THE ENTERPRISE

Vol. 147 No. 36 Website: www.theenterprise.net STUART, VIRGINIA WEDNESDAY, JULY 26, 2023

## USPS 523-500 **\$1.00**

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

# County seeks help in a letter to legislators

the service provider.

## By Debbie Hall

Patrick County formally requested state involvelegislators' ment and help to address issues with telephone service. Interim County Administrator Tim Hall wrote the letter to Sen. Bill Stanley, R-Moneta, and Del. internet service (also Wren Williams, R-Stuart, on behalf of the able," Hall wrote. Board of Supervisors.

At its July 10 meeting, a resident recounted ongoing issues she is telephone. However, having with the service Mrs. Harmon told the provider and "the com-

Kim Harmon, who lives on Pole Bridge Road in the Mayo River District, "is being inadequately served by Brightspeed's phone service. Mrs. Harmon told the Board that she lives in an area where cellphone service is spotty at best, and no Brightspeed) is avail-

Her only real connection to the outside world is her landline (See County p. 7)

# **Board approves** requests for **ARPA** funds

Several photos were included in a letter detailing telephone service issues customers are experiencing with their service provider. The county sent the photos and letter to Sen. Bill Stanley and Del. Wren Williams. pany's apparent lack of Bookworms interest in adequately serving the people of Patrick County," Hall learn about wrote. Brightspeed is

other species



While some preschoolers enjoyed a handson experience during a Storytime program about worms, others preferred to watch



**Town officials** 

project, table

question hospital

Town Manager Bryce Simmons discussed the proposed rezoning of the hospital property at a recent meeting of the Stuart Town Council.

## By Taylor Boyd

Members of Stuart Town Council voted to table a request to rezone the hospital property meeting after Town Manager Bryce Simmons said he had it on good authority that Foresight Hospital and Health Systems will not open the hospital in Stuart by the end of the year.

"Right now, it's all talk," Simmons said at the July 19 meeting. "We don't have anything to approve."

Simmons asked if the council wanted to officially change the current zone since it does not have an "actual physical plan" to review that would help determine whether the property would meet the rezoning criteria.

Town Attorney Chris Corbett asked Simmons if he was implying that Foresight's plans for a medical facility may fall completely through, and another company could want the more than 10 acres for another purpose.

"I'm implying that they may not have a plan, and if they were to sell the property tomorrow it may be more flexible in its currently zoned criteria than establishing this as a hospital" zoned area, Simmons said, adding that he believes the town should not do anything until Foresight comes to the council for a clear zoning for the property.

Mayor Ray Weiland said the council has the



## By Taylor Boyd

The Patrick County Board of Supervisors approved requests for American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds at its July 10 meeting.

The three requests totaling \$33,200 were approved in a 4-1 vote.

Finance Officer Lori Jones said the first request was for two metal picnic tables for the Fred Clifton Park.

"There are two empty concrete pads there, one table's been missing for several years, and another was recently chucked over the side of a hill. So, we're looking for a powder-coated metal with mesh tops so all the rain and such goes through, and they will secure those to the concrete pad," she said.

Jones said the park does not have a board or a group to fundraise for its needs, unlike the county's other parks. The estimated cost for the tables is \$2,200.

The second request was for security cameras for the Transfer Station and the maintenance shop at a cost of \$21,000.

Jones said the cost includes eight cameras lic hearing for Monfor each location to be installed by EMI Security.

The final request, \$10,000 to renovate the customer service counter area in the

Treasurer's Office, was from Treasurer Sandra Stone. She said the office's L-shaped counter has been there since the building was built.

When we have people come in, we have our stations set up and so" when customers are standing at the stations "they're going over each other's conversations. In other words, you can hear everything that I've asked you," she said.

Stone said the new counter also would include the installation of new storage drawers at each station. She added that the upgrade would be more secure than the current setup, and also noted the cost would include paint and other supplies.

In other matters, the board:

\*Approved a resolution honoring the Patrick County High School (PCHS) baseball team as the 2023 VA High School League Class 2 State Champions, and coach Tal Swails who was named the Class 2 Coach of the Year.

\*Scheduled a pubday, Aug. 14 at 6 p.m. to discuss the Patrick County Public Schools request for unspent 2022-23 local funds.

\*Approved allowing (See Board p. 7)

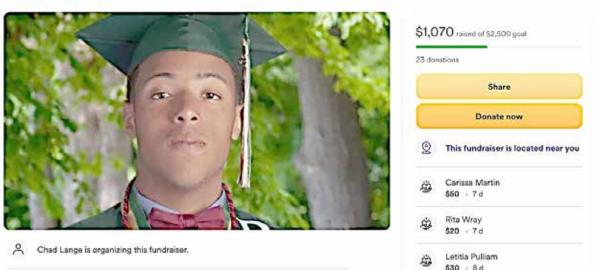
the amazing creatures in action. Master Gardeners helped the group prepare a salad fit for worms during the program at the Patrick County Branch of the Blue Ridge Regional Library. (See inside for more photos.)

rezoning document ready, if and when Foresight asks to alter the zoning.

"It's something that we can look at and see if it were to become a zoned property for the hospital medical center business that this would (See Town p. 7)

# Fundraiser created to help a local wrestler

## **Rallying Together: Kindness Counts**



A fundraiser is underway to pay Jaheim Johnson's medical expenses. Johnson, a wrestler at Patrick & Henry Community College (P&HCC) and a graduate of Patrick County High School, was injured during an off-season wrestling event.

### By Taylor Boyd

An account was created on GoFundMe to raise money and help pay for the medical expenses of a Patrick & Henry Community College (P&HCC) student.

Jaheim Johnson, a current P&HCC wrestler and Patrick County High School (PCHS) graduate, was injured during an off-season wrestling event.

Chad Lange, P&HCC's head wrestling coach, said Johnson suffered a career-ending injury with a broken jaw and other facial injuries.

"As he courageously battles his way to recovery, Jaheim will be burdened with some medical

bills, transportation costs, and other unexpected expenses that have added financial strain to his already challenging situation," Lange wrote.

It is during times like these that everyone must come together as a compassionate community and lend a helping hand to those in need, he added.

contribution "Your will make a world of difference. No amount is too small, as your contribution will bring us closer to our goal of providing Jaheim and his family with the necessary means to achieve a full recovery, both physically and emotionally," he said.

medical expenses, Lange said the donations will be used to help cover transportation expenses to ensure Johnson can travel to medical appointments, physical therapy sessions, and other necessary trips.

The donations will also be used to cover the cost of missed education and work shifts that Johnson may encounter due to his injuries, and gift cards for food.

As of July 21, the fundraiser has received 23 donations and has raised \$1,070 of its \$2,500 goal.

For more information, visit www.gofundme.com/f/rally-In addition to helping cover ing-together-kindness-counts.

# **Tourism Talks**

Hi Patrick County, that July is already coming to an end. The month has flown by with so many exciting events taking place. One highlight for me was attending the Kibler Valley River Run, hosted by the Red Bank Ruritan Club. It was an amazing experience to witness hundreds of kayaks racing down the river. If you missed it this year, I highly recommend that you make plans rick.va.us. to attend next year's event.

end of July, I wanted

town Cruise on Main Morning Jams at the It's hard to believe Street, featuring a live performance by Whiskey Rebellion. Additionally, the Sheriff's Office will be hosting a National Night Out Celebration on August 1st, with a free concert by Olivia Jo at the Gazebo in DeHart Park. We would love to see you there and please feel free to let us know about your own events, so we can post them on our website. Email me atjhouchins@co.pat-

Lastly, I want to remind you that there is As we approach the always something happening in our commuto mention a couple of nity. Whether it's the upcoming events. On weekly music at the July 29th, the Rotary Willis Gap Community Club is hosting an Up- Center or the Tuesday

Pets of the Week



This little hound mix was found on Taylor View Dr. in Patrick Springs if you recognize him, please call the shelter.

Is this guy pitiful enough for you? This sad boy has been waiting a long time for a home and doesn't know why. He is a real sweetheart and the ladies at the shelter are crazy about him. He just doesn't get along with chickens.

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

Coffee Break, there is always fun, food, and fellowship to be had. So, join us. "Come Get Lost and Find Yourself Here."

James Houchins, **Director of Tourism** 



ational

PATRIC

iaht Out Join the Patrick County Sheriff's Office and Patrick County Tourism for an evening of fun at Dehart Park! This free community event will feature live music, activities, and food. Local volunteers and true sense of unity in public service organizations will run a

variety of displays and activities.

- 5pm-7pm: Food, Displays, Activites
- 7pm-9pm: Music by Olivia Jo

August 01

It's a Free

Event

Go out and have a

our community

**Dehart Park** 212 Wood Brothers Dr. Stuart, VA, 24171

Enjoy the evening filled with food, live music & games

# **VISIT US ONLINE** WWW.THEENTERPRISE.NET

## **ONLINE AUCTION**

Ends Friday, August 25th at 3 PM

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

**Online Auction** 

**Bid Now at VAAuctionPro.com** 

Large Wooded Retreat for Sale at Auction in Martinsville VA TBD Green Acres Circle, Martinsville, VA 24112

## **Bid Now at VAAuctionPro.com**



Check out this exceptional opportunity to own a remarkable wooded retreat in Martinsville VA. This land is richly adorned with a stand of mature Virginia Pines and hardwoods, offering a great escape from the hustle and bustle of city life. This +/- 71.03 acre property provides ample space for your vision. The front portion offers level terrain, providing perfect locations for a dream home or secluded cabin. There are endless opportunities for hunting, camping, and recreation. Enjoy the wildlife and beauty provided by Tanyard Branch. Located conveniently behind the Green Acres Trailer Park, this property offers the best of both worlds with exclusion and easy access to amenities, schools, shopping, and dining options. Do not miss your opportunity to own this extraordinary property! Refer to Bidder Packet at VAAuctionPro.com for VA Forestry Stewardship Plan and Map.

Terms - 10% Buyer's Premium will be added to final high bid to arrive at contract price. Earnest Money Deposit of \$10,000 required on the day of sale. Close on or before October 9th, 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. 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 Pre-Auction offers received. Download Bidder Information Pack for complete terms and conditions, purchase contract, and maps at VAAuctionPro.com.

**CONTACT – Broker & Auctioneer Matt Gallimore at** 540-239-2585 or email gallimore.matt@gmail.com. You can also contact Realtor Michael Stevens at 276-952-8443 or email MichaelStevensRealtor@gmail.com.

102 S. Locust Street, Floyd, VA 24091 (540) 745-2005 /AAuctionPro.com Lic# 2907004059



**Blue Ridge Land** & Auction Co., Inc.



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 #4: 4.988 ac Offering #2: 2.647 ac **Offering #5: 5.40 ac** Offering #6: 3.123 ac Offering #3: 2.045 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 preauction offers received. Download Bidder Information Packet 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



Phone: (540) 745-2005 or Toll Free: (800) 375-0423 102 S. Locust Street, Floyd, VA 24091 brlanda@swva.net • www.BlueRidgeLandandAuction.com



## Williams named Legislator of the Year



Del. Wren Williams, R-Stuart, received the 2023 Cardinal Award Legislator of the Year award from the Virginia Chapter of the American Planning Association (APA) at an annual conference held July 16-19 in Roanoke.

## Portion of road closed through Friday

A portion of Virginia 613 (Lone Ivy Road) will be closed to through traffic for two pipe replacements. The affected portion is from Virginia 8 (Woolwine Highway) to Virginia 736 (Winding Stair Road).

Weather permitting, the road will re-open to traffic on Friday, July 28.

A detour and directional signs will be used to assist motorists.

# SAAA seeks public input

Southern Area Agency on Aging is conducting a public hearing on July 27 at 1 p.m. for input from the community and review of its Plan for Aging Services for Fiscal Year 2024. The hearing will be held at the Henry County Administration Building, 3300 Kings Mountain Road, Martinsville, in the main board room at 1 p.m.

Contact SAAA at (276) 632-6442 to request an electronic copy of the plan. Written comments regarding the plan may be submitted to SAAA at 204 Cleveland Avenue, Martinsville, VA 24112 or via email - tcfontaine@southernaaa.org. A virtual option for the public hearing is planned, contact Michelle Brim at mbrim@southernaaa. org to request Zoom link for the hearing.

The SAAA serves residents in Patrick and Henry counties.

# School board recognizes baseball team

## **By Taylor Boyd**

The Patrick County School Board recognized the Patrick County High School (PCHS) baseball team for its state championship win at a July 20 meeting.

Superintendent Jason Wood said the division is proud of the team, both on and off the field, and recognized their hard work.

"When you talk to other athletic directors and schools, and you

know a lot of our teams win sportsmanship competitions and things, and it's just a testament of the true student athletes that we have. We're very proud of our young men on the baseball team," he said.

Wood also thanked the team for all the hard work they've done this year.

Team coach Sonny Swails, who started the PCHS baseball program in the 1980s and is the father of coach Tal Swails, said the team appreciates the sup-



The Patrick County School Board at a July 20 meeting.

over the past 50 years it's been amazing to get the phone calls and the visits and the emails and the texts. People are proud of this group, and they deserve it because they worked hard, and they are a good a good group of kids. They represent our county well," he said.

In other matters, the board: \*Approved the personnel report as amended.

\*Approved the religious exemption 2023-2024-01 and 2023-2024-02.

\*Approved the consent agenda.

\*Heard the superintendent's report.

\*Approved the Virginia School Board Association (VSBA) policy updates.

\*Appointed Walter Scott, chairman and of the Smith River District, as the VSBA Delegate Assembly board delegate.

\*Appointed Rob Martin. of the Dan River District, as the VSBA Delegate Assembly board alternate delegate.

# Arrests reported

The Patrick County Sheriff's Office reported the following:

\*Carl Richard Eberhardt, 60, of Stuart, was charged July 14 with drive while intoxicated. Lt. D.L. Foley was the arresting officer.

\*August Bailey Holt, 23, of Stuart, was charged July 14 with assault. Deputy J.G. Pickerel was the arresting officer.

\*Steve Adam English, 41, of Arrington, was charged July 16 with three counts of fail to appear. Deputy M.R. Hodges made the arrest for Danville PD and Nelson County.

\*Casey Marie Henderson, 36, of Patrick Springs, was charged July 18 with fail to appear. Deputy C.L. Elgin was the arresting officer.

\*Tanya Leahann Branch, 42, of Patrick Springs, was charged July 19 with one count each obtain money by false pretense and grand larceny steal. Sgt. C. Frick was the arresting officer.

\*William Scott Jackson, 49, of Woolwine, was charged July 19 with malicious wounding. Inv. Linda Martin and Trooper Grant Foley were the arresting officers.

\*Jeffrey Wayne Rogers, 63, of Stuart, was charged July 20 with one count each take ginseng not in season, take/possess endangered/ threatened species, petty larceny, and interfere with property rights of another. Deputy J.G. Pickerel was the arresting officer.

\*William Daniel Rogers, 55, of Stuart, was charged July 20 with one count each take ginseng not in season, take/possess endangered/ threatened species, petty larceny, and interfere with property rights of another. Deputy J.G. Pickerel was the arresting officer.

\*Karleigh Jean Rorrer, 20, of Stuart, was charged July 20 with one count each disregard law enforcement command and reckless drive. Deputy A. Kinney was the arresting officer.

# **General fund** revenues surpass official forecast

Virginia's general fund revenues ended fiscal year 2023 \$3.0 billion over the official revenue forecast, generating \$5.1 billion in excess resources for the year, Gov. Glenn Younkin announced last week. For the full fiscal year, overall general fund revenues were far better than the 14.0 percent decline assumed in the official forecast, declining by just 3.5 percent. The official estimate assumed a reversal of the extraordinary growth in individual income tax nonwithholding payments related to capital gains realizations in the prior year while the actual year-over-year change was significantly smaller than projected.

"Virginians remain overtaxed. Last year we provided \$4 billion of tax relief for individuals, families and veterans. What this year's preliminary numbers tell us is that even after that historic tax package the Commonwealth ended fiscal year 2023 with \$5.1 billion in excess resources, far more than forecasted," said Youngkin. "There is plenty of money in the system to fund our shared priorities of education, behavioral health and law enforcement while returning more of Virginians hard-earned dollars back to their wallets. Just as we did last year, I am calling on the General Assembly to reject the partisan, business-as-usual approach in Richmond, and agree on a deal that lowers the cost of living and cost of doing business in Virginia while investing in our shared priorities. This is not about Republicans and Democrats. It's not about the Senate or the House. It's about delivering for Virginians." "Preliminary year-end results show that revenue collections ended the fiscal year well above expectations. Not only did collections exceed estimates embedded in the current Appropriation Act by \$3.0 billion, revenues also exceeded our updated December projections by \$1.5 billion," said Secretary of Finance Stephen Cummings. "Combined with the December forecasted \$3.6 billion in surplus, the Commonwealth now has \$5.1 billion in excess resources. Fiscal year 2023 results show that we are well positioned to enact an amended budget now and reserve as much as \$1.5 billion to more than adequately protect against a possible economic downturn or other obligations." \*Based on preliminary data, Fiscal Year 2023 revenues exceeded the December Forecast by \$1.46 billion and were \$3.04 billion higher compared to the amended 2022 Appropriation Act (Chapter 769). \*Higher than expected revenue collections were partly attributable to timing issues related to the new Pass-Through Entity Tax (PTET). The Forecast assumed that the new PTET would result in lower Individual Income Tax (ITT) payments in FY 2023 due to the offsetting credits to IIT generated by the PTET. Instead, the uncertainty around the new tax, to a large extent caused taxpayers to defer taking credits until fiscal year 2024. The full impact will be clear once taxpayers who filed on extension file their returns in November. \*Sales tax collections increased 3.9 percent as compared to the annual forecast of a 1.3 percent decline.

port it received from the board and the county.

\*Approved the bid from Frith Construction for the renovation equipment. "Guvs that have played for us of the PCHS locker rooms.

\*Approved the sale of surplus

# Earn blue-ribbon bragging rights in State Fair competitions

You can't win blue-ribbon bragging rights if you don't enter the State Fair of Virginia competitions.

Blue-ribbon winner Novelle Wilkerson of Prince George County said people need to "get out of their comfort zones" and enter a competition. That's what she did.

Wilkerson had purchased a beginner crochet kit to take on a long-distance road trip. After she taught herself to crochet, she decided to enter a couple of crochet categories in the State Fair's creative arts competitions last year.

A mosaic crocheted afghan that took her 8 months to make won a blue ribbon and a "Best of Section" award.

Over 3,500 Virginians entered the State Fair's creative arts, culinary and horticulture competitions last year, and their entries were displayed during the fair. Some categories offer winners small cash prizes in addition bragging-right ribbons. to But it's the blue ribbons that many competitors care about the most.

The fair's competitions have categories for bold bakers, green growers, knowledgeable knitters, weaving wizzes and more. And there are categories for both adults and youth.

Competition guides with entry deadlines, registration and category descriptions for culinary and creative arts and horticulture entries are online at StateFairVa.org. The 2023 State Fair of Virginia will be held from Sept. 22 through Oct. 1.

New this year are grilled cheese and charcuterie com-"Grilled Cheese petitions. Your Way" will be held on Sunday, Sept. 24, at 1 p.m. Competitors will be invited to bring ingredients for their signature grilled cheese, which they will prepare in front of a live audience using skillets and burners provided by the fair.

Those interested in competing in the Charcuterie Competition will need to assemble their boards using at least four Virginia products, and then bring the charcuterie platters to the fair for judging.

The fair also is offering new Virginia outdoor-themed categories, including deer and fish mounts and antler art.

Returning favorites include a salsa competition and a scarecrow contest-both part of the horticulture category.

Longtime competitor and multiple-ribbon winner Lesley Russell from Henrico County said everyone has

something they are good at, and she encourages other Virginians to try their hand at entering at least one of the competitions.

"They don't have to be crazy like me and bake for four days straight," Russell quipped. "But everyone should try."

Sarah Jane Thomsen, the fair's manager of agriculture education and strategic programming partnerships, noted that anyone can enter the arts and crafts, culinary and horticulture competitions if they meet the criteria.

"Some people think you have to win at a county fair before you can compete at the state fair, but that's not the case," she said.

She added that in addition to winning ribbons and bragging rights, competitors in many classes contribute to the fair's mission of educating the public about agriculture and drawing connections to where fairgoers' food is grown.

The State Fair is held each fall at its permanent home at The Meadow Event Park in Caroline County. The event celebrates the best of Virginia's past, present and future through scholarship initiatives, creative programming and a focus on the commonwealth's agriculture and natural resources industries.

## (See General p. 6)







# Local news is good for business

**Dean Ridings | America's Newspapers** 

It's no secret that recent years have been tough on small businesses and on newspapers. A bipartisan bill, the Community News & Small



Business Support Act, that has been introduced in Congress would offer relief to both newspapers and local businesses. For too many newspapers, help can't come soon enough. Economic challenges have resulted in too many communities seeing their local newspapers being forced to lay off staff, cut back on publication days or — worse yet — close. On average, two newspapers are closing each week. That hurts local businesses and residents in the long (and short) run. However, despite the challenges, what remains true is that local newspapers make a difference in their communities.

But, don't just take my word for it. Let's look at the numbers and why America's Newspapers has been pushing for the Community News & Small Business Support Act to be introduced.

A recent national study of 5,000 Americans over the age of 18 was conducted by the independent research firm Coda Ventures for America's Newspapers, and provides compelling evidence of the importance, relevance and vitality of today's newspapers in the American media landscape.

newspaper makes a difference. you more news! It's a win-win for Americans read/use local news "to on local issues, to find places and about things happening in the community, because they find it enjoycitizen. And, contrary to popular belief, readers across all age groups turn to local newspapers and their digital products to stay informed about their communities. Readers also told us they need more local news from their community paper. As one survev respondent in California said, "Our paper keeps getting smaller. I would like to see more news items,

what's happening in town, what's new in politics, etc. And they need to be quicker to respond to breaking news.'

All of that takes a committed, local staff - something the legislation introduced by Congresswoman Claudia Tenney (NY-24) and Congresswoman Suzan DelBene (WA-1) will help to make happen.

So, what would this legislation mean to your local community?

Local businesses with fewer than 50 employees would receive a fiveyear non-refundable tax credit of up to \$5,000 in the first year and up to \$2,500 in the subsequent four years based on their spending level with local newspapers and local media. Our study showed that six out of 10 American adults use newspaper advertising to help them decide what brands, products and local services to buy. Newspaper readers also are almost twice as likely to purchase products from a number of important advertising categories than non-newspaper readers, including automobiles, trucks and SUVs; home furnishings; home improvement products and services; and home services like pest control, plumbing, heating, etc.

With this legislation, we expect to see more businesses being able to afford to advertise to consumers, which — in turn — helps communities thrive.

For local newspapers, a five-year refundable tax credit would help Readers told us that their local them hire more journalists to bring The study shows that 79 percent of local communities. Newspapers would receive a tax credit to be used stay informed" about their cities, for the compensation of journalists. counties and communities. They The credit would cover 50% of jouralso said they rely on their local pa- nalists' compensation in the first per to feel connected to their com- year and 30% of compensation (up munity, to decide where they stand to \$50,000) in the subsequent four years. This tax credit would only things to do, to talk with people be available to local community papers with fewer than 750 employees and, if they don't invest in their able/entertaining and to be a better newsroom, they don't get the credit. And these tax credits are only available to local newspapers. National newspaper outlets are not eligible.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## **Clark recognized for service**

In my recent letter identifying this year, and did a yeoman's job of put on this year's Fourth of July Fireworks Display, I inadvertently omitted the name of Blair Clark, of Stuart Fire Department. Blair was in charge of perimeter security

**Praise for Carlin** 

I would like to commend Susan Carlin for her letter "In search of common ground" in the July 19 edition. Her criticism was on target.

I also noted another letter in that edition which falls in the same category. It considers major news organizations as "social media" - a rather strange categorization. I note it did not include FOX news - another supporter of such conspiracies. FOX already paid 787 million to settle the suit from Dominion, and the suit by Smartmatics is set for trial in 2025. That's a larger claim (2.7 billion as I recall) and the delay in that litigation is likely because of the size of Smartmatics and the time required to complete discovery in so many countries where they are the major supplier of voting equipment. I would like to think that the litigation would bankrupt FOX, but I don't think that is likely with the available assets of Rupert.

I further can only assume that such letter writers are part of the

those hardworking persons who keeping both the scene and spectators safe.

> I regret the omission. Chris Corbett, Patrick County Fireworks Coordinator

"Trump Cult," who believe conspiracy theories are better than facts. Maybe they will change when Trump is convicted of his many efforts to destroy this country and they have no "leader." And maybe, someday, they will actually understand that the world is round, and climate change is reality. One can only hope that occurs sooner rather than later.

Again, thank you Ms. Carlin for a very straight-forward letter. You obviously understand the world around us and the problems we have with persons who cannot accept reality. And I'm frankly embarrassed to show my address, as required – the state of TN itself is now governed by that same gerrymandered Trump Cult who call themselves evangelical and want to force their ridiculous ideas on ev-

## **Peace on Earth**

I am writing to comment on the ists" without offering any credible letter by William Salser (The Enterprise, July 12, 2023) that posed the question, "Are Wildfires Getting Worse?"

The writer refers to the wildfires in Canada which are responsible for the poor air quality we have recently experienced. The writer, however, goes on to state that wildfires and extreme weather events have no relationship to climate change. He writes, "No such connection ex-



eryone. William S. "Sandy" Rodgers Brentwood, Tenn.

support for his conclusion. Out of forty prior years' worth of statistics on the number of wildfires and acres burned, a person can't just choose two years that have higher numbers than 2022 and conclude, as he does, that the rate of wildfires is becoming less frequent.

Meanwhile, the writer takes advantage of his platform to address wildfires and brings up the Feb-(See Letters p. 11)

The importance of local newspapers and local business is the reason Reps. Tenney and DelBene introduced the legislation. We are most grateful for their support.

We need your support, as well, to encourage legislators to enact this (See News p. 6)

Your relationships are why Ashbrook Audiology has corrected hearing issues for 20 years. Your relationships are more important than anything else in your life. Correcting your hearing issues positively improves every relationship you have. People just like you regain and strengthen their relationships with their family and friends everyday because they discovered Ashbrook Audiology. Come in today and experience firsthand the incredible and affordable increase in your quality of life these communication systems can bring you, and from professionals who wear hearing instruments themselves.



## WE TAKE YOUR **RELATIONSHIPS SERIOUSLY!** DO YOU!



Cynthia M. Jones, AA, AS

1111 Spruce Street MARTINSVILLE, VA (276) 666-0401

4500 Riverside Drive DANVILLE, VA (434) 792-2182

1-877-610-HEAR (4327)

# Weekly SUDOKU

## by Linda Thistle

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

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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## 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.

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## www.theenterprise.net

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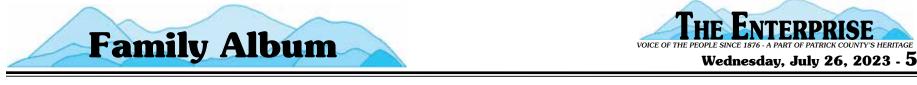
Michael Showell Publisher Debbie Hall Editor

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The columnists' views appearing on this page do not necessarily reflect the editorial position of The Enterprise.

Weekly SUDOKU

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# **Turmeric: "The Golden Spice of India"**

If an official list existed covering the world's most valuable herbs, surely turmeric would be near the top. In recent years, I've been hearing more about turmeric, but I never realized just how many conditions it can improve or aid with. Perhaps one of the most underused natural medicines in Western countries, the spice of turmeric has long been a staple in Indian and Chinese dishes and regarded as a healing herb for numerous ailments. Dubbed "Indian Saffron," turmeric is well known to be an integral part of many delicious curry dishes, which is responsible for the yellow color and unique warm, yet slightly bitter flavor.

Turmeric originates from the root of the Curcuma longa plant, a perennial rhizomatous plant, and is part of the ginger family. It is derived from the rhizomes and dried and ground into a powder. The active component of turmeric (about 2-5%) is curcumin.7 Cultivated in the tropics, the majority of turmeric is produced in India and 80% is consumed there.1,4 Turmeric has been used in holistic and medicinal healing in South Asia for centuries. It is now considered to be one of the most studied medicinal plants. Between 3,000-8,000 researched articles and studies have examined turmeric and curcumin and have found it to be beneficial for over 581 various diseases.6 Modern medicine is now recognizing its usefulness as publications and studies on both animals and humans are increasing.

Research on the benefits of turmeric have revealed it to have possible antioxidant, antiviral, anti-inflammatory, antiseptic, analgesic, anti-allergic, anti-mutagenic, anti-fungal, antimicrobial, anticancer, digestive, diuretic, circulatory, and cardiovascular properties among others. It helps to both increase antioxidant enzymes and destroy free radicals. It can be useful against bacterial and viral infections. Consistent use of curcumin appears to increase immunity.2,4,7

## Nutrients:

Including turmeric in the diet also expands one's nutrient consumption, as it can be a good source of dietary fiber, pyridoxine, vitamin C, Vitamin B6, potassium, copper, iron, zinc, magnesium, manganese, and phosphorus. Some studies believe that turmeric may be 5-8 times stronger than vitamin E and C.1,6

### **Disease Prevention**:

Turmeric has traditionally been used to help with inflammatory (osteoarthritis, rheumatoid arthritis, tendonitis), respiratory (asthma, bronchitis, COPD, lung infections), and digestive (UTI's, IBS) diseases. A 2010 clinical trial revealed that turmeric capsules improved long-term pain relief for 100 patients with knee osteoarthritis. In 2012, another study indicated those with rheumatoid arthritis had reduced joint swelling and pain, and that turmeric may be even more effective than anti-inflammatory drugs.6 Turmeric oil was found to be effective in relieving respiratory disorders such as asthma. In human studies, turmeric extract has been shown to help with IBS. The curcumin in turmeric appears to stimulate bile production, which aids in proper digestion.1,4,7 Other benefits include help with gallbladder issues, ulcer healing, heartburn, abdominal pain, flatulence, bloating, menstrual pains, colic, hemorrhoids, food poisoning, jaundice, and bowel disease.

## Heart Disease, Diabetes and Cancer:

In animal studies, turmeric helped to lower cholesterol levels and kept LDL (commonly called "bad cholesterol") from building up, therefore preventing blood clots.6 Turmeric may help improve circulation and protect against atherosclerosis. It was also an effective treatment for urinary tract infections connected with diabetes mellitus. 4 The antioxidant properties in turmeric appear to be beneficial in reducing oxidative stress induced

by diabetes.1 A study published by Dawn Youmans MPH. Used by perthe Journal of Diabetes Care found that pre-diabetics who took curcumin capsules were less likely to progress into type II diabetes than those who did not, as it helped to minimize insulin resistance. 6

Additional findings have shown turmeric to help decrease tumor

formation and assist in protecting against cell damage, which could help fight breast, prostate, stomach, colon, oral and skin cancers. Because of its value on almost all cancers, research in India recommends using turmeric in cancer patients. Turmeric increases DNA repair and even turmeric cooked in high temperatures still contains the anti-mutagenic benefits.3 Research found that curcumin could suppress the growth of tumors, inhibit the spread of cancer and help with prevention. overall Published in the Journal of Nutritional Biochemistry, researchers found that in 9 out of 11 studies curcumin reduced brain tumors (by 81%) with no suggestion of toxicity.6

This promising and inexpensive herb will likely only increase in popularity as studies are more widely circulated and its usage for various disease treatment continues. With no known harm or side effects it is reasonable to say that this Indian staple would be a great addition to every diet.

(Submitted by Betty Dean. Written by



mission from www.lifeandhealth. org Courtesy of LifeSpring - Resources for Hope and Healing Stuart. VA

**\*\***For research references, please see original article at www.lifeandhealth.org.

## Social Security Matters

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

## Ask Rusty – Will WEP and GPO Affect My Wife's Spousal Benefit?

Dear Rusty: My wife worked for the US Postal Service in New York for about 22 years, and then in the private sector for about 15 years. She began collecting her "deferred annuity" from the USPS at age 62 and she plans to collect her Social Security benefits at age 67, which is her full retirement age (FRA).

Her Social Security benefit before the Windfall Elimination Provision is less than 50% of my Primary Insurance Amount, so the plan is for her to start collecting a "spousal" benefit from me at age 67. My question is: will my wife's spousal benefit be reduced by both the Windfall Elimination Provision and the Government Pension Offset (GPO)? Signed: Inquiring Husband

Dear Inquiring Husband: Your wife cannot separate her personally earned Social Security retirement benefit from her Social Security spousal entitlement from you - whenever she applies for Social Security, your wife will be automatically deemed to be filing for all benefits she is entitled to when she claims.

Because your wife has a "non-covered pension" from the US Postal Service (USPS) and assuming that pension is under the older "CSRS" (Civil Service Retirement System)

- your wife's personally earned SS retirement benefit will be reduced by the Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP). WEP reduces Social Security retirement benefits for anyone who also has a pension earned while not contributing to Social Security.

The Government Pension Offset (GPO) is different: the GPO will affect any additional amount your wife is entitled to as your spouse, which we refer to as her "spousal boost." The "spousal boost" amount is the difference between your wife's pre-WEP FRA entitlement and 50% of your FRA entitlement, which is your Primary Insurance Because of her USPS pension, Amount. GPO will reduce your wife's "spousal boost" by 2/3rds of the amount of her non-covered pension, which may eliminate her potential spousal boost. So WEP will affect your wife's personally earned SS benefit, and the GPO will affect her spousal entitlement from you. But, depending on the amount of her USPS pension, your wife will not be entitled to an additional amount as your spouse if 2/3rds of her USPS pension amount is more than her "spousal boost" amount. And if the GPO doesn't completely eliminate your wife's spousal boost, it will at least drastically reduce it. I have previously published several articles about both WEP and GPO and how each provision works, which you are welcome to review at the AMAC Foundation's special Social Security website - www.SocialSecurityReport.org. In particular, one such article providing more detail on how the GPO works can be found at this link: www.socialsecurityreport.org/ask-rusty-government-pensionoffset-gpo/. Social Security will make the final determination about your wife's benefit entitlement under WEP and GPO when she applies for her Social Security benefits, but I'm afraid your wife's entitlement may be much less than you are anticipating because of these two provisions. If you have additional questions, please feel free to contact us directly via email at SSAdvisor@amacfoundation. org or call us directly at 1.888.750.2622.

# Patrick **Pioneers**

**David Harbour Martin and Harriet Bowling Martin** 

## By Beverly Belcher Woody

Have you ever known anyone who was granted a pardon from the President of the United States of America? I doubted that anyone from Patrick County had ever received one until Ron Martin discovered that his ancestor David Harbour Martin was granted a pardon by President Grover Cleveland in 1888. More about that later.....

For the past few weeks, we have been learning about  $_{\mathrm{the}}$ sons of Moses Josephus Martin, Jr. and Sarah Moles; this week we will learn about their son David Harbour Martin who was born

Martins and Bowlings. (Thank you, Amy Suzanne Martin.)

on the 11th of July of 1846. He was only sixteen years old when he enlisted with the 51st Virginia Infantry, Company F at Giles County, Virginia. David had joined alongside his older brother, William Green Martin (See Pioneers p. 11)





Martin family. (Courtesy Amy Suzanne Martin.)



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## Denny Hamlin Wins HighPoint.com 400 at Pocono Raceway

## By Holly Cain

**NASCAR Wire Service** Denny Hamlin prevailed a tight door-to-door bump-and-go pass on Kyle Larson with seven laps remaining to claim a historic all-time best seventh NA-SCAR Cup Series victory at Pocono (Pa.) Raceway – the win in Sunday's HighPoint. com 400 also marking Hamlin's 50th career trophy and second of the 2023 season.

The race ended under caution for a last lap incident elsewhere on track, and the Pocono crowd voiced its displeasure, booing loudly as Hamlin's No. 11 Joe Gibbs Racing Toyota led the field to pit road at the 2.5-mile track after the checkered flag. Hamlin, 42, maintained the action was just close-quarter racing for a win. Larson, who finished 21st after the contact, disagreed and was none too happy with his good friend and golf partner.

"Both guys wrecked themselves," Hamlin said of Larson and contact he had earlier with Larson's teammate Alex Bowman. "There was a lane. He [Larson] missed the corner first and evidently didn't have his right side tires clean and when he gassed up and got going again, you have an option in those positions to either hold it wide open and hit the fence or lift and race it out.

"Those were choices they made. I didn't hit either one of them. Didn't touch them."

"I love it, I love it," Hamlin said, acknowledging the boos



Denny Hamlin, driver of the #11 Mavis Tires & Brakes Toyota, celebrates in victory lane after winning the NASCAR Cup Series HighPoint.com 400 at Pocono Raceway on July 23, 2023 in Long Pond, Pennsylvania. (Photo by Sean Gardner/Getty Images)

best car and the strategy worked out. Just so happy we're winning these races we should win.'

Larson, the 2021 NA-SCAR Cup Series champion, did not mince words after climbing out of his No. Hendrick Motorsports  $\mathbf{5}$ Chevrolet. Instead of a Top-5 finish – or possible victory - he recovered from the incident to cross the finish line 21st.

"First off, really proud of my team, they got us in position to race for the win," said Larson, who did earn the Stage 2 win - his third of the year. "We got spun early [in the race] and the car was never really the same after that, but we played the strategy really well to get us up there. Just unfortunate.

"I've been cost a lot of good finishes by him throughout my career, and I know he says that I race a certain way, but I don't think I've ever had to apologize to him "I thought we had the sure he'll say 'I'm sorry' af-

ter this but it is what it is.

"Just move on and try to go to Richmond, where we won earlier this year.

"It is what it is. Yeah, we're friends. Yes,  $_{\mathrm{this}}$ makes things awkward. But he's always right. All the buddies know, Denny's always right. It is what it is. I'm not gonna let it tarnish our friendship off track. But I am pissed, and I feel like I should be pissed.

"I think at this point I have the right," Larson said of potentially racing Hamlin differently on track going forward. "Like I've said, I've never had to apologize to him about anything I've done on the racetrack. I can count four or five times where he's had to reach out to me and say, 'sorry I've put you in a bad spot there.' So eventually, like he says, you have to start racing people a certain way to get the respect back."

about anything, not that I'm its 600th career win in the three NASCAR national se- fresh tires.

ries combined and led his Joe Gibbs Racing teammate Martin Truex Jr. across the three consecutive restarts finish line. Tyler Reddick, after the Stage 1 break imwho drives for the 23XI Racing Toyota team that Hamlin is part-owner of, finished third. Stewart-Haas Racing's Kevin Harvick and the remaining two JGR cars of rookie Ty Gibbs and Christopher Bell rounded out the Top-6.

Ricky Stenhouse Jr., Harrison Burton and Hendrick's Chase Elliott rounded out the top-10. It marked the second top-10 of the season for the 22-year old Burton. And the effort from Elliott leaves him 59-points out of the 16-driver Playoff pool with five more regular season races remaining for the 2020 series champion to race for another trophy, after missing six races in 2023.

Elliott's Hendrick Motorsports teammate, the race polesitter William Byron, led the most laps (60) of the day, but finished 24th. He now trails Truex by 30 points for the regular season title.

Varying pit strategies and in particular on the final green flag run - changed the leaderboard in the last 30-40 laps of the race. Some drivers that hadn't run top-5 all day postponed their last stop hoping for a caution flag. However, the day's strongest cars were in position to settle the trophy; some – such as Larson and Hamlin - on a two-tire Hamlin earned Toyota pit stop and some – such as Truex and Byron - with four

There were 11 cautions on the day and incidents on pacted the Playoff situations of multiple drivers.

The first re-start following the Stage break not only involved the Stage 1 winner Joey Logano, but also collected Trackhouse Racing's Daniel Suarez who went into the race a mere 1-point behind Michael McDowell for that 16th and final Playoff position. McDowell's car suffered some damage too, but he was able to drive on. Logano's No. 22 Penske Racing Ford was towed back and repaired but Suarez's No. 99 Trackhouse Racing Chevrolet pit needing extensive work and ultimately drove back to the garage.

With five races remaining, Suarez dropped to 18th in the championship standings and his deficit to 16th place McDowell now stands at 23 points.

"At the end of the day it's our fault we shouldn't be back there with those guys, squirrels," a frustrated Suarez said, adding, "It was a racing incident, but we shouldn't be racing those guys. We can only control what we can control.'

The summer run to the Playoffs continues next week with the Cook Out 400 next Sunday afternoon at Richmond (Va.) Raceway (3 p.m. ET, USA Network, MRN, SiriusXM NASCAR Radio). Kevin Harvick is the defending race winner. Kyle Larson won at Richmond this Spring

# State department releases model policies for schools

ment of Education released students," said Secretary Superintendent of Pub- curate, and useful guidance mote a safe and supportthe final Model Policies of Education Aimee Guid- lic Instruction Dr. Lisa to Virginia school boards ive learning environment on Ensuring Privacy, Dig- era. "These policies clarify Coons. "We are elevating that align with statutory nity, and Respect for All Students and Parents in priate decision makers re- a seat at the table. We en-Virginia's Public Schools garding their child's health courage all school divisions guard parents' rights with schools to inform parents last week. After the 2021 and wellbeing, and that to review the policies and respect to their child. of bullying incidents with-Model Policies purposeful- students are best served implement them into their School officials will defer to in 24 hours and cites to the ly kept parents in the dark when about their child's health and school administrators and wellbeing at school, the 2023 Model Policies restore parental rights in decision making about their child's identity while protecting the safety and dignity of all students.

Virginia Depart- environment for all our in their education," said Policies to provide clear, acthat parents are the appro- parents and giving them

provisions.

The Model Policies safeparents in decisions about ration with their school a child's identity, and keep parents informed about their child's wellbeing. The Code of Virginia § 22.1- Model Policies also clarify 23.3 requires the Virginia that a student's individu-Department of Education al needs should be taken to adopt model policies into consideration by their school, and schools should of transgender students in attempt to accommodate students with distinctive

The Model Policies profree from discrimination and harassment for all students. The policies direct state "safe harbor" statute that protects against disclosure of certain information that may put a child at risk. The policies also take additional steps to ensure schools protect the privacy and dignity of all students through bathroom policies, student identification measures, athletic policies, and parental involvement.

parents, teachers, work as a team to support a child's education. They also affirm that discrimination and bullying of any kind will not be tolerated in Virginia's public schools."

"These policies provide "There is nothing more families the opportunity important than creating a to weigh in on their child's safe and vibrant learning decisions and be a partner ment issues the 2023 Model needs.

policies in collabolocal boards and community stakeholders."

concerning the treatment public schools. The Depart-

## PCHS Alumni recognized with award General

Dayna Bobbitt, Angie Brown, Sandra Heath and Beth Lackey, all graduates of Patrick County High School, were recently recognized as 2023 Distinguished Alumni of Patrick and Henry Community College

(P&HCC) at the Patrick & Hen- Brown currently serves as the ry Community College Foundation's 15th Annual Banquet at Chatmoss Country Club. The four were recognized along with seven other recipients from throughout the state.

Bobbitt earned her associate degree in science from P&HCC and continued her education earning a Bachelor of Arts degree in Communications and Public Relations with a minor in business leadership and Juris Doctor from the University of South Carolina School of Law. Bobbitt is the Commonwealth's Attorney in Patrick County.

Brown earned her associate degree in business administration from P&HCC and continued her education earning a Bachelor of Business Administration degree in Accounting from Radford University.



Dayna Bobbitt

Site Facilitator at the Patrick County site of Patrick & Henry Community College.

Heath earned her associate degree in computer information systems, Microcomputer Specialist from P&HCC and continued her education earning a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration from Averett University. Heath is in her 27th year serving as District Manager for the Patrick County Soil and Water Conservation District, a sub-division of the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Lackey earned her associate degree in general studies from P&HCC and continued her education earning a Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology from Ferrum College, a Master of Arts degree in counselor education and a Doctor of Philoso-



Beth Lackey

phy in counselor education and supervision from Virginia Tech. Lackey is a Licensed Profession-Counselor in Virginia and al is the Executive Director and co-founder of A Tree Planted Counseling, Roanoke Refugee Partnership director and adjunct professor in the Counselor Education department at Virginia Tech.

Each year, the Patrick Henry Community College Foundation names its Distinguished Alumni based on academic achievement, career success and community involvement. Alumni who have graduated with a degree or certificate or have completed a minimum of 24 credit hours at P&HCC, have demonstrated success, and have provided significant service in local, state, or national organizations are eligible for nomination.

## (cont. from page 3)

\*Payroll withholding grew 4.0 percent, exceeding the forecast of a 0.1 percent decline.

\*Corporate income tax collections grew 2.6 percent compared to the official estimate of a 12.2 percent decline.

## News -

## (cont. from page 4)

legislation. Please contact the offices of your senators and representatives in the U.S. Congress and encourage them to add their support to this legislation. These tax credits aren't permanent; they will sunset in five years. But, these critical five years will allow the newspaper industry the time needed to address the challenges that it is facing from Big Tech, which often uses newspapers' content without compensation, as well as

other technological and market challenges. Visit www.usa.gov/ elected-officials for the contact information for your legislators.

\*A complete account-

Committee

ing of all final revenue

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Dean Ridings isthe CEO of America's Newspapers, an organization serving more than 1,550 newspapers across the U.S. and Canada. Learn more at newspapers.org.

## sources will be available after final yearend close and will be released on August 23 when the Governor speaks at the Joint Money Meeting.

## **County celebrates Dolly Parton's Imagination Library 200 Millionth Book** Milestone

ination Library turning over a new chapter in The Imag- global 200 million book ination Library leg- milestone, seven enacy - celebrating 200 chanting Dolly bookmillion books gifted marks will be randomly globally since incep- hidden inside Imagination in 1995. The early childhood book-gifting program mails a high-quality, free book each month to children from birth ly enrolled in the proto age five. Imagination Library of Patrick be enrolled by July 31, County is excited to to receive Imagination celebrate with every Library books in Sepchild/family enrolled tember). locally. We started this program in April and



Edd Martin, Broker 276-952-5008



Margaret Blevins 276-692-5376



Stephen Henderson

Dolly Parton's Imag- already have over 100 is kids enrolled.

> To celebrate this tion Library books gifted during International Literacy Month (September) to children/families currentgram. (Children must

Seven random children/families in five countries who find the Dolly bookmarks the true heroes of her in their Imagination program. Library books will reautographed Local Imagination Li- ity,



brary Partner in their community as a thank you to who Dolly calls

Inspired by her faceive, if they choose, a ther's inability to read video chat with Dolly, and write, Dolly starta personalized signed ed the Imagination letter from Dolly, an Library in 1995 to photo serve the children of from Dolly, and four her hometown in Sevi-Dollywood Theme Park er County, Tennessee. tickets. The Dollywood Today, her program Foundation will also spans five countries donate \$2000 on be- and gifts over 2.4 milhalf of the child to their lion free, high-qualage-appropriate

gram, and it is open to age of five in geographic areas with operating programs.

been one of my great- dren to dream more, lion-books.

books each month to est gifts in life to help children around the instill a love of reading world. There is never a through my Imaginacharge to families who tion Library. Reach- Million Reasons to participate in the pro- ing 200 million books worldwide is a major all children under the milestone that I'm so very proud of, and I want to thank all of our local program partners, "I know there are chil- funders and supporters dren in communities from the bottom of my around the world with heart. But we're just big dreams and the getting warmed up, we seeds of these dreams have so much more to are often found in do! Together, we can books," said Dolly. "It's inspire even more chil- library.com/200-mil-

learn more, care more and be more."

Participating in 200 Celebrate is voluntary and does not affect enrollment in Dolly Parton's Imagination Library. All children under five years of age who are actively enrolled in Dolly Parton's Imagination Library by July 31 can participate. To learn more, visit www.imagination-

# County -

## (cont. from page 1)

Board that her phone was out of service from June 4 to June 20, and was out a total of 25 days over the previous three months, Hall wrote.

"This is problematic on many fronts, but particularly because of health issues of members of the household," he wrote. Harmon's telephone "is literally her lifeline, and her attempts to get this issue solved directly with Brightspeed have not succeeded.

Harmon told the board that she has seen telephone lines draped over mailboxes, lying flat across roads, and propped up in some areas with sticks. She said repair crews "have told her that (they) have orders not to work on anything unless it's broken," Hall wrote.

"It seems logical that being without crucial phone service on a regular basis fits that definition, yet no corrective



poration Commission for its input and assistance," Hall wrote.

He also offered to pass along Harmon's telephone number if either Stanley or Williams wanted to call her.

"Hopefully, her telephone will be work-

Broadband is a must-have for our businesses, students, residents, and entrepreneurs, and in areas with poor cell coverage, reliable landlines are essential for the health, safety, and well-being of all our residents.

276-229-9684



Vicki Porter 276-694-6563



Pam Joyce 276-732-0802



Cameron Kolinski 276-340-8181



Deana Clark 276-229-7937



adding the issue isn't limited to Harmon.

"Our office has heard from other citizens with similar issues and non-responses," Hall wrote.

In conclusion, "we ask that you do

## Town -

## (cont. from page 1)

be an acceptable zoning verbiage," Weiland said. "If it were to happen, we could revisit this possibility and just keep this in our back pocket in a file somewhere until it's necessary."

Simmons said, "Our council: timeframe is sort of wide open right now. on the Star Theater We are not under any inspection report. Sim-

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measures are being taken," he wrote, ing on the day you reach out to her," Hall wrote.

"Dozens of constituents have reached out to my office about unacceptably poor broadband and landline service," Williams said. "I understand how vital whatever you can to help us with this it is for our district to have high-qualiissue, and to reach out to the State Cor- ty broadband access and phone service.

Williams added that he will continue working to secure funding for more telecommunications investments" and work with providers to step in and fill the gap in quality service that our residents are suffering from."

Stanley did not respond to requests for comment.

#### sort of deadline for approval to have this crack in the back exterior wall. property rezoned for It "starts at the top this proposed zoning verbiage," he said of the request to change the

property from Commu-

nity/Regional/Commer-

cial to a Medical Hospi-

In other matters, the

\*Heard an update

mons said the report

noted there were a cou-

would need to look at

tal Center District.

It doesn't make it all tion, the foundation is still completely solid, no cracks," he said.

Simmons said it's obvious the crack happened since renovations were done to the building because it is not painted.

"If I had to make ple of things the town an educated guess, I would say it happened

long-term, including a at the same time that the earthquake happened in Sparta bethat's around cause and goes halfway down. the same time that we had those cast-iron wathe way to the founda- ter lines that broke on Blue Ridge Street," he said.

> Simmons said another issue the inspection report noted was rotted-out boards on the back deck.

"I think our Downtown project is basically going to already address that, and I don't think that should be the deterrent," Simmons said.

# **Board**

## (cont. from page 1)

the Transfer Station, Recreation Depart-Tourism ment, and Department to open checking accounts.

\*Approved the bills, claims, and appropriations.

\*Approved the June 12 meeting minutes.

\*Heard the administrator's report.

\*Heard the supervisors' reports.

\*Nominated Jane

\*Approved using American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds to pay the town's auditors.

\*Discussed the need to update the town's employee handbook.

\*Heard an update on public works projects.

\*Discussed town policy

\*Discussed repainting the caboose, but reached no decision.

\*Approved the meeting minutes.

\*Paid the bills.

\*Discussed the town's water bills.

Cardwick to the Blue Ridge District seat on the Department of Social Services (DSS) board for a term ending April 2025.

\*Appointed Rick Worley to the Smith River District seat on the Economic Development Authority (EDA) for a term ending August 2023.

\*Heard an update on the Transfer Station equipment repairs.



Let's be human-traffic heroes! Help stop abuse in Virginia by calling #77 as soon as you see it.





Paul Sylvester Turner

## Shanta receives Presidential **Citation Award**

The Virginia Technology and Engineering Education Association (VTEEA) recognized Dr. Susheela Shanta, the Coordinator of Academic Programs focusing on STEM education at the New College Institute (NCI) in Martinsville, with the prestigious Presidential Citation Award. This distinguished accolade was presented to Dr. Shanta by Amy Sabarre, President of VTEEA, during the Annual Conference held in Hampton, Virginia, on July 17-20.

The Presidential Citation Award is bestowed upon individuals who have demonstrated exceptional leadership and dedicated service in support of technology and engineering education, across the Commonwealth of Virginia. Dr. Shanta's outstanding contributions to the field and her unwavering commitment to fostering STEM education for all students made her a standout choice for this esteemed recognition.

the award, shared heartwarming words about Dr. Shanta's remarkable journey and her profound impact on STEM education, "This next award is pretty special to me. This is called the Presidential Citation Award, and it's my choice. This next awardee was an engineer in tion by my peers. Thank you!' her past life, and she also did urban development. She taught as an engineering teacher in Roanoke, Virginia, and at one of the Governor's STEM academies. She received her doctorate from Virginia Tech in integrative STEM education and is now the Coordinator of Academic Programs that focus on STEM education at New College Institute in my hometown, Martinsville, Virginia. Susheela and I work on the Governor's STEM Advisory Board together. We both were appointed. She also served on writing the performance metrics for the Advancing Excellence in Engineering Education, and we worked together in that project. She is extremelv knowledgeable, hardworking, kind, and she advocates for STEM education for all students. Most re- rick counties.



Dr. Susheela Shanta, of the New College Institute (NCI) in Martinsville, was a recent recipient of the Presidential Citation Award.

cently, she is working to create a state STEM ecosystem in the Martinsville area. It is my pleasure and honor to present this Presidential Citation to Susheela Shanta."

Dr. Shanta, upon receiving the award, expressed her gratitude and shared her perspective on her career and dedication to education, remarked, "I have always been fortunate to have had an opportunity in all stages of my career over 35 years to be able to make a living doing what is my passion: a holistic approach to community develop-Amy Sabarre, while presenting ment. I believe that every individual (child or adult) needs to be able to access education that will prepare them for their future, and I believe as educators we are all trying to do that. I am truly surprised by this award today and am humbled by this acknowledgment and apprecia-

> In addition to being honored with the Presidential Citation Award, Dr. Shanta also showcased her expertise at the conference by presenting on the topic of "STEM Ecosystems: Fostering STEM Literacy for All and Preparing the Next Generation of Innovators." Her involvement in the conference further highlights her dedication to advancing STEM education and promoting a holistic approach to community development.

> Dr. Shanta's exceptional contributions to the field of technology and engineering education have not only positively impacted her local community but have also inspired educators and students across the Commonwealth of Virginia.

> NCI serves both Henry and Pat-

## Number of initial claims decrease

The number of initial claims de- efit payment. This is because the ini-

#### Mr. Paul Sylvester had retired from Bas-Turner, age 87 of Stusett Table Company. Surviving is his wife, art, passed away Fri-

day, July 21, 2023, at Erlene T. Turner of the his home. He was born home; one sister and in Stokes County on brother-in-law, Gene-February 7, 1936, to va and Junior Cregger the late Henry Turn- of Walnut Cove, NC; er and Nannie Brown and several nieces and Turner. In addition to nephews. his parents, he was pre-

Funeral services will ceded in death by three be held Monday, July sisters, Pheobe Ayers, 24, 2023, at 2:00 PM at Louise Shelton, and Moody Funeral Home Pauline Shields. Paul in Stuart with Pastor

Shaun Draughn officiating. Burial will follow in the Patrick Memorial Gardens. The family will receive friends one hour prior to the service at the funeral home. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to T and B Volunteers, 2273 S. Mayo Dr., Stuart, VA 24171. Online condolences may be sent to www.moodyfuneralservices.com.

## **Pastor Ricky Eugene Anderson**

God, in His infinite wisdom, closed the book of life on Pastor Ricky Eugene Anderson on Friday, July 13, 2023. He was born on January 25, 1953, in Salisbury, North Carolina, to the late Carl Edward Anderson and Claytie Vernell Cheek Anderson.

Pastor Anderson enjoyed gardening. spending time with family and friends, woodworking, and keeping bees. He will be remembered mostly for being a wonderful and caring husband, father, and pastor. He also put everyone else's needs before his own as he was always visiting his church members and the elderly. He was the pastor of Pleasant View Baptist Church for twenty-five years, prior to that anie); his fur babies, he pastored 5 other Sophie Jean, and Joy churches, one in South Lynn; three brothers, Carolina, four in North Robert Edward An-

## **Gary Lawson Cockram**

Mr. Gary Lawson Cockram, age 77 of Meadows of Dan, passed away Thursday, July 20, 2023, at his home. He was born in Patrick County on November 28, 1945, to the late Arthur G. Cockram and Lois Edna Lawson Cockam. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by two brothers, Ronald Cockram and Michael Cockram. Gary had been the Vocational Director at Galax High School and then taught horticulture at Carroll County High School. He was ram of Meadows of an F.F.A advisor and Dan, Darlene Cockram an alumni of Virginia of Meadows of Dan; Tech. He loved traveling and taking pictures. and daughter-in-law, date. Moody Funer-Patrick and Jennifer al Home in Stuart is Cockram of Salem; a handling the arrangedaughter, Dana Lynn ments. Online condo-Cockram and fiancé, lences may be sent to Allen Turner of Onley; www.moodyfuneralsfour grandchildren, ervices.com.

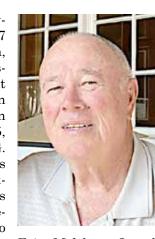


joyed preaching and teaching the gospel of Jesus Christ and could always be found studying the word of God. He was a strong believer of faith and lived what he preached daily.

Pastor Anderson leaves to cherish his memories his loving wife of 53 years, Cindy Anderson; sons, Carl Eugene Anderson (Lee) and Richard Eric Anderson (Steph-

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## Carolina, where he en- derson (Wanda), Carl



Edwin Anderson (Terri), and Michael Irvin Anderson (Pam); and a host of nieces, nephews, other family, and friends.

He was loved by many and will be deeply missed.

The family will receive friends on Saturday, July 15, 2023, from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM at Pleasant View Baptist Church. A funeral service will be held on Sunday, July 16, 2023, at 3:00 PM at Pleasant View Baptist Church. The burial will follow immediately after the service in the church cemetery.

Online condolences may be made by visiting www.bassettfuneralservice.com. Bassett Funeral Service is serving the Anderson family.

creased in the latest filing week to tial claims numbers represent claim 2,424, but remained at the typical pre-Pandemic volumes experienced in 2019according to the most recent data from the Virginia Employment Commission (VEC).

For the filing week ending July 15, the figure for seasonally unadjusted initial claims in Virginia was 2,424, which was a decrease of 392 claimants from the previous week. Continued weeks claimed totaled 13,696, which was 400 claims higher than the previous week and an increase of 28.8% from the 10,636 continued claims from the comparable week last year. Ninety-three percent of claimants self-reported an associated industry, of those reported over half (57 percent) of continued claims were from professional, scientific, and technical services (1,885), administrative and support and waste management (1,848), manufacturing (1,301), health care and social assistance (1,274), and retail trade (1,012).

mined on a weekly basis, and so not ly change (-279) was the seventeenth all weekly claims filed result in a ben- largest decrease.

applications; claims are then reviewed for eligibility and legitimacy.

In the week ending July 15, the advance U.S. figure for seasonally adjusted initial claims was 228,000, a decrease of 9,000 from the previous week's unrevised level of 237,000. The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 257,976 in the week ending July 15, a decrease of 326 (or -0.1 percent) from the previous week. There were 237,092 initial claims in the comparable week in 2022. Looking at preliminary data, most U.S. states reported decreases on a seasonally unadjusted basis. Michigan's preliminary weekly change (-3,765) was the largest decrease. Kentucky's preliminary weekly change (-2,729) was the second largest decrease. New Jersey's preliminary weekly change (-2.210) was the third largest decrease. New York's preliminary weekly change (-1,706) was the fourth largest de-Eligibility for benefits is deter- crease. Virginia's preliminary week-



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> Pete Campbell, Manager Terri S. Wood, Assistant Manager

Eric Melcher, Joseph Turner, Hartley Cockram, Addi Cockram; one brother and sisters-in-law, Garland and Margie Cockram of Woolwine, Ann Cockand several nieces and nephews.

A memorial service Surviving is a son will be held at a later

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# **PATRICK PULPITS**

# "Going on after Tragedy"

## By Pastor Wayne Moore **High Point Baptist Church**

Have you experienced tragedy? Are you suffering right now? Do you know Jesus Christ as your Savior? I have a verse to encourage you.

Jeremiah 29:11 KJV "For I know the thoughts that I think toward you,' saith the LORD, 'thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end."

A lot of people recognize Jeremiah 29:11. Most people probably recognize it better from the New International Version of the Bible. "For I know the plans I have for you,' declares the LORD, 'plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." Some people may have it memorized or claim it as their life verse. This verse can often be found printed on the decor in homes. But I wonder how many people have studied it in its context.

Jeremiah 29:11 was first written in a letter to a group of people exiled to a foreign land because their nation refused to repent of its sins and turn to God. They were experiencing the judgment of God and their present circumstances were not pleasant. This verse was never meant to be claimed as a charm to ward off evil. It is not a promise that nothing bad will ever happen to you. It is not a guarantee that God will always prosper you no matter how you live. This verse was written to encourage people who were experiencing God's discipline for their disobedience. It reminded them that God was not through with them. They would have to go through the full length of God's discipline. It would not be shortened. They would not get an early release miah 29:12-13).

for good behavior. It would be long, but it would not be forever. God reminded them that they had a hopeful future.

We can certainly apply Jeremiah 29:11 to our lives as long as we understand how it should and should not be used. It applies to anyone who belongs to God. It will greatly encourage anyone who is going through a trial. It applies regardless of the reason for your trial. Your trial may or may not be a discipline for your sin. We know that all trials are related to living in a fallen world. All trials are a direct or indirect result of sin. Jeremiah 29:11 reminds believers that trials are not forever. God promises us a future full of hope. Therefore, we can go on after tragedy because we know our future is secure in Christ.

When you read Jeremiah 29:1-14, you learn that you can resume the normal activities of life after a tragedy. That does not mean that you act like nothing happened. It does not mean that you forget or don't care. It does not mean that you shouldn't grieve. It means that your life does not end with tragedy. It means that you have a reason to go on living. You have a future to look forward to. Jeremiah 29:11 reminds you that God's plan for you is good. God knows the thoughts He thinks toward you. He is not making it up as He goes. Your tragedy did not take Him by surprise. When all you can think of is your trial, at least know this: God is thinking of your good. He already has the end result planned and it is good.

In the meantime, you can know that God is near. Call on Him, pray to Him, and seek Him with all your heart and you will find Him (Jere-

### BIBLE TRIVIA BY WILSON CASEY

1. Is the book of Ruth (KJV) in the Old or New Testament or neither?

2. Whose last words were, "O God, that I may be at once avenged of the Philistines for my two eyes"? Zimri, Paul, Eli, Samson

3. From Proverbs 18:8, "The words of a talebearer are as "? Truths, Wounds, Answers, Serpents

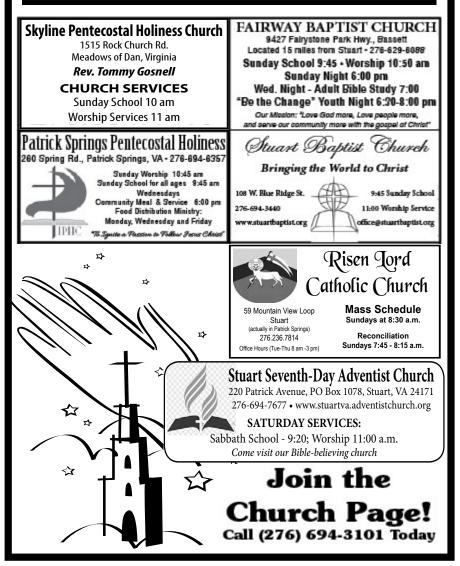
4. Who assumed if Isaac died that God would be able to bring him back to life? Rebekah, Esau, Abraham, Jacob

5. From Genesis 25:1, who was Abraham's second wife? Keturah, Abigail, Vashti, Candace

6. Who was the famed brother of Lahmi? John the Baptist, Herod, Goliath, Paul

ANSWERS: 1) Old, 2) Samson, 3) Wounds, 4) Abraham, 5) Keturah, 6) Goliath

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## NOTICE

## THANKS TO EDD MARTIN & ASSOCIATES

Special thanks to Deana Clark for the hard work put in, keeping me informed and the great job done selling my house. Thanks again, Penny K. Dalton.



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## **Public Hearing**

A public hearing will be held on Tuesday, August 15, 2023 at 6 p.m. at the (Stuart Site) Patrick & Henry Community College in the Community Room

The purpose of this hearing is to adopt the Comprehensive Plan Conformance Review Application with Fairy Stone Solar, LLC

Anyone wishing to view the Comprehensive Plan Conformance Review Application may do so at the Tax Mapping office, Suite 215 located in the Patrick County Veterans Memorial Building.

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## 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

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.

# 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 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.



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# Wasps and Snakes and Spiders, OH MY!

## Ginnie Conaway Partick County Master Gardener

It's a jungle out there! Get to know three of the critters that scare people the most and discover how they help mankind.

## WASPS

Most wasps are very beneficial, providing insect control and pollinating our gardens. Some types are social and will defend their nests by stinging if they feel threatened, others are solitary, often ground dwellers. Unless their nest or themselves are threatened most are non-aggressive.

Ann M. Mason, Fairfax Master Gardener lists some of the wasps local to our area. Scoliid wasps are dark blue ground nesters who circle very low over lawns searching for grubs. They are also non-aggressive and good pollinators. Common Mud Dauber wasps build 'pipe-organs' or domed structures on outside walls. They eat spiders and are not aggressive to humans. Bald-faced Hornets are social, building large roundish paper nests in trees. They consume insects, including yellowjackets. They only use the next one year, so you can remove it in the winter when the hornets are gone. Paper Wasps build umbrella-shaped nests open at the bottom. These often hang from eaves. Like many social wasps, they will defend their nests if bothered, but leave them alone and they will help rid the garden of caterpillars and other insects.

Two of the easily identified wasps are the Eastern Cicada Killer and the Eastern Red-Velvet Ant, which is really a wasp. The Eastern Cicada Killer, one of the largest wasps, is a solitary ground dweller. The female captures cicadas in flight, paralyzes them and deposits them in her borrow to feed her young. Only the wingless female of the Red Velvet Ants can sting. They run across the open ground searching for other wasps' nests to parasitize the larva by laying their eggs on them. Red Velvet Ants have stings that earn them the nickname of 'cow killers.'

Yellowjackets are the wasps most likely to present a problem to gardeners and those mowing lawns. They are social and can build nests above ground or below ground. Lawn mowers cannot outrun attacking Yellowjackets. Abandon ship and get inside. Pat Dickey, Fairfax Master Gardener explains that they are likely to invade your picnic or trash cans and hover around you. Don't swat at them. If they feel threatened, they signal others to come join them in facing the threat.

### **SNAKES**

Many people are fearful of snakes, mainly because they are unfamiliar with them. Most snakes are harmless, and much like bats, provide a valuable service around the home or farm in the way of pest control (snakes control rodents, bats control insects).

Snakes are non-aggressive towards humans, preferring to escape rather than confront us. They are not slimy, instead their scales are smooth and dry. Snakes flick their tongues to 'smell' the air. They can feel vibrations in the ground if approached and usually hide or move away.

The Virginia Herpetological Society states that Virginia has 32 species of snakes, but many are rare or have very limited distribution. Twenty varieties are in Patrick and surrounding counties, again many being very rare, and only two are poisonous. Small snake species eat insects, worms, lizards, and frogs and live under leaf litter, rocks and logs or burrow into the soil. The larger species consume voles, mice, rats, and some bird nestlings. Water snakes also eat fish and frogs. They have thick bodies and are banded, often being mistaken for a Copperhead.

Hognose snakes, which eat toads, will try to frighten predators away by rattling their tails or spreading their necks and hissing. If that doesn't work, they will flop over and play dead. A Black Rat snake will sometimes rattle its tail against fallen leaves to scare away predators. Snakes shed their skin, and the resulting shed will be longer than the snake due to stretching. Snakes are great climbers, sometimes going into attics after mice and rats.

The only poisonous snakes found in our area are Copperheads and Timber Rattlesnakes. Both species give birth to live babies that are just as poisonous as adults. Poisonous snakes have slit pupils, like a cat, while non-poisonous ones have round pupils. It is illegal to kill any snake in VA unless it is threatening to injure you.

### **SPIDERS**

Eeek, a spider! Just like most snakes and wasps, spiders are good guys. Spiders eat insects, lots and lots of insects and are very beneficial in our gardens and around our homes. From the tiny Green-Legged Orb Spider, whose body is less than a quarter of an inch to the one inch, plus legs, of the Yellow and Black Garden Spider, all are insect eaters.

According to Jim Revell, Extension Master Gardener, Bedford, VA; and Tim McCoy, Extension Associate, Virginia Tech Pesticide Programs, spiders are divided between web builders and hunters. Web builders wait for their prey to become tangled in their webs, which can be round, irregular, cone-shaped, or random. Web building spiders have poor eyesight and depend on the escape attempts of trapped insects to alert them that dinner has arrived. Hunting spiders, like Wolf Spiders, hunt on the ground, often jumping at or shooting out a strand of silk to capture their prey. Hunting spiders have great eyesight, at least for a spider, and can spot prey up to eight inches away at night. They can also jump four times their body length after prey.

Spiders do not have teeth but do have fangs and poison. They paralyze their prey with the poison, then inject a liquid that dissolves tissue and 'drink' their dinner. If a human is bitten by a large spider, it's usually no worse than a bee sting, but two of the hundreds of species in Virginia are of concern to us. The female Black Widow, males don't bite, and the Brown Recluse can inflict a nasty bite and require medical attention. Brown Recluse are not native to our area, present only by hitching a ride from somewhere else.

Like snakes, spiders are found in tall grass and shrubs, wood piles, clutter around the outside of buildings, under rocks, leaves, and bark slabs, wherever it's dark and damp. Some spiders will try to winter over inside homes, often in old cardboard boxes. They will help to keep the insect population down, wherever they are.

With the hundreds of snakes, wasps, and spiders around us, we seldom see or interact with them. The benefits they provide in rodent and insect control plus pollination far outweigh any trouble they cause us.

## **Pioneers** (cont. from page 7)

on the 20th of February 1863. David was captured at Waynesboro on the 2nd of March 1865 and was confined at Fort Delaware until a month after the war ended.

Upon returning from the war, David married Miss Harriet Elizabeth Bowling, one of eleven children born to William Green Bowling and Nancy Moles. In the 1870 census, David listed his occupation as a shoemaker and he and Harriet were living in the Elamsville district with their one-year-old daughter, Minerva Annie. Over the next eleven years, the couple had six more children, John Bishop, Tyler Pinkney, Harbour Reed, William "Willie" Beamer, James M. and Nancy Virginia. Sadly, James only lived to be 8 months old. Over the next twenty years, David and Harriet moved from Elamsville to the Pine Creek district of Carroll County where David continued to list his profession as a shoemaker. It was during this time that David was pardoned by President Cleveland. "To all to whom these presents shall come, Greetings. Whereas, at the November term, 1888, of the United States District Court for the Western District of Virginia, David H. Martin was convicted on a charge of violating the Internal Revenue laws and sentenced to thirty days imprisonment and to pay a fine of one hundred dollars; and whereas, the offense of which he was convicted was comparatively of an unimportant character and not committed with any criminal intent; and whereas, he has now served out the term of imprisonment to which he was sentenced and is only held for the fine he is too poor to pay; and whereas, he is a cripple and in bad health, having a large family requiring his presence at home; and whereas, his pardon is recommended by the District Attorney and asked for by the Hon. Charles T. O'Ferrall and others: Now, therefore, be it known, that I, Grover Cleveland, President of the United States of America, in consideration of the premises, divers other good and sufficient reasons now thereunto proving, do hereby grant to the said David H. Martin, a full and unconditional pardon. In testimony whereas, I have hereunto, signed my name and caused the seal of the United States of America to be affixed. Done at the city of Washington, the twenty-sixth of December, A.D. 1888, and of the Independence of the United States, the one hundred and thirteenth. Grover Cleveland, By the President, T. H. Bayard, Secretary of the State"

In the 1908 Danville, Virginia business directory, David and Harriet were living on Spencer Avenue in the Schoolfield Mills district and David was working as a jeweler and watchmaker. By 1910, the couple had moved back to Stuart where he continued his work as a jeweler, and they ran a boarding house, livery stable, and blacksmith shop where the Stuart United Methodist church parking lot is now located. David and Harriet's oldest daughter Minerva Annie married Benjamin Gray from Mayodan, North Carolina; they had seven children before divorcing in 1898. Minerva then married James Cordle Spangler and the couple moved to West Virginia, where she ran a boarding house, and he worked in the coal mines. After Spangler passed away from black lung in 1929, Minerva returned to Stuart where she married Richard Jasper Rhodes in 1931. Rhodes passed away in 1936 and Minerva then married James Linville Walker, who owned the Goblintown Grist Mill and store in the 1930s. David and Harriet's son, John B. (named for his uncle who had been executed during the Civil War) worked as a jeweler and watchmaker, as well. His business was located at the little gray and white house in the curve just above the Old Dominion restaurant. John B. married Sallie Lou Cruise and they had seven children before divorcing. He then married Ina Odessie Marshall. David and Harriet's son, Tyler Pinkney was a farmer who also made moonshine whiskey. Tyler married Alaminta "Allie" Hughes and the couple had ten children. Tyler's niece, Ellen Martin Fulcher, the daughter of Willie Beamer, shared that she remembered visiting her uncle and she couldn't figure out why they kept jugs in the creek. She was told it was to keep the "water" cold.

David and Harriet's son Harbour Reed married Minnie Etta Fain and they also had ten children. Harbour worked in one of the cotton mills in Leaksville, North Carolina before returning to Patrick County.

David and Harriet's youngest daughter Nancy Virginia married John Tilton Perry from North Carolina and they made their home in the Burlington area. When Perry passed away, she married Walter Thomas and continued to live in Alamance County.

Next week, we will take a closer look at David and Harriet's son Willie Beamer Martin. I want to say a special thank you to Ellen Martin Fulcher, Ron Martin, and Andrew Feldman for providing information for this column and to Amy Suzanne Martin for sharing the photographs.

The Martin and Bowling photograph is front row left to right: Caroline Bowling, David Harbour Martin, Harriet Elizabeth (Bowling) Martin. Back row left to right: Minnie Fain Martin, Ingle Belle Handy Martin, Allie Hughes Martin, Sallie Cruise Martin, Virginia Martin Perry. The Martin family photograph is front row: David Harbour Martin, Harriet Elizabeth (Bowling) Martin, Nancy Virginia Martin. Back row: Tyler Pinkney Martin, John Bishop Martin, Willie Beamer Martin.

David and Harriet Bowling Martin were charter members of Stuart Primitive Baptist Church. David Harbour Martin passed away in 1920 at the age of 73. Harriet lived for 18 more years and passed away in 1938 at the age of 91. At the time of her passing, Harriet had 31 grandchildren, 87 great grandchildren, and 16 great-great grandchildren.

# Letters

## (cont. from page 6)

ruary train derailment and fire at East Palestine, Ohio. While tragic, it has nothing to do with climate change and wildfires. But somehow the writer felt he could use it as another opportunity to stoke divisiveness, and spread or reinforce misinformation to own the Libs. As if this were some kind of game. He even pulls Russia, Covid-19 and Hunter Biden's laptop into the mix! Did he forget about Hillary's emails?

What do we have to gain by denying the evidence of our own eyes? We can all see the climate is changing. Continuing with denial and spreading misinformation, and demonizing those of another political party will not improve things one bit!

So, I urge the writer, and all of us, to take the energy we put into writing angry letters or tweets, promoting debunked conspiracy theories, and seeing this as an US vs. THEM world, and take that energy and use it constructively to promote unity and a better world – for everybody.

Now I am addressing the writer directly about an issue of spirituality. Woody may be reached at rockcastlecreek1@gmail.com or (276) 692-9626.

Bill, regarding your customary closing exhortation to "Pray for our country." what are you suggesting we ask God to do? Are we not the hands and mouth with which God works? Yet here we are on the verge of selecting a presidential candidate who personifies cruelty, criminality, and corruption. Yet millions blindly defend him and his ilk – let the Constitution, facts, rule of law, and Democracy be damned! How could anything good possibly come from this? Do you think prayer might induce God to help us promote a negative, hateful and destructive agenda?

So, of course let's pray for our country. But also, let's open our eyes and remember that ultimately, goodness, compassion and light will prevail because that's the nature of God. It's just that we could get there more quickly and make it so much easier on all of us if we make wise choices consistent with the values of the God we are praying to.

Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me.

Charles Morel, Charity

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## <u>Meetings</u>

### Wednesday, Aug. 9

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

### Thursday, Aug. 10

The Patrick County School Board will meet at 5:30 p.m. in the school board office.

### Monday, Aug. 14

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

### Wednesday, Aug. 16

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

## **Events**

### Thursday, July 27

The Patrick County Democrats will hold a meet and greet picnic from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at Dehart Park for Patricia Quesenberry and Deborah "Renie" Gates, the mother-daughter candidates running to represent the area in the newly redrawn 47th district and 7th district.

### Friday, July 28

The Stuart Farmers' Market is the site of a 'Snakes, Wasps, and Spiders - Oh My!' program by the Patrick County Master Gardeners from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Wayside Community Church, at 3520 Wayside Road, Stuart, will hold a Friday Night Fellowship at 6:30 p.m. Music will be by Joyce Greene and the guest speaker will be Eric Sheppard. A potluck dinner will be served after the service.

### Saturday, July 29

The Patrick County Community Food Bank will hold a Community Yard Sale from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Stuart Rotary Field, with some new and used items. All proceeds will go to benefit the food bank.

The Adkins Family Reunion will be from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Vesta Community Center.

### Sunday, July 30

A Growing Patrick County Community Gathering will be held at the DeHart park Picnic Shelter by the pool from 4-7 p.m. There will be free food, games, music, fellowship, and fun.

### Friday, Aug. 4

The Woolwine Methodist Food Truck will be at the Woolwine Volunteer Fire Department (VFD) from 3-4:30 p.m.

## Saturday, Aug. 5

Chicken Fund Raiser Meal at New Hope Church of the Brethren in Elamsville, from 4-7 p.m. Eat in or take out. \$8 per plate. Raising funds to support Haitian Orphanage.

## Saturday, Aug. 12

For Goodness "Snakes" Alive (and Amphibians too), learning program, 2 p.m. Fairy Stone State Park. Shelter 4.

## Sunday, Aug. 13

The Boyd Family Reunion will be held at the Vesta Community Center, from noon-until. Family and friends are welcome. Bring a covered dish and musical instruments. For more information, call Chris Boyd at (336) 344-2365 or Benny Pendleton at (276) 952-2120.

## Wednesday, Aug. 16

will hold a food distribution day at the Stuart site from 8:30-11 a.m. and from 5-6:30 p.m. There will be a morning distribution in Ararat from 8:30-11 a.m., and an evening distribution in Meadows of Dan from 5-6:30 p.m.

## Friday, Aug. 18

The Woolwine Methodist Food Truck will be at the Fairystone Volunteer Fire Department from 3-4:30 p.m.

### Saturday, Aug. 19

The seventh annual Bike Ridge, Car Show, and Fish Fry will be at the Mt. Nebo Holiness Church. Registration for the ride starts at 9 a.m., and the ride will leave at 10 a.m. Registration for the car show starts at 9 a.m. and ends at 10:30 a.m. when judging begins.

### VACATION BIBLE SCHOOLS

### Through - Friday, July 28

Patrick Springs Pentecostal Holiness Church will hold Pets Unleashed Vacation Bible School from 6:30-8:30 p.m. each night. Open to all ages. Interactive Bible stories, meal, craft, animal meet & greet.

Sunday, July 30 - Wednesday, Aug. 2

Middle Cross Missionary Baptist Church will hold a Vacation Bible School 6-8:30 p.m. nightly.

### Saturday, Aug. 5

Minnie's Chapel will hold a vacation bible school from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. The theme is Pets Unleashed.

## Ongoing

The Patrick County Parks and Recreation

the 2023-24 school year. Students who are currently in grades K-7 are eligible to participate in the recreation department's football program. Registration forms are available at any elementary school or parents can call the recreation office at (276) 694-3917 to register children. The deadline for registration is Friday, September 8. Games will begin the first week of October.

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 Storvtime 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 The Patrick County Community Food Bank for school age children. For more information, call the library at (276) 694-3352.

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

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

> The Ararat Ruritan Club 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 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







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**ENROLL NOW** FOR A CHANCE **TO FIND** DOLLY'S **BOOKMARK!** 

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HOLLI



## **Book Worms at the Library**

was all about worms.

Sam Edmondson, children librarian, read "Chooky-Doodle-Doo" by Jan Whiten and "What About feed the worms. Worms!?" by Ryan T Higgins to a lively group of children.

Master Gardeners then continued worm brochure and maze.

Storytime at the library this week the excitement with some special worm facts and worm anatomy. The youngsters were able to examine worms and make a special salad to

Visit the books Blooms and Bugs Garden at the library to get your





- **Driller Operators**
- If interested, please visit www.kokosing.biz/careers OR visit our office at 19383 Jeb Stuart Hwy, Stuart, VA 24171



Scan the QR code to the left to visit our careers page.

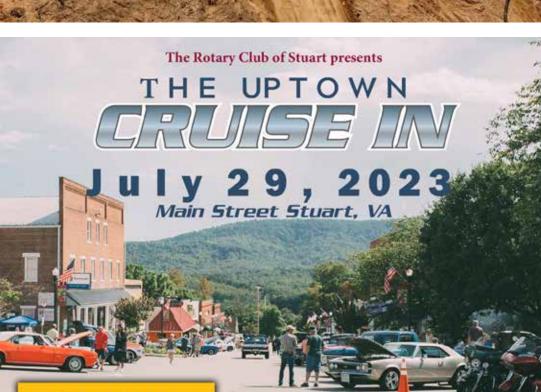
**"TOGETHER, WE CAN BUILD IT ALL."** 











## 4pm -- 9pm 125 Slusher St. Stuart, VA 24171 Join us for a Saturday Cruise-In.

This summer, visit Main Street in Uptown Stuart and see classic cars shimmering in the sunlight and thundering in the heat. This is a FREE event for car enthusiasts and the community.

Free Admission Bring Lawn Chairs No Coolers No Tents

If it rains, the band will play in the Rotary Building at 420 Woodland Dr., Stuart, VA







The Whiskey Rebellion FREE live music on the main stage

TOWN STUART









This historical home was built in 1837 and features a lot of its original character. There are 4 bedrooms, 1.5 baths, and 4 non-conforming bedrooms. The home sits on 9.26 acres. **\$495,000** 



Check out this building lot, located 5 minutes from Stuart and 3 minutes from Patrick Springs. The lot is mostly level and would make a great place to build a new home. **\$15,000** 

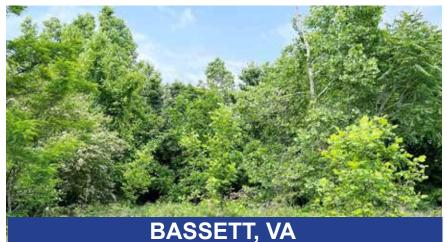




This beautiful building lot in the Seven Springs Subdivision! This 6.319 acre property offers some breathtaking mountain views and would be ideal for the construction of your vacation or mountain home. **\$75,000** 



This 4 acre lot would be a nice size lot would be great to build a home on. It is located approximately 15 minutes from Stuart and 35 minutes from Martinsville. **\$18,000** 



Buildable lot located right off Highway 58. It is 30 minutes from Martinsville and 10 minutes from Stuart. This lot is also 1 mile from the Gordon Trent Golf Course. **\$25,000** 



Stunning 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath home on 10.15. acres of land located just minutes from the Blue Ridge Parkway. Property offers an amazing view of the Blue Ridge Mountains! **\$549,000** 

This completely wooded 33.11 acre tract offers over 1,500' of frontage on Warehouse Street. The large tract would be ideal for hunting, ATV riding, or building your dream home on. **\$79,900** 



Beautifully maintained 2 bedroom, 2 bath home on 11.29 acres of land. Home is nestled at the end of a country road making for great seclusion and privacy! **\$400,000** 

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