



THE ENTERPRISE

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Vol. 147 No. 23 Website: www.theenterprise.net STUART, VIRGINIA WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26, 2023 USPS 523-500 \$1.00

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



The scoreboard told the story, with no runs or hits for the Bassett High School Bengals Varsity Boys Baseball Team. Tucker Swails became the first Cougar varsity pitcher to ever throw a perfect game in the history of Patrick County High School.

Swails Pitches First Perfect Game in School History

By Staff Reports
Tucker Swails became the first Cougar varsity pitcher to ever throw a perfect game at Patrick County High School (PCHS) during a 6-0 win over the Bassett High School Varsity Boys Baseball team on Friday, April 21.

“I knew I had a perfect game going into the last couple of innings, but I was trying my best not to think about it because I didn’t want to ruin it,” Swails said. During the game played at Cougar Field in Stuart, Swails went



Tucker Swails winds up for a pitch in a game Friday against the Bassett High School Bengals Varsity Boys Baseball Team. Swails became the first Cougar varsity pitcher to ever throw a perfect game in the 6-0 win at Cougar Field. (Photo by Melody Fain.)

7 innings, 21 batters down. Swails, a junior at PCHS, allowed no runs, no hits, and no walks while striking out 12. “The last couple of innings felt just like every other inning I’ve ever thrown,” he said.

“I was very comfortable with the lead we had.” The defense added to the effort by making some big plays to keep it perfect. The Cougars were led at the plate by Jai Penn who went 4-4 (See Swails p. 4)

Officials discuss solar project with residents



Dominika Sink, Senior Director of Project Acquisition and Development with Energix Renewables, was among company officials traveling to Patrick County to host an informational meeting with residents last week. (Photos by Pat Delaney)

By Taylor Boyd
Officials with Energix Renewables discussed the company’s plans to locate a solar farm in Patrick County with residents at an April 21 meeting. Senior Director of Project Acquisition and Development Dominika Sink said there is an interest in solar in Virginia because of its cost competitiveness. “There’s a study from the U.S. Energy Information Administrative, they publish this (See Solar Project p. 5)

Board schedules public hearing on budget



Several county residents attended the April 17 Board of Supervisors meeting.



Former supervisor Crystal Harris asked the board about the EMS allocation and expressed concerns about hard billing.

By Taylor Boyd
The Patrick County Board of Supervisors scheduled a public hearing on the upcoming budget for Monday, May 8. The board will hear com-

ments from residents about the budget and does not plan to approve the budget at the meeting. The board will hold a special called meeting at 5 p.m. on Monday, May 15.

It also will meet on Wednesday, May 17 at 7 p.m. and on Monday, May 22 at 6 p.m. in the third-floor courtroom of the Patrick County Administration Building to discuss the

county’s budget. Finance Officer Lori Jones said the proposed FY2024 budget is over \$69 million including the funds for the Patrick County school system.

Jones said the budget also does not include funds for the contingency fund line item in the current year’s budget. She said three contingency items were in play. (See Board p. 4)

Adkins to leave at end of the month



Sean Adkins, the county’s director of Economic Development, will leave his position for a new job in Vermont. **By Taylor Boyd**
After 18 months as the county’s Economic Development Director, Sean Adkins will leave to become the town manager of St. Albans, Vermont. Adkins, who started in the role on Oct. 12, 2021, said his last day with the county is April 28, but “I might stay an extra week to help with the (See Adkins p. 5)

Motorcyclists to Honor Legacy of Fallen Marine Saturday

Motorcyclists from across the country will gather in Patrick County on Saturday, April 29 for the 19th annual Cpl. Jonathan W. Bowling Memorial Bike Ride. The annual memorial motorcycle ride is both a way for fellow veterans and servicemen to remember fallen Marine Jonathan Williams Bowling and a chance for these men and women to continue his legacy of giving back to the community. The event begins at 10 a.m. at Patrick County High School (215 Cougar Lane) in Stuart, Virginia and features live music, food, and door prizes. The ride begins at noon. Registration is \$15 per vehicle, and each entrant has a chance to win prizes. Trophies are given to the bike traveling the farthest to participate in the ride. All proceeds from the ride will go toward the Corporal Jonathan W. Bowling Memorial Scholarship, which

was established to honor his legacy and provide a Patrick County student with funding to attend Patrick & Henry Community College (P&HCC). Bowling was a police officer, firefighter, elder at his church, and a corporal in the United States Marines. During deployment in Iraq in 2005, he made the ultimate sacrifice. Because Bowling was also an avid biker, the Chapter 11 Red Knights Motorcycle Club instituted an annual bike ride to honor his memory. “The ongoing passion of the motorcyclists who participate in the event to honor Corporal Jonathan Bowling is a testament to the life he lived,” said Tifani Underwood, Director of P&HCC’s Foundation. “Through the Bowling Memorial Scholarship, the legacy that is so intertwined with Jonathan’s life can be carried forward by Patrick County students (See Fallen Marine p. 4)

CPL. JONATHAN W. BOWLING
19th ANNUAL MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP
MOTORCYCLE RIDE
04/29/2023

SPONSORED BY:
AUTOMATED CONTROL COMPANY
CW TREE WORKS
A.A. Wilson Trucking Inc.

Music & Registration: 10 a.m. Ride: Noon
Patrick County High School
215 Cougar Lane, Stuart, VA 24151
Sponsored by the Red Knights Chapter 11

WWW.CPLJONATHANBOWLING.US

EACH ENTRANT ENTERED IN THE DRAWING FOR A PRIZE!

Annual plant sale set for Saturday

By Taylor Boyd

The Patrick County Master Gardeners will hold its annual plant sale on Saturday, April 29, at the Rotary Field building in Stuart. The sale is from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Master Gardener Norma Bozenmayer said the plant sale is the group's biggest fundraiser.

"We also have the plant sale to kind of spread the plants that grow well in the community around the community at reasonable prices, so that everyone can have a lot of plants," she said.

The fundraiser has been held for more than 10 years.

Bozenmayer said half of the sale proceeds will help a non-profit in the county. In the past, the group has donated to Park Workshop, the Developmental Center, the Patrick County Community Food Bank, Caring Hearts Free Clinic, the book mobile, and other local organizations.

"We haven't voted yet on where it's going this year," Bozenmayer said, adding the remaining half of sale proceeds benefit the group's annual scholarship fund.

"We give a \$1,000 scholarship to a high school senior graduating that's going into some type of horticultural or biological science degree. All our other programs in

town, we buy soil and plants and all kinds of things for everything. So, everything gets turned back into the community," she said.

Available plants for purchase include perennials for sun and shade, shrubs, herbs, vegetables, and native and non-native plants. Bozenmayer said she believes the sale's prices are very reasonable.

"Most of them are \$1-\$2. Probably the most expensive plant is \$7 or \$8," she said.

The sale will also include more plant identification on the tables.

"We've been working hard on that, so people can not only buy plants but learn about plants while they're there," she said.

Anyone wishing to donate plants to the sale can drop them off from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. and from 4-6 p.m. on the Friday before the sale.

Those wishing to make a monetary donation can contact the group at mgpcva@gmail.com.

Ag Demo Day, hosted by Patrick County Farm Bureau, also will be held Saturday at Rotary Field from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Activities will include equipment and safety demonstrations, a Tractor Skills Competition, Barnival, animal exhibits and vendors, and youngsters will have

the opportunity to ride the Pig Train and interact with animals up close.

The event is free and open to all ages.

Food trucks will be onsite throughout the day.

Vendors include Farm Service Agency, Patrick County Soil &

Water Conservation District, Natural Resources Conservation Service, James River Equipment, Rural King, and Wood's Cold

Storage. For more information, go to Facebook.com/PatrickCountyMasterGardeners.

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Pets of the Week



Brownie is a black and tan Beagle mix that loves kids. He is neutered and ready to go home with you.

This cute tan and white female hound mix is so ready to find her new home. Just look at that sad, sweet face.



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.

REGISTRATION
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SUMMER AND FALL
SEMESTERS



SUMMER
Catch up.
Get ahead.
Classes begin May 23!

FALL
Register early.
Get what you want.

Educate your mind.
Follow your dream.

Patrick & Henry
Community College

P&HCC is an EEO Institution.



Arrests reported

The Patrick County Sheriff's Office reported the following:

*Austin Kenneth Bowman, 26, address unavailable, was charged April 9 with probation violation. Deputy A. Kinney was the arresting officer.

*Phillip Shawn Jones, 45, of Cana, was charged April 10 with fail to comply with court order. Deputy C.L. Adkins made the arrest for Carroll County.

*Jesus Davila Bailey III, 31, of Martinsville, was charged April 12 with probation violation. Martinsville PD made the arrest for Patrick County.

*Ivy Rayne Hollinger, 29, of Lawsonville, N.C., was charged April 13 with grand larceny. Deputy A. Kinney was the arresting officer.

*Crystal Sue Darrah, 47, of Eden, NC, was charged April 14 with grand larceny. Western VA Regional Jail made the arrest for Patrick County.

*Randall Kelly Chaney, 54, of Bassett, was charged April 15 with drive while intoxicated. Deputy C.L. Elgin was the arresting officer.

*Christopher Dewayne Simmons, 28, of Stuart, was charged April 15 with two counts fail to appear. Deputy C.L. Elgin was the arresting officer.

*Crystal Kathleen Luckado, 33, of Patrick County Jail, was charged April 16 with assault and batter on law enforcement officer (LEO). Sgt. D. Celozzi was the arresting officer.

*Tiffany Romont Alfred, 34, of Fancy Gap, was charged April 18 with one count each fail to comply with court order and fail to appear. Deputy A. Kinney was the arresting officer.

*Tyler Benjamin Dehart, 25, of Bassett, was charged April 19 with probation violation. Deputy J.S. Kendrick was the arresting officer.

*Wayne Benjamin Taylor, 72, of Patrick Springs, was charged April 19 with probation violation. Deputy C.L. Adkins was the arresting officer.

*Roger Lundy Fox, Jr., 51, of Claudville, was charged April 20 with one count each buy/receive stolen goods and remove/alter serial id. Deputy B. Fields was the arresting officer.

*Dale Anthony Helms, 26, of Bassett, was charged April 21 with probation violation. Deputy R. Haynes was the arresting officer.

Farmers' Market opens for season

The Stuart Farmers' Market is now open for the season, with locally grown produce, meats, eggs, baked items, coffee and more.

The market is open from 8 a.m. to noon on:

*April 28, with local grown items such as cool season crops available. Baked items, meats, eggs, coffee and more.

*May 5 Grand Opening, with locally grown items such as cool season crops available, baked items, meats, eggs, coffee and more. Master Gardeners will be on site with plants for sale.

*May 12, with locally grown items such as cool season crops, baked items, meats, eggs, coffee and more offered.

*May 19, in addition to the locally grown and produced items, blood pressure checks will be provided by The Landmark Center.

*May 26, the usual fare of baked items, meats, eggs, coffee and more, along with the Patrick County Master Gardeners' monthly educational information, and the extension office for pressure canner gauge seal checks. Get ready for canning season.

Stay up to date with the Stuart Farmers' Market Facebook page.

60th Anniversary Celebrated



Philip and Faye Plaster recently celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary. They were married April 13, 1963, at the Buffalo Ridge Pentecostal Holiness Church by Rev. Billy Hutcherson.

The newlyweds honeymooned in the Fontana Village of the Smoky Mountains.

The couple's 60th anniversary was celebrated by a variety of events honoring them by their children Tina, Jason and Lori.

They reside in Patrick Springs and enjoy 11 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

Council schedules budget hearing

By Taylor Boyd

The Stuart Town Council scheduled a public hearing on Wednesday, May 17 to approve its revised fiscal year 2023-2024 budget.

The proposed budget is set to not exceed \$1,994,900.

Town Manager Bryce Simmons said the budget is tight. "We don't have a lot of just free money floating around," he said.

Mayor Ray Weiland said the county is not proposing any increase to taxes, utilities, fees, and other items.

"Everyone's going to get a bump for pay all the way across the board, and I think overall, our increase for payroll may be around nine percent," he said, adding the increase does not apply to council members.

Weiland said the town's income from water has significantly increased because of the construction on U.S. 58. The town has sold a lot of water for the work being done.

The amount raised from the meals tax has also increased significantly.

"We are collecting close to \$400,000, and we're budgeted at \$330,000. Our property taxes are coming in high-

er and everything else. Even though we didn't raise taxes, I guess we're just collecting more," he said.

Simmons said the water and sewer revenues do not cover the funds to expense water and sewer.

"We have some offset of our water and sewer expenses from the general fund, and that is typically frowned upon when you are applying for either USDA (United States Department of Agriculture) funds or any sort of capital improvement bond that we would need to take on," he said.

The rule of thumb is that the water a locality sells should pay for its expenses, Simmons said, adding he believes a rate analysis of water and sewer is needed.

Noting that it's been a while since the town recalculated the costs, Weiland said "all of our costs have gone way up. In the water side, I know that the (costs for) chemical side" have increased.

"We haven't really done a calculation on our costs. We need to do that again to verify what it truly costs us. I guarantee it's gone up significantly," Weiland said.

The spending plan anticipates \$1,106,000 in total general fund revenues for fiscal year 2023-24, and a total operating expense of \$479,429.

The total general fund revenues includes an anticipated \$395,000 in meals tax, \$275,000 in property taxes, \$150,000 for business licenses, \$150,000 for franchise fees, \$46,000 in state sales tax, and other incomes.

In other matters, the council:

*Heard from Stuart Volunteer Fire Department Captain Buddy Dollarhite about the department's need assessment.

*Approved allowing Simmons to make an offer to candidates for the Utilities Director position based on their ranking.

*Approved increasing the town's appropriation for fire-works, from \$600 to \$1,000.

*Discussed the audit.

*Discussed grant applications.

*Heard an update on the waste-water treatment plant.

*Heard an update on public works.

*Paid the bills as revised.

*Approved the meeting minutes.

Board of Education Approves 2023 History and Social Science Standards of Learning

The Virginia Board of Education unanimously approved a sweeping revision of the commonwealth's K-12 history and social science standards last week. The 2023 History and Social Science Standards of Learning

place an increased emphasis on civics in all grades, have significantly increased the content knowledge for Virginia history — including the Readjuster Era — and have a broader focus on the contributions of all Americans, in particular African Americans, Indigenous Peoples and Asian Americans.

"The standards raise the commonwealth's

aspirations for history and social science instruction, while also restoring excellence, curiosity and excitement around teaching and learning history," Superintendent of Public Instruction Lisa Coons said.

"I am confident these standards will meet the needs of Virginia's children," Board of Education President Dan Gecker said. "Are they perfect? Probably not. But they represent a balance between content knowledge and inquiry as well as the consensus of the board regarding what students should know about our history and institutions."

National Day of Prayer Event scheduled

The Patrick County Ministers' Association has planned the local observance of the National Day of Prayer event to give Patrick County residents an opportunity to gather and pray publicly for our nation.

The gathering will be in front of the old courthouse on Main Street, across from the Stuart Post Office, on May 4, from noon to 12:30 p.m.

The courthouse is located at 101 W. Blue Ridge St. Stuart, VA 24171. If a parking space is not available on Main Street, both the Stuart Baptist and Stuart Methodist churches have parking lots nearby that may be used. They can both be accessed from Blue Ridge Street. There is also a parking lot behind the old courthouse at the Patrick County Administration building. In case of heavy rain, we will meet at Stuart Methodist Church.

Please join us to pray for our national, state, and local leaders. We invite town and county officials, members of the Board of Supervisors, the Board of Education, court officials, fire and rescue members, law enforcement, business owners, and other public servants to come and let the citizens of the county pray for them.

The theme this year is taken from James 5:16, "Pray fervently in righteousness and Avail Much."

Learn more about the National Day of Prayer and find other events at nationaldayofprayer.org.

For more information about our local event, contact Wayne Moore of the Patrick County Ministers' Association (336) 793-7991.

The Patrick County Ministers' Association desires that the pastors, churches, citizens, and leaders of our county will come together in unity on the National Day of Prayer to lift up our nation and leaders.

"I want to thank President Gecker and the Board of Education for their thoughtful contributions throughout this process and their commitment to providing teachers and students with history and social science standards that prepare young people for thoughtful citizenship grounded in an understanding of our founding documents and history," Coons said. "I want to assure our teachers that VDOE staff will soon begin developing the curriculum resources to support teachers as they plan for future implementation of the content in the new standards."

"These standards embody Governor Glenn Youngkin's commitment to teach all history — both the good and the bad," said Secretary of Education Aimee Rogstad Guidera. "They are more robust and tell more Virginians'

stories thanks to the leadership of the state board and the valuable input over the past two years from educators, parents, students, historians, museums, experts and Virginians from across the commonwealth."

The VDOE staff will soon begin working with educators across Virginia to create curriculum frameworks, free instructional tools, resources guides and support documents to teach the newly adopted standards.

The 2023 History and Social Science Standards of Learning as adopted today by the board are available on the VDOE website. Under the implementation timeline approved by the board, all history and social science instruction and state assessments will be based on the 2023 standards beginning with the 2025-2026 school year.

Warren named to P&HCC Board

The Patrick & Henry Community College Board welcomed its newest member, Mr. William Stuart "Stu" Warren.

Mr. Warren served as a pilot in the US Air Force prior to working as a pilot and instructor for FedEx until his retirement in 2020. He and his wife, Susan, own Tackfully Teamed Riding Academy, providing therapeutic horseback riding for people with disabilities.

Mr. Warren also serves the community as the president of Bassett Kiwanis Club and member of the Chatmoss Country Club board. The Warrens have three adult sons and are members of Stone Memorial Christian Church.

Stu Warren was appointed by Henry County to fill the spot of Mrs. Monica Hatchett. Her term would have expired in 2024. Mr. Warren will be eligible for his first full four-year term in 2024.

William Stuart "Stu" Warren was appointed the Patrick & Henry Community College Board.

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Board

(cont. from page 1)

“One is the Contingency Fund, which is a separate fund kept by the treasurer, that contains \$164,196.35 as of March 31,” she said. The second is the contingency fund line item in the FY2023 budget, which has a balance of \$577,886.51 as of March 31.

“After June 30, 2023, I will assess the overall position of the FY2023 budget and transfer a sum (up to the total in the contingency fund line item) from the General Fund into the Contingency Fund,” she said.

Jones said the third is the contingency fund line item in the FY2024 proposed budget, which is currently at \$0.

“Once the board works through the budget, any surplus will be put in this line item,” she said.

In other matters, the board: *Heard from Kurt Bozenmayer about the budget. Bozenmayer said the budget committee has the “often-thankless job of turning a \$651,000 deficit into a \$275,000 surplus, only to see it driven back into the red” by requests like the Children’s Services Act (CSA).

Last month, he said the board approved keeping the tax rate unchanged for the coming year. Bozenmayer said it appeared that one casualty of balancing the budget

was the elimination of the contingency fund.

“This leaves the county with no buffer to absorb unexpected requests such as the \$283,000 now submitted by the CSA,” he said.

Bozenmayer said he was not suggesting that the CSA appropriation is not needed, but that he is concerned about the county’s financial future.

“I am just concerned that we may again be going back down the road of failing to keep the tax rate adequate to avoid being caught with no ‘rainy day’ fund for unexpected expenses. I do not want to see Patrick County wind up falling down the hole of borrowing money, as in the unfortunate Revenue Anticipation Note days,” he said.

*Heard from Ed Pool about solar energy and the disposal of solar panels.

*Heard from Chris Hughes about the upcoming National Day of Prayer that will be held locally at noon on May 4, with prayer at the steps of the Patrick County Courthouse.

*Heard from Jamie Clark about solar energy and Emergency Management Services (EMS) needs.

*Heard from Crystal Harris about complaints that include, to her understanding, cutting the EMS bud-

get.

Harris, a former supervisor, said she’s concerned about what could happen if the county cuts the second truck.

“Listen to the scanner, you’re going to hear three or four calls at a time. Station 8 can’t take care of all of them. I understand that some of you have the ear of one of them, and he says he can run all of the calls,” she said.

Harris said Station 8 is a hard-billing rescue squad, and she has issues with that.

“When that was voted in here in the county, we was adamant that the elderly people that suffer would not be charged, it was soft-billing. I don’t care what way you look at it, hard-billing is hard-billing, you’re going to have to pay,” she said.

Harris said the people who can’t pay will be the ones that will do without their medicine or food to try and pay the hard-billing bill.

*Heard from Kimberly Martin about the volunteer agreement with rescue squads.

*Approved the March 13, March 27, and March 29 meeting minutes.

*Approved the bills, claims, and appropriations.

*Approved the school bus surveillance ordinance.

*Approved a resolution honoring

Wayne Kirkpatrick for his service with the Dan River Basin Association (DRBA).

*Approved proclaiming the week of April 23 to April 29 National Library Week.

*Ratified the resolution for the Veterans’ Honor Guard.

*Approved the required funds for the match for the CSA.

*Heard the interim county administrator’s report.

*Heard reports from the supervisors.

*Approved allowing Patrick County fireworks coordinator Chris Corbett to order fireworks for displays.

*Discussed the performance agreements with Ten Oaks, LLC, and Prolam USA.

*Nominated Crystal Barker for the Community Policy & Management Team (CPMT) committee.

*Approved the municipal materials management agreement with Republic Services from North Carolina.

*Approved a bonus for Assistant County Administrator and Human Resources Director Donna Shough for acting as the county administrator from March 1 to April 6. The bonus is for the amount difference between her salary and the previous administrator’s salary.

Swails

(cont. from page 1)

with 1 RBI and scored twice.

Swails added 2 hits and 1 RBI. Martin Sawyers added 2 RBIs and Hunter Pendleton crossed home plate twice.

“Every play made by my guys behind me was great,” Swails said. “Stuart Callahan made a diving catch in right field to save a hit. That play saved my perfect game and no-hitter.”

Recalling that when the last out was recorded, “it felt great. I just turned and smiled as all of my teammates ran after me with the water cooler,” Swails said. “After the last strikeout all of the guys stormed the field and surrounded me while dumping water all over me. It was an awesome experience.”

Tal Swails, head coach at PCHS for five years

and also Tucker Swails’ father, said “I knew he was cruising the entire game, but the 6th inning is when it kind of started to register and then in the 7th, it got real.”

When Tucker “threw the last pitch and you knew it was in the books, it was just a really awesome feeling for him and the entire team,” Tal Swails said. “Obviously I’m super proud of him as his dad and his coach but I’m equally as proud of the entire team.

“The reason Perfect Games are so elusive is because they require perfect pitching and perfect defense and that is what we did,” Tal Swails said. “As good as Tucker was on the mound, the defense behind him was equally as impressive.

“Jai Penn, Gavin Fain,

and Stuart Callahan, all 3 made excellent plays in the outfield,” Tal Swails said. “Jackson Callahan, Noah Jessup, Broc Taylor, and Hunter Pendleton all made plays in the infield and Martin Sawyers called a perfect game from behind the plate.”

According to “several folks who have followed PC baseball since the beginning of the school in 1970/71, Friday night’s perfect game was the first in the history of the school,” Tal Swails said. “Over that 50-plus year span, several players/teams had been close and several have thrown no-hitters, Tucker is included in that group as he threw a no-hitter last season.”

The PCHS team is now 11-2 on the season.

Fallen Marine

(cont. from page 1)

who also have the desire to dedicate their lives to serving others. P&HCC is honored to partner with the Bowling family to preserve Corporal Bowling’s memory in this way.”

Each year, the Corporal Jonathan W. Bowling Memorial fund provides money for two Patrick County students to attend P&HCC. Students with a desire to enter into a career of public service are given priority. To learn more about the ride, the scholarship, or Bowling’s life, visit www.cpljonathanbowling.us.

New laws strengthen penalties for certain thefts, sales and enterprises

Retired tobacco farmer Darrell Jackson thought brazen thefts of catalytic converters were limited to big cities. Then it happened to his farm truck that was parked at a friend’s auto repair shop in rural Henry County.

“The part we needed came in, they cranked it, and it sounded like a racecar,” he recalled. “Thieves had stolen the catalytic converter out from under it. The criminal might get \$100, but I had to get an aftermarket one that cost \$400.”

And some catalytic converters in larger work vehicles can cost thousands to replace.

Southside Virginia residents have suffered the widespread theft of catalytic converters from vehicles parked at homes, farms and businesses. Many victims in Henry County are glad that newly signed laws mean harsher penalties for those who steal, sell and buy the parts scrapped for the precious metals inside. This new legislation was sponsored by Sen. Frank Ruff, R-Clarksville, and other lawmakers.

Gov. Glenn Youngkin recently signed the bills into law that, starting July 1, expands the definition of racketeering activities, greatly increases imprisonment and fines, imposes felonies, and makes the resale of catalytic converters illegal within Virginia and across state lines.

In previous years, punishment for petit larcenies like catalytic converter thefts had weakened, said Del. Wren Williams, R-Stuart,

who serves the counties of Henry, Franklin and Patrick.

“If you steal one, you walk out with a misdemeanor and just do it again,” he said. “They’re being stolen in broad daylight—sometimes while being filmed—with no consequences. We haven’t slowed it down, because there were no teeth on the punishment.”

The issue was heard at the grassroots level long before it made its way to the governor’s desk.

“While the implications of the bill encompass more than stealing catalytic converters, it was brought forward by a Farm Bureau leader because the theft of these items is rampant in many parts of the commonwealth,” said Martha Moore, senior vice president of Virginia Farm Bureau Federation governmental relations.

Sen. William M. Stanley Jr., R-Glade Hill, said a colleague also had a converter stolen from an RV parked at a repair shop. He was co-patron of one of the bills that earned bipartisan favor.

“Thieves will go to scrap metal places every Monday with 10 or 12 in the back of a pickup,” Jackson explained. “Some scrapers will accept these from the same people over and over. But if you dry up the market, that will stop the thefts.”

As related bills tighten criminal charges, “what’s unique about my bill,” Williams said, “is that it hits crime syndicates or enterprises that are running catalytic converter theft rings.”

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Solar Project

(cont. from page 1)



Kurt Bozenmayer, a member of the Planning Commission, discusses the placement of the Fairy Stone Solar LLC, a project with Dominika Sink, Senior Director of Project Acquisition and Development with Energix Renewables.

report every year. We haven't actually seen the one from this year, but the one from last year consistently shows that solar energy is the cheapest source of energy," she said.

Sink said the report takes factors like gov-

ernment incentives into consideration and treats every energy source equally.

Solar energy is also a domestically produced energy source and is not affected by geopolitics like oil, coal, and natural gas are.

"It's produced right here locally," Sink said. "It's a distributive energy source, and by that we mean you have your big power plant, and it supplies thousands of homes with power. If something goes wrong with that power plant, and tens of thousands of people lose power."

However, with a solar farm like the one proposed by Energix, Sink said if something goes wrong, only a few thousand people would lose power.

"So, the smaller, more distributive energy sources, the better it is

for the grid. In case of an outage, it will affect fewer people," she said.

Sink said solar energy is also a low-impact energy generation source compared to coal, natural gas, and nuclear energies. She also noted there are many benefits of solar energy to the county, including increased tax revenue.

"The land used for solar, before solar and after solar, you'll see an increase in tax revenue that's for this product 75 times the amount of revenue generated with the county than without the solar use. This is a net positive for the county," she said, adding that matters because the more developments that contribute to taxes, the less likely it is that taxes will have to be raised.

"Solar projects are bringing in well-paying construction jobs, more companies use local contractors. Because we are owners, we really have control over who we hire, and we really maximize hiring local contractors during constructions, also for operation and maintenance," she said.

Sink said the biggest burden of solar energy is during the construction phase. She estimated a project like the one proposed for Patrick County is expected to

take 6 to 9 months.

"During that time, there's an increase in traffic. There's commercial traffic going to the site. There may be noise. The number one source of noise during construction is piling, putting posts in the ground for the structures," she said.

Before starting, Sink said a solar project has to first go through many steps regarding permitting. The first step is a locality's land use approvals. Energix is currently working with county officials on this step, she said.

"We work with communities and counties to make sure we meet their local requirements. Step two is working with the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) on their environmental requirements," she said.

Sink said a permit by rule is when the DEQ shares the project information, studies, and surveys a company has done with other departments like the Department of Historic Resources (DHR), and the Department of Wildlife Resources (DWR).

"We go back and forth to make sure that we adjust our site plans so that no Department of Resources are impact-

ed," she said.

She estimates it takes about six months for a permit by rule to be approved.

The third step involves the company working with the DEQ on erosion and sediment control, stormwater management plans, and a site plan approval. This step typically takes about 12 months.

Energix will also work with the county to gain approval of its site plan, and then seek a building permit.

"After that, we get to construction when we have a building permit," she said. "After we finish construction, it will be a commercial operation. That's what we refer to when we start producing power when the construction is finished."

Sink said Energix purchases its solar panels from an American company that creates Cadmium Telluride (CdTe) panels.

"Five percent of this technology is used worldwide, 50 percent of this technology is used in the U.S., and it's been in anywhere from schools to drinking water reservoirs in the state of Berlin, all the way to Oceania airbases," she said. "This technology is used by the American government, by schools, as well as

major utilities across the United States."

Sink said the safety and efficiency of the panel technology has been tested by more than 40 different researchers and institutions, with the closest one being Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University.

"At the end of its life cycle, over 90 percent of that solar panel gets recycled and reused," Sink said. "The information we have from the company is they can reuse solar panels 41 times. The estimated duration of the project is 35 years, so after 35 years the panels can get recycled 41 times."

Laws in Virginia mandate a surety bond be placed with the locality for decommissioning solar projects because "the counties want to be assured that there's going to be someone who can remove this project. We plan to be in business for 35 years, but just in case there is a surety for the amount."

Company representatives also took questions from those attending. Questions ranged from retooling projects, panel makeup, disposal and decommissioning of panels, potential impacts on the environment, and other topics.



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Initial unemployment claims rise, but remain at usual levels overall

The number of initial claims rose in the latest filing week to 1,760 but remained at levels typically seen over the last twelve months, according to data from the Virginia Employment Commission (VEC).

For the filing week ending April 15, the figure for seasonally unadjusted initial claims in Virginia was 1,760, which was an increase of 202 claimants from the previous week. Over half of initial claims with a self-reported industry were from administrative and support and waste management, professional, scientific, and technical services, manufacturing, health care and social assistance, and retail trade. Continued weeks claimed totaled 11,672, which was essentially unchanged

from the previous week but an increase of 66% from the 7,030 continued claims from the comparable week last year.

Eligibility for benefits is determined on a weekly basis, and so not all weekly claims filed result in a benefit payment. This is because the initial claims numbers represent claim applications; claims are then reviewed for eligibility and legitimacy.

In the week ending April 15, the advance U.S. figure for seasonally adjusted initial claims was 245,000, an increase of 5,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised up by 1,000 from 239,000 to 240,000. The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjust-

ed, totaled 228,216 in the week ending April 15, a decrease of 7,021 (or -3.0 percent) from the previous week. There were 197,219 initial claims in the comparable week in 2022. Looking at preliminary data, most

U.S. states reported decreases on a seasonally unadjusted basis. California's preliminary weekly change (-3,732) was the largest decrease. Texas's weekly change (-2,988) was the second largest decrease. Pennsyl-

vania's preliminary weekly change (-1,866) was the third largest decrease. Indiana's weekly change (-1,446) was the fourth largest decrease. Virginia's preliminary weekly change (+411) was the sixth largest increase.

Adkins

(cont. from page 1)

process a little bit."

Adkins said he decided to leave the position to be closer to family.

"I'm from New England, and I have a three-month-old nephew. His parents are about half an hour from where I'll be, and I've been away now for over a decade," he said.

In addition to the family, Adkins said the new position also allows him to take the next step in his career.

"It was always the career goal to be a city manager or a town manager," he said.

Adkins believes his proudest achievement with Patrick County was raising and getting \$2.6 million in grants for the Business Development Center that will be situated at the corner of Rye Cover Road and Wood Brothers Drive.

He is also proud of working to get Freehouse Brewery to locate in Patrick County as the Freehouse Meadows of Dan Brewery. The brewery will be located at the old Cockrams Mill, and renovations are expected to begin by the end of spring.

For the expansion, Adkins worked to get \$850,000 from the Virginia Department of Housing & Community Development's (DHCD) Industrial Revitalization fund to help assist with the renovation costs of the brewery.

"And it seems little to everybody, but getting the first façade grant program passed, that's the stuff that I love. It's a small program, but that's something I think the county will continue to reap the benefits of that after I'm gone," he said.

In a partnership with Del. Wren Williams, R-Stuart, he facilitated Foresight Healthcare's \$2.1 mil-

lion purchase of the former Pioneer Community Hospital of Patrick County building and secured more than \$100,000 Brownfield grant for remediation work in the building.

During his tenure, Adkins also worked to revamp the county's Enterprise Zone (EZ) and saw an overall increase in EZ investment/spending of more than 2,000 percent, received \$50,000 in grant funding from the DHCD to kickstart the Downtown Stuart Revitalization project, and subsequently received another \$40,000 for the Commerce Street planning.

Adkins was also appointed to the Patrick & Henry Community College (P&HCC) Board of Directors and was a member of the P&HCC Educational Foundation Board. He also served on the Southwest Virginia Vision Plan & Bridge Builder Advisory Committee and the Agritourism/Agribusiness Steering Committee.

Adkins said his grandmother raised him to leave a place better than he found it. He would like to think he did that. In Patrick County.

"I can't point to any one thing that I'm happy about because it's not 'oh like you can point to that win or that success,'" he said. Rather, "I think over the last 18 months it's been pretty consistent and a positive experience."

While he accomplished much during his tenure, Adkins said he wishes he could have found a tenant to locate in the Rich Creek site behind the former Stuart Results building.

"When somebody comes in here and does it, it's going to be really big," he said.



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

PAWS needs your support

PAWS funds are shrinking in our spay neuter program. We only ask for a donation for this service. PAWS has spayed or neutered 530 dogs since we started this free program. We need the support of the participants who benefit from this FREE spay neuter service. We need everyone's help to keep this program going. Donations can be mailed to PAWS POB 743, Stuart VA 24171.

**Murphy Brown,
Stuart**

America's Decline

(Daily Signal, Wall Street Journal, Newsmax)

Patriotism, religious faith, having children and other priorities that helped define the national character for generations are receding in importance to Americans, according to a new Wall Street Journal-NORC poll conducted at the University of Chicago. The following result of the survey shows a disturbing drop in the "what's important" category.

Percent who say the following values are very important.

	1998	2019	2023
Patriotism	70%	61%	38%
Religion	62%	48%	39%
Having Children	59%	43%	30%
Community Involvement	47%	62%	27%
Money	31%	41%	43%

Organized religion has been shrinking for years in the USA, mirroring what happened in Europe in the late 20th century. Two reasons: first, many pastors cannot connect their theology to the modern world. Second, many folks do not believe in right and wrong any longer. They want to do whatever. They reject any judgment of behavior, which is what religion does.

On the patriotism front, the collapse of the public schools fosters ignorance and apathy about a citizen's duty. Younger people now tend to identify with social culture, not a vast nation. If you do not know history, ge-

ography, and political science, why would you have an attachment to your country? Younger Americans, in general, have little frame of reference. They live insulated lives drifting in cyber-space. Some of them are even insulted they have to earn a living. Their collective motto: "where's mine."

Marriage and birthrates are way down. In 1990, 67% of American adults were married. This was down to 51% in 2021. In 2020, there were 56 births in the U.S. for every 1,000 women. In 1990, there were 70.9. Our health care and retirement systems depend on a growing population. Stagnant population growth is one reason our Social Security system is going bankrupt. In 2019, 56% of all health care costs were in age groups 55 and above. The overall burden of health care costs will continue to increase as the percentage of the population over 55 increases.

There are also implications on national security of attitudes that devalue patriotism and national service. We now have a volunteer military. This cannot work with a population of young people who feel no sense of identity and obligation to their nation. The results are predictable. In 2022, the Army fell 15,000 short of its recruiting goal. National defense spending is 3% of gross domestic product, very low by historical standards. The Wall Street Journal reports our Navy's fleet of ships will shrink to 291 by 2028 from 297 today. And the number of aircraft in the Air Force is diminishing. Only 21% of those surveyed say that our country "stands above all countries in the world."

Our country is only the product of its citizenry. A free nation under God becomes less free, and less great, as God is traded in for materialism and egotism.

Pray for our country.

**William Salser,
Stuart**

Dear Patrick County,

As most of you all know by now – my last day as your Director of Economic Development is Friday, April 28. I've gone back and forth over writing this letter, a very permanent sentiment printed out for everyone to see can make someone feel rather vulnerable. However, over the last week or two I have been the recipient of such a sincere show of support, thanks, and warmth from so many folks here that I decided I wanted to publicly show my own gratitude to those that made this 'Yankee' feel like I was around true friends and family.

I've waffled on taking the broad stroke route of saying 'there are too many people to thank,' but I would be remiss to not mention some people that made my time here special. There are countless more, but I'm pretty sure that this letter would turn into a dissertation that would take up half of The Enterprise.

Looking back on to my very first visit to Patrick, my interview panel included a man that went from interviewing me, to one that became a genuine friend and mentor – Ron Haley. Your advice, ability to keep me sane, insights, and support have, and will continue to be invaluable to me.

My three Patrick County 'Mama's' – Mama (Crystal) Harris: The unwavering care and love you've shown to me since the very beginning here was a big reason why I felt comfortable in this area. A fun compliment I was given recently was

(See Letters p. 9)

Protecting Girls in Sports; Service Academy Day

Ninth District U.S. Rep. Morgan Griffith

On April 20th, I voted to pass H.R. 734, the Protection of Women and Girls in Sports Act of 2023, legislation to ensure that women and girls have a fair playing field in sports by guaranteeing that schools adhere to Title IX's recognition of biology and genetics of an individual at birth.

Title IX was enacted as part of the Education Amendments of 1972 to prohibit sex-based discrimination in any school or any other education program that receives funding from the federal government.

This means that when it came to sports, schools were now required to provide equal participation opportunities, athletic scholarships, and benefits and services (facilities, equipment, transportation) for men and women.

Over the past few years, the left has pushed the notion that biological men that have begun transitioning to women are the same as biological women and so they cannot be excluded from participating in women's sports. We must be inclusive of all, they say, no matter what.

But this trend only does a disservice to women and House Republicans have sought to protect their rights with H.R. 734. To me, this bill is not controversial. In fact, I am an original cosponsor of the bill.

This bill is about fairness. Women fought for years for equal opportunities in sports. Before Title IX, women's athletic scholarships were basically nonexistent. Now

those scholarships and other opportunities are at risk again because they are being given to biological men in the name of inclusiveness.

But why should women have to sacrifice what they deserve? This bill is also about safety and accepting the reality of biology and genetics. There is a reason there are separate men's sports and women's sports. The biological differences between men and women cannot be ignored.

Genetically, men have a clear advantage. For example, they have a higher ratio of muscle mass to body weight, which allows for greater acceleration and speed. They also have larger and longer bones to support more muscle. This is true in most cases even if they have begun transitioning to a woman.

Women athletes have already gotten hurt competing against biological males. Just a few days prior to this column, a North Carolina high school volleyball player spoke at a press conference about suffering long-term physical and mental injuries when she was spiked by a ball in the face by a transgender athlete.

This bill does not even address the other issue of women in some places now being required to share their locker rooms with biological males.

Where does it end? H.R. 734 is important legislation to protect woman and girls. Will the Senate agree? I don't know. Ask your Senators Tim Kaine and Mark Warner. Academy Day

On May 6th, I am hosting my annual Service Academy Day in Wytheville. This event gives high school students, their parents, and any school staff interested in a chance to learn more about the Service Academies and the military.

The event will feature representatives from each of the U.S. Service Academies – U.S. Military Academy, U.S. Naval Academy, U.S. Air Force Academy, U.S. Coast Guard Academy, and U.S. Merchant Marine – the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets, the Virginia Military Institute, and other Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) programs.

I encourage all students who may be interested in serving in our military to come on the 6th as attending of one of these institutions it is a fantastic way to both serve your country and further your education after high school.

I am also welcoming interested students and parents located in surrounding counties, outside of the Ninth District, to attend so they may also receive information. Though students must be nominated by their own Member of Congress or Senators to the Service Academies, I know that my event's location may be more convenient for folks in neighboring counties, such as those just over the state line in West Virginia and North Carolina.

For those students in the Ninth District who attend, my staff will also be available to answer questions regarding our process

for congressional nominations.

Serving our country in the Armed Forces is an honorable calling. I hope to see you all there.

If you have questions, concerns, or comments, call my Abingdon office at (276) 525-1405, Christiansburg office at (540) 381-5671 or email by visiting www.morgan-griffith.house.gov.

**Thank You
for reading
The Enterprise**

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆

◆ Moderate ◆◆ Challenging
◆◆◆ HOO BOY!

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THE ENTERPRISE

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Weekly SUDOKU

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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.

Stop Smoking and Reverse the Damage

In a new study, researchers have confirmed that it is never too late to quit smoking. Not only does the damage to your lungs stop when you stop smoking, the damage reverses, giving you genetically healthier lungs, which have a much lower risk of turning into cancer.

Researchers found that in a short period of time, former smokers developed healthy new cells to line their airways. This shift in proportion of healthy to damaged cells helps protect against cancer.

"People who have smoked heavily for 30, 40 or more years often say to me that it's too late to stop smoking—the damage is already done," said the study's joint senior author Dr. Peter Campbell from the Wellcome Sanger Institute.

"What is so exciting about our study is that it shows that it's never too late to quit—some of the people in our study had smoked more than 15,000 packs of cigarettes over their life, but within a few years of quitting, many of the cells lining their airways showed no evidence

of damage from tobacco."

It's not new to think that smoking cessation creates healthier lungs. But the researchers were surprised and "were totally unprepared" over the seemingly "magical" occurrence of the airway regeneration.

Lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer death in America. By a lot. Smoking can lead to cancer because the damage from the smoke causes the cells that make up the lungs and airway to create genetic errors when replicating, causing "driver mutations" which eventually cause the cells to divide uncontrollably and become cancerous.

The research is part of the \$26 million Mutographs of Cancer project: a Cancer Research UK Grand Challenge initiative conducted jointly by cancer researchers Wellcome Sanger Institute and UCL. The project detects DNA "signatures" that indicate the source of damage, to better understand the causes of cancer, and discover the ones we may not yet be aware of.

Dr. Kate Gowers, joint first au-

thor from UCL, said: "Our study is the first time that scientists have looked in detail at the genetic effects of smoking on individual healthy lung cells. We found that even these healthy lung cells from smokers contained thousands of genetic mutations. These can be thought of as mini time-bombs waiting for the next hit that causes them to progress to cancer. Further research with larger numbers of people is needed to understand how cancer develops from these damaged lung cells."

While the study showed that these healthy lung cells could start to repair the lining of the airways in ex-smokers and help protect them against lung cancer, smoking also causes damage deeper in the lung that can lead to emphysema—chronic lung disease. This damage is not reversible, even af-

ter stopping smoking.

It's best to never start but if you are a smoker, it's never too late to quit and stopping at any stage, at any age, significantly lowers your risk of cancer. For tips on how to quit smoking go to <https://www.webmd.com/smoking-cessation/ss/slideshow-13-best-quit-smoking-tips-ever>.

(Submitted by Betty Dean. Used by permission from www.lifeand-health.org Courtesy of LifeSpring – Resources for Hope and Healing Stuart, VA)

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 Can't I Get Social Security Disability on My Own or My Husband's Record?

Dear Rusty: I am considered disabled by State of Washington doctors, but Social Security has turned me down three times when I applied for disability saying I don't have enough work points. I am the wife of a retired, disabled veteran who served over 20 years in the US Navy. I raised three children, one of which is disabled. How do I get Social Security to accept my disability? Signed: Frustrated & Disabled

Dear Frustrated & Disabled: Social Security's criteria for disability eligibility are separate and distinctly different from any other authority such as the State of Washington. To be eligible for Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) benefits, you must have earned a minimum number of credits on your own from working and contributing to Social Security, and that work must have occurred recently (you must have worked at least 5 of the last 10 years). If you did not personally earn the required credits through recent work, you cannot get SSDI benefits. I presume that is what Social Security has determined to be the case for you. And to clarify, you must be totally disabled (rendering you unable to work for at least one year) and that must be confirmed by your medical service providers, who will be contacted by Social Security's representatives.

For information, SSDI is an individually earned entitlement, thus your husband's lifetime earnings history applies only to him, and his earnings record does not extend to you for SSDI purposes (in other words, he might be eligible for early SSDI benefits on his own, but his eligibility for those benefits does not make you eligible too). Nevertheless, if your husband is collecting SSDI benefits and you are caring for your child who became disabled before age 22, or if your husband is collecting SS and any of your children are under age 16, you may be eligible for "child-in-care" spousal benefits. Child-in-care spouse benefits are available at any age, but your husband would need to be collecting either SSDI or his regular SS retirement benefit for you to be eligible for those benefits. And if your husband is collecting SS of any kind, his disabled child (or any minor children under 18) may also be eligible for dependent child benefits from him, subject to the Family Maximum.

So, to answer your specific question about how to get Social Security to "accept your disability," unless you meet the recent work test and have earned the needed credits on your own as described above, and are totally disabled, you cannot. You may wish to confirm this by discussing your situation with an attorney who specializes in SSDI matters. You can find such an attorney online by searching for "SSDI attorney near me" - just be sure to fully vet any firm you are considering. SSDI attorneys should not charge for an initial consultation, and they will only take your case if they believe you can win (they take their fees from any back SSDI benefits they can secure for you). SSDI attorney fees are also limited by federal law, and seeking such counsel should not result in any out-of-pocket expense for you.

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 ssadviser@amacfoundation.org.

Patrick Pioneers

Early Stuart Schools

By Beverly Belcher Woody

Since we start SOL's this week, I thought we might discuss a couple of the earlier schools that were located in the town of Stuart. Stuart Normal School was established in 1867 and was located on Blue Ridge Street near the A.D. and Essie Hopkins residence and the old Owl Diner.

In the Danville, Virginia Anti-Liquor Supplement Volume I, Number 8 published on the first of December 1890, President of the Stuart School, J. W. Giles, published the following advertisement...

"Come to Stuart Normal College, Stuart, Virginia, if you wish low rates, if you wish thorough instruction, if you wish the best normal training, if you wish friends for teachers, if you wish to make a specialty of shorthand and typewriting, instrumental and vocal music, teaching, painting, and drawing, or preparation for any profession, come to Stuart Normal College. Stuart Normal College is the nursery of aspiring youth, where school work becomes a pleasure; where the total expense for five months is \$60; where the total cost of a full course in shorthand and typewriting will not exceed \$68; where students have the cheering atmosphere of usefulness in which to grow; where good conduct, honest work, and worth of character are tests of honor and position; where there are no vacations, but instead each session is 12 months. Where you are guaranteed satisfaction if you work.



Side View of Square School on Chestnut Street.

Information furnished on application. J. W. Giles, President"

The following passage was published long ago in the Enterprise and written by J. R. Barnard concerning his school days at Stuart Normal College. "When I was 16 years of age in the year 1901, I decided to go to Stuart to school. It was the last day of March, which was the Sunday that I started. My father sent me on horseback to Lovers' Leap, as he had two horses, Mr. James Lawson, riding one while I was riding the other. Upon arriving at the Leap. Mr. Lawson left me and then I started walking to Stuart, 10 miles. I arrived there on that Sunday evening at 4 p.m., at the home of the late Mr. and Mrs. T. Lee Clark and got to board with them. After spending the night at their home, next morning Monday, April 1, 1901, I started to school and on my way I looked back toward the Blue Ridge Mountains, and to my surprise the entire

mountain was covered with snow. It was clear on Sunday even, and the March sun was shining, and it changed all in one night to snowing. I arrived at school at 9 a.m.. Professor Marion Royall from North Carolina was the principal teacher, and the next year, 1902, he was assisted by his brother, Professor Louis Royall, who also was a splendid teacher. A number of students was in attendance, all working to get a certificate for teaching. Some of those attending Stuart Normal College were: Beirne Stedman, Frank P. Burton, Paul Sanford, Vance Stedman, Posie Via, Milton and Bunion Stovall, John Brim, Richard Harbour, Taz Nowlin, Will Nowlin, and a number of smaller boys. Some of the girls were: Ethel Thompson, Ethel Shockley, Ethel Bishop, Mary Via, Maude and Kate Handy, Elsie Gilbert, Ida, Ella and Sue Griggs, Ruth Koger, Mollie Harbour, Girty Wiggington, Lucy Dunk-

(See Pioneers p. 15)

DOMINION VALLEY PARK

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MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND

FRIDAY MAY 26 | 5:30 PM
The Inspirations
Chuck Wagon Gang
Gospel Harmony Boys

SATURDAY MAY 27 | 5:30 PM
Ivan Parker
The Harvesters Quartet
The Churchmen

SUNDAY MAY 28 | 10:30 AM
Music by The Beachy Family
Message by Curt Ashley

LABOR DAY WEEKEND

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 1 | 5:30 PM
Kelly Ratcliff
The Churchmen
The Perrys with Tony Wolf

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 2 | 5:30 PM
The Singing Cookes
The Harvesters Quartet
The Martins with Mickey Bell

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 3 | 10:30 AM
Music by The Singing Cookes
Message by Ricky Rogers

SATURDAY MAY 6 | 7PM
HANNAH KERR

Presented by Dominion Valley Events

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Sports Briefs

By Ashlee Mullis

Varsity Baseball Defeats Magna Vista

The Patrick County Varsity Baseball Team picked up a big road win against Magna Vista, Monday, April 17. Jai Penn took the win on the mound in the 7-2 win, going 5 2/3 innings, giving up 2 runs on 6 hits, striking out 11 and walking 1. Tucker Swails had the 4 out save, stranding 2 in the bottom of the 6th and striking out the side in the bottom of the 7th. Toby Perkins led the Cougars at the plate with a 2-run homerun in the top of the 2nd. Stuart Callahan had 2 hits and an RBI. Swails added an RBI single. Broc Taylor, Martin Sawyers, Jackson Horton, and Gavin Fain each added a hit.

Girls Varsity Tennis Sweeps Martinsville

The Girls Varsity Tennis Team was 9-0 against the Lady Bulldogs, Monday, April 17. In singles,

Marissa Bentley (PC) defeated Nayti Patel 8-1, Mia Stowe (PC) defeated Kassidy Dodson 8-0,

Madison Mullis (PC) defeated Ahmyr Washington 8-1, Cecilia Leon-Cisneros (PC) defeated Kayla Solomon 8-2, Katie Vernon (PC) defeated Ashanti Wilson 8-0, and Shyanne Holt (PC) defeated Niqqi Milton 8-0. In doubles, Marissa Bentley/Mia Stowe (PC) defeated Nayti Patel/Kassidy Dodson 8-0, Madison Mullis/Katie Vernon (PC) defeated Ahmyr Washington/Kayla Solomon 8-2, and Cecilia Leon-Cisneros/Shyanne Holt (PC) defeated Ashanti Wilson/Niqqi Milton 8-2.

Varsity Softball Splits the Week

The Lady Cougars got a 10 to 5 win over Magna Vista, Monday April 17. McKenzie Holt went the distance in the circle striking out 8. Journey Moore led the way at the plate with 3 hits, a home run, and 2 stolen bases. Madison Greer scored 3 times with 1 hit and 2 stolen bases, and Alexis Knight, Holt and Bryley Pike each had doubles. The Lady Cougars hosted Bassett, Friday, April 21, losing a tough one, 3-5. Moore pitched 5 innings and Holt pitched 2, striking out 7 between them. Knight had 2 hits for the Lady Cougars, and Samantha Harris had 2 hits. Holt reached base all 3 at bats.

JV Baseball Defeats Magna Vista

The JV Baseball Team had a strong pitching game Friday, April 17, when they defeated Magna Vista on the road, 13-0. David Lawson had the start on the mound, going 4 innings, allowing no runs or walks and striking out 2. Christian Hylton closed the game with a two-strikeout inning. Patrick County scored 4 big runs in the bottom of the 1st that started with a Chance Corns RBI double. Lawson led at the plate with 2 hits and 2 RBIs. The Cougars put up 2 runs in the 4th inning. They had 12 RBIs in the game with Jaiden Wilson, Eric Martinez, Lucas Taylor and Lawson had 2 RBIs each.

JV Baseball Suffers First Loss

The JV Cougars came up short for the first time this season, losing 3-5 to Halifax County at home April 19. For the first time this season, errors plagued the Cougars, committing 4 errors in the 3rd and 4th innings, leading to all five of Halifax's runs. It proved to be too much to overcome against a very strong Halifax team.

The Cougars rallied with 2 runs in the 7th, highlighted by Calvin Lancaster's triple to drive in a run, bringing the Cougars to within 2, but it wasn't enough to pull out the win.

Easton Harris led at the plate with 2 hits for the Cougars. Lucas Taylor was the tough starter for the game, going 3 innings, allowing 4 runs with only one earned. Christian Hylton and Calvin Lancaster pitched the remaining 4 innings, allowing only a run.

JV Baseball Defeats Bassett

Patrick County 14, Bassett 1

The JV Cougars bounced back from their first loss of the season with a big 14-1 victory at Bassett, Friday, April 21. The Cougars scored 12 runs in the 2nd inning to secure a 4-inning mercy rule game. Calvin Lancaster led the hitting attack with 2 hits and 3 runs scored. Jackson Callahan led the Cougars with 3 RBIs. Easton Harris had 2 RBIs, David Lawson scored 3 runs, and Eli Bogle added 2 runs. Starter David Lawson went 2 innings, allowing no runs, 1 hit, and struck out 4. Christian Hylton finished the game, allowing 1 run on hits and 5 strikeouts. With the win the Cougars improved to 11-1 on the year.

Girls Tennis Loses Close Match

By Ashlee Mullis

The Girls Varsity Tennis Team lost a close 4-5 match against Halifax on Wednesday, April 19.

Patrick County was 1-5 in singles. Marissa Bentley (PC) fell to Christina Bruce 6-8, Mia Stowe (PC) defeated Myah Forest 8-3, Madison Mullis (PC) fell to Abigail Baisch 4-8, Cecilia Leon-Cisneros (PC) fell to Francesca Potenza 1-8, Katie Vernon (PC) fell to Meredith Duffer 0-8, Shyanne Holt (PC) fell to Kendall Crowder 0-8.

PC was 3-0 in doubles. Marissa Bentley/Mia Stowe (PC) defeated Christina Bruce/Myah Forest 8-5, Madison Mullis/Cecilia Leon-Cisneros (PC) defeated Abigail Baisch/Francesca Potenza 7-1 by tie break, and Katie Vernon/Shyanne Holt (PC) defeats Kamyjah Sprattley/Shanell Richardson 8-6.

PCHS Fishing Team members head to state competition

Seven teams from Patrick County High School's Fishing Team qualified for State and will compete in the B.A.S.S. Nation of Virginia State Championship at Holly Grove Marina on Lake Gaston on April 29 and 30.

Congratulations to the following PCHS anglers: Devin Walker and Jake Caine; Jonah Shockley and Hunter Heath; Evan Havens and Caleb Hostetter; Caleb Geiger and Cameron Collins; Will Heath and Chace Handy; Eli Wood and Evan Wood; Tripp Thompson and Jacob Spencer.

Blast off is at 6:30 a.m. each morning as the anglers compete against teams from all over Virginia. Good luck to all the PC anglers.

Amos Named to Winter 2023 Dean's List

Matthew Amos, of Stuart, was named to Sherman College of Chiropractic's Dean's List for grades earned during the Winter 2023 academic quarter. Dean's List students have achieved a grade point average of at least 3.5 for the quarter.

Sherman College of Chiropractic in South Carolina provides students with a comprehensive education, preparing them to enter the field as doctors of chiropractic who are highly skilled, compassionate, ethical and successful.

PCHS Sports Schedule Week of April 27 - May 3

4/27

- 5pm Baseball vs Halifax
- 5pm Softball vs Halifax
- 5pm Boys Tennis at George Washington
- 5pm Girls Tennis at George Washington
- 7pm Girls Soccer at Halifax
- 7pm Boys Soccer vs Halifax
- TBA Track at Cave Spring

5/1

- 5pm Baseball at Gretna
- 5pm Softball at Gretna
- 5pm Boys Tennis at George Washington
- 5pm Girls Tennis at George Washington

5/2

- 5pm Baseball vs George Washington
- 5:30pm Girls Soccer vs George Washington
- 7pm Boys Soccer vs George Washington

5/3

- 5pm Boys Tennis at Martinsville
- 5pm Girls Tennis at Martinsville
- 5pm Track at George Washington

Clark named to Forbes' list of Best-In-State Wealth Advisers



R. Perry Clark

R. Perry Clark, Vice President of Clark Wealth Management, located at 8015 W. Kenton Circle, Ste. 105, Huntersville, NC, was among the Raymond James-affiliated advisors named to the Forbes list of Best-In-State Wealth Advisers. The list, which recognizes advisors from national, regional and independent firms, was released online April 4, 2023.

Clark graduated from Patrick County High School in 1981, and Virginia Tech in 1986.

Clark's mother, Betty Clark, and a sister continue to live in Stuart as do several clients.

Forbes' Top Wealth Advisors Best-In-State 2023 ranking, developed by SHOOK Research, is based on an algorithm of qualitative criteria, mostly gained through telephone and in-person due diligence interviews, and quantitative data. This ranking is based upon the period from 6/30/2021 to 6/30/2022.

Those advisors who are considered have a minimum of seven years of experience, and the algorithm weights factors like revenue trends, assets under management, compliance records, industry experience and those who encompass best practices in their practices and approach to working with clients.

Portfolio performance is not a criteria due to varying client objectives and lack of audited data. Out of approximately 39,007 nominations, 7,321 advisors received the award. This ranking is not indicative of an advisor's future performance, is not an endorsement and may not be representative of an individual client's experience.

Neither Raymond James nor any of its financial advisors or RIA firms pay a fee in exchange for this award/rating. Raymond James is not affiliated with Forbes or SHOOK Research, LLC. Please visit <https://www.forbes.com/lists/best-in-state-wealth-advisors/?sh=181ba856ab97> for more info.

Clark, who joined Raymond James in 2012, has more than 26 years of experience in the financial services industry.

To reach Perry, please call (704) 655-2102 or toll free at (866)998-3877.

SCC Horticulture Club Hosts Plant Sale

The Surry Community College Horticulture Club is hosting a plant sale through Friday, April 28. All proceeds benefit the Surry Community College Horticulture Club.

The club is offering mostly succulents, houseplants, and herbs, with most prices ranging from \$1 to \$10. The sale will take place in the greenhouse adjacent to the Knights Grill Courtyard on the Dobson campus.

Thursday, April 27, the sale is open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., and on Friday, April 28, the final day of the sale, hours are from 8 to 10 a.m.

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Kyle Busch avoids 'Big One' to speed to victory at Talladega

By **HOLLY CAIN**
NASCAR Wire Service
TALLADEGA, Ala. – Kyle

Busch is a Las Vegas native after all, so he was “all in” to stay on track instead of pitting for fuel during a pair of overtimes restarts in the GEICO 500 at Talladega (Ala.) Superspeedway Sunday afternoon. And he ended up, the big winner.

Busch’s No. 8 Richard Childress Racing Chevrolet had just enough gas to make it back to the checkered flag as a half dozen other lead pack cars around him were collected in a multi-car accident while maneuvering forward to challenge for the lead on the final overtime lap.

“We got to gamble,” Busch, 37, said he told his crew while contemplating whether to pit for fuel or stay in the lead pack for the final overtime restart – noting afterward he probably wouldn’t have been willing to be so daring if he hadn’t already earned a victory this season at California’s Auto Club Speedway. He didn’t even do a celebratory burnout after the race, convinced his Chevrolet didn’t have enough fuel at that point.

Busch and 23XI Racing driver Bubba Wallace exchanged the lead during the final two laps of the race but Wallace’s No. 23 Toyota was tagged by Ryan Blaney in the No. 12 Penske Racing Ford as those two vied for the lead just after the white flag flew, signaling one lap to go.

Wallace’s Toyota turned sideways, hit the wall and triggered a chain-reaction accident that eliminated several other of the front-running cars while the two-time NASCAR Cup Series champion Busch was able to continue forward and take his second win of the season and 62nd of this career. It’s

Busch’s second career win at Talladega – the first coming 15 years (and 55 wins) ago.

“Sometimes you’ve got to be lucky, you know,” said a smiling Busch, who led only three laps in securing the RCR team its 13th Talladega victory. “Sometimes these races come down to that and you’ve got to take them when they come your way.

“The seas kind of parted there when they [Blaney and Wallace] went up the race track there. They were trying to push-draft and these cars are just not stable enough to do that. I saw the 23 (Bubba Wallace) turn a little bit sideways, and I was like, ‘just get out of the way.’”

Blaney, who led a race best 47 of the 196 laps, looked poised to snap a 55-race winless streak at Talladega before the last lap incident. He was still able to continue after the contact with Wallace, but finished runner-up despite leading the most laps on the afternoon.

“It’s just you get big runs and you take them when you can,” Blaney said, noting of the contact with Wallace, “I’m glad everyone’s okay, but in my mind you can’t make a triple move like that, a triple block. You can’t block three times, I don’t know, the runs are so big and as the leader Bubba’s (Wallace) trying to block, which is the right thing to do. But I think he kinda moved three times. I got to go somewhere. I hate for cars to get torn up and I hate for us to be so close to the win.

“I’m not blaming anybody. It’s just hard racing at the end of this thing and unfortunate that cars got torn up and we missed out on another win.”

Roush Fenway Keselowski Racing driver Chris Buescher finished third, followed by Stewart-Haas



Denny Hamlin, driver of the #11 FedEx Freight Direct Toyota, and Aric Almirola, driver of the #10 Smithfield Ford, lead the field to the green flag to start the NASCAR Cup Series GEICO 500 at Talladega Superspeedway on April 23, 2023 in Talladega, Alabama. (Photo by Sean Gardner/Getty Images)

Racing’s Chase Briscoe and RFK owner-driver Brad Keselowski, who leads all current competitors with six career Talladega wins.

Legacy Motor Club’s Erik Jones, Hendrick Motorsports’ William Byron, Joe Gibbs Racing’s Christopher Bell, Trackhouse Racing’s Daniel Suarez and Front Row Motorsports’ Todd Gilliland rounded out of the Top 10.

It was by all accounts, the typical, hard-nosed, tight-quarter racing fans and drivers have come to expect at the 2.66-mile Talladega Superspeedway. Sunday’s race featured 57 lead changes – the most at Talladega since 2011 (72 lead changes).

It was a markedly different top of the final leaderboard based on the afternoon’s efforts. SHR drivers Aric Almirola and Kevin Harvick each led 11 laps and ran among the front pack for most of the day, but were collected in a multi-car accident on the first overtime period. They finished 20th and 21st,

respectively.

Wallace, whose 35 laps out front in his No. 23 Toyota finished 28th after the last lap accident.

Also noteworthy, Chase Elliott finished 12th and led seven laps – the first laps he’s led since returning to competition last week after missing six races recovering from a broken leg. Pole winner Denny Hamlin led seven laps on the day and finished 15th.

Ironically the race’s earlier mishaps didn’t happen from aggressive action on the race track but instead in slower miscues on pit road. Tyler Reddick spun his No. 45 23XI Racing Toyota getting on pit road making his first stop of the race and only six laps later Briscoe spun his No. 14 Stewart-Haas Racing Ford on pit road bringing out a yellow flag – only to recover and take that top-5 finish.

Wallace, who earned his first career NASCAR Cup Series win here at Talladega in 2021, led the most laps (23) in Stage 1. But it was Hendrick Motorsports’

Elliott who ultimately drove forward to claim his first stage win of the season leading the final 11 laps.

There were 17 lead changes among nine drivers in Stage 2 – with Almirola moving out front in the final feet to the finish line get around Elliott and claim that stage win.

As for the two victories in the opening 10 races of Busch’s tenure with Childress, the NASCAR Hall of Fame owner grinned.

“I think he’s helping us build RCR back up to where we want it to be,” Childress said, glancing with a smile at bottle of race-winning champagne he brought to the winner’s press conference.

Christopher Bell maintains the NASCAR Cup Series championship lead by 11 points over Ross Chastain as the NASCAR Cup Series moves to the “Monster Mile” – Dover (Del.) Motor Speedway – for the Wurth 400 next Sunday at 2 p.m. (FS1, PRN, SiriusXM NASCAR Radio).

NASCAR Cup Series Race - GEICO 500

Talladega Superspeedway
Talladega, Alabama
Sunday, April 23, 2023

- 1. (17) Kyle Busch, Chevrolet, 196.
- 2. (5) Ryan Blaney, Ford, 196.
- 3. (10) Chris Buescher, Ford, 196.
- 4. (4) Chase Briscoe, Ford, 196.
- 5. (20) Brad Keselowski, Ford, 196.
- 6. (24) Erik Jones, Chevrolet, 196.
- 7. (18) William Byron, Chevrolet, 196.
- 8. (6) Christopher Bell, Toyota, 196.
- 9. (22) Daniel Suarez, Chevrolet, 196.
- 10. (28) Todd Gilliland, Ford, 196.
- 11. (38) JJ Yeley(i), Ford, 196.
- 12. (29) Chase Elliott, Chevrolet, 196.
- 13. (13) Tyler Reddick, Toyota, 196.
- 14. (27) Alex Bowman, Chevrolet, 196.

- 15. (1) Denny Hamlin, Toyota, 196.
- 16. (33) Ricky Stenhouse Jr., Chevrolet, 196.
- 17. (32) Ty Dillon, Chevrolet, 196.
- 18. (26) Justin Haley, Chevrolet, 196.
- 19. (37) BJ McLeod, Chevrolet, 196.
- 20. (2) Aric Almirola, Ford, 196.
- 21. (11) Kevin Harvick, Ford, 196.
- 22. (23) Ross Chastain, Chevrolet, 196.
- 23. (31) Austin Hill(i), Chevrolet, 196.
- 24. (34) Corey LaJoie, Chevrolet, 196.
- 25. (36) Riley Herbst(i), Ford, 196.
- 26. (15) Austin Cindric, Ford, 196.
- 27. (7) Martin Truex Jr., Toyota, 196.
- 28. (12) Bubba Wallace, Toyota, Accident, 195.
- 29. (19) AJ Allmendinger, Chevrolet, Accident, 195.
- 30. (8) Joey Logano, Ford, 195.

- 31. (3) Ty Gibbs #, Toyota, Fuel, 194.
- 32. (30) Noah Gragson #, Chevrolet, Accident, 189.
- 33. (9) Kyle Larson, Chevrolet, Accident, 189.
- 34. (16) Ryan Preece, Ford, Accident, 189.
- 35. (21) Michael McDowell, Ford, 189.
- 36. (25) Harrison Burton, Ford, Accident, 183.
- 37. (35) Zane Smith(i), Ford, Accident, 141.
- 38. (14) Austin Dillon, Chevrolet, Accident, 141.

Average Speed of Race Winner: 146.575 mph.

Time of Race: 3 Hrs, 33 Mins, 25 Secs. Margin of Victory: Caution Seconds.

Caution Flags: 8 for 34 laps.

Lead Changes: 57 among 21 drivers.

Lap Leaders: A. Almirola 1-6; C. Briscoe 7; B. Wallace 8-30; D. Suarez 31-34; K. Busch 35; R. Chastain 36-38; R. Preece 39-40; E. Jones 41-43; C. Elliott 44-47; A.

Bowman 48-52; C. Elliott 53-55; A. Bowman 56; C. Elliott 57; A. Bowman 58-59; C. Elliott 60-62; B. McLeod 63; D. Hamlin 64-70; K. Harvick 71-76; J. Logano 77; M. Truex Jr. 78-82; J. Logano 83; M. Truex Jr. 84; J. Logano 85; M. Truex Jr. 86-97; B. Wallace 98-99; K. Harvick 100-104; B. Keselowski 105-106; C. Elliott 107; M. Truex Jr. 108; C. Elliott 109; B. Wallace 110-114; C. Elliott 115-119; A. Almirola 120-122; W. Byron 123; A. Almirola 124-125; B. Wallace 126; H. Burton 127-130; R. Blaney 131; H. Burton 132-137; R. Blaney 138-140; H. Burton 141; R. Blaney 142-143; D. Suarez 144; R. Blaney 145-146; B. Wallace 147-149; R. Blaney 150-154; T. Gibbs # 155-156; R. Blaney 157-168; T. Gibbs # 169; R. Blaney 170-179; T. Gibbs # 180; R. Blaney 181-188; N. Gragson # 189; R. Blaney 190-193; K. Busch 194; B. Wallace 195; K. Busch 196.

Leaders Summary (Driver, Times Lead, Laps Led): Ryan Blaney 9 times for 47 laps; Bubba Wallace 6 times for 35 laps; Martin Truex Jr. 4 times for 19 laps; Chase Elliott 7 times for 18 laps; Harrison Burton 3 times for 11 laps; Aric Almirola 3 times for 11 laps; Kevin Harvick 2 times for 11 laps; Alex Bowman 3 times for 8 laps; Denny Hamlin 1 time for 7 laps; Daniel Suarez 2 times for 5 laps; Ty Gibbs # 3 times for 4 laps; Ross Chastain 1 time for 3 laps; Erik Jones 1 time for 3 laps; Joey Logano 3 times for 3 laps; Kyle Busch 3 times for 3 laps; Ryan Preece 1 time for 2 laps; Brad Keselowski 1 time for 2 laps; BJ McLeod 1 time for 1 lap; Noah Gragson # 1 time for 1 lap; William Byron 1 time for 1 lap; Chase Briscoe 1 time for 1 lap.

Stage #1 Top Ten: 9,48,1,24,5,2,42,22,41,99

Stage #2 Top Ten: 10,9,4,23,21,19,41,11,47,42

Letters

(cont. from page 6)

‘even Crystal likes you, well done,’ which I think you’ll get a kick out of hearing. Mama D (Denise Stirewalt): You have almost literally been like a mother to me. In times of need, of all sorts, you have gone out of your way to help me as if I was your own and I will never forget it. Sara Leigh: From the first time I stopped in and talked with you and Stephanie, I told you I’d wave to you every time I walked past your windows. The laughter and small talk with you was something I cherished, and I’ll miss waving to you and seeing you smiling waving back to me

in the window.

Dan Smith: You are one of the best men I’ve ever had the pleasure of knowing. You’ve been one of the most genuine and unique friends and partners I’ll ever know. You embody what it means to be a true community leader, and I can only be so lucky to stumble across the likes of you again in the future.

James Houchins: My brother from another mother. My guy – I could write a lot here, but we operate on the same wavelength, so I don’t need to say it. I’ll miss being able to walk across the parking lot to talk shop, but I know we’ll keep in touch

for life.

Melissa Taylor and Amy Walker – my friends, office mates, sounding boards, therapists, the list can go on and on. If anyone heard belly laughs over in Carroll County, it was probably from us.

Linda Green – Your reputation preceded you, and you somehow surpassed it. You are a mighty positive force, and there’s no better quality or trait in a person in my eyes.

Dr. Greg Hodges – I am quick to tell people how much I love what I do, but the other day I told someone ‘Greg is the only one that I know loves what he does

more than me.’ Your commitment and energy for your work is infectious, and our friendship will continue to grow.

Kristie Eberly – Michael, Kathleen, and you have been the staff/team I didn’t have here. I couldn’t have done what I did here without you. Kristie, we just clicked from very early on. We’ve had so many late night phone calls where the conversation meandered away from work, and we became dear friends along the way. I look forward to calls that don’t include us staying in the office late to submit grant applications at 1:00 am. You all should have

Patrick County email addresses with how much you do for us.

In closing, I am very grateful and proud of what I’ve been able to accomplish here. Most of important of those accomplishments are the relationships. The outpour of calls, texts, and people stopping me on the street thanking me is confirmation of my efforts, and that means more than anything in the world. My Mimi taught me ‘leave a place better than you found it.’ I’d like to think I did that here.

Love and thank you,
Your favorite Yankee
Sean Adkins

Nelda Sue Biggs Shugart

Nelda Sue Biggs Shugart of Winston-Salem died at home Friday, April 21, after a year of declining health. She was 74.

Born in Stuart, Va., to the late Gilmer and Ruby Biggs, Nelda graduated from Stuart High School and Winston-Salem Business College. She retired from the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Schools, where she was an administrative assistant. She enjoyed reading and adored cats, particularly her beloved Peekaboo.

Survivors include her son, Scott (Elisa) Shugart of Floyds Knobs, Ind.; daughter, Karen Shugart of Greensboro; and grandchildren,

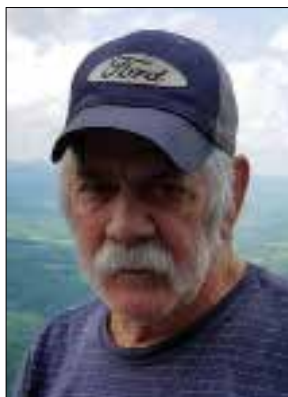
Michaela, Madison, Katie, Jillian, and Andrew. She is also survived by her brothers, Carlton (Dorothy) Biggs, Delana (Glenda) Biggs, Charles (Gloria) Biggs, and Ben (Rita) Biggs.

A visitation will be held from 4:00 pm till 6:00 pm Saturday April 29, 2023 at Twin City Cremations and Funeral Services, 122 North Spruce Street, Winston-Salem, NC 27101.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Forsyth Humane Society, 4881 Country Club Road, Winston-Salem, N.C. 27104 (www.forsythhumane.org). Online condolences can be made at www.twincitycremations.com.

James Edward Holt

Mr. James Edward Holt, age 73, of Westfield, NC, was called home to be with the Lord on April 17, 2023, after a hard-fought battle with cancer. Mr. Holt was born in Patrick County, VA on May 23, 1949, to the late Harvey Holt and Virginia Lawson Holt. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by three brothers,



Benny, Henry, and Jack. Mr. Holt is survived by his loving wife of 44 years, Mrs. Regina Lawson Holt, one son and daughter-in-law, Jamie Holt and wife Natalie of Pippa Passes, KY; five brothers, Claude Holt of Claudville, VA, William Holt and wife Karen of Stuart, VA, Leonard Holt and wife Kay of Stuart, VA, Roger Holt and wife Debra of Stuart, VA, and Randy Holt of Mount Airy, NC; four sisters, Mildred Collins of Stuart, VA, Ann Holt of Claudville, VA, Barbara Brown of Claudville, VA, and Audrey Pendleton and husband Delano of Woolwine, VA, his mother-in-law, Roxie Lawson of Westfield, NC; and several nieces and nephews.

Mr. Holt loved to fish, ginseng hunt, take care of his honeybees, take walks, mow yards, attend bluegrass festivals with his son, flat foot dance, go on picnics on the mountain, and spend time with his family. Mr. Holt was raised on a tobacco farm and worked hard from an early age and was a hard worker throughout his life.

There will be no funeral services for Mr. Holt per his wishes. To honor James, spend some time in nature, go catch a fish in your favorite fishing hole, listen to some good bluegrass music or learn to flatfoot, but most importantly, spend time with the ones you love. These are the things he enjoyed. The Holt family would like to thank Mountain Valley Hospice for their care and assistance over the past several weeks and every family member, neighbor, and friends for their support, prayers, and meals over the past several weeks. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Mountain Valley Hospice, 129 Veterans Drive, Pilot Mountain, NC 27041. Online condolences may be sent to www.moodyfuneralservices.com.

Annabel Sudie Hylton Howell

Mrs. Annabel Sudie Hylton Howell, age 69 of Stuart, passed away Saturday, April 22, 2023, at SOVAH of Martinsville. She was born in Patrick County on May 10, 1953, to the late George Clifford Hylton and Edith Conner Hylton. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Lee Roy Howell; one stepdaughter, Jennifer Howell; and a brother, George "Butch" Hylton.



Surviving is one son, Lonnie Howell of Stuart; one grandson, Jacob Howell and wife, Madison of Stuart; two great grandchildren, Isaac and Carter Howell; one sister and

brother-in-law, Linda and Kenneth Biggs of Critz; three stepchildren, James Howell, Mary Howell, Angie Booth; and several step grandchildren.

Funeral services will be held Wednesday, April 26, 2023, at 2:00 PM at Moody Funeral Home in Stuart with Pastor Jonathan Goins officiating. Burial will follow in the Howell Bottom Cemetery. The family will receive friends one hour prior to the service at the funeral home. Online condolences may be sent to www.moodyfuneralservices.com.

Lucille Handy Layman

Mrs. Lucille Handy Layman, age 100 of Stuart, Virginia transitioned from Earth to join her Savior and Lord on Thursday, April 20, 2023. She was born on May 10, 1922, to the late John Franklin Handy and Rosa Bell Martin Handy. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband of 71 years, Raymond Layman; one sister, Nannie Dee Handy; and four brothers and three sisters-in-law, John Abe Handy and wife, Lonie, Fred Dudley Handy and wife, Vesta, Noel Jasper Handy and Velma, and Samuel Raymond Handy. Lucille was very content to be a stay-at-home wife and mother. As long as she could, she liked working in her flowers. She was an excellent cook and served many Sunday after church meals to her family. She and Raymond attended Providence United Methodist Church as long as they were physically able.



Left to cherish the memories of Mrs. Lucille Layman are her four children, Shelby Turner and husband, Junior, Mildred Layman, Dee Dee Parrish, and Kathy Tompkins; her beloved grandchildren Pam Stafford and husband Mark, Amy Parrish, Katrina Tompkins, Tyler Tompkins, Kenneth Hopkins, and Michael Hopkins and wife, Deborah; great-grandchildren, Amber Lilly and husband, Zack, Austin Hopkins, Taylor Hopkins, Syd-

ney Hopkins, Ashley Roberson, Riley Roberson and wife, Christin, Abby Sharpe and Lizzy Sharpe; great-great-grandchildren Ava Mae Lilly, Jada Lilly, Camden Roberson and Magnolia Roberson; a very special friend, Denise Hopkins; and several nieces and nephews.

A funeral service for Mrs. Layman will be held on Monday, April 24, 2023, at 2:00 p.m. at Moody Funeral Home Chapel in Stuart with Pastor David Coleman officiating. Burial will immediately follow in Patrick Memorial Gardens. The family will receive friends one hour prior to the service on Monday afternoon at the funeral home from 1:00 p.m. until 2:00 p.m. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that memorial donations be made to The Gideon's International for the evangelistic work they do in supplying Bibles and physical ministry; a Gideon display will be available at the funeral to assist with donations. Online condolences may be made by visiting www.moodyfuneralservices.com.

The family wishes to express their gratitude to Pastors Keith Vernon and David and Debra Coleman, neighbors, friends, Mountain Valley Hospice, especially nurses Brandy and Bailey, and wonderful C.N.A.s for all your support, dedication, and acts of kindness.

Superintendent addresses curriculum concerns



Patrick County Schools Superintendent Jason Wood.

By Taylor Boyd
The Patrick County School division is closely monitoring student access to books and the curriculum taught in classrooms, Schools Superintendent Jason Wood said following comments by Denise Stirewalt at an April 13 meeting.

Stirewalt, a member of the Patrick County Board of Supervisors, was concerned that topics like homosexuality and masturbation were being read to students in classrooms.

Wood said the situations Stirewalt mentioned did not happen in the Patrick County school system, but rather in other areas. The issues were then discussed via national newscasts.

"The book that she referred to is a sixth-grade book that we have in our school," Wood said, but the situation Stirewalt mentioned was "something that was off of national news."

To ensure the division remains proactive, Wood said administrators contacted instructional coaches and asked them to reach out to sixth-grade teams.

Administrators learned that teachers are not covering those books in class, he said.

"There was a Greek mythology story that had more mature tones for a third grader, and we've removed that story," Wood said. "We're not trying to hinder exposure of students to things, but then again, we're talking about reading classes. So, when you utilize literature to teach reading skills, you can use a variety of different stories."

Wood said the division would continue to teach the same standards with different stories.

"We have been proactive about that with our new curriculum because when you have thousands of sto-

ries in a new reading curriculum, you may find some that, 'ooh we need to change our approach,'" he said, adding that is a sign of "good teaching."

When conducting those reviews, "you may see something that didn't work this year, and you adjust for the following year," he said.

Wood reassured parents that the school division is proactive in such matters.

"We are proactive. We understand the community in which we live and raise our own families, so we are very cautious about the curriculum in our schools," he said.

Wood said concerns about the Stuart Elementary School Facebook post were previously addressed at the March meeting. He also talked with Stirewalt before the meeting regarding the situation and Facebook post.

He explained a teacher brought in donuts for a celebration and decided to share them with students via a version of a 'minute it to win it' game.

While the activity in the post was "not a planned activity that was portrayed that way in class," Wood said, "the Facebook post was in poor taste."

However, "we did not focus on 'this is what students are doing' as it was portrayed at the meeting because that was not the intent of the teacher," he said.



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The Bearcat is Family

Colossians 3:13 "Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you."

God told mankind to have dominion over the fish, the birds and other animals (Genesis 1: 26). This is well and good because God said it.

Margie and I sometimes feel like the Bearcat has dominion over us, but that's okay because we love him and let him get by with it. It's perfectly acceptable with us to let him have his way and to think he's the boss, because at times, he is.

If the Bearcat doesn't show up at his regular time, which he rarely does, we go out looking for him. We usually find him sleeping under an azalea or loropetalum bush. If he cannot be found, we imagine the worst and panic until he decides to show up. Bear is an old cat and needs a little pampering. We cater to his wishes and do everything in our power to make him a happy cat.

Bear is not like family; he is family. If something happened to him we would grieve and miss him very much. He brings us a pleasure only another animal lover would understand.

I firmly believe, and this will never change; the way a person treats animals reveals their character. To be cruel to an animal is unforgivable and in my mind is as despicable as a person can be. If anyone ever hurt the Bearcat, they would have Margie to contend with and it would not be pleasant.

Lists of the important things in our lives are long and varied but right at the top of most of our lists is family. With the changing of the seasons, we are reminded of how good our Creator has been to us and blessing us immeasurably.

To set aside a single day each year to be thankful seems a little foolish. We should be thankful every day. Granted, many have worked long and hard for the material things amassed, but are the really important things made of wood, steel and plastic? When many are asked what are they thankful for, the responses vary but often times do involve material possessions. However, near the top of the list, should be "family."

A Michael J. Fox quote says it all, "Family is not an important thing; it's everything." Many do not realize how precious that bond is until it's lost. From observations, it appears the happiest people in the world may or may not have material possessions but have strong and lasting family ties.

The Bible places extreme importance on family. The family of Jesus became an extension of Him and Mary, his mother, became a symbol of motherhood and is regarded by some as sacred. His brother, James, became a writer of the Book of James in the New Testament and gave us great insight and extrapolations into the teachings of Jesus.

His earthly father, Joseph, took on the responsibility of raising Jesus as a boy and taught Jesus the trade of carpenter. What a great example of fatherhood Joseph sets for young fathers, even today.

The disciples were a family to Jesus. He was to them a mentor, a father figure and a great teacher. He set such a great example for them and His training resulted in the development of the apostles, who were also great teachers.

The very first account of human relationships was the story of Adam and Eve and their family. Perhaps in the beginning was the place God chose to show us, that at times, things do not go smoothly. There are bumpy roads in the stories of most all families, but those

with strong ties and living under the influence of God's teachings, manage to survive.

Another family story in Genesis is that of the families of Abram (Abraham), Isaac and Jacob. God brought Abram up to Canaan and made him the father of a great nation. Abraham's son, Isaac, became the father of the Jewish nation and consequently the forerunner of Christianity. God chose the nation of Israel to provide the world with a Savior and so Christians are eternally connected to Judaism.

Abraham's other son, Ishmael, through the servant girl Hagar, became the father of another people group as God promised. Even though these two great families began over 4000 years ago and are still at odds, it conclusively points out to us that God has never promised everything in our lives (and families) would be perfect.

Isaac's two sons, Esau and Jacob, once parted at odds, but the strong family ties eventually brought them back together as brothers. Jacob took by deception, Esau's birthright and blessing. Yet Jacob was forgiven and the family connection was re-established.

Colossians 3: 13 "Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye." Perhaps the Apostle Paul was thinking of Esau and Jacob when he wrote this verse. Trying to understand why other's actions are as they are is perhaps the first step in forgiveness.

There are numerous stories in the Old and New Testaments of families depicting both strengths and weaknesses. Family bonds are what we make them. God no doubt values those family characteristics that unite families into strong units.

Genesis 20: 12 "Honor thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee." We notice in Exodus 20, the Ten Commandments, the first four concern man's relationship to God and the last six, the connection of man to man.

Of those last six, the first is to honor thy father and mother. Is God telling us that to honor one's father and mother is of primary importance? If so, He may be conveying His thoughts on the importance of family.

Desmond Tutu said, "You don't choose your family. They are God's gift to you, as you are to them." Great men have long revered the family structure as precious and sacred. Pope John XXIII (1881-1963) said, "The family is the first essential cell of human society."

2 Timothy 3: 2 "For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy." What a sad state to be in to be unthankful, unholy and disobedient to parents. Once again, we see one of the many verifications of God's attitude toward family and parenthood.

To have feelings of thankfulness is a gift of God. We can have no doubt, God places the family at the top of the priority list of mankind. And, of course, our own families are the first on our list to lead to the Lord Jesus; teaching He was crucified for the remission of sin and resurrected. A close family is to be cherished and protected. Take God's word for it.

(Van Yandell is a retired Industrial Arts teacher, an ordained gospel evangelist and commissioned missionary, from Fredonia, Kentucky. Articles are a part of the Bible Connections series.)

BIBLE TRIVIA

BY WILSON CASEY

1. Is the book of Simon (KJV) in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. In a fit of anger, what did King Saul throw trying to kill David? Spear, Vase, Shield, Ax
3. From Exodus 1, what were the people of Israel forced to make? Blankets, Boats, Baskets, Bricks
4. Who was the deceptive future father-in-law

5. What did Shamgar use to kill six hundred Philistines? Sword, Stones, Mina, Ox goad
6. How many deacons were chosen to help the apostles? 4, 7, 11, 15

ANSWERS: 1) Neither, 2) Spear, 3) Bricks, 4) Laban, 5) Ox goad (Judges 3:31), 6) 7

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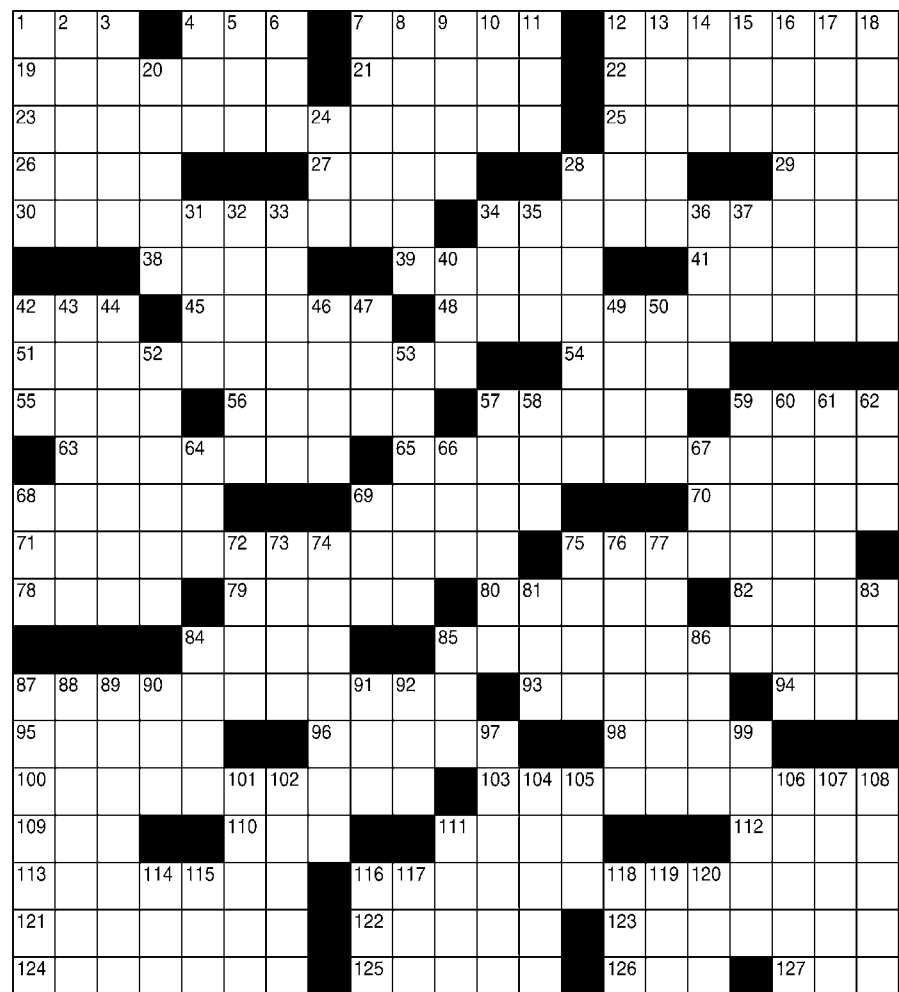
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 VA. CODE §§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316, -317, 20-104
 PATRICK CIRCUIT COURT
 101 W. BLUE RIDGE STREET, STUART, VA 24171
 JUANITA REYNOLDS WRIGHT v. JOHNNIE REYNOLDS
 ANNIE HAGWOOD, ET AL

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

Mp Bts
 Clerk

Deadline to file Personal Property Returns is May 1

Personal property tax returns were mailed to all residents of the County in February 2023. Ownership of personal property and business equipment owned on January 1, 2023, should be verified and returned to the Commissioner of the Revenue office by May 1.

Review all vehicles and mark personal or business use. To qualify for business use, a vehicle must be used more than 50% in a business. Any vehicles, utility trailers, boats, campers or mobile homes not listed need to be noted on the form. Business owners must attach a depre-

ciation schedule or itemized listing of property owned on January 1, 2023. For more information, contact the Commissioner of the Revenue office, located in the Patrick County Veterans Memorial Building Room, 106 Rucker St., Room 220 or call (276) 694-7131.

Griffith to hold in-person Service Academy Day

Ninth District U.S. Rep. Morgan Griffith, R-Salem, will host his 2023 Service Academy Day event on Saturday, May 6, from 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. at the Wytheville Meeting Center located at 333 Community Boulevard, Wytheville.

“For those high school students interested in serving their country, the U.S. Service Academies offer a way to both serve and further their education. I encourage all high school students, parents, and school staff to attend to learn more about their options,” Griffith said.

The event will feature representatives from each of the U.S. Service Academies, the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets, the Virginia Military Institute, and other Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) programs.

Students in surrounding jurisdictions, outside of the district, may attend to receive information about the Service Academies and serving in the military.

For more information, contact Josh Hess at (540) 381-5671 or Josh.Hess@mail.house.gov.

LEGAL

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE OF CERTAIN PROPERTY LOCATED IN PATRICK COUNTY, VA, AND DESIGNATED AS TRACTS 1, 2, 3, & 4 ON SUSAN CIRCLE/BOWLING DRIVE, PARCEL IDS: 5012-106, 5012-105, 5012-104, AND 5012-98

In execution of a Commercial Real Estate Deed of Trust from Gloria J. Goff, dated January 9, 2008, recorded January 10, 2008, as Instrument No. 080000088, in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of Patrick County, Virginia (the "Deed of Trust"), the Trustee, Clement & Wheatley, a Professional Corporation, having been requested to do so, will offer for sale at public auction, at the main entrance to the Patrick County Circuit Court located at 101 W. Blue Ridge Street, Stuart, Virginia, at:

11:00 a.m., May 17, 2023 (the "Sale Date")

the following described property with improvements thereon (the "Property"), situate, lying and being in Patrick County, Virginia, and being described as follows:

MOBILEHOME PARK - All those certain tracts or parcels of land, together with the improvements thereon and appurtenances thereunto belonging, lying and being in the Mayo River Magisterial District of Patrick County, Virginia, and more particularly described as follows:
BEING TRACT NO. 1 CONTAINING 2.6140 ACRES, TRACT NO. 2 CONTAINING 2.9799 ACRES, TRACT NO. 3 CONTAINING 2.6365 ACRES, AND TRACT NO. 4 CONTAINING 3.5121 ACRES, as shown on a plat entitled "Plat of Survey J.A. Taylor Estate", prepared by Larry G. Rakes, C.L.S. dated the 17th date of September, 1985, of record in Patrick County Circuit Court Clerk's Office in Plat Book 18, at page 19 (see Cabinet I, Slide 22E), subject to the indenture of the Commonwealth of Virginia to make Route 819 fifty feet wide, recorded in Deed Book 225, page 137;
AND BEING the same property conveyed to Gloria J. Goff by Deed dated March 25, 2005 from Jackey D. Goodbee, recorded in the aforesaid Clerk's Office as Instrument No. 0500956.

This sale is subject to all conditions, restrictions, reservations, declarations, easements, leases and rights-of-way of record or contained in the deeds forming the chain of title to the Property, and subject to any and all prior liens, including, but not limited to recorded and unrecorded mechanics' and materialmen's liens, if any. **WARRANTIES: THE PROPERTY AND ALL THE IMPROVEMENTS LOCATED THEREON WILL BE SOLD IN THEIR "AS IS" CONDITION WITHOUT WARRANTY OF ANY KIND.**

The parcels comprising the Property may be offered initially for sale individually, and separate bids may be accepted for each parcel and then reserved (hereinafter, the "Individual Bid"). The parcels would then be offered for sale together, as a group, and any bid shall be for the parcels collectively (hereinafter the "Collective Bid"). The higher of the aggregate Individual Bid or the Collective Bid, as determined by the Trustee, would be the successful bid(s). Written fixed dollar price bids may be received by the Trustee from the Noteholder or any duly qualified bidder for entry by announcement by the Trustee at the sale. The Property will be offered for sale to the highest bidder in accordance with the foregoing, subject however to the Trustee's right to reject any bid(s) that the Trustee deems inadequate and/or unacceptable in his sole discretion.

TERMS OF SALE: ALL CASH. Purchaser shall pay for all recording charges (EXCLUDING Grantor's Tax), examination of title, settlement fees and all costs of conveyancing. Transfer of title of the Property to the purchaser shall be by special warranty deed of bargain and sale. To bid on the Property, each bidder, other than the noteholder, shall qualify as a bidder by demonstrating to Trustee prior to bidding the ability of such bidder to satisfy deposit requirements immediately upon acceptance of a bid by delivery to Trustee of deposit IN CASH or by CERTIFIED or CASHIER'S CHECK as follows: (i) \$10,000.00 or 10% of the sale price, whichever is lower, for the Collective Bid, (ii) \$2,500.00 or 10% of the sale price, whichever is lower, for Tract No. 1, (iii) \$2,500.00 or 10% of the sale price, whichever is lower, for Tract No. 2, (iv) \$2,500.00 or 10% of the sale price, whichever is lower, for Tract No. 3, and (v) \$2,500.00 or 10% of the sale price, whichever is lower, for Tract No. 4. Unless otherwise agreed to in writing, settlement in full shall be made within 30 days from the date of the sale. Taxes will be pro-rated to the date of the sale. If the Trustee fails to convey title to the Property to the Purchaser, the Purchaser's sole remedy is return of the deposit.

Delivery of possession of the Property will be the responsibility of the purchaser. The Purchaser may be required to execute a Memorandum of Sale containing terms and conditions relating to sale and the purchase of the Property, a copy of which will be available immediately before the sale. The Trustee reserves the right to amend terms of the sale by announcement prior to sale.

THIS NOTICE IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

CLEMENT & WHEATLEY, A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION, TRUSTEE

Contact Darren W. Bentley, VSB #48092; Clement & Wheatley, P.O. Box 8200, Danville, VA 24543 434-793-8200

LEGAL



PUBLIC NOTICE PROPOSED SIX-YEAR HIGHWAY PLAN (2023/24 - 2028/29) PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION BUDGET 2023/24 PATRICK COUNTY

The Virginia Department of Transportation and the Board of Supervisors of Patrick County, in accordance with Section 33.2-331 of the Code of Virginia, will conduct a joint public hearing on the Third Floor of the Veteran's Memorial Building located in Stuart, Virginia at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, May 8, 2023.

The purpose of this public hearing is to receive public comment on the proposed Secondary Six-year Plan for Fiscal Years 2023/24 through 2028/29 in Patrick County, and the Secondary System Construction budget for Fiscal year 2023/24. Copies of the proposed Plan and Budget may be reviewed at the Martinsville Residency Office of the Virginia Department of Transportation, located at 309 Weeping Willow Lane in Bassett, Virginia, or at the office of the Patrick County Administrator located in Stuart, Virginia.

All projects in the Secondary Six-year Plan that are eligible for federal funds will be included in the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP), which documents how Virginia will obligate federal transportation funds.

Persons requiring special assistance to attend and participate in this hearing should contact the Virginia Department of Transportation at (276) 629-2582.

Oral comments, written comments or other exhibits relative to the proposed plan may be presented at this hearing.

LEGAL

NOTICE OF SPECIAL CALLED MEETING: The Patrick County Board of Supervisors will have a special called meeting on Monday, May 15, 2023, at 5:00 p.m. The meeting will be held in the third floor Boardroom of the Patrick County Veteran's Memorial Building.

LEGAL

COUNTRY OF PATRICK, VIRGINIA Synopsis of the Budget for Information and Fiscal Planning Purposes For the Year July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024

In accordance with the provisions of Section 58.1-3001 and 15.2-2506, 1950 Code Of Virginia, as amended, notice is hereby given that a Public Hearing will be held by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Patrick, Virginia, on the proposed County budget for fiscal year 2023-2024 on Monday, May 8, 2023. The hearing will be held in the Board Room in the Patrick County Veterans Memorial Building in Stuart, Virginia, at which time any citizen of this County shall have the right to state his or her views thereon. The Public Hearing shall commence at 6:15 p.m. If you plan to attend and have any special needs requirements, please contact the County Administration Office at 276-694-6094.

The following proposed budget synopsis is for informative and fiscal planning purposes only and does not constitute an obligation or commitment on the part of the Board of Supervisors to appropriate funds for any items or purpose, except the public school budget, which is required to be funded to comply with the Standards Of Quality as set by the Virginia General Assembly. NO funds may be expended until appropriated by the Board of Supervisors. Tax levies, both current and proposed, are as listed herein.

	<u>Tax Levy (per \$100)</u>
For Real Estate	\$ 0.73
For Personal Property	\$ 1.71
For Machinery and Tools	\$ 1.71
For Public Utilities (Personal Property)	\$ 1.71
For Public Utilities (Real Estate)	\$ 0.73

<u>2022-2023 Rate</u>	<u>2023-2024 Proposed</u>
\$ 0.73	\$ 0.73
\$ 1.71	\$ 1.71
\$ 1.71	\$ 1.71
\$ 1.71	\$ 1.71
\$ 0.73	\$ 0.73

Further, in conjunction with the Personal Property Tax Relief Act of 1998, Section 58.1-3523, and as outlined by County Ordinance, the Board shall consider and set the percentage computation for allocation of PPTRA relief to county citizens at a specific amount to be offset against total taxes Otherwise due.

A detailed copy Of the budget is available on the Patrick County website at www.co.patrick.va.us.

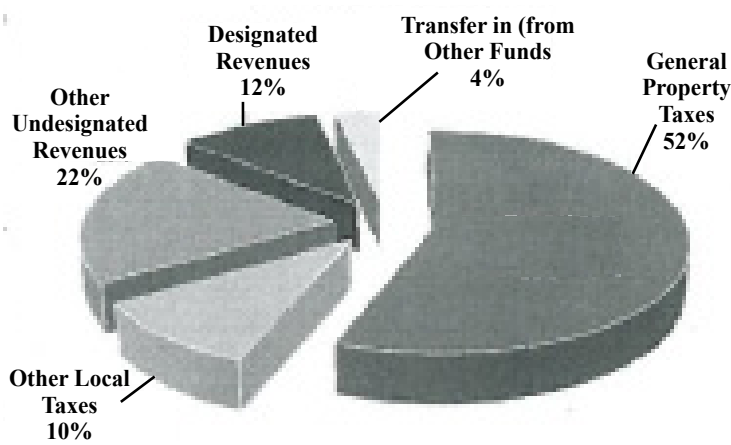
REVENUES

<u>REVENUE FUNCTION</u>	<u>ESTIMATED AMOUNT</u>
GENERAL FUND	
General Property Taxes	\$ 16,621,669
Other Local Taxes	\$ 3,183,700
Other Undesignated Revenues	\$ 7,044,979
Designated Revenues	\$ 3,788,994
Transfer In (from Other Funds)	\$ 1,122,568
Total General Fund	\$ 31,761,910
SCHOOLS	\$ 34,827,458
OTHER FUNDS	
Courthouse Security	\$ 25,000
Fire Program	\$ 64,000
Four-for-Life	\$ 21,595
Transient Occupancy Tax	\$ 866,054
ARPA Funds	\$ 1,635,000
Inmate Medical, Daily & HEM	\$ 30,000
PSA Water	\$ 132,000
PSA Sewer	\$ 51,655
Total Other Funds	\$ 2,825,304
TOTAL ESTIMATED REVENUE	\$ 69,414,672

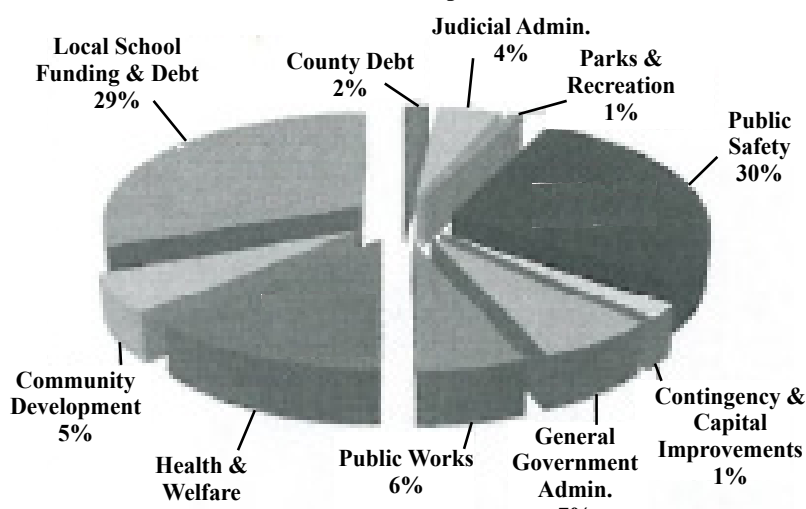
EXPENDITURES

<u>EXPENDITURE FUNCTION</u>	<u>ESTIMATED AMOUNT</u>
GENERAL FUND	
General Government Administration	\$ 2,249,550
Judicial Administration	\$ 1,362,142
Public Safety	\$ 9,677,845
Public Works	\$ 1,757,080
Health & Welfare	\$ 4,755,662
Parks & Recreation	\$ 354,893
Community Development	\$ 1,708,102
Contingency & Capital Improvements	\$ 277,900
County Debt Service	\$ 534,664
Local School Funding & Debt	\$ 9,084,072
Total General Fund	\$ 31,761,910
SCHOOLS	\$ 34,827,458
OTHER FUNDS	
PSA Water	\$ 132,000
PSA Sewer	\$ 51,655
ARPA Fund	\$ 1,635,000
Transfers Out (to General Fund)	\$ 1,006,649
Total Other Funds	\$ 2,825,304
TOTAL ESTIMATED EXPENDITURES	\$ 69,414,672

General Fund Revenue



General Fund Expenditures



Published at the direction of the Patrick County Board of Supervisors

Meetings

Monday, May 8

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

Thursday, May 11

The Patrick County School Board will meet at 5:30 p.m. in the School Administration Building.

Wednesday, May 17

The Stuart Town Council will meet at 7 p.m. in the town office.

Events

Wednesday, April 26

Last night of revival at Calvary Baptist Church in Patrick Springs at 7 p.m.

Thursday, April 27

Patrick & Henry Community College (P&HCC) will hold a Management Bootcamp course in Patrick County from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. The cost is \$90, or \$350 including the other three sessions. Pre-registration is required by going to ph.augu-soft.net, or calling (276) 656-0260.

Friday, April 28

The Stuart Farmers Market will be open from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. Local grown items such as cool season crops will be available. Baked items, meats, eggs, coffee and more.

Saturday, April 29

Ag Demo Day, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Rotary Field, featuring equipment and safety demonstrations, a Tractor Skills Competition, Barnival, animal exhibits and vendors. This event is free and open to all ages.

Patrick County Master Gardeners' Spring Plant Sale will be held in the Memorial Building from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Sunday, April 30

Sycamore Baptist Church will hold a special singing event from 6-8 p.m. with the talents of the church members. A love offering will be taken with all proceeds benefiting the students of Woolwine Elementary School. Light refreshments will be provided afterwards.

May 1-Oct. 30

Monday Market at Fairy Stone State Park, Mondays 5 - 7 p.m. at picnic shelters 3 & 4.

Vendors accept cash only.

Tuesday, May 2

A job fair will be held at the Patrick & Henry Community College (P&HCC) Stuart site from 2-6 p.m.

Thursday, May 4

The National Day of Prayer will be held from 12-12:30 p.m. at the old courthouse in Stuart.

Patrick County Tourism will hold an organizational meeting for the Patrick County VA250 Council at 6 p.m. in the Patrick & Henry Community College (P&HCC) community room.

Friday, May 5

Girl Scout Troop 1302 will hold a yard sale from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Providence United Methodist Church in Patrick Springs. A bake sale will start at 8 a.m. and lunch including hotdogs, water, chips, and soda will start at 10:30 a.m.

The Stuart Farmers' Market will be open from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. Locally grown items such as cool season crops will be available. Baked items, meats, eggs, coffee and more. Stay up to date with the market's Facebook page. The Patrick County Master Gardeners will be on site with plants for sale.

The First Friday Summer Jam Series kicks off at 6 p.m. at the Stuart Farmers' Market. Gate fee \$5. Music, food truck, beverages and a good time.

The Hardin Reynolds Memorial School (HRMS) PTO will hold a Spring Bingo event at the school starting at 6:30 p.m. Ticket, food sales, and vendor sales will start at 5:30 p.m. The cost is \$25 for 20 games and two coveralls. For more information, contact Shannon Cassell at (276) 694-3631, or via email at Shannon.cassell@patrick.k12.va.us.

The Woolwine Methodist Church Food Truck will be at the Woolwine VFD from 3-5 p.m.

Saturday, May 6

Girl Scout Troop 1302 will hold a yard sale from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Providence United Methodist Church in Patrick Springs. A bake sale will start at 8 a.m. and lunch including hotdogs, water, chips, and soda will start at 10:30 a.m.

Wednesday, May 10

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.

Friday, May 12

The Stuart Farmers Market will be open from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. Local grown items such as cool season crops will be available. Baked items, meats, eggs, coffee and more.

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](https://www.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.

Briarpatch Amateur Radio Club (BARC) and the Region Four Auxiliary Communication network (AUXCOMM) meetings are 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.

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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

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Pioneers

(cont. from page 7)

ley, Marie Tatum and many whose names I can't recall. Quite a lot of difference in Stuart today. There were not any automobiles in town in 1901. At that time, they used horses for riding and buggies and surreys for traveling. At Hotel Perkins, a number of hacks were kept by Mr. Perkins to hire and haul passengers and tourists. In 1901, Highway 58 was a dirt road and was known as Danville and Wytheville Turnpike with cobblestones to walk across the road above the courthouse to the Patrick Bank Building. The bank was at that time cared for by W.B. Rucker as a cashier. Carter McIntosh was a depot agent. Bishops had a small drug store and sold medicine. Rev. M.F. Sanford was the Baptist minister, and he was an able preacher and entertainer, while at the Methodist Church was Rev. Williams, another good preacher who knew where of he spoke. There were large crowds in attendance at both churches, the Baptist and Methodist. I would go to church every Sunday morning and Sunday night. J.H. Rangeley had a large store where the bus station is now, and T.

Lee Clark had a large department store and he and J.B. Beach had a large hardware store, both nearby where the Patrick Co. Bank building is now located. The store buildings later got burned. Downtown Clark Bros had just erected the hardware store and Rangeley and McIntosh had a large department store. Some of the people I remember seeing in Stuart at that time were Dr. R.S. Martin at the Mothers' Home Hospital, Dink Woolwine, Sheriff; Charlie Reed Martin, Clerk of court; Attorneys, E.J. Harvey, J.M. Hooker, S.A. Thompson, and Powhatan Bouldin. I also saw Arch Staples and Joe Staples, and John Taylor was a young man at that time. John Campbell and T. B. Campbell. The editor of The Enterprise, I think was A.L. Williams. Young men were Russell Perkins, Dudley and Lucian Rucker, Edd Turner, Cabell Staples, Edgar Woolwine, and Moir S. Martin, who is now at Mt. Airy."

J. R. Barnard was the son of Elisha Patterson Barnard and Louise Webb of Laurel Fork. J. R. served Patrick County as a schoolteacher for twelve years, school board member for twenty-six years, and



Stuart School on Chestnut Street.

was a merchant and farmer.

The first Stuart High School used the buildings of the Stuart Normal School and added extra rooms. In 1912, students moved into a brand-new, square, brick building located in the "Chestnut Orchard", a lot adjoining the lower end of Stuart

Cemetery. It was supposed to accommodate the students for many years but did not. Fourteen years later the school was crowded to the "bursting point". A decision was then made to construct the Stuart High School and use the square school for elementary students. In 1926,

the new Stuart High School was constructed on the homesite of Colonel Abram Staples and in 1939, a new elementary school was built adjacent to the high school building. These buildings, along with the additions, are the present Stuart Elementary School campus.

The photos (from the Patrick County Historical Museum and the Enterprise) are the side view of the "square school" on Chestnut Street and one of the last classes to complete at the "square school." Woody may be reached at rockcastlecreek1@gmail.com or 276-692-9626.

Treasure Island plays to sold-out crowds at Ferrum College

By Pat Delaney
"It was tremendous", is how Director Emily Blankenship-Tucker described the weekend performances of Treasure Island presented by Ferrum College Theatre Arts. Featuring a cast of thirty-five performers, which included Ferrum College students, community members and youngsters from local schools, Treasure Island played four sold-out performances on April 20-23. The audience enjoyed an adaptation by R. Rex Stephenson that told the story with rousing musical numbers,

of how Robert Louis Stevenson wrote his novel, Treasure Island. Emily Blankenship-Tucker directed and composed the musical score. The audience enjoyed the play's combination of music and humor, reacting with loud cheers and applause for the entire cast as they closed out the show with the final musical number. As the audience left the theatre, they were greeted by the cast and crew who lined up outside to thank everyone for coming. It also became a chance for the audience to let the cast and crew

know how much they enjoyed the show and their performances. Treasure Island was the culmination of weeks of rehearsals and hard work by the performers and stage crew, during which the various groups of performers, young and old, came together to put on the play. "This was an amazing time for the kids," said the parent of a young actress. "Getting to spend time with the adult and college performers was such a positive experience. They were so amazing with the kids, and it showed in how great they did when it was showtime. They won't ever forget the time they spent working on and performing the show." Treasure Island also marked the first performances in the newly renamed Rex Stephenson Theatre. "He's dedicated his life and career to



The cast of Treasure Island closed out the show with a rousing musical number.

this theatre, and he's taught us all so much," said Emily Blankenship Tucker. "We all know how to do this and know how to create theatre that is engaging and exciting for audiences because of the lessons we learned from Rex, and we're proud to carry on that tradition."



The cast and crew thanked members of the audience as they exited the theatre.



The theatre was renamed in honor of Rex Stephenson for his dedication to the theatre arts program at Ferrum College.

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Late April and Early May MARKET EVENTS

Every Friday 8 am to 12 pm

Early market days: April 21 & 28

May 5: Official Opening Day, Master Gardeners with plants.

May 5: 6 pm - First Friday Summer Jam Series

May 12: Great selection of locally grown produce

May 19: Blood Pressure check with The Landmark Center

May 26: Master Gardeners to answer questions

Extension office for Pressure gauge checks.

Great selection of fruits, vegetables, baked items, meats, eggs, plants, craft items.

Check us out on Facebook for up to date information
Stuart Farmers Market



Virginia's longest and oldest adventure triathlon returns for 24th year



David Burkwall Kayaking during New River Trail Challenge

Athletes from across the Mid-Atlantic region will convene at New River Trail State Park on September 16, 2023, for the New River Trail Challenge Triathlon, a three-stage, 65.2-mile race.

The Challenge, which is a part of the Virginia State Parks Adventure Series, begins with a 40-mile out-and-back bike leg, followed by a 12.1-mile downriver kayak paddle and ends with a half-marathon run along the river.

Registration is limited to 200 participants, and athletes of all fitness levels and age groups are invited to compete solo or in teams of two or three. Overall male and female winners will each receive a \$250 Virginia State Parks gift certificate. The fastest team will receive a \$300 gift certificate.

"The New River Trail Challenge is a race for everyone. We have competitors of all skill levels, ranging from world-class athletes to bucket listers from the age of 16 to 72," said Virginia State Parks Promotions Manager Steve Boyd. "Thanks to our long-time sponsors, Dominion Energy and Appalachian Power, and the hardworking crew of New River Trail State Park, the Challenge is one of the premiere adventure races in the Mid-Atlantic region, attracting competitors from 12 states and the District of Columbia."

Registration is open through race day; however, participants can receive a discount if they register by June 30 or August 31.

To learn more about the New River Trail Challenge, go to dcr.virginia.gov/state-parks/nrt-challenge.

Largest number ever recorded currently in Virginia's Labor Force

More than 4.52 million people currently are in Virginia's labor force—the most ever since first recorded in 1976, according to Gov. Glenn Youngkin. The labor force participation rate has increased to 65.9% in March, a rate higher than the February 2020 pre-pandemic rate of 65.7%. According to Bureau of Labor and Statistics Local Area Unemployment Statistics ("LAUS", or "the household survey"), the labor force in Virginia increased this month by 23,511 to 4,528,910.

"Since day one, I have been laser-focused on more Virginians entering the workforce and today we reached new heights," said Governor Glenn Youngkin. "Our approach to make Virginia more affordable for families and local businesses is working and we are pressing forward on common-sense policies to make Virginia even more competitive and bring more people into the labor force."

With the increase of Virginians moving back into the workforce, Virginia's unemployment rate of 3.2 percent was unchanged from February and remained below the national rate, which decreased to 3.5 percent in March.

According to LAUS, the number of employed Virginians increased by 25,941 to 4,385,463 in March. Throughout the month, the number of unemployed residents decreased by 2,430 to 143,447.

"The number of people in the Virginia labor force has reached an all-time high this month," said Secretary of Labor Bryan Slater. "As more people join the labor force and search for employment, our workforce services are here to place them in jobs."

"The labor force participation rate rose to 65.9% in March, which exceeds the 65.7% we saw in February of 2020," said Secretary Caren Merrick. "The influx of Virginians looking for work tells employers of the Commonwealth that we can serve all of their workforce needs."

BLS publishes an additional employment figure from its Current Employment Statistics Survey ("CES" or "establishment survey"). Virginia CES employment rose by 5,300 jobs in March to 4,138,400 and has increased by 99,900 since March 2022.

The CES survey uses payroll records of establishment employers and is designed to provide a count of jobs under which the employer pays unemployment insurance. The LAUS survey is based on household interviews conducted each month for the Bureau of Labor Statistics and provides comprehensive data on the labor force, including those who are employed and unemployed. Establishments are classified in an industry on the basis of their principal product or activity in accordance with the most recent North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) Manual.

(See Labor p. 17)

Winners crowned in pageant



Kinsley Grace Winikur, Little Miss Woolwine. (Contributed photos)



Alycia Lenai Wilson, Young Miss Woolwine.



Kathryn Ophelia Shepherd, Teen Miss Woolwine.



Winners of the 2023 Beauty Pageant. Pictured from left is Kathryn Ophelia Shepherd, Alycia Lenai Wilson and Kinsley Grace Winikur.

Woolwine Elementary School crowned three winners during its 2023 Beauty Pageant on April 15. The pageant's theme was "Tea With The Queens."

Little Miss Woolwine was Kinsley Grace Winikur. Parents are Jeff and Amy Winikur.

Young Miss Woolwine was Alycia Lenai Wilson. Parents are Monica and Branden Wilson.

Teen Miss Woolwine was Kathryn Ophelia Shepherd. Parents are Brent & Stephanie Shepherd

Escorts included Silas Emmitt Scott (Parents are Jonathan and Brittany Scott); Bjorn James Johnson

(Parent is Ben Johnson); Lars Wilhelm Johnson (Parent is Ben Johnson).

The EM was Gentry Turner.

Special Music included Amazing Grace as performed by 2022 Teen Woolwine Kaylee Belcher.

Special Guests were Maelynn Marie Jones - 2022 Little Miss Woolwine, Juliet Turner - 2023 Petite Miss Fairystone, and Jullian Turner - 2023 Preteen Miss Fairystone.

Specials thanks are extended to WES Principal Jeannie Hubbard and staff, Pageant Committee, Parents and Guardians of the participants, Bassett Furniture Industries, Griffith Lumber Co., Fairystone State Park, The Honey Pot on Main (florist), Crossroads Café, Marilyn's, MS Refund 276-Peggy Younce, Elva B Nunley.

A special thanks to all the volunteers that helped make this event successful.

The pageant was dedicated to Joan Q. Turner and In Memory of Elizabeth Ann Scott-Stilwell.

Pick Up Patrick events met with success



A Shredman truck is pictured at Rotary Field under an ominous sky.



Vehicles lined up at the Transfer Station to drop off tires.

The Patrick County Chamber of Commerce issued a 'thank you' to all those participating in the 'Shreds, Meds and Treds' events on Saturday April 22.

The day that began with thunderstorms included document shredding and medication take back.

Nearly 6,000 pounds of documents were shredded during the shredding event that was co-sponsored by Carter Bank and Trust.

The prescription medication take back was handled by the Patrick County Sheriff's Office, with a full

garbage back of medications collected.

The afternoon tire take back at the Transfer Station was also a success, with 23,540 pounds of tires collected – enough to fill an entire 74-foot trailer. Unfortunately, that event was cut short because another trailer was not available.

The chamber also thanked the employees who volunteered their time, and the trustees that assisted with stacking the tires.

To date, more than 15 groups have collected trash from our roadways and entered data into our online form.

There is still time to register to collect trash



A 74-foot trailer as it was loaded with tires on Saturday. and enter for a chance to win \$500. More information can be found on the chamber's website, www.patrickchamber.com.

These events would not be possible without the cooperation from chamber partners and community support. Thank you to Stuart Rotary, the Patrick County Green Team and EMI Recycling for sponsoring all the events for Pick Up Patrick in April.



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(Former) Meadows Of Dan Farm Service
Former New Holland Dealership Liquidation
MAY 8 & 9, ONLINE-ONLY PARTS AUCTIONS
ONLINE-ONLY PARTS AUCTIONS
Dispersal of Huge Parts Department
SELLING APPROXIMATELY 20,000 PARTS
MAY 8TH & 9TH 2023

After 60+ years in business, selling the assets of Meadows Of Dan Farm Service. Complete dispersal including a huge parts dept. including alternators, starters, fuel injector pumps, 3-pt hitch parts, mufflers, filters & seals, crankshafts, pistons, cylinders, radiators, paint, water pumps, air cleaners. Large assortment of bolts, fuses, hoses, fittings, belts, & much more

ONLINE-ONLY PARTS AUCTIONS SALE ORDER

Auction #1 - Monday May 8th - Starts Closing 1:00 PM
Bigger parts Room - 700 Lots

Auction #2 - Tuesday May 9th - Starts Closing 10:00 AM
Smaller parts Room - 500 Lots

Auction #3 - Tuesday May 9th - Starts Closing 2:00 PM
Specialty Tools & Parts Manuals - 200 Lots

MAX BID PROGRAM-CALL FOR DETAILS
330.845.8485

SELLING APPROXIMATELY 20,000 PARTS

Scan for Photos & Online Bidding

AUCTION TERMS
Cash, Check, Credit Card, Wire Transfer. 10% Buyer's Premium-Onsite, 15% Buyer's Premium-Online & Max Bid Program
Pick Up/ Load Out: All items must be picked up 7 days after auction unless other arrangements are made. Free loading by owner via forklift. Palletizing and crating available at a cost.

Labor

(cont. from page 16)

The household survey only distinguish between whether a person is employed or unemployed, whereas CES counts each employee that is on an employer's payroll. CES excludes business

owners, self-employed persons, unpaid volunteers and private household workers, and those on unpaid leave or not working because of a labor dispute.

On a seasonally adjusted basis, employment rose in six of eleven major industry

sectors, held steady in Mining and Logging, and declined in four. The largest job gain during March occurred in Professional and Business Services (+3,500 jobs) to 815,900. The second largest increase was Education and Health Services (+2,200) jobs to 574,500. Government was third (+1,900) jobs, to 728,200. The largest decrease was in Trade, Transportation, and Utilities with a decrease of (-1,900) jobs to 666,000. The second largest decrease occurred in Construction (-1,400 jobs) to 213,100. The third largest loss occurred in Finance (-800 jobs) to 213,400.

Compared to a year ago, on a seasonally adjusted basis, nine of eleven major industry divisions experienced employment increases while one saw an employment decrease, and Mining and Logging held steady. The largest absolute over-the-year job gain occurred in Education and Health Services up 28,900 jobs (+5.3%). The second largest over-the-year job gain occurred in Leisure and Hospitality, up 24,100 jobs (+6.3%). The third largest over-the-year job gain occurred in Professional and Business Services, up 18,300 jobs (+2.3%). The only job loss occurred in Finance, with a decrease of (-1,700) jobs. For more details, visit the Virginia Employment Commission's website at vec.virginia.gov.

ESTATE AUCTION ONLINE LAST CHANCE TO BID

**House with 14.73 acres
on South Mayo**

**Betty Roberson Estate
Real and Personal Property
1611 Dobyns Rd., Stuart, VA**

**2 Tracts - House with 14.73 Acres on South Mayo
& Also 2 Acres on South Mayo.**

Bidding ends April 26th at 11am



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 rogersauktiongroup.com



Keith Gunter – Auctioneer/Sales Manager
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<p>BETTY ROBERSON ESTATE AUCTION Real Estate and Personal Property</p> 	<p>REAL ESTATE AUCTION 60.9537+- Acres in Lewisville, NC, Auction Saturday, April 29</p> 
<p>COMMISSIONER'S SALE ON-SITE AUCTION</p> 	<p>US MARSHALS SERVICE ONLINE AUCTION 5.06+- Acres Warehouse</p> 
<p>DAVID GILLEY PERSONAL PROPERTY AUCTION</p> 	<p>US MARSHALS SERVICE ONLINE AUCTION 3 Properties To Be Auctioned In Fleetwood, Ashe County, NC</p> 
<p>COMMISSIONER'S SALE Brick Home w/ 21 Acres in Elkin, NC</p> 	<p>CITY OF GREENSBORO ROLLING STOCK ONLINE ONLY Cars, Trucks, Tractors, Lawn Mowers, Dump Trucks, Garbage Trucks & More! Bid May 8 Ending May 17 at 1pm</p>

Bid at RogersAuctionGroup.com



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ONLINE AUCTIONS

Ends Thursday, May 11th @ 3 PM

Beautiful Land for Sale Near the Blue Ridge Parkway!

777 Black Ridge Rd., Floyd, VA 24091

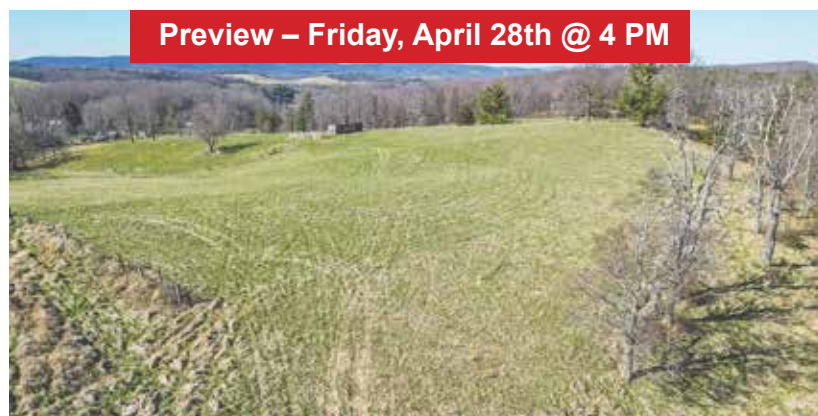
This property features beautiful land for sale in Floyd VA. Located near the scenic Blue Ridge Parkway, this property features +/- 80 acres and a 1,600+ sq. ft. brick ranch home. Property is being offered in 3 tracts ranging from 2.8 acres to 39 acres. Enjoy peaceful country views yet within an easy commute to Floyd, Hillsville, Christiansburg and Roanoke VA. Ideal property for farming, recreation such as hunting, hiking, camping or for building your dream home in the Blue Ridge Mountains of Floyd VA. Don't miss your opportunity to own this beautiful country property.

Offering # 1 – Brick Home on 2.84 Acres • Offering # 2 – 38.23 Acres
Offering # 3 – 39.12 Acres

DEED RESTRICTIONS – Properties will be subject to deed restrictions. See Bidder Packet. Deed Restrictions are No Feed Lots, No Trailer Parks, No Junk Cars, No Shooting Ranges, No Goat, Chicken or Pig Farm Feed Lots, No Manufacturing or Industrial uses.

Contact Broker & Auctioneer Matt Gallimore at 540-239-2585 or email gallimore.matt@gmail.com or Contact Doug Weddle, Realtor at 540-239-0757 or email dougweddlerealtor@gmail.com.

Terms: 10% Buyer's Premium will be added to final high bid to arrive at contract price. Earnest Money Deposit of \$10,000 per tract required day of sale. Close on or before June 26th, 2023. Subject to seller confirmation. Property sold as is, where is with any and all faults. Buyer is expected to complete their own due diligence. Tracts are being offered individually and if bidder wishes to purchase multiple tracts, bidder will need to be the high/winning bidder on both offerings. Download Bidder Information Pack for complete terms and conditions, purchase contract and maps.



Preview – Friday, April 28th @ 4 PM

Bid Now at VAAuctionPro.com

Ends Thursday, May 18th @ 4 PM

Beautiful Farmland with Pond for Sale!

TBD Hunters Ridge Rd, Dugspur, VA 24325

Attention all aspiring farmers and land enthusiasts! Don't miss out on this amazing opportunity to own +/- 81 acres of prime farmland with a pond and breathtaking views in Dugspur VA. This stunning property features fertile farmland providing ample opportunities for various crops and livestock. The included pond adds to the property's appeal, providing a potential water source for irrigation or livestock watering. The panoramic views from the property are simply breathtaking, offering a serene and tranquil setting for farming and enjoying the outdoors. It features many beautiful building sites for your dream home or recreational cabin! Small wooded section in the back of the property was recently timbered. Located in Dugspur, VA, this property offers a peaceful and rural setting while still being conveniently accessible Hillsville VA and Floyd VA. It is also within an easy commute to I-77 and within 30 minutes of Mt Airy NC. Whether you're a seasoned farmer looking to expand your operations, or someone looking to fulfill their dream of owning recreational or farmland, this property is a must see. Don't miss out on this unique opportunity to own 81 acres of prime farmland in Carroll County VA. Mark your calendars for the upcoming real estate auction and be prepared to bid on this fantastic property!

Restrictions – Property will be subject to deed restrictions. See Bidder Packet. Deed Restrictions are No Feed Lots, No Trailer Parks, No Junk Cars, No Shooting Ranges, No Goat, Chicken or Pig Farm Feed Lots, No Manufacturing or Industrial uses.

Access - Owners will give new buyers a temporary right of way for one year after closing to access the property through their driveway at 1517 Hunters Ridge Rd, Dugspur VA. This access may be used for previewing the property. Permanent access will be by 50' strip extending from Hunters Ridge Rd. Buyer will need to build access road along this strip. Refer to bidder packet for maps showing temporary and future access.

Contact Matt Gallimore, Broker & Auctioneer at 540-239-2585 or email gallimore.matt@gmail.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 on or before July 3rd, 2023. Subject to seller confirmation. Property sold as is, where is with any and all faults. Buyer is expected to complete their own due diligence. Download Bidder Pack for complete terms and conditions, purchase contract and maps at VAAuctionPro.com



Bid Now at VAAuctionPro.com

Ends Tuesday, May 23rd at 4 PM

Wooded Recreational Land for Auction!

TBD Sowers Rd., Floyd, VA 24091

This wooded tract of land located in Floyd VA is being offered at Online Auction. Featuring +/- 24.84 acres of all wooded land close to the Little River. Great location near Route 8 in Floyd VA making it easily accessible for commuting to Christiansburg, Blacksburg and Radford VA. Just minutes from the town of Floyd VA! Perfect for all nature and outdoor enthusiasts! This great piece of land is located in the heart of Floyd, VA. Nestled among the lush greenery and pristine wilderness, this wooded tract of land spans across approximately 24.84 acres, providing you with ample space to create your dream getaway or build your own private country home. Would also be ideal for use as a hunting or fishing retreat. The location of this property is unbeatable, situated near the Little River and near Route 8 in Floyd VA, it offers easy access to the town of Floyd, Christiansburg, Blacksburg, and Radford VA. Whether you're a hunting or fishing enthusiast or simply enjoy the great outdoors, this land is perfect for you. If you're looking for a peaceful retreat away from the hustle and bustle of city life, don't miss your chance to own this recreational land tract in Floyd VA.

Contact Matt Gallimore, Broker & Auctioneer at 540-239-2585 or gallimore.matt@gmail.com or Contact Realtor Jason Underwood at 540-230-9516 or underwoodlandman@gmail.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 by 5 pm (May 24th, 2023). Close on or before July 10th, 2023. Subject to seller confirmation. Property sold "as is, where is, with any and all faults." Buyer is expected to complete their own due diligence. Be sure to register to bid early to ensure you receive notifications regarding any changes to the Auction, Bidder Packet and/or Pre-Auction offers received. Download Bidder Information Pack for complete terms and conditions, purchase contract and maps.



Bid Now at VAAuctionPro.com

AUCTIONS WORK!

PENDING

Pre-Auction Offer Accepted
Ends Thursday, May 4th at 4 PM

Large Wooded Land Tract for Auction!
TBD Slaughter Dr., Axton, VA 24054
111.98 +/- acres of prime wooded hunting land in Henry County VA.
Located near Martinsville VA and Danville VA

PENDING

Pre-Auction Offer Accepted
Ends Thursday April 6th @ 4 PM

Creek Front Land for sale in Woolwine VA
Woolwine Hwy, Woolwine, VA 24185
Beautiful +/- 65.79 acre recreational property available for sale at auction.
This property is located in the Woolwine Community of Patrick County VA,
situated between the towns of Stuart and Floyd VA.

SOLD!

Ended Thursday, February 23rd @ 4 PM
Creek Front Land for Sale in Franklin County VA!

TBD Truevine Rd, Penhook, VA 24137
This property features 30.29 acres in Penhook VA. The property
Has approximately 2000' of frontage on Snow Creek and
is mostly wooded with a small cleared area.

SOLD!

Ended Wednesday, March 8th @ 4 PM
Affordable Land for Sale in Bassett VA!

TBD Warehouse St. Bassett VA 24055
This property features 57.09 acres of wooded land.
It is located close to the Smith River and Philpott Lake.



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