



# THE ENTERPRISE

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

## Huge crowd enjoys park, fireworks show



The fireworks show at DeHart Park on Independence Day was worth the wait for the hundreds attending the annual event.



The DeHart Park pool was a great way to cool off on a hot July 4<sup>th</sup> afternoon.



There was plenty of red, white and blue, including the Love sign behind the library.



There was a large turnout, with many arriving early to get a good place to watch the fireworks.

**By Pat Delaney**

Those attending the July 4th festivities at DeHart Park in Stuart were treated to a nearly 35-minute fireworks display on Independence Day. Loud cheers from the huge crowd could be heard from all parts of the park when the last firework burst, ending a fantastic show. Before the fireworks display, many people beat the heat in DeHart Park's pool.

## Firefighters complete intensive training program



Nine firefighters with the Patrick Springs Volunteer Fire Department completed their firefighter I program. From left to right: Nate Harris, Wesley Roberson, Austin Errichetti, Seth Bryant, Chris Owens, Williams Vernon, David Parsons, Cody Collins, and Toby Hooker.

**By Taylor Boyd**

Nine volunteer firefighters with the Patrick Springs Volunteer Fire Department recently completed their Firefighter I training program.

Assistant Chief Clint Weidhaas said the class is 160 hours long and lasts for four months.

"In that 160 hours there are two separate classes in hazard materials awareness and then hazard materials operations. It's basically two nights a week, three hours each night, and maybe two weekends a month.

That's just taking a lot away from the family, so it's a big commitment," he said.

Weidhaas said the class included a lot of physically demanding training exercises to prepare and teach firefighters how to combat fires.

On average, he said each department does good to have maybe two or three guys in the course each year.

"We haven't had this many guys since 1997-1998 go through a Firefighter I class. Also, in the state of Virginia,

(See Firefighters p. 14)

## Quilts embrace patriotic theme



A group of veterans who were presented Quilts of Valor made the Freedom Quilty Ladies are pictured.

**By Staff Reports**

Many of the quilts displayed in the annual Independence Day quilt show in Vesta included a patriotic theme, and the Freedom Quilty Ladies presented 24 Quilts of Valor (QOV) to area veterans who served during times of conflict and war.

The Freedom Quilty Ladies has formed an entirely new group to head the QOV project, independent of any guild yet inclusive of anyone interested in participating.

It takes about 40 hours to make each quilt, from selecting a pattern to the finishing touches of hand sewing on a label with the veterans name,

branch, service dates and location. But it is well-worth the effort.

"The men and women in our military who step forward to maintain that independence ensure our way of life," a release from the group stated. "They give up their freedom, time at home with loved ones, make other sacrifices and ultimately have no guarantee of safety during their time of service."

To veterans, the group added, "We are very grateful for all of you, for standing up for our freedoms and for preserving the wonderful way we live. Thank you very much for your ser-

vice, sacrifice and valor in serving our country."

Jointly, under the banner of the Freedom Quilty Ladies, 12 area quilters (from a number of groups and guilds) contributed to the QOV project, including:

- Evelyn Turman
- Joann Ritter
- Marge Morris
- Mary Locke
- Carol Gominac
- Marilyn Gearren
- Dyan Handy
- Pam Frazier
- Leah Eckman
- Evelyn Boyd
- Suze Bailey
- Peggy Agee

Two area businesses helped support the project. (See Quilts p. 14)

## Deep understanding of local voters spurs opposition to GOP incumbents



Patty Quesenberry, well-known social services counselor from Floyd County, is standing for election in November to be Virginia state delegate from District 47.



Deborah "Renie" Gates is running for the state senate seat representing District 7. The Floyd County farmer and speech therapist is the daughter of Patty Quesenberry.

**By Judy Ferring**

A mother-daughter duo who are Democratic candidates to represent this corner of southwest Virginia, introduced themselves to a small gathering of Patrick County voters last week. Win or lose, they may already be making history.

Patty Quesenberry will face GOP state delegate incumbent Wren Williams while her daughter, Deborah "Renie"

Gates, will challenge GOP state senate incumbent Bill Stanley in November.

They've looked it up; the two women have found no other mother-daughter candidacies in U.S. History, at the state or federal levels.

But it is their deep understanding of the challenges faced by the region's residents that is the real issue. Both live in (See Incumbents p. 5)

## Former bank building gets facelift



The building that formerly housed Truist Bank in Meadows of Dan is getting a facelift.

After Truist announced it would close the Meadows of Dan, members

of the Meadows of Dan Community Association and others in the community reached out to Skyline National Bank.

The Patrick County Chamber of Commerce

announced a survey in March to gauge interest for a locally owned community bank to open in Meadows of Dan in 3 to 6 months. (By Pat Delaney)



## Tourism Talks

### Greetings, Patrick:

Well, it has been a minute since our last talk. I hope all of you had a great Independence Day! The previous 4 weeks have been very busy! We have seen an uptick in tourists to the community, and let's hope the weather cooperates for the rest of the summer for more to venture our way. Speaking about tourists, let me give you some numbers as we end our fiscal year here at the office.

We had a total of 2387 visitors to our lovely center, and the majority of them were tourists. Of the 2,387 visits, 37



states were represented, and five foreign countries, including Australia, Canada, France, Kazakhstan, and the United Kingdom. Grace, Noah, and Sue are ready to show off the county. So, Patrick, keep your arms open and greet each with a smile, treat everyone well, brag about our beautiful coun-

ty, and remember, tell all of them: Come, get Lost, and Find Yourself Here!

Please come by and see us. We would love to have you visit. Let's talk again soon!

James Houchins, jhouchins@co.patrick.va.us.

(Houchins is the director of tourism.)

## Chamber Chat

By Rebecca Adcock

*"Gratitude makes optimism sustainable. If you're grateful for the opportunities you have, for what you've been given to do workwise, for the opportunities that exist, you're optimistic. If you can just find those moments, I always feel that if you flip the coin 100 times, you're going to come up heads 51."*

— Michael J. Fox



Michael J. Fox was born June 9th, so we are going with this quote for the month!

June might not have been filled with chamber events, but it was filled with plenty of meetings and office work. The chamber hosted a ribbon cutting to help celebrate the new home office of Rural Services on June 1st in Claudville. The chamber opened public voting of nominated businesses and nonprofits for the 2023 Chamber of Commerce Awards to be announced in the fall edition of the Patrick County Magazine. The chamber also sponsored the Canva and Social Media workshops at the end of June. These were taught in partnership with the Longwood Small Business Development Center. Longwood Small Business Development Center is a key partner of the Chamber's, and we work with them to assist new and current businesses in growing.

The Dolly Parton Imagination Library is finally seeing some return with the first mailing of the books. The chamber is proud to be a key organization that brought this program to Patrick County, along with One Family Productions, Rotary Club of Stuart, and Step, Inc. We have now opened the online registration, and the link is available on the Chamber's website: ([www.patrickchamber.com](http://www.patrickchamber.com)).

June was also the month of finalizing articles, photos and finishing up on ad reservations for the fall edition of Patrick County Magazine. Everyone has been so complementary of the magazine and impressed with the quality and information we provide in the magazine. We have entered the magazine for the Southwest Virginia Tourism Awards and hope that we will find out by the end of July if we win. On behalf of Patrick County Tourism and SilverLining Design, we are thankful for the continued support for the magazine from our advertisers. We are also thankful to the Patrick County residents who enjoy reading it and sharing it with friends and relatives. It is a lot of work, but we enjoy seeing positive responses from the magazine as well as sharing little pieces of the county with everyone.

The chamber closed out June with two major site visits. One was with several members of the Fish and Wildlife Department on the dams located along the Mayo River throughout the town of Stuart. As we work to attract more tourism and take advantage of our natural resources, removal of some dams for better fish habitat are key parts of that. Along with fishing, check out our newest member, Daniel Chandler, owner of Blue Hollow Fly Company. He is a local fishing guide for our area. The

(See Chat p. 5)

## Former soccer student athlete named new P&HCC Women's Soccer Coach



Patrick & Henry Community College's Brian Henderson, Athletic Director and Assistant Vice-President for Student Engagement and Inclusion, announced the addition of Yanitzky Montesinos as the women's soccer program's new head coach. The announcement brings the former Lady Pats soccer student-athlete back to her alma

mater to lead the program into the future.

"We are excited to welcome Yanitzky back to the PHamily," Henderson said. "She has a dynamic and energetic personality that will not only fit in with our staff, but will help make our program better. She brings great energy and is both driven and determined in everything she does. She will serve as a great mentor for our student-athletes."

Montesinos returns to P&HCC Athletics from Averett University, where she was a member of the women's soccer team in both 2021 and 2022. After she finished her playing career, she began coaching in the Danville Soccer Club.

From working with the youth of the Henry County and Danville areas, Montesinos is hopeful that she can use her local

relationships to rebuild the Lady Pats women's soccer program.

"As a former Patrick & Henry student-athlete, I take pride in the athletic program and the opportunity it can provide young women in our community," said Montesinos. "I was fortunate enough to be given an opportunity to not only continue to play the sport I love while in college, but also gain a valuable associate degree. This allowed me to move on to Averett as a student-athlete, gain a bachelor's degree, and now I have the ability to help others do the same."

Montesinos has begun to look for future Lady Pats women's soccer student-athletes for the upcoming 2023-2024 season. Interested student athletes are encouraged to visit [www.phccsports.com](http://www.phccsports.com) and click the recruit tab.

## Patrick Pioneers

### William Green Martin

By Ron Martin and Beverly Belcher Woody

Last week, we looked at the tragic story of John B. Martin, the son of Moses Josephus Martin, Jr. and Sarah Moles Martin. This week, we will take a look at another son, William Green Martin and his family. William was born in the Dodson community of Patrick County on the first of July 1843. He joined the 51st Virginia Infantry in July 1861 at the age of twenty-eight. In February 1862, William was injured at the Bat-

tle of Fort Donelson. After recovering from his injuries, he was wounded again, this time by a shell, at the Battle of New Market on May 15, 1864. Two months later, William was captured by Union soldiers in Loudoun County, Virginia. On July 20, 1864, he was transferred to the Old Capitol Prison in Washington, DC. Five days later, he was moved to Elmira prison of war camp in New York. William also had measles while a prisoner of war. He was finally paroled on May

(See Pioneers p. 5)



Lila Bryant Martin and Charlie Bishop Martin at their store.

## Animal welfare group reorganizes program

The Patrick County Animal Welfare (PAWS) group is reorganizing its popular Spay/Neuter Voucher program, which will be temporarily on hold for an estimated 2 to 6 weeks, according to a recent news release.

The agency cannot be reached in the interim, however, the restart of the program will be announced in The Enterprise "Pets of the Week," on WHEO, and on PAWS Facebook page.

## Pets of the Week



We call this little girl Yoda because she is ready for take-off into your heart. She was found on Bull Mountain View Lane. If you know who she belongs to, please call the shelter. Someone must be missing this cutie pie.

This sad fella has missed a few meals and might have been on the lamb. He was found on Pole Bridge Road. Poor guy is so upset and depressed, he really wants to be sprung out of jail.

Call the Patrick County Public Animal Shelter (PCPAS) at (276) 694-6259, or visit the shelter to see other available pets. Online, check out the shelter's Facebook page. Adoption fees are \$10 and include spay/neuter and rabies vaccination.

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*"TOGETHER, WE CAN BUILD IT ALL."*



# HCA Fined Over \$4.6 Million for Improper Billing Practices

Health Connect America, (HCA) headquartered in Franklin, Tennessee with locations in Big Stone Gap and Culpeper, Virginia, has agreed to pay \$4,611,375 to resolve allegations that it billed Virginia Medicaid for services not provided. As part of the resolution, HCA further agreed to be subject to a period of 5 years of increased compliance and oversight, during which any failure to comply with its obligations may result in criminal prosecution and contempt of court proceedings that could result in additional monetary sanctions and injunctive relief. The allegations involved HCA billing Medicaid improperly for three separate behavioral health services available to children who qualify. Therapeutic Day Treatment is a school-based program designed to assist children with various mental health diagnoses who need support during the school day. HCA billed Virginia Medicaid for providing services to students who were absent from school, and when school was not open due to holiday or weather closures.

Intensive In-Home Services is a home-based program designed to help children who have various mental health diagnoses and are at risk of being removed from their home. HCA billed Virginia Medicaid for intensive in-home services provided by an employee who was having a sexual relationship with a juvenile patient in Orange County, Virginia. That employee has since been prosecuted by state authorities and is serving a 10-year sentence.

Behavioral Therapy Services is a specialized mental health service for children with various mental health diagnoses, including autism, and includes Applied Behavioral Analysis. Behavioral Therapy Services and Applied Behavioral Analysis must be provided by specifically trained mental health professionals. HCA billed for Behavioral Health Services that were provided by individuals who were not properly trained or credentialed in Southwest Virginia, and used the name and National Provider Identifier (NPI) number of a properly trained and credentialed mental health professional located in Northern

Virginia who had never seen clients in Southwest Virginia.

The agreement resolves HCA's potential criminal liability based on the investigation. As part of the resolution, HCA has committed to various compliance measures, including, but not limited to, increased compliance and audit requirements, unannounced audits, and enhanced reporting requirements if and when there are incidents of theft, fraud, abuse, or neglect.

The resolutions obtained in this matter were the result of a coordinated effort among the United States Attorney's Office for the Western District of Virginia, the Virginia Attorney General's Office Medicaid Fraud Control Unit, and the United States Department of Health and Human Services-Office of the Inspector General.

Special Assistant United States Attorney Janine M. Myatt, Assistant Attorney General with the Virginia Attorney General's Office, and Assistant U.S. Attorney Randy Ramseyer represented the government in this matter.

## Arrests reported

The Patrick County Sheriff's Office reported the following:

\*Brandon Jude Riley, 42, of North Augusta, S.C., was charged June 30 with obtain money by false pretense. Sgt. C.A. Frick was the arresting officer.

\*Joshua Coy Reed, 43, address unavailable, was charged July 2 with probation violation. Henry County made the arrest for Patrick County.

\*Heather Leann Spencer, 36, of Rocky Mount, was charged July 5 with fail to appear. Henry County made the arrest for Patrick County.

\*Flonard Barrett Stockton, 64, of Stuart, was charged July 6 with assault. Deputy R. Haynes was the arresting officer.

## Public Comment for EPA's EV Standards Concludes

Edwin J. Viera  
Virginia News  
Connection

The Environmental Protection Agency's comment period on new electric vehicle standards has ended.

New regulations from the agency would phase-in standards for medium- and light-duty electric cars starting in model year 2027. The hope is the standards will curtail gas-burning car emissions and speed up the transition to zero-emission vehicles.

EV advocates have been working to educate people and break myths about the cars through the Route Zero Relay, a cross-country trip using only EVs.

Sheryl E. Ponds, founder and CEO of Dai Technologies Corporation, said the trip broke the common misconception about the range of electric vehicles.

"You plan your trip, you can identify stops where you can go and recharge the vehicle," Ponds explained. "You can make it across the country in swatches of 250 and 350 miles at a time."

She added some people have range anxiety without having set foot in an electric vehicle. In some places, it might stem from a lack of charging stations. The EPA has found there

are many myths about electric vehicles such as manufacturing them is worse for the climate, or they are not as safe as gasoline-powered vehicles.

With the comment period closed, the EPA will review the comments before putting out their final standards. Many are eager to move away from gasoline-powered vehicles, given the negative health impacts their emissions can have.

Cara Cook, director of programs for the Alliance of Nurses for a Healthy Environment, described how emissions can impact children's health.

"They breathe at a faster rate than adults, and they have developing lungs," Cook noted. "And so these are the two biggest components that put them at a higher risk of when they're exposed to air pollutants, they are more vulnerable to the exposure as well as a resultant health impacts."

The proposed EV rules coincide with a call from the Biden administration for stronger standards on fossil fuel cars. The hope is the new standards will reduce oil imports by 20 billion barrels, and save consumers \$12,000 of the lifetime of a light-duty vehicle.

## Keep your car safe from spiking summertime vehicle thefts

Summer may be perfect for barbecues and vacations, but it's also a hot season for car thieves.

Vehicle thefts spike during summertime, and that's why police departments, transportation associations and organizations like Drive Smart Virginia are reminding people about car security during July's Vehicle Theft Prevention Month.

"Vehicle thefts have increased 25% over the past few years," said David Tenenbaum, Virginia Farm Bureau Mutual Insurance Co. senior actuarial manager and Drive Smart Virginia board member. "Having a vehicle stolen is not only an inconvenience; it's a violation of your personal safety and security. Luckily there are precautions people can take to help prevent it from happening."

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration re-

ports that more than 1 million vehicles were stolen in 2022, costing vehicle owners over \$8 billion. A vehicle is stolen every 32 seconds in the U.S., and passenger cars are thieves' favorites—making up over 74% of all stolen vehicles.

About half of those thefts involved driver error.

"Keys left in the car is far and away No. 1, regardless of whether the vehicle is locked," explained James Walker, VFBMIC senior claims investigator. "This includes spare keys to any vehicle sitting in the driveway. I've seen situations where every car is stolen out of the driveway in one night."

In addition to never leaving keys or fobs in cars, drivers should park in protected or well-lit areas, close and lock windows and doors, and never leave the area with the vehicle running—a quick trip into the house or store is prime op-

portunity for a thief.

Items left in plain sight also entice thieves.

"Don't leave valuables in the back seat," Walker advised. "Lock them in the trunk, cover them up—thieves will break the window and steal a backpack or gym bag just to see if there's anything good in it. While they're in the car, they'll go through the console to see what else is worth stealing."

While vehicles' antitheft systems can deter thieves, using secondary security devices like steering wheel locks adds protection and makes thefts more challenging—especially for Hyundais and Kias, which have become targets.

If you find yourself a victim of vehicle theft, immediately contact the police to file a stolen-vehicle report. Call your insurance company within 24 hours of the theft to file a claim.

## Clients' Protection Fund Board Pays \$177,635.76 on Thirteen Petitions

The Virginia State Bar Clients' Protection Fund Board authorized payments totaling \$177,635.76 in reimbursement to petitioners regarding nine Virginia attorneys at its April 28, 2023, meeting.

In the largest single award of the meeting, the board approved a payment of \$65,192, to the beneficiary of an estate of which Richard Gibson Wohltman was a co-executor. The Commissioner of Accounts for Fairfax County had earlier ordered that the bond covering Wohltman be forfeited in the amount of \$65,192. The board found that Wohltman had committed dishonest conduct in theft, conversion, embezzlement and/or withholding money from its rightful owner, the estate. The board was of the opinion that Wohltman did not perform the work for which he billed the estate. Wohltman re-

signed from practice in October 2019.

The board approved a payment of \$40,000 to a former client of David Brooks Hundley on the basis that Hundley embezzled the proceeds from two settlement checks he received for the client in a personal injury matter. The board also found that Hundley did not inform the client of his receipt of the funds. Hundley's license was revoked in August 2020 by consent for misconduct in similar matters.

The board approved payments of \$4,000, \$10,000, \$3,000, and \$5,000 to four former clients of Brittani Natalita Baldwin of Williamsburg for failing to perform all the work for which she was paid in divorce cases. Baldwin's license was suspended based on impairment on February 6, 2023.

Five former clients (two married couples and a single client) of David Gary Hoffman received payments of \$8,615, \$13,029, and \$18,899 as reimbursement for fees they paid Hoffman for future estate administration services which Hoffman has not and will not perform. Hoffman's license was revoked in December 2021 for similar actions. The claims are listed as three entries in the chart below because the payments in two of the claims were split between the husband and wife who submitted each claim.

The board approved two claims for \$1,750 each as reimbursement to former clients of Charles James Swedish in criminal matters. The board found that Swedish performed more than insignificant legal services, but not all the services, that the fees should have covered, allowing the

board to reimburse half of what each petitioner requested. Swedish died in March 2022.

A former client of Susan Leslie Fraser of Warrenton was awarded \$5,900, half the amount requested, because the board found that Fraser had performed more than insignificant legal services, but not all the services she was hired to do in two separate matters involving divorce and custody and visitation. Fraser received a public reprimand in 2021, and subsequently resigned from the practice law.

A petitioner recovered \$500, representing fees paid to Stephen Joseph Sheehy III of Fairfax to file an application to restore the client's driver's license. The board's investigation showed that Sheehy died before he could perform the work in the matter. Sheehy died in December 2021.

## Initial claims rise, but remain on par with pre-pandemic levels

The number of initial claims for unemployment insurance increased in the latest filing week to 2,487 but remained at the typical pre-Pandemic volumes experienced in 2019, according to data from the Virginia Employment Commission (VEC).

For the filing week ending July 1, the figure for seasonally unadjusted initial claims in Virginia was 2,487, which was an increase of 449 claimants from the previ-

ous week. Continued weeks claimed totaled 13,313, which was 68 claims lower than the previous week and an increase of 35.4% from the 9,834 continued claims from the comparable week last year. Ninety-three percent of claimants self-reported an associated industry, of those reported over half (58 percent) of continued claims were from professional, scientific, and technical services (1,882), administrative and support and waste man-

agement (1,863), health care and social assistance (1,243), manufacturing (1,118), and retail trade (1,034).

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

In the week ending July 1, the advance U.S. figure

for seasonally adjusted initial claims was 248,000, an increase of 12,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised down by 3,000 from 239,000 to 236,000. The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs[1], unadjusted, totaled 250,556 in the week ending July 1, an increase of 20,838 (or 9.1 percent) from the previous week. There were 218,886 initial claims in the compa-

table week in 2022. Looking at preliminary data, most U.S. states reported increases on a seasonally unadjusted basis. Michigan's preliminary weekly change (+6,729) was the largest increase. New York's preliminary weekly change (+4,341) was the second largest increase. Ohio's preliminary weekly change (+3,004) was the third largest increase. Virginia's preliminary weekly change (+569) was the eleventh largest increase.



# State Board approves Core K-3 Literacy Programs

The Virginia Board of Education last week approved an initial list of research-based core instructional programs for grades K-3 to align early elementary literacy instruction with research on how students best learn to read and write. The implementation of the programs is a key component of the Virginia Literacy Act, a comprehensive law passed by the 2022 General Assembly and signed by Governor Glenn Youngkin to boost literacy outcomes for all students.

"I believe that the Board of Education's vote to approve these research-based literacy programs will prove to be one of the most consequential actions of my seven years on the board," Board President Dan Gecker said. "The Virginia Literacy Act reflects the consensus of experts on what constitutes effective reading and literacy instruction and how teachers should be prepared. The adoption of these programs is a major milestone in the implementation of the act, and I believe it will lead to improved outcomes for thousands of Virginia students in reading and across the curriculum."

The act directs the Virginia Department

of Education to conduct an ongoing review and adoption process that will ultimately result in a state board-approved list of research-based instructional programs for grades K-8. VDOE will also support school divisions with tools, resources, technical assistance and funding to implement the law.

"Every child in Virginia is capable of reading and writing proficiently, and Virginia has a comprehensive plan to ensure that is possible, thanks to the Virginia Literacy Act," Superintendent of Public Instruction Lisa Coons said. "A key element of the Virginia Literacy Act is equipping every classroom with research-based instructional materials that embrace strong literacy research and serve all students. We're proud the programs approved today were reviewed by Virginia educators, for Virginia educators, and we look forward to continuing to partner with those closest to students—teachers and families—to achieve success."

School divisions will review the approved list and select programs that best meet the needs of their students. The VLA requires divisions to

implement approved research-based programs by 2024-2025.

Beginning this summer, reading specialists will receive training on science-based reading research and evidence-based literacy practices to facilitate the implementation of the core instructional programs. The training will expand to principals and teachers in summer 2024. Families will also receive resources to support their children's reading and writing at home.

"Learning to read is a basic and essential human right. Every child deserves access to evidence-based, research-aligned reading and writing instruction and materials that will allow them to reach their full potential, just as every teacher deserves the tools and training to make that instruction happen," said Sarah Woods, assistant principal and dyslexia advisor at Eastern Elementary/Middle School in Giles County. "Today's approval by Virginia's Board of Education is an important and exciting first step to ensuring that all students in the Commonwealth are provided the capacity to access information which will allow for meaningful

participation in society."

"America's public education system has strayed from the reading research and evidence for decades. This resulted in years of stagnant reading levels for all students and ultimately failed most students struggling to read or at risk for a reading disability," said Kristin Kane, founding member of Decoding Dyslexia Virginia, a parent-led nonprofit organization that raises awareness, provides resources and advocates for the dyslexia community. "It's encouraging to know that in Virginia, we have begun to prioritize reading with comprehensive policy change and funding to support it. The hope is that every public-school student, in every corner of the state, will be taught with a curriculum that is high quality, evidence-based, and truly accessible. It's also empowering to know the policy intends for families to be involved every step of the way."

The approved core instructional programs were selected following an extensive review by Virginia educators, including administrators, reading specialists and teachers from across the state.

Approved programs were required to meet a strict set of criteria to ensure they consist of evidence-based literacy instruction, aligned with science-based reading research, and correlate with the Board of Education's English Standards of Learning.

"Today, in Virginia and across the nation, too few students are meeting reading and writing benchmarks by third grade, leading to long-term academic and social setbacks. This was true before the pandemic and has only since been exacerbated," said Del. Carrie Coyner, who sponsored the Virginia Literacy Act in the House of Delegates. "Virginia has put into place one of the country's most comprehensive plans to improve literacy outcomes for all students. Today's approval of the core instructional program list is a critical milestone in that effort and signals our state's ongoing commitment and momentum."

"Our K-3 educators play an essential role in helping children learn to read. Ensuring that Virginia educators have the resources necessary to teach all children to read is a primary goal of the Virginia Literacy Act," noted Sen. Louise Lu-

cas, who sponsored the Virginia Literacy Act in the Senate. "We are excited that the board's actions today will help put high quality instructional resources in educators' hands while also ensuring that our school divisions can choose the resources that best meet the unique needs of their educators, families and students."

The next review cycle will evaluate core instructional programming for kindergarten through fifth grade, as well as intervention and supplemental programs to help students who have reading and writing difficulties in kindergarten through eighth grade.

## Patrick among localities to reap benefits of CTE Skilled Trades Grants

The Patrick County school division is among several to receive \$125,000 to establish, expand or restore skilled trades programs in middle or high schools, according to Superintendent of Public Instruction Lisa Coons, who announced the awards last week.

A total of \$3 million in competitive state grants was

awarded to 24 school divisions for career and technical education skilled trades programs. The one-time grants will support programs offering industry-recognized certifications or credentials that are in demand by regional employers and that lead to employment opportunities.

to purchase energy-efficient cooking, storage, display

and marketing equipment at Patrick County High School.

"In Virginia and across the nation there are high-paying jobs in the skilled trades that go unfilled due to a shortage of qualified applicants," Coons said. "I want to thank the General Assembly for recognizing the need to prepare

more young people for these career opportunities and providing the funding for these grants."

The 2022 General Assembly appropriated \$3 million to provide grants to school divisions to expand skilled trades programs that lead to students earning industry-recognized certifications or credentials.

# Benefit for Cole was success



The Red Bank Ruritans thanked everyone for their support for Amanda Cole this past Saturday at the club building. We're all blessed.



## Winners of annual competitions announced

The annual Bluegrass and Old Time Music Competition held July 4 in Vesta, included musical competitions in several categories, among them Banjo, Fiddle, Guitar, Mandolin, Bands, Vocals, and Flat footing.

The three levels of competition were children, teen, and adult, with prizes of Individual 1st, \$15; 2nd, \$10; 3rd, \$5. Bands, 1st, \$50; 2nd, \$30, and 3rd, \$20.

### The winners of this year's competitions were:

**FIDDLE**  
Adults  
1st Clay Shelor  
2nd Andrew Small  
3rd Jessica Patton

Children  
1st Gracie Terry

**GUITAR**  
Adults  
1st Rex Smith  
2nd Charlie Chaney  
3rd Andrew Small

**MANDOLIN**  
Adults  
1st Charlie Chaney  
2nd Andrew Small  
3rd Tied - Jim Parcell and David Helms

**BANJO**  
Adults  
1st Larry Mabe  
2nd Tommy Morse  
3rd Stanley Widener

**FLAT FOOTING**  
Adults

1st. Glenn Wimmer  
2nd. Randall Cothran  
3rd. Connie Woods

Children  
1st Dekker Belcher  
2nd Annie Wilson  
3rd Gracie Terry

**BLUEGRASS BANDS**  
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# Incumbents

(cont. from page 1)

Floyd County. Their experiences have given them insight into working class and rural life throughout southwest Virginia.

As a single mother, Quesenberry "sent myself to college." In 1997, the same year her daughter graduated from Floyd County High School, she graduated from Radford University with a BGS (Bachelor of General Studies) degree. She had long been a community volunteer, active in the local elementary school PTA, 4-H and the Floyd County Rescue Squad. With her degree in hand, Quesenberry dived into professional human services.

Over nearly three decades, she has been a coordinator of homeless intervention programs; a certified housing counselor; served on the boards of the Community Housing Partners Corporation and the Virginia Association of Housing Counselors; been a foster care worker in

the Department of Social Services and a mental health counselor including intensive home-based service.

"I've seen first-hand how so many people struggle to get food, pay their overdue electric bills, and face the fear of eviction, or the fear of losing their homes," said Quesenberry. "I've seen how important the need is in Southwest Virginia not just to have affordable housing, but safe housing. I've seen how many families in our region have been torn apart because of the substance abuse disorder crises and the unavailability of adequate resources for support and assistance. I understand first-hand how difficult it is in Southwest Virginia to find good therapists, the ability to receive and afford medications, find counselors without a long waiting list, etc.

"It only takes one crisis in a family's life to push them over the edge when they are living paycheck to

paycheck," she said.

As her mother built expertise in families and individuals in crisis, Gates attended New River Community College and then Radford University, where she ultimately was awarded a master's degree in speech therapy. She too has pursued a career in hands-on community service, albeit a slightly different path. Nevertheless, she says, "I, too, have seen the lack of resources for people in our region to receive the same quality of care in the more populated areas of Virginia."

Speech therapy has surprisingly wide applications. "I have been employed as a speech therapist at public schools, at a local hospital, as an inpatient and outpatient clinician with home health, and at a skilled nursing home, long-term care, and memory facilities," recounts Gates. "My favorite population to serve were the older citizens and I still have a soft spot for that particular group of people."

Currently, Gates owns and operates a small farm where she focuses on home-schooling her two children (the reason is another, illuminating, discussion), gardening and all aspects of farming. "I am very interested in promoting agro-tourism in our region of Southwest Virginia. I want to promote a better understanding to visitors from more urban areas of what the day-to-day life of being a farmer is like, and the hard work that goes into it."

Her vision of what's needed in southwest Virginia goes much further than garden and pasture. "We need better roads and infrastructure – that includes broadband. We need better access to health care.

"We need to have more regulations to stop utility companies from

exorbitant increases," she said. To prove their seriousness about facing that need, Gates and her mother have refused to accept donations from AEP or Dominion Power, even though it's available.

"Rural folks need working-class rural representation. We need to have more legislation and funds that will benefit the people in our region," Gates concluded. "Far too often our voices are not heard and people in power ignore us and our needs."

"These two women are truly candidates of the people -- not well-to-do lawyers who do not have a clue

about what an everyday working person, a retiree, a pregnant woman, a child or adult who might be a little different from the white male stereotype, or someone with a disability might face day to day," said John Reynolds, chairman of Patrick County's Democratic Committee.

Quesenberry and Gates plan to return to Stuart on July 27, at the picnic shelter in DeHart Park just above the swimming pool, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. It will be a picnic-style event with individuals bringing food and beverages (non-alcoholic). It would also be a good time to ask Gates why her children are home-schooled and to explore their positions about gun ownership, women's rights and campaign finance reform.

Under recent redistricting, House District 47, where Quesenberry will challenge Williams, now includes all of Patrick, Floyd and Carroll counties plus parts of Henry County. Senate District 7, where Gates will face off against Stanley, covers all or portions of Carroll, Floyd, Franklin, Grayson, Henry and Patrick counties.

# Chat

(cont. from page 2)

other site visit was the Lovers Leap project. This road project is one of the largest construction jobs in the state, and it's happening in Patrick County. We all have different emotions about it, and sometimes those emotions change daily. The frustration and headache of currently dealing with delays is a daily occurrence. I respectfully ask for patience with this project. Residents have talked for years about the need for better safety on the road while traveling up and down the mountain. We are going to get that, but it will take time.

As we move into the second half of the year, plenty of investment is happening across the county, and we are excited to see it all. Fall events are right around the corner and the chamber is busy working on our Breakfast with Community Leaders, Stuart Spooktacular and

Hometown Christmas. The Patrick County Young Professionals will be hosting the Voter Ed Forum this year on October 10th. And, of course, it all kicks off in September with the Patrick County Agricultural Fair, slated for September 12 through September 17.

The chamber will be hosting two ribbon cuttings in Woolwine on Thursday, June 27. First up will be the ribbon cutting at Woolwine Early Learning Center at 1 p.m. This much needed service is a new business in Patrick County. The second ribbon cutting will be at Backyard Cow at 2 p.m. Come and enjoy some ice cream after this ribbon cutting.

New businesses: Branch Civil, Blue Hollow Fly Company, fly fishing guide.

*(Adcock is the executive director of the Patrick County Chamber of Commerce.)*

# Pioneers

(cont. from page 2)

29, 1865, and returned to the family farm in Dodson.

On the 19th of February 1868, William married Celia Ann Hancock, daughter of Fleming Hancock and Jane Bryant. Their first son, James was born in 1870 and died of cholera only two years later. Their son Wesley David, "Weif" was born in 1873, and every two years for the next eight years, another son was born. After Weif came Peter, then Richard "Dickey," William Alexander "Alex," and Charles Bishop "Charlie."

At age fifty-five, Weif married Miss Mary Elsie Martin who was thirty-years his junior. Mary was the daughter of Joseph and Maggie Ashby Martin of Stokes County, North Carolina. Weif was the postmaster of the Fayerdale post office in the early 1900s and ran a general store in Dodson. Sadly, Mary died at age twenty-eight and Weif never remarried.

Peter married at the age of forty-seven to Miss Dovie Wright, who was only twenty-one at the time. Dovie was the daughter of Taylor and Lelia Bryant Wright. Peter was a farmer in the Dodson community and he and Dovie had two children before she passed away at the age of twenty-nine.

Dickey and Alex married sisters, Lula and Iowa Moran, the daughters of Thomas and Charlotte Via Moran. Dickey and Lula had five children, of which only three lived to adulthood. Dickey and his family moved to Fayette County, West Virginia where Dickey worked in the coal mines. Alex and Iowa had a farm in Horsepasture where they had seven children, of which five survived to adulthood.

Charlie married Lila Elizabeth Bryant, the daughter of John Wesley Bryant and Judith Cox. The couple raised four children on their farm, while running a general store and a gristmill at the corner of what is now Iron Bridge Road and New Hope Church Road.

Now, back to their father and mother....William Green Martin and Celia Ann Bryant were divorced in 1900 and in July of 1902, William married Amanda Foster. Ironically, Celia Ann and Amanda both passed away in 1915. William married for the third time on November 3, 1921, to the former Elizabeth J. "Betty" Bowman from Stuart. The couple resided near Howell's Grocery in Stuart until Betty's death in 1924. During his



William Green Martin and David Harbour Martin.

marriage to her, William reunited with the church and became active at Stuart Primitive Baptist Church. After her death, William moved to Roanoke to live with his niece's family, but he remained active in the church and was chosen twice to be the Messenger to the Primitive Baptist Association.

Several years prior to William's death, he had a coffin made at Woolwine and had it shipped to Roanoke; he purchased all new clothes and placed them in the coffin. Since William was very close to his brother David Harbour Martin and his coffin was made by Walter Weaver in Woolwine, it would be a safe assumption that Weaver made William's coffin too.

William moved back to Dodson to stay with his son Charlie and his family; he had his coffin shipped back to Dodson too. William Green Martin, age eighty-nine, passed away on Saturday, March 11, 1933, around 11 PM at the home of his son Charlie Bishop Martin. William was buried only thirteen hours later in the John Wesley Bryant Cemetery, which is near the Martin homeplace. It was revealed in talking with people in the community that William was buried so quickly after death because his son Charlie Martin needed to plant his corn on Monday.

Thank you so much to Ron Martin for sharing his research and answering a hundred questions! Woody may be reached at rockcastlecreek1@gmail.com or (276) 692-9626.

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**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**

**Dear Madam Editor:**

Every year, a few dedicated folks take time away from their families and holiday activities to help in the hard work of setting up, shooting and taking down the annual Patrick County Fourth of July Fireworks Display at DeHart Park in Stuart. The County of Patrick, the County's Tourism Advisory Council, and the Town of Stuart enabled us to shoot what we promised would be a show appropriately commemorating our Nation's Birthday. I hope that you think we delivered.

Those persons who made it happen include D.J. Lawson of Ararat Volunteer Fire Department, Ronald Terry, Doug Scott and Michael Harrell of Meadows of Dan Volunteer Fire Department, Chris Hook-

er, Toby Hooker, Wesley Hudson, Ross Adams, and Ricky Vernon of Patrick Springs Fire Volunteer Fire Department, Emergency Management Coordinator Scottie Cassell, Sr., Buddy Dollarhite, Terri Mills, Alex Pegram, Scottie Cassell, Jr., Ivan Byers, Clint Weidhaas, Jonathan Wilson, Austin Bryant and Brad Lawless of Stuart Fire Department, and Jerry Woods, Randy West, Assistant Fireworks Coordinator, Steve Allen, and Karen Corbett. Their safety-conscious hard work is much appreciated. Stuart town Manager Bryce Simmons also rendered valuable assistance.

**Chris Corbett,  
Patrick County Fireworks  
Coordinator**

**Are Wildfires Getting Worse?**

(Fox, The Federalist, U.S. National Interagency Fire Center, Center for Biological Diversity, Reuters)

Recently, there were 413 active wildfires across Canada, 249 of them considered out of control, according to Reuters, sending waves of smoke into major cities in the northeastern United States, including New York and Philadelphia,

and going as far south as South Carolina.

Predictably, the Biden administration and his alarmist allies in Congress are wasting no time in using the wildfires to call attention to climate change and for sweeping changes to the U.S. energy system.

However, despite countless state-

**(See Letters p. 8)**

**The Supreme Court**

**Ninth District U.S. Rep. Morgan Griffith**

Throughout June, the Supreme Court released a series of decisions in cases they have been considering since last October. In the event that you missed them, I will discuss five decisions below that are of particular interest.

**Working on the Sabbath**

In *Groff v. DeJoy*, the Supreme Court was tasked with considering religious liberty and employment accommodations under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act. Gerald E. Groff sued his employer, the U.S. Postal Service, after he was disciplined for refusing to work on Sunday, based on his evangelical beliefs. In a 9-0 decision, the Court ruled in Groff's favor, stating that an employer must accommodate an employee's religious beliefs unless it can show that doing so would "result in substantial increased costs in relation to the conduct of" the employer's business.

The ruling in this case is a win for the First Amendment. Our country was founded on the principle of religious freedom, and it is important we uphold this belief. Particularly as Virginians, where the first statute of religious freedom anywhere in the world was passed. Written by Thomas Jefferson, it set forth the principle that people of all faiths should be protected in practicing their religion.

**Religious Freedom in Web Designing**

In *303 Creative LLC v. Ellis*, the Supreme Court was tasked with considering if a state's anti-discrimination laws can require designers to create works that recognize same-sex marriages, when doing so would come into conflict with the designers' religious beliefs. In this case, a website designer in Colorado argued that the state's anti-discrimination law violated her rights. In a 6-3 decision, the Court ruled that Colorado cannot "force an individual to speak in ways that align with its [the state] views but defy her conscience about a matter of major significance."

Another win for the First Amendment and religious liberty! The government cannot, and should not, force Americans to speak in ways that misalign with their sincerely held religious beliefs.

**Affirmative Action**

In *Students for Fair Admissions v. Harvard*, the Supreme Court was tasked with deciding if race-based affirmative action programs in college and universities violate the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment. The petitioners argued that Harvard University's admission process discriminated against Asian Americans. In

a 6-2 decision, the Court ruled that affirmative action did indeed violate the Equal Protection Clause, stating that colleges and universities could no longer consider race as a factor when determining admission of an applicant.

In this case, I think the Court came to the correct conclusion as affirmative action, judging a student on the basis of their race, is contrary to our Constitutional principles. While an argument might have been plausible in past decades, the Supreme Court itself acknowledged years ago, the time would come when affirmative action, to correct past wrongs, would no longer be appropriate.

**Biden v. Nebraska**

In *Biden v. Nebraska*, the Supreme Court took up a case filed by multiple states challenging President Biden's move to cancel \$10,000 in student loans for borrowers earning less than \$125,000 individually, or \$250,000 if married. President Biden claimed his Administration had authority under the HEROES Act to cancel the loans. In a 6-3 decision, the Court ruled the HEROES Act did not authorize the debt-relief program.

The Administration's student loan forgiveness plan would cost American taxpayers more than \$400 billion. Constitutionally, a decision to spend money on a new program needs to be made in the Halls of Congress, not by the President acting on his own.

**Moore v. Harper**

In *Moore v. Harper*, the Supreme Court assessed whether state legislatures have sole authority to establish laws related to implementing federal elections.

The case stemmed from the re-districting of North Carolina's congressional districts following the 2020 U.S. Census, in which the North Carolina courts struck down the new districts, finding them too partisan under North Carolina's Constitution. In a 6-3 decision, the Court ruled that the Elections Clause does not give state legislatures sole power over federal elections.

I disagree with the ruling as it takes power away from the state legislature, which I believe is contrary to the plain reading of the Constitution.

The Supreme Court will meet again in the fall to begin their next term, where they will resume hearing new cases.

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

**Building Walls**

**By Bryan Golden**

Building mental and emotional walls is a common occurrence. We are used to living with physical walls so this progression is an easy transition. Furthermore, it's a conditioned response that we learn from others as well as a result of our own experiences.

There are a variety of reasons people build these virtual walls. They want to keep undesirable things out. They have a desire to prevent loss. They don't want someone to leave. Walls may create a feeling of security. They offer a sense of protection. Walls are constructed as a result of fear, uncertainty, or vulnerability.

There are those who put up walls as a show of power. Only select people are allowed to cross their boundaries. This process allows them to feel as if they wield power over others by deciding who to exclude.

Some build walls to mark their territory. This approach mimics a child's strategy of drawing an imaginary line around them in order to keep their siblings "off their side."

Walls may be in response to a sensitivity that one wants to avoid. The goal is to keep out any real or imagined emotional threats. It is an attempt to avoid repeating unpleasant experiences.

Regardless of the reason for building virtual walls, their ultimate impact is to

hold you back. Virtual walls are constraining, offering only an illusion of security. They are a defensive strategy which inhibits your personal growth.

Limiting beliefs such as, "I can't," "I won't," or "It's impossible," build walls. Conversely, believing, "I can," "I will," or "I'll find a way," tears down virtual walls. These walls are built based on your attitude. Dismantling them requires a change in outlook. You have the power to adjust your thoughts, and therefore can decide to remove your walls.

Virtual walls grow over time. Ironically, most people aren't aware of the walls they have put in place. They are so conditioned to their existence that the walls become integrated into their self-identity. Since these walls are so limiting, dismantling them opens up new potential for you.

Since your virtual walls take time to build, they also require time to tear down. Rather than becoming overwhelmed by the task, start by removing just one brick. Continue brick by brick until the wall is gone. Each brick represents one aspect of your wall.

Don't empower fear. It doesn't matter what other people say, think, or do. Get over

your fears by doing what you are afraid to do and going where you are afraid to go. Walls cannot keep out fear.

You are in control of your emotions. You have no control over the actions of others, but you do have control over your response. You stay safe through the proactive management of your feelings. Walls will never ensure happiness.

Utilize your strengths. Appreciate everything you have. Concentrate on abundance rather than worrying about what you think is lacking. You have more to be thankful for than you realize. Walls do prevent you from attracting positive elements into your life.

Walls do not define who you are. Your character is based on your beliefs, attitudes, morals, and ethics. Your character can never be stolen or lost.

Tearing down walls is scary because change is required. Learn from your past. Repeat actions that brought desired results while avoiding unsuccessful behavior. Correct bad decisions by making better ones. As your walls vanish, you will enjoy an amazing view that used to be obscured by your self-imposed banishment within your virtual walled prison.

*Bryan is the author of "Dare to Live Without Limits." Contact Bryan at [Bryan@columnist.com](mailto:Bryan@columnist.com) or visit [www.DareToLiveWithoutLimits.com](http://www.DareToLiveWithoutLimits.com) Copyright 2023 Bryan Golden*



[DHALL@THEENTERPRISE.NET](mailto:DHALL@THEENTERPRISE.NET)

**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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**Letters to the Editor/Viewpoints Policy**

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

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



## Kale

Kale, a nutrient powerhouse, is arguably one of the healthiest foods on the planet. In just one cup of cooked kale, there is 1327% of the recommended vitamin K, 355% recommended vitamin A, and 89% of the recommended vitamin C.

### Health benefits:

**Anti-inflammatory:** The omega-3s in kale are important anti-inflammatory components. In only 100 calories, kale provides 25-35% of the National Academy of Sciences' recommendation for omega-3 fatty acid alpha-linolenic acid.

**Antioxidant:** Kale is extremely concentrated with carotenoids and flavonoids, two phytonutrients that have potent antioxidant capabilities. Two carotenoids, lutein and beta-carotene, demonstrate the ability to protect against oxidative stress and health conditions that may result from oxidative stress. Some diseases that may result are cataracts, atherosclerosis, and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease.

**Cancer prevention:** Kale has been studied the most extensively in relation to cancer preventative properties. Kale is unique in its high concentration of antioxidant and anti-inflammatory nutrients. There are also high concentrations of glucosinolates, phytochemicals

that are converted to enzymes that exhibit anti-cancer properties. Kale is a top food for at least four glucosinolates.

**Cardiovascular benefits:** The liver uses cholesterol produced in the body and provided in the diet to produce bile salts. Bile acids are specialized molecules that aid in the digestion and absorption of fat through a process called emulsification. The fiber content of kale binds bile acids and eliminates it through the feces. When this happens, the liver needs to replace the lost bile acids by drawing out of the existing cholesterol and thus lowers the blood cholesterol levels.

**Detoxification:** The detoxification process involves two phases. Isothiocyanates made from the phytonutrients glucosinolates in kale, are involved in regulating the detoxification activities in both phases. In addition, kale provides sulfur, an important nutrient in Phase II.

**Good source of:** Vitamin K, A, C, manganese, fiber, copper

### Purchasing, storing, & enjoying:

**Purchasing:** Kale comes in three main varieties: curly, ornamental, and Dinosaur kale. Look for firm and deep colored leaves that are not wilted or bruised. Stems should be moist

and hardy. Smaller leaves are more tender and have a milder flavor than large leaves. Kale is available year-round, but its peak season is from mid-winter to the beginning of spring. **Storing:** Place unwashed kale in an airtight plastic bag and store in the refrigerator where it can keep fresh for up to 5 days. The longer it is stored, the more bitter the flavor will be.

### Enjoying:

For the maximum nutritional benefits, sprinkle the kale with lemon juice and let it sit for 5 minutes before cooking. The healthiest and most flavorful method for cooking kale is steaming.

Kale can be bitter when eaten raw. When using it in salads, sprinkle some salt and oil over it and massage it until it has reduced significantly and is a deep green color. The bitterness should be significantly reduced.

Try putting a handful of kale in your fruit smoothie for an extra boost of nutrients. The sweetness of the fruit masks any taste of bitterness from the kale.

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

## Social Security Matters

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

### Ask Rusty - Why Can't I Collect Survivor Benefits from My Deceased Wife?

Dear Rusty: I am a 62 year old widower that is still working full time. While my late spouse was in hospice, I was able to get her to apply for Social Security disability and she received one payment before she passed away two years ago. I was told that I could collect a survivor benefit, so I called my local Social Security office, but they told me that I could not collect any type of benefits from my wife and that all the money she paid into SS for all of those years was basically gone for good. Would you please advise what I can do and if this is true? I was also told that Social Security's agents will do everything they can to avoid paying out benefits. Signed: Frustrated Widower

Dear Frustrated Widower: I suspect that the reason Social Security said you were not eligible for benefits as a widower is because you are working full time. At age 62, you are subject to Social Security's "earnings test" which limits how much you can earn while collecting early Social Security benefits. The 2023 earnings limit is \$21,240 and, if that is exceeded, SS will take away \$1 in benefits for every \$2 you are over the limit. If your earnings are high enough, that could make you temporarily ineligible to collect benefits until 1) your earnings are less, or 2) you reach your full retirement age (FRA) when the earnings test no longer applies.

Assuming you have not yet claimed your personal SS retirement benefit, you are still eligible to collect a survivor benefit from your wife when your earnings are less or after you reach your full retirement age. One strategy you may wish to consider, if you plan to keep working full time, is to wait and claim only your surviving spouse benefit at your FRA (67), thus allowing your personal SS retirement benefit to continue growing until you are 70 when your personal SS retirement benefit will be about 75% more than it would be now. Although your survivor benefit reaches maximum at your FRA, your personal benefit doesn't reach maximum until age 70, so it's possible to collect your smaller survivor benefit from your wife first and claim your higher personal benefit later.

You were apparently given some confusing information when you contacted Social Security. If you haven't already claimed your own SS retirement benefit, you are still eligible for a surviving spouse benefit from your wife but likely cannot collect a widower benefit at this time because you're working full time. However, that doesn't mean you can never collect a survivor benefit; only that you can't collect it at this time because of the "earnings test." The earnings test goes away when you reach age 67, so you can claim only your survivor benefit at that time (or before if you no longer work full time) and allow your personal SS retirement benefit to continue to grow (to age 70 if you like).

From our experience with the Social Security Administration, the skill level of SSA representatives varies but we have never suspected their goal was trying to avoid paying benefits due. Nevertheless, depending on the agent you spoke with, the information provided may have been less clear about the best claiming strategy for you - which is why the AMAC Foundation's Social Security Advisory Service exists. Our advisors are all highly experienced and strive to provide you with complete and clear information which enables you to make an informed choice about how and when to claim the Social Security benefits you are entitled to. I hope we have succeeded.

*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.*

## Minimize garden damage by thwarting destructive deer

Hardly any plant is off limits to deer, but gardeners can employ a few techniques to help keep them away from summer gardens.

Familiar with human activity, perceptive deer observe behaviors that enable them to work around deterrents. While there aren't many foolproof ways to keep deer out for good—aside from 10-foot-high fences—homeowners can angle a shorter fence 45 degrees to give an illusion of a higher one or install two 5-foot-high fences 4 feet apart.

"Deer don't have the ability to estimate distance correctly, so the

fences will look closer and higher than they actually are," said Kirsten Ann Conrad, a Virginia Cooperative Extension agriculture and natural resources agent in Arlington. "They won't risk getting caught between the two fences, so they're less likely to jump."

While not everyone can invest in fences, and some localities may not allow it, gardeners also can try non-toxic deer repellents.

"These sprays are generally effective if they're applied early and frequently," Conrad noted. "If deer

learn to avoid your landscape because the treated plants don't taste good, they'll continue to avoid your property even after you've stopped spraying."

Deer can get accustomed to repellents so it's best to rotate between different types. Ultimately, if a deer is desperate, a repellent may not keep it away.

Man's best friend also can help, as neighborhoods with many dogs frequently have fewer deer.

"If you have either a dog on a tether or within a fenced area, their presence and activity may reduce the likelihood of deer coming," suggested Jim Parkhurst, associate professor in Virginia Tech's Department of Fish and Wildlife Conservation.

Parkhurst explained that deer are frequently attracted to showy plants people cultivate in gardens, including Asiatic lilies, hostas, some azaleas and roses.

"We always refer to these as the Dove chocolates of the deer world," he said.

While no plant is truly deer-resistant, there are some they don't prefer. Native plants like mountain laurel, cinquefoil, Virginia bluebells and wild bleeding hearts are less susceptible to deer damage and help beautify landscapes.

For a list of plants thought to be less prone to deer damage, visit [bit.ly/3lmFNZ4](http://bit.ly/3lmFNZ4).

Finally, unpredictability is key. Deterrents like wind chimes, spinners and other objects are helpful when moved around in the garden.

"The more you keep them off guard, you move it, you change its location, you take it down for 2-3 days then put it back somewhere else," the more effective it will be, Parkhurst said.

It's a lot of work for the homeowner, he admitted, but that unpredictability will help keep a garden safe.

## Marriage Licenses processed in June

According to records in the Patrick County Circuit Court Clerk's office, the following marriage licenses were processed in June:

- Lee May - Daphne Moore
- Nelson Chitwood - Amy Handy
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**Letters**

(cont. from page 6)

ments from liberals and climate activists over the past two decades about the dangers of wildfires and extreme weather events caused by climate change, the available evidence overwhelmingly shows that no such connection exists. Wildfires are not becoming more frequent or burning more acreage. In fact, just the opposite is true.

The U.S. National Interagency Fire Center (NIFC) has been tracking wildfires for decades, reports that the number of fires in 2022 was 68,988, and the amount of acreage burned was 7.57 million acres. In 2017, for example, 71,499 fires were reported, and more than 10 million acres were burned. One decade earlier, in 2007, there were 85,705 fires that burned 9.32 million acres.

The Center for Biological Diversity, acknowledges that the primary factors to improve forest conditions include better forest management, forming better collaboration between government and private forest owners to create firebreaks — gaps in vegetation or other combustible material, and shifting firefighters from seasonal employees to year-round so they could spend more time using controlled burns or other methods to decrease fuel load.

There is no evidence that the number or severity of wildfires like those currently raging in Canada are increasing because of climate

change. It's pure propaganda designed to scare Americans into supporting additional Green New Deal-like policies and to deflect blame from the federal government, which is responsible for managing huge swaths of U.S. forests.

Yet these same media outlets, along with U.S. government officials downplayed the arguably more serious health crisis caused by February's fiery derailment of a freight train along the Ohio-Pennsylvania line in East Palestine, yet much of the coverage from the media either dismissed the disaster or blamed concerns about it on conservatives.

The propaganda press orbits stories that are politically useful to Democrats. They will even purvey blatant falsehoods when it proves advantageous. Over the years, they peddled the Russia-collusion hoax, claimed the Hunter Biden laptop was Russian disinformation, and lied about nearly everything related to the Covid-19 pandemic, beginning with its origin.

The Canadian wildfires are being used as another climate change talking point, so the media are covering them. The story of a chemical spill impacting the natural environment and health of people living in a little conservative village in fly-over America, however, is not quite as useful.

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

**Griffith omits some issues**

Morgan Griffith's letter omitted several important things. For instance, every Republican voted against it but now as of January 1, 2023, your Medicare drug plan can't charge you more than \$35 for a one-month supply of each Part-D covered insulin product, and you don't have to pay a deductible for your insulin. That's courtesy of President Biden and Congressional Democrats. The GOP tried to bring down the Affordable Health Care Act a 100 times over, succeeded weakening it and dropping 13 million people from coverage. He clearly is on bent knees to Trump when he writes about censuring Adam Schiff. No mind that Trump has been charged with 37 criminal counts over mishandling classified documents. Nor is he mindful that Fulton County district attorney appears poised to use the RICO act in regards to Trump trying to overturn the election results in Georgia as reported in The Guardian.

On Climate Change, not one vote or word of leadership from Morgan as 500 forest fires burn in Canada. Scientists and the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change have rung every alarm bell. The author of this letter is swinging, dancing with solar panels, LED lights, weatherization, planning for replacing the old oil furnace for a new heat pump and more. Hear the call to action, live up to civic duties and help cool Planet Earth so the future does not drown.

So much is going on in this world. So many are seeing the world through the eyes of billionaires who spread misinformation, have supported Putin and Trump, helped set up division, civil strife

in our country.... Fox News owned by foreign born Rupert Murdoch is just one of several social media moguls where the flow of money, the greed, the wealth is what matters--not good journalism nor the people. Not just Fox but a number of social media are promoting misleading, divisive content in order to sell ads. NO REGARDS FOR THE CONSEQUENCES. Just addicting folks to drama, rumor, fear... the sponsors supporting this malarkey where factuality is tossed aside like in Putin's playbook.

Many politicians but not Morgan Griffith are speaking out about Chief Justice of the Supreme Court Roberts's conflict of interest where his wife has made 10 million in 9 years head hunting for law firms with cases before that court. Judges Thomas and Alito took lavish vacations with wealthy individuals who had cases before the court. No recusals. <https://www.propublica.org/article/clarence-thomas-harlan-crow-private-school-tuition-scotus>.

Judge Roberts years ago opened the flood gates for monies into elections. The conservatives have captured the Supreme Court, in no time weakened EPA, Clean Water Act, Voter's Rights. Weakened equal rights laws that protected people against unfair discrimination. Progress I have seen since 1960 now dug under or muddled.

Let's be cool and do what we can for the sake of burning Texas and Canada. The 100 mph winds hit Skeetrock oak forests here about a month ago....Luckily, homes were spared.

**Gerry Scardo,  
Clintwood, VA**

**Linda Louise Crum Hodges**

Linda Louise Crum Hodges, age 75 of Stuart, passed away at So-vah Memorial Hospital of Martinsville and Henry County on Thursday, June 22, 2023. She was born in West Virginia on November 24, 1947, to the late Paul Douglas Crum and Helen Louise Morrison Crum. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by one son, Wesley Thompson. Linda loved her family dearly and will be greatly missed by all who knew her.

Linda is survived by one son,

Scott Thompson (Joanne); five grandchildren; four siblings, Paul David Crum, Marshall Crum and wife, Mary, Larry Crum, and Alice Hulbert and husband, Kenny; many nieces, nephews, great-nieces, and great-nephews.

A celebration of life service for Linda will be held on Thursday, July 13, 2023, at 4:00 p.m. at Moody Funeral Home Chapel in Stuart. Online condolences may be sent by visiting [www.moodyfuneralservices.com](http://www.moodyfuneralservices.com).

**Allene Foley**

Mrs. Allene Foley, age 93 of Stuart, Virginia passed away at Carilion Franklin Memorial Hospital in Rocky Mount, VA on Sunday, July 9, 2023. She was born in Patrick County on November 30, 1929, to the late James F. "Boss" Foley and Vada



Sawyers Foley. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Edward Eugene Foley; an infant son, Mark Foley; three sisters, Odean Thomas, Pauline Foley, and Jeraldine Thomas; and three brothers, Alvis Foley, Sr., Frank Foley, and Grady Foley. Allene was a longtime member of Church of God in Bassett. She was a devoted homemaker, raising gardens and canning each year sizable quantities for her large family. She loved the Lord and her family dearly; especially taking joy in being grandma to her grandchildren.

Left to cherish the memories of Allene Foley are her six children,

Mike Foley, Barry Foley (Gabi), Jay Foley (Donna), Kennel Foley, Donna Greer (Kenneth), and Raena Greer (Carroll); thirteen grandchildren; twenty-three great-grandchildren; three siblings, Lewis Foley, Nannie Bett Martin, and Brenda Adams; and numerous nieces and nephews.

A funeral service for Allene Foley will be held on Wednesday, July 12, 2023 at 1:00 p.m. at Moody Funeral Home in Stuart with Pastor Josie Foley officiating. Burial will immediately follow in Elamsville Church of God of Prophecy Cemetery. The family will receive friends Wednesday from 12:00 p.m. until the time of the service. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be made to Smith River Rescue Squad, P.O. Box 122, Woolwine, VA 24185 or to Fairystone Volunteer Fire Department, 6687 Fairystone Park Hwy., Stuart, VA 24171. Online condolences may be sent by visiting [www.moodyfuneralservices.com](http://www.moodyfuneralservices.com).

**Get help to cool your home**

The Virginia Department of Social Services (VDSS) will provide cooling assistance to qualifying households this year through the Virginia Energy Assistance Program (EAP). Applications are currently being accepted and can be submitted until Tuesday, August 15.

To qualify, a household must have a child less than six years of age, an adult 60 years or older, or an individual living with a disability. Income requirements, which are based on a household's gross monthly income (before taxes), can be found here (available in English and Spanish). Individuals and families in need of cooling assistance are encouraged to apply even if they are unsure of their eligibility status.

Assistance is available for:

- \*payment of electric bills to operate cooling equipment;
- \*payment of security deposits for electricity to operate cooling equipment;
- \*repair of a central air conditioning system or heat pump;

- \*purchase of a whole-house fan, including ceiling or attic fans;
  - \*purchase and installation of a window unit air conditioner.
- Households who received a one-time benefit of \$600 for payment of electric bills to operate cooling equipment in June will not be eligible to receive additional payments for this type of assistance in 2023.

Applications (available in English and Spanish) can be submitted to a local department of social services, online via CommonHelp, or by calling 1-855-635-4370. Eligibility is determined by the local department of social services. All applications must be submitted by Tuesday, August 15.

VDSS has provided relief to local residents through the federally-funded Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) for over 20 years. Last year, cooling assistance was provided to over 86,000 Virginia households through the LIHEAP.

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# PATRICK PULPITS

## "I Desire Mercy"

Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26

By Thomas Shepherd

Stuart Church of Living Water  
 What is it that God wants from us? In truth what God wants, and what we think God wants, isn't necessarily always the same. In this passage, we see Jesus calling Matthew (Levi) to follow him and become a disciple. Right after the scene immediately shifts to a meal, presumably at the home of Matthew. At that gathering Jesus and his disciples are associating with "many tax collectors and sinners" (10). The Pharisees question the disciples about this, and Jesus overhearing, rebukes the Pharisees for their lack of understanding the heart of God when He says, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. 13 Go and learn what this means, 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.' For I have not come to call the righteous but sinners" (12b-13). Have you ever heard the statement that the church is to be a hospital for sinners not a country club for saints? This is where that comes from.

Jesus understood the heart of God, and quotes the prophet Hosea 6:6, giving the Pharisees an assignment to "Go and learn what this means" (13). You see, hundreds of years earlier God called Hosea to confront the Israel for its sin of turning away from God and following after other gods. Now here is the thing, they continued to follow through with their sacrifices and religious practices of Judaism as if they were faithful and loyal to God. God commanded Hosea to marry a prostitute, and his wife, Gomer, was the symbol of Israel's unfaithfulness. Hosea calls out the Israelites not because they failed to be religious, but for thinking that by simply carrying out these religious duties made them right with God all while lacking any concern or compassion for the poor and hurting of their community. God was, and still is, more interested in human kindness than in dead animals.

What does Jesus mean by "sacrifice" in this passage? Looking at the original language doesn't help us because the word is about religious sacrifice and nothing in this passage has anything to do with animal sacrifices. Does that mean that by my participating in a ministry that I am reflecting mercy? Not necessarily! It would depend on your why! When we sacrifice our time, talents, and money, is it for those nameless, faceless people? If so, we have missed the whole concept of "love as I have loved you." With Jesus, it's all about relationships. We should seek to develop relationships with people. If we only see the ministry and don't see people, we, like the Pharisees, will never really understand what Jesus meant by "I desire mercy, not sacrifice."

The Pharisees were following the Law as they understood it, which meant refusing to associate with anyone deemed a sinner. They thought they were being righteous

by refusing to associate with the "bad people." We in the church do that very thing today. We make distinctions of who we should associate or not. This can lead us to think we are better and more important than others, and we can lose sight of compassion and love.

In this passage from Matthew's Gospel, something happens that reveals the heart of the message. A religious leader of a synagogue comes in and asks Jesus to heal his daughter. As Jesus is making his way a woman with "a flow of blood" touches his robe and is made well (20-21). Jesus said to her, "Take heart, daughter; your faith has made you well" (22). According to the purity laws she was unclean. She could not go to the Temple and worship. And that is the point here; these religious leaders were so preoccupied with following the rules that they missed seeing the person. Jesus shows that having compassion for people is more important than rules and being uncomfortable — even if the discomfort is because of our religious beliefs. As followers of Christ, we are to love God and love people. Ask yourself, what kind of people might make you uncomfortable. We need to love. Jesus understood that. That is why he used the words from Hosea 6:6 "I desire mercy, not sacrifice." Here is the heart of God. God loves all people, "I desire mercy, not sacrifice."

I believe that the Lord wants us to move beyond the idea of sacrifice, that is giving my time, talents, etc. as an obligation that we must do to where we do what we do simply out of our love for the Lord and people. When you do something because you love it, it is no longer an obligation but a joy. No longer is it a sacrifice, it is now simply love. That is, to love others as He loves us.

We are told in 1 John 4:7 that, "God is love." Certainly, this is true but there is a sense of wrath in God too! Absolutely there is! But the heart of God is love, not wrath. We see both the love and the wrath of God in the cross where God poured out His wrath for our sin upon the only one who could pay the full penalty for our sin, Jesus Christ. If you are not saved, you will receive the wrath of God in the judgment. So, yes, the wrath of God is real and as such we should all fear God and call on Jesus for salvation. But remember wrath is not the heart of God: Love is!

Everyone needs mercy, and that's what God desires from us! If you are having a hard time showing mercy, do this! Look at a cross with Jesus on it and see the mercy of God for you! Don't take your eyes off the cross until you know how much God loved you and gave for you! Then rise up and show mercy, and "Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave [us]" (Ephesians 4:32).

Friends, let us all "Go and learn what this means, 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.'"

## BIBLE TRIVIA

BY WILSON CASEY

1. Is the book of Colossians (KJV) in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. Song of Solomon and which other book specifically mention the "apple tree"? Genesis, Ezra, Joel, Nahum
3. What chapter of Psalms has four verses (8, 15, 21, 31) that are alike? 4, 58, 107, 133
4. From Genesis 4:26, who

was Adam's youngest son? Ishmael, Cain, Abel, Seth

5. In John 11:16, who was also called Didymus? Simon Peter, Thomas, Silas, Judas
6. Which book has the longest verse in the Bible? Psalms, Proverbs, Esther, Revelation

ANSWERS: 1) New, 2) Joel 1:12 (Song of Solomon 2:3, 8:5), 3) 107, 4) Seth, 5) Thomas, 6) Esther 8:9

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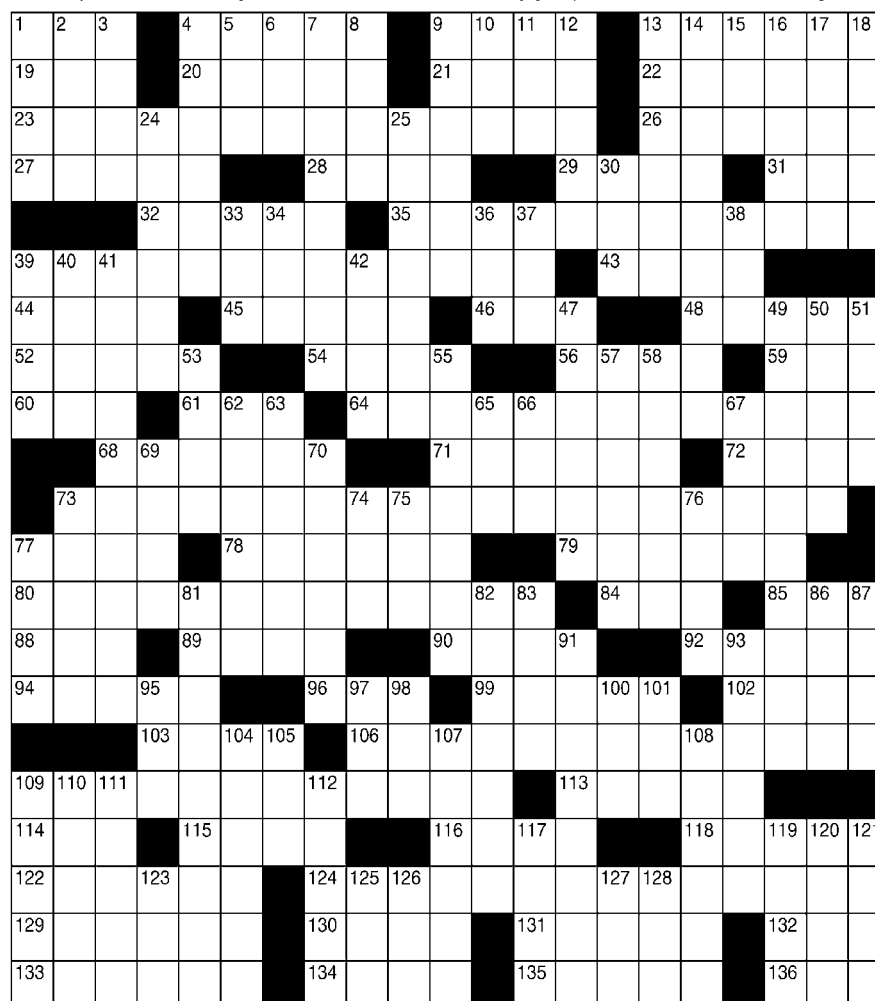
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NINE FLEET

- |  |                                  |
|--|----------------------------------|
| <b>ACROSS</b>  | <b>DOWN</b>                      |
| 1 By means of  | 2 "Dies —" (Mass hymn)           |
| 4 Seizes suddenly  | 3 Similar                        |
| 9 Niche religion   | 4 Car radiator covering          |
| 13 Cousins of rumbas                                     | 5 Toon pal of Stimp              |
| 19 Noah's craft  | 6 "The Ice Storm" director       |
| 20 Zellweger of "Bee Movie"                              | 7 Plastic pail or shovel, say    |
| 21 Assistant of Frankenstein                             | 8 Toxin fighters                 |
| 22 Mount where the 19-Across landed                      | 9 Form a rough judgment of       |
| 23 1987 comedy starring Nicolas Cage and Holly Hunter    | 10 Vanity                        |
| 26 Set fire to   | 11 With 15-Down, flimflaming guy |
| 27 Streisand musical film                                | 12 "Lady and the —"              |
| 28 Diner relative  | 13 Rum cocktail                  |
| 29 Portion (out)   | 14 Evita's land                  |
| 31 Part of "GWTW"  | 15 See 11-Down                   |
| 32 Mosque God  | 16 Big name in faucet filters    |
| 35 Black-and-yellow stinging insect                      | 17 Solemn vows                   |
| 39 1993-2004 Chrysler sedan                              | 18 Expensive                     |
| 43 Thing to fly in the wind                              | 24 Veteran                       |
| 44 Pertaining to   | 25 Casual statement of sympathy  |
| 45 Seat in a bar   | 30 Comic shriek                  |
| 46 Seat in a church                                      | 33 Fleur-de- — (iris)            |
| 48 Things  | 34 Kitchen pest                  |
| 52 Give new weapons to                                   | 36 Fabric flaw                   |
| 54 Fluctuate wildly                                      | 37 Bardic verse                  |
| 56 Cole — (shoe brand)                                   | 38 Rainy                         |
| 59 Curious pet   | 39 Juicy gossip                  |
| 60 Gift label  |                                  |
| 61 Pro- — (some tournaments)                             |                                  |
| 64 Sport fish also known as "little tuna"                |                                  |
| 68 "Them's the breaks!"                                  |                                  |
| 71 Title word before "Inferno" or "Peak"                 |                                  |
| 72 Came to rest  |                                  |
| 73 Atlanta daily since 2001                              |                                  |
| 77 "Game of Thrones" actress                             |                                  |
| 78 Charlotte — (Virgin Islands capital)                  |                                  |
| 79 Turning out   |                                  |
| 80 Windy City airport                                    |                                  |
| 84 Adobe Acrobat file                                    |                                  |
| 85 "— believer!"   |                                  |
| 88 Almond-hued   |                                  |
| 89 Actress Olin  |                                  |
| 90 Plaintiff   |                                  |
| 92 Turns toward  |                                  |
| 94 Darling child   |                                  |
| 96 Perceive  |                                  |
| 99 Imitated a sheep                                      |                                  |
| 102 —pedi  |                                  |
| 103 "It's My Turn" singer                                |                                  |
| 106 Small, floating cephalopod                           |                                  |
| 109 Device used in cardiology                            |                                  |
| 113 Actress Eve  |                                  |
| 114 Everything   |                                  |
| 115 Venus de —   |                                  |
| 116 9-to-5er's shout                                     |                                  |
| 118 Of a junction point                                  |                                  |
| 122 Gazed angrily  |                                  |
| 124 Principle of capitalism                              |                                  |
| 129 Showing on TV  |                                  |
| 130 Work to make   |                                  |
| 131 Second-largest city of India                         |                                  |
| 132 — out a win (just prevail)                           |                                  |
| 133 Distant  |                                  |
| 134 California, par exemple                              |                                  |
| 135 Stellar hunter                                       |                                  |
| 136 Abbr. that can precede nine key words in this puzzle |                                  |



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**SERVICES**

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

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\*Includes product and labor; bathtub, shower or walk-in tub and wall surround. This promotion cannot be combined with any other offer. Other restrictions may apply. This offer expires 9/30/23. Each dealership is independently owned and operated. \*\*Third party financing is available for those customers who qualify. See your dealer for details. ©2023 BCI Acrylic, Inc.

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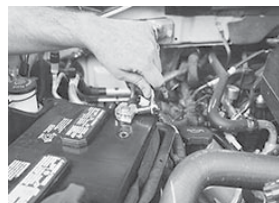
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# LEGAL

## REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING SERVICES TOWN OF STUART, VIRGINIA

The Town of Stuart, Virginia is soliciting Statements of Qualification from qualified Engineering Firms or Individuals to provide Professional Engineering Services. The proposed project includes improvements to the filter backwash waste system at the Town of Stuart Water Treatment Plant and construction of a gravity sewer system that will terminate into the Town's existing collection system. Filter backwash waste and contact clarifier waste solids currently discharge into two basins, are decanted, and the effluent is discharged into a small receiving stream. As needed, the Town cleans out the sludge from the basins and relines them with clay. The Town would like to install a permanent basin liner and a gravity discharge line into the Town's sewage collection system. This would eliminate the backwash discharge VPDES Permit and would allow the solids and effluent to be treated at the Town's Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Construction is anticipated to include cleaning the existing backwash basins and installation of an HDPE liner, telescoping effluent flow control valves, and approximately 3,800 LF of 8" gravity sewer line and appurtenances, which will discharge into the Town's gravity sewer system. The total project budget is \$1,634,200.00.

The Town of Stuart will accept bound and concise Statements of Qualification until 2:00 PM Eastern Local Time, on **Thursday, July 27th, 2023**. Two (2) hard copies, and one (1) digital copy (via email or direct link accepted), of the Statements shall be mailed or hand-delivered to Bryce Simmons, Town Manager, 100 Patrick Avenue, PO Box 422, Stuart, VA 24171. Questions regarding this solicitation should be made prior to **Friday, July 21st, 2023**, and to the Town Manager, bryce.simmons@stuartva.org or (276) 694-3811. **Statements of Qualification** will be considered based on the following criteria:

- **Relative Experience Providing Similar Services**, including: general consulting; surveying services that support the engineering services; preliminary engineering and reports; project designs and completion of Contract Documents for water treatment, distribution and storage projects; assistance with regulatory agencies; construction administration and inspection. Any lists of similar projects that may be provided shall include the name, position, and phone number of a reference for contact by the Town.
- **Experience and Availability of the Individuals Proposed to Provide the Services**, including: the proposed Project Manager with whom the Town Administration and Staff will maintain frequent contact; any Design Personnel that may work on the services; and any other Individuals that the proposing Firm or Individual deems appropriate. Brief resumes (one page or less) describing the qualifications and experience of each individual (including a listing of similar projects worked on) should be provided.
- **A Brief Summary of Understanding of the Services** (maximum of ten pages), including: the basic tenet or philosophy of the proposing Firm or Individual with respect to the provision of the project; project approach for performing the services; demonstration of knowledge concerning the needs of the Town; and a summary of reasons that the Firm or Individual is best suited to provide the services.
- **Understanding of Funded Projects**, including past project experience; knowledge of the Town's current project needs and Staff; experience and working relationship with DHCD, USDA-RUS(RD), VDH, DEQ, DCR, and VDOT and others, as applicable.

Firms or Individuals will be ranked based upon these criteria and negotiations may begin with the top-ranked firm. If an agreement, satisfactory and advantageous to the Town may be entered into, an award shall be made. Otherwise, negotiations may proceed with the next respectively ranked Firm or Individual and so on until a satisfactory agreement is reached.

This request is extended without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, marital status, age or physical or mental handicap. The selected Firm or Individual will be required to comply with all the State and Federal guidelines or requirements, including, but not limited to:

- Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973
- Civil Rights Act of 1964
- The Americans with Disabilities Act
- Age Discrimination Act
- MBE/WBE Solicitation Guidelines

The Town of Stuart will reserve the rights to accept or reject any or all proposals; to waive any formalities or technicalities as it deems appropriate; and to retain multiple qualified Individuals or firms as it deems appropriate. For projects that may be successfully funded, the Town of Stuart reserves the right, if it so deems, to enter into negotiations with the selected firm for any resulting services related to the project implementation.

Minority and/or female-owned businesses or firms are encouraged to apply. The Town of Stuart is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

# LEGAL

## TRUSTEE'S SALE OF 130 MORRISON LANE, STUART, VA 24171

In execution of a certain Deed of Trust dated April 8, 2014, in the original principal amount of \$133,500.00 recorded in the Clerk's Office, Circuit Court for Patrick County, Virginia as Instrument No. 140000494, re-recorded as Instrument No. 140001210. The undersigned Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction in the front of the Circuit Court building for Patrick County, 101 West Blue Ridge Street, Stuart, Virginia on August 7, 2023, at 2:30 PM, the property described in said Deed of Trust, located at the above address, and more particularly described as follows: ALL OF THAT CERTAIN TRACT OF LAND, TOGETHER WITH IMPROVEMENTS THEREON, LYING AND BEING IN THE MAYO RIVER MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT OF PATRICK COUNTY, VIRGINIA, CONTAINING 1.65 ACRES, MORE OR LESS. TERMS OF SALE: ALL CASH. A bidder's deposit often percent (10%) of the sale price or ten percent (10%) of the original principal balance of the subject Deed of Trust, whichever is lower, in the form of cash or certified funds payable to the Substitute Trustee must be present at the time of the sale. The balance of the purchase price will be due within fifteen (15) days of sale, otherwise Purchaser's deposit may be forfeited to Trustee. Time is of the essence. If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled to a return of the deposit paid. The Purchaser may, if provided by the terms of the Trustee's Memorandum of Foreclosure Sale, be entitled to a \$50 cancellation fee from the Substitute Trustee, but shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagee or the Mortgagee's attorney. A form copy of the Trustee's memorandum of foreclosure sale and contract to purchase real property is available for viewing at [www.bwwsales.com](http://www.bwwsales.com). Additional terms, if any, to be announced at the sale and the Purchaser may be given the option to execute the contract of sale electronically. This is a communication from a debt collector and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. The sale is subject to seller confirmation. Substitute Trustee: Equity Trustees, LLC, 8100 Three Chopt Road, Suite 240, Richmond, VA 23229. For more information contact: BWW Law Group, LLC, attorneys for Equity Trustees, LLC, 6003 Executive Blvd, Suite 101, Rockville, MD 20852, 301-961-6555, website: [www.bwwsales.com](http://www.bwwsales.com). VA-363432-1.

# LEGAL

## TRUSTEE'S SALE OF 962 Five Forks Road, Stuart, VA 24171

In execution of the Deed of Trust dated July 27, 2018, in the original principal amount of \$69,191.00, recorded as Inst. 180001270, in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court for the County of Patrick, Virginia, default having occurred in the payment of the indebtedness thereby secured and at the request of the holder of the note, the undersigned, as Substitute Trustees, either of whom may act, will sell at public auction at the front entrance of the Circuit Court for the County of Patrick on July 21, 2023, at 1:00 p.m., the property located at the above address and described as 2.000 acres as shown on plat recorded as Inst. 180001271, County of Patrick. TERMS: CASH. PROPERTY SOLD AS IS WITH SPECIAL WARRANTY OF TITLE. A deposit of \$6,000.00 or 10% of the successful bid amount (whichever is lower) will be required immediately of the successful bidder, in cashier's check or certified funds only payable to or signed over to "DOLANREID PLLC, TRUSTEE", balance due within 15 days from date of sale. No personal checks accepted. Sale is subject to post sale confirmation and audit of the status of the loan including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower filed for and obtained bankruptcy protection, entered into any repayment agreement, reinstated or paid off the loan prior to the sale. In any such event, or if trustee is unable to complete the sale, or if it is set aside or not fully completed for any reason except purchaser's default, the sale shall be null and void, and the purchaser's sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of the deposit without interest. Upon purchaser's default, the deposit shall be forfeited and the property resold at the risk and costs of the defaulting purchaser. Sale is subject to all prior liens, easements, restrictions, covenants, reservations and conditions, if any, of record, as well as inchoate liens and any other matters which would be disclosed by an accurate survey or inspection of the premises. Real estate taxes will be adjusted to the date of sale. All costs of conveyance, deed, examination of title, recording charges, grantor's tax and possession will be at the expense of the purchaser. All risks of casualty immediately pass to the successful bidder. Time is of the essence. Winning bidder must sign a memorandum of sale immediately upon completion of sale. Additional terms may be announced at the time of sale. Trustee's affidavit and a copy of the notice of sale available at the foreclosure sale. The opening bid is not announced until the sale. Current sale status available at [dolanreid.com/foreclosuresales](http://dolanreid.com/foreclosuresales). THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

For Information Contact:  
DolanReid PLLC and G. Benny Moore, Substitute Trustee(s)  
12610 Patrick Henry Dr., Ste. C, Newport News, VA 23602;  
(757) 320-0255

# LEGAL

## RFP 2023-SPED-02

Patrick County Public Schools is in search of a qualified provider for school psychologist services to eligible students ages Preschool through High School. Interested providers should contact (276) 694-3163 or [elizabeth.minter@patrick.k12.va.us](mailto:elizabeth.minter@patrick.k12.va.us) to obtain an electronic copy of the RFP proposal document.

All proposals shall be submitted electronically only by Wednesday, July 26, 2023, at 4:30 PM EDT to the email address [elizabeth.minter@patrick.k12.va.us](mailto:elizabeth.minter@patrick.k12.va.us).

# LEGAL

## RFP 2023 MNT 006

The Patrick County Public School Board is accepting competitive sealed proposals from licensed contractors to remove existing fence and posts around the existing tennis court. Then, add fencing around two tennis courts at Patrick County High School, 215 Cougar Lane, Stuart, Virginia 24171. Proposal drawings and specification are available as a PDF file from the Maintenance Office at 117 Via Avenue, Stuart, VA 24171, E-mail Chad Haynes at [chad.haynes@patrick.k12.va.us](mailto:chad.haynes@patrick.k12.va.us). There will be an informational meeting at the site on Monday, July 17 at 8:00 AM. Bids will be received and opened in the office of the Patrick County School Board located at 104 Rucker Street, Stuart, Virginia 24171 on Thursday, July 20, 2023 at 2:00 PM.

# LEGAL

## PUBLIC NOTICE

The Patrick County Public Service Authority will hold their Annual Organizational Meeting on Tuesday, July 25, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. in the 3rd Floor Courtroom of the Patrick County Veterans Memorial Building. Petitions and requests from the public shall be submitted in writing to the PSA located in the Patrick County Administration Building at 106 Rucker Street, Suite 218, Stuart, VA, not less than five (5) business days prior to the scheduled meeting and placed on the official meeting agenda in order to be considered.

# LEGAL

## Request for Proposal Homelessness Services

The West Piedmont Better Housing Coalition seeks partnering agencies to serve as local grant subrecipients for the disbursement of Virginia Homeless Solutions Program funds. The selected agencies will provide services to individuals or families who are homeless or in danger of becoming homeless. The service area includes the counties of Franklin, Patrick, Pittsylvania, and Henry along with the cities of Martinsville and Danville.

Applicants to this RFP may apply as individual agencies or as a collaborative team. If applying as a team, one agency must be identified as lead. Successful applicants will have the capacity to administer services and adhere to all program guidelines contained in this document. The current funding available to support homelessness and housing stability activities under this RFP is \$167,599.80. The full RFP can be found at [www.stepincva.com](http://www.stepincva.com). All proposals must address and answer the questions found on pages 26 and 27. Submit proposals electronically to [diane.jones@stepincva.com](mailto:diane.jones@stepincva.com) before the 4:30 p.m., July 17, 2023 deadline with subject line **WPBHC RFP**. Questions regarding this RFP should be directed to [kristy.pickeral@stepincva.com](mailto:kristy.pickeral@stepincva.com).

# LEGAL

## RFP 2023-SPED-01

Patrick County Public Schools is in search of a qualified provider for related services to eligible students ages Preschool through High School who require physical therapy services. Interested providers should contact (276) 694-3163 or [elizabeth.minter@patrick.k12.va.us](mailto:elizabeth.minter@patrick.k12.va.us) to obtain an electronic copy of the RFP proposal document.

All proposals shall be submitted electronically only by Wednesday, July 26, 2023, at 4:30 PM EDT to the email address [elizabeth.minter@patrick.k12.va.us](mailto:elizabeth.minter@patrick.k12.va.us).

# LEGAL

## Public Notice - Environmental Permit

PURPOSE OF NOTICE: To seek public comment on a draft permit from the Department of Environmental Quality that will allow the release of treated wastewater into a water body in Patrick County, Virginia. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: July 12, 2023 to August 11, 2023 PERMIT NAME: Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit - Wastewater issued by DEQ pursuant to applicable water laws and regulations APPLICANT NAME AND ADDRESS: Groundhog Mountain Water & Sewer Co., Inc., PO Box 12765, Roanoke, VA 24028 FACILITY NAME, LOCATION AND PERMIT NUMBER: Viele-Reed Sewage Treatment Plant, Milepost 189, Blue Ridge Parkway, Fancy Gap, VA 24328; VA0066532 PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The Groundhog Mountain Water & Sewer Co. has applied for reissuance of a permit for the privately-owned Viele-Reed STP. The applicant proposes to release treated sewage wastewaters from residential areas at a rate 13,000 gallons per day into a water body. If necessary, sludge from the treatment process will be hauled to the Henry County PSA for further treatment at the City of Martinsville STP with ultimate disposal in a solid waste landfill. The facility proposes to release the treated sewage into an unnamed tributary of Birds Branch in Patrick County in the Upper Ararat River watershed. A watershed is the land area drained by a river and its incoming streams. The permit will limit the following pollutants to amounts that protect water quality: physical and chemical properties, nutrients, organic matter, and solids. HOW TO COMMENT AND/OR REQUEST A PUBLIC HEARING: DEQ accepts comments and requests for public hearing on the draft permit by hand-delivery, e-mail, fax or postal mail. All comments and requests must be in writing and be received by DEQ during the comment period. DEQ must receive hand-delivery and postal mail by close of business and email and fax comments by 11:59 p.m. on the last day of the comment period. Submittals must include the names, mailing addresses or email addresses of the commenter/requester and of all persons represented by the commenter/requester. A request for public hearing must also include: 1) The reason why a public hearing is requested. 2) A brief, informal statement regarding the nature and extent of the interest of the requester or of those represented by the requester, including how and to what extent such interest would be directly and adversely affected by the permit. 3) Specific references, where possible, to terms and conditions of the permit with suggested revisions. A public hearing may be held, including another comment period, if public response is significant, based on individual requests for a public hearing, and there are substantial, disputed issues relevant to the permit.



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SUNDAY - JULY 23 - 2pm - 5pm

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**OIL & ELECTRIC LAMPS** - Pelle, France (signed) table lamp, 1800's table lamps, large selection of brass & glass Aladdin & Rayo oil lamps, carbide miner's lamp, floor lamps, caboose lamps, large nautical lamp, large selection of oil lamp parts, globes & shades  
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**HOUSEHOLD & MISC.** - Western leather boots, floor fire safe, ammo cans, perfume bottles, hunting jacket with patches, electric heater, microwave, Colombian wood stove, kitchen appliances, room rugs, Wood Christmas cut-out lawn decorations, Christmas decorations  
**GLASSWARE** - Collection of Northwood carnival glass, Flow Blue, Beleck China, R.S. Prussia, Wedgewood, Fenton, selection of "Swanky glasses"  
**SHOP & YARD TOOLS** - Craftsman 20hp riding lawnmower with dump trailer, John Deere 110 riding lawnmower, roll cabinet toolboxes, large selection of screwdrivers, wrenches, sockets, ratchets, chainsaws, Craftsman drill presses, chop saw, portable air compressor, Dewalt table saw, sanders, nail guns, power driver, logging chains, large clamps, post clamps, saw horses, animal traps, fishing tackle box & contents, hardware

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**Meetings**

**Monday, July 10**  
The Patrick County Board of Supervisors will meet at 6 p.m. in the third-floor court room of the Patrick County Administration Office.

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

**Tuesday, July 18**  
The Patrick County Planning Commission will have a sub-committee work session at 4 p.m. at the Patrick & Henry Community College (P&H-CC) in the Community Room.

The Patrick County Planning Commission will have a regular work session at 6 p.m. at the Patrick & Henry Community College (P&HCC) in the Community Room.

**Wednesday, July 19**  
The Stuart Town Council will meet at 7 p.m. in the Town Office.

**Events**

**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.

**Saturday, July 15**  
The Eglin Reunion will be held at 12 p.m. for a potluck lunch at the Fairystone Volunteer Fire Station.

Rock Castle Descendants' Reunion will be held at Woolwine Methodist Church at noon. Anyone interested in the history of the Rock Castle community is welcome to attend. Please bring photos, mementos, and a covered dish to share. Contact Beverly Woody at rockcastlecreek1@gmail.

com or (276) 692-9626 with any questions.

Bassett Cruise In, 3 to 7 p.m., Bassett Furniture World Headquarters, Fairy Stone Park Highway, Bassett. There will be a 50/50 drawing to benefit the Bassett Library Building Fund. More than 375 classic cars were at the June event. For more information, visit <http://www.bassettcruisein.com/>.

**Friday, July 21**  
The Woolwine Methodist Church food truck will be at the Fairystone Volunteer Fire Department from 3-5 p.m.

**Saturday, July 22**  
The Patrick Springs Ruritan Club will hold a fish fry dinner from 4-7 p.m. at the Patrick Springs Park. This fundraiser will help the club to sponsor community service projects including scholarships for high school graduates. The meal will include fried fish, beans, corn, slaw, roll, drink, and dessert.

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOLS**

**Sunday, July 23 - Wednesday, July 26**  
The New Hope Church of the Brethren will hold a Vacation Bible School from 6-8:15 p.m. The theme is Proclamation Safari, and supper will be provided nightly.

**Sunday, July 30 - Wednesday, Aug. 2**  
Middle Cross Missionary Baptist Church will hold a Vacation Bible School 6 - 8:30 p.m. nightly.

**Ongoing**

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

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

The Patrick County Library will hold the

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

The Ararat Ruritan Club hosts virtual raffles on its Facebook page on the first of each month. Various items are raffled off at \$10 or \$20 per limited chance. There are 30-35 chances on each raffle. Prize values range from \$150 to \$400. For more information, go to [Facebook.com/AraratRuritanClub](https://www.facebook.com/AraratRuritanClub) or contact the club via email at [AraratRuritanClub@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto: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 holds Rook games on Mondays, 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](http://www.briarpatcharc.com) for more information.

**NOTICE**

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

**Abundance of poultry products presents inundation of consumer choices**

The myriad choices of chicken and egg products can mystify consumers as they compare labels and prices.

Some production labels—like free-range, pasture-raised, organic and cage-free—fetch a premium price. But what are the differences, and how are those claims verified?

Last year Barbara and Dewey Haines of Hidden Springs Family Farm in Fluvanna County raised their first 90 broilers and 94 egg-laying birds in an on-pasture system.

"Barbara went on the neighborhood app advertising extra eggs, and two or three people asked if they're free-range," Dewey recalled. "We had to explain to them what 'free-range' really means. Chickens 'getting to go anywhere, anytime' is not the U.S. Department of Agriculture definition."

Of all the labels out there, some claims are more closely verified than others, said assistant professor Leonie Jacobs of the Animal Behavior and Welfare Group at the Virginia Tech School of Animal and Poultry Sciences.

"It can be hard for consumers to make these choices, and they're often in a hurry," she said. "It's important to inform them clearly with short messages, but also honestly."

Knowledge of production labels can empower consumers to make informed choices for their budgets.

**Conventionally raised:** Broilers are raised cage-free in the U.S., mostly in large, environmentally controlled houses, safe from diseases and predation. Most laying hens in the U.S. are housed in these.

**Cage-free:** Cage-free layers are housed in indoor-only, controlled environments that provide chickens the freedom to roam within the house. Outdoor access is not required.

**Free-range:** Growers must demonstrate to the USDA's Food Safety and Inspection Service that the laying hens have been allowed outside

access for 51% of their laying cycle. Access to a porch-style area can be considered free-range.

**Pasture-raised:** Poultry are raised in pastured or woodlot settings where they can roam freely, foraging in vegetation. These designations are granted from verifying bodies such as American Humane Certified or Certified Animal Welfare.

**Natural:** Natural products typically contain no artificial ingredients or added color. All eggs meet these criteria.

Certified organic free-range poultry and cage-free eggs are strictly regulated through the USDA's National Organic Program. 100% Organic must be produced using sustainable production practices without prohibited methods like genetic engineering. Organic products must contain no less than 95% of certified organic ingredients. "Made With Organic" products are made with at least 70% certified organic ingredients.

**No antibiotics:** Poultry with this label have not been treated with antibiotics. If treated, a

withdrawal period is always required before slaughter.

**No hormones:** Hormones aren't used in poultry, ever.

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# Fun galore was on tap in Vesta



Several children participated in the annual Vesta Community Center July 4 Sack Race. (Contributed Photos)



Children enjoyed prizes, including lollipops, from the Sucker Tree.



Daniel Wineman played the banjo at the annual event.

Vesta Community Center's Old Time and Bluegrass Music Competition featured a number of events for the young and young at heart.



Teams played the classic Egg Toss at the Vesta Community Center Fourth of July celebration.



Andrew Small played the guitar at the Vesta Community Center July 4 celebration. He placed second in the Adults Fiddle, third in the Adult Guitar, second in the Adult Mandolin, and second in the Adult Vocal Competition.



Several kids enjoyed the Hacky Sack Toss game.

# Hiking club gives back to community

Folks walking the Mayo River Rail Trail may have noticed something new – a bright blue bench where one can rest a bit and enjoy the flowing waters of the Mayo River. Located just a bit upriver from the center kiosk, the bench was donated by The Homestead Hikers, a local hiking club with its beginnings from the Reynolds Homestead.

The club arranged monthly hikes led by experienced leaders. Hikes were held locally throughout the county as well as in areas as far away as Roanoke, Galax or Winston-Salem. An annual membership fee collected through the organization helped improve local community parks providing picnic tables, park benches, and pet stations along hiking trails.

After eight years of fun and friendship with over 50 members, 80-plus hikes and more than 400 miles of trails -- the club is hanging up the backpack.

The club's final contribution went toward the Dolly Parton Imagination Library being sponsored by several civic organizations in the county.



The club thanks Ron Chaney and the Patrick County maintenance department for their work establishing the park bench along the MRRT.



A hiker takes a break on the MRRT.



Club Treasurer Kathleen Kilgore presents a check to Rebecca Adcock in support of the Dolly Parton Imagination Library providing books to children in Patrick County.

## Not all pills are real.

Pills not from a licensed pharmacy can be deadly.

[StopOverdose.info](http://StopOverdose.info)



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## ONLINE ONLY AUCTIONS



### Martha B. West Estate Auction

**Bid Online Only: July 7<sup>th</sup> to July 21<sup>st</sup>**  
 3BR/1.5BA Home at 217 Patsy Ave., Collinsville, VA 24078  
 Preview: July 7<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> 4pm-6pm

**Personal Property Selling Separately at Multi Estate Online Auction**  
 Bid Online Only: July 7<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> • Lots begin closing at 1pm

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**Antique Furniture, Collectibles, Hunting items, Compound Bow, Stihl Chainsaw & More**  
**Bidding Begins Fri, July 7 - Ending Fri, July 21**  
**Starting at 1pm**



Preview Items 1-59:  
 Sun, July 16, 4pm-6pm  
 at 217 Patsy Ave., Collinsville, VA

Preview Items 60-160:  
 Fri, July 14, 2pm-6pm  
 at 420 Woodland Dr., Stuart, VA

**Bid at www.RogersAuctionGroup.com**



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



## Firefighters

(cont. from page 1)

currently it is a 50 percent fail rate in the Firefighter I class, but all of our guys successfully passed," he said.

Weidhaas noted Patrick Springs has gained seven new members in the last six months, "which is a huge gain for a volunteer department, especially since volunteerism is down."

He attributed the uptick in manpower to the department's aggressive recruitment and social media campaigns.

"To be honest, we've been lucky at Patrick Springs, and it's a big commitment on these nine guys that they successfully got through the class," he said.

Those interested in volunteering with the department are invited to attend its monthly meeting on the first Monday of every month at 7 p.m. at the Patrick Springs Volunteer Fire Department's station. Contact them via Facebook at Facebook.com/PatrickSpringsVolunteerFireDepartment.

## Quilts

(cont. from page 1)

ect: Quilted Colors on Main Street in Stuart and Sew Biz in Radford.

If you are a veteran or know of a veteran who served during a time of conflict who is interested in receiving a Quilt of Valor, call Evelyn Boyd at (276) 692-7341. To help with the project, contact Peggy Agee at (276) 692-8272. Work begins on next year's projects in August.




**THANK YOU FOR READING THE ENTERPRISE**

## Online Auction

**Ends Thursday, July 20th at 3 PM**  
 Wooded Land for Sale at Auction in Woolwine VA!  
 TBD Lee Elgin Rd Woolwine, VA 24185

**Bid Now at VAAuctionPro.com**



Check out these wooded land tracts in Woolwine VA! We present 6 wooded tracts along Lee Elgin Rd. Located roughly 15 minutes from the town of Floyd, Philpott Lake, and Fairy Stone Park, this property sits in a wildlife oasis. All 6 tracts have road frontage and have recently been surveyed. Do not miss your opportunity to build your permanent home, weekend getaway, or hunting cabin on this beautiful, wooded property!

- Offering #1: 12.39 acres**
- Offering #2: 10.17 acres**
- Offering #3: 4.74 acres**
- Offering #4: 7.19 acres**
- Offering #5: 2.32 acres**
- Offering #6: 2.35 acres**

**DIRECTIONS** – From Floyd VA: Take Route 8 S for 12.4 miles, to a left onto Charity Hwy (Route 40), then a right onto Lee Elgin Rd. Property is located on the right. See sign.

**Terms:** 10% Buyer's Premium will be added to final high bid to arrive at contract price. Earnest Money Deposit of \$5,000 per tract required on day of sale (July 20th, 2023). Close on or before August 21st, 2023. Subject to seller confirmation. Property sold as is, where is with any and all faults. Buyer is expected to complete their own due diligence. Tracts are being offered individually and if bidder wishes to purchase multiple tracts, bidder will need to be the high/winning bidder on both offerings. Auction starts ending at 3 PM on July 20th, 2023. Please note that during the last two minutes of bidding, if a new bid is placed, the clock is automatically extended an additional two minutes. Download Bidder Information Pack for complete terms and conditions, purchase contract and maps at VAAuctionPro.com

**Broker & Auctioneer Matt Gallimore at 540-239-2585 or email gallimore.matt@gmail.com. You can also contact Realtor Booie DeHart at 276-952-5061 or email booied@yahoo.com**

## Online Auction

**Ends Friday, August 4th at 3 PM**  
 TBD Woolwine Hwy & Dogwood Mountain Ln.,  
 Woolwine, VA 24185

**Bid Now at VAAuctionPro.com**



Are you searching for land for sale in Patrick County VA? Look no further! This incredible opportunity features +/- 23 acres of pristine wooded land, divided into 7 tracts ranging from 2 - 5.5 acres. The properties are near the Blue Ridge Parkway, Floyd VA, and Stuart VA. Whether you are seeking a mountain getaway, a recreational retreat or an ideal building site, these tracts have it all. Purchase one or multiple to get your desired amount of acreage. Don't let this opportunity slip away!

- Offering #1: 2.025 ac**
- Offering #2: 2.647 ac**
- Offering #3: 2.045 ac**
- Offering #4: 4.988 ac**
- Offering #5: 5.40 ac**
- Offering #6: 3.123 ac**
- Offering #7: 2.851 ac**

**Terms:** 10% Buyer's Premium will be added to final high bid to arrive at contract price. Earnest Money Deposit of \$5,000 per tract required on day of sale. Close on or before September 19th, 2023. Subject to seller confirmation. Property sold as is, where is with any and all faults. Buyer is expected to complete their own due diligence. Tracts are being offered individually and if bidder wishes to purchase multiple tracts, bidder will need to be the high/winning bidder on both offerings. Auction starts ending at 3 PM on August 4th, 2023. Please note that during the last two minutes of bidding, if a new bid is placed, the clock is automatically extended an additional two minutes. Be sure to register to bid early to ensure you receive notifications regarding any changes to the auction, bidder packet, and/or any pre-auction offers received. Download Bidder Information Packet for complete terms and conditions, purchase contract, and maps at VAAuctionPro.com

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