farmer joins signing of Whole Milk for Healthy Kids Act

Shenandoah dairy farmer Thomas French represented Virginia dairy farmers at President Donald Trump's signing of the Whole Milk for Healthy Kids Act of 2025 yesterday.

The legislation gives schools the option to serve flavored and unflavored whole and 2% milk. The Whole Milk for Healthy Kids Act overturns 2012 rules that limited schools to fat-free or 1% milk under the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National School Lunch Pro-

gram, which serves nearly 30 million students daily.

French thanked Trump and the current administration for signing the Whole Milk bill into law. "We've worked 15 years on this with our industry," said French, who is a sixth generation farmer. "I've been in the high schools and the middle schools where the students want milk. I even did a taste test one time at a high school, and they wanted the whole milk."

(See Va. Dairy Farm p. 11)

# ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS

## P&HCC announces Honors List

Patrick & Henry Community College's (P&HCC's) Honors List for Fall 2025 was recently released.

Students enrolled in at least 6 non-developmental credits and who earn a semester grade point average of 3.2 or higher are placed on the Honors List.

**Axton:** Francisco Javier Alvarez, Hannah Grace Barker, Camryel ZaMaya Broadnax, Lane Anderson Burke, Linsey Beth Coleman, Roger Wade Conner, Brittany Marie Conner, Gabrielle Fountain, Ambar Guadalupe Garcia-Alvarez, Rachel Cathy Griffin, Corbin James Hankins, Amber Simone Harris, Deamber Lynn Harris, Meredith Ann Joyce, Savannah Grace Kendrick, Zoey Laneigh Koblekt, Katherine Marie Lawson, Randal Eugene Manley, Latara J. Martin, Jordan Allen Moore, Nancy Ortiz Espana, Camdyn Alise Shelburne, Kayla Faye Whitlock, Lillian Leeanne Wilson, Damian Michelle Wright

**Bassett:** Logan Ryan Allen, Jenny Jackeline Castro-Bermudez, James Robert Church, João Gabriel Guimarães Cruz, Lucas James Dalton, Victoria Jade Dehart, Ashley Nicole DeLong, Hayleigh Alexis Fain, Aaron Gamble, Jeremyah Hairston, Bethany Ann Handy, Hailey Stacia Helms, Christopher Aaron Hicks, Danielle Sage Knott, Jaime Lopez, Yureidy Crystal Lopez-Lopez, Emily Grace Lyons, Jennifer Lynn Manzano, Renan Capuano Ferreira Martins, Angela Dickerson Norman, Nicholas Edward Padgett, Caleb Sage Payne, Kaylee Grace Pettit, Samantha Dawn Purdy, Koda Harlan Rainier, Vanessa Marie Sanchez, Chase Reid Smith, Elizabeth Catron Smith, Nycere Keyontae Valentine, Morgan Elizabeth Walker, Fisher James Whitlock, Payton Leigh Wilkinson

**Collinsville:** Leila Alise Aaron, Bethany Dawn Barbour, Nathaniel Keith Barbour, Maggie Grace Beam, Alex O. Clifton, Uzoky Correia, Bryson McCoye Easley, Naima Symone Ellis, Jasmine Nicole Hairston, Madison Paige Hawks, Ana Jessyka Hernandez-Cruz, Kaitlin Rayne Hodges, Lillian Faith Jacobson, Ellie Davidson Leggett, Xitlaly Lopez Lopez, Johnny Arliel Lopez-Velasco, Patricia Kathleen Mabe, William Jonathan McGinn, Nick Merx, Hannah Marie Miner, Kendall Lane Mitchem, Eduardo Ortiz-Garcia, Julian Vaughn Parker, Bethany Payne, Alley Nichole Pugh, Cesar Alfredo Quezada Correa, Ian Altayr Recillas, Karina Marie Reyes Reyes, Jacqueline Santiago-Perez, Luis Santos Castro, Billy Kenton Smith, Maria F. Szakos, Marquez Lymonte' Tatum, Melinda Dawn Taylor, Amber Rose Vanboskerck, Andrea Sarahi Vasquez, Joshua

Matthew Wade, Staly Yao

**Fieldale:** Jason Leon Agee, Jasmyne Semone Baker, Nichole Lewis Brown, Brenda Jean DeHart, Troy William Draper, Katherine Valerie Gomez, Jadyne Lee Hagen, Kelcey Leeann Howell, Brandon McClenden, Balin Rush Nolen, Jonathan Solis, Angela Vasquez-Torres, Kyniah Lashun Wilkins

**Martinsville:** Aryanna Faith Abbott, Jonathan Adams, Bridgett Colleen Adams, Madison Grace Adkins, Aidan Fury Amos, Charley Ann Amos, Ja'Quise Quintin Anglin, Juan Pablo Argueta, Myanna Alexis Barbour, Sara Camryn Belle, Tanaysia Janae Blackstock, Nekia D. Blackwell, Liam Bredamus, Addison Grace Bryan, Gavin MacFarland Bunn, Brandi Lynn Butler, Sarah Lynn Cambell, Delanea Shyanne Cannoy, Zinnia Bayonito Capulong, Emmanuel Caro, Josue Caro, Yadira Carillo Tamayo, Emily G. Castaneda Valderrama, Derrick Linza Chisholm, Selenia Yamileth Colindres, Ana Marie Compton, Mayra Yesenia De La Ro Cruz, David Andrew Dalton, Gabriel Shalom Davis, Kalitha Michelle Davis, Nathan Spencer Davis, Preston Thomas Davis, Joshuah Thomas Dehart, Jesus Dela Rosa-Cruz, Jecci Adolfo Delcid-Contreras, Sherman Chase Dillard, Paige Elizabeth Donavant, Brea Chena Draper, Aaron Flores, Isac Armando Flores, Nadia Jazmin Flores, Tiffany Diem Forestier, Taylor Frank, Antonio Jerome Frazier, Briana Garcia, Monica Theresa Garcia, James Tyler Garnes, Hannah Leigh Gay, Kanyah Keymanie Giggetts, Bethany Gilbert, Alley Jordan Gongloff, Comelitia Natae Gravely, Andrew Giovanni Guerrero, Jamarion Deonte Hagwood, Caiden Hairston, London Mylan Hairston, Tyshawn Hairston, Hailey Jade Harris, Ja'Kayla Shakirra Harris, Anna Lynn Haynes, Joseph Luke Haynes, Noah Douglas Hemmings, Bailey Jane Hendricks, Caragan Malyn Pearson Hodges, Claire Sue Howe, Yu-Jui Hsu, Noah M. Hughes, Axel Yair Jimenez-Ramirez, Shakina Ariel Johnson, Laylah Jane Keith, Madalyn Elizabeth Keller, Elena Jade King, Aidan Klasic, Jose Antonio Lara-Alvarado, Trinity Kay Lewis, Nalaaya Gabrielle Leyva, Ashley Marishka Lintag, Kayla Eliani Marinez, Leslie Amariani Martell, Kailea Martin, Laura Marie McCarvell, Patrick Nelson McCrickard, Alexander Roy McIntosh, Miles Cutter McNulty, Precious Jewel Meadows, Elijah Bishop Meeks, Kaden Christopher Mellott, Michael Mendoza Ramirez, Savannah Faith Minter, Kamaury Marquis Mitchell, Christian Austin Moore, Gregory Isaiah Moore, Jaden Kinsley Morrow, Destiny Monique Moyer, Nia Nicole

Moyer, Fatimah Kalifah Muhammad, Amber Nicole Mullins, Brennan Shawn Murphy, Morgan Niblett, Latasha Sheneil Nichols, Alexis Faith Oakes, Erikka Noemi Ortiz, Cory Wayne Osborne, Yash Patel, Josiah Winston Pearce, Daniel Ryan Perry, Ciera Bettinna Powell, Rhythm Alexis Poynter, Christopher Thomas Praino, Alannah Brayden Pruitt, Mary Evelyn Quirk, Vericonia Tarshell Ramey, Juan Jose Rivera Hernandez, Manuel Jose Rodriguez, Janetzy Merideth Rodriguez, David Rodriguez-Malina, Bryan Romero, Caleb Austin Royal, Bryan Ruiz, Jorge Ruiz-Tamayo, Aliyah Amily Sandoval-Gonzalez, Juandel Addonis Santiago, Diamond Tehya Scott-VanCedarfield, Ana Gisel Serrano Rodriguez, Brian Edward Shockley III, Ashley Nicole Simacek, Latoya M. Smith, Jaylen Roy Solomon, Tyler Heath Spencer, Reese Starnes, Noah Ishaun Stockton, Nakysha Briyon Tatum, Giovanni Tellez-Jaimes, Kaly Jacari Tinsley, Trinity Michelle Tucker, Santiago Valadez Dorado, Emilee Harrison Vaughan, Abigail Renee Viers, Allasyn Marie Villasenor, Hailey Elizabeth Walker, Kemyia Janee Walton, Avianna Zanae Watkins, Isaiah Trevon Watkins, Trevion Dashawn Watkins, Riley Patrick Wilkins, Aaliyah Williams, Alysha Williams, Jodi Michelle Wilmouth, Katlyn Louise Wilson, Logan Alexander Young, Senovia Evaluz Zuniga

**Ridgeway:** Caselyn Paige Alderman, Serenity Brooke Arrington, Khloe Jeanette Beche, Kailyn Grace Carter, Bobby Jerrod Claytor, Abby Caitlyn Cuthbertson, Anna Claire Cuthbertson, Careli Diaz-Dominguez, Danielle Leigh Draper, Danielle Elizabeth Edwards, Matthew Wayne Farmer, Brayden Alexander Gamble, Michael James Gervais, Jaidan A. Haiola, Carrie Lynn Hudson, Kinsley Humphries, Olivia Jane Hutchinson, Nathaniel Grant Lane, William Ray Mabe, Franklin Kendall McBride, Allison McDaniel, Isaiah Miller, Kailan Joy Moss, Leah Toamae Penn, Taylor Ramsey, Demetrius Lavon Reid, Brianna Shayndel Rivera-Jimenez, Alex Jay Roark, Katherine Ann Russell, Jackson Drew Shively, Addison Reese Smith, Mason Hughes Smith, Tiffany Elaine Spencer, William Reeves Stowe, Brendon Aron Strawbridge, Khyson Douglas Toney, Edward L. Turner, Leah Nicole Turton, Ingrid Janely Vega Sanchez, Addison Rebecca Wimbush

**Spencer:** Arianna Jael Bokman, Cameron Dwayne Cassell, Alysha Brooke Copening, Kursten Lynette Hylton, Avery Jaleel Niblett, Jacqueline B. Thurman

**Stanleytown:** Lea Mikaela Matherly, Stephanie Jade Richardson.

## P&HCC unveils President's List for Fall 2025

Many local students were named to Patrick & Henry Community College's President's List for fall 2025.

Students enrolled in at least 6 non-developmental credits and who earn a semester grade point average of 3.8 or higher are placed on the President's List.

**Axton:** Amanda Michelle Agnew, Brian Alvarez, Jett W. Britton, Ethan Michael Bryan, Autumn Reese Cairo, Avery L. Cook, Kristen Paige Dillon, Steven Duenas-Salas, Joshua Eanes, Mayra Yocelyn Esparza Dias, Diana Isabel Espinosa, Monserrat Elena Espinosa, Mayra Yocelyn Esparza Diaz, Diana Isabel Espinosa, Monserrat Elena Espinosa, Riley Harris, Emily Suellen Holder, Kevin Thomas Hughes, Madelyn Grace Kendall, Sirius Jaques Negrey, Rodney D. Painter, Zuleyka Esmeralda Rivera, Karianna Zonnett Roberts, Ramon Julian Rodriguez, Donna Paola Ruiz Tiznado, Andrea Yumiksi Sandoval-Robles, Abigail Tatum, Mackenzie Leigh Taylor, John Andrew Thomasson IV, Alexis Altamirano Tiznado, Shaniqua Lasha Turner, Saul Valle-Villa, Jackson Tyler Wall

**Bassett:** Stephen M. Bailey, Xariyah Emami Barksdale, Bryona Summer Blankenship, Laila Renee Callaway, Brandi Leigh Cannady, Landon Blake Carter, Britney Gasca Cazales, Kylie Anne Cooper, Brittany Cruz-Maldonado, Tiffani Martin Dillon, Alexia Louise Dix, Jacob Morgan Doss, Jayme Lynn Fiedler, Cameron Scott Fitzgerald, Gabriel Blaine Foley, Lillian Foley, William Foltz, Ty Lane Forbes, Halie Joyce Foster, Aiden Cole Fulcher, Andre Benjamin Fuller, Brooklyn Grace Galyean, Jose Eduardo Garcia-Matamoros, Christina Hairston, Daisha Kay Hairston, Landon Cash Hairston, Francisco Miguel Vigo Hall, Brennan Lawrence Harbour, Eli Jackson Hines, Payton Horsley, Jennifer Leigh Howell, Madana Mohan MacHuga, Zyreak Tyzhae Manns, Khalil Marks, David Andrew Marshall, Noah Lacey Martin, Olivia Nicole Martin, Alexandria Jean Moore, Alyna De'Nae Moore, Hannah Ruth Lindsay Moore, Yajaira Alondra Ocampo, Majelene Kaite Yanjano Pitogo, Madalynn Hope Plogger, Chase Elliott Poperowitz, Laken Faith Porter, Caroline Grace Reustle, Peyton Bradley Reustle, Austin Tyler Rigney, Amber Chante Smith, Carlton Hunter Smith, Ian J. Stiehler, Keira Leighann Tatum, Aaron Michael Tucker, Breanna Vargas, Diana Michelle Velasquez-Nolasco, Ja'Kwon De'Andre Walker, Ronald Earl Walton, Jasmine Elizabeth White, Carleigh Grey Whitlock, Rebekah Anne Williamson, Chloe Jean-Ellen Wood

**Collinsville:** Kristen Reed Alderman, Pedro Cesar Almeida, Ashlen Nicole Bailey, Harrison Beauchamp, Maddie Paige Bennett, Freddie Joe Brim, William Tyler Byrd, Alexa

Guadalupe Casillas Rojo, Adamaris Chacon Tamayo, Christopher Dylan Chappell, McKenzie Faith Clark, Sierra D. Custer, Keshia Dagou, Jose Antonio Diaz Alvarez, Dylan Lee Elliott, Daniel Anthony Espinosa Graves, Dylan Lee Elliot, Daniel Anthony Espinosa Graves, Albert Brent Evans, Elizabeth LeAnn Ferguson, Frederik Friche, Nathan Eli Goad, Dylan Haines, Brenda Kaye Hairston, Kaia Kennedy Hairston, Sierra Grace Hash, Nyasia Janae Herndon, Alexander Lee Hodnett, Daquan Isaiah Jordan, Riley Tanner Joyce, Ky'Asia Lenay Keen, Abigail Grace Lacy, Alorah Cheyenne Lawless, Keaton Michael Martin, Thommy Mendez Vazquez, Kayden Kalise Moore, Kevin Moran, Gavin Luke Morrison, Princess Ashley Perez, Iker Alexis Ramirez Hernandez, Gael Hordones Rangel, David G. Reed, Luis Fernando Renk de Moura, Makena Grace Reynolds, Maggie Alexis Sechrist, Morgan Raine Sechrist, Ashtyn Donald Skillen, Josue Samuel Trujillo, Kaileigh Turner, Aurionna Michelle Viars, Amara Gabrielle Waller, Chase Wray, Haley Nicole Wray, Jessica M. Wright

**Fieldale:** Mitchell James Boatwright, Mason Alexander Gamez-Turpin, Diana Crystal George, David Ryan Hamrick, Madalynn Danielle Lester, John R. Pace, Rosario Quezada, William Randall Smith, Caiden Price Snider

**Martinsville:** Keyasia Lashea Akridge, Amelia Allen, Jayce Lee Bailey, Ja'Onna Nicole Baker, Avinash Deepak Banerjee, Victor Manual Barajas, Reagan Elizabeth Barker, Christian C. Beltran, Heaven Elizabeth Biggs, Coretta Rochelle Bradner, Deja Myleita Brandon, Veronica Monique Brim, Cole Bryant, Jessica Marie Campbell, Kailey J. Cannoy, Giselle Carrillo, Montashia Carter, Dalton Orion Chandler, Joseph Trey Collins, Rachel Dawn Compton, Lyla Jean Corcoran, Madison Shea Crowe, Brandon M. Dannegger, Kylee A. Deatherage, William Manuel Del-Cid Contreras, Micael Joel Deskins, Cadance Joy Dillard, Tiasia Mashe' Dillard, Zaniah Ariane Dillard, Joshua Dimpfel, Jimmy Dong, Megan Elizabeth Durham, Jordan Mohammed Elmahmoud, Kristen Michelle Esget, Jordan Mohammed Elmahmoud, Kristen Michelle Esget, Alexander Bryce Essary, Katherine Elizabeth Estrada, Roslynn Anneleise Foddrell, Layla Renay Garrett, Maxine Garrett, Kendra Gill, Caelyn Gillard, Marquita Gravely, Jason Andrew Grigg, Thomas Stafford Hairfield, Cedric DeAngelo Hairston, Trinity Aniyah Hairston, Isaac Anthony Hanks, Carson Thomas Harper, Mika Nova Dorothy Hernandez, Natalie Elizabeth Hodge-Barker, Braden Aron Hodges, Shaqudea Zytia Holley, Ethan Wayne Huff, Brandon Michael Hun, Austin Dale Hunt, David Christopher

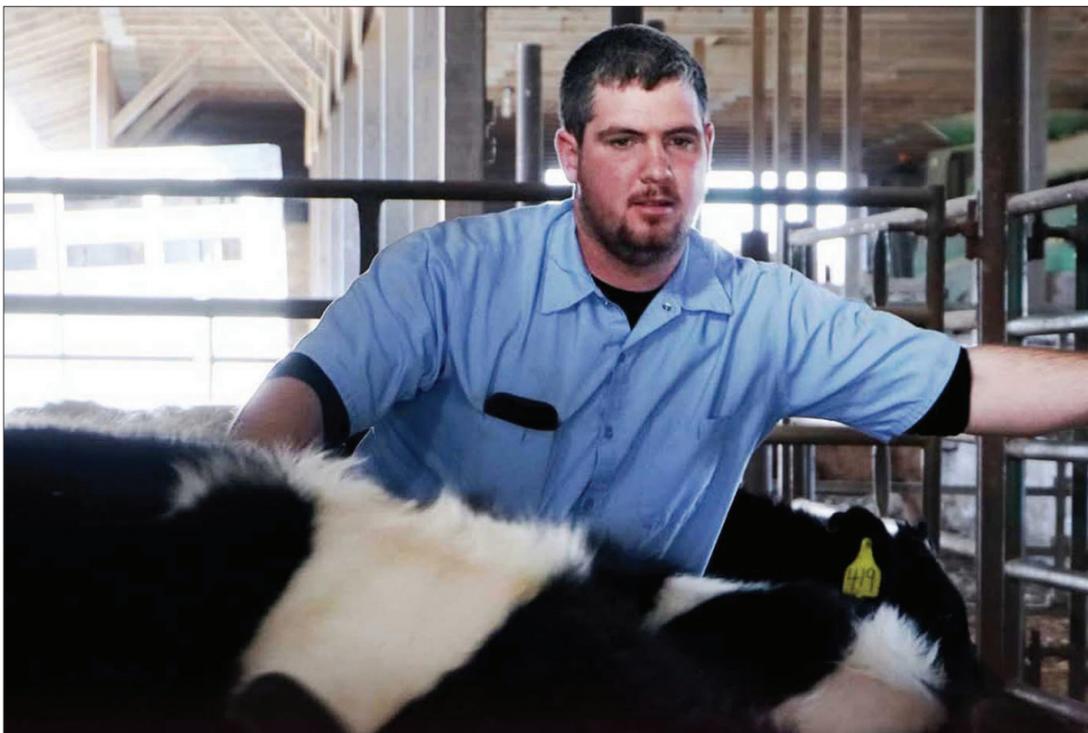
Hurd, Aliyah Lenay James, Katherine Kaye Jarrett, Nicholas Hatcher Jenkins, Amy Renae Johnston, Dylan Thomas Johnston, Abby Nicole Jones, Jahrine Ezekiel Jones, Shawn Joyce, Juan Carlos Juarez Zuniga, Ian Michael Kalill, Jada Nicole Kelsey, Mollie Kate Kenny, Katlyn Alexis Kinney, William Livingston Kirby, Brandon Wayne Lawson, Nathaniel Lee Lilly, Nyasia Long, Oliver Ortiz Lopez, Amber Renee Luczak, Matthew Wallace Maldonado, Caden Amir Martin, Charlie F. Martin, Kayla Michele Martin, Johanna Cynthia Maxie, Amber Luciana Medina, Vanessa Mendoza Olmos, Sydnor Adams Mitchell, Xena Helen Muhammad, Julie Anna Nguyen, Frederick D. Noel, Ariyana Re'Nae Nowlin, Jun Hermes Olea, Emma May Parker, Sophia Parker, Joseph Russell Pipkin Jr., Anna Diane Plaster, Allison Andrea Platero Batres, Trevor O'Brian Preston, Alaiya Price, Latisha Tanica Ray, Joshua Redd, Linzie Brook Register, Mason Crenshaw Rorrer, Lillie Catherine Sapp, Jasmine Lenora Scales, Gretchen Addison Schaller, Thomas Joseph Shemro, Lucy Elizabeth Shumate, Amber Lynne Simacek, Camden David Smith, Joshua Vidale Smith, Roy Snead, Breasia Street, Tyler Jackson Sturm, Laura Nichole Sutphin, Katelynn Ann Taylor, Mason D. Thornhill, Kasandra Lee Traynham, Lisa Marie Turner, Nasir Antwaine Turner, Sidney M. Wheeler, Amira Ruth Starr Whitlow, Heather Leann Wild, Callie Dawn Williams, Jamauri Elijah Williams, Miranda Nicole Williams, Rilynne Addison Williams, Kaliyah Zanya Wimbush, Karter Anthony Wimbush, Kaira Merci Womack, Roger Woody, Chloe Isabella Wray

**Ridgeway:** Kaylee Jean Barrow, Anastasia Elizabeth Bell, Luke John Burgess, Alex Ethan Clark, Savannah Rose Draper, Julia Dayle Eanes, Grace Nicole Edwards, Eleanor Malone Favero, Julie Paloma Garcia Jimenez, Evelyn Garcia-Mena, Aja Garnes, Brandon Lamont Hairston, Caden Louis Hairston, Cherkiri Tiona Hairston, Ereka Chan-tay Hairston, Jarrett Storm Hairston, Drew Cathryn Hankins, Aaliyah Nicole Hodge, Isabelle Grace Hoffman, Colten Stephen Lewis, Dha'Karri Ahgia Long, Dylan Sullivan McCulloch, James Carson Millner, McKenzie Warner Newcomb, Aaliyah Perez Ramos, Adriana Lynn Robertson, Tabita Rueda-Gorrochotegui, Lilly Secrest, Parker Bryant Seidle, Joseph Neal Shrader, Elizabeth Grace Smith, Olivia Rose Stafford, Glumylia May Terry, Samantha Jean Thurman, Nathan Michael Tollison, Carlin Lance Turbeville, Skyla Divine Zapata

**Stanleytown:** Madeline Jade Cooley, John Izaak Flanagan, Trevor Blake Kendrick, Austin Wayne Spear.

# Va Dairy Farm

(cont. from page 9)



Research shows that when whole milk isn't available, children often choose sugary drinks like juice or soda. This change means better nutrition options for students and a boost for the dairy industry.

Currently, U.S. milk output is hitting record highs while fluid consumption is falling. Allowing whole milk in schools could provide an outlet for butterfat, which is key to dairy farm revenue, and create new opportunities for dairy

farmers.

"Milk provided by the national school lunch program may be the only opportunity for many school children to consume milk," said Tony Banks, senior assistant director of agriculture,

development and innovation for Virginia Farm Bureau Federation. "The Healthy Kids Act allows all children the option to select between whole, reduced-fat and skim milk regardless of their family's ability to purchase milk."

According to Daniel Munch, an American Farm Bureau Federation economist, Americans drink far less milk than they used to—down nearly 50% since 1975 and 28% since 2010. Cheese, butter and yogurt consumption has surged, but fluid milk use continues to decline. However, whole milk is the exception: from 2013 to 2024, sales grew 16% while skim and reduced-fat options plunged. Whole milk's share of fluid sales rose from 27% to 38%, driven by interest in protein-rich and minimally processed foods and even appetite-suppressing drug regimens that prioritize fuller-fat, higher-protein options for satiety and sustained energy.

Since the National School Lunch Program accounts for about 7.5% of U.S. fluid milk sales, even modest gains in school milk sales can strengthen fluid milk markets, boost butterfat utilization and improve returns to farmers, Munch explained.

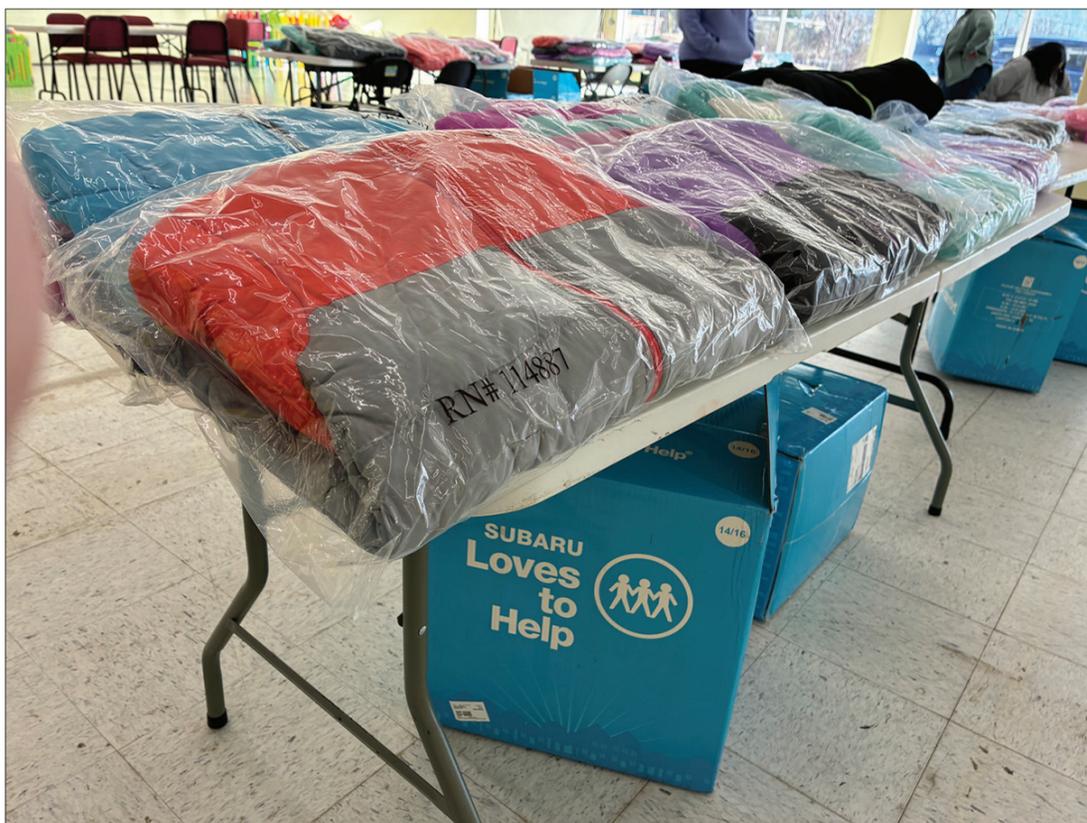
"Those increases matter in an oversupplied market," he said. More whole milk shifts butterfat into higher-value fluid milk channels, simplifying processing and reducing the amount of lower-value skim powder produced. For smaller dairies, it also could create local farm-to-school opportunities.

## Autos By Nelson donates coats to YMCA



## Rangeley Ruritans donate to Traditional Christian Church

Sammy Draper (left), a Rangeley club member, presented a check to Pam Ellis (right), the wife of Pastor Jamie Ellis, of the Traditional Christian Church in Collinsville. The donation will be used in the church's homeless outreach.



Autos By Nelson distributed 120 winter coats at the Martinsville-Henry County YMCA on Jan. 20 as part of the Subaru Loves to Help initiative.

# Virginia growers cultivate top-quality tobacco desired by international buyers



Demand for Virginia-grown tobacco may have dipped over the decades, but grower efficiencies and commitment to quality keep the state's surviving operations profitable.

Over 8,400 Virginia farms were producing tobacco in 1992. Today, only 173 farms in Virginia are growing the historically iconic crop, according to the 2022 Census of Agriculture. The 1998 Master Settlement Agreement and 2004 federal tobacco quota buyout pushed some growers into early retirement, while others transi-

tioned to growing different crops.

Though acreage has dropped by almost half since the 2017 census to 12,634 acres, Virginia still ranks third nationally for tobacco production. The current generation of growers are building on centuries of expertise.

"Quality, quality, quality is how we stay in business," said Robert Mills, Pittsylvania County tobacco grower and vice president of Virginia Farm Bureau Federation. "Efficiency is number one."

Virginia tobacco is mostly blended into premium quality ciga-

rettes.

"We don't sell tobacco," Mills added. "We show people how to use U.S. leaf in their product. It'll cost them 50 cents more a pack to put 'U.S. leaf' on it, but now they have our premium product and can charge \$1.50 a pack more."

China is the world's largest tobacco consumer and global importer. U.S. trade with China is in a state of uncertainty due to ongoing trade tensions and escalating tariffs between the two countries.

"Virginia is recognized for growing the best tobacco in the world," said David Reed, Virginia Cooperative Extension tobacco agronomist in Blackstone. "We've got that to fall back on. And there's always demand for cigarette production. However, it's much more expensive for us to grow tobacco here than somewhere else. There's a balancing act between the quality and the price."

Without tariffs and restrictions on selling tobacco, "we couldn't grow enough to meet the demand, because that is the quality of U.S.

tobacco," he said.

Fifth-generation grower Adam Gregory in Pittsylvania County is a young farmer who started his own tobacco operation at Gregory Farms years after his dad took the federal buyout around in 2004.

"I grew up around it and love this way of life—watching tobacco grow and working the land," he said. "It's just all I ever dreamed of doing."

Gregory started on 6.5 acres and has expanded to 110, with 22 box barns for conventional flue-cured tobacco.

Diversifying his buyer contracts helps Gregory find markets for his tobacco. Richmond-based Universal Corporation wants his bright, clean, lemon-style tobacco.

"And I'll have a barn of tobacco that's more orangey," Gregory explained. "Philip Morris loves that style of tobacco. So, no matter what, you have a home for it, and you're going to get top dollar!"

Read the full story in the January Virginia Farm Bureau News magazine.

Thank You for reading

**Norris**  
Memorial Services

1500 Kings Mtn Rd.  
Martinsville, VA,  
276-638-2778

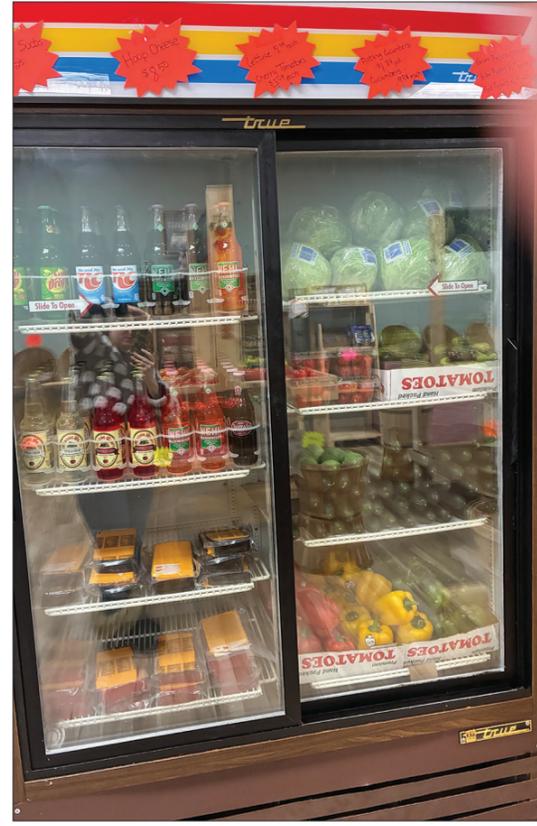
Visit our website for pricing:  
[www.norrismemorialservices.com](http://www.norrismemorialservices.com)

# Bassett

(cont. from page 1)



Bassett Farmers' Market is up and running again after a demolition of the adjoining building caused severe damage to the roof.



Refrigerated products are available for sale again at the market.



Cabbage, pinto beans, and other fresh produce are available for purchase.

get the store back open."

After receiving approval to reopen, the Bassett Farmers' Market returned to strong community support.

"We did expect for our community to come through, but not in the way that they have," Furr said. "They have come through." The market sells produce and ice cream.

Its produce currently comes from the Meadows of Dan area, and the business hopes to partner with additional local farmers in the future.

# Storage center



## Everything You Need In One Convenient Location!



- Climate Controlled • Indoor Units
- Outdoor Drive Up Units
- Small & Large Sizes
- City Center Location
- Tractor Trailer Access
- Business & Commercial Sizes
- Boxes & Moving Supplies
- U-Haul Trucks • 24/7 Access
- Keypad Security w/ Personal Pin Code



## 10 E. Market St., Martinsville, VA • 276-670-7867

See more at [www.henrycountyenterprise.com](http://www.henrycountyenterprise.com)