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**VOICE OF THE PEOPLE SINCE 1876 | Dedicated to serving the communities of Patrick County**

## Hall to serve as interim county administrator, county sets tax rate

By Taylor Boyd

The Patrick County Board of Supervisors authorized Tim Hall, an executive manager with The Berkeley Group, to act as interim county administrator.

Hall will replace former county administrator Geri Hazelwood when he begins the new position on April 6. Hazelwood resigned in March.

Hall, with a background that includes education and journalism, retired as the Henry County Administrator and General Manager of the Henry County Public Service Authority in July.

The county also will work with the group to hire a permanent administrator.

In other matters, the board:

\*Held a public hearing and set the real estate tax rate to not exceed 73 cents per \$100 of assessed value for the fiscal year 2023-2024. That is the same rate as the current fiscal year.

\*Heard from Piedmont Community Services (PCS) Executive Director Greg Preston about PCS's services and its budget.



Tim Hall was hired as the interim county administrator. He is pictured with Finance Officer Lori Jones and Human Resources Director Donna Shough. Hall will begin the new role on April 6.



Piedmont Community Services (PCS) Executive Director Greg Preston spoke about PCS's services and its budget at the March 29 meeting.

rector Greg Preston about PCS's services and its budget.

Preston said PCS is one of 40 community services boards that provide publicly funded mental health, substance abuse, developmental disability, and prevention services.

"In 2022, Piedmont served 862

individuals in Patrick County. We actually employ over 68 staff here in Patrick County. That does not include support staff," he said.

Preston said PCS offers over 25 different services in Patrick County. The organization will be expanding its recovery services in the county

with the purchase of a mobile unit, which is a large RV.

"What we will do is utilize that vehicle, which will include a prescriber, a nurse, a case manager, and we will go throughout not only Patrick County, but all of our areas trying to meet the needs of individuals that may be hindered by transportation," he said.

For the fiscal year 2023, Preston said PCS estimated the Patrick County program budget is \$3,591,249. The budget does not include PCS's emergency services, the Peer Recovery Program, discharge assistance plans, detox, or the community recovery program.

PCS also received the HRSA grant worth \$500,000 for Patrick County. Preston said PCS receives up to 90 percent of state funds to provide services with the remaining 10 percent match coming from the local governments it serves.

"What we do in order to come up with the 10 percent match is we look at the U.S. Census. So, for ex-

(See Hall p. 5)

## Board hears requests for increased park funds



Several members of the park boards came in support of those requesting additional funding for the parks.

By Taylor Boyd

The Patrick County Board of Supervisors heard requests for additional park funds at its March 27 meeting from Stuart Parks and Recreation Association member Amy Corns.

The pool at DeHart Park has been a break-even and self-sustaining

pool for more than 40 years, Corns said.

"In 2021, we ended nearly \$1,000 in the red, but in 2022 we ended close to positive \$3,000. It just depends on the year whether or not we break even or we end in the negative. There are many factors with the weather, how

many days we get in, and such," she said.

To pay the Virginia minimum wage of \$12 an hour, and to help with increasing chemical costs, Corns estimates it will cost an additional \$15,000 to \$20,000 of the association's annual budget.

(See Board p. 4)

## Remains identified as missing NC man

Human remains found last week in Patrick County were those of a man missing from Stokes County since February, according to Stokes County Sheriff Joey Lemons.

Lemons wrote that his office was notified March 29 that the remains found four days earlier in Patrick County were confirmed to be those of Trinity Fain, 25. Fain was reported missing from that jurisdiction on February 5. He was last seen leaving his residence on Puckett Road in Westfield, N.C., according to online reports. He was reported to have been to his place of employment in Mount Airy, N.C.

His vehicle was located around 8 a.m. on Monday, Feb. 6, about a mile from his home.

Lemons wrote that his office was notified on March 25 that human remains had been found in the area of Puckett Road in the Westfield community of Stokes County, N.C. Upon the arrival, his detectives were escorted to the remains, which were in a remote area of property. Detectives determined that the location was in Patrick County, and the Patrick County Sheriff's Office was notified.

Patrick County Sheriff Dan Smith said according to satellite mapping, the remains were 169 yards inside Virginia.

Smith's officers and the Virginia State Police responded to the scene, Smith said, adding the remains then were then transported to the Medical Examiner's office in Roanoke.

Patrick County Sheriff's Investigator Oscar Tejada is handling the case.

## FloydFest 2023 in peril

By Taylor Boyd

FloydFest, an annual music festival, is currently looking for a new site after learning there are final permitting and other organizational issues at its new location.

Part of the annual event had been held in Patrick County since it began in 2002. Last year, organizers announced the festival would locate in a new location in Floyd County, called FestivalPark, situated between Floyd and Roanoke in Check, off U.S. 221.

An initial warning letter from the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), dated January 25, was sent to inform "Hill

Holler, LLC that DEQ observations indicated that land disturbing activities were being conducted without the requisite Virginia Stormwater Management Program (VSMP) authority approval to begin land disturbance."

A second warning letter, dated March 6, referenced the initial warning letter and included additional concerns.

"On March 1, 2023, DEQ staff re-inspected the site in response to a complaint," the letter to John McBroom, of Hill Holler, LLC, stated. "During the inspection of March 1, it was observed that land disturbing activity to construct a section of

a road on the site had been completed and that land disturbance associated with the installation of additional road areas and three bridges had occurred, including two clear span bridge crossings of Meadow Run and a third clear span bridge crossing of an unnamed tributary of Meadow Run.

"Based upon a review of DEQ's records, Hill Holler has not obtained coverage under the '2019 General VPDES Permit for Discharges of Stormwater from Construction Activities,' and no other certificate or permit has been issued for the discharge of stormwater from con-

(See FloydFest p. 4)

## Murphy takes on new challenge as head of Parks and Recreation

By Taylor Boyd

Patrick County's new Parks and Recreation Director Travis Murphy hopes to live up to the standard set by his predecessor Clyde Crissman, who retired on March 31.

Since beginning his new role on March 20, Murphy said Crissman showed him around the different parks and introduced him to people in the community.

"To kind of make sure I'm in good hands, so to speak. It's a very unique experience where you get to take over for somebody, and you're here before they leave and retire-

ment. That's a blessing," he said.

Murphy, 51, said he applied for the position because of his personal and educational background.

"I'm originally from Salem, and I grew up enjoying all of the recreation activities they had there. I know I'm a product of what a good recreation department looks like, not saying that this department is not good, it's just different," he said.

As a former high school athletic director, Murphy said the position also had the makeup of a job he loved doing, but on a larger scale.

(See Murphy p. 5)



Travis Murphy is the county's new director of recreation.



## April 2 proclaimed Wood Brothers Racing Day

**By Taylor Boyd**  
Gov. Glenn Youngkin recognized April 2 as Wood Brothers Racing Day in Virginia. Wood Brothers Racing was formed in 1950 when Wood family patriarch Glenn Wood decided to try racing. He went on to win many races on the fledgling NASCAR circuit and became one of NASCAR's 50 greatest drivers.

Wood enlisted family members to serve as the pit crew on race weekends. His children took over the team in the 1980s, with the third genera-

tion now carrying on the racing legacy.

Wood Brothers Racing has won races in seven decades, and is awaiting its 100th victory.

The team's 98th victory came in 2011 when rookie driver Trevor Bayne won the Daytona 500, and the 99th win was in 2017 with driver Ryan Blaney.

"Wood Brothers Racing, one of the most successful racing teams in NASCAR history, has been exclusively and continuously headquartered in

Stuart Virginia for the past 73 years and holds the Guinness World Record for the longest active NASCAR racing team," the resolution stated.

In an April 2 Facebook post, Wood Brothers Racing recognized the achievement.

"In all seriousness, this was really quite a surprise, and a huge honor to be recognized by Gov. Youngkin. Anybody that knows my family knows they'd never ask for this or expect it but it's such a neat thing to have happen," the post stated.

## Saturday is Kids Trout Fishing Day

The 3rd annual Patrick County Kids Trout Fishing Day is Saturday, April 8, at the Mayo River Rail Trail Picnic Area, Commerce Street in Stuart from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

The event is for youth 15 years old and younger. Adults ARE NOT permitted to fish until after 1 p.m. and must have a Valid VA State Fishing License and Trout Stamp to fish; Although adults who are helping children, are not required to have a license, remember this is for the children. Children must be casting reel and reeling fish back in. Please bring your own fishing tackle, bait and lawn chair.

Children must be accompanied by a parent/guardian. Children must be registered and present to win door prizes. Concessions will be available by the PCHS Fishing Team.

For more details, contact Sandra Heath, Wayne Kirkpatrick or Dale Owens at (276) 694-2911.

## A Common Cause for All



Colonial Williamsburg Foundation's Kurt Smith portrayed Thomas Jefferson in Colonial Williamsburg. (Contributed photos)

**By James Houchins**  
State and local VA250 leaders gathered in Colonial Williamsburg on March 10 to learn and share information about the events that led up to the Revolutionary War. Our nation will commemorate 250 years on July 4th, 2026.

I had the honor of attending the weekend events of reflection and collaboration. You may be asking why the committee met this particular weekend.

"On March 11, 1773, Virginia's House of Burgesses members Thomas Jefferson,

Patrick Henry, Richard Henry Lee, Francis Lightfoot Lee, and Dabney Carr gathered in Williamsburg's Raleigh Tavern to consult on the need for

each colony to form a committee of correspondence. In the face of parliamentary taxation and threats to their rights as Englishmen, these committees would communicate news from their region and help coordinate a united front across the British American colonies. This informal committee drafted a resolution that called upon Virginia and all other colonies to create committees of correspondence. The House of Burgesses approved this resolution on March 12, 1773, and all colonial assemblies, except for the Pennsylvania Assembly, adopted a version of this resolution."

The Colonial Williamsburg Lodge kicked off the weekend on Friday night with an inspiring opening address from Car-

(See Cause p. 5)



Plans are underway now to commemorate the Semiquincentennial in 2026.

### ESTATE AUCTION ONLINE ONLY

**House with 14.73 acres on South Mayo**  
**Betty Roberson Estate**  
**Real and Personal Property**  
**2 Tracts - House with 14.73 Acres on South Mayo & Also 2 Acres on South Mayo.**  
**Preview April 13th and 23rd**  
**Bidding ends April 26th**

Both tracts are on Stocked Trout stream just outside Stuart. Large open field with house tract and plenty of woods behind it for hunting, hiking, or walking. Perfect location for gardening and plenty of room for pets to roam.

**Bid at [rogersauctiongroup.com](http://rogersauctiongroup.com)**

**Keith Gunter – Auctioneer/Sales Manager**  
**276-952-5281 – VAAL #2 | 336-789-2926**

## Pets of the Week



This young brindle male was lucky enough to be adopted but unfortunately while being loaded in the car, he got loose. He is wearing a red collar and leash.

This chunky male is neutered and would love to find a home. He



has a good personality.

Call the Patrick County Public Animal Shelter (PCPAS) at (276) 694-6259 for more information, or visit its Facebook page. Adoption fees are \$10 and include spay/neuter and rabies vaccination.

**GRAND OPENING**  
**April 15th, 2023**

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**RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY @ 11:00AM**

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**We would like to invite everyone to join us in celebrating our Grand Opening!**

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**WE OFFER: Christian Books, Bibles & Gifts, Flowers, Gift Baskets, Tanning Beds & Lotions**

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**There will be door prizes throughout the day!**

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**Refreshments will be provided**

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We are excited to have Author & Associate Pastor of Christ Fellowship Church/North Georgia Revival, Marty Darracott here to introduce his new book ECHO HEAVEN. Come by and meet this amazing man of God, introduce yourself, and get his signature on your copy of his book!

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## P&HCC among agencies to receive Growth and Opportunity Virginia grant

Patrick and Henry Community College (P&HCC) received a grant of \$118,545 to increase dual enrollment opportunities in welding and expand the pool of qualified workers by offering courses for students in Henry County and Martinsville City schools. The program will enroll and train 27 students in two years, with participants able to pursue further certification upon graduation.

The grant was one of 17 projects and more than \$8.1 million in Growth and Opportunity for Virginia (GO Virginia) awards focused on creating talent pipelines and accelerating economic growth announced last week by Gov. Glenn Youngkin.

Projects will support the growth of select industries across the Commonwealth by training and connecting talent to employers, supporting entrepreneurs seeking to start companies and creating supportive economic environments for the targeted industries to grow.

“GO Virginia allows us to invest in key projects that address regionally identified op-

portunities while fostering collaboration for economic growth between the private and public sectors,” said Youngkin. “These projects exemplify the innovative partnerships that GO Virginia was designed to promote, and will advance Virginia’s position in critical industries such as life science and energy, as well as leverage emerging opportunities in semiconductor manufacturing.”

GO Virginia encourages regional economic growth and diversification by supporting collaborative projects that focus on workforce development, cluster scaleup, startup ecosystems and site development.

“As we grow Virginia’s economy, the workforce must grow with it, and GO Virginia continues to inspire innovative solutions and regional collaboration,” said Secretary of Commerce and Trade Caren Merrick. “These 17 projects will support and grow industry sectors and talent pipelines that are instrumental growing our economy.”

In addition to the awarded GO Virginia funding, the projects

will leverage an additional \$5.6 million in local and non-state funding.

“We would like to thank the regional council leadership and project partners for their work in advancing these impactful projects,” said Nancy Howell Agee, chair of the GO Virginia State Board. “GO Virginia continues to recognize and facilitate strong regional economic development efforts that create the right environment for private-sector job growth and puts the Commonwealth in a position to compete to win.”

Since the program’s inception in 2017, GO Virginia has funded 258 projects and awarded approximately \$107 million to support regional economic development efforts. As of 2022, Go Virginia has created over 26,000 new jobs, trained 13,000 students in high-demand fields, created 2,700 work-based learning opportunities, including internships and apprenticeships, and awarded 3,600 workforce credentials. To learn more about the GO Virginia program, visit [dhcd.virginia.gov/gova](http://dhcd.virginia.gov/gova).

## Arrests reported

The Patrick County Sheriff’s Office reported the following:

\*William Edward Roberts, 43, of Martinsville, was charged March 24 with two counts of probation violation. Deputy A. Kinney was the arresting officer.

\*Corey Keith Smith, 38, of Axton, was charged March 27 with one count each fail to appear and probation violation. Deputy D.A. Ullring was the arresting officer.

\*David Clyde Fain, 50, of Stuart, was charged March 28 with community based probation violation. Sgt. L.K. Carroll, Jr., was the arresting officer.

\*Janet Faye Cassady, 57, of Bassett, was charged March 29 with obtain money by false pretense. Deputy J.C. Fortner was the arresting officer.

\*Michele Lynn Barr, 65, of Martinsville, was charged March 30 with fail to appear. Deputy R. Haynes made the arrest for Martinsville.

\*Brandon Rayne Hale, 23, of Bassett, was charged March 30 with probation violation. Martinsville PD made the arrest for Patrick County.

\*Douglas T. Henry-Hebb, 22, of Patrick Springs, was charged March 30 with fail to appear. Deputy C.L. Adkins made the arrest for Franklin County.

\*Tony Lee Epperson, 50, of Mt. Airy, NC, was charged March 31 with six counts larceny and two counts conspiracy. Lt. D.L. Foley was the arresting officer.

## Portion of Pedigo Ridge Road closed to through traffic

On Tuesday, April 4, a portion of Virginia 669 (Pedigo Ridge Road) was closed to through traffic. The closure was needed for a pipe replacement. It affects the area from Virginia 668 (Long Branch Road) to Vir-

ginia 740 (Trucker Drive).

Weather permitting, the road will re-open to traffic on Friday, April 14.

A detour and directional signs will be in place during the closure to help motorists.

## Midwest Veterinary Supply Will Forfeit More Than \$10 Million

Midwest Veterinary Supply (Midwest), a Minnesota-based company that supplies prescription drugs for animals to veterinarians, farms, feedlots, and other businesses, pled guilty last week to introducing misbranded drugs into interstate commerce and agreed to pay more than \$10 million in criminal fines and forfeiture.

“The Department of Justice will continue to ensure that all companies follow federal laws regarding distribution of prescription drugs,” United States Attorney Christopher R. Kavanaugh of the Western District of Virginia said. “In this case, millions of dollars were obtained from the illegal distribution of veterinary medicine and, just like pharmaceuticals intended for human-use, my Office will continue to hold accountable those companies and corporations that violate federal law.”

“The FDA regulates animal drugs as part of its mission to protect the public health. Part of this responsibility includes ensuring that prescription animal drugs are lawfully distributed and dispensed pursuant to a valid prescription,” said Special Agent in Charge George A. Scavdis, FDA Office of Criminal Investigations’ Metro Washington Field Office. “We will continue to investigate and bring to justice those who attempt to evade the law.”

According to court documents, from 2011-2021, Midwest shipped prescription drugs from their non-pharmacy locations throughout the United States to end-users that were not authorized to receive prescription drugs. Shipments from non-pharmacy locations to end-users and shipments to non-authorized locations are deemed misbranded. Midwest shipped at least \$10,150,014 worth of misbranded drugs to end-users between 2011-2021. The law violated is designed, in part, to ensure that prescription drugs are kept within a controlled chain of distribution to prevent diversion and inappropriate use.

As part of the plea agreement, Midwest will forfeit \$10,150,014 and serve between one and three years’ probation. Midwest will also pay \$1,000,000 to the Virginia Department of Health Professions, and a \$500,000 fine. Midwest is scheduled to be sentenced on June 12, 2022, in United States District Court in Abingdon.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration – Office of Criminal Investigations and the Virginia State Police investigated the case, with the assistance of the Virginia Department of Health Professions.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Randy Ramseyer is prosecuting the case.

Updated March 28, 2023

## Online service for Original Driver’s Licenses launched

The Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) has launched an online pre-application for new Virginia residents who need to exchange their out-of-state driver’s license. This new application is part of DMV’s “start anywhere” services, which allow customers to start certain applications from the comfort of their own home or on the go. The services currently available to start online are replacement or renewal licenses, name change, and now original driver’s licenses. Customers

can also choose to upgrade their credential to a REAL ID during any of the start anywhere driver or ID services. The start anywhere initiative was created to maximize customer service by adding a convenient way for customers to begin their transaction from home and submit it to DMV electronically ahead of their visit to a customer service center. It also helps customers determine which documents they’ll need to complete their service. “Starting your driver’s license application online will make

your trip to the DMV faster,” said DMV Commissioner Gerald Lackey. “If you recently moved to Virginia, starting online will save you time and prepare you for a successful visit.” Customers can find the pre-application for an original driver’s license on DMV’s website under “Online Services.” You must visit a DMV customer service center to complete the process. You can make an appointment, reserve your spot for same-day service or simply stop by during office hours.

## Fentanyl-Related Overdose Death Leads to 20-Year Sentence for Drug Dealer

A South Hill, Virginia man, who continued dealing heroin, methamphetamine, and fentanyl from a regional jail, was sentenced this week to 20 years in federal prison.

Michael Watkins Hayer, 41, waived his right to be indicted and pleaded guilty in October 2022 to a two-count Information charging him with distribution of fentanyl resulting in death and possession of a firearm by a convicted felon.

According to court documents, Hayer began selling fentanyl, heroin, and methamphetamine throughout Greene and Albemarle counties in 2019, as well as routinely traveling to North Carolina to pur-

chase drugs by the “brick” for resale in Virginia. Hayer used the term “brick” to refer to a package of 50 individual doses of fentanyl.

After a customer overdosed in front of him, Hayer began carrying Narcan, an opioid overdose treatment, when he sold drugs.

On February 18, 2022, Hayer sold a half-brick of fentanyl to an individual who ingested the drug and later died of an overdose. Although he left Greene County to avoid suspicion after this death occurred, Hayer was stopped by the Virginia State Police while speeding in Greene County in April 2022. During the traffic stop,

Virginia State Police searched Hayer’s vehicle where they discovered 95 grams of methamphetamine, 50 grams of fentanyl, three firearms, and multiple rounds of ammunition. Hayer is prohibited from possessing a firearm due to a previous felony conviction.

While incarcerated at the Central Virginia Regional Jail from April 2022 through June 2022, Hayer continued to sell drugs by recruiting both a male relative as well as an ex-girlfriend and instructing them in how to engage in drug trafficking.

Specifically, Hayer told them where to go in North Carolina (See Fentanyl p. 5)

## New bill directs universities to implement human trafficking awareness training

By Anna Chen

Capital News Service

The governor recently signed a bill that will require public higher education institutions to develop and implement a human trafficking awareness and prevention training program for first-year students to take during orientation.

Del. Emily Brewer, R-Isle of Wight, introduced House Bill 1555 which was signed into law on March 17 by Gov. Glenn Youngkin. The measure is identical to Senate Bill 1373, introduced by Sen. Jill Holtzman Vogel, R-Fauquier.

Patrick McKenna, co-founder of the Virginia Coalition Against Human Trafficking, said this bill is important for first-year students entering college.

“It’s critical that they understand traffickers’ means and (See New bill p. 5)

### Types of trafficking in Virginia

Human trafficking takes place when someone forces, frauds, or coerces another person into labor or commercial sex activity. Sex trafficking accounts for most of the cases in Virginia, and the U.S.



Data from the National Human Trafficking Hotline in Virginia. Infographic by Monica Alarcon-Najarro, VCU Capital News Service.



# Board

(cont. from page 1)

Corns said the association requested adding the pool to the annual budget as a line item in the amount of \$15,000.

The association recently asked for and received \$2,500 and reimbursement of its annual water and sewer bills from the Stuart Town Council.

"Our hope is that we, the county, the town, and the park can all work together for the common goal of supporting our local pool, which in turn supports our county and town businesses as well as tourism by bringing in people from other places who visit our park and our pool," she said.

Corns said money from the county would be specifically earmarked to cover chemical costs, repairs, maintenance, and utilities.

The association recently placed chemical orders in preparation of the 2023 summer season.

"Muriatic acid is up \$30 a drum, chlorine is up \$90 a drum, and stabilizer is up \$200 for every 100 pounds. We estimate that this is going to add on at least another \$1,000 bill to our already high chemical bill this year," she said.

Corns said she researched and contacted every recreation department with a public pool within a 75-mile radius of Stuart, and found DeHart Park is the only pool that is not supported financially by the local government.

She said the DeHart Park pool is also the most expensive, with an entry fee of \$7 per adult and \$5 per child.

"My hope is that together we can work towards a

common goal of balancing the budget for our local pool so that we can continue to operate for many years to come offering a wonderful service of family, fun, outdoor recreation for our community," she said.

Frank Pettway, a representative of the county parks, said maintaining and growing the parks doesn't come without cost.

"The time has come that we got to ask for your support. Let it be known that the previous donation to each park from the county of \$1,500 per park per year is greatly appreciated, and I assure you it's been very judiciously used," he said.

However, Pettway said the parks need more for them to grow, especially as the \$1,500 doesn't cover utilities alone.

"We need help to maintain and continue growth of our parks. I and all the park supporters that are here tonight sincerely hope that your ongoing budget discussions will be able to find that help for us," he said.

Clayton Kendrick, chairman and of the Mayo River District, said the board would try to reach a decision within two weeks.

In other matters, the board:

\*Heard from Norma Bozenmayer about park funding.

Bozenmayer said it came to her attention that DeHart needs additional funding to meet additional costs.

"DeHart Park is an important part of the community, and the pool is an integral part of summer activities in the park. The pool will not be able to operate without the additional funding," she said.

It's estimated 120-150

people use the pool on a daily basis, with over 2,000 potentially using it on July 4. I personally use the pool several days a week in the summer for water aerobics class, and that has become an important part of my summer activities," she said.

Bozenmayer said swimming is a valuable activity for people of all ages to maintain good physical and mental health.

"The pool is very important to the county. Please consider this additional funding in the 2023 budget," she said.

\*Heard from Kurt Bozenmayer about the board's scheduling a hearing to discuss the county's tax rate.

"I'm concerned about the maneuver last meeting to skip over setting a public hearing because the tax rate would not change under the present agenda that says a tax rate is not to exceed 0.73 cents per \$100 of value," he said.

Kurt Bozenmayer said there are differing legal opinions on whether a public hearing is needed to set the tax rate if it does not change. However, county attorney Mark Popovich recommended the public hearing for the purpose of keeping the public informed. No one spoke when the hearing was held on March 29.

"In the end, this is not Patrick County's money, it's our money. We are the taxpayers, we put this money up and we want to see that it's used properly, and we trust the finance department, we trust the supervisors to make the best use of that money when it comes in," he said.

Kurt Bozenmayer said his concern is that the tax rate

is being set before the county's 2024 budget is finalized. He said the first page of the budget documents states it is being submitted to the board with a deficit of expenditures over revenues of \$477,000.

"At the bottom of that first page, it says the proposed expenditure budget is an increase of \$1.7 million, 6.04 percent over the fiscal year 2023. It goes on to list raises for county employees, merit increase for county employees, all well and good," he said.

Kurt Bozenmayer said one page in the budget released on Feb. 13 states the contingency fund has been eliminated.

"It was set at \$666,000 in the fiscal year 2023, and it is set at zero in the fiscal year 2024. I don't understand at this size of a deficit and not increasing the tax rate how this budget is going to be balanced," he said.

An updated budget from Feb. 24 does not mention anything about how these deficits were overcome.

"My concern at this point is that if this is not explained to the public we have to sit back and say 'what the hell is going on here, how are we doing this.' Once again, we are trusting you folks to make the best decision with the money that's going into this budget, but please take a little time and explain to us how these things are being done," he said.

\*Heard from Malcolm Roach about solar.

"I got a copy of the letter that Geri Hazelwood (former county administrator) signed of the county that everybody says is making her responsible for us to have solar farms. Well, the way I

read it, I'm sorry she's not. She did her job, she signed a document that she needed to sign," he said.

"Thank you, thank you," Denise Stirewalt, of the Peters Creek District, said.

Roach said it is up to the supervisors to decide whether the county will get solar farms or not.

"What I didn't like about this letter is the county for some reason has blotted out the applicant's name and signature. So, I have no idea who applied for this, and I would really like to know," he said.

Roach said a Virginia state document is about the same solar field in the same place.

"The letter of intent is for 33,500 polyimide solar panels in 17 separate frames. The state said that the letter of intent would expire on Feb. 9, 2022," he said.

Roach said if nothing has been done since the county approved this in 2021, with no other permits, intents, or applications, he believes what Hazelwood signed is null and void.

"And that was not, you said, approval. There was no approval, ever," Stirewalt said.

\*Discussed the fiscal year 2024 budget.

\*Approved going forward with the health insurance in the budget as presented.

\*Approved West Piedmont Planning District Commission's (WPPDC) request for an additional \$11,410 in the county budget.

Brandon Simmons, of the Dan River District, did not attend the meeting.

No attorney from Guynn, Waddell, Carroll & Lockaby, P.C., the county's attorney firm, was present at the

# FloydFest

(cont. from page 1)

struction activities at the site," the letter stated.

Will Harlan, a staff scientist and Senior Conservation Advocate with the Center for Biological Diversity, said the location is potentially dangerous to the endangered bog turtle's habitat and the endangered Mitchell's Satyr Butterfly's habitat.

"Two federally listed species have a habitat on that property, and we got involved at the request of local neighbors and communities that were concerned about these species and their habitat," Harlan said, noting the center wants to ensure whatever development takes place at FestivalPark is done in a way that would not harm the habitats and "so that festival goers feel good about their festival experience. I think that is also shared by the festival organizers."

"Our patrons, our memories, this music, magic, and mountains, this

community, our collective anticipation for future FloydFests, are what keep each of us going, and we don't take that lightly," festival organizers wrote in a March 29 statement.

"We have embarked on a paramount project: to make good on building all of us a forever home where we will celebrate life, love, and living for decades to come," the statement added.

The festival moved to its new 200-acre mountainous location in 2023, with this year's festival scheduled to be held from Wednesday, July 26 to Sunday, July 30.

Organizers are currently exploring all options to host the event and anticipate releasing additional information on April 6.

If the event is canceled, organizers said both refunds and rollovers will be offered.

For more information, go to [www.floydfest.com](http://www.floydfest.com), or Facebook.com/FloydFest.

## When Family or Friends Need Care, Choose the Best



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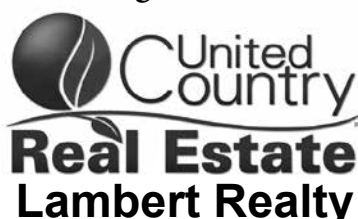
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# Hall

(cont. from page 1)

ample, Franklin County has a population of 54,938. So, they are responsible for 40.30 percent of that 10 percent match," he said.

With a population of 50,248, Henry County is responsible for 36.87 percent of the match and Martinsville is responsible for 9.92 percent of the match because of its population of 13,517.

"Then you have Patrick County. The estimated population is 17,602 individuals. The percent match for Patrick County is 12.91 percent. From the state funds, the 10 percent match is \$791,202. From the calculations, Patrick County's local appropriations right now is \$50,000, which calculates to the 10 per-

cent match for Patrick County is \$102,144," he said.

This year, Preston said PCS received a local tax appropriation per capita document.

"One of the items that we want the local governments to understand. In the first sentence: it says a community service board should maintain its local matching funds at least at the same level as that is shown in its FY2021 performance contract. What is important is the same level," he said.

Preston said PCS has to report to Richmond annually about its local match. If the community services boards do not meet the 10 percent match, PCS has to submit a document saying why.

"We have to say why Patrick County may not be meeting its match. They can accept that, or they can deny it. We are prepared to make that report because last year I think we were cut \$25,000," he said.

Preston said if the

county doesn't meet the match, PCS could lose funding.

"Part of my concern, being transparent, is I can only come before the board of supervisors and request money, and it's really up to the board of supervisors to oblige or not. And in the same breath, I have to go back and report to the state on if we received our match or not," he said.

Doug Perry, of the Smith River District, said he thinks there's some confusion about services being moved out of Patrick County, and asked when people can expect to see the services in the county.

"We have zero prevention, nothing. We have the recovery, there's a huge gap between active addiction and the recovery services you provide. The person has to already be in recovery. We don't have anything to fill in those gaps, and I know that's a huge part of other communities, so when are we going to start seeing

those things physically here inside of Patrick County," Perry said.

Preston said PCS currently provides the Too Good for Drugs program for 6th and 8th graders, mental health training for staff, mental health first aid, Safetalk, and ACEs (Adverse Childhood Experiences) training.

Perry asked when training would be held and when PCS would get back into classrooms. He added that he had conversations with a PCS employee eight months to a year ago, "and we've had empty promises that you're going to bring a prevention specialist and work on these things and nothing," he said.

Preston said it's also the responsibility of the locality to meet its 10 percent match to assist with expanding services and meet employee salaries.

"By being cut \$25,000 last year, and then for your request to expand services, it

definitely puts Piedmont in a tight bind, especially when we have other localities that meet their match and are requesting the same services, if not more," Preston said.

\*Heard from Danny Foley about the county's budget. Foley said the real estate revenue appropriation for 2023 was \$12,153,244 with the 2024 appropriation being \$12,196,010 for an increase of \$42,766.

"When you look at the proposed revenue budget versus the property taxes, the 2023 appropriation was \$3,655,659. The 2024 proposed appropriation was \$4,235,659. That's an increase of \$580,000," he said and asked about the origin of the \$580,000.

Finance Officer Lori Jones said the budget was passed last year before the county had the final numbers from the commissioner.

As a result, those funds were not appropriated, and the budget has never been

amended to include it. That's why it's looking so much. It should be about the same as it was in 2023," she said.


\*Approved giving \$15,000 to the DeHart Pool as a one-time donation from the fiscal year 2023 budget.

\*Designated Donna Sough, assistant county administrator and human resources director, as a signer for DCJS grants.

\*Heard from Treasurer Sandra Stone about her department's budget restructuring.

\*Approved changing the county's self-funded employee insurance with the school system to its own Anthem plan and that the insurance committee is allowed to negotiate with the Patrick County School Board to pay a share of the deficit it currently has with Jefferson Health.

Brandon Simmons, of the Dan River District, attended the meeting remotely because he was out of town for job training.



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## Murphy

(cont. from page 1)

"I went after it, and I got it. I'm excited about this position and what the county's offering now and how we can grow it, and there will be growth," he said.

In his role, Murphy said he is responsible for overseeing all of the recreation department. That includes maintaining the parks and pool area and managing the department's day-to-day operations.

"We already have really good employees here. I'm just trying to see how I can fit my skills into what they're doing now and not mess anything up because they've got a good system going," he said, chuckling.

While he has some ideas on

potential changes, Murphy said they're in the fledgling stage "because I don't know what we have here completely. I kind of want to see what the county has, and what the county's needs are," he added.

Murphy plans to use the results of a county-wide survey to help him determine what residents are looking for and think could be done better.

"Because really, we're in a service industry. It's going to be a little time down the road to make sure I can send it out and get things set up, but we're going to be asking the citizens what they would like to see done differently or what improvements need to be made, and what they'd like to see done in the county," he said.

In addition to wanting to grow the department, Murphy wants the county's recreation areas to get better for all, including senior citizens.

"Because most people think that parks and rec is only about the young kids, but really it's about every citizen, including the senior citizens," he said.

Since he started in the department, Murphy said most of the people had met were the senior residents.

"They come up to the park. They're hands-on, they're willing to volunteer, and they've all told me if I need any help at all to just call," he said.

Murphy is married to Marcie Murphy, the principal of Blue Ridge Elementary School. The couple has two

children, Kerrigan, a junior at Roanoke College, and Hagen, a senior at Patrick County High School.

He has a B.A. Geography and City Planning from Radford University and an M.A. in Educational Leadership from Lamar University.

Murphy previously worked in the Montgomery County school system and Henry County Schools as an assistant principal for five years.

He also worked in Texas as a special education teacher and as an assistant principal. Before that, he worked for Fleetwood Homes as a sales representative.

An avid Hokie fan, Murphy enjoys spending time with his family and playing golf.

## Cause

(cont. from page 2)

ly Fiorina a "businesswoman and politician, known primarily for her tenure as CEO of Hewlett-Packard (HP). As chief executive officer of HP from 1999 to 2005, Fiorina was the first woman to lead a Fortune Top-20 company."

Her speech was emotional and thought-provoking as she reflected on our nation's past and Virginia's leadership leading up to that period. "It is my pleasure to join Terry Austin, Cliff Fleet, and the entire Virginia 250 leadership in welcoming you here to Colonial Williamsburg. And it is a distinct honor to be asked to address you tonight. It is fitting that we should gather here, in the Tidewater region of Virginia. It was in

Jamestown that the very first colonists arrived in the New World and where the first encounters with indigenous peoples occurred. The first ships carrying enslaved people landed here as well. The first representative government met. And it was here in Williamsburg, just a few blocks down the street at the Raleigh Tavern, that the Committees of Correspondence were created and an intercolonial movement towards independence was begun.

"Virginia has always been the crucible of our nation. From the very beginning, here in the capital of the richest of the thirteen colonies, representing 40% of all the economic output of the colonies; from the fierce debates that raged at the Governor's Palace and continued on in the taverns; where incitement to revolution occurred down the street when gunpowder stores were seized by the Crown and a revolutionary army was mustered . . . here, from slave rebellions to abolition movements right through to the Civil War, from the imprisonment of suffragettes and the fight for women's right to vote, from Jim Crow to the civil rights movements and into the present day, Virginia has always been a crucible for great ideas, great debates, and great conflicts; for innovation and injustice; for tragedy as well as triumph; for hostility and reconciliation. As we gather here in this crucible, where so much history has happened, we must ask: What is our common cause now?"

This was a small part of her

address that put into perspective Virginia's rich history. This speech and others by former Chief Justice Kennedy, 60 Minutes' Bill Whitaker, Pulitzer Prize-winning author Stacy Schiff and Jeffrey Rosen, president, and CEO of the National Constitution Center, lifted the heart and mind with several topics. They included the history of the occasion being marked, how to celebrate the country's founding in a way that will be meaningful for all Americans, and check-ins on commemoration plans from each state. Every day was impactful and enlightening.

The men and women in period costumes and the re-enactments drew us back to that time, that moment. On Sunday, Colonial Williamsburg Foundation's Kurt Smith, portraying Thomas Jefferson, stood on the porch of the Raleigh Tavern and called the moment "auspicious," "gargantuan" and "audacious." We were there in 1773, in spirit and I understood the complexities of the time and the course that must be taken. Smith (Thomas Jefferson) stated; "On March 12, 1773, we have decided that no longer are we sitting desperate and disparate within our individual geographic boundaries but rather we have found ourselves united amongst our common cause for all,"

Our local committee is still being formed. We have a good representation of the community and welcome more. Our purpose is to commemorate the Semiquincentennial in 2026. We are beginning now as we continue a common cause for all in seeking a more perfect union!!!

(Houchins is the county's director of Tourism and Marketing.)



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**THANK YOU FOR READING THE ENTERPRISE**



**The Lower Energy Costs Act**

Ninth District U.S. Rep. Morgan Griffith

House Republicans recently passed H.R. 1, the Lower Energy Costs Act. By numbering this legislation as H.R. 1, Republicans recognize that unleashing American energy is one of Congress' top priorities and critical to the wellbeing of the American people and our economy.

In 2020, under President Trump, the United States achieved energy independence. According to the U.S. Energy Information Administration, the U.S. produced more petroleum than it consumed, the first year since at least 1949. Unfortunately, this energy comeback was short-lived.

On his very first day in office, President Biden began enacting policies to counter the energy achievements made in the last Administration, ones that severely hampered domestic oil and gas production. As a result, the American people have experienced exorbitant energy prices.

The Biden Administration made permitting new fossil fuel and nuclear energy projects very difficult. The New York Times recently reported that even thousands of renewable energy projects are delayed due to the current regulatory landscape.

In parts of Virginia gas prices reached record highs, close to \$5 a gallon in June 2022. The price of residential heating oil hit an all-time high in November, costing Virginians \$5.52 per gallon.

This has been especially burdensome for low-income households; some families in the 9th District have had to choose between paying their energy bills to keep their homes heated during the winter and other necessities.

We can do better. H.R. 1 incorporates 25 individual pieces of legislation from across three different standing House committees to address the energy issues we have experienced over the past few years.

As a member of the Energy and Commerce Committee and the Energy Subcommittee, I have been proud to be one of the people working to make H.R. 1 a good bill.

H.R. 1 aims to increase domestic energy production and alleviate some of the cost increases at the pump, by reversing Biden's anti-energy policies.

It includes legislation to disapprove of Biden's canceling of the Keystone XL pipeline, which cost the United States 11,000 American jobs and could have had a positive economic impact of between \$3.4-9.6 billion. The additional oil would have been cheaper to transport to American refineries by pipeline, rather than moving the oil by truck or train. This would have kept gaso-

line prices from rising as much. The legislation also requires the Department of the Interior to resume lease sales on federal lands and waters and repeals many restrictions on the import and export of natural gas, including LNG.

About half of the homes in the United States use natural gas for space heating and water heating. Included in H.R.1 is legislation to repeal President Biden's natural gas production tax. This tax has played a hand in increasing household energy bills across the country.

H.R. 1 reforms the country's permitting process through changes to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) permitting process. These changes will streamline federal environmental reviews for all sectors of our economy by ensuring that NEPA review challenges are substantive and by setting deadlines for completion of the NEPA reviews.

This energy package also repeals Section 134 of the Clean Air Act, relating to the greenhouse gas reduction fund. This \$27 billion 'green bank' was implemented as part of the so-called Inflation Reduction Act to advance the bad policies of the Green New Deal.

The legislation also addresses our need for domestic production of critical minerals. In the left's rush to green energy, America has become too reliant on volatile Chinese supply chains, and in some cases, the use of slave labor. The Department of Energy reported that, among other things, China controls 80% of the world's rare earths production and refining which is needed to manufacture wind turbines and 60% of lithium refining needed for electric vehicles and battery storage.

I believe in an all-of-the-above energy approach, including renewables, but it shouldn't be at the expense of our national security. This legislation boosts the mining and processing of hardrock minerals, including critical minerals needed to ramp-up production of renewable energy components, maximizing our domestic energy production. It also requires the Department of Energy to identify resources that are particularly vulnerable to supply disruptions.

Unfortunately, before the House passed H.R. 1, President Biden threatened to veto the legislation, to the detriment of all Americans.

Hopefully the Senate will work with us to get a bill that helps Americans by lowering energy costs.

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

**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**

**Expect more wildlife in your backyard**

I would like for someone to explain to me why Branch must destroy half of Patrick County to put in 2 lanes up the mountain. The destruction from Route 8N to Meadows of Dan is astronomical, how can this be. What concerns me the most is the displacement and death of the wildlife.

I think Patrick Co. citizens need to make a trip up the mountain to witness the vast destruction that couldn't possibly be necessary. There is drone coverage by Hubbard 1 Productions on "YouTube" that will shock you, but driving up is far worse

and it will break your heart.

But the real reason I am writing this is to warn the public of the displacement of all the wildlife in our mountains. Such a mass exodus of the wildlife will affect all the property owners in the path of the monster equipment. The wildlife will have no choice but to end up in our backyards.

We need to be aware of the possibility that we will need to be diligent for the safety of our livestock and pets that could be affected by the migration of the critters in our hills. This is when all

the spring babies are born and the numbers that will be killed is heart breaking. If anyone should find any orphaned or injured wildlife and I am sure there are countless young deer orphaned. There is the SWVA WildlifeCenter.org to call at 540-798-9836. The animals will not only be homeless, but they will be hungry due to the upset of their hunting grounds that they were familiar with. So please be diligent to keep your livestock and pets safe.

I myself am sickened by the thought.

**Murphy Brown, Stuart**

**The Thought Provoking Quotes of Thomas Sowell**

If you are not familiar with Thomas Sowell, look him up on Wikipedia.

**QUOTES:**

"Ours may become the first civilization destroyed, not by the power of our enemies, but by the ignorance of our teachers and the dangerous nonsense they are teaching our children. In an age of artificial intelligence, they are creating artificial stupidity."

"It is hard to imagine a more stupid or more dangerous way of making decisions than by putting those decisions in the hands of people who pay no price for being wrong."

"In a democracy, we have always had to worry about the ignorance of the uneducated. Today we have to worry about the ignorance of people with college degrees."

"The great escape of our times is escape from personal responsibility for the conse-

quences of one's own behavior."

"The word racism is like ketchup. It can be put on practically anything, and demanding evidence makes you a racist."

"You will never understand bureaucracies until you understand that for bureaucrats' procedure is everything and outcomes are nothing."

"We seem to be getting closer and closer to a situation where nobody is responsible for what they did but we are all responsible for what somebody else did."

"If you have always believed that everyone should play by the same rules and be judged by the same standards, that would have gotten you labeled a radical 60 years ago, a liberal 30 years ago and a racist today."

"The sad and tragic fact is that the civil rights movement, de-

spite its honorable and courageous past, has over the years degenerated into a demagogic hustle, promoting the mindless racism they once fought against."

"The welfare state is not really about the welfare of the masses. It is about the egos of the elites."

"It's amazing how much panic one honest man can spread among a multitude of hypocrites."

"Education is not merely neglected in many of our schools today, but is replaced to a great extent by ideological indoctrination."

"Racism is not dead, but it is on life support -- kept alive by poli-

(See Letters p. 11)

**THE ENTERPRISE**

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**Weekly SUDOKU**

**Weekly SUDOKU**

by Linda Thistle

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**DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦♦**

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

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**Letters to the Editor/Viewpoints Policy**

The Enterprise welcomes letters to the editor and/or reader viewpoints of 500 words or less. Submissions may be edited for clarity, length, legal ramifications or general taste at the editor's discretion. We reserve the right to refuse to publish submitted letters for the same reasons. All letters must be signed by an individual and include community. Verifiable sources for information cited must be forwarded to the editor. Letters that do not meet these guidelines will not be considered for publication.

Disclaimer: Viewpoints and opinions expressed in letters selected for publication are the opinions of the writers, and do not necessarily reflect the views of The Enterprise.

**April 7, 2023**

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## Social Security Matters

By National Social Security Advisor at the AMAC Foundation, the non-profit arm of the Association of Mature American Citizens

### Ask Rusty - Why Should a Non-working Spouse be Entitled to Social Security Benefits?

Dear Rusty: Why can a non-working spouse claim half of their working spouse's benefit even though they have not contributed to the Social Security system? This doesn't seem right or fair to those of us who have contributed for years from our paychecks. Signed: Inquisitive

Dear Inquisitive: This is a question which needs a bit of historical background to properly explain: Social Security's original purpose when it was enacted in 1935 was to prevent America's seniors from living in poverty (remember, Social Security was enacted during the "Great Depression"). Even before the first Social Security check was sent to a retired worker in 1940, Congress had already changed the original Social Security law to, as well, provide anti-poverty benefits to non-working spouses of a worker (a predominant family reality at that time) and surviving spouses, as well as to their minor children. Social Security's fundamental goal has always been to lift eligible Americans out of poverty, which it still does very effectively.

It's important to note that this change did not (and does not) detract in any way from the benefits provided to those who work and contribute to Social Security thus earning their own SS retirement benefit. In other words, those who receive their personally earned SS retirement benefit are not at all penalized if their non-working spouse also receives a benefit (albeit a considerably smaller amount) on the worker's record. Living expenses for two people are, simply, higher than for one, which was/is the rationale for also paying benefits to a dependent not eligible for Social Security benefits on their own work record. In the end, it all comes down to avoiding poverty.

Although the numbers vary somewhat by state, gender, and ethnicity, without Social Security about 38% of all Americans over age 65 would be living below the poverty line, whereas with Social Security only about 9% of Americans over 65 live below the poverty line. But that 9% number would be significantly higher if non-working spouses and survivors of eligible workers were also not entitled to Social Security benefits.

While it is true that Social Security is facing future solvency issues, the thought of restricting benefits to only those who have worked and contributed to the program (and not to their non-working spouses or minor children) is not something being considered by anyone with Congressional influence, regardless of political affiliation. Doing so would be devastating to a large segment of the American population, severely increasing poverty – the very thing that Social Security is designed to prevent.

This article is intended for information purposes only and does not represent legal or financial guidance. It presents the opinions and interpretations of the AMAC Foundation's staff, trained and accredited by the National Social Security Association (NSSA). NSSA and the AMAC Foundation and its staff are not affiliated with or endorsed by the Social Security Administration or any other governmental entity. To submit a question, visit our website (amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory) or email us at ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org.

## How to Improve Your Posture

Chiropractor and professor Dr. Joan Young-Cheney educates her clients how to ensure and maintain good posture throughout life with a commitment of just four minutes a day. This is part of her program:

### Begin with a few stretches:

While laying face up, interlace fingers behind the back of your head. Using arms only, lift head up off the floor or bed while exhaling slowly. Hold up until end of exhalation. Then slowly lower. Repeat 10 to 12 times.

While seated, keep the head slightly retracted. Slowly pull the top of your head over to one side with hand until you feel tolerable stretching in the muscles. Hold for one second and then release. Repeat 10 to 12 times.

While standing in a doorway, place your palms on the molding at waist level. Take a small

step forward, and while keeping your chest lifted up, slowly stretch forward while exhaling. Hold for 10 seconds while continuing to breathe. Take a step back. Rest for 10 seconds and repeat 3 to 4 times.

### After stretching follow with exercises:

Interlace your fingers behind your back, or use a towel to hold if your hands cannot clasp. Lift chest, not shoulders, roll shoulder straight back, keep wrists together if possible. Then squeeze the elbows towards each other and lift. Hold for 10 seconds.

Relax for 10 seconds. Repeat 3 times.

Lay on your back on the floor with knees bent. Tighten abdominal muscles and push the back hard into the floor. Then squeeze the outer buttock muscles together, holding both groups of muscles tight. Slowly lift the pelvis (not the low-

er back) one inch off the floor. Hold for 10-20 seconds. Rest 5-10 seconds. Repeat 3 times.

Standing, lift your chest up from the breastbone to the ceiling and practice breathing from upper abdomen. This will help keep the shoulder and head back over the center of gravity and remove weight from over the diaphragm to allow for proper oxygenation to tissue and joints.

Dr. Young-Cheney has seen amazing results with this program. Intentionally stretching and developing antagonist muscles will result in the unconscious work of these muscles of maintaining good posture throughout the day.

(Submitted by Betty Dean. Written by Risë Rafferty. Used by permission from www.lifeandhealth.org Courtesy of LifeSpring – Resources for Hope and Healing Stuart, VA)

# Patrick Pioneers

Booker and Lilla Shockley Dalton

By Beverly Belcher Woody

We have enjoyed some unseasonably warm weather this past month; a very different time from the winter of 1960. Valentine's Day fell on a Wednesday in 1960, and it snowed 22 inches in Patrick County. For the following three Wednesdays, the area received heavy snowfall. By Wednesday, March 6th, the area had received 68 inches of snow.

My Dad was stationed at Aschaffenburg, West Germany with the Third Division of the U. S. Army during the winter of 1960, so my Grandfather ventured out and took the above photos to show Daddy upon his return home. The first photo was taken on Rock Church Road above Slate Mountain Church. The second photo shown is Wyatt and Edna Conner's house on Conner's Grove Road. The third photo is the Ed and Daisy Weddle home on Black Ridge Road, near the entrance to the winery.

This was a very challenging time for many people, especially folks with cattle and horses to feed. People tried to do their best to carry on business as usual, but it became quite challenging with five feet of snow on the ground (not to mention the drifts)! My aunt Gracie carpooled with several other folks to the factories in Floyd. One Wednesday evening, they got as far as Willie Edwards store on Willis Road before becoming stranded. Aunt Gracie had to stay at the store for three days before the roads opened enough for Uncle Stowell to be able to reach her.

My cousin Ivalien remembered VDOT workers Bud West and Curtis Agee working around the clock, trying to get the roads opened back up and

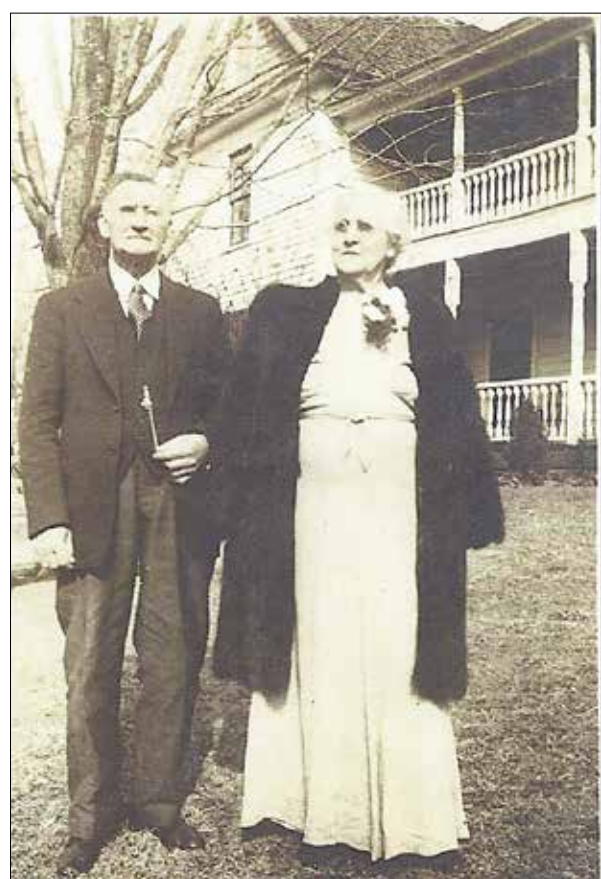


then it snowing all over again.

Edgar Martin McPeak died suddenly at home, February 19th, five days after the first big snow. His granddaughter, Kim McPeak Merritt, said that Cecil Hall had to use his bulldozer to cut a path to the McPeak home to remove her grandfather's body.

McPeak's death was one of several tragedies that took place during the rough winter of 1960. Emmett Green "Bob" Conner was a World War II veteran, having served with the 630th Tank Destroyer Battalion Unit at Normandy (D-Day) and in the Ardennes Forest of France (Battle of the Bulge). Harvey Dickerson Williams was a Korean War veteran, serving with the 432nd Construction Engineers.

Thirty-five-year-old Conner and thirty-one-year Williams were last seen on February 26th (this would have been five days after the second big snow) leaving the area of Bowling's Store in Lone Ivy. The men were walking back up the mountain towards Lover's Leap. Walking from the Woolwine area to Meadows of Dan was quite common back then, as there were many old trails leading up and down the mountain. The men did not make it home be-



fore the third big snow fell on February 28th. Family and friends searched for the men for over a month before their bodies were found.

The following is an excerpt from the Enterprise reporting the men's deaths: "A three-man search party discovered the bodies about 1 pm, partially buried in snow and leaves, about a mile from the top of Lover's Leap. It was believed that the men were taking a shortcut path up the rugged mountain to reach US 58. Sheriff Baliles said the snow prevented searchers from determining whether the

two men were still on the path, a little-used former horse trail. The bodies were found by Lloyd Handy, Thomas Belcher, and Arlie Belcher, all of Meadows of Dan."

I feel it is especially tragic and sad to have survived D-Day and the snow and freezing temperatures of the Ardennes Forest a half a world away, and then freeze to death only a few miles from home.

Thank you to Shirlie Belcher, Michael Belcher, and Kim Merritt for information for this article.

Woody may be reached at rockcastlecreek1@gmail.com or (276) 692-9626.

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## JV Baseball Scores Two Wins



Easton Harris on the mound.

**By Ashlee Mullis**  
The JV Baseball Team hosted Floyd on Monday, March 27, getting a 12-2 win in 5 innings over the Buffaloes. The Cougars had a big 2nd inning, scoring 6 runs. David Lawson, Easton Harris and Chance Corns all had RBIs. Easton Harris got the start on the mound before handing the ball over to Christian Hylton. David Lawson and Calvin Lancaster pitched as well, with all four allowing only 4 hits and 2 runs while striking out 4. Lawson and Jackson Callahan led the Cougars with 2 hits each. Lawson had 2 RBIs. On Wednesday, March

29, the JV Cougars traveled to Tunstall where three PC pitchers combined for a 3 hit shutout. Christian Hylton started on the mound and went 3 innings, striking out 2. Lucas Taylor followed with 3 strong innings, allowing 1 hit and striking out 2. David Lawson closed with 2 strikeouts in an inning of work. Calvin Lancaster led the hitting attack with 2 hits and 5 RBIs including a bases loaded triple in the 7th inning. Lawson had 3 hits and Callahan had two hits and 2 RBIs. The Cougars are 7-0 on the season.

## Softball Team Wins in Floyd



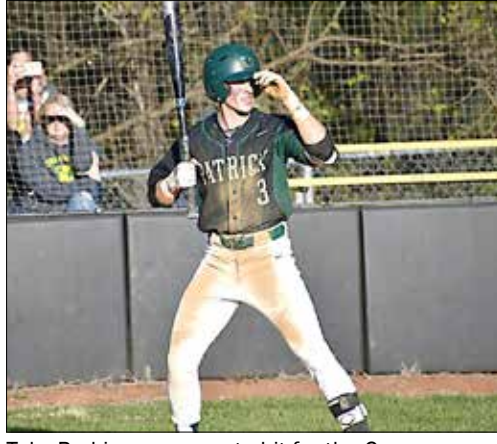
Bryley Pike gets a hit for the Lady Cougars.

**By Ashlee Mullis**  
The Lady Cougar Varsity Softball Team defeated Floyd 7 to 6 on the road on Monday, March 27. McKenzie Holt got the win in the circle,

striking out 9. Journey Moore had 2 home runs with 4 RBIs. Lilly Hazelwood added a home run and a double. Bryley Pike had 2 doubles for the night.

## PCHS Varsity Baseball Gets Win in Floyd

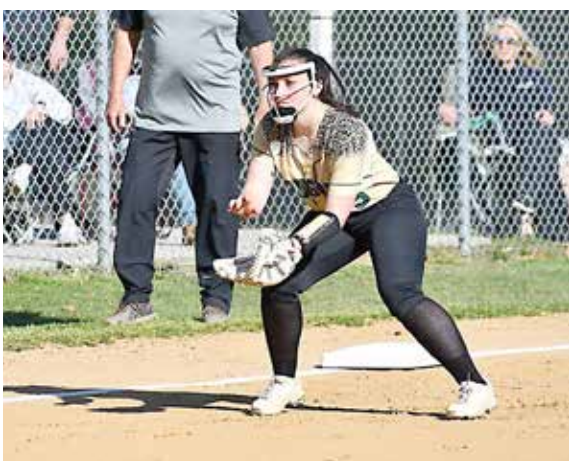
**By Ashlee Mullis**  
The Varsity Cougar Baseball Team traveled to Floyd on Monday, March 27. Stuart Callahan got the start on the mound in the 15-6 win. Callahan went 3 2/3 innings, allowing 2 hits, 1 earned run, 3 walks, and 6 strikeouts. Jai Penn and Jackson Horton combined to 2 1/3 innings in relief. The Cougars were led at the plate by Martin Sawyers who was 3-5. Tucker Swails, Callahan, and Penn added 2 hits each.



Toby Perkins prepares to hit for the Cougars.

## Varsity Girls Pick Up Win

**By Ashlee Mullis**  
The Varsity Lady Cougar Softball Team hosted Tunstall High School on Wednesday, March 30. PC defeated the Lady Trojans 15 to 6. Journey Moore started on the mound, striking out 3. McKenzie Holt pitched went in to pitch the last 3 innings. The Lady Cougars had 11 hits. Journey Moore led the way with 4 hits and 3 RBIs. Alexis Knight had 2 hits. Madison Greer had a triple with 2 RBIs. Lilly Hazelwood had 3 RBIs, while Kyleigh Gusler and Holt



Alexis Knight gets ready for the play.

each had hits. Lauren Fulcher hit a home run in the win.

## Four PCHS Fishing Team members advance to state championship



Jonah Shockley and Hunter Heath. (Photos by Melanie Roberson)



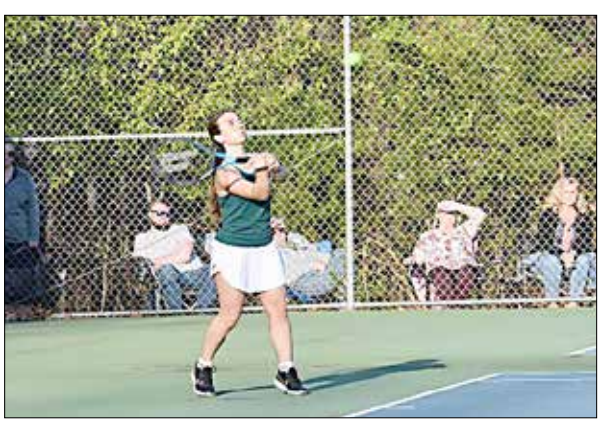
Eli Wood and Evan Wood.

**By Sandra Heath**  
The Patrick County High School Fishing Team competed against area high school teams in the southern division of the B.A.S.S. Nation of Virginia final state qualifier at a cold windy Philpott Lake. State Results are in. Congratulations to Jonah Shockley and Hunter Heath; and Eli Wood and Evan Wood, they

were all able to secure a spot in the state tournament. The four will be joining the previous tournament qualifiers Jake Caine, Devin Walker, Caleb Geiger, Cameron Collins, Will Heath, Chace Handy, Caleb Hostetter and Evan Havens at the State Championship to be held at Lake Gaston in April. Special thanks to sponsors and boat captains.

## Girls Tennis Team Falls to Bassett

**By Ashlee Mullis**  
The Girls Tennis Team lost a close match to Bassett on Wednesday, March 29. In Singles, Marissa Bentley (PC) defeated Taylor Reed 8-1, Mia Stowe (PC) defeated Bailey Dyer 8-2, Madison Mullis (PC) defeated Hannah Eanes 8-5, Cecilia Leon-Cisneros (PC) fell to Evan Parnell 1-8, Katie Vernon (PC) fell to Laken Porter 0-8, and Shyanne Holt (PC) fell to Jenna Meadors (-1-8). In Doubles, PC lost to Bassett 1-2. Marissa Bentley/Mia Stowe defeated Taylor Reed/Hannah Eanes 8-2, Madison Mullis/



Madison Mullis returns the serve in her singles match.

Cecilia Leon-Cisneros fell to Evan Parnell/Laken Porter 3-8, and Katie Vernon/Shyanne Holt fell to Bailey Dyer/Charity Whitfield 4-8. The Lady Cougars will play Magna Vista April 11th.

## Youth Skills Camp scheduled for May 20

Registration is underway for the PC Youth Skills Camp and Combine 2023. The camp will be held May 20, from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m., at the Patrick County High School football field. The \$25 fee includes lunch and a shirt (if registered by May 1). Registration form (below) and check may be mailed to Patrick County Football, 215 Cougar Lane, Stuart, VA 24171. Make all checks payable to Patrick County Football. Walk up registration will also be available the day of the camp/combine.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age/Grade \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Shirt Size (circle one) YS YM YL YXL AS AM AL  
Emergency Contact \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

**Waiver**  
In consideration of the acceptance of my child's entry, I for my child, do hereby release and discharge the organizers of this camp/combine and all other sponsors and organizers of all claims and damages, actions whatsoever in any manner arising out of my child's participation in this camp/combine. I attest and verify that I have full knowledge of the risks involved in this camp/combine and I my child is physically able to participate in this camp/combine. Further, I grant full permission to any and all partners of the PC Youth Skills Camp and Combine 2023 to use my child's name, photographs, videotapes, or any other record of this event for any legitimate purpose without compensation.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

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# Kyle Larson and Team Grab First Win of 2023 at Richmond Raceway

By Holly Cain  
NASCAR Wire Service

With the benefit of a fast final pit stop, Kyle Larson was able to put his No. 5 Hendrick Motorsports Chevrolet out front at Richmond (Va.) Raceway and then hold off the field in the last 25 laps of Sunday's Toyota Owners 400 to earn his first NASCAR Cup Series victory of the 2023 season.

The 30-year old Californian had to out-duel his Hendrick Motorsports teammate Josh Berry on a pair of re-starts in the closing laps to secure the win at the first short track event of the season at the .75-mile Richmond oval. Berry, driving the No. 9 Hendrick Chevy for injured Chase Elliott, finished runner-up capturing his best ever NASCAR Cup Series finish – 1.535-seconds behind Larson to the checkered flag.

Trackhouse Racing's Ross Chastain, Joe Gibbs Racing's Christopher Bell and Stewart-Haas Racing's Kevin Harvick rounded out the top five.

It was the 2021 NASCAR Cup Series champion Larson's 20th career win and the first ever NASCAR Cup Series victory for his interim crew chief Kevin Meendering, who has led the No. 5 team at-track while fulltime crew chief Cliff Daniels – along with the Hendrick team's other three crew chiefs – finish out a suspension penalty from NASCAR.

"It's really cool, we've been close to winning a couple," Larson said, adding, "Things just worked out and my pit crew had a great stop."

It was certainly a Hendrick Motorsports day with Larson and Berry besting the field. And their teammate William Byron leading the most laps (117) and winning his series-best fifth stage. The season's only two-time winner Byron looked poised to have a say in the trophy hoist too, only to be knocked out of contention when he was hit from behind by Christopher Bell on a re-start with 20 laps remaining.

"I was just re-starting fourth there, just trying to stay tight to the 9 [Berry] and get a good restart and got tagged in the left rear," said a frustrated Byron, who finished 24th. "Just a dive-bomb move on his [Bell] part. It is what it is. I had a great race car."

"The Raptor Chevrolet was awesome all day. We'll just keep bringing fast race cars like that. It was looking like another win before that caution there, but that's the way it goes."

Larson led four different times, totaling 93 laps on the afternoon and survived contact on pit road with Daniel Suárez's Chevrolet early in the race. It was Larson's second Richmond win (also in 2017) and the fifth for Chevy through the season's opening seven races.

The Toyota contingent looked to give the Chevys a real run, looking especially strong mid-race. Four Toyota drivers combined to lead 154 laps – more than the manufacturer had been out front in the previous six races. Denny Hamlin's No. 11 Joe Gibbs Racing Toyota paced the



Kyle Larson, driver of the #5 HendrickCars.com Chevrolet, and Jeff Gordon, Vice Chairman of Hendrick Motorsports celebrate in victory lane after winning the NASCAR Cup Series Toyota Owners 400 at Richmond Raceway on April 02, 2023 in Richmond, Virginia. (Photo by Jared C. Tilton/Getty Images)

Toyotas leading 71 laps and claiming the Stage 2 win, but a pair of pit road penalties – including a costly one on his final stop, took him out of contention. He finished 20th.

"What an awesome Hendrickcars.com Chevy," Larson said. "Can't say enough about it. I got into the 99 [Suarez] on pit road there sometime in the second stage, and we were awful after that. I was hoping the damage was the reason why, but they had to calm me down a little bit and get refocused and was able to get it done."

"Thanks to everyone on this team, Cliff Daniels, for everything he does to prepare the team to be as strong

as we are without him on the box. So good to get a win, and hopefully many more."

Michael McDowell finished sixth - his first top-10 finish of the year. Reigning series champion Joey Logano was seventh, followed by polesitter Alex Bowman, rookie Ty Gibbs and owner-driver Brad Keselowski. Gibbs ninth place effort marked his third consecutive top-10 finish.

The series returns to action next Sunday with the Food City Dirt Race at Bristol (Tenn.) Motor Speedway (7 p.m. ET, FOX, PRN, SiriusXM NASCAR Radio). Kyle Busch is the defending race winner.

## NASCAR Cup Series Race - Toyota Owners 400

Richmond Raceway  
Richmond, Virginia  
Sunday, April 2, 2023

- 1. (9) Kyle Larson, Chevrolet, 400.
- 2. (30) Josh Berry(i), Chevrolet, 400.
- 3. (4) Ross Chastain, Chevrolet, 400.
- 4. (21) Christopher Bell, Toyota, 400.
- 5. (10) Kevin Harvick, Ford, 400.
- 6. (15) Michael McDowell, Ford, 400.
- 7. (18) Joey Logano, Ford, 400.
- 8. (1) Alex Bowman, Chevrolet, 400.
- 9. (14) Ty Gibbs #, Toyota, 400.
- 10. (24) Brad Keselowski, Ford, 400.
- 11. (12) Martin Truex Jr., Toyota, 400.
- 12. (19) Chase Briscoe, Ford, 400.
- 13. (32) Aric Almirola, Ford, 400.
- 14. (2) Kyle Busch, Chevrolet, 400.
- 15. (13) Todd Gilliland, Ford, 400.
- 16. (5) Tyler Reddick, Toyota, 400.
- 17. (37) Chandler Smith(i), Chevrolet, 400.
- 18. (33) Ryan Preece, Ford, 400.
- 19. (26) Harrison Burton, Ford, 400.
- 20. (11) Denny Hamlin, Toyota, 400.
- 21. (16) Corey LaJoie, Chevrolet, 400.
- 22. (28) Bubba Wallace, Toyota, 400.
- 23. (20) Daniel Suarez, Chevrolet, 400.
- 24. (3) William Byron, Chevrolet, 400.
- 25. (27) Austin Dillon, Chevrolet, 399.
- 26. (17) Ryan Blaney, Ford, 399.
- 27. (25) AJ Allmendinger, Chevrolet, 399.
- 28. (6) Austin Cindric, Ford, 399.
- 29. (29) Justin Haley, Chevrolet, 399.
- 30. (7) Chris Buescher, Ford, 398.
- 31. (22) Erik Jones, Chevrolet, 398.
- 32. (36) Ty Dillon, Chevrolet, 398.
- 33. (35) Anthony Alfredo(i), Chevrolet, 396.
- 34. (31) Cody Ware, Ford, 395.

- 35. (8) Ricky Stenhouse Jr., Chevrolet, 384.
- 36. (34) JJ Yeley(i), Ford, 383.
- 37. (23) Noah Gragson #, Chevrolet, Accident, 303.

Average Speed of Race Winner: 91.085 mph.

Time of Race: 3 Hrs, 17 Mins, 37 Secs. Margin of Victory: 1.535 Seconds.

Caution Flags: 8 for 54 laps.

Lead Changes: 22 among 11 drivers.

Lap Leaders: A. Bowman 0;K. Busch 1;A. Bowman 2-9;W. Byron 10-33;R. Chastain 34-49;W. Byron 50-123;K. Larson 124-160;D. Hamlin 161-166;K. Larson 167-196;W. Byron 197-206;C. Bell 207-227;D. Hamlin 228-234;C. Bell 235;D. Hamlin 236-293;B. Wallace 294;M. Truex Jr. 295-307;K. Larson 308;M. Truex Jr. 309-351;C. Bell 352-355;B. Keselowski 356;J. Berry(i) 357-366;W. Byron 367-375;K. Larson 376-400.

Leaders Summary (Driver, Times

Lead, Laps Led): William Byron 4 times for 117 laps; Kyle Larson 4 times for 93 laps; Denny Hamlin 3 times for 71 laps; Martin Truex Jr. 2 times for 56 laps; Christopher Bell 3 times for 26 laps; Ross Chastain 1 time for 16 laps; Josh Berry(i) 1 time for 10 laps; Alex Bowman 1

time for 8 laps; Brad Keselowski 1 time for 1 lap; Kyle Busch 1 time for 1 lap; Bubba Wallace 1 time for 1 lap.

Stage	#1	Top	Ten:
24,5,1,4,22,45,48,20,6,14			
Stage	#2	Top	Ten:
11,20,24,19,1,6,48,5,4,54			

## Sports Schedule for Patrick County High School

Week of April 4-12

### April 11:

- 4 p.m. - Boy's & Girls Tennis @ Magna Vista
- 5 p.m. - Softball @ Bassett
- 7 p.m. - Girl's Soccer vs Bassett
- 5 p.m. - Baseball @ George Washington
- 7 p.m. - Boy's Soccer @ Bassett

### Patrick County Parks Recreation 2023 Spring Sports Schedules

#### Dan River Park

Game	Time
Coach Pitch Softball Tee Ball	2 games: 5:45 P.M. and 7:15 P.M. Begins at 9:00 A.M. (5 games)
Coach Pitch Softball	2 games: 5:45 P.M. and 7:15 P.M.
Coach Pitch Softball	2 games: 5:45 P.M. and 7:15 P.M.

#### DeHart Park, Field 1

Game	Time
Minor League Softball	2 games: 5:45 P.M. and 7:15 P.M.
Minor League Softball	2 games: 5:45 P.M. and 7:15 P.M.
Minor League Softball	2 games: 5:45 P.M. and 7:15 P.M.
Coach Pitch Softball	2 games: 5:45 P.M. and 7:15 P.M.
Minor League Softball	2 games: 5:45 P.M. and 7:15 P.M.
Tee Ball	2 games at 5:45 P.M. and 6:45 P.M.
Tee Ball	2 games at 5:45 P.M. and 6:45 P.M.
Tee Ball	1 game at 5:45 P.M.
Minor League Softball	2 games: 5:45 P.M. and 7:15 P.M.
Minor League Softball	2 games: 5:45 P.M. and 7:15 P.M.
Minor League Softball	2 games: 5:45 P.M. and 7:15 P.M.
Tee Ball	2 games at 5:45 P.M. and 6:45 P.M.
Tee Ball	2 games at 5:45 P.M. and 6:45 P.M.
Tee Ball	1 game at 5:45 P.M.

#### Mountain Top Park

Game	Time
Tee Ball	Begins at 9:00 A.M. (5 games)

#### Patrick Springs Park

Game	Time
Minor League Softball Tee Ball	2 games: 5:45 P.M. and 7:15 P.M. Begins at 9:00 A.M. (5 games)
Minor League Softball Tee Ball	2 games: 5:45 P.M. and 7:15 P.M. Begins at 9:00 A.M. (5 games)
Coach Pitch Softball	2 games: 5:45 P.M. and 7:15 P.M.
Coach Pitch Softball	2 games: 5:45 P.M. and 7:15 P.M.

#### Woolwine School

Game	Time
Coach Pitch Softball	2 games: 5:45 P.M. and 7:15 P.M.
Coach Pitch Softball	2 games: 5:45 P.M. and 7:15 P.M.
Coach Pitch Softball	2 games: 5:45 P.M. and 7:15 P.M.
Tee Ball	Begins at 9:00 A.M. (5 games)

# 2023

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# Officials eye annual Tourism Summit



James Houchins, director of the Patrick County Tourism Office, addressed the crowd attending the county's inaugural Tourism Summit last week.

James Houchins hopes to parlay the success of the county's inaugural Tourism Summit into an annual event, with collaboration a centerpiece of his efforts.

"We want to make it an annual event," that is held at various venues in the county, said Houchins, director of the county's Tourism Office.

He added that collaboration is his main focus.

"Patrick County is a great place to live and raise a family. We are unique in that we have different smaller communities within our larger community, and I hope to continue bridging them together

for the greater good through collaboration," Houchins said, adding that is "not only within Patrick but reaching out to our neighboring counties to bring tourists to the places we love and get to enjoy."

The inaugural summit was geared to accomplish that goal, with a host of local and regional representatives on hand to address business owners and speakers that included Rita McClenny, president and CEO of the Virginia Tourism Corporation, and Becky Nave, director, of Destination Development for the Virginia Tourism Corporation.

Each discussed the recovery of tourism in Virginia and how Patrick County continues to trend upward during the March 27 event held at Fayerdale Hall in Fairy Stone State Park.

Another of the summit's goals was to strengthen the county's connection to its regional partners by putting names with faces and the partnering tourism organizations. As a result, the event also included speakers from the Virginia Tourism



Becky Nave, director of the Virginia Tourism Corporation's Destination Development.

Corporation, Friends of Southwest Virginia, West Piedmont Planning Commission, Longwood Small Business Development Center, Crooked Road, Patrick County Chamber of Commerce, The Reynolds Homestead, and Patrick County Economic Development.

Houchins said the summit was packed with updates from state tourism organizations and helpful insights for small businesses, including grants and educational opportunities geared to helping them grow. In addition, Patrick County Tourism updated the county's tourism efforts, gave a sneak peek of the new tourism website, and debuted the latest edition of the Patrick County Magazine.

"We want to thank everyone who attended the summit," Houchins said. "In addition, we thank Fairy Stone State Park, The Reynolds Homestead, chamber of commerce, and Silverlining Designs for everything they did to make the Tourism Summit a success."

## Larry D. Jones



Mr. Larry D. Jones, age 66 of Stuart, passed away Wednesday, March 29, 2023, at his home. He was born in Patrick County on July 1, 1956, to the late Sidney A. Jones, Sr. and Sarah Elizabeth "Tottie" Goins Jones. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by three brothers, Paul Thomas Jones, Leon Allen Jones, Sidney A. "Junior" Jones, Jr.; and a brother-in-law, Lynn Shouse. Larry had worked for Hutchens Petroleum and RJR Hospital for many years. He loved hunting and spending time with and spoiling his grandson.

Surviving is his loving wife of 43 years, Patricia Greenwood Jones of the home; one son, Wes Jones and fiancé, Cynthia Turney of Stuart; one grandson, Kip Jones; three sisters and brothers-in-law, Patsy

Shouse, Judy and Bobby Gardner all of Stuart, Robin and Bobby Pack of Westfield, NC; one brother and sister-in-law, Lloyd and Patricia Jones of Stuart; two sisters-in-law, Ann Overby Jones of Westfield, NC, Wanda Parrish Jones of Stuart; and several nieces and nephews.

Funeral services will be held Saturday, April 1, 2023, at 11:00 AM at Moody Funeral Home in Stuart with Rev. Ricky Rogers officiating. Burial will follow in the Stuart Church of Christ in Dry Pond. The family will receive friends one hour prior to the service at the funeral home. Memorials can be made to the Stuart Church of Christ in Dry Pond Cemetery Fund c/o Pat Shouse, 1918 Old Orchard Loop, Stuart, VA 24171. Online condolences may be sent to [www.moodyfuneralservices.com](http://www.moodyfuneralservices.com).

# Third annual All-Hands Meeting to shine a spotlight on small business

GO Virginia (GOVA) Region 3 partners, businesses, community and elected leaders, entrepreneurs and educators will gather at The Prizery in South Boston for the third annual All-Hands Meeting to foster business-led economic development in the Commonwealth on Thursday, May 4 at 5 p.m.

The 2023 GO Virginia Region 3 All-Hands Meeting seeks to connect the ecosystems of entrepreneurs and big business by shining a spotlight on small businesses and exploring how they can scale up or act as suppliers for larger companies.

"The annual All-Hands Meeting is the best example of Region 3's superpower," said GOVA Region 3 Council Chair Tim Clark. "We bring people together. By convening our community and breaking down the silos, we've been able to make great strides in the economic development of Southern Virginia. This year we celebrate connections between our businesses and our entrepreneurs because it takes growth of all types to support the continued development of our region."

The event keynote will be delivered by Micah White, director of business development for the Metropolitan Business League (MBL) and founder of RVA Has Talent. White's career includes 25-plus years in the entertainment industry as a stand-up comedian, host

and philanthropist. In his role as director of the MBL, he spearheads an initiative in Brunswick County to support sustainable entrepreneurial ideas. His own entrepreneurial venture, RVA Has Talent, facilitates collaborations between local artists and nonprofits in the Greater Richmond area.

In addition to White's keynote, program highlights will include a regional entrepreneur panel discussion featuring Rudy's Girl Media Founder Natalie Hodge, Big Fade Entertainment Founder Ernell Bellamy and Letterpress Communications Founder and Principal Ilsa Loeser, as well as a networking cocktail hour and dinner.

The GOVA All-Hands Meeting is open to the public. GOVA invites any and all who are interested in the prosperity of Region 3 to attend, including representatives from the business, development, economy, education, finance, government, management and media sectors, as well as others. To learn more or register for the free event, visit [www.GoVirginia3.org/News/All-Hands-Meeting/](http://www.GoVirginia3.org/News/All-Hands-Meeting/). Interviews with GOVA personnel are available upon request.

Region 3 thanks the following supporters The Prizery, Riverlink LLC, Blair Construction and Letterpress Communications.

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# PATRICK PULPITS

## Jesus' Commandments

By Alan Dean,  
retired Seventh-day  
Adventist pastor



Our attitude toward law is different when we know the lawgiver. Each of us is born with a perverse streak. The very presence of rules makes us want to break them. If you want someone to touch your newly painted fence, just hang a sign that says, "Don't Touch - Wet Paint." When William Johnson was a dean of boys in a high school academy, he noticed how the faculty would try to solve problems by inventing new rules. They thought that simply by making laws, they could remove all difficulties. But new and better laws were simply a challenge to the students to find new and better ways to get around them, or break them without getting caught.

But when we know the lawgiver, our attitude changes. When there is a personal relationship, a deep trust and respect, then we know that the rules he has laid down are not given to burden us. They don't come from a desire to fence us in, to crush our free spirits. He gives them for our best good.

When I was young and working on my dad's dairy farm, I developed a love and deep respect for my dad. He was a kind, friendly, hard-working man, loved by our family as well as the community. He loved the Lord and was faithful to Him. The farm had lots of work to be done every day besides the milking. Work had to be done before and after school. And summers were busy making hay and other crops. But I seldom complained because he showed us love and appreciation. If

I hadn't had that good relationship with my dad, that hard work schedule would have seemed like a prison sentence.

It makes all the difference in our relationship to the 10 Commandments when we realize that they are introduced with the words "I am the Lord thy God, which has brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage" (Exodus 20:2). You see, God who was giving these commandments to Israel was the one who had already rescued them. First, He saved them, and then He commanded them. He did not say, Obey these laws, then I will save you. No! He manifested His love by coming to the 12 tribes in their slavery, working miracles to deliver them from Egypt. Then, at Sinai He revealed the Decalogue to them.

Jesus did a similar thing in New Testament times. In the Sermon on the Mount, He elaborated the law. He showed that it includes even our desires and motives. But before Jesus gave this tighter interpretation of the law, He "went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all manner of sickness and all manner of disease among the people" (Matthew 4:23). He who was commanding had first manifested His love and compassion.

Without knowing the love of the lawgiver, the Ten Commandments are a prison, every bar marked "Thou shalt not!" But when we know Jesus the Lawgiver, these commandments are a promise to us that "Because you are Mine, thou shalt not live as others do." He promises us a more abundant life by following Him. (John 10:10)

## Letters

(cont. from page 6)

...ticians, race hustlers and people who get a sense of superiority by denouncing others as racists."

"If you don't control the borders, it doesn't matter what immigration laws you have."

"No one will really understand politics until they understand that politicians are not trying to solve our problems. They are trying to solve their own problems - of which

getting elected and re-elected are number one and number two. Whatever is number three is far behind."

"It is amazing how many people act as if the right to free speech includes the right to be free of criticism for what they say - which means that other people should not have the same right to free speech that they claim for themselves."

Pray for our country.  
**William Salser,  
Stuart**

## Drop Everything and Read

When I was a child, Beverly Cleary was a household name. I couldn't wait for the day of the week my class got to visit my school library and check out another one of her books. The only thing better was being able to buy one of my own during the best time of the year - Scholastic Book Fair Week. In her book, Ramona Quimby, Age 8, Cleary coined the phrase, Drop Everything and Read, or DEAR. Over sixty years later, school libraries across the nation still celebrate April 12th, Ms. Cleary's birthday, by encouraging everyone to take time to read. After teaching English for 23 years, I can say, without a doubt, that reading is one of the most important things a child can do. Research shows that reading increases your vocabulary, keeps your brain active, relieves stress, and increases your IQ. Your child can check out his or her favorite books for free at their school library. You can take a book anywhere and get lost in whatever fantasy you choose. Reading to your young child helps them develop a broader vocabulary, helps them develop better reading skills and habits, and paves the way for a lifetime of reading for learning and enjoyment.

to Drop Everything and Read. Visit your local library with your kids and check out books they are interested in and excited about. Encourage them to check out books in their school library. School librarians have a passion for reading and books and would love to share that love with your kids. One of the biggest reasons kids don't love to read is because they haven't found books that interest them. Librarians love nothing more than to help a child open up their world by helping them find books they can lose themselves in. Show your enthusiasm for reading and encourage them to put down their phones and video games and grab a book that will not only take them on an exciting adventure but also increase their reading abilities and intelligence. Read with your kids and in front of them. The next time you pull out your phone, read a book on a free app offered by your library instead of surfing the web or posting on social media. Be an example of the importance of reading and literacy. Be the reason that on April 12th, as well as the rest of the year, they Drop Everything and Read.

**Ashlee Mullis,  
Ridgeway**

**email us**  
DHALL@THEENTERPRISE.NET

## BIBLE TRIVIA

BY WILSON CASEY

1. Is the book of Gethsemane (KJV) in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. What's the only book of the Bible that mentions Christ's tomb being sealed? Matthew, Mark, Luke, John
3. From Matthew 28:2, who rolled back the stone from the door of Jesus' tomb and sat upon it? Simon, An angel, Villagers, Disciples
4. When Mary Magdalene and "the other Mary" came upon the risen Jesus, who

did He ask them to inform? Priests, Disciples, No one, Villagers

5. From John 20, which disciple doubted that Jesus had risen unless he could see the wounds? Peter, Andrew, Thomas, Thaddeus

6. How long did Jesus remain after His resurrection before He ascended into heaven? Instantaneously, 1 hour, 7 days, 40 days

ANSWERS: 1) Neither, 2) Matthew (27:65-66), 3) An angel, 4) Disciples, 5) Thomas (called Didymus), 6) 40 days (Acts 1:3)

**Skyline Pentecostal Holiness Church**  
1515 Rock Church Rd.  
Meadows of Dan, Virginia  
**Rev. Tommy Gosnell**  
**CHURCH SERVICES**  
Sunday School 10 am  
Worship Services 11 am

**FAIRWAY BAPTIST CHURCH**  
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**Sunday Night 6:00 pm**  
**Wed. Night - Adult Bible Study 7:00**  
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Sunday School for all ages 9:45 am  
Wednesdays  
Community Meal & Service 6:00 pm  
Food Distribution Ministry:  
Monday, Wednesday and Friday  
"To Sustain a Nation to Follow Jesus Christ"

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Bringing the World to Christ  
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276-694-3440 11:00 Worship Service  
www.stuartbaptist.org office@stuartbaptist.org

**Stuart Seventh-Day Adventist Church**  
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276-694-7677 • www.stuartva.adventistchurch.org  
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Come visit our Bible-believing church



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## Super Crossword

HAVING FLITTING THOUGHTS

- |   |  |                                  |  |                                   |                                   |
|---|--|----------------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <b>ACROSS</b>   | 47 Dark deli loaf  | 81 Soviet spacecraft series      | 122 City in central Illinois               | 20 Lion's home                    | 77 The opposite way               |
| 1 One of Chrysler's K-cars                            | 48 City haze   | 49 The Browns, on sports tickers | 123 Hawaii's nickname                      | 27 Paris airport                  | 29 "Righteously" singer           |
| 11 Imaginary  | 50 Volunteer's response  | 52 Star pitchers                 | 124 Super-corny                            | 30 Desk wood                      | 31 Pseudonym                      |
| 21 Lack of refinement                                 | 54 Getz of jazz  | 55 List-curtailing abbr.         | 125 Occupancy levies                       | 32 Groups for devotees            | 34 Vast Asian mountain system     |
| 22 Open to discussion                                 | 56 Brief letter  | 57 Roofing material              | <b>DOWN</b>                                | 1 Talk smack to                   | 2 Like official public statements |
| 23 * Golf format not based on the number of holes won | 59 Like an old apple's consistency   | 60 Bit of a script               | 1 Talk smack to                            | 3 Freed from federal restrictions | 4 Give off light                  |
| 24 * Part of an internal-combustion engine            | 61 Fear greatly  | 63 Longtime operating system     | 5 "Look, micel!"                           | 6 Ripen                           | 7 Lil Jon's genre                 |
| 25 Take an ax to wardrobe                             | 62 Longtime operating system   | 64 Spanish pot                   | 8 Around H'wood, e.g.                      | 9 French card game                | 10 Actress Jane                   |
| 26 Ornate   | 65 Blackthorn fruits   | 66 Supplement                    | 9 French card game                         | 11 One asked to attend a party    | 12 Less remote                    |
| 28 Nice 'n Easy product                               | 67 Word that can precede the starts of the answers to the five starred clues | 69 Trousers                      | 102 Roof part                              | 13 Eye creepily                   | 14 Thanksgiving mo.               |
| 29 Shin locale  | 70 Car navig. aid  | 72 Owner of WordPerfect          | 103 Mine car load                          | 14 Thanksgiving mo.               | 15 Summer, to Jeanne              |
| 30 Stumblebum   | 73 Cato's "I love"   | 75 Brainteaser                   | 104 Yoko of art                            | 16 Form a lap                     | 17 Tough                          |
| 33 Austrian cake                                      | 79 Sacred spots  |                                  | 105 Shark part                             | 18 Many a virtual bidding event   | 19 Ork, Krypton or Melmac         |
| 34 Up on the latest                                   |  |                                  | 106 Sped                                   |                                   |                                   |
| 37 "Binary" singer DiFranco                           |  |                                  | 107 Genesis twin                           |                                   |                                   |
| 39 S. Amer. country                                   |  |                                  | 109 Small stream                           |                                   |                                   |
| 40 Much like calculus pioneer Leonhard                |  |                                  | 111 "Smooth Operator" singer               |                                   |                                   |
| 42 Hot temper   |  |                                  | 113 * Vessel for crustacean fishing        |                                   |                                   |
| 43 Scanned ID in a market                             |  |                                  | 117 * Removes tenderly, as a lover's tears |                                   |                                   |
| 44 Cartoon pic  |  |                                  |  |                                   |                                   |
| 45 Twist, as in a hose                                |  |                                  |  |                                   |                                   |

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Puzzle answers page 14



# 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.

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**HELP WANTED**

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**JOB OPENING** The Patrick County Clerk of Circuit Court office is accepting applications from qualified applicants for the position of Administrative Assistant. The position provides administrative support to the Clerk of Circuit Court and customer service assistance to the general public. A complete job description is available on the Patrick County website at https://www.co.patrick.va.us/careers. This is a full-time position with benefits that include vacation and sick leave, life and health insurance, and retirement. Hours will be 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Overtime may be required. A high school diploma or equivalent is required; an Associate's degree is preferred. Experience in a legal or court environment is preferred. Proficiency in Microsoft Office is required. Patrick County employment applications may be obtained at http://www.co.patrick.va.us/careers or from the Patrick County Administration Office, Room 218, 106 Rucker Street, Stuart, VA. Applicants must submit a Patrick County employment application to be considered for the position. Applications and resumes may be emailed to Donna Shough, HR Director, at dshough@co.patrick.va.us, with a copy to Melissa Taylor at mtaylor@co.patrick.va.us. Faxed applications will not be accepted. The position will remain open until filled. The County of Patrick is an Equal Opportunity Employer and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, disability, or age.

**HELP WANTED**

**JOB OPENING** The County of Patrick is accepting applications from qualified applicants for the position of Recreation Department Administrative Assistant. The position assists the Recreation Director in the implementation of sports, fitness, and leisure activities and other special events for the community. The position also will implement effective office management processes to provide quality customer service following governmental guidelines. A complete job description is available on the Patrick County website at https://www.co.patrick.va.us/careers.

This is a full-time position with benefits that include vacation and sick leave, life and health insurance, and retirement. Hours will be 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Overtime and weekend work may be required. Patrick County employment applications may be obtained at http://www.co.patrick.va.us/careers or from the Patrick County Administration Office, Room 218, 106 Rucker Street, Stuart, VA. Applicants must submit a Patrick County employment application to be considered for the position. Applications and resumes may be emailed to Donna Shough, HR Director, at dshough@co.patrick.va.us, with a copy to Melissa Taylor at mtaylor@co.patrick.va.us. Faxed applications will not be accepted. The position will remain open until filled. The County of Patrick is an Equal Opportunity Employer and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, disability, or age.

**JOB OPENING** The County of Patrick is accepting applications from qualified applicants for a part-time, seasonal grounds maintenance worker. Duties of the position will include, but are not limited to, operating grounds maintenance equipment, including tractors, mowers, and weed eaters; mowing and weed eating grass; preparing ballfields; trash or debris collection and disposal; planting, weeding, and trimming flowers, shrubbery, and small trees; and any other general grounds maintenance tasks assigned by the Recreation Director. The preferred candidate will have experience with grounds maintenance equipment operation and be able to perform manual labor. This is a part-time, seasonal position with no benefits. The successful candidate will work from April through October at a maximum of 29 hours per week. Hours are Monday through Thursday from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Friday from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. with a one-hour

**HELP WANTED**

lunch break each day. Patrick County employment applications may be obtained at http://www.co.patrick.va.us/careers or from the Patrick County Administration Office, Room 218, 106 Rucker Street, Stuart, VA. Applicants must submit a Patrick County employment application to be considered for the position. Applications may be emailed to Donna Shough, HR Director, at dshough@co.patrick.va.us, with a copy to Melissa Taylor at mtaylor@co.patrick.va.us. Faxed applications will not be accepted. The position will remain open until filled. The County of Patrick is an Equal Opportunity Employer and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, disability, or age.

**NOTICE**

**WANTED TO BUY.** Portable CD/DVD player. Call 605-415-1116.

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**ITEMS FOR SALE** -3-bag grass-catcher for BX-2350 Kubota tractor. Bought new, used very little. Sells for \$2500 new, will take \$1500. -oak dining server with black Formica look-alike slate top. Mostly solid oak cabinet. Very nice. Selling for \$195. Call 276-629-1064.

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# New bill

(cont. from page 3)

methods and how they go about to create vulnerability," McKenna said.

The training will hopefully help students understand their own potential vulnerabilities and be able to see and help others that could be taken advantage of, McKenna said.

"You can't identify if you don't know what you're seeing," McKenna said. "You can't describe what you're seeing, potentially how you are being exploited, or being groomed to be exploited."

The bill is pertinent due to the rise of human trafficking, Brewer said during the House Post-Secondary and Higher Education subcommittee.

mittee.

The National Human Trafficking Hotline identified 140 cases in 2021 in Virginia, 120 cases in 2020, and 188 in 2019. The number of human trafficking victims is generally higher than the number of cases, according to statistics on the National Human Trafficking Hotline, which estimated between 150 to 300 victims every year in Virginia.

"We found this bill to be important to be able to really make sure that young people are aware of their surroundings and the effects of human trafficking signs," Brewer said during the subcommittee.

The bill also requires the State Council of Higher Education for

Virginia, or SCHEV, to encourage private higher education institutions to provide the same human trafficking awareness and prevention training for students during their orientation programs.

Grace Covello Khattar is the associate for finance policy at SCHEV. The council invited all of the presidents of private colleges and staff to attend the next meeting where they will discuss training ideas, according to Covello Khattar.

"We plan to have a topic at the May council meeting as of now to really encourage our private institutions to develop and implement the same policies that our public institutions are going to be doing," Covello Khattar said.

The preventative training is important and will hopefully help to bring exposure to the issue of hu-

man trafficking, Covello Khattar said.

"It could shed some light on some topics that they haven't really considered before or maybe not in depth or detail that the orientation would present on," Covello Khattar said.

The bill does not have a specific timeline for when the human trafficking prevention training must launch, but has an effective start date of July 1.

"It is enacted this summer," Covello Khattar said. "So, my understanding is that it will start this fall."

Capital News Service is a program of Virginia Commonwealth University's Robertson School of Media and Culture. Students in the program provide state government coverage for a variety of media outlets in Virginia.

## LEGAL

### PUBLIC NOTICE

PURPOSE OF NOTICE: To seek public comment on a draft permit from the Department of Environmental Quality that will allow the release of treated wastewater into a water body in Patrick County, Virginia

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: April 6, 2023 - May 5, 2023  
 PERMIT NAME: Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit - Wastewater issued by DEQ, under the authority of the State Water Control Board

APPLICANT NAME, ADDRESS, AND PERMIT NUMBER: Town of Stuart, PO Box 422, Stuart, Virginia 24171, VA0022985  
 FACILITY NAME AND LOCATION: Town of Stuart WWTP, 709 Commerce street, Stuart, Virginia 24171  
 PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The Town of Stuart has applied for a reissuance of a permit for the wastewater treatment plant in Patrick County. The applicant proposes to release treated sewage wastewater at a rate of 600,000 gallons per day from the current facility into a water body. A sludge management plan has been submitted proposing to haul sludge to a landfill. The facility proposes to release the treated sewage to into the South Mayo River in Patrick County in the Upper South Mayo/River/Russell Creek Watershed (VAW-L43R). A watershed is the land area drained by a river and its incoming streams. The permit will limit the following pollutants to amounts that protect water quality: organic matter, solids, bacteria, dissolved oxygen (minimum), physical and chemical properties

HOW TO COMMENT AND/OR REQUEST A PUBLIC HEARING: DEQ accepts comments and requests for public hearing by e-mail, fax, or postal mail. All comments and requests must be in writing and be received by DEQ during the comment period. Submittals must include the names, mailing addresses and telephone numbers of the commenter/requester and of all persons represented by the commenter/requester. A request for a public hearing must also include: 1) The reason why a public hearing is requested. 2) A brief, informal statement regarding the nature and extent of the interest of the requester or of those represented by the requestor, including how and extent such interest would be directly and adversely affected by the permit. 3) Specific references, where possible, to terms and conditions of the permit with suggested revisions. A public hearing may be held, including another comment period, if a public response is significant, based on individual requests for a public hearing, and there are substantial, disputed issues relevant to the permit. CONTACT FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS, DOCUMENT REQUESTS, AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Becky L. France; ADDRESS: Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, Blue Ridge Regional Office, 901 Russell Drive, Salem, VA 24153; (540) 562-6700; E-MAIL ADDRESS: becky.france@deq.virginia.gov; FAX: (804) 698-4178. The public may review the draft permit and application at the DEQ office named above (by appointment) or may request copies of the documents from the contact person listed above.

## Fentanyl

(cont. from page 3)

to meet his drug suppliers, as well as where and who to sell drugs to in Greene County.

In addition, Hayer warned both individuals of the dangerous nature of fentanyl by telling them to not touch the drug without wearing gloves and to never use fentanyl themselves.

United States Attorney Christo-

pher R. Kavanaugh and Stanley M. Meador, Special Agent in Charge of the FBI Richmond Division made the announcement today.

The Greene County Sheriff's Office and the Federal Bureau of Investigation investigated the case with assistance from the Virginia State Police.

Assistant U.S. Attorneys Melanie Smith and Sean Welsh prosecuted the case.



## LEGAL

ORDER OF PUBLICATION Case No. CL22000651-00  
 COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA  
 VA. CODE §§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316, -317, 20-104  
 PATRICK CIRCUIT COURT  
 101 W. BLUE RIDGE STREET, STUART, VA 24171  
 COUNTY OF PATRICK, VIRGINIA v. JAMES F. NOLEN, ET ALS  
 The object of this suit is to:  
 ENFORCE THE LIEN OF THE COMPLAINANT FOR DELINQUENT TAXES  
 It is ORDERED that THE PARTIES UNKNOWN WHOSE LOCATION CANNOT BE ASCERTAINED appear at the above-named court and protect his/her interests on or before APRIL 17, 2023  
 MARCH 6, 2023

*Mrs. B. B. Johnson*  
 CLERK

## LEGAL

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

**PUBLIC HEARING:** The Patrick County Board of Supervisors will hold a Public Hearing, Monday, April 17, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. in the third-floor courtroom of the Patrick County Veteran's Memorial Building located at 106 Rucker Street in Stuart, Virginia, to adopt the School Bus Video-Monitoring Ordinance. The hearing will begin at 6:00 p.m. in the 3rd-floor courtroom of the Patrick County Veteran's Memorial Building, 106 Rucker Street in Stuart, Virginia. Action will be taken at the meeting. If you would like to review the School Bus Video-Monitoring Ordinance, you may do so at the County Administration Office, Suite 218.

If you plan to attend and have any special needs requirements, please contact the County Administration Office at 276-694-6094.

## LEGAL

### PUBLIC NOTICE To Class "A, B, & C" CONTRACTORS To Include Minority and Female Contractors

STEP, Inc. provides home weatherization service funded by the Dept. of Housing and Community Development (DHCD). In these activities, STEP, Inc., its contractors and sub-contractors will, to the greatest extent feasible, utilize qualified persons and businesses who permanently reside within Patrick, Franklin and surrounding counties for employment and training positions. Candidates for weatherization measures must be in compliance with the Virginia Weatherization Standards and Field Guide requirements. Activities may include: windows, HVAC, electrical and plumbing repairs and/or replacement, insulation and other measures.

Individuals and businesses interested in the competitive opportunities associated with these projects should submit written requests, including their name, address, phone number and the product or services provided to:

Felecia Watkins, Director of Housing  
 Steve Hall, Housing Specialist  
 STEP, Inc.  
 200 Dent Street  
 Rocky Mount, VA 24151  
 Fax: 540-483-2506

Message Relay Service for the Hearing Impaired: TDD: 711  
 STEP, Inc., is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer

## LEGAL

ORDER OF PUBLICATION Case No. CL23000278-00  
 COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA  
 VA. CODE §§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316, -317, 20-104  
 PATRICK CIRCUIT COURT  
 101 W. BLUE RIDGE STREET, STUART, VA 24171  
 JUANITA REYNOLDS WRIGHT v. JOHNNIE REYNOLDS  
 ANNIE HAGWOOD, ET AL  
 The object of this suit is to:  
 PROVIDE DILIGENCE UPON UNKNOWN LOCATION OF DEFENDANTS  
 It is ORDERED that ALL DEFENDANTS NAMED IN THIS CASE appear at the above-named court and protect his/her interests on or before APRIL 24, 2023  
 APRIL 3, 2023

*Mrs. B. B. Johnson*  
 CLERK

## LEGAL

### TOWN OF STUART PUBLIC NOTICE OF INTENT TO REMOVE AN UNSAFE STRUCTURE

#### RECORD OWNER: Thomas A. Dehart et als.

Pursuant to Ordinance No. 11-03 of the Town of Stuart, and §15.2-906 of the 1950 Code of Virginia, as amended, NOTICE is hereby given that the owner shall remove the structure which might engender the public health or safety of other residents of the Town, on or before thirty (30) days following two consecutive weeks of this publication, and failure to comply will result in the Town having to remove the structure and the cost or expense shall be charged to and paid by the owner and collected as taxes are collected.

PROPERTY IDENTIFICATION - Unsafe structure  
 OWNER - Thomas A. Dehart et als., c/o Thomas A. Dehart  
 PROPERTY LOCATION AND TAX IDENTIFICATION -  
 Parcel ID 4811-3-5  
 Property Description - S Mayo R DB 102/1  
 8577 Salem Hwy  
 Stuart, VA 24171

## LEGAL

### TRUSTEE'S SALE OF

2155 ABRAM PENN HIGHWAY, STUART, VA 24171

In execution of a Deed of Trust in the original amount of \$262,500.00, with an annual interest rate of 7.570000% dated June 11, 2015, recorded among the land records of the Circuit Court for the County of Patrick as Deed Instrument Number 50001037, the undersigned appointed Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction all that property located in the County of Patrick, at the front of the Circuit Court building for the County of Patrick located on the corner of Blue Ridge and Main Streets, 101 West Blue Ridge Street, Stuart, Virginia, on May 11, 2023, at 11:00 AM, the property with improvements to wit:

CRITZ  
 P#15-988  
 Tax Map No. 5111-19-113

THIS COMMUNICATION IS FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR.  
 TERMS OF SALE: ALL CASH. A bidder's deposit of 10% of the sale price, will be required in cash, certified or cashier's check. Settlement within fifteen (15) days of sale, otherwise Trustees may forfeit deposit. Additional terms to be announced at sale. Loan type: FHA. Reference Number 23-292878. PROFESSIONAL FORECLOSURE CORPORATION OF VIRGINIA, Substitute Trustees, C/O LOGS LEGAL GROUP LLP, 10021 Balls Ford Road, Suite 200, Manassas, Virginia 20109 (703) 449-5800.

THANK YOU FOR READING  
 THE ENTERPRISE



We Welcome SNAP/EBT

### EARLY SPRING SPECIALS

\$20.00 to \$50.00 off on selected models STIHL power tools

10-10-10 International Fertilizer \$19.99 50 lb.

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STIHL SALES & SERVICE

Rt 8, North of Stuart, VA 24171  
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## ESTATE & PERSONAL PROPERTY AUCTION

Friday, April 7 @ 6pm (doors open @ 4p)  
 Saturday, April 8 @ 10am (doors open @ 8a)

Horsepasture Vol. Fire Dept. (Rt. 58W)  
 17815 A.L. Philpott Hwy, Ridgeway, VA

Guns, Gold & Silver Jewelry, Collector Sets of CASE Knives, Hummels, Norman Rockwell, Large Selection of Bassett Furniture, Coins, Autographed "I Dream of Jeannie" Doll & Autographed Kellie Pickler shoes, Lladro Diecast, Glass ...  
 TOO MANY ITEMS TO LIST!!!

WILLIAMS AUCTION CO., LLC

276-340-6441 VAAL #3261

For listing & pictures: [www.auctionzip.com](http://www.auctionzip.com)

VISIT US ONLINE AT THEENTERPRISE.NET



**Meetings**

**Through Friday, April 7**  
DMV Select open limited hours  
The DMV Select in Stuart will be from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. this week due to staffing and a backlog of work.

**Thursday, April 13**  
The Patrick County School Board will meet at 5:30 p.m. in the School Administration Building.

**Monday, April 17**  
The Patrick County Board of Supervisors will meet at 6 p.m. in the third-floor court room of the Patrick County Administration Building.

**Wednesday, April 19**  
The Stuart Town Council will meet at 7 p.m. in the town office.

**Events**

**Thursday, April 6**  
Stuart Methodist Church will hold a Munday Thursday service at 7 p.m. in the sanctuary, 101 East Blue Ridge Street, Stuart. The service will include an opportunity to participate in a foot washing ceremony and the sharing of Holy Communion. Maundy Thursday is the day during Holy Week that the church commemorates the washing of the feet and Last Supper of Jesus Christ with the Apostles, as described in the gospels.

**Through Friday, April 7**  
Holy Week Midday services will be held this year at Stuart Methodist Church, 101 East Blue Ridge Street in Stuart. The services begin at noon with speakers from local Patrick County churches. A light lunch will be provided each day in the Fellowship Hall immediately following the service. Speakers include:  
Wednesday – Danny Redman, Stuart Presbyterian; Thursday – Thomas Walker, Stuart Baptist; Friday – Stephen Dixon, Stuart Baptist.

**Friday, April 7**  
The Patrick County Alzheimer's Group, LLC, will hold a Gift Card Bingo event at the Stuart Rotary – Hooker Building. Doors open at 6 p.m. and games start at 7 p.m. Individual bingo cards are \$20, and the bingo game card pack is \$25. Concessions will be available for purchase.

The Woolwine United Methodist Food Truck will be at the Woolwine Rescue Squad building from 3-5 p.m.

**Saturday, April 8**  
Patrick Springs Pentecostal Holiness Church

will hold a community Easter egg hunt from 2-4 p.m.

**Sunday, April 9**  
Easter Sunday at Stuart Methodist Church with Easter Sunrise Service 7 a.m., Breakfast at 8 a.m., Worship Service 9:45 a.m. at 101 East Blue Ridge Street, Stuart. All welcomed to come and celebrate the risen Christ.

High Point Baptist Church will have an Easter service starting with a Sunrise Service at 7 a.m. A breakfast will be held at 8 a.m., and then an Easter Cantata at 9 a.m., 2381 Big A School Road, Stuart.

**Tuesday, April 11**  
The Patrick County Blood Drive, 11 a.m. – 5 p.m., at the John D. Hooker Building, Rotary Field, Stuart. Make an appointment via internet at redcross.org or by calling 1-800-733-2767. Walk-ins are welcomed but donations may take longer as those with appointments are accommodated first.

**Wednesday, April 12**  
The Patrick County Community Food Bank will hold a food distribution day at the Stuart site from 8:30-11 a.m. and from 5-6:30 p.m. There will be a morning distribution in Ararat from 8:30-11 a.m., and an evening distribution in Meadows of Dan from 5-6:30 p.m.

**Saturday, April 15**  
The Fairystone Volunteer Fire Department will hold a country breakfast from 6:30-10 a.m. Dine-in adult plates are \$10 each and child plates are \$5 each. All take out plates are \$10 each. To call in an order, call (276) 930-2113.

**Tuesday, April 18 & 28**  
Patrick & Henry Community College (P&HCC) will hold a Photography Workshop on Still Life Photography: Flowers from 6-8 p.m. The cost of the course is \$49. Pre-registration is required by going to augusoft.net, or calling (276) 656-5461.

**Friday, April 21**  
The Woolwine United Methodist Food Truck will be at the Fairy Stone Rescue Squad building from 3-5 p.m.

**Saturday, April 22**  
The Patrick County Alzheimer's Group, LLC, will hold a Patrick County's Got Talent at the Patrick County High School (PCHS) Auditorium at 7 p.m. The competition is open to all ages and prizes will be awarded by age groups. For more information or to get a registration form, call Sally Smith at (276) 229-1724.

**Ongoing**

The Coffee Break Café hosts live music on Tuesdays from 9 to 11 a.m. Bring an instrument, or just come and listen.

The Patrick County Library hosts Story Time with Ms. Sam at 10:30 a.m. on Tuesdays, with books, songs, finger plays, and more. For more information, call (276) 694-3352.

The Patrick County Library will hold the LEGO Club with Ms. Sam on Mondays from 4:30-5:30 p.m. This program is mainly intended for school age children. For more information, call the library at (276) 694-3352.

The Ararat Ruritan Club hosts virtual raffles on its Facebook page on the first of each month. Various items are raffled off at \$10 or \$20 per limited chance. There are 30-35 chances on each raffle. Prize values range from \$150 to \$400. For more information, go to Facebook.com/AraratRuritanClub or contact the club via email at AraratRuritanClub@gmail.com or Kevin Smith at 276-229-6493.

The Patrick County Quilters' Sit-N-Sew is held on Saturdays from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at Quilted Colors. For more information, call 276-694-3020 or email patrickcountyquilters@gmail.com.

The Stuart Elementary School Running Club will hit the pavements along the sidewalks in town on Mondays and Wednesdays from 3:30-4:30 p.m.

The Ararat Ruritan Club will hold Rook games every Monday night from 6:30-8 p.m.

The Briarpatch Amateur Radio Club (BARC) and our Region Four Auxiliary Communication network (AUXCOMM) are meeting at 6:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m., respectively, on the 4th Thursday of each month at the First Christian Church in Galax. Visit www.briarpatcharc.com for more information.

**NOTICE**

**All announcements to be included in the Community Calendar must be received by 5 p.m. on Friday the week before publish date. Items are published as space permits. Email to: [dhall@theenterprise.net](mailto:dhall@theenterprise.net)**



**Lindsey Puckett**  
ASSOCIATE BROKER  
Four Rivers Realty  
(276) 732-6544  
LPuckett@fourriversva.com  
www.lindseypuckett.com  
21521 JEB Stuart Hwy, PO Box 823, Stuart, VA 24171

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Over 600 Vacation Homes from entire OBX Corolla to Hatteras Village  
RESERVE YOUR BEACH VACATION TODAY!  
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The Bath or Shower You've Always Wanted  
**IN AS LITTLE AS A DAY**

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AND  
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OFFER EXPIRES 6.30.2023

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CALL NOW (844) 945-1631

\*Includes product and labor; bathtub, shower or walk-in tub and wall surround. This promotion cannot be combined with any other offer. Other restrictions may apply. This offer expires 6/30/23. Each dealership is independently owned and operated. \*\*Third party financing is available for those customers who qualify. See your dealer for details. ©2023 BCI Acrylic, Inc.

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HAMBURGER PATTIES \$6.00 LB.

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The Southside's #1 Local TV Station

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WITH A HOME STANDBY GENERATOR

**\$0 MONEY DOWN + LOW MONTHLY PAYMENT OPTIONS**

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CALL NOW BEFORE THE NEXT POWER OUTAGE  
**(844) 947-1479**

**FREE 7-Year Extended Warranty\***  
-- A \$695 Value!

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# Top Readers for third quarter announced

The following Woolwine Elementary School students were recognized as Top Readers in the Warrior Reading program during the third quarter: Pre-K--Kreedynce Flippin, Kindergarten--Joanna Shelton, First Grade--Sterling Martin, Second Grade--Maelynn Jones, Third Grade--Monce Ortega, Fourth Grade--Wyatt Rodgers, Fifth Grade--Lacie Bullins, Sixth Grade--Mason Conner--Seventh Grade--Martina

na Hubbard. Each student who reached their grade level goal received a free snack and a free personal pan pizza from Pizza Hut. In addition, students who read the most books in each grade level also received a free book. Congratulations everyone! We hope you will keep reading!



Pre-K  
Kreedynce Flippin



Kindergarten  
Joanna Shelton



First Grade  
Sterling Martin



Second Grade  
Maelynn Jones



Third Grade  
Monce Ortega



Fourth Grade  
Wyatt Rodgers



Fifth Grade  
Lacie Bullins



Sixth Grade  
Mason Conner



Seventh Grade  
Martina Hubbard



## Dinner Theatre Event Raises More Than \$4,000 for Theatre Arts

More than \$4,000 was raised for Ferrum College Theatre Arts during last week's "An Evening of Dinner and Theatre With Mark Twain" event—written by and starring award-winning playwright and Professor Emeritus R. Rex Stephenson—which was

held March 15 on campus to coincide with the SML Gives community fundraising event.

The evening started with a delicious dinner in the Blue Ridge Mountain Room where cast members served the showgoers. Each table was formally set,

and patrons could see a beautiful view of Adams Lake as they enjoyed their meal.

Dinner was followed by the performance, which featured a mix of stories from Twain's life and humorous short stories from some of his writings. Held in Sale Theatre in Schoolfield Hall, the show also featured a variety of music from Twain's time period

performed by the cast of students, staff and community members.

Ferrum College Theatre Arts next takes the stage April 20–23 with R. Rex Stephenson's adaptation of Robert Louis Stephenson's "Treasure Island," which will be directed by Emily Blankenship-Tucker and feature a new musical score written by Blankenship-Tucker.

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



Professor Joe Gravely will deliver this year's commencement address at P&HCC.

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

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

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

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

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

### Wilderness - Stuart, Inc.

Buying Logs  
Standing Timber or Timberland  
Stuart, VA

Contact Ronnie Bolt at  
(276) 694-4432



**Mardi Gras BRAWL**  
STUART ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
SATURDAY, MARCH 25, 2023  
DOORS OPEN 6PM, BELL TIME 7PM

**MAIN EVENT: Battle Royal**  
FOR THE WRESTLED INDIAN HEADWEIGHT CHAMPIONSHIP

FOR THE WRESTLED INDIAN TAG TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP

FOR THE WRESTLED INDIAN SUPERHEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPIONSHIP

FOR THE WRESTLED INDIAN LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPIONSHIP

FOR THE WRESTLED INDIAN MIDDLEWEIGHT CHAMPIONSHIP

FOR THE WRESTLED INDIAN FEEDBACK CHAMPIONSHIP

FOR THE WRESTLED INDIAN WRESTLING CHAMPIONSHIP

### Patrick County Victim/Witness Program

276-694-4285



If you have been the victim or witness of a crime, please contact your local Victim/Witness program to learn about Crime Victim's Rights and assistance that may be available to you.

\*This is NOT a 24-hour hotline.\*

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FINANCING AVAILABLE WITH APPROVED CREDIT



## Virginia Beef Expo and Junior Beef Round-Up Anticipate a Great Event

The 2023 Virginia Beef Expo and Junior Beef Roundup will be held on April 13-16, at the Rockingham County Fairgrounds in Harrisonburg, Va.

"We are excited for this year's Beef Expo," said Tom McCall, Virginia Beef Expo president. "We are back to our traditional Thursday through Sunday schedule with the cattle sales on Friday.

"We anticipate strong cattle sales, a great industry trade show with a variety of Virginia Cattlemen's Association events and as always, a busy youth weekend."

The Beef Expo will begin Thursday with the State Youth Tractor Driving Contest at 10 a.m. From 1 to 4 p.m., visitors can come to the Virginia Cattle Industry Outlook. Speakers for that event include Jim Wiesemeyer, policy analyst for Pro Farmer, and David Wasserman, editor of the Cook Political Report. At 4 p.m. the Trade Show will open.

New for this year, the Virginia Cattlemen's Foundation Reception will start at 4:30 p.m. The Virginia Cattlemen's Association and the Virginia Beef Council will be hosting their Annual Meeting and Dinner that evening at 6 p.m. The keynote speaker for the Annual Meeting will be National Cattlemen's Beef Association president, Todd Wilkinson, from South Dakota.

"We are excited to partner with the Virginia Beef Expo to host the Virginia Cattle Industry Outlook and our Annual Meeting," said Brandon Reeves, Virginia Cattlemen's Association executive director. "We've got a great lineup of speakers, vendors and cattle sales.

"If you're involved in the cattle industry, you won't want to miss it!"

The Expo will open at 9 a.m. on Friday and at 12 p.m., the Beef Expo will feature seedstock and commercial sales. This year's Expo will feature Angus, Simmental and Hereford sales along with the Quest for Quality Bull Sale, the VCA Female Sale and the VQA Commercial Heifer Sale. Information regarding the sales will be featured on the Virginia Beef Expo's website and Facebook page.

The 2023 State Youth Cattle Working Contest will be held Friday, April 14, at 10 a.m. Regional Youth Cattle Working Contest team winners will work to efficiently process three stocker calves, while utilizing Beef Quality Assurance guidelines.

On Saturday, April 15, not only with youth exhibitors be moving cattle in the barns, but youth can participate in the Virginia Youth Fitting Contest, Build a Better Burger Contest, Beef Showmanship, and the Prospect Steer Show.

The Jr. Beef Round-Up's line up of events will conclude with the Youth Beef Shows. Shows for purebred cattle and commercial heifers will be held Sunday, April 16.

Additional information including rules, registration forms and a detailed schedule can be found at [www.vabeefexpo.com](http://www.vabeefexpo.com) or [www.ext.vt.edu/youthlivestock](http://www.ext.vt.edu/youthlivestock), under Shows and Virginia Beef Expo. Check out the Virginia Beef Expo's Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/vabeefexpo](http://www.facebook.com/vabeefexpo) for more information.

## Demand for seasonal asparagus remains high

April means asparagus—one of the spring's most venerable vegetables—has arrived.

Typically harvested in early April through May, the spears develop daily from undergrown crowns and can grow stems as tall as 5 to 8 inches aboveground. Asparagus is a hardy perennial plant that can live from 12 to 15 years.

Among the most valuable of the early spring vegetables, asparagus can be traced back to 3,000 B.C. Archeologists believe the ancient Egyptians and other early civilizations cultivated the plant for medicinal purposes.

Today, asparagus has naturalized over much of the eastern U.S. and can be found in gardens and fencerows and along roadsides. Preferring well-drained loam soils and tolerable winters, asparagus is well-adapted to most areas of Virginia.

In the commonwealth, 190 farms harvested asparagus on 176 acres in 2017—up from 105 farms on 85 acres in 2012, according to the most recent United States Department of Agriculture Census of Agriculture findings.

A 2021 USDA summary reported 17,000 acres of asparagus for fresh market were harvested nationally—a decrease from 20,400 acres in 2019.

Slowed production in the U.S. can be attributed to COVID-19 and the labor market, according to Market Data Forecast.

But global demand for asparagus is on the rise, according to a 2023-2028 Market Data Forecast that also reported the market is dominated by U.S. farmers. This is primarily due to growing consumer health consciousness, as certain nutrients and compounds in asparagus offer significant health benefits.

Rich with vitamins, antioxidants, minerals and fiber, asparagus ac-

counts for a significant portion of daily nutritional needs and is believed to help lower blood pressure, protect against various chronic diseases and support a healthy pregnancy.

Mike Cullipher, a Virginia Farm Bureau Federation Specialty Crops Committee member, has been growing asparagus on his Virginia Beach farm for about 16 years. After picking the season's first strawberries last week, he is now starting to harvest asparagus.

"We've had a few warm days the past few weeks, but overall, it's been fairly cool—just about ideal growing conditions for asparagus, so it looks like it will be a good year," Cullipher said.

Large-scale asparagus production is uncommon in Virginia, he said, and most farmers grow about 4 acres or less as a secondary crop. Cullipher uses the short five-week harvesting season to generate early cash flow after October's pumpkin season. The weeks in between, he said, are "a long time to have no revenue."

He said consumers may see higher prices for locally grown asparagus this season and attributed that to higher production costs for small-scale Virginia farmers, labor-intensive harvesting and other factors.

For home gardeners, Virginia Cooperative Extension recommends starting asparagus from seed or from 1- to 2-year-old crowns purchased from a reputable nursery. Seed may be started in peat pots and transplanted in the summer, either to a final growing site with good drainage and full sun or a temporary transplant bed.

For more growing tips, visit [ext.vt.edu](http://ext.vt.edu). To find fresh Virginia asparagus near you, visit the Virginia Grown website at [vdacs.virginia.gov/vagrown/index.shtml](http://vdacs.virginia.gov/vagrown/index.shtml).

## Ferrum College Associate Professor Named to Literacy Board

Blue Ridge Literacy recently named Ferrum College Associate Professor of English Allison Harl to its Board of Directors. Blue Ridge Literacy is a nonprofit organization that provides opportunities for adults to strengthen their literacy skills including English to Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) tutoring, private one-on-one tutoring, and citizenship preparation classes.

In addition to supporting the Blue Ridge Literacy mission, Harl will play a number of different roles while serving on its Board of Directors. "One of our main philosophies is to keep a



Allison Harl

learner's goals and interests in mind when working with them," explained Harl, who will participate in outreach and publicity advocating for the organization. "I distribute posters and pamphlets

to area agencies to advertise opportunities for English speakers to volunteer as tutors and for ESOL learners to take classes."

In addition, Harl will meet with board members every other month to work on policies and budgeting. She also supports cultural and fundraising events for the organization including the Nowruz Persian New Year Celebration on March 18 and the upcoming scrabble tournament on April 20.

Harl got involved with Blue Ridge Literacy because of previous tutoring experience.

"I tutored with the Ozark Literacy Council in Arkan-

sas in a parent/child program while studying literacy in my doctoral program a number of years ago. Currently, I volunteer as an ESOL functional literacy tutor at BRL and I work one-on-one with a learner from Mexico for 90 minutes every week," she said.

In the future, Harl wants to teach a class for parents seeking ESOL tutoring for Westside Elementary School in Roanoke, an area with a growing immigrant and refugee population in need of literacy services. She is also working with Career Services and other groups at Ferrum College so that students know about

the opportunities to engage as volunteers and work with ESOL learners.

"We have international students at Ferrum College who may benefit from getting plugged into Blue Ridge Literacy (BRL) for tutoring and cultural enrichment. I plan to work with programs throughout the College, especially within the Humanities and Performing Arts Division, to organize service learning projects that will benefit both our students and the community at BRL. I also hope to collaborate with the Teacher Education program, connecting students with internship opportunities," Harl said.

## NSDAR pays homage to veterans



In honor of Vietnam War Veterans Day, March 29, the Colonel Abram Penn Chapter NSDAR placed a wreath at the Wall of Honor in the Patrick County Administration Building. Pictured (L to R) are Sherree Russo, Lucy Rudd, Janice Stanley and Ann McConnell. The Daughters of the American Revolution is a not for profit, non-political service organization open to any woman at least 18 years old or older who can prove direct lineal descent from a person who aided the cause of the American Revolution. For more information email [nammccconnell@yahoo.com](mailto:nammccconnell@yahoo.com).

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REGISTRATION VIA MAIL (FORM BELOW) OR REGISTER ONLINE

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# Celebration, ribbon cutting event to be held at I.C. DeHart Trail System

A public Trail Celebration Event will be held to commemorate the opening of the newly enhanced trail system at the I.C. DeHart Park at 631 Charity Highway in Woolwine, according to the Patrick County Tourism office.

The celebration begins at 3 p.m. on April 28 for the trail that was built by “volunteers from two cities and three counties,” officials said. The event will include snacks and refreshments provided by Pickle & Ash, prize giveaways, guided hikes on the trails, and a ribbon-cutting to officially open the newly enhanced trail system to the public.

“We are very grateful to the Eco Ambassador Council (EAC) for their generous investment in enhancing the Woolwine Trail System,” said James Houchins, the county’s director of Tourism. “I hope to keep the spotlight shining on this amazing treasure in Patrick County long after this event.”

The EAC donated funding to enhance the I.C. DeHart Trail System. Current EAC members include Blair Construction, Carter Bank & Trust, Clark Gas & Oil, Frith Construction, Hooker Furnishings, Jones & DeShon Orthodontics, The Lester Group, and Pickle & Ash. Each business has pledged an annual investment to preserve and promote environmental projects in the region. The EAC started in 2020 and is open to all businesses in the Dan River Basin that

want to make a visible impact in the region.

“The EAC believes that local companies can be a force for positive change and that their influence doesn’t begin and end with a check,” said EAC member, Anna Lester. “Over recent years, it has become very clear that people in our region want and need opportunities for outdoor recreation. The EAC was proud to partner with the Patrick County Tourism Department to enhance the I.C. DeHart Trail System – which we view to be a great regional asset and will have an even larger positive economic impact locally.”

The I.C. DeHart Trail System was established in 2009 with 8 miles of trail under the direction of Eric O’Connell, avid trail rider. He and other volunteers have invested countless hours building and expanding mountain biking trails on the property. O’Connell has organized and hosted the Virginia State Mountain Bike Championship Bootleggers Blitz in past years at the park. The beautiful trail system is still, however, not well-known outside of the county.

“Mountain bikers are trail builders who create miles for themselves, but are shared with hikers too,” said Jim Frith of Frith Construction, an avid biker and member of the EAC. “Patrick County’s own Eric O’Connell, and an amazing small group of volunteers and trustees built the trail



Daren Layman and Eric O’Connell of Patrick County, Virginia enjoy the I.C. DeHart Trail System.

here with hundreds of athletes visiting Patrick County from all over the southeastern USA.”

“The new trail maps and signage will help trail enthusiasts enjoy the trails even more, and the changing station is a great addition for mountain bikers,” said Sandra Belcher, chairman of the I.C. DeHart Trail Association.

Tourism officials worked closely with the Dan River Basin Association (DRBA) which managed the improvements to the trail that include new signage, trail map, changing station and other park amenities.

“Mike Ryba, a Virginia Tech geospatial technician and avid mountain bik-

er, volunteered to create the trail map, collaborating with DRBA and trail users. Local and regional volunteers provided labor, expertise, handmade sign installation tools and extra supplies.” said Katy Miller, trail maintenance volunteer.

“Simply put, these trails are the gold standard for other venues to compare with, and imitate our design,” Frith said. “This project was built by a dozen volunteers from two cities and three counties and nurtured by Brian Williams.”

Williams, Virginia Program Manager for DRBA, managed the project and worked closely with a

stakeholder group of volunteers with expertise in design of International Mountain Bicycling Association (IMBA)-style trail building, GIS mapping and local bikers who had accomplished much of the previous trail construction.

“DRBA has been a leader in multi-use trail building in our region for 20 years,” said Williams. “More than 1.5 million Virginians and North Carolinians live within 50 miles of the I.C. DeHart Trail System, and the hope is that the current enhancements kick-start a new chapter for this hidden gem.”

To learn more about the Trail Celebration Event, go to [visitpatrickcounty.org](http://visitpatrickcounty.org).

## Online Auction

Ends Thursday, April 6th @ 4 PM  
Recreational Land For Sale in Woolwine, VA  
Woolwine Hwy, Woolwine, VA 24185

Bid Now at [VAAuctionPro.com](http://VAAuctionPro.com)



Beautiful +/- 65.79 acre recreational property located in the Woolwine Community of Patrick County VA, situated between the towns of Stuart and Floyd VA. This mostly wooded property features rolling topography and approximately 6.5 acres of open land. Has over 1,700 feet of frontage on Conner Creek, and over 2,500 feet of frontage on Jacks Creek. Also only a minute to Smith River and close to 2 lakes! This property is an ideal location for hunting and recreation, with plenty of space for hiking, hunting, camping, and exploring the outdoors. It would also make a great location for building a home, with the scenic beauty and natural surroundings providing a peaceful and serene setting for a private retreat. Located near the Blue Ridge Parkway, this property offers easy access to some of the most breathtaking views and outdoor activities in the region. Only minutes from the Smith River, 15 minutes to Fairstone Lake and 20 minutes to Philpott Lake! This property would be the ideal location for an avid fisherman or outdoor enthusiast. Don't miss out on the opportunity to own this stunning piece of land in a prime location.

**Directions From Stuart, VA** – Highway 58 West; Veer Right on Route 8 North / Woolwine Highway towards Floyd County and Blue Ridge Parkway; Property on left before Woolwine VA. Right of Way entrance beside auction sign just before adjoining property 8735 Woolwine Highway, Woolwine VA.

Contact Broker & Auctioneer Matt Gallimore at 540-239-2585 or email [gallimore.matt@gmail.com](mailto:gallimore.matt@gmail.com) or Contact Boobie DeHart Realtor at 276-952-5061 or email [boobied@yahoo.com](mailto:boobied@yahoo.com)

**Terms:** 10% Buyer's Premium will be added to final high bid to arrive at contract price. Earnest Money Deposit of \$5,000 required day of sale. Close in 45 days. Subject to seller confirmation. Property sold as is, where is with any and all faults. Buyer is expected to complete their own due diligence. Download Bidder Information Pack for complete terms and conditions, purchase contract and maps at [VAAuctionPro.com](http://VAAuctionPro.com)



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## Online Auction

Ends Tuesday, April 11th @ 4 PM  
WOODED LAND FOR SALE!  
Brammer Spur Road, Woolwine, VA 24185

Bid Now at [VAAuctionPro.com](http://VAAuctionPro.com)



Looking for the perfect spot to build your dream home or vacation cabin? Look no further than this beautiful +/- 65.32 acre wooded land tract located in Woolwine VA. With stunning views of the Blue Ridge Mountains and plenty of good building sites, this property is perfect for anyone looking for a peaceful, secluded escape. Whether you're an avid outdoorsman or just looking for a relaxing retreat, this land is ideal for hunting and recreation. The property features a picturesque pond located at the front of the property, perfect for fishing or simply enjoying the serene surroundings. Property is located only minutes from the Smith River! Is also only 15 to 20 minutes from Philpott Lake and Fairstone Lake. Situated in Patrick County VA between the charming towns of Stuart VA and Floyd VA. Conveniently located near the Blue Ridge Parkway, offering easy access to some of the most stunning natural scenery in the country. Don't miss your chance to own this incredible piece of land and start living your dream today!

**Directions from Stuart, VA** – Highway 58 West; Veer Right on Route 8 North / Woolwine Highway towards Floyd County and Blue Ridge Parkway; Take left on Mill House Road just past Woolwine VA; Right on Brammer Spur; Property on right at sign.

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## ONLINE AUCTIONS

### Ends Wednesday, April 5th @ 4 PM

**New Contemporary Home Near Dan River!**

**323 Ramp Hollow Lane, Meadows of Dan, VA 24120**

You have the opportunity to purchase a beautiful contemporary home in Meadows of Dan VA. This property features +/- 5 acres of land near the Dan River! Built in 2022, this high quality home features +/- 944 square feet with 2 bedrooms, and 1 bath. Construction beyond building code and includes concrete floors, vaulted ceiling in great room, split unit heating and cooling, PBR metal roof used in industrial construction, metal siding, 2x6 exterior walls foam insulation in walls and ceiling. Has a private well and septic, and gravel driveway. Storage building also on the property. Located on +/- 5 acres, this property is in a secluded location with nice views. Enjoy quiet country living near the Dan River in Meadows of Dan VA! This would make a great recreational or fishing retreat! Great as a year round home or vacation retreat. Don't miss your opportunity to own this unique mountain get-away!



**Bid Now at VAAuctionPro.com**

Access is by private drive Ramp Hollow Lane. One neighbor past this home uses this road.

Terms: 10% Buyer's Premium will be added to final high bid to arrive at contract price. Earnest Money Deposit of \$10,000 required day of sale. Close in 45 days. Subject to seller confirmation. Property sold "as is, where is, with any and all faults." Buyer is expected to complete their own due diligence. Download Bidder Pack at VAAuctionPro.com

### Ends Thursday, April 6th @ 4 PM

**Recreational Land For Sale in Woolwine, VA**

**Woolwine Hwy, Woolwine, VA 24185**

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**PENDING**

**Bid Now at VAAuctionPro.com**

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## Auctions Work!

PENDING	PENDING	PENDING	SOLD!	SOLD!
Ended Thursday, February 23rd @ 4 PM Creek Front Land for Sale in Franklin County VA! TBD Truevine Rd, Penhook, VA 24137	Ended Wednesday, March 8th @ 4 PM Affordable Land for Sale in Bassett VA! TBD Warehouse St. Bassett VA 24055	Ended Thursday March 16th @ 4 PM Beautiful Land for Sale in Willis VA! TBD Long Mountain Rd., Willis, VA 24380	Ending Wednesday, August 17th @ 4 PM Wooded Hunting Land for Sale in Patrick County VA! TBD Belcher Mtn Rd, Stuart, VA 24171	Ended Thursday December 1st @ 4 PM Recreational Land on Smith River for Sale in Patrick County VA! 2271 Bob White Rd., Stuart, VA 24171

**Contact Broker & Auctioneer Matt Gallimore at 540-239-2585 or email gallimore.matt@gmail.com or Contact Realtor Booie DeHart at 276-952-5061 or email boodied@yahoo.com or Realtor Darrell Hylton at 540-250-0850 or dwh@swva.net**



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