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

Williams surged to victory in GOP primary

Del. Wren Williams, R-Stuart, won Tuesday's GOP primary election against Del. Marie March, R-Floyd County, unofficial results indicate. Williams carried the vote in Patrick, Henry and Carroll counties and the City of Galax, with March more popular among Floyd County voters. Williams is pictured with his wife, Britt, and their son, Rhett, at a victory party Tuesday night. See next week's edition of *The Enterprise* for continued coverage. (Photo by Ray Reynolds)



More history made by Cougar Baseball Team



VHSL Class 2 Player of the Year, Tucker Swails



VHSL Class 2 All-State Team member, Jai Penn

By Pat Delaney

It's been quite a week for Patrick County Cougars baseball. After winning the school's first state championship on June 10, Tucker Swails was named Virginia High School League (VHSL) Class 2 Player of the Year on June 15, the first such award in school history. Also receiving VHSL Class 2 statewide honors were head coach Tal Swails, named Coach of the Year, and Jai Penn, named to the All-State Team as an outfielder.

"I don't think you could make it up and make the story any better to be perfectly honest," said Tal Swails of the honors. "It's just a blessing."

Being voted player of the year finished a season for Tucker Swails that not only included the state championship, but a perfect game as well. When asked about the honor, he said he was, "very



VHSL Class 2 Coach of the Year, Tal Swails

blessed. I wouldn't be able to do it without my parents and all my guys around me. They help me get better every day."

"He's an amazing kid, he's level-headed, he's so humble, it's hard to get him too up for anything or

(See Baseball p. 4)

Three local fire crews fight Thursday blaze



Moorefield Store Volunteer Fire Department, Patrick Springs Volunteer Fire Department, and Stuart Volunteer Fire Department responded to a structure fire on Golf Course Road on June 15.

By Taylor Boyd

A home on Golf Course Road was gutted by fire on Thursday, June 15, one person was injured, and a family pet perished, according to Clint Weidhaas, Assistant Chief of the Patrick Springs Volunteer Fire Department.

Weidhaas said three local fire departments responded to the structure fire after the initial call was received between 8 to 8:20 p.m.

"The 911 call came in as a residence with smoke coming from it. A neighbor saw smoke coming from the residence, so they toned out (summoned) Moorefield Store Volunteer Fire Department," Weidhaas said.

Within minutes, Patrick Springs and Stuart Volunteer Fire Department.

Weidhaas estimated the blaze was brought under control within about 15 minutes.

"We had a pretty good knock on it," Weidhaas said. "We brought some manpower, so we were able to deploy two attack lines on that

structure and get the bulk of the fire down.

"We knocked the fire down with the remaining structure still standing," he said.

The departments then mopped up the fire hot spots for another hour, Weidhaas said, adding that overall, it took the crews on the scene about three hours to complete the call.

Weidhaas estimated 8,000 gallons of water were used to extinguish the fire.

"There was extensive damage to the residence. It was considered a total loss," he said.

Weidhaas said one person was injured due to smoke inhalation. She went to the hospital later to be treated.

The family pet died in the fire.

Moorefield Store had one truck and two men, Patrick Springs had two trucks and 14 personnel, and Stuart had two trucks and eight personnel on the scene.

The cause of the fire is currently unknown.

Community support behind volunteer fire department's 50 years



The Woolwine Volunteer Fire Department will celebrate its 50th anniversary on Saturday, June 24.

By Debbie Hall

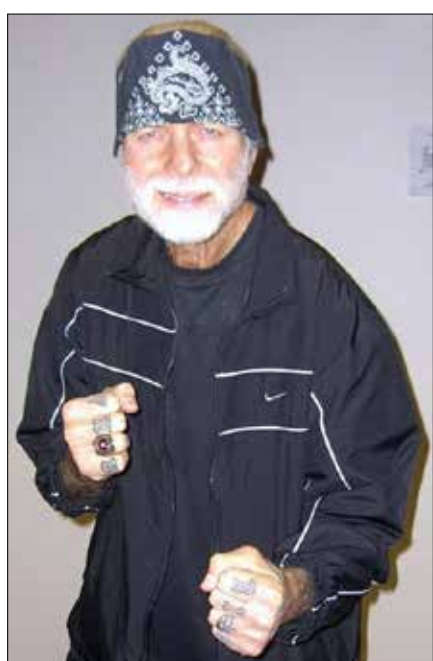
The Woolwine Volunteer Fire Department will celebrate 50 years of serving the community on Saturday, June 24. The celebration, which includes an Open House, parade, and other activities, is being held in conjunction with the Patrick County Patriots' benefit for one of its members.

"We've been in the business now for 50 years," Fire Chief Bennett Shuff said and noted that community support is responsible for the department's longevity.

"We really have a good community. It supports us really well," he said.

The department began on April 24, 1973. (See Support p. 5)

Wrestling show is set for Saturday



The Boogie Woogie Man "Handsome" Jimmy Valiant will hold a meet and greet from 12-3 p.m. at Uptown Stagecoach before the Summer Showdown.

By Taylor Boyd

The National Independent Championship Wrestling (NICW) Summer Showdown 2023 is set for Saturday, June 24, at the Stuart Rotary Memorial Building in Stuart. A meet and greet starts at 6 p.m. The first bell rings at 7 p.m.

Scott Rutter, of Rutter's Martial Arts, said at least six or seven matches are scheduled for the event, including the Hangman Larry Cooter vs. Marshall Law for the NICW Mid-Atlantic Heritage Championship, Sis Sisaki vs. Sam Street for the Women's Championship Tournament Match, and The Forsaken, Kidd Lighting and Adam Hex, vs. JPWO, Jeff Paul and Crash Cassidy, for

the Tag Team Contenders Match.

The main event will be the NICW World Heavyweight Championship match between Legendary Eclipto with Douglas J. Wentworth III and The Dragon Scott Lee with BTW Be Real The Podcast's Chad Hudson.

John Heartbreak, Yela Man, Kasper O'Neil, JD Pruitt, Damien James, Dalten Grant, Scott Weddle, and Ace Englund will also appear during the show.

Rutter said one of the show's biggest draws is the scheduled appearance of World Wrestling Entertainment (WWE) Hall of Famer The Boogie Woogie Man "Handsome" Jimmy Valiant. (See Wrestling p. 4)

Medical facility issues scam alert

Patrick County Family Practice reported that one of their patients was recently contacted by telephone with the caller stating they were working with Patrick County Family Practice regarding signing patients up for a diagnostic "Swab Test" that would check and diagnose patients with 12 different types of illnesses, should they be present.

The caller asks for the patient's address and insurance information.

This is a SCAM and Patrick County Family Practice is not involved or participating with this entity. Our patient's privacy and safety are of utmost concern. Should you receive a call from an unknown number or caller, please do not give them any personal or medical information until you verify the call is legitimate.

If you have questions about the validity of Patrick County Family Practice participation, call our office at 276-694-4466.

Solar amendment, plan get nod

By Taylor Boyd

The Patrick County Board of Supervisors approved its amended solar ordinance and Comprehensive Plan at its June 12 meeting.

County Attorney Mark Popovich said the amendment to the originally adopted solar ordinance was because there is a question as to the authority of the county to adopt solar ordinance without zoning.

"As the county does not have zoning, the only option is to do reviews based on the comprehensive plan. So, this rewrite of the original ordinance is done and has kept everything exactly the same, nothing has changed," he said.

Popovich said the amendment to the county's comprehensive plan Chapter 11 - Land Use - is an added section regarding solar facilities "which will tie into previously adopted regulations."



Several residents attended the June 12 Board of Supervisors meeting.

In other matters, the board: *Heard from Jamie Clark, of the Peter's Creek District, about the solar ordinance.

"More work needs to be done. The current proposed ordinance does not include a minimum distance between solar projects. There needs to be additional

restrictions placed on these solar facilities just like your current cell tower ordinance," he said.

Clark said there are also no restrictions on how much county land solar projects can occupy.

He said the Henry County Board of Supervisors is asking the county's Planning Commission to begin (See Solar p. 4)



Patrick County Tourism Director James Houchins gave an update about the county's tourism effort.

Patrick Pioneers

Mary Dunkley and friends



Merritt Batemen and Martha Handy. (Photo from Ella Hall)

By Beverly Belcher Woody

Have you ever fallen down a rabbit hole? Not a literal one, but one where you go in one direction, and something distracts you; then you head in a completely different direction? While researching for this week's column, the sweetest little letter caught my eye and it turned into a full-blown pursuit to find out more about Miss Mary Virginia Dunkley and her friends.

The following letters are from the newspaper, Presbyterian of the South, that was formed through the union of three newspapers: Richmond's Central Presbyterian; Milledgeville, Georgia's Southern Presbyterian; and the (See Pioneers p. 5)

Office to be closed on July 3

Due to the July 4th holiday, The Enterprise office will be closed on Monday, July 3.

To schedule a classified ad for the July 5th edition, email submissions@theenterprise.net by 3 p.m. on Friday, June 30, or call (276) 694-3101.

Paddling rewards program launched at state parks

Visitors to Virginia State Parks have a new way to earn rewards. Thirty-one parks are now offering Wandering Waters Paddle Quest, a self-paced program that connects people to the beautiful landscapes of Virginia via the state park's streams, lakes, rivers and bays and rewards them for their time spent on the water.

"Virginia State Parks is proud to provide another great avenue for visitors to experience the rich diversity of the state parks system," said State Parks Director Melissa Baker. "From rivers, to lakes, to the Chesapeake Bay, Virginians can experience a wide range of paddle experiences at Virginia State Parks."

Visitors can explore the water through a mixture of ranger-guided programs and self-led adventures, and they can use



Boat rentals at Pocahontas State Park.

park rental equipment or personal gear, including canoes, kayaks, standup paddle boards or paddle boats.

To earn rewards, visitors

must create an account on the State Park Adventures system and log each paddle. Prizes are given in increments and

(See Paddle p. 4)

Summer evening at a ball game



Potential future Cougars slug it out during a recent game at DeHart Park in Stuart. Rain forecast most of the week may cancel many outdoor activities. (By Pat Delaney)

Pets of the Week

Spirit is a lab mix, approximately 6 years old. She is super sweet, enjoys playing ball and just being around you. She is available because her owner could no longer care for her.



These two pointer mixes had been staying on Fish Pond Drive in Stuart for 4 to 6 months where a nice couple was caring for them, but with the rising cost of everything they had to give them up. The pups are sweet and shy. If you know

who they once belonged to or are interested in any of the pets in the Patrick County Public Animal Shelter (PCPAS), call (276) 694-6259 for more information, visit the



shelter, or check out the pets available for adoption on the shelter's Facebook page. Adoption fees are \$10 and include spay/neuter and rabies vaccination.

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Ninth District Traveling Staff Office Hours for June

Congressman Morgan Griffith's Ninth District staff will be available locally on June 28:

City of Martinsville, 10 – 11:30 a.m., City Hall, Council Chambers, Second Floor, 55 W. Church Street

Martinsville. Patrick County, 12:30 – 2 p.m., Patrick County Administration Building, Conference Room, 106 Rucker Street, Stuart.

Call the Christiansburg Office at (540) 381-5671 or the Abingdon Office at (276) 525-1405 with any questions.

Bobbitt, Brown, Heath among P&HCC's Distinguished Alumni

The Patrick & Henry Community College Foundation honored eleven P&HCC graduates as distinguished alumni at the awards dinner on Friday, June 9, 2023 at Chatmoss Country Club.

Each year, P&HCC recognizes alumni who have brought distinction to themselves through academic achievement, career success and community involvement. Alumni who have graduated with a degree or certificate or have completed a minimum of twenty-four credit hours at P&HCC, have demonstrated success within their field of expertise, (See Alumni p. 13)



Pictured, Row 1 (L to R): Sandra Heath, Frances Wade, Dayna Bobbitt, Dr. Bethany Lackey, Rodney Mills, Elizabeth Ashby. Row 2 (L to R): P&HCC Foundation Executive Director Tiffani Underwood, Dr. Jan Harrison, Angie Brown, Rick Love, Dr. Dylan Jones, Brad Draper, P&HCC President Dr. Greg Hodges.

Amendments to food, drink and industrial hemp laws take effect on July 1

During a reconvened session in April of 2023, the Virginia General Assembly amended the Code of Virginia to establish new requirements and restrictions for certain hemp-derived products.

Beginning July 1, 2023, amendments to Virginia's Industrial Hemp Law and Food and Drink Law will direct the manufacturing and retail sale of certain hemp-derived products in the Commonwealth. The amendments also detail how the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (VDACS) will administer the hemp, and food and drink laws and related regulations. Amendments to the Code of Virginia impacting

hemp products that will take effect on July 1 include:

When offered for retail sale, a hemp product may not exceed 0.3 percent total tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) and may not have more than two milligrams of total THC per package unless the product's cannabidiol (CBD) to THC ratio is at least 25 parts CBD for every one-part total THC. "Total THC" means all of the THC in a product, including delta-8 and delta-9 THC.

Any person that intends to manufacture, sell, or offer for sale a substance intended to be consumed orally that contains an industrial hemp-derived cannabinoid must submit an Edible Hemp

Products Disclosure Form.

Edible hemp products that contain THC must be in child-resistant packaging.

Edible hemp products must bear a label with specific information and be accompanied by a certificate of analysis produced by an independent, accredited laboratory. Retailers must have the laboratory's certificate of accreditation available for review.

Civil penalties of up to \$10,000 per violation of the Food and Drink Law.

Virginia Consumer Protection Act (VCPA) prohibition on the sale or offering for sale of a substance intended for human consumption,

orally or by inhalation, that contains a synthetic derivative of THC.

VCPA prohibition on the sale of a topical hemp product that does not bear specific label language.

Amendments establishing a regulated hemp product retail facility registration program to be administered by VDACS will become effective once VDACS develops this new registration program.

VDACS has distributed a communication to retail outlets in its database to advise them of these amendments. This communication is available at www.vdacs.virginia.gov/food-hemp-product-enforcement.shtml.



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Avoid disaster, prioritize safety when mowing lawns

Lawn mowers are useful equipment, but a devastating accident can happen in an instant.

There were over 900,000 lawn mower injuries treated in the U.S. from 2005 through 2015, with an average of about 85,000 injuries annually, according to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission.

Scott DeNoon, a member of Virginia Farm Bureau's Safety Advisory Committee, said lawn mower-related injuries are usually the result of taking unnecessary risks.

"You're dealing with a very dangerous piece of equipment, and I think people have a tendency to overlook that when they're busy," he remarked.

Users should read the operator's manual before using the equipment, evaluating its safety features, items to check before operating, start and stop procedures, maintenance schedule and specific angle limits.

"Most rollover accidents occur when the mower is being operated on an incline that's too steep," DeNoon explained.

plained.

Avoid mowing on slopes with an angle of over 15° if not specified by the manufacturer, and areas where the drive wheels are within 5 feet of retaining walls, embankments or other areas that present an overturn or rollover hazard, according to Occupational Safety and Health Administration.

"Before you begin mowing, you want to inspect the mower and make sure that all guards, shields and safety devices are in place," DeNoon added.

It's also important to examine surroundings for loose objects, bystanders and pets. Rotary mower blades can spew out debris at speeds of 100 to 200 mph, according to Virginia Cooperative Extension.

"Before turning it on, check the area for anything that could become a projectile to avoid hurting yourself or other people—whether it be a rock, toy, sporting equipment, branches or twigs," DeNoon said.

Skip the shorts and flip-flops, and wear close-fitting clothing, such as long

pants and closed-toe shoes, and recommended protective gear like gloves and hearing and eye protection.

Users should never mow on wet grass, leave the mower running unattended or refuel when the engine is hot or running.

According to the American Society for Surgery of the Hand, lawn mower injuries typically occur when the user tries to remove an object that is "stuck" in the machine, and related injuries can range from minor cuts and burns to broken bones and amputations.

"Whenever you do any type of work on a mower, make sure it's turned off and the blade is not operational—even a dull blade can cause you to lose a limb," DeNoon said.

Don't allow extra riders on any type of mowers, as unexpected maneuvers resulting in injury can happen in an instant, he added.

"Just think safety, and always have safety at the forefront."

For more lawn mower safety tips, visit osha.gov/riding-mowers.

May's Unemployment Rate Decreased by 0.2%

Virginia's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in May decreased by 0.2 percentage points to 2.9%, which is 0.4 percentage points above the rate from a year ago. According to household survey data in May, the labor force increased by 23,536 to 4,574,349 as the number of unemployed residents decreased by 5,926 to 134,334. The number of employed residents increased by 29,462 to 4,440,015. Virginia's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate is 0.8 percentage points below the national rate, which increased by 0.3 percentage points to 3.7%.

The Commonwealth's labor force participation rate increased by 0.3 percentage points to 66.5% in May. The labor force participation rate measures the proportion of the civilian population aged 16 and older that is employed or actively looking for work.

In May, Virginia's nonagricultural employment, from the monthly establishment survey increased by 6,900 to 4,146,900. April's preliminary estimate of employment, after revision, increased by 1,900 to 4,140,000. In May, private sector employment increased by 6,600 to 3,418,000 while government employment increased by 300 to 728,900. Within that sector, federal government jobs

remained unchanged at 186,400, state government employment decreased by 700 to 157,000, and local government increased by 1,000 to 385,500 over the month.

Seasonally adjusted total nonfarm employment data is produced for eleven industry sectors. In May, six experienced over-the-month job gains, and five experienced a decline. The largest job gain occurred in Professional and Business Services (+3,900) to 815,200. The second largest job gain occurred in Construction (+2,600) to 215,100. The third largest job gain occurred in Education and Health Services (+1,700) to 577,700. The other gains were in Information (+800) to 72,000, Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (+400) to 665,900, and Government (+300) to 728,900.

The largest job loss occurred in Other Services (-1,700) to 193,900. The second largest job loss occurred in Manufacturing (-700) to 245,300. The third largest job loss occurred in Financial Activities (-200) to 216,200. The other losses were in Leisure and Hospitality (-100) to 409,700, and Mining and Logging (-100) to 7,000.

From May 2022 to May 2023, the VEC estimates that total nonfarm employment in Virginia increased by 91,500 to

4,146,900, private sector employment increased by 76,300 to 3,418,000, and employment in the public sector increased by 15,200 to 728,900 jobs.

For the eleven industry sectors in Virginia over the year, ten experienced over-the-year job gains, and one experienced a decline. The largest job gain occurred in Education and Health Services (+24,900) to 577,700. The second largest job gain occurred in Leisure and Hospitality (+23,300) to 409,700. The third largest job gain occurred in Government (+15,200) to 728,900. The other gains were in Professional and Business Services (+12,700) to 815,200, Construction (+7,500) to 215,100, Other Services (+3,900) to 193,900, Information (+2,600) to 72,000, Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (+700) to 665,900, Financial Activities (+400) to 216,200, and Manufacturing (+400) to 245,300.

The largest job loss occurred in Mining and Logging (-100) to 7,000.

Government employment increased by 15,200 to 728,900. Within that sector, federal government jobs decreased by 300 to 186,400, state government employment increased by 6,200 to 157,000, and local government increased by 9,300 to 385,500 over the year.

Solar

(cont. from page 2)

the process of amending the ordinance to limit the number of solar panels in the county to one percent of the county's total land mass.

"Additionally, the cap would be in addition to the existing restrictions such as a 2.5 percent density requirement. The new ordinance proposal does not include any similar type of language," he said.

To put it into perspective, Clark said one percent of Henry County's total land mass would equate to approximately 2,400 acres. There are approximately 12,000 acres currently in the process of development for industrial solar farm use in the county.

"Our neighbors to the northeast in Franklin County have recently rejected two solar farm proposals after public outrage. The latest public hearing was so opposed that citizens had to stand in the hallway because the hearing room was filled to capacity," he said.

Clark said he knows the ordinance cannot address a company specifically.

He also noted that Energix recently held a public meeting in Stuart.

"Not one member of this board attended that meeting. Here you are making policy for the county, but when a company offers to hold a public meeting about their plans for investment in the county, not a single one of you bother to attend or show up," he said.

Clark said Energix is based in



Clayton Kendrick, chairman and of the Mayo River District, presented a resolution to Pamela Rorrer, RN, who was named Virginia Public Health Nurse of the Year.

Israel, and stated publicly at the meeting that it plans to bring more solar projects to the county.

"Apparently, money is of no concern to this company. They currently operate solar farms in Henry County and Wytheville and were recently fined \$97,651 by the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) for violations," he said.

*Heard from Kurt Bozenmayer, of the Smith River District, about improved communications to and from the county administration.

"I was pleased to see that the printed copies of the budgets and audit reports are now in place in the reference section of our branch library, and it appears that they are receiving some use by library patrons," he said.

Bozenmayer said he also hopes the county will give updates on broadband every few months.

"Finally, I would like to thank the

county administration staff for taking the time to address my inquiries and for responding to the issues raised, and I would like to thank the board of supervisors for providing this forum to address these concerns," he said.

*Heard from Ed Pool, of the Blue Ridge District, about cadmium telluride, which is used in solar panels.

*Approved the May 8, May 15, and May 22 meeting minutes.

*Approved the bills, claims, and appropriations.

*Approved a resolution honoring Virginia Public Health Nurse of the Year Pamela Rorrer, RN.

*Approved resolutions adding Fish Farm Lane and Handy Mountain Road to the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT)

Rural Rustic Roads list.

*Approved allowing the Patrick County Sheriff's Office to seek a U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) grant to purchase and equip three new vehicles for the department.

*Approved the fiscal year 2023-2024 county budget.

*Heard an update on tourism from James Houchins, Tourism Director.

*Accepted the Department of Social Services (DSS) fiscal year 2024 appropriations.

*Accepted the Child Services Act fiscal year 2024 appropriations.

*Approved the VDOT proposed six-year highway plan and proposed construction budget.

*Heard the county administrator's report.

*Heard the supervisors' reports.

Denise Stirewalt, of the Peter's Creek District, did not attend the meeting.

Baseball

(cont. from page 1)

too down for anything, and that's what makes him a special athlete," said Tal Swails. "Highs don't get too high, and the lows don't get too low, and if you're going to do it for a long time, you got to be able to manage that up and down, that ebb and flow of emotion. The only way you can be a superstar is to control it."

In his championship game start, Tucker controlled his emotions while throwing 191 pitches in a four-day span. In the week since the championship game, Tucker has been "trying to relax and recuperate," while receiving congratulations that have been coming his way.

Tal Swails believes Jai Penn's spot on the All-State Team was well-deserved. "He was our catalyst at the top of the order in the lead-off spot. He was an anchor for us on defense in center field," he said, adding, "he is completely deserving of it."

Penn had a fantastic senior year for the Cougars, earning all-region honors in football and basketball to go along with his spot on the all-state team in baseball.

The week following the championship game has been "pretty incredible," for Tal Swails. He has received, "a lot of phone calls, a lot of emails, a lot of text conversations. So many coming from friends and

family and Patrick County folks," and "folks who live outside Patrick County now who followed us all year now," with congratulations for both Tal Swails and the team.

"They're all so excited," Tal Swails said. "I mean, it's a huge sigh of relief for everybody that's been affiliated with Patrick County since the school started in 1971. Everybody chased it, everybody wanted it, and we finally got one. I think everybody is just so excited about it."

When talking about his coach of the year honor, Tal Swails was quick to recognize his player and coaching staff.

Winning coach of the year "happens for really one reason. It happens because your players have a kick-tail season." Of his staff, he said, "day in and day out, the rest of the staff were there every single hour that I was. Everybody is a part of that award really."

The Cougar coaching staff included Donald Rakes, Wes Martin, Sonny Swails, Scott Errichetti, and Nathan Perry.

Tucker Swails, who is heading into his senior season, already has some thoughts on next season and is looking forward to it.

"We're only losing two seniors who started, but five guys (overall) and they all made a difference in our team," Tucker Swails said. "We should be just as good next year."

Paddle

(cont. from page 2)

include a sticker, patch, mesh gear bag and cellphone dry bag. Those who complete the challenge by paddling at all 31 parks also receive a Virginia State Parks certificate.

Sammy Zambon, visitor experience specialist, spearheaded the Paddle Quest initiative. He's been a canoe and kayak guide with the park system for more than 20 years.

"I hope Paddle Quest allows people to see our parks from a new perspective. Things look and feel different from the water," said Zam-

bon. "There is a connection between water, boat, paddle and paddler that is very soothing."

Virginia State Parks asks new and experienced paddlers to wear a personal flotation device at all times and to know before you go - ask a ranger what to expect on a paddle before you launch.

Visitors looking for a challenge off the water can participate in Trail Quest, another self-paced program that offers rewards just for visiting a park. For more information about Trail Quest or Paddle Quest, go to virginiastateparks.gov/contest.

Wrestling

(cont. from page 1)

"He's been in wrestling for 50-60 years. He's coming to make an appearance, and sign autographs, and meet the fans, and stuff like that," he said.

Valiant will be at Uptown Stagecoach from 12-3 p.m. for the meet and greet.

Valiant won the World Tag Team Championship with his kayfabe brother "Luscious" Johnny Valiant in 1974 and feuded regu-

larly with Jerry "The King" Lawler while in the Memphis wrestling scene.

Valiant currently operates and trains wrestlers at Boogie's Wrestling Camp in Shawsville and wrestles under the American Championship Wrestling (ACW) Banner around the Roanoke area.

Noting that the NICW held a pro wrestling show on March 25 in honor of a local wrestler who passed away a couple of years ago,

Rutter said, "Our goal is to continue to do shows in our area and to give something back to the community and allow the people to come watch something and be entertained and be able to provide family-friendly entertainment."

His goal is to hold a show every few months to help benefit something in the community. The proceeds from this event and the concession will benefit the Patrick County High School

(PCHS) band.

Rutter said about 250 people attended the March show.

"So, we're really hoping that they'll continue to come out and support us," he said.

The show is sponsored by Rutter's Martial Arts, Boyce-Holland Veterinary Services, Impressive Prints & Designs, and National Exterminators.

Advance tickets are \$10 for children aged 6-12 and

\$12 for those over 13. Tickets bought at the door are \$12 for children and \$15 for adults. Children five and under can enter for free.

Advance tickets can be purchased at Rutters Martial Arts in Bassett, Stuart, and Floyd; Uptown Stagecoach; Lowes Foods; Little Caesars Pizza, and Boyce Holland Veterinary Clinic.

For more information, visit [Facebook.com/NationalIndependentChampionshipWrestling](https://www.facebook.com/NationalIndependentChampionshipWrestling).

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Pioneers

(cont. from page 2)

South-Western Presbyterian of New Orleans. The first issue of Presbyterian of the South was published in Atlanta on January 6, 1909. In 1911, when it moved to Richmond, the paper had an impressive circulation of 15,000.

According to the Library of Virginia, the newspaper appeared on Wednesdays and ran about 35 pages in length. It included editorials, special sections for women and children, daily Bible readings, and church news from around the South. The paper solicited donations for the Presbyterian Church and encouraged missionary work. While it did run advertisements for general products, ads primarily focused on Christian literature, military schools, and Christian schools and universities.

7th June 1916

“Dear Presbyterian: I am one of your new friends. I am a little girl ten years old. My school is out. My teacher’s name was Mr. Jesse Hollingsworth. I like him fine. I am in the fourth grade at school. I have three sisters and three brothers. This is my first letter. I hope you will print it. Your friend, Mary Dunkley.”

Claudville, Va.”

21st of June 1916

“Dear Presbyterian: This is my first letter to you. I am a little boy 6 years old. I have a pet calf. Its name is Jerry. It is red and white. I have two brothers and four sisters; my oldest sister is married. As I want to surprise my mother and father, I hope you will print my letter. Your little friend, James Dunkley. Claudville, VA”

“Dear Presbyterian: This is my second letter to you. My mother takes your good paper. I enjoy reading the children’s letters and Mr. Hutchison’s stories very much. I have a little bantam hen. She has forty chickens. My aunt has a new car. As I am afraid my letter is getting too long, I will close. Your friend, Mary Dunkley.”

28th August 1918

“Dear Presbyterian: I have not written you for some time, so I thought I would write. I go to Sunday school every Sunday. I have received two Sunday school pins for going three months. My Sunday school teacher is Miss Mary Arrington. I like her fine. I am sending you two squares for your quilt. I hope they will be all right. I am going to send some more when I get the yarn. I have a brother in the Navy. Your loving friend, Mary Dunkley.”

25 September 1918

“Dear Presbyterian: As you were kind to print my other letter, I thought that I would write you again. I am 13 years old; my birthday is the 7th of August. We are building a new Presbyteri-

an church. Rev. Roy Smith will preach in it on the fourth Sunday. Our school will begin October 1st. My teacher’s name will be Miss Clara Wilson. I have three brothers and three sisters. My sister is going off to school and I have one married and a brother in the navy, so there will be four children at home this winter. I am in the sixth grade. My daddy is a farmer. We have two large bay horses and a sorrel which we call our “saddle horse.” Your loving friend, Mary Virginia Dunkley. Claudville, VA”

Who was this Mary Virginia Dunkley of Claudville, Virginia and her brother, James (who had only written once)? While researching, I discovered that Mary Virginia Dunkley and James Dunkley were the children of Robert Henry Dunkley and Nancy Ada Dobyms. Robert Henry Dunkley was the son of Samuel Henry Dunkley and Lucy Frances Bennett. Nancy Ada Dobyms was the daughter of Samuel Green Dobyms and Ruth Elizabeth Lawson. I suspect the aunt with the new car was Lucy Frances Dunkley who married Rufus Edgar Woolwine, the Commonwealth’s Attorney of Patrick County for a half century, but that’s another story.

Mary Virginia and James Dunkley’s family moved from Claudville to Powhatan, Virginia in 1920 and the following year, at age 15, Mary Virginia married George Palmore. The couple had three

children and Mary passed away in 1993 at the age of 86. James Dunkley enlisted in the United States Navy in 1927 and achieved the rank of Brevet Colonel before retiring in 1947. James lived in San Diego, California and passed away in 1970 at the age of 60.

“Dear Presbyterian: I have never written to you, but I thought I would. I am a girl of 15 years of age. I go to Sunday school every Sunday I can. I am in the eighth grade at school. My teacher’s name is Miss Mayme Frayser. I like her fine. She is such a sweet girl. I live with my grandma. My uncle carries the mail. He has a Ford car. Your unknown friend, Sallie Elva Anderson. Claudville, VA”

Sallie Elva Anderson was the daughter of John William Anderson and Geneva Alice Bateman of Claudville. I am guessing the uncle/mail carrier Sallie mentions in her letter was Merritt Bateman. Sallie Elva Anderson married Walter Green Arrington around 1920. Walter Green Arrington was the son of Robert Andrew Arrington and Alice Sarah Handy, who lived on Dobyms Mountain but later moved to Little Patrick in Amelia County, Virginia. Sallie and Walter remained in Patrick County and still have many descendants that live here today.

30th October 1918

“Dear Presbyterian: I am a boy sixteen years old. I live with my sister on a farm. We have a store and a Ford car. We have nice

times riding. I went to Silof Mountain last Sunday. Tootsie and Merritt Bateman went with us. We had a delightful time. I want to surprise my friends, Tootsie and Bobby. I hope to see this in print. Your unknown friend, Claudville, Va.”

This letter is a puzzle. I have no idea where Silof Mountain is located nor the identities of Tootsie, Bobby, and the mystery writer.

“Dear Presbyterian: I wonder if you would publish a letter for me? This is my first attempt to write your paper. I am a girl of sixteen and live on a farm. I go to Dunkley’s High School and am in the eighth grade. I attend the Bethel Presbyterian Sunday school and belong to the same church, which has just been finished. I have three brothers and two sisters. My two elder brothers are in service, one in the Army and the other one in the Navy. My father is dead. I hope this war will soon be over (as I think it will), so my big brothers can come back home. My youngest brother is thirteen years old, so we haven’t anybody much to work on the farm. We have one horse and two cows, one hog and one pig. I will close. Your unknown friend, Exony Emma Clark, Claudville, VA.”

Exony Emma Clark’s prayers were answered because both big brothers came home! James Hatcher Clark remained in Claudville and lived to the age of 90. Claude Swanson Clark moved to Winston-Salem and

lived to the age of 61. They were all the children of Nathaniel Greene Clark and Annie Margaret Hatcher. Exony’s sister, Mattie Clark, married Merritt Bateman and was Mary Virginia Dunkley’s teacher, as she states in her last letter.

6th November 1918

“Dear Presbyterian: As you printed my other letters, I thought I would write you again. I am going to school every day. I like my teacher fine. We have a three-room school. Our teachers’ names are Miss Mayme Frayser, Miss Mary Soyars, and Miss Mattie Clark. I like all three of them. I think they are real sweet. The name of our school is Dunkley’s High School. We have a piano, library, and several pictures of the great men, and a nice teacher’s desk. We have a fine school. I went to Stuart Thursday and came back Saturday afternoon. I had a nice time. I am going to knit some for the soldiers’ quilt when I get some yarn. I can’t get any now. Are you still making the quilts? I go to Sunday school every Sunday. I have received two pins for going three months and not missing. I will get my six-month pin next Sunday. I am afraid my letter is getting too long. I hope to see it in your good paper. I will close by asking a question: What is the shortest verse in the Bible? Your little friend, Mary V. Dunkley. Claudville, Va.”

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

Survey on Prevailing Agricultural Employment Practices underway

The Virginia Employment Commission (VEC) has begun conducting the annual survey on prevailing practices in agricultural employment. The agency will conduct the survey from June 7 through July 14. Each year, the VEC seeks input from agricultural operations who hire farmworkers and agricultural equipment operators in certain crops, including grapes, nursery stock, fruits, vegetables, sod, aquaculture, hay & grains, livestock, tobacco and Christmas trees. Surveys are mailed to businesses that have been identified by VEC. In addition, employers may also participate in the survey on the VEC

website at <https://www.vec.virginia.gov/employers/agricultural-services>.

Electronic surveys can be completed in fillable .pdf format and sent by email to foreignlaborcert@vec.virginia.gov (link sends e-mail) or submitted by mail to VEC Foreign Labor Certification Unit 419 N. Cameron St., 2nd Floor, Winchester, VA 22601.

Federal regulations governing the use of the H-2A Agricultural Guest Worker Program require the VEC to monitor the hiring practices of agricultural employers. Data collected in these surveys address common and prevailing practices such as the advanced payment

of transportation costs to workers, job qualifications, recruitment methods, frequency of pay, provision of family housing, productivity standards, and the use of farm labor contractors. The VEC will receive survey responses until July 14, and will publish survey findings by October. VEC staff will apply findings to H-2A applications filed in Virginia in FY2024. By supplying this data to the VEC, employers can ensure that Virginia’s non-H-2A agricultural employers and its farmworkers are not adversely impacted by the addition of foreign workers to the farm economy.

Support

(cont. from page 1)

20, 1973, “and we’re just getting around to celebrating,” the milestone anniversary, Shuff said.

Other fire departments and rescue squads are invited to participate in the parade, with fire and emergency vehicles traveling to the Buffalo Ridge community and returning to the fire station in Woolwine around 12:30 p.m., when an AirCare 3 medical transport lands, Shuff said.

“We have a good group at the fire department, but we could always use more,” Shuff said, and current volunteer firefighters will be on hand to answer questions or talk to anyone who may be interested in joining the department.

“We’ll be around all day,” he added.

The Patriot group has several fundraisers planned to benefit Jessica

Belcher. Belcher, a hairstylist who does not have health insurance, needs help with medical bills, after having serious health problems, according to previous reports.

A Motorcycle Ride and a Cruise-In are among the fundraising events, with live music and an auction scheduled for later in the day.

Registration for the Motorcycle Benefit Ride begins at noon in the Orchard View Market parking lot on Virginia 8 North in Woolwine. All vehicles are welcome, and the registration fee is \$20 per bike or vehicle. A 50/50 drawing will be held, and a trophy will be awarded.

Kickstands go up at 1 p.m., with the ride concluding at the fire department.

Text Jason Turner at (276) 692-7842 for more information.

The Cruise-In will be held from 2 to 6 p.m. It also will be at the Woolwine

Volunteer Fire Department. An auction gets underway at 5 p.m., and a People’s Choice trophy will be awarded, as well as 50/50 drawings and live performers that include Marci Horne, Jordan Morrison, and Mike Pendleton.

Door prizes will be awarded, and the auction includes a Bake Sale.

Concessions such as hot dogs donated by Jesse Jones and barbeque donated by Boyd’s Restaurant will be available for purchase and several vendors will be selling their wares. Set up is free. Call Shannon Wood at (276) 692-4435 for more information.

If calls are received “even up to the night before,” Wood said, “we’ll definitely accommodate whatever we can.” said Wood.

For more information, call Sammy Hughes, president of the group, at (276) 692-6224, Jamie Hall at (276) 340-8454,

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THANK YOU FOR READING
THE ENTERPRISE

A Week of Hearings

Ninth District U.S. Rep. Morgan Griffith

Many times, I get questions as to what an average week is like for me. In this column I thought I'd review a recent week of committee action.

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

My first hearing was in the Energy Subcommittee of Energy and Commerce, to discuss recent decisions made by Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC)

centered on the Biden Administration's rush-to-green agenda and in turn, putting our grid reliability at risk. Commissioners from FERC testified, including my friend Mark Christie. Christie testified to the importance of dispatchable energy, or energy that is not dependent on the weather to run like coal and natural gas, to our electrical grid as there is less concern about its reliability.

Christie testified to the fact that one of our country's biggest problems right now is that we are losing existing generating capacity, that could be running, due to the Administration's focus on green energy. The EPA recently announced a set of new rules aimed at closing coal and natural gas power plants around the country.

Improving our Preparedness and Response

My second hearing, in the Health Subcommittee of Energy and Commerce, examined ways for our country to improve our preparedness and response to hazards and public health threats. I spoke to witnesses about the need for our federal agencies to better coordinate for better efficiency and transparency. For example, a company in my district had a contract, facilitated by the Department of Health and Human Services, to produce both nitrile butadiene rubber, the main ingredient in disposable gloves, as well as the finished gloves.

They were told to submit two separate proposals to both the Department of Defense and the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (or ASPR). Due to a lack in communication between agencies and a lapse in transparency, the company has only received partial funding and has had to halt construction on their manufacturing facility, leaving my district with hundreds of acres unused land and a half-built manufacturing facility.

This is unacceptable. When requiring multi-agency approval, the government must be able to work together, not stand in the way of new projects.

Nuclear Regulatory Commission My third hearing, in the Energy Subcommittee, focused on nuclear energy and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's efforts to ensure that as we expand our nuclear footprint, our country has efficient and predictable regulation of nuclear energy. I asked each of our witness-

es what the timeline for early site permitting would be, during which the NRC would determine if a site had the appropriate geography for a nuclear plant, particularly small modular nuclear reactors, and it would be safe to build.

All of the witnesses agreed that the current timetable to issue these permits is 24 months, with one commissioner stating that they could do it in less time. All witnesses confirmed that the NRC is committed to being as efficient as possible so that projects could move ahead in a timely fashion.

NanoSonic

My fourth Energy and Commerce hearing, in the Health Subcommittee, focused on access to care. I spoke to one witness, Kevin O'Connor of the International Association of Fire Fighters, about current work being done to improve fire fighter gear, specifically lowering PFAS toxins in the gear. While they are effective fire-resistant chemicals, PFAS have been shown to cause cancer, liver damage, and increased risk of asthma, among others health issues.

I suggested he reach out to the company NanoSonic, which makes fire gloves with flexible, fire-resistant fiberglass, instead of using PFAS. A number of years ago, I toured their facility in Pembroke, Virginia, and experienced firsthand the capability of the gloves. Wearing one, I put my hand over a blowtorch without feeling anything.

House Administration Hearing

There was also a House Administration hearing in their Oversight Subcommittee during the week. The Subcommittee held the first-ever congressional hearing with the Office of Congressional Ethics (OCE). OCE reviews allegations of misconduct against House members, officers, and staff.

Field Hearing on Grid Security

Further, the Energy Subcommittee (See Griffith p. 7)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Hypocrisy of Green Energy

(Fox, Manhattan Institute, International Renewable Energy Agency, Australia's Institute for a Sustainable Future, Tesla)

The 'green' idea is really all about minimal human impact. Wind and solar do not fit that definition.

The "green energy" movement claims that it wants cost-effective energy—affordable, reliable, plentiful—just without fossil fuels. But this is contradicted by its hostility toward clean, non-carbon nuclear and hydro—the most proven alternatives to fossil fuels.

You might expect the green energy movement to be the number 1 supporter of clean, non-carbon nuclear and hydroelectric energy, but instead, it is the number 1 opponent. "Green" groups have opposed nuclear power for decades and worked to shut down hydroelectric dams.

Why does the "Green" movement oppose nuclear and hydro? It is because "green" solar and wind are just so cost-effective and so "green"? No. Solar and wind have not proven to be cost-effective at all, and in many ways, they are the least "green" form of energy.

Despite claims that solar and wind are rapidly replacing fossil fuels, they provide less than 5% of the world's energy, and even that small percentage depends on huge subsidies and reliable (mostly fossil-fueled) power plants.

Solar and wind's basic problem is unreliability, to the point they can go near zero at any time. Thus, they do not replace reliable power, they parasitize it.

The popular idea that we can use mostly or only solar and wind with sufficient battery backup is economically absurd. Batteries are so expensive that just 3 days of global backup using Elon Musk's

Megapacks would cost \$600 trillion, about six times global GDP!

Building a single 100 Megawatt wind farm requires 30,000 tons of iron ore, 50,000 tons of concrete, and 900 tons of non-recyclable plastics for the huge blades. Then there are also minerals needed, that include rare earth metals.

Where is all this going to come from? Massive new mining operations. Limited in America, but abundant in China.

Australia's Institute for a Sustainable Future cautions that a global gold rush for energy materials will take miners into "...remote wilderness areas with high biodiversity because they haven't yet been disturbed. "And who is doing the mining? They are not going to be union workers with union protections."

The mining itself requires massive amounts of conventional energy, as do the energy-intensive industrial processes needed to refine the materials and then build the wind, solar, and battery hardware.

Solar has its dirty side. Photovoltaic modules are made from toxic chemicals. Arsenic, cadmium telluride, hexafluoroethane, lead, and polyvinyl fluoride are just some of the chemicals used to manufacture several types of solar cells.

With current plans, the International Renewable Energy Agency calculates that by 2050, the disposal of worn-out solar panels will constitute over double the tonnage of all of today's global plastic waste. Worn-out wind turbines and batteries will add millions of tons more waste. It will be a whole new environmental challenge.

Pray for our country.

William Salser, Stuart

Social issues in America

Joe Biden recently hosted a "Pride" event at the White House to celebrate the LGBTQAI+ movement. Standing in front of a backdrop with the White House image above the words "Pride 2023" and a large rainbow, Biden claimed he had not seen such an impressive display of courage "in the recent past." Perhaps he was referring to those transgender activists daring enough to rip off their shirts and fondle their new "breasts" or scars marking removed breasts. Not content to simply bathe the White House at night in rainbow colors, a practice started by Barack Obama, Biden had a large rainbow and pastel colored pride "progress" flag draped from the center of the portico. This flag thus represents the values held and promoted by the United States Government in 2023.

The White House event followed on the heels of Target's and Anheuser-Busch's forays into celebrating transgenderism pride, with Bud Light adorning cans with the image of a man who identifies as a woman, and Target pushing lines of adult and children's pro-LGBT/transgender clothing. Target's website even went so far as to sell a shirt reading "Satan Respects Pronouns," referring apparently to transgender activists' desires that everyone use 'she' and 'her' for men who become women and 'he' and 'him' for women who become men. As these "values" directly oppose those of most American consumers, both companies lost billions in revenue as offended customers ceased to patronize them.

The issue at the White House differs significantly, however. When the White House, the most visible

physical symbol of government in this country apart from the Capitol building, adorns itself in rainbow flags and colored lights and the President openly celebrates the LGBTQAI+/transgender lifestyle, the United States government is saying we all do. Joe Biden was saying these are now America's core values. The actions of Target and Bud Light speak for their shareholders, but what Joe Biden presided over at the White House speaks for all of us. However, a clear majority of Americans hold traditional Biblical values when it comes to marriage and sexuality and do not condone what the White House celebrated as normal and beautiful. Yet Joe Biden, speaking in an official capacity on behalf of the People of the United States, completely denied those core American values.

Target and Bud Light retreated after consumer outrage led to billions in sales losses. The American people, speaking collectively, have a powerful voice. If Joe Biden didn't speak for you, please pray for our country and join us in sending a polite note to let him know the White House is no place for displays that dishonor Americans' Biblical values. As the old axiom goes, all that is necessary for evil to prevail is for good people to do (or say) nothing.

The rainbow is God's promise of mercy and grace. If you're interested in speaking out and standing for Biblical values on sexuality, Rabbi Kirt Schneider, a Jewish Christian, has started a movement to reclaim its true meaning (TakingTheRainbowBack.com).

David & Jennifer Robinette, Patrick Springs

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆

◆ Moderate ◆◆ Challenging
◆◆◆ HOO BOY!

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Weekly SUDOKU

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THANK YOU FOR READING THE ENTERPRISE

Letters to the Editor/Viewpoints Policy

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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.

You Know Why Go Plant-Based, Now Here's How

Pioneering physicians in lifestyle medicine, Nathan Pritikin, Dean Ornish, and Caldwell Eselstyn, Jr. took patients with advanced heart disease and put them on the kind of plant-based diet followed by Asian and African populations who did not suffer from heart disease. They were hoping that placing their patients on this diet would stop the disease from progressing.

What they found happening, instead, was a miracle. Their patients' heart disease started to reverse. These patients were actually getting better with the prospect of not just living with the disease, but ridding themselves of it. As soon as they stopped eating an artery-clogging diet, their bodies were able to start dissolving away some of the plaque that had built up. Arteries opened up without drugs or surgery, even in some

cases of patients with severe triple-vessel heart disease.

"...their bodies wanted to heal all along but were just never given the chance" (How Not to Die 27).

In a recent conversation with my friend, he mentioned something that I've observed as well. People are becoming more and more educated about the benefits of a plant-based diet. They have the "why" figured out. Now, we're beginning to see a demand to make the connection to the "how". Whereas the question was once, "Why should I go plant-based?" the question has evolved to, "How do I make the change?"

These are my suggestions:

*Reach out to someone already thriving in their plant-based lifestyle. Most people who have adopted a plant-based diet are more than willing to edu-

cate and share their journey.

*Join social media groups that advocate for the plant-based diet. Hundreds of thousands of people in these groups may be asking and answering the same questions you have and can't wait to partake in your journey.

As we look forward, let's actively seek a newer, better lifestyle, filled with fruits, nuts, legumes, beans, vegetables, leafy greens, plenty of water and exercise. In this manner, we place ourselves in a position to present our bodies to God and reap the promise to live an abundant life.

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

Spice up summer grilling season with beer can chicken

Poultry has become the most-consumed livestock commodity in the world over the past 20 years, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Virginia is contributing to that global demand, as broiler chickens remain the state's No. 1 agricultural commodity.

The Virginia Poultry Federation reports that Virginia farmers raised 284.5 million broiler chickens that yielded 1.8 billion pounds of meat in 2021, ranking ninth in national production. This sector supports about 38,000 total jobs in the commonwealth.

With an abundance of protein come creative methods of preparation, like beer can grilling.

"Beer can chicken has long been one of the most popular methods of grilling poultry, but we noticed a lack of consensus on what type of beer is best," said Julie Lehman, PERDUE® Chicken vice president of marketing.

& Crown Brewing Company recently partnered with PERDUE® to create Beer Can Chicken Beer, a honey double-citrus summer ale brewed with grilled chicken seasonings like rosemary, thyme and pink peppercorn.

To make your own beer can chicken, PERDUE® recommends heating an outdoor grill to 350°. Discard the giblets and neck from a whole chicken, then drain it, pat it dry, and lightly rub the chicken with oil. Sprinkle a seasoning rub into the top cavity, and pat the seasoning onto the outside of the bird.

Pour a can of beer into a food-safe grilling stand. Lower the chicken onto the stand so the chicken is sitting upright. Cook over medium heat until the internal temperature reads 170°, about 1 hour and 15 minutes.

Carefully remove the chicken from the beer stand using tongs, and cover it with foil for 10 minutes before carving. Discard the remaining beer.

For more beer can chicken recipes, visit perdue.com/beer-canchicken.

Virginia's poultry industry provides a direct economic impact of \$5.8 billion and overall contributes \$13.6 billion in economic activity on more than 1,100 family-owned farms statewide, said Tony Banks, senior assistant director of agriculture, development and innovation for Virginia Farm Bureau Federation.

"And chicken consumption is expected to continue rising," he said. "U.S. annual per capita chicken consumption is around 95 pounds, about 65% greater than the next most-consumed protein—beef. By 2029, chicken consumption is expected to exceed 96 pounds."

To meet rising demand, several countries increased domestic poultry production, according to USDA. The U.S., the European Union and Thailand have emerged as major poultry exporters, with Brazil projected to remain No. 1 through 2031.

For more beer can chicken

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 – Will Work Earnings Affect My Social Security at Age 80?

Dear Rusty: I am 80 years old, and I receive monthly Social Security benefits, but I'm thinking about returning to work. At this age, am I limited in how much income I generate without affecting my benefit? If so, how much can I earn without affecting it? Signed: Spry Octogenarian.

Dear Spry Octogenarian: Since you have already reached your full retirement age (FRA) for Social Security's purposes, you can earn as much income from working as you like without your monthly Social Security payment being affected. Social Security's earnings test applies only to those who collect benefits before reaching their full retirement age, which is somewhere between age 66 and 67, depending on year of birth.

However, although the earnings test will not apply to you, it's important to know that Social Security benefits are subject to income tax if your annual combined income from all sources (also known as your "Modified Adjusted Gross Income" or "MAGI") exceeds certain thresholds. Your income tax filing status is an influencing factor - if you file as a single and your MAGI is more than \$25,000, or if you file as "married/jointly" and your MAGI is more than \$32,000, then 50% of the SS benefits you received during the tax year becomes part of your overall taxable income. And if your MAGI as a single filer is more than \$34,000 or, as a married filer more than \$44,000, then up to 85% of the SS benefits you receive during the tax year becomes part of your overall taxable income at your standard IRS income tax rate. Thus, returning to work may result in Social Security benefits unexpectedly becoming taxable income.

For complete clarity, your "MAGI" is your regular Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) on your income tax return, plus 50% of the Social Security benefits you received during the tax year, plus any other non-taxable income (except Roth IRA withdrawals) you may have had.

So, while your earnings from working at age 80 (and beyond) will not affect your monthly Social Security benefit payment, you may - depending on your total income or "MAGI" - find that your Social Security benefits will become taxable if your combined income from all sources exceeds the above thresholds. And if your benefits will become taxable, you may wish to consider having income taxes withheld from your monthly Social Security payments, which you can do by submitting IRS form W-4V to your local Social Security field office.

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

Griffith

(cont. from page 6)

along with committee held a field hearing in Pinehurst, North Carolina on how to enhance our country's grid security. I questioned witnesses about how to ensure a strong grid and supply chain. Members also saw an actual location where a well-trained marksman took out the power for more than 40,000 customers in one location in North Carolina. During this week,

I had numerous meetings and votes on the floor. So, I hope this helps answer the question as to what I generally do in Committee during a week in Washington.

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

Digital Preparedness Kits needed during hurricane season

With hurricane season underway, the Virginia Information Technologies Agency (VITA) and Virginia Department of Emergency Management (VDEM) are encouraging people in the Commonwealth to get ready now by setting up a 'digital preparedness kit' to help stormproof your electronic devices and digital information.

"When it comes to preparing for hurricane season, you may not necessarily think about digitization or protecting your computers, smart phones and other electronics," said Chief Information of the Commonwealth Robert Osmond. "However, technology is a critical response and recovery tool, allowing you to stay connected and have access to lifesaving and life-sustaining information before, during and after a disaster."

"Preparing your digital devices and assets is just as essential to hurricane readiness as strengthening your home and gathering emergency supplies," said State Coordinator of Emergency Management Shawn Talmadge. "When a disaster strikes, you must have several ways to receive warnings, alerts and updates, including Wireless Emergency Alerts, weather apps, verified government agency social media accounts and other digital

communications. Identifying those trusted and reliable sources beforehand will help keep you informed, safe and protected from misinformation and disinformation when it matters the most."

Here are the steps you can take right now to safeguard your data and devices:

*Make sure your electronics are backed up on a regular basis;

*Scan important paperwork, documents and sentimental items such as photos into a digital format. You can do this by using a scanner, a handheld camera or with an app on your mobile device;

*Once your key information has been saved digitally, back up your data and files to an external hard drive, USB drive or a cloud-based server; and

*Take physical steps to prepare your devices ahead of time:

*Make sure you keep all of your electronics charged up, so you're ready to go prior to any type of emergency;

*If you're in an area prone to flooding, elevate your electronic devices to a high and dry place, away from windows;

*Unplug them to protect them from power outages and lightning strikes; and

*In the event of power outages, have a portable charger

ready to recharge your devices.

"One more area to watch out for when it comes to putting your digital preparedness kit together is cybersecurity. Phishing and other scams can increase after a disaster," said Chief Information Security Officer of the Commonwealth Michael Watson. "That's why it's so important to access only known websites and social media accounts, such as those of VDEM and the Federal Emergency Management Agency, when you're looking for updates and information. You'll also need to maintain the security of your back-up systems. Make sure you choose a tool with strong security features such as data encryption, password protection and secure datacenters. These are all great ways to thwart bad actors and hackers who want to take advantage of the chaos that happens around a disaster."

You can find more preparedness tips on the VITA and VDEM websites.

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Kathryn Wood Chamberlin

Kathryn Wood Chamberlin from Patrick Springs, Virginia went peacefully to be with the Lord while surrounded by her family, on February 7, 2023. She was preceded in death by her husband of 55 years, Ashby Chamberlin. Katie was the beloved mother of Susan, Mary Ellen, Amy, Todd, Catherine, Cliff, and David Slikker and the adored grandmother of Connor, Brent, Kaitlin, Brooke, Riggs, Ashley, Corbin, Anna, Paige, Riley, Rebecca, Hudson and Vance. Katie was a graduate of the University of Virginia School of Nursing and received a Masters in Social Work from Catholic University. Katie was a well-respected psychotherapist in Bethesda, Maryland, and a champion for Rockville Women's

Center with the Rockville Pregnancy Center, and a member and teacher at her cherished church, Fourth Presbyterian. From her passion for healing, she wrote her book, From Shame to Glory. She will be remembered for her deep faith in Jesus, her commitment to growth and healing, and her love for her family and friends.

A graveside service will be held on June 24, 2023 at 11:00am, at Providence United Methodist Church in Patrick Springs, VA. In lieu of flowers, memorials in Katie's honor can be made to Providence United Methodist Church.

Norris Funeral Services in Stuart is serving the Chamberlain family. Online condolences may be made at www.norrisfuneral.com.

David Lee Kendrick

David Lee Kendrick, age 63 of Patrick Springs, passed away Thursday, June 15, 2023, at Woltz Hospice Home in Dobson, NC. He was born in Martinsville on December 16, 1959, to the late Curtis Clayton Kendrick, Sr. and Pauline Bocoek Kendrick. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his brother, Jeffrey Kendrick. He was the owner/operator of David Kendrick General Hauling. He enjoyed woodworking and Karate.



Skyler Conner, Trinity Conner, Brayden Conner, Camden Ratliff, Ava Ratliff; four brothers and sisters-in-law, Clayton and Edith Kendrick of Patrick Springs, Chester and Debbie Kendrick of Patrick Springs, Freddie and Denese Kendrick of Woolwine, Rodney and Cindy Kendrick of Patrick Springs; and numerous nieces and nephews.

A funeral service will be held at 2:00p.m., Tuesday, June 20, 2023, at Moody Funeral Home in Stuart with Pastors Bobby Rakes and Freddie Bonds officiating. Burial will be private. The family will receive friends one hour prior to the service at the funeral home. Online condolences may be sent to www.moodyfuneralservices.com.

Dale Ellis Pendleton

Mr. Dale Ellis Pendleton, age 70, of Critz, Virginia passed away on Monday, June 12, 2023. He was born on January 14, 1953, to the late Alvin Ellis Pendleton and Louenna Stanley Pendleton "Tootsie". In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a sister in-law, Brenda Pendleton and father-in-law and mother-in-law, James F. Gilbert and Nadean Plasters Gilbert. Dale was extremely hard working, inventive, and very capable; he could fix anything. He enjoyed vintage foreign sports cars and going to the beach, but his greatest love was his family. He was a devoted husband "Mr. P," loving father "Dadoo," caring grandfather "Poppy," brother, uncle, and friend.



Karson Gillispie; one brother, Jerry Alvin Pendleton; one sister, Judy Ann Pendleton and husband, Richard LaChance; two brothers-in-law, James Gilbert and wife, Serena, and Galen Gilbert; sister-in-law, Debbie Cox and husband, Barry; one niece, Jessica Sarver; three nephews, Joshua Draper, Jimmy

Gilbert, and Jackson Gilbert; and his beloved dog, Pinky.

Funeral services will be held on Friday June 16, 2023, at 12:00 pm at Patrick Springs Pentecostal Holiness Church with Pastor Sam Leonard officiating burial will follow in the Plasters Family Cemetery. The family will receive friends Thursday, June 15, 2023, from 7:00 to 9:00 pm at Moody Funeral Home in Stuart. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Plasters Family Cemetery Fund, C/o Linda Hopkins, 1233 Elamsville Road, Stuart, VA 24171. Online condolences may be sent by visiting www.moodyfuneralservices.com. The family asks, in Dale's memory, to dress comfortably for the services.

James "Jim" Dietrich

James "Jim" Dietrich, age 97 of Stuart, Virginia, departed his earthly home on June 14, 2023, and went to his eternal home in heaven with our Lord and Savior, Jesus.

Jim was born on July 9, 1925, in Columbus, Ohio. He enlisted in the US Navy on the day he graduated from high school in June 1943 and entered active duty in the regular Navy in July 1943. He served aboard USS LST (Landing Ship Tank) 920 as a Signalman 3rd Class/Seaman 1st class in the European and Pacific theaters; he landed with his ship at Utah Beach, Normandy, and on the beach at Okinawa for the last battle of WWII. From August 1945 until October 1946 Jim, aboard LST 920, repatriated thousands of Japanese men, women, and children from numerous islands in the Pacific back to Japan. He was discharged from active duty on October 20, 1946. Awards received include the Europe-Africa-Middle East Campaign Medal, Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal with Battle Star, Combat Action Ribbon, China Service Medal, America Campaign Medal, World War Two Victory Medal, and Navy Occupation Service Medal.

On August 29, 1950, Jim was ordered onto active duty in the U.S. Navy reserve for service in the Korean War. He served as Quartermaster 3rd Class aboard USS Epperson Destroyer Escort 719 and received the Korean Service Medal.

Jim married Mary Lou Bryson of Columbus, Ohio in 1947, his bride of 71 years until her passing in 2018. Jim has a stepdaughter, Susan Pierson of Arvada, Colorado, and her family; and a daughter, Rochelle "Shelly" Stone of Stuart, and a son-in-law, Ward Stone married to Shelly; Jim has two grandchildren, Brian and Melissa Stone (now Melissa Mantilla and her husband Juan Mantilla), and two great grandchildren, Luke and Benjamin Mantilla. Jim and his family moved



from Columbus, Ohio to Fort Lauderdale, Florida in 1957. He retired from the U.S. Postal system with 33 years service spanning from 1947 until 1980. His postal delivery route in Fort Lauderdale required walking 14 miles daily five days a week. He received the Postal System's safe driving award every year from its inception to include the year of his retirement. Every Saturday night into the early hours of Sunday morning from 1968 until 1983 he supervised the printing of the Sunday edition of Fort Lauderdale's premier daily newspaper The Sun Sentinel. Upon his postal retirement he moved with his wife to Gainesville, Florida. Jim served as a Deacon of Fort Lauderdale Baptist Church from 1968 until 1970, Calvary Baptist Church of Fort Lauderdale periodically from 1971 until 1983, and Country Side Baptist Church in Gainesville from 1983 until 1987.

Jim moved to Patrick County, Virginia in 2019 to be close to his daughter. He built a new house here, lived under his own roof, and was a member of Grace Baptist Church.

A graveside service will be held Thursday, June 22, 2023, at 2:00 PM at the Southwest Virginia Veterans Cemetery in Dublin with Pastor Mark Elkins officiating. In lieu of flowers and meals please make donations to Grace Baptist Church missionary ministry, P.O. Box 1108, Stuart, Virginia 24171. Online condolences may be sent to www.moodyfuneralservices.com.

General Fund Revenues Well Ahead of Forecast in Closing Months of Fiscal Year

General fund revenues are ahead of forecast by \$948.0 million year-to-date, Gov. Glenn Youngkin announced last week. Most of the increase above forecast is the result of differences in the timing of events anticipated in the Forecast.

Absent these timing differences, revenues are modestly ahead of forecast, providing an added buffer to prepare the Commonwealth for any recession that may occur in FY 2024. With just one month remaining in the fiscal year, revenue collections are essentially flat when adjusted for policy actions and timing issues and are down 3.4% year-to-date on an unadjusted basis.

"The revenue forecast we put forward in December continues to accurately predict the state's finances; Virginians can rest assured that our economic position remains strong," said Youngkin. "There continues to be plenty of money in the system for commonsense priorities to lower costs and cut taxes for families and local businesses while making critical investments in shared goals like the transformation of Virginia's behavioral health system. I continue to encourage the general assembly to work with

us to negotiate a budget that will deliver for Virginians and keep our Commonwealth's economy strong."

"With one month remaining in the fiscal year, general fund revenue collections are ahead of forecast," said Secretary of Finance Stephen Cummings. "The economic downturn assumed in our forecast in the current fiscal year has so far been averted, and given positive results versus our forecast, the Commonwealth is prepared should a recession occur in fiscal year 2024. Finance remains confident in the forecast in the Governor's introduced budget, which included significant investments in high priority areas and fiscally responsible tax relief."

Both April and May are important months for individual income tax final payments. Collections in April and May combined were down for the year but higher than anticipated, resulting in year-to-date non-withholding revenues exceeding the forecast by \$1 billion.

Among other major sources, withholding and sales tax collections are trailing projections, while corporate income tax revenues exceed forecast.

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PATRICK PULPITS

"Forgiven and Restored"

John 21:15-19

Pastor Wayne Moore
High Point Baptist Church

Jesus used two different words for love. Peter used only one in response. The first two times Jesus used the word AGAPE. The third time He used the same word as Peter, PHILEO. The Amplified Bible shows us the difference in the two words. "Again, He said to him a second time, 'Simon, son of John, do you love Me (with total commitment and devotion)?' He said to Him, 'Yes, Lord; You know that I love You (with a deep, personal affection, as for a close friend).'" I don't think Peter was thinking of technical definitions, but he understood what Jesus was asking. I picture Jesus asking with arms wide open and Peter responding with arms open enough for a hug. Peter responded affirmatively but humbly all three times.

Have you failed God? Do you want to be forgiven and restored? We all need second chances. Our sins can have bitter consequences that lead to despair and disillusionment. Peter's experience gives us hope that we are not beyond God's forgiveness and restoration.

Peter failed Jesus by denying Him three times. He wept bitterly when He realized what he had done (Luke 22:62). Prior to the events of John 21, Jesus had already appeared to Peter at least three times, once privately (Luke 24:34; 1Corinthians 15:5) and twice more with the other disciples present (John 20:19, 26). This fourth appearance of Jesus takes place when Peter and six other disciples were fishing on the Sea of Galilee.

We do not know what took place when Jesus met privately with Peter. I can't prove it, but I suspect Jesus restored Peter in private first. The only evidence I have is circumstantial. The way Peter swam to shore makes me think the Lord had already let him know he was forgiven. If the relationship had not been restored, I do not think Peter would have been so excited to see Jesus.

This meeting, though, was a public restoration of Peter. His denial was public knowledge and so was his restoration. Jesus asked Peter three times, in front of the others, if he loved Him. I think the Lord intends for us to see the connection to Peter's three denials.

This interchange between Jesus and Peter demonstrates that the relationship was restored. Peter's experience should give you hope that your relationship with the Lord can also be restored. If you need forgiveness and restoration, one obstacle can be the dread of facing the people you failed. The anticipation and initial steps are painful, but they cannot compare to the relief of being forgiven.

Peter went on to serve the Lord faithfully because Jesus gave him a brand-new start. Do you need a fresh start with Jesus today? Based on Peter's experience, I feel sure the Lord will grant it to you. If you feel the Spirit tugging at your heart, you can be sure of it too.

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BIBLE TRIVIA

BY WILSON CASEY

1. Is the book of Nehemiah (KJV) in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. From Ephesians 6:16, "Taking the -- of faith, where-with ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts." Vows, Leap, Shield, Sword
3. From Luke 1:56, how many months did Mary stay with Elizabeth? 1/2, 1, 3, 5
4. Eve's name appears in

the New Testament (KJV) how many times? 1, 2, 46, 63

5. From Psalms 27:1, "The Lord is my light and my ..." Rock, Glory, Salvation, Anointed
6. After David, who wrote the most Psalms? Solomon, Paul, Job, Asaph

ANSWERS: 1) Old, 2) Shield, 3) Three, 4) Two (2 Corinthians 11:3, 1 Timothy 2:13), 5) Salvation, 6) Asaph

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Reconciliation
Sundays 7:45 - 8:15 a.m.



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- | | | | | | |
|---|---|--|---------------------------------------|--|---|
| ACROSS | 50 Morales of "La Bamba" | 97 What a dipstick is dipped into | 3 "Diary of — Housewife" | 44 Med. exam involving a forearm jab | 80 Botch it up |
| 1 Flip out | 51 Infant | 98 Faux — | 4 Careful reader | 45 Sneaky laugh | 81 Bond creator |
| 6 City in Florida | 53 Drain cleaner | 100 Diner patrons choosing dishes | 5 Race joiner | 46 Et — (and others, in footnotes) | 82 Circle portion |
| 11 Nerve-racking | 54 Hiker's printed guide | 101 Danger of atomic weapons | 6 Bruin Bobby | 47 "Fist City" singer Loretta | 87 Nobel-winning U.N. agcy. |
| 20 Rock guitarists, slangily | 58 Result of a lucid mind | 108 Drink mixer | 7 Pigeon calls | 48 Safercracker, slangily | 90 Most frigid |
| 21 After-bath garments | 63 Like scalawags | 109 Just slightly | 8 Sits next to | 51 Boxer Max | 91 Put a knot in |
| 22 What a dipstick is dipped into | 65 Prefix with commuting | 110 Trembled | 9 Helpful boost | 52 Guthrie of folk | 92 Skin protein |
| 23 Rip open eagerly | 66 Making haste | 111 Victory sign | 10 Oar wood | 55 "Angel" actress Amy | 93 Draw upon |
| 25 Budapest native | 67 Aid in diagnosing an injured | 113 "Au —" ("So long for now") | 11 NPR journalist | 56 French artist Édouard | 94 Venerate |
| 26 Put up with | 71 In dreamland | 117 Wedding party | 12 Depend on | 57 French Hebrew letter | 95 Makes good LPs and 45s |
| 27 Actor Erwin | 74 Dragon killer, say | 119 Tolkien's imaginary world (that hints at this puzzle's theme) | 13 Cattle home | 59 Set of values | 96 Hard work |
| 28 Chocolate syrup brand | 75 Some pudding bases | 121 Rear-end or sideswipe | 14 Congest with fluid | 60 "Would that it were true!" | 98 Players of LPs and 45s |
| 29 Bone-dry | 79 "Hamilton" duet sung by Burr and Hamilton to their children | 122 Hit of the past | 15 Kin of reggae | 61 — the bud (forestall) | 99 Noah's boat |
| 30 Je ne — quoi (elusive quality) | 83 Literary alias | 123 Prefix with fiche | 16 Prints messily | 62 Single out as especially important | 101 DEA agents |
| 32 Tools facilitating weapon-launching | 84 Big cat's lair | 124 Quality of a dirty chimney | 17 Savoir — | 63 Church tower | 102 In — (not yet born) |
| 35 Asset of Hercules and Samson | 85 Beet or turnip | 125 Howled wolfishly | 18 Onetime TWA rival | 31 Church tower | 103 Tree that's a chocolate source |
| 39 Road coating | 86 "I don't give —!" | 126 Does in, as a dragon | 19 Gives temporarily | 33 Archaic verb ending | 104 Mannheim's river |
| 40 Young miss | 88 Olympic runner Sebastian | DOWN | 24 "— -Ho" ("Snow White" song) | 34 Alliance of the W. Hemisphere | 105 Horn sounds |
| 41 Aerobic exercise promotes it | 89 Ghosts | 1 Jetway locale | 28 Sheep call | 35 Clip, as wool | 106 Home to St. Teresa |
| 44 Greek region | 93 Paul Lynde's role on "Bewitched" | 2 Plow pullers | 31 Church tower | 36 On — firma | 107 Soft toy bear |
| 49 Work unit, in physics | | | 33 Archaic verb ending | 37 Is furious | 112 Emmy winner Falco |

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121																					
124																					

End of year honors, Patrick County High School

Grade: (88 or higher average)

Caleb Ashworth, Myhia Ballenger-Mijes, Brooklyn Barner, Joseph Beasley, Ruth Lee Belcher, Dakota Boyd, Andersen Brim, Mason Cassell, Isobel Clay, Madison Corns, Ivory Crouse, Jason Day, Leah Delgado, Adam Edwards, Jacob Edwards, Laine Errichetti, Mason Fain, Jaylee Foley, Aedan Frazier, Kaylee Gravely, Abrielle Hairston, Jahdoir Hairston, Addisyn Hall, Kaydence Harman, Wheeler Helms, Ava Hiatt, Chloe Hubbard, Hunter Hubbard, Willow Hylton, Kyra Ingalls, Elyjah Jenkins, Lily Kelly, Arabella King, Aubreigh

Large, Hunter Laughter, LeMia Lemons, Garreth Link, Fisher Martin, Hunter Martin, Kimatai Martin, Nexander Martinez De Jesus, Mischa McMeans, Michael Mitchell, Landon Moles, Brady Moore, Jayden Morel, Oren Osborne, Emily Pearson, Anderson Philpot, Riley Pruitt, Hayden Rowe, Alexia Shuff, Jacob Spencer, Mason Spencer, Lacey Sutphin, Maddox Taylor, Tripp Thompson, Joseph Turner, Karleigh Vasquez, Isabella Walker, Charles Wellbrock, Emily Whitaker, Lilliana White, Paige Whitt, Jonas Wooden.

9th-12th grade (3.2 GPA or higher)

9th grade:

Skye Ayers, Jaxon Ayers-Rosas, Kylei Blevins, Kyler Boggs, Eli Bogle, Devon Booth, Autumn Bowling, Autumn Bowman, Marlee Boyd, Isaac Boyer, Rachel Branch, Reggie Brown, Abigail Bryant, Liliann Butler, Jayden Callahan, Ethan Casstevens, Brooke Collins, Tonya Collins, Haley Conner, Alexandra Cotoc Santos, Alexis Cox, Tristan Cox, Lacey Easter, Carington Fain, Daniel Finnegan, Camille Gonzalez, Carter Gregory, Avril Gutierrez, Jaeden Hairston, Jykevis Hairston, Aiden Handy, Johnathan Harbour, Peyton Hazlewood, Cynthia Hernandez, Joselin Hernandez, Shyanne Holt, Chloe Hostetter, Kristopher Huerta, Marisa Hylton, Hannah Ingalls, Jacob Jones, Mitchell Keith, Avone Kidd, Benjamin Knight, Sadie Knight, William Lancaster, David Lawson, Isabella Lemons, Kylee Leonard, Jacob Lester, Alyssa Light, Ashantis Madison, Ashly Madrid Romero, Evan Martin, Kiley Martin, Draysin Maselli, Jose Mendoza-Gonzalez, Callie Montgomery, Ellianna Montgomery, Journey Moore, Ethan Morrison, Virginia Nations, Samantha Nester, Angela Overby, Lexus Owen, Abigail Pendleton, Michael Perez, Angel Plaster, Brandy Ponce, Braydon Priest, Haley Rakes, Nathan Register, Aailyah Reynolds, Jazmyne Reynolds, Hunter Roberts, Parker Roop, Abigail Royall, Madison Scott, Cayden Smith-Adame, Rylee Soliday, Vishal Somasundaram, Mitchell Stovall, Sydney Tatum, Greeley Terry, Alyssa Titular, Kyra Titular, Jennifer Venegas, Wyatt Westmoreland, Dana Wilcox, Xena Wilcox, Chase Willard, Kade Williams, Callie Wood, Eli Wood, Kathryn Wood, Zoe Wooden, Kendra Worley, Savannah Wright, Jed Young.

10th grade:

Anna Arellano, Dante Belcher, Jordan Belcher, Jeremiah Bowman, Kali Bowman, Heather Brim, Emma Buchanan, Alyssa Callahan, Sasha Campos, Carrie Cassell, Bryan Clark, Eliza Clifton, Jonah Clifton, Tara Collins, Taylor Collins, Daryl Combs, Alysha Copening, Williams Corns, Lexi Cutchins, Mason Dellenback, Emma Dellinger, Blake Dillon, Emily Eastridge, Rachel Fitzjarrald, Brett Foley, Joshua Freeman, Momoko Fukuda, Santa Garcia, Seth Geiger, Haley Gillispie, Jacob Gosnell, Nicolas Haden, Breanna Hall, Easton Harris, Evan Havens, Lilly Hazelwood, Richard Hazlewood, Hunter Heath, James Hensley, James Hodges, Sydney Hopkins, Jackson Horton, Caleb Hostetter, Zoe Hough, Riley Hubbard, Scottie Hubbard, Allison Hughes, Noah Jessup, Tessa Johnson, Autumn King, Alivia Kirk, Whitley Kruse, Trinity Lackey, Ryanne Lary, Abigail Lavinder, Chelsea Lawson, Cindy Leon-Cisneros, Zachary Letchworth, Jymasia Manns, Jude Martin, Sadie Martin, Raeli Moran, Matthew Nester, Owen Nutter, Rocio Olivares, Sydney Peer, Hunter Pendleton, Quentyn Penn, Dylan Quesinberry, Samantha Register, Lane Ross, Mason Scott, Sophie Scruggs, Jonah Shockley, Greta Spaeh, Emily Stiltner, Benjamin Sutphin, Dhrithik Tanna, Xavier Torres-Seda, Isabelle Turner, Sydni Turner, Katie Vernon, Kendall Williams, Mary Beth Williams, Noah Wingfield, Brayden Wolfe, Cheyenne Wood.

11th grade:

Matthew Allen, Dakota Ashworth, Jackson Barbour, Alexandria Barker, Seth Beasley, Riley Bell, Marissa Bentley, Daniel Betancourt, Jack Blaylock, James Brintle, Marissa Brown, Tyler Buchanan, Curtis Busick, Jonah Byers, Stuart Callahan, Morgan Cambron, Moises Cisneros, Ethan Cobbler, Lillian Cobbler, Kali Craig, Luke Cutchins, David Darnell, Dustin DeHart, Jayden Diehl, Nickolas Durham, Colt Easter, Heather Edwards, Alexander Frazier, Lauren Fulcher, Hannah Gay, Brayden Gilley, Haley Gilley, Autumn Goins, Honesti Grier, Kyleigh Gusler, Evan Hall, Miranda Hall, Harry Handy, Kyle Handy, Navaeh Haynes, Madeline Heath, Shyanne Hicks, Shauntel Hill, Jonathan Hodges, Trinity Holt, Miller Hopkins, Jerry Howard, Austin Hylton, Jewel Iacovone, Ananiah Jenkins, Aaron Jones, Lindsey Jones, Kylee Joyce, Nathan Large, Colby Layman, Cecilia Leon Cisneros, Aiden Lester, Cherilyn Lopez-Gonzalez, Hunter Meade, Madison Mills, Dakota Moore, Caleb Morris, Hayden Norman, James Nunez, Lance Overby, Montana Oxendine, Arya Patel, Nicholas Pell, Aniya Penn, Verity Perez, Quentin Perkins, Dalyce Pike, Brandy Quesinberry, Destiny Rakes, Abigail Ramsey, Pablo Rios, Isabella Rivero, Bobbi-jo Roberts, Elijah Rogers, Sabrina Rorrer, Elizabeth Rose, Anna Bella Russo, Rayshawn Sawyers, Bishop Smith, Heather Spencer, Stephen Spencer, Bradley Swails, Andrew Taylor, Emily Trent, Maria Turner, William Vernon, Faith Vipperman, Levi Vipperman, Stephen Wagner, Gage Welch, Lauryn Williams, Hannah Wood, Lauren Worley, Audrey Young, Jaylan Younger.

12th grade:

Wesley Alexander, Braedon Augustine, Katlyn Barbour, Bailey Blevins, Thomas Brady, Logan Brim, Paul Bryant, Skylar Bullins, Lillian Byers, Jacob Caine, Peyton Cambron, Colin Campbell, Jocelyn Carson, Emma Cassell, Madison Collins, Jessica Conner, Rebecca Craft, William Craft, Ethan Curry, Mallory DeHart, Daniel Delgado-Leyva, Jessica Dobbins, Alexander Doyle, Abigail Edwards, Taylor Edwards, Jaden Fain, Lucian Goad, Isabel Gonzalez, Juan Gutierrez-Sanchez, Jalen Hagwood, Karlyn Hall, Macy Hall, Alainah Harbour, Emilea Harbour, Tristan Hardy, Brooklyn Harmon, Samantha Harris, Columbia Haycraft, Melissa Hazard, Autumn Heath, Paulo Hernandez, Samuel Hubbard, Kursten Hylton, Seth Hylton, Pedro Joaquin-Ortega, Willow Kelley, Alexis Knight, Savannah Lawson, Faith Layman, Alexis Lemons, Devyn Lemons, Armando Leon-Cisneros, Darion Linister, Blake Manuello, Adalai Martin, William McAlister, Savanna Miller, Ashley Monk, James Moody, Sarah Moore, Madison Mullis, Hagen Murphy, Lauren Murphy, Hali Napier, Emma Nickelston, Luis Ojodeagua, Jared Peal, Elian Pendleton, Tobias Perkins, Jadyen Pruitt, Andrew Rakes, Brayton Reynolds, Wesley Roberson, Carlie Rorrer, D'Asia Ross, Martin Sawyers, Irene Smith, Faith Sobolewski, Jaden Spence, Samantha Stewart, Caelan Stimac, George Stovall, Mia Stowe, Xavien Taylor, Kaylee Towler, Tyler Vipperman, Amber Walker, Devin Walker, Isaac Wood, Chloe Wright.

End of year honors, elementary schools

Blue Ridge Elementary School Academic Awards

3rd Grade

Academic Awards: Olivia Pearl Chaney, Raven Skye Hernandez, Early G. Hill, Renesmee Lynn Moody, Chloe Ann Quesinberry.

Principal's Award: Karleigh Paige Saunders, Evan Glenn Seal.

4th Grade

Academic Awards: Emily Beth Adams, Amelia Jewel Bowman, Arleanna McKenzie Crews,

Dilan Fernando Diego Juan, Lucas Cameron Hall, Jade Marie Hedgepeth, Tanner Wyatt Horton, Diego Rodrigo Ibarra, Austin Maynard Marshall, Matthew Morales, Payton Skye Odell, Lincoln Garnett Puckett, Bentley Nathaniel Stanley, Olivia Lola-Mae Waycaster.

Principal's Award: Kaylee Mae Bowles, Sadie Jayne Bowman, Montana Rae Elaine Cain, Jay William Hill, Tobin Reggie Simmons, Colton Wade Smith, Ariella Grace Valerio.

5th Grade

Academic Awards: Gavin Lee Burris, Ryan Mason Chaney, Hunter Everett Draughn, Mason Reid Epperson, Camdon Blake Fain,

Maddox Kent Frye, Kimberly Gutierrez, Grayson Carter Holland, Brody Lawrence Hunger, Tommy Lee Lawson, Mason Calvery Stanley, Beckham Kane Terry.

Principal's Awards: Bronx Davidson Beasley, Brigham Lee Meredith.

6th Grade

Academic Awards: Leandra Hollyn Ayers, Ayden Marsh Bowman, Kyley Nicole Cain, Ethan Gray East, Noe Gutierrez, Aiden Cain Moody, Ashland Grace Noonkester, Adam Isaac Rautio, Dixie Ellen Sebastian, Aliya May Valerio.

Principal's Awards: Cassidy Elizabeth Brim, Sydney Makayla Easter, Montana Grace King, Ean Bryce Martin, Reed Kash Puckett, Kayleigh Eleanor-Lynn Smith, Midori Lyne Waycaster, Gage Harlan Whitaker, Isaiah Scott Willard, Bella Leray Wright.

7th Grade

Academic Awards: Lily Aiyana Bowman, Caleb Joshua Clement, Josiah Bryson Shelor, Layla Marie Thompson.

Hardin Reynolds Memorial School Academic Awards

4th Grade

Academic Awards: Taelyn Marie Blankenship, Dylan Wayne Clark, Aiden Drew Hagwood, Leila Keilana Okalani Stephany, Linnea Paulette Tankersley, Alice Brooklyn Terry, Elena Smith Turner, Mason Timothy Whitlow.

Principal's Award: Braiden Daniel Brooks, Savannah Renee Carroll, Riley Cole Epperly, Miles Noble Fisher Lange, James Matthew Pombo.

5th Grade

Academic Awards: Michael Gage Blevins, Caitlyn Lillie Collins, Mason Keith Collins, Colton Luke Errichetti, Mackenzie Rae Fain, Ariana Jeanne Hagwood, Evelyn Kate Hayes-Linton, Noah Dwayne Jenkins, Gabriella Dietrich Johnson, Hailey Piper Lester, Mahala Carrie Martin, Alaina Mackenzie McBride, Levi Nathaniel Montgomery, Noah Riley Putnam, Savannah Alexis Sanchez-Austin, Elyssia Peyton Turner.

Principal's Award: Kira Elizabeth Nevaeh Barker, Aleah Shianne Bowman, Benjamin Lee

Bowman, Eli Jeffrey Collins, Brayden Sthil Conner, Kenneth Ronin Craig, Ronald Wayne Davis, Addyson Ann Foley, Ariel Simone Humphries, Sarah Carmen Lawson, Arianna Brynn Lemons, Dane Matthew Orton, Mia Rose Spangler, Jennifer Madison Stowe, Asher Joel Vaughn, Maci Leann Whitlock.

6th Grade

Academic Awards: Lilly Louise Boyce, Steven William Brooks, Madilyn Faith Callahan, Anna Marie Dixon, Tiffany Lynn Eckrote, Isaiah Hunter Gilley, Robert James Manasseh Goff, Laila Camille Hairston-Slater, Benjamin Grayson Hall, Andrew Xander Harmon, Zackary Dylan Irvin, Wesley

Garrett Kruse, Paul Trevor Matthews, Rosalinda Jazmine Medina, Mauricio Mendoza-Gonzalez, Lily Faith Pritt, Madison Faith Purdy, Collin Daniel Rakes, Jenna Elizabeth Robertson, Aishwraya Talecia Tatum, Jayson Rylan Turney, Cooper Sean Wikstrom.

Principal's Award: Cali Jade Biggs, Kylee Christine Childress, Bentlee Wayne Davis, Conor Dean Dollarhite, Sky Lee Evans, Grahm Davis Foley, Sarah Mirann Hagwood, Levi Daniel Hankins, Maddyson Grace Kendrick, Ian Robert Lackey, Anna Marie Long, Braylon Rasheed Nowlin, Paul Trevor Matthews, Rosalinda Jazmine Medina, Mauricio Mendoza-Gonzalez, Braylon Rasheed Nowlin, Abigail Lee Pell, Johnathan Evans Penn, Ave Grace Rigney, Gavin Michael Smith, Andrew Benjamin Stewart, Samuel Thomas Tatum, Reagan Elizabeth Underwood, Damian Michael Wolfe.

7th Grade

Academic Awards: Autumn Michelle Bennett, Ariel Paige Clarke, Daniel Lee Conner, Ethan Cole Edwards, Sierra Paige Helms, Kiera Elise Hylton, Peyton Autumn Kelley, Rylan Nicholas Montgomery, Candace Renee Nelson Hopkins, McKenzie LaRae Sanchez, Haiden James Turner, Madison Grace Watts, Anna Lee Witt.

Principal's Award: Oliver Gray Cruise, Jordan Leigh Draper, Carson Matthew Farrar, Evan Levi Hancock, Mason Cole Hancock, Morgan Kymbre Handy, Jordan Edward Hardee, Riley William Jones, Savannah Mae Lawrence, Halo Makalee Martin, McKenzie Dawn Mitchell, Marion Bentley-Ronald Rowe, Brisan Wray Scott, Julianna Faye Turner, Caleb Davidson Vaughn.

Meadows of Dan Elementary School Academic Awards

3rd Grade

Academic Awards: Everett Clayton England, Lexi Nicole Proffitt.

Principal's Award: Hayleigh Eden Phillips.

4th Grade

Academic Awards: Samuel Bird, Daylin Sophia Rose Blevins, Anaelyse Hope Harrier, Happy

Ann Madison Martin, Blake Eugene Wood.

5th Grade

Academic Awards: Landon Frederick Eidson, Ayden Steven Garcia.

6th Grade

Principal's Award: Caleb Logan

Howell, Hannah Bethany Phillips, Isabel Marie Fu Su Wilson, William Robert Wood.

Academic Awards: Ethan Douglas Gibson, Madison Rose Hawk, Mariah Shydae King, Allie Victoria Lewis, Wesley Caden Quesinberry.

7th Grade

Principal's Award: Rain Juliette Davis, Kaylene Aranza Garcia, Isabella Lei Mashburn,

Kayleen Faith Wood, Meredith Grace Wood.

Academic Awards: Logan Malachi Brown, Brayden Nathaniel Burress, Hayden Lee Conner,

Kameron Tylor Eidson, Ashton Dane Gurley, Conner Jayden Wood.

Pass rate of 100 percent in PCHS' Nurse Aide Program

The Patrick County High School Nurse Aide Program celebrated a 100 percent pass rate, which means all students became Certified Nurse Aides. Several of the students are now employed by local healthcare agencies. The Nurse Aide Program is offered at PCHS to juniors and seniors.

Pictured from left to right are Harmony Holland, Destiny Rakes, Ananiah Jenkins, Brandy Quesinberry, Bobbijo Roberts, Bethany Goode. (Contributed)



Student Briefs

Dugger awarded degree from The University of Alabama

Amanda Dugger, of Stuart, has received a Bachelor of Science in Commerce & Business Administration from The University of Alabama. UA awarded over 5,885 degrees during its spring commencement ceremonies.

Area students among those named to SCC Honors Lists

The Spring Semester 2023 President's List and Dean's List from Surry Community College included the names of several local students:

President's List - Spring 2023

John Dellenback, Ararat.
Sydney Alexandria Presa, Ararat.
Rachel Michelle Russo, Ararat.

Students qualifying for the President's List must be enrolled for a minimum of 12 credit hours of college level coursework and maintain a 3.8 grade point average for the semester with no final grade lower than a "C." Students on the President's List receive a congratulatory letter.

Dean's List - Spring 2023

Howard Bryant Brown, Stuart.
Joel Gutierrez-Vargas, Ararat.
Geona Nykole Jenkins, Ararat.

The Dean's List honors those students who achieve significant academic status in their classes. Students qualifying for the Dean's List must be enrolled for a minimum of 12 credit hours of college level coursework and maintain a 3.5 grade point average for the semester with no final grade lower than a "C." Students on the Dean's List will also receive a congratulatory letter.

Vernon named to William & Mary Dean's List

Caroline Vernon, of Stuart, was recently named to the Dean's List at the College of William & Mary for the spring 2023 semester.

In order to achieve Dean's List status, a full-time degree seeking undergraduate student must take at least 12 credit hours and earn a 3.6 Quality Point Average during the semester.

William & Mary is the second oldest institution of higher learning in the United States.

Ararat resident named to JMU Dean's List

Freedom Collins, of Ararat, has been named to the Dean's List at James Madison University for the spring 2023 semester. Students who earn dean's list honors must carry at least 12 graded credit hours and earn a GPA of between 3.5 and 3.899. Collins is majoring in Health Sciences - BS.

Local students named to P&HCC's Dean's, Honors Lists

The following local students were named to Patrick & Henry Community College's Dean's List:

- Ararat:** Sara Martin.
- Claudville:** Jackson Barbour, Seth Beasley, Logan Cassady, Taylor Smith.
- Critz:** Richard Hagwood, Vanessa Mabe.
- Laurel Fork:** James Brintle.
- Meadows of Dan:** Ethan Hubbard.
- Patrick Springs:** Charles McClain, Hagen Murphy, Courtney Sharpe.
- Stuart:** Stuart Callahan, Francia Chavez, Cecilia Leon Cisneros, Kali Craig, Haley Day, Miranda Hall, Rachel Helms, Austin Hylton, William Morris, Martin Morse, Elian Pendleton, Tobias Perkins, Cameron Roark, Jason Smith, Maria Turner, Bridgette Whitney.
- Woolwine:** Gracelyn Hubbard.

The following local students were named to Patrick & Henry Community College's Honors List:

- Ararat:** Joshua Dalton, Macy Hall, Nathan Large.
- Claudville:** James Moody.
- Meadows of Dan:** Diego Ojodeagua, Sabrina Rorrer.
- Stuart:** Ashley Martin, Autumn Heath, Benjamin Collins, David Bryant, Dreama Foley, Gracen Edwards, Heather Edwards, Jady Pruitt, Julianna Overby, Madeline Heath, Marissa Brown, Martin Sawyers, Melissa Hazard, Pedro Joaquin-Ortega, Zachary Heath.
- Woolwine:** Connie Belcher, Daniel Silva, Jacob Caine, Samantha Harris.

Graduates celebrated at SCC

Surry Community College held its 55th commencement ceremony in the gymnasium on the Dobson campus on May 13.

This spring Surry had 594 graduates; 244 of which received honors for having a 3.5 GPA and higher. The college awarded 175 Associate in Applied Science degrees, 10 Associate in General Education degrees, 204 transfer degrees, 61 one-year diplomas, and 342 certificates.

Associate in Applied Science degrees, one-year diplomas, and certificates were awarded to students who completed one of the career technology programs. Associate in General Education degrees were awarded to students who completed two years of education designed for academic enrichment and personal growth and development. Associate in Arts or Associate in Science degrees were awarded to students who completed the College Transfer Program.

Dr. David Shockley, Surry



May 2023 Surry Community College graduates listen to the commencement speakers as they wait to hear their names called out.

Community College President, gave the commencement address and presented degrees, diplomas and certificates to the 157 students who participated in the ceremony including fall, spring, and summer graduates. Summit Strings performed musical selections during the ceremony.

"Find your purpose and passion in your life. Work as hard as you can. Marry your purpose

and passion with your career," Shockley encouraged graduates.

SCC is currently registering students for fall classes. If you have any questions about college application, financial aid, or career choices, contact Student & Workforce Services at (336) 386-3264 or studentservices@surry.edu. Fall classes begin Aug. 17.

Academic Awards

(cont. from page 10)

Patrick Springs Primary School

Principal's Award: Bentley Brooks, Case Cobler, Natalie Ferguson, Julianne Harmon, Paisley Holt, Abbie Lawrence, Holly Lawrence, Joshua Stewart, Carter Trent.

Academic Awards: Kaylee Biggs, Colten Blackard, Billie Joe Boyce, Matthew Clifton, Shawn Cooley, Scarlett Dobbins, Ella Dollarhite, Olivia Epperson, Link Hill, Kailee

Jernigan, Alana MacPherson, Harper Russo, Bentley Spence, Amya Stephany, William Trent, Aubree Triplett, Madison Witcher, Layla Wright.

Stuart Elementary School Academic Awards

3rd Grade

Academic Awards: Peyton Adkins, Nella Bembry, Lucas Black, Braeden Campbell, Easton Conner, Tomias Devers, Kaythan Gray, Cooper Hall, Emily Hawk, Rayne Holt, Lyric Houchins, Emma Hutchens, Courage Jackson, Melissa Lopez-Gonzalez, Dallas Martin, Leah Miller, Macie Tabor.

Principal's Award: Caleb Allison, Aiden Brown, Carter Foley, Kay'cee Glenn, Hadley Jones, Parker Jones, Lucas Wheeler.

4th Grade

Academic Awards: Elizabeth Allison, Skyler Bohannon, Wesley Burge, Easton Childress, Sophia Foley, Addison Fulton, Sofia Gonzalez-Hylton, Milayna Helms, Zania Hines, Swayze Hylton, Alex Leon-Cis-

neros, Sophia Martin, Hana Martinez-Tejeda, Keller Muse, Maddox Scott, Evangeline Stimac, Madilyn Tate, Karoline Walton.

Principal's Award: Elise Cagle, Eli Fain, Charlee Handy, Avery Hubbard, Adalee Hughes, Addyson Minter, Chandler Moles, Hannah Post, Millicent Scott, Juliet Turner, Ivy Witt.

5th Grade

Academic Awards: Eli Briley, Carles Campos, Tessa Curry, Milli Foley, Carrie Gregory, Ashton Hall, Madison Handy, Caden Harris, Kya Jackson, Mya Taylor.

Principal's Award: Savannah Fain, Vanessa Gregory, Jada Hylton, Adilynn Jones, Brinlee Mills, Pagan Smith, Nathan Spencer, Bryson Turman,

Evangeline Walker.

6th Grade

Academic Awards: Kobe Bogle, Molly Cassell, David Clark, Tucker Collins, Jameson Lawson, Audrey McGhee, Mariah Scott, Bailey Walker.

Principal's Award: Noah Bembry, Elena Cagle, Kinsleigh Harris, Ellie Post, Jillian Turner.

7th Grade

Academic Awards: Hailey Anderson, Jake Bryant, Scarlett Gregory, Brayden Hylton, Nathan Hodges, Jayme Moose, Christian Pendleton, Eva Sechrist, Max Smith, Jenna Woods.

Principal's Award: Casey Boyer, Gracen Conner, Karson Gillispie, Aiden Slate.

Woolwine Elementary School

3rd Grade

Principal's Award: Moncerat Joaquin-Ortega, Cameron Kendrick, Raina Newsome

Academic Awards: Huntington "Hunter" Foley, Emmalyn Hubbard, Bjorn Johnson, Sophia Otero-Garcia, Charlee Shuff.

4th Grade

Academic Awards: Blake Belcher, Aubree Bowman, Blake Mills, Christian Rakes,

Wyatt Rodgers, Dixie Scott, Natalie Worley.

5th Grade

Academic Awards: Kaitlyn Gunter, Grant Iacovone, Jasper Lockhart, Jackson Osborne.

6th Grade

Academic Awards: Kaylee Belcher, Noah Bowling, Mason Conner, Addison Friedrichs, Ainsley Lawson, Corrynn McAlexander, Levi Ojodeagua,

Jasmine Swick.

Principal's Award: Conner King, Paisley Shuff.

7th Grade

Academic Awards: Mysteri Campbell, Analeigh Jones, Mason Keith, Kinley Morrison, Haileigh Wingfield.

Principal's Award: Eli Dillon, Martina Hubbard, Ivan Joaquin-Ortega.

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Patrick Native Honored as Northeast Tennessee Hospitality Leader of the Year

The Northeast Tennessee Tourism Association (NETTA) has named Patrick County native, Christopher Haley, as the recipient of its Hospitality Leader of the Year. NETTA's annual Pinnacle Awards program honors top performers in tourism related promotion, development, and individual achievement. The organization was chartered in 1977, is a non-profit tourism promotion and agency that serves and supports Carter, Greene, Hancock, Hawkins, Johnson, Sullivan, Unicoi, and Washington counties in Tennessee, as well as portions of Southwest of Virginia.



Christopher Haley

Haley serves as General Manager and Chief Operating Officer of Blackthorn Club at The Ridges, a private golf and country club, in Johnson City, Tennessee.

Haley came to Blackthorn Club in April 2017, at age 29, as the youngest GM/COO in Tennessee and one of the ten youngest in the nation at the time. Since then, he has grown the Blackthorn Club to be the pre-eminent family-focused, private country club in Northeast Tennessee. Under his leadership, he has overseen the development of all departments and programs, including leading the largest capital project in Club history, the construction of a new indoor tennis and fitness center, which opened in early 2019. Since his arrival, the Club has grown by more than two million dollars in

operating revenue and helped the Club consistently maintain a strong financial position. The Club reached its full capacity for membership for the first time ever in 2021. In October of the same year, Haley and his team were featured in the nation's leading private club magazine, Club + Resort Business for the Club's financial turnaround and success in membership development and programming. In 2022, the Club was recognized as having one of the top 50 culinary experiences in the nation. Blackthorn topped that feat in early 2023, receiving a #19 national ranking in culinary experience from Club + Resort Business. He credits the wonderful professionals he works with each day as the foundation for the Club's success, which includes a total membership of ap-

proximately 800 families and 110 employees.

Haley is currently in his seventeenth season in the private club industry. He began his career while in college at Virginia Tech, where he served on the golf staff at Blacksburg Country Club for four seasons beginning in 2007. After graduation in 2009, Haley pursued his master's degree at James Madison University, and in August 2010 accepted the role of Business Manager at Blacksburg Country Club and held that role until late 2013.

In November 2013, Haley was hired to be the Assistant General Manager of the Country Club of York in Pennsylvania, a top 40 Platinum rated private club in the country. At CCY, Haley was tasked with bringing the Club out of a \$6.5 million clubhouse renovation project, rebuilding club culture, and overhauling an organizational footprint of a staff of 175. In August 2014, Haley was promoted to interim General Manager for six months. Financially, the Club had its most successful year in six years under Haley's leadership, reaching \$2 million in food sales for the first time in the Club's 115-year history. Haley also oversaw the operation of the transition process from the outgoing GM/COO to the new one, the redevelopment of the Club's five-year strategic plan, the execution of the 98th Pennsyl-

vania State Open, and the plan to begin a complete restoration of the CCY's Donald Ross designed golf course.

Haley returned to Blacksburg Country Club in August 2015 as the Assistant General Manager where he led the Club's efforts in multiple departments and served as the project manager of the Club's clubhouse renovation. In late March 2017, he was named General Manager and Chief Operating Officer of Blackthorn Club at The Ridges in Johnson City, Tennessee.

In his career, he has been a part of more than \$12 million in capital projects. Haley is active in the Club Management Association of America (CMAA), and he has been a member of the International Wine Society and has served on various CMAA committees at both the state and national level. He has also completed professional education through the University of Houston in Texas, the Georgia State University in Atlanta, Michigan State University in East Lansing, and Cal Poly Pomona in Los Angeles. Haley enjoys being able to give back and frequently speaks at the university level for undergraduate and graduate level classes. Locally, he continues to support the endeavors of his home area as he actively serves on the board of directors for the Patrick County Education Foundation.

Alumni

(cont. from page 3)

and have provided significant service in local, state, or national organizations are eligible for nomination.

This year's award recipients are Elizabeth Ashby, Dayna Bobbitt, J.D., Angie Brown, Brad Draper, Dr. Jan Harrison, Sandra Heath, Dr. Dylan Jones, Dr. Bethany Lackey, Rick Love, Rodney Mills, and Frances Wade.

Ashby completed credits towards her associate degree from P&HCC in 2005. While attending undergrad, she completed the CNA program at P&HCC during the summer of 2008 then finished her education at William & Mary earning a Bachelor of Science degree in biology in December of 2008. Ashby earned a Master of Arts degree in curriculum and instruction with an integrative STEM certification from Virginia Tech in 2014. She also completed postgraduate biology credits from Framingham State University to teach dual enrollment courses and earned a Teacher Leadership certification from James Madison University in 2022. Ashby currently serves as a Secondary Science Instructor of Physical Science, AP Biology, Life Science and General Biology for Virtual Virginia. She is also a Science Content Specialist with the CHOICE Program & Virginia Ed Strategies.

Bobbitt graduated with her associate degree in science from P&HCC in 2010 by participating in the D2 and Governor's School programs. She continued her education at Virginia Tech, earning a Bachelor of Arts degree in communications and public relations with a minor in business leadership in 2013 and a Juris Doctor from the University of South Carolina School of Law in 2016. Bobbitt is the Commonwealth's Attorney in Patrick County. She has also been an Adjunct Professor for Patrick & Henry Community College in the Legal Assisting/Paralegal program.

Brown earned her associate degree in business administration from P&HCC in 1988. She continued her education by earning a Bachelor of Business Administration degree in accounting from Radford University in 1990. Brown currently serves as the Site Facilitator at the Patrick County site of Patrick & Henry Community College.

Draper graduated from P&HCC in 1982 with his associate degree in business administration. He continued his education at Radford University, earning a Bachelor of Science degree in finance and insurance in 1986. Draper is the owner and operator of Draper Flowers & Gifts. He has served as an adjunct instructor in Floral Design classes for Patrick & Henry Community College.

Harrison earned her associate degree in early childhood development from P&HCC in 2003 and her associate degree in general studies in 2006. She continued her education by earning a Bachelor of Science degree in human services in 2006 from Old Dominion University, a Master of Arts degree in counseling, marriage and families in 2008, a Doctorate in educational leadership in 2019, and a graduate certificate in preschool in 2021 from Liberty University. Harrison is an Associate Professor of Early Childhood Development at Patrick & Henry Community College.

Heath graduated from P&HCC in 1988 with a certificate in bookkeeping and in 1992 with an associate degree in computer information systems, microcomputer specialist. She continued her education at Averett University where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in business administration. Heath is in her 27th year serving as District Manager for the Patrick County Soil and Water Conservation District, a sub-division of the Commonwealth. In addition to her full-time job, Heath also is co-owner and operator of Heath Ridge Beef Cattle Farm.

Jones earned his associate degree in general studies from P&HCC in 2014. He continued his education by earning a Bachelor of Science degree from Roanoke College in biology in 2016, a Master of Science in biology, ecology and evo-

lution from Montclair State University in 2018, and a Doctor of Philosophy in biology, ecology, evolution and behavior from Binghamton University, The State University of New York State in 2023. Jones is a biologist with the Environmental Protection Agency in Washington, DC.

Lackey graduated with her associate degree in general studies in 2008. She continued her education by earning a Bachelor of Science degree from Ferrum College in psychology in 2011, a Master of Arts degree in counselor education from Virginia Tech in 2013, and a Doctor of Philosophy in counselor education and supervision from Virginia Tech in 2020. Lackey is a Licensed Professional Counselor in Virginia and is the Executive Director and co-founder of A Tree Planted Counseling, a mental health nonprofit built on collaboration and reducing barriers within the community through healing, inclusive and trauma-informed practices. She also started the Roanoke Refugee Partnership in 2017 and is the director. Lackey is an adjunct professor in the Counselor Education department at Virginia Tech.

Love graduated from P&HCC in 1980 with an associate degree in business. He continued his education at James Madison University, earning a Bachelor of Business Administration with a major in marketing in 1982. Love is a Senior Member Advocate at ValleyStar Credit Union.

Mills earned his associate degree in general studies from P&HCC in 2005. He continued his education at the University of Virginia, earning a Bachelor of Arts in African American and African studies in 2007. Mills is an AVID English and Sociology Teacher at Greensville County High School in Emporia.

Wade graduated from P&HCC in 1982 with an associate degree in secretarial science. She received a computer programming certificate from ECPI Technical Institute in 1977. Wade is a Master Chief Deputy Clerk with the Henry County Circuit Court.

For more information about the Patrick & Henry Community College Distinguished Alumni Awards program, please contact the P&HCC Foundation at (276) 656-0250.

LEGAL

TRUSTEE SALE
4832 Ayers Orchard Rd, Stuart, VA 24171
Patrick County

In execution of a Deed of Trust in the original principal amount of \$247,500.00, dated November 6, 2012, recorded in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of the Patrick County, Virginia, in Document No. 13000098, at the request of the holder of the Note, the undersigned Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction at the entrance to the Circuit Court of Patrick County, 101 W. Blue Ridge Street, Stuart, on July 6, 2023, at 1:30 PM the property described in said deed, located at the above address and briefly described as:

Land Situated in the City of Stuart in the County of Patrick in the State of VA

All that certain tract or parcel of land, with their improvements and their appurtenances thereon, lying and being in Mayo river Magisterial District, Patrick County, Virginia, containing 8.88289 acres as shown on a Plat of Survey entitled 'J.W. AND M.B. MILLS', prepared by L.G. Rakes, L.L.S., dated October 1, 1991, with any improvements thereon

Subject to any and all covenants, conditions, restrictions, easements, and all other matters of record taking priority over Deed of Trust, if any, affecting the aforesaid property.

TERMS OF SALE: CASH: A deposit of \$20,000.00 or 10% of the sales price, whichever is lower, cash or certified check will be required at the time of sale, but no more than \$10,000.00 of cash will be accepted, with settlement within fifteen (15) days from the date of sale. Sale is subject to post sale confirmation that the borrower did not file for protection under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code prior to the sale which affects the validity of the sale, as well as to post-sale confirmation of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into any repayment agreement, reinstated or paid off the loan prior to the sale. In any such event, the sale shall be null and void, and the Purchaser's sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of his deposit without interest. Additional terms may be announced at the time of sale. Pursuant to the Federal Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, we advise you that this firm is a debt collector attempting to collect the indebtedness referred to herein and any information we obtain will be used for that purpose.

SAMUEL I. WHITE, P.C., Substitute Trustee

This is a communication from a debt collector.

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:

SAMUEL I. WHITE, P.C. (82548)

448 Viking Drive Suite 350

Virginia Beach, VA 23452

757-457-1460 - Call Between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

or visit our website at www.siwp.net

LEGAL

NOTICE OF SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE'S SALE OF
572 Corns Rd., Stuart, Virginia 24171 (Patrick County, Virginia)

In execution of a deed of trust, from JONATHAN L. CORNS, dated September 6, 2011, recorded in the Clerk's Office of the County of Patrick, Virginia, as Instrument Number 1101722, Seth E. Twery, P.C. having been appointed Substitute Trustee, by Appointment of Substitute Trustee recorded in the aforesaid Clerk's Office as Instrument Number 230000702, due to default in payment of the debt secured, the undersigned Trustee will offer for sale at public auction at the front of the Courthouse for the Circuit Court of Patrick County, Virginia on the 29th day of June, 2023 at 11:00 a.m. that certain tract of real estate known as 572 Corns Rd., Stuart, Virginia 24171, situated in the County of Patrick, Virginia, being more particularly described as follows:

All of that certain tract or parcel of land together with the improvements thereon and appurtenances thereunto belonging, lying and being in Peters Creek Magisterial District of Patrick County, Virginia, containing 7.565 acres, more or less, as shown on plat of survey dated August 12, 2011 entitled "PLAT OF SURVEY FOR JONATHAN L. CORNS", prepared by Terry A. Waller, Land Surveyor, of record in the Office of the Clerk, Circuit Court, Patrick County, Virginia, as Instrument Number 1101721.

TOGETHER WITH a joint non-exclusive easement of right of way thirty feet in width along and following an existing driveway, as described in Deed recorded at Instrument Number 010000442. Included with the sale is a 2011 Giles Manufactured Home - VIN No. SCI011231TNAB.

Sale subject to all conditions, restrictions, reservations and easements, if any of record and now applicable thereto.

Terms: At least 10% cash on day of sale; balance due within 30 days.

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:

Seth E. Twery, Esq.

Seth E. Twery, P.C.

P.O. Box 185

Lynchburg, VA 24505-0185

(434)845-5285

LEGAL

RFP 2023 MNT 005

The Patrick County School Board is accepting competitive sealed proposals from licensed contractors to renovate locker rooms in the original gymnasium at Patrick County High School, 215 Cougar Lane, Stuart, Virginia 24171. Drawings and specifications are available as a PDF file from the office of Conrad Knight Architecture, PLLC, 212 Starling Avenue, Suite 30, Martinsville, Virginia 24112, phone 276-638-8794, email 88knight@comcast.net. Bids will be received and opened in the office of the Patrick County School Board located at 104 Rucker Street, Stuart, Virginia 24171 on June 22, 2023 at 2:00 p.m.

LEGAL

For Public Notice

The Town of Stuart will hold a Public Hearing on Wednesday, June 21, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Stuart Town Office, located at 100 Patrick Avenue, to solicit public input for the purpose of the Town of Stuart to enter into an agreement or contract for the purchase of the Star Theatre, located at 318 Patrick Avenue. The Town of Stuart intends to purchase the property from private individuals, upon a final inspection, and lease the property to a qualified organization for operation as a community, arts, and music venue.

For additional information, please visit the Town website at www.townofstuartva.com or contact Bryce Simmons, Town Manager at 276-694-3811. Comments can be submitted in writing to the Town of Stuart at PO Box 422, Stuart, VA 24171 until Wednesday, June 21, 2023, at 4:00 p.m. If you plan to attend and have any special needs requirements, please call the number listed above.

THANK YOU FOR READING
THE ENTERPRISE

Meetings

Tuesday, June 20
The Patrick County Department of Social Services Board will meet at 6 p.m. in the third-floor conference room of the Patrick County Administration Building.

The Patrick County Planning Commission will have a sub-committee work session at 3 p.m. at the Patrick & Henry Community College (P&H-CC) Stuart site community room.

The Patrick County Planning Commission will meet at 6 p.m. at the Patrick & Henry Community College (P&HCC) Stuart site community room.

The Patrick County Economic Development Authority (EDA) will meet at 7 p.m. in the second-floor conference room of the Patrick County Administration Building.

Wednesday, June 21
The Stuart Town Council will meet at 7 p.m. in the Town Office.

Thursday, June 22
The Patrick County School Board will meet at 5:30 p.m. in the Patrick County School Board Office.

Events

Wednesday, June 14
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, June 16
The Woolwine Methodist Church food truck will be at the Fairystone Volunteer Fire Department from 3-5 p.m.

Tuesday, June 20 – Friday, June 23
Patrick & Henry Community College (P&H-CC) will hold a Minecraft Makers Camp at the P&HCC Dalton Idea Center from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. The cost is \$59, and the camps are limited to nine students. Pre-registration is required by going to ph.augusoft.net, or calling (276) 656-5461.

Friday, June 23
The Rise and Shine Youth Entrepreneur Market will hold its first market of the year in conjunction with the Stuart Farmers' Market from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Saturday, June 24
Critz Baptist Church, 3284 Dogwood Road, Critz, will hold a Kids Day Camp from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Join us for Bible study, games, crafts, music and food.

CCDF Fire and Rescue will hold the second annual Crise for Dude Bike ride in memory of lifetime member Lynn Shouse. The event will be at 1409 Dry Pond, Highway. Registration starts at 9 a.m. and the bikes will pull out at 11 a.m. The cost is \$20 per vehicle and includes one meal ticket. Additional meal tickets are \$8 each.

The third of six monthly cruise-ins at the Lamsburg Community Center in Lamsburg, Virginia, 5-8p.m. The Sugar Loaf Mtn. Band will perform. For more information, call (276) 229-2925 or (276) 755-2228.

Sunday, June 25
In conjunction with the American Radio Relay League, Briarpatch Amateur Radio Club will hold Field Day at Higher Ground Church Camp in Carroll County, from noon Saturday through noon Sunday, and is free of charge. Early arrivals are welcome at the family friendly event which combines public service, emergency preparedness, community outreach, and technical skills in a single event for ham radio operators and spectators. There will be amateur radio license testing offered at 1 p.m. on Saturday for all prospective hams and radio operators who wish to upgrade their current license. To participate you must have an FRN number and valid photo ID. For more information, visit www.briarpatcharc.com, or the Briarpatch Amateur Radio Club Facebook page.

Saturday, July 1
Fairy Stone State Park will present the Corn Squeezins' play at 8 p.m. at the Park Amphitheater.

Friday, July 7
The Woolwine Methodist Church food truck will be at the Woolwine Volunteer Fire Department from 3-5 p.m.

Saturday, July 8
Fairy Stone State Park will have the Kitchen Pickers perform at Shelter 3 at 7 p.m.

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

Ongoing

The Patrick County Senior Citizens Group will begin its monthly meetings again on Thursday, July 13 at 11 a.m. in the Hooker Building at Rotary Field in Stuart. Senior citizens from Patrick and neighboring counties are encouraged to join others at the monthly meetings for fun, laughter, fellowship, musical entertainment, and delicious food. For this upcoming July meeting, Philip Adams, a gospel music entertainer, will be providing the music. The meal menu

will consist of pizza, tossed salad, desserts, and beverages. Attendees should bring desserts to the meeting to share with others. Anyone with questions can call the Patrick County Parks and Recreation Department at (276) 694-3917.

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

Spread the love and donate to our Peanut Butter and Jelly Drive! The Patrick County Women's Leadership Committee is collecting donations of peanut butter and jelly for the Patrick County Food Bank. Donations can be delivered to the Patrick County Farm Bureau office (across from Hardee's). The deadline for donations is June 30. Help us, help the PC Food Bank.

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.

EMT Day and Night Course Starting in July

Surry Community College is offering an Emergency Medical Technician Day Course and an Emergency Medical Technician Night Course.

Both sections will meet July 6 - December 19, at the Center of Public Safety in Mount Airy. The day course will be taught from noon to 4 p.m. The night course will be taught from 6 to 10 p.m.

To learn more, contact Kenneth Vaught, Coordinator of SCC's Emergency Medical Program, at (336) 386-3633 or vaughtk@surry.edu.



Surry Community College is offering an Emergency Medical Technician Day Course and an Emergency Medical Technician Night Course July 6 - December 19. EMT students practice different rescue scenarios such as farming accidents shown in the picture.

You can learn more about the program by following the program page on Facebook @surryems or by visiting surry.edu/emt.

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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Boyd selected as Artist-In-Residence



Jared Boyd
Virginia's Heritage Music Trail: The Crooked Road selected Jared Boyd as the 2023-2024 Artist-In-Residence. Boyd grew up in the small community of Laurel Fork in Carroll

County, Virginia and spent the early years of his life surrounded by old-time music on both sides of his family. He learned clawhammer banjo from Ray Chatfield through the Junior Appalachian Musicians (JAM) program as well as from his grandfather Jimmy Boyd, co-founder of the Franklin County, VA old-time dance band, The Dry Hill Draggers.

Boyd currently plays with the locally loved Twin Creeks Stringband which is comprised of Boyd's father, Stacy Boyd, Chris Prillaman, and Jason Hambrick. The band currently has two albums out, "Lee Highway Blues" and "Up Jumped Trouble."

Boyd has won first place clawhammer banjo at many of the fiddlers' conventions around Southwest Virginia and surrounding areas, including Ga-

lax, Abingdon, Tazewell, and Fries. He was the blue-ribbon recipient three times at the Galax Old Fiddlers' Convention and Best All Around Performer at the 2022 Galax Old Fiddler's Convention. In addition to his own accolades, The Twin Creeks Stringband also placed first for the Old-Time Band category at the 2022 Galax Old Fiddlers' Convention.

As The Crooked Road's Artist-In-Residence, Boyd will perform at various events and participate in educational opportunities. He will also contribute an original piece of music or new performance of an existing traditional piece of music for The Crooked Road's use.

This program will be supported in part by the National Endowment for the Arts and Virginia Commission for the Arts.

Busy bees at the library

Master Gardeners led a special program about bees as part of the Summer Reading Program at the library. Amber and Colin Rakes attended dressed in bee keeping suits. They taught attendees about honey bee behavior and beekeeping, including showing a smoker, a bee stinger, bee wax and tasting spring and fall honey from their hives.

Children also got to try on bee keepers head gear.

John Morehead explained bumble bee behavior and how a bumble bee

would use a homemade bumble bee house.

Norma Bozenmayer showed an active Mason bee house and explained Mason bee behavior.

The program then moved to the library patio, where Master Gardeners then helped participants make Mason bee houses. Youngsters took the bee houses with them to install on their property in the hopes of encouraging these beneficial solitary bees to their home gardens. Mason bees are amazing pollinators.



Volunteers restore the Hospice Memory Garden



Tom DeBusk is pictured rebuilding a pathway after removing large tree roots.

Tom and Carol DeBusk are leading a group of community volunteers in restoring the Hospice Memory Garden, which is adjacent to DeHart Park in Stuart. Volunteers are resetting

memory bricks, designing erosion control, mulching and planting. If you are in the park, stop by and thank them for their hard work and dedication to the park and the community.

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