



THE ENTERPRISE

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



One dead in Aug 11 motorcycle crash

By Taylor Boyd

On Friday, Aug. 11, Douglas Owens, 20, of Patrick Springs, died at the scene of a single-vehicle crash involving a motorcycle.

Clint Weidhaas, assistant chief of the Patrick Springs Volunteer Fire Department, said the call came in at 7:19 p.m. It was located on Spring Road, near the Springs of Life Camp.

"We got on scene within 15 minutes of the call to find one victim over the embankment, and he was unfortunately deceased upon arrival," he said.

Weidhaas said Owens was riding with a group of riders, one of which was his brother, before he left the roadway and struck a tree. He was the only rider of the motorcycle.

"It was pretty rough for us because the family did arrive on the scene," Weidhaas said.

The weather conditions were clear with no inclement weather.

"It's just tragic," he said.

Patrick Springs responded with two apparatus and six personnel. JEB Stuart Volunteer Rescue Squad and Patrick County Emergency Medical Services (EMS) also responded to the call. Station 8 was canceled in-route to the scene.

The Virginia State Police is currently investigating the crash.

Four volunteer crews fought a house fire in Vesta area

Heavy, billowing smoke was visible as crews from four volunteer fire departments worked to extinguish an Aug. 4 house fire in the Vesta area. See page 15 for story.

New county administrator to be identified by Sept. 1

By Debbie Hall

A new county administrator is expected to at least be identified by September 1.

"The process is moving forward as we hoped it would be," Interim County Administrator Tim Hall said last week.

Hall, who is an executive manager with the Berkley Group, LLC, began serving in the interim post in April after Geri Hazelwood abruptly resigned in March.

Hall said he does not know how many people applied for the post, the locations of the applicants or any other information because he is not directly involved in the search process.

Berkley was "hired to do the search and the initial vetting," of potential candidates, Hall explained, noting the initial vetting includes a background and other checks.

Once an applicant was identified, Berkley also contacted them via phone for a preliminary interview, Hall said.

Based on those initial interviews, background and other information, Berkley "produced a list of candidates it considers worthy of in-person interviews," Hall said.

The five members of the Patrick County Board of Supervisors will conduct the in-person interviews, Hall said, adding that "members of the (Berkley) team involved in the process will be in the" room with the supervisors during in-person interviews.

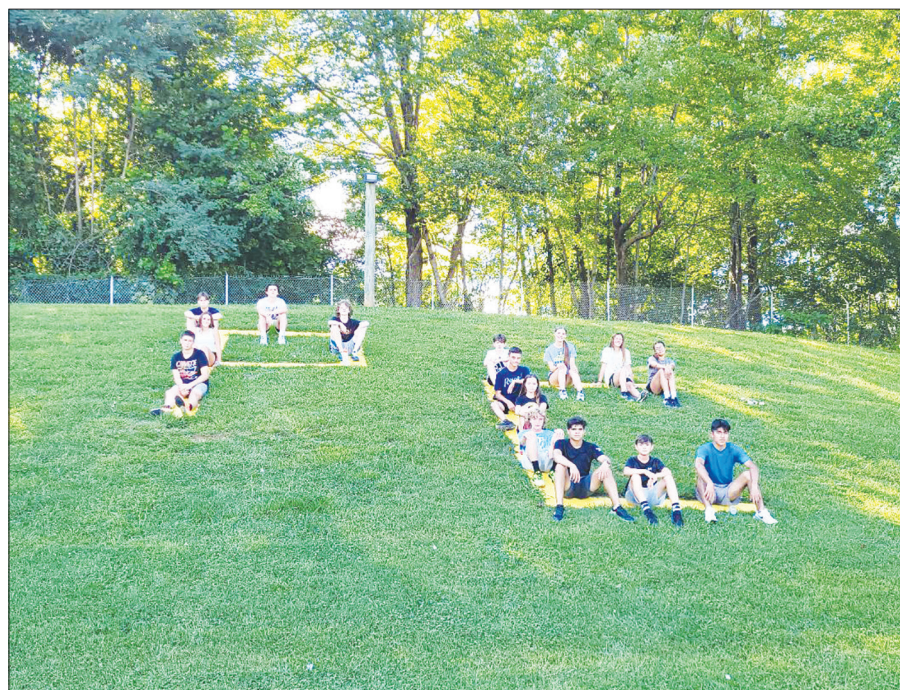
However, "they are not part of the interview. They are just there to monitor and take notes," Hall said. "I'll be in the room too, but I'll be with the Berkley team" rather than representing the county.

The team may bring up issues missed by the board, and "make sure everyone adheres to the time schedules," Hall said, adding a specific amount of time is set aside for the individual interviews.

It is important to keep the interviews moving along to be respectful of the individual schedules of board members, Berkley representatives and candidates, he said.

In the end, the new county administrator will be selected by the board, he added.

Berkley representatives may make recommendations, but the "board has the final" decision, he said.



Teams prepare for a new season

Several sports teams at Patrick County High School (PCHS) are preparing now for a new season in a new district. The Cross Country Team took a breather and cooled off in the shade after a recent practice. The team will be part of the Three Rivers District this year. See inside for a season preview. (Photo by Pat Delaney)

Folk Fair heads into 19th year

The Meadows of Dan Community Association is once again inviting you to the 19th annual Folk Fair on August 19, starting at 10 a.m. As with previous fairs, this year's event promises to be entertaining and fun for everyone.

Shelby Puckett will discuss the historical Courthouse Tragedy at the Mayberry Church. Two showings

of the movie, "My Rock Castle Home," will be presented by the Blue Ridge Parkway Foundation.

The fair includes musical performances by the Country Boys, an open mic, art, poem, and presentation, titled 'A Mountain Tribute,' an old-fashioned singing at Concord Church, and a gospel singing at Meadows of Dan Baptist Church by the gospel group, Right Turn.

As in years past, members of the Royall family will make preserves the old-fashioned way, and Stanburn Winery will be on hand, along with an exhibit by Frontier Farm and Home Center, local authors, and a prayer tent at Meadows of Dan Baptist Church.

Outdoor entertainment includes a bouncy house for the youngsters and an axe-throwing

adventure. Vendors of all sorts are making plans to attend the event, with jewelry, woodworking, shirts, and representatives from Thirty-One, Mary Kay, and Tupperware.

Bracky Rogers, author of "The Memoirs of Bracky Rogers: A Mayflower Descendant Growing Up in Mayberry," will attend from 10 a.m. until noon, along with co-author Tom Perry, who published the book under Tom Perry's Laurel Hill Publishing LLC.

Local produce in season will be among the wares from vendors, and candidates seeking local county offices will be among the visitors.

Lest we forget, the Meadows of Dan Elementary School will hold its annual Fish Fry, Shan's Concessions will be available, as well as Super dogs, hot dogs, and dessert, with LG Hotdogs featuring their homemade desserts.

The fair is a free event, and a free shuttle service will be provided. Anyone needing additional information is asked to call Trinity Goad, president of the association, at (540) 230-7943.

A schedule of events can also be found on Facebook.

Transfer Station will temporarily close for scale replacement

The Patrick County Solid Waste Transfer Station will be closed Thursday, August 24; Friday, August 25; and Saturday, August 26 for maintenance and repairs necessary to enhance operations at the facility.

"Basically, we are replacing the scales we use to weigh loads," said Interim County Administrator Tim Hall. The replacement process "is not conducive to good traffic flow, and our first concern is always safety."

He noted the closure "will be inconvenient for our citizens

and customers, but it's a necessary action to get the work done."

The cost of the scales will be paid from the county's operational budget, Hall said, adding the expense "wasn't anything unexpected."

The Transfer Station will reopen Monday, August 28 for normal operating hours.

"We apologize for any issues, but by closing we can make sure that the work is done quickly and safely," Hall said. "Please bear with us. We fully anticipate reopening on Monday, August 28 for normal operation."

Community College Chancellor Announces New Era for Education in Virginia

Virginia's Community Colleges Chancellor Dr. David Doré announced a new era for the system at the annual Chancellor's Retreat – one that prioritizes job placement beyond program completion - and an entirely new approach for community colleges to embrace technology and flexibility to serve a “new majority of learners” – including veterans, parents, and working adults.

Doré, who took over the position this spring, outlined his vision for the system during his keynote speech to the community college presidents, faculty, and others who were present at this year's event at the Hotel Roanoke and Conference Center on August 8. As the system's first new Chancellor in 21 years, Dr. Doré spent his first 36 days in his position visiting all 23 community colleges on his listening tour, a 3,600-mile trip that was critical to hearing the voices of students and beginning to explore how Virginia's Community Colleges will leverage innovation and best practices across the system.

“It is our time to lead the way for higher education in Virginia and in the nation. To be the standard bearer of what post-secondary education can do during these challenging and exciting times,” said Doré, naming three prominent gaps the system plans to address: educational achievement, technology, and skills.

Virginia's Community Colleges fully support Gov. Glenn Youngkin's bold vision for every high school student in Virginia to graduate with both a diploma and a meaningful postsecondary credential. Chancellor Doré says the system will be partnering with the Virginia Department of Education to propose legislation next year to remove barriers that hinder access to postsecondary programming and clearly define the path students will take to graduate with the skills and credentials necessary for a seamless transfer or immediate entrance to the workforce.

Dual enrollment and FastForward programs continue to grow, which Doré says is a must for community colleges. Another priority is aligning skills and training with local industry to fill high-demand jobs. Moving forward, the system



Dr. David Doré

will focus on expanding and strengthening partnerships and collaboration across all industry sectors and in every region of the Commonwealth.

“This shortage of working-age adults who do not possess the skills needed for jobs in our most in-demand fields, healthcare, technology, and manufacturing, is stumping economic growth and widening income gaps,

and exacerbating the shortage of those with the skills needed to train new workers,” said Doré. “New technology including artificial intelligence is disrupting the workforce, and community colleges must adapt to equip students with the skills they need for the modern world. Our instructors must leverage these tools in their learning models to remain relevant and effective.”

As part of the approach for developing the ultimate workforce pipeline, Dr. Doré is prioritizing moving at the speed of industry, launching programs at a much faster pace, and aligning Virginia's Community Colleges with the nine GO Virginia regions to efficiently scale programming at the college level to meet regional job demands.

To support these big changes, the Chancellor will be advocating for a stronger investment in the community college system. The Virginia Community College System remains the least funded of all Virginia public institutions of higher education and was among the lowest funded community colleges in the nation. These investments will go towards recruiting and retaining quality faculty and growing the system's successful workforce programs, like FastForward and G3 financial assistance.

REAL ESTATE AUCTION

Live & Online Bidding

Tuesday, August 29 at 12:00pm

360 Rorrer Lane, Stuart, VA

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Tuesday, August 22 & Sunday, August 27, 4:00pm-6:00pm



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Online Auction

Ends Thursday, Sept. 7th @ 4 PM

Building Lot with View for Sale in Meadows of Dan VA

TBD Edgeview Dr., Meadows of Dan, VA 24120

Bid Now at VAAuctionPro.com



Check out this beautiful building lot in Meadows of Dan VA! Property features +/- 3.165 acres of wooded land. There are underground utilities in place. The property has one of the best views in the area! With some clearing, this would be an ideal spot for your dream home in the Blue Ridge Mountains. Property is in the Edgeview Mountain Estates. Located minutes from the Blue Ridge Parkway, Chateau Morrisette Winery, Mabry Mill, and Rocky Knob. The towns of Floyd, Hillsville, and Stuart VA are all within a short 30+ minute commute. Come build your dream home here and enjoy country living in the Blue Ridge Mountains!

Terms: 10% Buyer's Premium will be added to final high bid to arrive at contract price. Earnest Money Deposit of \$5,000 required on day of sale. Close on or before October 23rd, 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 Boie Dehart at 276-952-5061 or email BoieD@yahoo.com



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ONLINE AUCTION

Ends Friday, August 25th at 3 PM

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.

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Opening day of new school year 'great'

By Taylor Boyd

The Patrick County School Board celebrated a 'great' start to the 2023-2024 school year. Schools Superintendent Jason Wood told the board on August 10 there was excitement in the air at the back-to-school nights that showed the family atmosphere present in all the schools.

"We had a great opening of the schools, and it's just nice to have the students back in the building," he said. "It makes our days much more enjoyable and shows the reason why we chose this profession."

While there is always some confusion on

the first few days of school with buses and students not knowing which buses to get on, following the meeting Wood said those issues worked themselves out by day two.

"It seems to be a great atmosphere in all the schools. Students seem to be excited to be back, the staff has been very excited to have the students back, and we're expecting to have a great year where we continue on the success we've had in previous years," he said.

In other matters, the board:

- *Approved the personnel report as amended.
- *Approved the 2023-2024 school crisis plan

as amended.

*Approved the consent agenda.

*Heard an update on the school division's budget.

*Approved the 2023-2024 school wide plans/school executive summary as presented.

*Recognized Reagan Underwood, a seventh grader at Hardin Reynolds Memorial School (HRMS), who placed second in the nation for social studies at the National Junior Beta competition over the summer.

Walter Scott, of the Smith River District, attended the meeting electronically for part of the meeting.



Reagan Underwood, who placed second in the nation for social studies at the National Junior Beta Competition, was recognized by Schools Superintendent Jason Wood and members of the school board. (Ryan Lawson arrived later. Walter Scott attended the meeting electronically.)



Members of the school board heard about the start of the 2023-2024 academic year.

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Congressional staff plan visit

Congressman Morgan Griffith's Ninth District staff will be available to Patrick and Henry counties on August 23.

Staff will visit in the City of Martinsville from 10- 11:30 a.m. in City Hall, Council Chambers, Second Floor

55 W. Church Street, Martinsville.

They will be in Patrick County from 12:30 - 2 p.m., in the Patrick County Administration Building Conference Room, 106 Rucker Street, Stuart.

Call offices in Christiansburg, (540) 381-5671 or Abingdon, (276) 525-1405 with any questions.

Marriage Licenses processed in July

The following marriage licenses were processed in July, according to records in the Patrick County Circuit Court Clerk's Office:

- Deva Murphy - James Dalton
- Alonzo Brown - Darlene Marshall
- James Cannaday - Tabatha Clark
- Theodore Festa - Lisa Marie Elizondo

Arrests reported

The Patrick County Sheriff's Office reported the following:

*Ivy Rayne Hollinger, 30, of Stuart, was charged Aug. 4 with fail to appear. Sgt. D Celozzi was the arresting officer.

*Roger Dale Turner, 38, of Patrick Springs, was charged Aug. 4 with malicious wounding. Lt. D.L. Foley was the arresting officer.

*David Mitchell Shupe, 38, no address available, was charged Aug. 8 with probation violation. Smyth County made the arrest for Patrick County.

*Jaclyn Lankford Janey, 43, of Claudville, was charged Aug. 9 with fail to appear. Senior Trooper L.G. Foley made the arrest for Franklin County.

*Rebecca Diane Phillips, 41, of Stuart, was charged Aug. 9 with fail to appear. Deputy D.A. Ullring was the arresting officer.

*Ronald Neal Sutphin, 59, of Meadows of Dan, was charged Aug. 10 with assault and batter. Roanoke PD made the arrest for Patrick County.

*Brett Lane Williams, 54, of Stuart, was charged Aug. 10 with assault. Lt. D.L. Foley was the arresting officer.

Pets of the Week



The cute redhead on the left is super sweet and loves attention. Need a little love in your life? She is available.

This cute tri color female found was found on Robertson Drive. A pretty girl with a sad face.

Visit or call the Patrick County Public Animal Shelter (PCPAS) at (276) 694-6259. You can also view available pets on the shelter's Facebook page. Adoption fees are \$10 and include spay/neuter and a rabies vaccination.

Dan River Farmers' Market now open on Saturdays

By Taylor Boyd

After nearly a decade, the Dan River Park Farmers' Market recently restarted.

Paige Terry, a member of the Dan River Park Association, said the last market was held in October 2013.

The revamped market opened on Saturday, July 29, Terry said, and a second market on August 4 attracted about seven vendors and 50 customers.

"So far, it started off a little slow, but" on August 4, "Dan River actually hosted games, which gave a lot more traffic to come in. I think more of the word's getting spread, so they had a lot more turnout last week," she said.

The idea to restart the weekly event came about after community residents started posting on the Dan River Park Facebook page that they were interested in bringing it back for both the sellers and buyers.

"Our intentions are just to kind of have locals being able to sell their produce or their goods locally near their own home, which also helps people gather together again and socialize," she said.

Terry said the market will be held at the Dan River Park Pavilion from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. on Saturdays.

"Whatever vendors choose to come that Saturday; they are completely free to show up. We'll probably do it up to October, depending on weather and supplies of vendors. Then we'll grow as it continues, but like everything it has to start off kind of small and get established," she said.

Vendors do not have to pay a fee to set up and keep everything they earn at the market.

Customers also do not pay an entrance fee.

"Our mentality is if you invest in your community, they will invest in you," she said.

Terry said vendors sell items like homemade jewelry, produce, homemade jams, blueberries, and more.

"We'll continue to grow it as it gains more interest because we know the vendors and the buyers will eventually have bigger plans and want to evolve, and Dan River will hopefully help them evolve as time goes on," she said.

For more information, go to Facebook.com/DanRiverPark.

Agricultural cost-share signups are underway

The Patrick County Soil and Water Conservation District (Patrick SWCD) announced the voluntary sign-up period for the 2023/2024 Virginia Agricultural Best Management Practice (BMP) State Cost-Share Program is underway, and agricultural producers who farm in Patrick County can sign up now.

The cost-share program supports the use of various practices in conservation planning to treat cropland, pastureland, and forested land, which often helps production while also contributing to the health of the waters in Patrick County. Some BMPs are paid for at a flat rate or straight per-acre rate while others are cost-shared on a percentage basis. These practices can also help boost farm productivity and profitability.

Because demand for cost-share assistance is great, the Patrick SWCD supports the implementation of only those plans that meet local water quality guidelines. Since some requests can't be satisfied, priority ranking of practices will be used to make sure funds are spent wisely.

Soil and water conservation districts were established in the

1930s after approximately 35 million acres of formerly cultivated land were destroyed for crop production because of poor land management practices. SWCDs develop programs that conserve soil resources, control and prevent soil erosion, prevent floods, and conserve, develop, utilize and dispose of water. With the Commonwealth of Virginia's Department of Conservation and Recreation funding and oversight, Districts target millions of dollars annually to address significant agricultural water quality problems in high priority hydrologic units.

To make an appointment for a field visit to see how the district can assist you in your farming operation, call the Patrick SWCD office at (276) 694-2911. To learn more about the Virginia Agricultural Cost-Share Program, contact Tony Collins or Sandra Heath at the District office, (276) 694-2911.

The Patrick SWCD office is located at 104 Via Avenue, Stuart on the same street as the Patrick County school bus garage. Learn about all the Patrick County Soil and Water Conservation District's programs and resources at patrickswcd.org as well.

email us
DHALL@THEENTERPRISE.NET

Not Their Problem



Morgan Griffith
Representative

Many Democrat-controlled cities and states, which are not on the border, think the crisis at our southern border is not their problem.

But, over the past few months, we've seen a string of northern Democrat-controlled cities and states declare states of emergency and request help from the federal government due to the number of illegal immigrants living in their jurisdictions.

Massachusetts Governor Healey was the most recent official to declare a state of emergency due to an influx of immigrants to her State. According to the Governor, thousands are being housed in emergency shelters around the State (some are bona fide refugees, but many are illegal immigrants). Governor Healey said that the State's social services are overwhelmed, and the State needs help from the federal government.

Washington, D.C., Chicago, and New York City have all declared immigration emergencies in the last year. New York State declared an emergency not long before Massachusetts.

D.C. issued a state of emergency last September. Mayor Bowser blamed Texas Governor Abbott for the emergency when he bussed immigrants who had illegally crossed into the State to the nation's capital.

This past May, Chicago joined D.C. in declaring an emergency - by that time the number of immigrants being cared for by local and state agencies was over 8,000.

When Title 42, a public health order that allowed border patrol agents to send illegal immigrants back to their home country or the country they were most recently in, was coming to an end in May, New York Governor Hochul declared an emergency in preparation of the coming influx.

In the past few months NYC has had difficulty housing illegal immigrants living there. News reports tell of up to 2,000 being sheltered in tents on the Randalls Island soccer fields. NYC Mayor Adams said that there are currently 57,000 immigrants sleeping in city shelters. Further, hundreds of hotel rooms are being rented for illegal immigrants by the city.

Recently, a constituent complained at a Smyth County meeting that when he went to visit his daughter in NYC, he paid for his hotel room, while illegal immigrants were getting their stay covered for free by the taxpayer.

Earlier this year when visiting the border, on my commercial flight back, there were two illegal immigrants and an ICE agent fly-

ing to the immigrants' placement location. Who do you think is covering that cost?

That's right, you, the taxpayer!

And yet, with all this hardship and struggle to manage the illegal immigrants living in their jurisdictions, these Democrat politicians support the flawed policies leading to these problems. Many have the attitude that it's not a real problem until it's their problem. But they support the lax border policies of the Biden Administration and complain when they have to deal with the real-life consequences.

And instead of supporting finishing the wall and defending our borders, these Democrat politicians are calling on the federal government to expedite work authorizations for the illegal immigrants.

When declaring a state of emergency, Governor Healey stated, "an inability for migrants to obtain work authorization from the federal government," as one reason the crisis is so bad in her state.

She said not one word about the wall or the southern border.

Should we reward people who intentionally break the law? I say No!

I've long spoken out about how detrimental the Biden Administration's open border policies are, which have resulted in increases in human smuggling, human trafficking, drug trafficking, etc.

Republicans in Congress have repeatedly urged the Administration to change their ways, to close the border by resuming border wall construction and giving Border Patrol more resources to control the border.

We have also worked to hold the Administration accountable for the results of their policies. Congress has called Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas in to testify 12 times since becoming Secretary.

And yet, our calls to follow the law and make necessary changes, fall on deaf ears.

Instead, the Administration has shifted the blame away from their flawed policies repeatedly, saying either that the Trump Administration is to blame or that somehow it is Congress' fault.

Mind you, House Republicans have already passed a border bill, the Secure the Border Act of 2023, to address the crisis at our southern border.

Not one House Democrat voted in favor of it.

It is clear, this crisis will continue until Democrats get real about the problem and support policies that actually close the border. Further, northern Democrat run cities and states must accept that the border crisis is their problem too.

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Air quality and construction

It's bad enough that they've razed the mountains for the bypass, but I can understand that they are making it safer for truckers coming down the mountains. However, they are BURNING the trees and brush. The smoke was so thick last Thursday that everything was blanketed in smoke. It looked like a heavy fog, and you couldn't stand to be outside. My husband went to talk to a Branch construction supervisor about the smoke telling him that if this were northern VA near DC, they wouldn't be burning. The supervisor said they aren't allowed to burn up there and are required to grind debris. On Friday, I

counted 9 fires on my way home and these are not small fires. Don't we deserve the same air quality as Fairfax County? This community relies on tourism to boost our economy. Who wants to spend time here to view devastation and breathe filthy air? I moved to Patrick County to enjoy the beauty of the mountains. I can't sit on my porch without smelling smoke. I tried calling the EPA, but their mailbox is full. Will the Board of Supervisors care enough about our County to take action?

Linda Grimes,
Stuart

Questioning campaign speak

What is Gov. DeSantis talking about on the campaign trail when he taking on the "deep state people" and says "he will start slitting throats on Day One"? His actions and talk run parallel with the powerful Republican think tank The Heritage Foundation plans --a radical change in our government to where it is an autocracy not a democracy. The New York Times article, "Plan to Increase Presidential Powers in 2025," gave a good account and matched what THF had posted. In essence, three letter agencies (the "deep state" DeSantis terms it)--- institutions that have much independence (from politics) to educate, protect and operate to help our country would lose that independence. The powers of Congress -the purse- into the hands of the President.... Checks and balances in government gone. Banning books, targeting gays and others, racism, fueling hate and anger, rewriting history books, attacking institutes -- teachers, school boards and journalists,

permit-less and open carry of weapons are very like trademarks in Hitler's rise to power. Trump is openly campaigning for the same radical changes as DeSantis. What DeSantis, Trump, and The Heritage Foundation want has a term--Fascism. It is the very chilling road to unfreedom with so many following and so many leaders that should correct the course of that party silent as the lamb.

We do need a vibrant two party system that is fighting global warming--not setting brothers against brothers, or seeking power and wealth not serving the interests and wellbeing of the people.... The tragic Maui and Big Island fires, wildfires on Greek islands, Portugal, Spain and many other places should set our hair on fire to take more actions to mitigate global warming. There are churches in Wisconsin and elsewhere leading, doing some good but very, very limited where I live.

Gerry Scardo,
Clintwood, VA

Blood Drive set for Sept. 19

Thank you, Volunteers! They are the ones who make your donation experience as pleasant as possible. The Volunteers take time out of their schedule to help donors through the general process of donation. Volunteers this month were Patty Brunner, Debra Boswell, Denise Clark, William Hines, Betty Holt, Harriette Moore, and Ann Shepard. They are the ones who put a smile on everyone's face!

We are always interested in adding to our roster of Volunteers. If you are interested in giving back to your community, please consider volunteering your time with the Patrick County Blood Drive, the oldest continuing blood drive in the county. Please stop by the next blood drive or contact one of the volunteers for further information.

Please remember that the American Red Cross encourages donors to make an appointment for your time to donate via internet at redcross.org or by calling 1-800-733-2767. Walk-ins are always welcomed but please know that your donation might take longer as those with appointments are accommodated first.

Next month's blood drive is scheduled for September 19, the third Tuesday, to accom-

odate our Agriculture Fair.
Gene Stirewelt,
Stuart

THE ENTERPRISE

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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Weekly SUDOKU Answer

8	5	1	4	2	6	9	7	3
7	2	3	9	8	5	4	6	1
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Disclaimer: Viewpoints and opinions expressed in letters selected for publication are the opinions of the writers, and do not necessarily reflect the views of The Enterprise.

Patrick Pioneers

Bart and Sarah Rakes Clifton By Beverly Belcher Woody

John Robert "Jack" Clifton was born in 1802 in the Price community of Rockingham County, North Carolina. Price is located just across the Virginia line in sight of the Commonwealth Crossing Industrial Park. Jack married Miss Alcey Grogan, also of Price, on the 30th of October 1823. The couple raised eleven children in the Price community, including sons William Bartlett "Bart" Clifton and Andrew Jackson Clifton.

In addition to farming, Jack and Alcey Grogan decided to build a gristmill in Price to serve the community. The couple sent Bart and Andrew on a long journey to a stone quarry near Blacksburg, Virginia to acquire the millstones. I suspect the young men began their journey along what is now known as the Horsepasture-Price Road before going through Taylorsville (now Stuart) and the long climb up the mountain to Blacksburg.

When people traveled two hundred years ago, they had to depend on the kindness of strangers for a place to rest and a bite to eat. Bart and Andrew stayed at a couple of farms near Vesta along their journey to and from the Blacksburg quarry. One of the families they stayed with was Chesley and Sallie DeHart Rakes where Bart met their beautiful daughter, Sarah. Next week, we will find out about another farm the young men stayed where Andrew met a beautiful young lady too.

Bart and Andrew returned to Price to tell their father that they had ordered the quartz millstones from Brushy Mountain Quarry in Blacksburg, and they would be delivered to North Carolina by horse and wagon. Incidentally, this is the same quarry where Ed Mabry acquired the millstones for Mabry Mill.

Bart returned to the mountain to court Miss Sarah Rakes, and they married on the 5th of January 1855. The couple remained on the mountain to begin their life together. Bart was already a skilled blacksmith and soon became widely known for the Kentucky long rifles that he made; he listed his occupation as gunsmith on the census in the last half of the 19th century.



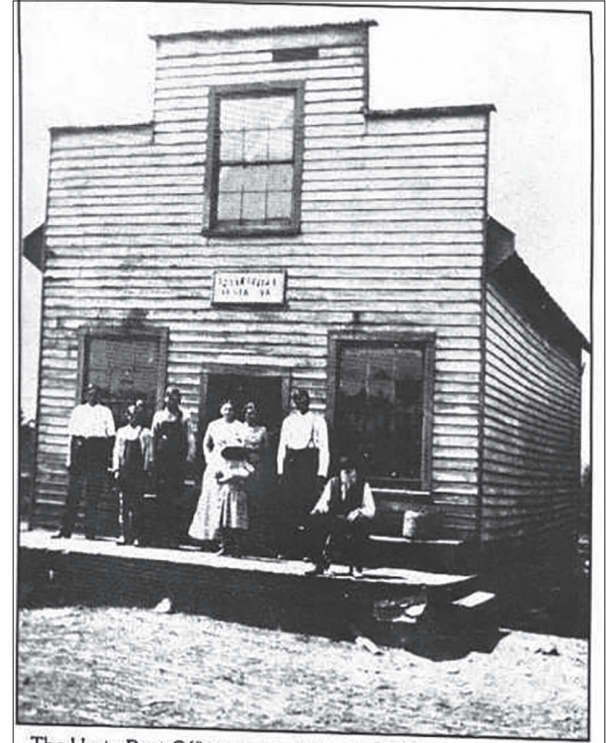
William Barton Clifton and Sarah Rakes (From Fred Clifton Collection)

The following is a description of Bart's Kentucky long rifle written in 1963 by Mr. Fred Clifton, his great nephew:

"His rifles were not only famous for their accuracy, but for their workmanship and appearance. The butt plate, trigger guard, and inlaid ornaments were brass. He only used choice grade curly maple to stock most of his rifles. He initialed all his guns with W.B.C. cut in the barrel. The bit that cut the spiral grooves in the barrel consisted of a long wooden cylinder, approximately three inches in diameter, in which spiral grooves, half inch wide and half inch deep, are cut to correspond with the rifles in the barrel."

Bart and his wife Sarah raised six children, the oldest one being Charles Buck Clifton who married first generation American, Susannah Nora O'Mara. Susannah's father, Daniel had stowed away on a ship from Ireland bound for New York and eventually settled in Meadows of Dan. Bart and Sarah's oldest daughter Seretha Delia married John Davis Lewis, their son Thomas Lincoln Clifton married Lucy Amanda Dalton, son John Stoneman Clifton married Ora DeHart, and son George Burrous Clifton married Permelia Anne DeHart. All these couples lived on the mountain and many of their descendants still live in Patrick County. Bart and Sarah's little daughter Lilly Ada passed away at the age of six.

Bart Clifton was an excellent builder as shown by the above photo of the Vesta Post Office. Three years before this photo was taken, when Vesta was still known as Owensville,



The Vesta Post Office, pictured here in 1890, was part of a store run by Larkin G. Cockram. The building was constructed by William Bart Clifton (seated right), a well-known regional gunsmith.

Vesta Post Office (From Blue Ridge Institute Archives)

Professor G. W. Owens started the Blue Ridge Institute of Higher Learning. A new post office was needed for this booming community where teachers and students came from as far away as Texas. According to the History of Patrick County Schools written by Vergie Thompson Tilley, "George Owens led his faculty in teaching mathematics, history, English, surveying, music, and penmanship."

Bart Clifton died from an asthma attack on November the 7th, 1913; he was 79 years old. Sarah lived to the age of 85, passing away on January 24th, 1926.

Next week, we will learn more about Bart's brother, Andrew and the Patrick County mountain girl that he married. Thank you to the late Mr. Fred Clifton for writing down memories and anecdotes that mean so much to so many.

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

Social Security Matters

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

Ask Rusty - Why is Social Security Withholding My Monthly Payments?

Dear Rusty: I have been working since I started collecting Social Security when I turned 62. Last year I was apparently overpaid because of my job. I made \$37,000 and now the Social Security Administration says I owe them \$8,800 dollars because I made too much, and they have withheld my \$2000 monthly SS payment. I am close to the maximum allowable again already this year. So, I am looking at quitting my job so I don't go over, but they are holding my payments so then I would have no money. Any help would be appreciated. Signed: Frustrated by Social Security

Dear Frustrated: You are being affected by Social Security's "earnings test" which applies to everyone who collects early Social Security and also works before reaching their full retirement age (FRA). If your earned income exceeds the annual limit (which was \$19,560 for 2022), Social Security will withhold \$1 in benefits for every \$2 you are over the limit. If you earned \$37,000 in 2022 you were more than \$17,000 over the limit and owe half of that back to Social Security. They usually recover what you owe by withholding your future benefit payments, so they won't pay you benefits until they have recovered that \$8,800, after which your benefits will resume - but only for a while.

If you are working full time and also collecting early Social Security benefits, the earnings test lasts until you reach your full retirement age, which for you is 66 years and 8 months. The earnings limit goes up a bit each year - for 2023 it is \$21,240 - but if you continue to work full time, you'll receive another overpayment notice and have more benefits withheld. A better approach might be to contact Social Security in advance and tell them what your

2023 earnings are expected to be, thus permitting them to suspend your benefits in advance and avoid overpaying you. I'm afraid there is no way around this - collecting early benefits while working full time means the "earnings test" will affect your benefit payments.

The "good news" in all of this is that when you reach your full retirement age, you will get time-credit for all months your benefits were withheld. By that I mean they will, at your FRA, recalculate your benefit entitlement as though you had claimed later (later by the number of months you had benefits withheld), which will result in a higher monthly payment after your FRA. In that way, you may eventually recover some or all of the benefits withheld by receiving a higher monthly amount for the rest of your life, starting at your full retirement age.

I suggest you contact Social Security at 1.800.772.1213 (or at your local office) and tell them you want to provide them with an estimate of your 2023 earnings because you are working and collecting early Social Security benefits. They will work with you to suspend your benefits for an appropriate number of (additional) months to avoid another overpayment situation. Note, you'll likely need to do this each year you continue to work full time, until the year you reach your full retirement age when the earnings limit more than doubles. The earnings limit goes away when you reach your full retirement age.

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

The Problem With Keto

I know many have had success with the keto diet to lose weight, but there are some significant issues that you should be aware of, and honest about, as there is an easier way to become ketotic.

The keto diet as you know tries to get you into a state of ketosis so that you burn more fat and lose more weight. To do that you have to eat a diet high in fat and very low in carbs and low in proteins as well. The main reason people lose weight on the keto diet early on is that for every molecule of carbohydrate absorbed by your GI tract it take 4 molecules of water to transport it across our gut wall. There is a big water weight loss at the start. Even more importantly is that with the SAD diet (standard American diet) 50-60% is highly processed carbs and getting rid of them will lead to weight loss regardless of if you are ketotic or not.

That brings us the main problem with the keto diet. Most people on the diet never bother to check if they are ketotic. That's a good thing as most would find that they are not. If you are not achieving the stated goal of your plan, then why would you continue to do it? If you really believe in the ketosis hypothesis, then there is another method that more reliably induces a state of ketosis. That method is intermittent fasting.

So why is keto so popular? Like all diet fads, its new, trendy, and cool. To make money each new plan has to be different to distinguish themselves from the competition. It's hard to sell your program if you focus on what's similar to other plans. "Eat less carbs" is different from Atkin's or paleo where you eat more meat, which would be too similar to keto. Focusing on less carbs and becoming ketoic sells better.

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



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Michael McDowell grabs NASCAR Cup Playoff spot with win at Indy Road Course

By Reid Spencer
NASCAR Wire Service

Running a race he knew he could win, Michael McDowell held off Chase Elliott in Sunday's Verizon 200 at the Brickyard and grabbed a spot in the NASCAR Cup Series Playoffs.

The driver of the No. 34 Front Row Motorsports Ford led 54 of 82 laps at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway Road Course in a race that featured just one caution and ran under the green flag for the final 77 laps.

"My family comes to the races we think we can win," said McDowell, who shared hugs with his wife and children after climbing from his car. "We thought we could win this one."

McDowell's second career victory was a convincing one. He passed pole winner Daniel Suárez for the lead after a restart on Lap 6 and held it until he brought the No. 34 Mustang to pit road on Lap 17 for a green-flag stop.

After pitting for a second time on Lap 49, McDowell regained the top spot when Bubba Wallace pitted on Lap 53 and held it the rest of the way. Over the last 29 laps, Elliott—needing a victory to advance to the Playoffs—narrowed McDowell's four-second margin to .937 seconds at the finish, but that was as close as the 2020 series champion could get.

"I was really trying to pace myself," McDowell said. "I figured there would be a late-race caution, and I didn't want to burn my stuff up. I was just trying to maintain that gap."

"Then when I got into traffic, (Elliott) started closing, I had to push it, but I just can't believe it."

McDowell now has victories at Daytona (the 2021 Daytona 500) and Indianapolis Motor Speedway, arguably the two most iconic venues in the sport. He put a Ford in Victory Lane at a road course for the first time since Ryan Blaney won the inaugural race at the Charlotte Roval in 2018.

"Winning the Daytona 500 was one of the coolest moments you could ever have," said McDowell, one of the most accomplished road racers in the Cup Series. "But going to Victory Lane without your family, that was tough."

"So we cherry-pick. We come to the races we think we can win... Just so proud... You know, I thought we could point our way in (to the Playoffs), but after the car that we had yesterday in practice, I thought, man, we've got a good shot at winning if we could just get track position and maintain it."

That's exactly what McDowell did. After Suarez beat McDowell off pit road on Lap 17, McDowell chased the No. 99 Chevrolet until they



Michael McDowell, driver of the #34 Horizon Hobby Ford, celebrates with his family at the bricks on track after winning the NASCAR Cup Series Verizon 200 at the Brickyard at Indianapolis Motor Speedway on August 13, 2023 in Indianapolis, Indiana. (Photo by Sean Gardner/Getty Images)

caught the cars of Denny Hamlin and Brad Keselowski at the end of Stage 2 on lap 35.

Hamlin and Keselowski were on older tires, and McDowell surged past Keselowski and Suárez through the Turn 12 and 13 complex. When Hamlin and Keselowski finally came to pit road on Lap 36, McDowell was back in the lead.

Much of the race was a three-way battle between McDowell, Elliott and Suárez, but Suárez lost valuable time when his left front tire landed on an air gun hose during the Lap 49 stop. The snafu cost Suárez six seconds and a chance to win.

"We win and we lose as a team, and that's all I can say," said Suárez, who salvaged a third-place finish. "The guys brought a very fast race car. I felt that maybe we were one adjustment behind in the first run with the back of the car, but then we made it a little bit better."

"But I felt like I was always one step behind the No. 9 and the No. 34, and then at the end, I felt that when my car came alive again, we had that issue."

"Just a little bit heartbreaking, but that's part of the sport. All we can do is continue to push, continue to build race cars like this, and

I'll keep on winning races."

Elliott was gracious in his praise for McDowell, and he identified where his No. 9 Chevrolet needed to be stronger.

"Just to be a little better through the back half (of the course) over there and get off of (Turn) 14 a little better just to have myself in a better spot getting into (Turn) 1."

"Just really appreciate the effort, man. Our Napa Chevy was really good, really good. Just needed just a little bit more and came up a bit short. But congrats to Michael, man. He did a good job. Ran a great race and stayed mistake-free, and that's what you've got to do to win."

Tyler Reddick finished fourth, followed by Alex Bowman, Chase Briscoe, Martin Truex Jr., Kyle Larson and Christopher Bell. Shane van Gisbergen, who won the Chicago Street Race in July was 10th in his second NASCAR Cup start.

McDowell's win reduces the number of available Playoff spots to three. Keselowski and Kevin Harvick are comfortably situated on points—barring more different winners at Watkins Glen and Daytona—but Wallace's hold on the final spot was reduced from 58 points pre-race to 28 over Suárez.

Cross Country Team spends summer prepping

By Pat Delaney

The beginning of team practice was not the start of the Patrick County Cross Country Team's hard work.

"They've been running all summer," said Head Coach Eli Roberson, "and that way when we start practice, we're not having to get in shape."

Hopes are high for a successful season.

Last year the girls' team won at districts while a member of the boys' team, Moi Cisneros, made it to the state meet. This season, the Cougars will make the move to the Three Rivers District, where Roberson says the "competition will be more difficult."

"Most of the schools in our new district are also in our region," said Roberson, so we're "going to be running against the same teams that we will run against at regionals."

For the boys, in addition to returning just one senior, Moi Cisneros, the team will have a dozen members, compared to eight last season. The added depth will help Roberson field a strong roster at meets.

A young team is going into the season on the girls' side. While there are no seniors on the roster, there are four returning from last year's district winning team.

During practices, Roberson has the team

working to get up to speed for the upcoming season. In some practices, they work on speed and others endurance and weight training.

"It's just building up to certain distances and bringing the speed along," said Roberson. "Some guys and girls are running 40 miles a week."

The goal is to get them in shape for the 5K (3.2 miles) distance at meets, where the best five times on the team will count toward overall scoring.

The Cougars' season opens with a meet at Anglers Park in Danville on August 23 at 4 p.m., followed by a meet at the Smith River Complex in Axton at 4 p.m. on August 31.



Patrick County Cross Country Team members continue to train hard for the upcoming season which starts Aug. 23.



Patrick County High School Sports Schedule

8/17	2pm	Golf	at James River (Botetourt CC)
8/18	7pm	Football	vs Eastern Montgomery
8/21	2pm	Golf	at Floyd (Great Oaks CC)
8/21	7pm	Volleyball	vs North Stokes
8/22	7pm	Volleyball	at Bassett
8/23	4pm	Cross Country	Invitational @ Anglers Park, Danville

THANK YOU FOR READING THE ENTERPRISE

PCHS football team to compete in Three Rivers District

By Pat Delaney

Patrick County High School's football team has been hard at work under the blistering summer sun, getting ready for the upcoming season in hopes that all of the work is going to pay off for the Cougars in 2023.

The Cougars will join Alleghany, Carroll, and Floyd counties as well as Glenvar, James River and Radford in the Three Rivers District, which, according to Head Coach David Morrison, will be challenging.

"We've been playing Carroll County. We've been playing Floyd for years now and they're always tough," said Morrison. "Football is a big deal in Three

Rivers. It's huge. It's not like we're leaving a football conference for a non-football conference. These guys love their football and they're very strong throughout, bottom to top and it's a great football district to be in."

One benefit to joining the Three Rivers District is going up against similar sized schools.

"I think that's going to be one of the biggest things is the matchups, as far as personnel and as far as the numbers game. Every year it's a numbers game," said Morrison. "How many kids are you going to have out there versus what you see on the other sideline? I feel like you see the difference more in the second half of games.

"We might have multiple guys going two ways and playing on special teams. And a lot of the teams that we've played in the past, they might not have to deal with that. They may be able to platoon, and have guys going one way and some guys that don't play any special teams," Morrison said.

"You know you're playing schools that are more your size, you're going to see a lot more of the two-way players. You can see a lot more of the same situation at these other schools in Three Rivers," he added.

Coach Morrison and his coaching staff have been putting the team through their paces in drills and simulated plays during practices. During each, the staff

are quick to call out great plays and effort, while using the not-so-great moments to teach and coach the players toward improvement.

From what Morrison has seen during practices, he feels one of the teams' strengths will be on the offensive line. He also likes the depth at several other positions.

"We've got a very healthy quarterback competition going right now. We've got a few guys who all do some things really well. It's good to have that option where you have more than one guy at a position. We have some good depth at running back. All that competition always helps out. We always feel that competition breeds success, because you're always working to be just a little bit better than that next guy. The depth at multiple positions is really going to help out," he said.

Morrison also likes the effort being put in by his players.

"We're pleased with the work these kids have put in, especially the juniors and seniors and some sophomores. They've been working really hard all summer and I think it's going to show on Friday nights this fall."

The Cougars will play a benefit game at home on August 18, at 7 p.m. against Eastern Montgomery before opening the regular season on August 25, at Martinsville.

Their first regular season home game will be on September 1, against Bassett.



The football team at a recent practice. The county's school division joined a new district this year - Three Rivers District. The coach said the change will be a challenge.

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Volleyball team is optimistic about upcoming season

By Pat Delaney

There is plenty of excitement for the upcoming season on the Patrick County High School volleyball team. With eight of eleven players returning from last season, hopes are high for a successful season.

Some of the excitement centers on the school's move to the Three Rivers District, which includes two-time defending state champions, Glenvar.

"It's a difficult district," said head coach Heidi Moore. "It's going to be really competitive, but we're going to have to work day in and day out to see where we can place in this district."

Besides Glenvar, the Cougars will join Alleghany, Carroll County, Floyd County, James River and Radford in the Three Rivers District.

The team is working hard getting ready for the new season, and at a recent prac-

tice, players were upbeat and energetic. While putting in the effort on every point during a scrimmage, the players were also clearly having fun, their love of the game showing in the smiles and comradery with their teammates.

Seniors Marissa Bentley, Lauren Fulcher, Madi Keith, Bryley Pike and Audrey Young talked during a break about their confidence in how the team is coming together and the excitement of playing in the new district. They agreed that Three Rivers is going to offer some tough competition, but that is only making them work extra hard to be ready when the season starts.

The seniors also talked of their goals, among them proving themselves in the new district is near the top, along with helping the continuing growth of the program. Another goal they set for themselves is to beat the champs, Glenvar.

er goal they set for themselves is to beat the champs, Glenvar.

Coach Moore said, while Glenvar is the defending champ, other schools will also be tough.

"Carroll is really good. Everyone in the district is going to be competitive, so we're going to have to play hard every night."

Team depth could be a strength for the Cougars this year.

Coach Moore said she likes the effort many of her players have put in. "There are some that have really put some work in, lifting during the offseason, going to camps. I'm just waiting to see who's going to play, day and day out. I just want to see them all play and let us have some fun."

The Cougars open up their season at home against North Stokes on Monday, August 21, at 7 p.m.

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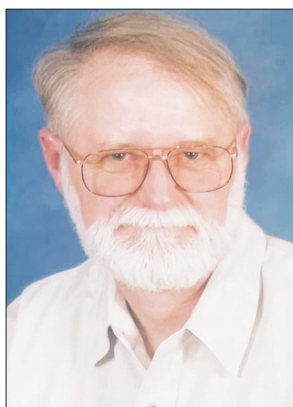


The volleyball team practices hard as they look forward to new season.



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Roger Dale Shook



Campbell of Roanoke; one son and daughter-in-law, Roger Dale "R.D." Shook, Jr. and Kelly of Roanoke; two grandchildren, Justin

Shook, Donovan Johnson; one great granddaughter, Ella Shook; his mother, Mary Marshall Shook of Stuart; and his fur baby, Thor.

A memorial service will be held Thursday, August 17, 2023, at 11:00 AM at Moody Funeral Home in Stuart with Pastor J.R. Shelton officiating. The family will receive friends one hour prior to the service at the funeral home. Online condolences may be sent to www.moodyfuneralservices.com.

E. Nelson Hunt



II veteran with the United States Navy. He was an avid golfer, enjoyed hunting, and sharing the history of Stuart with friends and family.

Surviving is a son and daughter-in-law, Eddie and Dianne Hunt of Stuart, three grandchildren, Emily Hunt, Olivia Hunt, and Molly Hunt, one broth-

er and sister-in-law, Gary and Betty Hunt of Stuart, his special caregivers, Bonnie and Jimmy Goad of Laurel Fork, and several cousins, nieces, and nephews.

Funeral services will be held Friday, August 18, 2023, at 2:00 PM at Moody Funeral Home in Stuart with Pastor Tommy Sheppard officiating. Burial will follow in 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 Stuart Church of Living Water, P. O. Box 946, Stuart, VA 24171. Online condolences may be sent to www.moodyfuneralservices.com.

Lydia Lynn Roberson



Crawford of Evansville, IN; one grandchild, Raven Crawford; her dear friends, Sherry Carpenter and Karen Alexander; and special caregiver, Wanda Turner.

A graveside service

will be held Wednesday, August 16, 2023, at 11:00 AM at Peters Creek Baptist Church Cemetery with Dr. Bucky Hunsicker officiating. Memorials may be made to the Multiple Sclerosis Society, 375 Kings Highway N, Suite B, Cherry Hill, NJ 08034, American Cancer Society, 1079C Spruce St., Martinsville, VA 24112, or to the American Diabetes Association, 2451 Crystal Dr., Suite 900, Arlington, VA 22202. Online condolences may be sent to www.moodyfuneralservices.com.

Brandon Scott Moore



The true friendship that Brandon shared was especially reciprocated with Meredith Terrell, MaCray Huff, and Heather Rorrer. His affectionate fur babies include Frisky, Daisy, Olly, Meme, and Scooter. Brandon's effervescent nature will live on in our hearts.

Preceded in death: Father, James Alfred Moore. Brother Jason Frederick Moore. Grandmothers Marie Brown and Jeanette Moore Moir; Grandfathers Preston Brown, Sr. and Fred Moore. Also, to cherish Brandon's memory is a host of cousins, friends, and acquaintances.

A memorial visitation will be held on Saturday, August 12, 2023, from 10am to 11am at Moody Funeral Home in Stuart, Virginia. A memorial graveside service will be held Saturday, August 12, 2023, at 12:00 PM at Patrick Memorial Gardens with Elder Manuel Jessup officiating. Flowers are accepted. Donations can be made to the SPCA. Online condolences may be sent to www.moodyfuneralservices.com.

Brandon Scott Moore, age 44, departed this life on Saturday, August 5, 2023, in Richmond, Virginia. He was born in Patrick County, Virginia on December 26, 1978.

Brandon graduated from Patrick County High School in 1996. He received an Associate's Degree in Criminal Justice from ECPI. Brandon trained and managed alongside his colleagues in the hospitality industry. Brandon was a social butterfly with the kindest heart one could ever meet. He never met a stranger with his dazzling white smile, kind eyes, and infectious laughter. He had a vibrant spirit sharing joy and empathy. Brandon loved his family and friends, he absolutely loved music and its culture, he could dance and compose routines. He enjoyed the finer things in life, from designer clothes and jewelry, hosting gatherings, and planting beautiful Gerbera Daisies. He drove fast cars and appreciated sweets. The last time Brandon and his mother were together, one of his requests was to bring him some

Jolly Ranchers. Brandon could always be expected to have conversations with his acquaintances and anyone he met; a trait of his dad's. Brandon was truly a light and gentle soul.

He leaves to mourn his loss: His loving parent, Phyllis Moore (James) of Stuart, Virginia; a brother, Preston Moore of Tampa, Florida and a sister, Lynn Tolley (Tim) of Roanoke, Virginia. He is mourned by his beloved, Brad Boley of Glen Allen, VA. Nephews, Dion, Xavier, and Gabriel; one niece, Nia; an uncle, Robert (Sandra) Moore; aunts, Linda (Allen) Ludwig, Prestonia (Hampton) Kier, Angela (Michael) Simmons, and Deborah (Arthur) Carter.

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League starts September 12 - 7:00 pm

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PATRICK PULPITS

A Clean Heart

PSALM 51:10

By Minister Deborah Clark,
First Christian Church Stuart

“Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me.”

David wrote this psalm at a very particular time. It demonstrates the cares and desires of a repenting sinner. David was repenting for his sin in the matter of Uriah, which was the greatest blemish upon his character. 1 Kings 15:5 says, “Because David did what was right in the eyes of the Lord, and turned not aside from anything that he commanded him all the days of his life, save only the matter of Uriah the Hittite.” In this psalm he confesses his sin, he prays earnestly for forgiveness of his sin, peace of his conscience, for grace to go and sin no more, he asks to be able to freely access God, he promised to do what he could for the souls of others, and he prays for Zion and Jerusalem. David cried to God to change his corrupt nature. He realized how unclean his heart was and knew only God could create a clean heart in him.

We must have a clean heart!!! And by heart we are talking about our spirit-the place deep within where we relate to God and experience his presence.

Why is a clean heart necessary, you ask? Because we all are born with a sinful nature, our focus is self and self-gratification. Every baby clearly demonstrates this from its first cries related to human, physical needs: Feed me, change me!!

At times in the spiritual realm,

we are also born with a focus on ourselves. We want what we want when we want it, we expect the world to revolve around us and we want to control our own destiny and the world around us.

God sent his only son Jesus into this world to die an atoning death for us so we can experience a change to our spiritual nature. We become new creatures 2 Corinthians 5:17 “Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold all things become new. We must have a clean heart!! The Holy Spirit dwells in our clean heart and we enter the ongoing process where our minds are renewed, our steps are redirected to walk the Lord’s path, our desires are refocused, and we are reenergized to fulfill his purpose for our life. With our clean heart the Holy Spirit begins to unlock our full potential and help us to succeed at accomplishing what God’s purpose is for our life.

Matthew 5: “Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.” The word teaches us that those with a pure, clean heart shall see God as he works in and through our lives. With a clean heart we begin to understand what God means when he says in Romans 8:28 that ALL THINGS WORK TOGETHER FOR OUR GOOD!!! A clean heart helps us to create relationships, so that God’s word goes forth with greater power and authority!!

So, if you want to see more of the Father’s work in your life, and you want to stay focused on your purpose, begin by pursuing, desiring, and seeking a clean pure heart.

BIBLE TRIVIA

BY WILSON CASEY

1. Is the book of Lamentations (KJV) in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. Which book may be summarized as “It really is true, Jesus Christ is God Himself”? Matthew, Mark, Luke, John
3. In Esther 2:17, who was she (Esther) made queen instead of? Vashti, Ruth, Anna, Sapphira
4. Who gave Solomon cedar and fir trees according to all his desire? David, Hiram, Chalcol,

Mahol
5. From Ecclesiastes 3, there is a time to mourn and a time to ...? Leave, Dance, Love, Profit
6. In 1 John 4:8 God is ...? Always, Grace, Love, Beloved
ANSWERS: 1) Old, 2) John, 3) Vashti, 4) Hiram, 5) Dance, 6) Love
Sharpen your understanding of scripture with Wilson’s Casey’s latest book, “Test Your Bible Knowledge,” available in bookstores and online.

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Super Crossword

TAKEN IN

- | | | | | | |
|--|------------------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| ACROSS | 49 Wife's father, e.g. | 95 Inmate who's broken out | DOWN | 38 Lerner's collaborator in musicals | 75 Campus mil. group |
| 1 Alabama city | 50 Left on the dinner table | 97 African cobra | 1 Rocket part | 76 Hair highlight | 77 Gaggly birds |
| 6 Change to fit | 52 Arid African expanse | 100 Staples Center, e.g. | 2 Flynn of old Hollywood | 79 Like direct combat | 83 Sea- — Airport |
| 11 Kind of port on a PC | 56 Small drinks | 101 "Aw, shucks!" | 3 Boxer Ali | 85 IRS form info | 87 Iraqi, for one |
| 14 Seizes the attention of | 57 Keep — profile | 102 Pantry pest | 4 Iraq's locale | 88 Back fish fin | 90 Singer Des- — |
| 19 Follow behind | 58 Egypt's Anwar | 103 Baby who doesn't need a pacifier, perhaps | 5 Sheltered from the wind | 91 Jeong of "The Hangover" | 93 Liselotte of the LPGA |
| 20 First half of an album | 61 Experts | 106 Actor Mineo | 6 "Have — trip" | 94 Revenues | 96 With 80-Across, Silicon Valley city |
| 21 Salada drink | 62 Mooing herd | 108 Spoken | 7 How faint memories are recalled | 98 Hucksters' helpers | 101 The "g" of e.g. |
| 22 Roll back to 0 | 64 Cars move up and down in it | 112 Sorvino of "Mimic" | 8 "Zip- — -Doo-Dah" | 99 Stickler | 104 Ike's wife |
| 23 "Hitchin' —" (1970 hit) | 66 Fleur-de- — | 113 I love, to Livia | 9 Father, in French | 100 Concerto part | 105 Actor Ed |
| 24 U.S. version of a cue sport | 69 "Yes, yes!," in Spain | 114 It connects to a car engine's water pump | 10 Chinese calisthenics system | 101 Actor Ed | 111 Get versed in |
| 27 Argonauts' quest | 71 Land in the ocean, to Yvette | 118 People who do what's at the ends of nine answers in this puzzle | 11 Thespian great Hagen | 102 Sup stylishly | 116 Lacks being future attys. |
| 29 Screening airport gp. | 72 Iraq's locale | 121 Barbera's collaborator in cartoons | 12 Popular Nissans | 103 Emu relative | 117 Slangy suffix with "two" |
| 30 Lead-in for Rooter or tiller | 73 Group of two | 122 Borden's "spokescow" | 13 Certain guitar player | 104 Gp. for tooth drillers | |
| 31 Israel's main airline | 74 Certain injury from an arachnid | 123 Actor Romero | 14 Miracle- — | | |
| 32 Motorist's 180, slangily | 77 Gives 10% to the church | 124 Common bellybutton | 15 Corporate shake-up, for short | | |
| 33 Common seabird with black wingtips | 80 See 96-Down | 125 Rear- — (car accident) | 16 Invite on a date | | |
| 36 Doc wielding a penlight | 81 Dragster fuel | 126 Banana oil or benzozate | 17 Scarab, e.g. | | |
| 38 Chou En- — | 82 Guesses at JFK or SFO | 127 Secret U.S. govt. group | 18 Leisurly walk | | |
| 40 "— la vista!" | 84 Iowa city | 128 Big name in insurance | 25 2.0 grade | | |
| 41 — Aviv | 86 Printed notice with no pictures | 129 Deck out | 26 French edict city of old | | |
| 42 Chess piece four squares from the king at the start of the game | 89 Newly capped tire | | 28 Granola bits | | |
| 47 Alternatives to inns | 91 Makes a sock, say | | 34 "Help Me, —" (1965 hit) | | |
| | 92 Old buddies | | 35 Fancy party | | |
| | | | 37 Boise-to-Spokane dir. | | |

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Puzzle answers page 12

CLASSIFIED

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RFP 2023 MNT 007 - Patrick County High School - Athletic Fields Re-Lighting The Patrick County School Board is accepting competitive sealed proposals from licensed contractors to furnish all material, labor, equipment, fees and perform all work necessary to replace lighting for athletic fields at Patrick County High School, 215 Cougar Lane, Stuart, Virginia 24171. Drawings and specifications are available as a PDF file from the office of Conrad Knight Architecture, PLLC, 212 Starling Avenue, Suite 30, Martinsville, Virginia 24112, phone 276-638-8794, email 88knight@comcast.net. Proposals will be received and opened in the office of the Patrick County School Board located at 104 Rucker Street, Stuart, Virginia 24171 on Tuesday, August 22, 2023 at 2:00 p.m.

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RFP 2023 MNT 008 - Patrick Springs Elementary School - Sidewalk Canopy The Patrick County School Board is accepting competitive sealed proposals from licensed contractors to furnish all material, labor, equipment, fees and perform all work necessary to construct a sidewalk canopy at Patrick Springs Elementary School, 75 Elementary Lane, Patrick Springs, VA 24133. Drawings and specifications are available as a PDF file from the office of Conrad Knight Architecture, PLLC, 212 Starling Avenue, Suite 30, Martinsville, Virginia 24112, phone 276-638-8794, email 88knight@comcast.net. Proposals will be received and opened in the office of the Patrick County School Board located at 104 Rucker Street, Stuart, Virginia 24171 on Thursday, August 24, 2023 at 2:00 p.m. Proposal deadline extended until Tuesday, August 29, 2023 at 2:00 p.m.

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RFP 2023 MNT 009 - Blue Ridge Elementary School - Floor Tile The Patrick County School Board is seeking competitive sealed proposals from licensed contractors to provide all labor, material, equipment, and perform all work necessary to remove and replace floor tile at Blue Ridge Elementary School, 5135 Ararat Hwy., Ararat, VA 24053. Drawings and specifications are available from the office of Chad Haynes, Facilities Supervisor, Maintenance Department, 117 Via Avenue, Unit #1, Stuart, VA 24171. Proposals will be accepted until 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, August 24, 2023. For further information, contact Chad Haynes at 276-694-6984.

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Blue Ridge Dinner Theatre to open fall season with Steel Magnolias

The Blue Ridge Dinner Theatre and Ferrum College Theatre Arts season will open with *Steel Magnolias*, by Robert Harling, on Thursday, August 24. The comedy-drama based on a real family's experiences with diabetes and kidney failure is both moving and thought-provoking.

Steel Magnolias has been performed all over the United States, England, Australia, and Canada, however, most folks remember the 1989 movie featuring Dolly Parton, Julia Roberts, and Sally Fields.

The dinner theatre cast features veteran performers Emily Blankenship-Tucker, Rebecca Crocker, Kristina Stump and Lana Whited. Newcomer Heather Jefferson will enact the delightful role of Annelle, and TJ Baker will perform Shelby.

The performance will be staged in Sale Theatre, Scholfield Hall with luncheon and dinner options served in Franklin Hall. The show will open Thursday, August 24, with a luncheon at 12:15 and curtain at 2pm. Additional show dates are Saturday, August 26, with dinner be-



The dinner theatre cast left to right Rebecca Crocker, Lana Whited, Heather Jefferson, TJ Baker, Kristina Stump, and Emily Blankenship-Tucker.

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Public Notice

Milestone Towers is proposing to construct a 199 ft monopole tele-communications tower facility located at 251 Cougar Lane, Stuart, Patrick Co., VA 24171. Any interested party wishing to submit comments regarding the potential effects the proposed facility may have on any historic property may do so by sending comments to: Project 6123005369 - EJG EBI Consulting, 6876 Susquehanna Trail South, York, PA 17403, or at (781) 552-3062.

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TRUSTEE'S SALE OF 4271 WILLS GAP RD, ARARAT, VA 24053. In execution of a certain Deed of Trust dated March 4, 2009, in the original principal amount of \$80,000.00 recorded in the Clerk's Office, Circuit Court for Patrick County, Virginia as Instrument No. 090000425. The undersigned Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction in the front of the Circuit Court building for Patrick County, 101 West Blue Ridge Street, Stuart, Virginia or any such temporary alternative Circuit Court location designated by the Judges of the Circuit Court on October 2, 2023, at 4:00 PM, the property described in said Deed of Trust, located at the above address, and more particularly described as follows: LYING AND BEING IN DAN RIVER MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT OF PATRICK COUNTY, VIRGINIA AND BEING ALL OF THAT CERTAIN TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND CONTAINING 9.75 ACRES BY SURVEY OF J. F. SMITH, CERTIFIED SURVEYOR, DATED MAY 7, 1946; AND BEING ALL OF THAT TRACT OF LAND DESCRIBED AS LOT NO. 2 IN THAT DEED FROM JOE SMITH AND EFFIE SMITH, HUSBAND AND WIFE, TO J. W. MARTIN AND LEAH BOWMAN MARTIN, BY DEED DATED JUNE 28, 1954, AND OF RECORD IN THE AFORESAID CLERK'S OFFICE. LESS OUT-CONVEYANCE OF 1/4 ACRE AS DESCRIBED IN DEED BOOK 336 AT PAGE 209. TERMS OF SALE: ALL CASH. A bidder's deposit often percent (10%) of the sale price or ten percent (10%) of the original principal balance of the subject Deed of Trust, whichever is lower, in the form of cash or certified funds payable to the Substitute Trustee must be present at the time of the sale. The balance of the purchase price will be due within fifteen (15) days of sale, otherwise Purchaser's deposit may be forfeited to Trustee. Time is of the essence. If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled to a return of the deposit paid. The Purchaser may, if provided by the terms of the Trustee's Memorandum of Foreclosure Sale, be entitled to a \$50 cancellation fee from the Substitute Trustee, but shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee or the Mortgagee's attorney. A form copy of the Trustee's memorandum of foreclosure sale and contract to purchase real property is available for viewing at www.bwvsales.com. Additional terms, if any, to be announced at the sale and the Purchaser may be given the option to execute the contract of sale electronically. This is a communication from a debt collector and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. The sale is subject to seller confirmation. Substitute Trustee: Equity Trustees, LLC, 8100 Three Chopt Road, Suite 240, Richmond, VA 23229. For more information contact: BWV Law Group, LLC, attorneys for Equity Trustees, LLC, 6003 Executive Blvd, Suite 101, Rockville, MD 20852, 301-961-6555, website: www.bwvsales.com. VA-365019-1.

LEGAL

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

6429 Jeb Stuart Highway, Meadows of Dan, VA 24120
Tax Map No. 4514.00-159B
PATRICK COUNTY, VA

In execution of a credit line deed of trust dated May 31, 2019 (the "Deed of Trust"), recorded in the Office of the Circuit Court of the County of Patrick, Virginia, as Instrument No. 190000836, the undersigned substitute Trustee, any or all of whom may act, will offer for sale at the front steps of the Patrick County Courthouse, 101 W. Blue Ridge Street, Stuart, Virginia 24171, on **August 26, 2023, at 10:00 o'clock a.m.**, property located at or near 6429 Jeb Stuart Highway, Meadows of Dan, Virginia, which property is more particularly described as follows:

All of that certain tract or parcel of land, together with the improvements thereon and appurtenances thereunto belonging, lying and being in Blue Ridge Magisterial District of Patrick County, Virginia, being more particularly described as follows, to-wit:

BEGINNING at an iron stake near a power pole in the northern edge of the right of way of U. S. Route 58; thence leaving said edge of the right of way and with the boundary to lands previously conveyed to Phyllis T. Phillips approximately 240 feet in a northerly direction to a point in a barbed wire fence; thence with said fence in an easterly direction approximately 276 feet to an iron stake at the edge of a driveway; thence leaving said fence and with said edge of the driveway approximately 240 feet in a southerly direction to a point in said northern edge of said U. S. Highway 58 right of way; thence leaving said edge of the driveway and with said right of way in a westerly direction approximately 276 feet to the point of BEGINNING, containing 1.52 acres by estimation.

This sale is subject to all liens, easements, restrictions, conditions, and reservations of record affecting the title to the property hereinabove described, to the extent any of them have priority over the lien of the Deed of Trust.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF SALE:

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Peter M. Pearl, Bryson J. Hunter, and
Brian H. Richardson, Substitute Trustees

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ginning at 6:15 p.m. and curtain at 8, and the final performance on Sunday, August 27, with a luncheon beginning at 12:15 and the play starting at 2pm.

Crew for the show includes Rachel Blankenship-Tucker as production stage manager, Su-

san Blankenship as her assistant, Debra Smith as technical advisor, and Sara Bier and Ferrum College Theatre Arts students as backstage crew. Rex Stephenson will direct. Call (540) 365-4336 or visit www.ferrum.edu/play-tickets for tickets and information.

Club hosts candidates



The Ararat Ruritan Club hosted several candidates in the November election during an Aug. 8 Candidate's Night. Candidates participating included those for Circuit Court Clerk, Commissions of the Revenue, Commonwealth's Attorney and Treasurer. Incumbent Patrick County Sheriff Dan Smith is pictured at the podium. (By Mary Dellenback Hill)

Poore named VP of Information Technology, Chief Information Officer

Mark Poore is the Vice President of Information Technology and

Chief Information Officer at Ferrum College, a post he began Aug. 1.

Poore has over 33 years of information technology experience in the higher education, medical, and banking sectors; he brings with him 17 years of IT management experience. Most recently, Poore was Vice President of Information Technology at Harmony Senior Services - a luxury senior living management company with 42 locations and 3,000 employees.

"We are thrilled to have Mr. Poore join our Panther family and provide Ferrum College his vast and exceptional expertise in leading our IT infrastructure. His career highlights the excellence essential to guiding the College into a future with classrooms and systems that will give our faculty cutting-edge resources as they provide our students with superb educational experiences while equipping them with workforce ready skills," said Mirta Martin, Ferrum College president.

Poore is no stranger to liberal arts. He served 24 years at Roanoke College in various IT roles, the last of which was 5 years as their Chief In-



Mark Poore

formation Officer. While at Roanoke College, Poore also taught course sections in Project Management, Information Systems, Introduction to Computers, Spreadsheets and Instructional Technology.

Poore earned his bachelor's degree in psychology from Roanoke College and his master's degree in Gerontology from Baylor University. After his graduate studies, he was awarded a Fulbright Scholarship to Germany to study their social welfare system.

"My heart is in higher education information technology, specifically at small, liberal arts colleges. I am the product of a liberal arts experience that expanded my Southwest Virginia upbringing. Liberal arts exposed me to different world views, a variety of

subject matter, the fine arts, and taught me critical thinking and writing skills," said Poore.

"I feel strongly that the education and experiences available to Ferrum students will do the same for them. I'm excited to play a leadership role at Ferrum College to support and expand these same liberal arts experiences - augmented appropriately with robust, reliable & secure information technology solutions," he concludes.

Poore holds a Project Management Professional (PMP) certification. His IT career demonstrates excellence in information technology leadership, project management, strategic planning, budgeting, software implementation, cyber-security, assessment, vendor negotiations, and staff management.

Fish Fry raises funds for community



The Patrick Springs Ruritan Club had a successful Fish Fry Supper on July 2, with funds raised earmarked to help support community service projects.

The club would like to thank the Walmart Corporation for its generous donation to help with purchasing supplies for the meal.

We would also like to give thanks to the Red Bank Ruritan Club, Norris Funeral Home, and members of our club for their help and support to make the fundraiser so successful. The last thank you goes to the people of our community and surrounding communities for coming out to support us in this project.

We hope that you enjoyed the meal and time of fellowship with your neighbors. Because of your support, we will be able to help people in the community with our projects.

David L. Clement
President, Patrick Springs Ruritan Club

State reps visit Stuart Farmers Market

The Stuart Farmers Market was honored to welcome Kim Hutchinson and Mary Delicate, both from the Virginia Farmers Market Association on Friday. The two stopped by the local market during their tour of farmers' markets across Virginia during National Farmers Market Week. Kim and Mary were impressed with the depth and scope at the Stuart market.



Pictured, (left to right), are Billy Gammons, Market Manager; Kim Hutchinson, Executive Director of the Virginia Farmers Market Association; Rebecca Adcock, Town Council member, Director of the Chamber of Commerce and market promoter; Mary Delicate, Virginia Farmers Market Association.

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Rabies concerns prompt health officials to issue warning

To protect the health of residents and visitors, the New River Health District issued a notice about two foxes testing positive for rabies that were found in the same general area of Christiansburg within the past week. The most recent encounter, on August 5, marks the fifth laboratory confirmed case of animal rabies in Montgomery County and the 12th in the New River

Health District this year.

On August 5, 2023, a fox testing positive for rabies was found in a neighborhood in Christiansburg. This is the second confirmed case of animal rabies in that locality in the past week. A few days before, another fox testing positive for rabies was located in a Christiansburg neighborhood.

In each incident a person was reportedly exposed to the animal. The New River Health District asks anyone who may have come into contact with either of the foxes in or around the area of Blake Drive or Dunlap Drive to call the Montgomery County Health Department at 540-585-3300.

Due to the relative proximity and timing of these cases, health officials are reminding everyone, and especially pet owners, of the risks of rabies.

Rabies is a deadly disease caused by a virus that attacks the nervous system. It is almost always fatal, unless preventive treatment is administered before symptoms develop.

"It is important to keep your pets properly vaccinated and to seek medical attention promptly if you or your pet are exposed," said Dr. Noelle Bissell, director for the New River Health District.

Virginia law requires that all dogs and cats four months of age and older be vac-

cinated for rabies by a licensed veterinarian, and that vaccinations be kept current.

Additional Steps to Protect Against Rabies Exposure:

*Do not feed stray animals. Avoid wild animals, especially raccoons, bats, foxes and skunks. Feed your pets indoors and do not let them wander.

*Make sure your pets are vaccinated against rabies and their shots are up to date. By law, all dogs, cats and ferrets must be vaccinated against rabies.

*Teach children to avoid contact with wild animals and pets they are not familiar with.

*Do not handle sick, injured or dead animals.

*Keep wild animals out of homes by capping chimneys with screens and blocking openings in attics, cellars and porches. Ensure trash cans have tight fitting lids.

*Do not try to trap or handle stray and wild animals.

*If you are bitten by a wild or stray animal, do not panic. Wash the wound(s) thoroughly with warm soapy water and contact animal control, your doctor or local health department for further recommendations.

For additional information, visit www.vdh.virginia.gov/environmental-epidemiology/animal-contact-human-health/.

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Reynolds Homestead announces dates for Rock Spring Art Show

Virginia Tech's Reynolds Homestead, in partnership with Bull Mountain Arts, will accept submissions for the annual Rock Spring Art Show from Sept 7-10.

"We are excited to be able to host this important art event for our region and we encourage all area artists to submit original art," said Julie Walters Steele, director of the Reynolds Homestead, which serves as the university's community engagement center for Patrick and surrounding counties as well as a place for culture and lifelong learning.

The Rock Spring Art Show is open to artists 18 years of age or older who reside in Patrick, Henry, Franklin, Floyd, or Carroll counties in Virginia, or Surry or Stokes counties in North Carolina. Any Patrick County native or member of Bull Mountain Arts, regardless of residence, may enter.

Entries must be the artist's original work and

completed in the past three years. The entry fee is \$30 per artist; members of Bull Mountain Arts may enter for \$25 and those interested in joining Bull Mountain Arts may do so when submitting art. Each artist is eligible to enter two works of art.

Art may be submitted in the following categories: oil painting, acrylic painting, watercolor painting, drawing, and 2D and 3D mixed media. There is no restriction on size, however two-dimensional art must be framed and wired for hanging. All 3D artwork must be freestanding or include its own display apparatus. Quilts should have a sleeve on the back to insert a hanging dowel.

Submissions of artwork will be accepted at the Reynolds Homestead in Critz, Virginia, on Sept 7 from 12-5 p.m., Sept. 8 from 9-4 p.m., Sept. 9 from 10 a.m. -2 p.m., and Sept. 10 from 1-4 p.m.

The show's opening reception and awards ceremony will be held at 6 p.m. Sept. 19 at the Reynolds Homestead and is open to the public. Prizes will be awarded to winners in each category. From Sept. 20-Oct. 31, art will be exhibited in the Community Engagement Center on Mondays-Fridays from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. and on Sundays from 1-4 p.m.

For more information about the Rock Spring Art Show and to download an entry form, please visit www.reynoldshomestead.vt.edu.

If you are interested in volunteering to assist with art submissions and hanging or becoming a sponsor for awards and the reception, contact Terri Leviner at 276-694-7181 ext. 21 or email wrayse88@vt.edu.

If you are an individual with a disability and desire accommodation, call the Reynolds Homestead at 276-694-7181 during regular business hours at least 10 business days before the event.



Protect yourself and your property from lightning strikes

Your odds of being struck by lightning in an 80-year lifetime are 1 in 18,864, according to the National Lightning Safety Council.

Despite those odds, there have been multiple lightning fatalities in Virginia since 2007. Most victims were young adults or children engaged in common outdoor activities.

Types of strikes vary from direct strikes to side flashes (or splashes) that occur when lightning strikes a taller object, jumping to a nearby victim, according to the NLSC. Ground-current strikes are the most widely devastating, as energy travels outward from the strike through the ground. Any people or animals outside near a lightning strike are potential victims of deadly ground current, evident in mass fatalities of livestock.

The council cautions that no place outside is safe during a thunderstorm. It recommends running to a substantial building or hard-topped metal vehicle quickly. Otherwise, avoid open areas, and don't be the tallest target. Stay away from isolated tall trees, towers or poles. Avoid wires or fences.

Create distance from groups gathered outdoors.

According to the Insurance Information Institute, Virginia ranked in the top 10 states for homeowner insurance lightning loss claims in 2022.

"This weather peril affects most parts of Virginia, and it's also a leading fire threat," said Kimberly Loehr, co-owner of Loehr Lightning Protection Co. and member of the NLSC. "A single strike can deliver 300 million volts of electricity and 30,000 amps to unprotected homes. Compared to a household electrical current of 120 volts and 15 amps, lightning's mega electricity can pack a massive punch with devastating results."

Lightning fires can originate in enclosed spaces like the attic, basement or electrical service panels. Signs of a home strike include:

- Power outages;
- Sparks or smoldering fire;
- Acrid odor or pungent smell (ozone) similar to melting plastic;
- Physical damage to the structure or surround-

ing property;

Appliances or electronics that have shut down or turned on suddenly;

Dimming, flickering or burned-out lights; and Humming or buzzing sounds.

"Safety standard-compliant lightning protection systems help prevent losses," said Scott DeNoon, senior farm product and underwriting manager for Virginia Farm Bureau Mutual Insurance Co. "It's very important that these components be properly connected."

Lightning protection that follows guidelines recommended by the Lightning Protection Institute can prevent fires.

"These systems work by providing a network of low-resistance paths to safely intercept lightning's destructive electricity and direct it to ground without impact to a structure or its occupants," Loehr added.

Your local Virginia Farm Bureau insurance agent can answer questions about residential and personal property protection coverage.

Avoid a nasty bite of summer by getting ahead of tick season

Summer heat breeds outdoor fun—and hidden critters looking for a quick bite. Virginians should take proper precautions when venturing outdoors as tick season continues.

While tick exposure can occur year-round, they are most active during warmer months—especially in Virginia, which ranks among the top 10 states for tick-borne disease cases with over 6,000 recorded, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Bites from the small, bloodsucking arachnids can infect humans with illnesses such as Lyme disease, which accounts for more than 80% of tick-borne illnesses. Tick-borne diseases also can vary by region, with more than 17 human diseases known to be caused by at least nine kinds of ticks nationally, the CDC reports.

Spending time outside walking your dog, camping, gardening or hunting can put you in close contact with ticks, and many people en-

counter ticks in their own yards or neighborhoods.

The CDC suggests familiarizing yourself with where to expect ticks before stepping outside. Avoid woody and brushy areas with high grass and leaf litter, and walk in the center of trails.

While ticks can't fly or jump, they can detect heat, breath and other signals from warm creatures. To find meals, they typically cling to the tops of grass blades or leaves with their back legs and hitch a ride on people's apparel.

Check clothing for ticks upon entering the household, and use tweezers to immediately remove any that are found. Tumble dry clothes in a dryer on high heat for 10 minutes to kill clinging ticks, or longer if the clothes are damp. If washing clothing first, use hot water—cold and medium temperature water will not kill ticks.

Ticks also can ride into homes on pets or ob-

jects and attach to a person later, so carefully examine pets, coats and daypacks.

Showering within two hours of coming indoors has been shown to reduce the risk of getting Lyme disease and may be effective in reducing the risk of other tick-borne diseases.

The CDC also recommends checking under arms, in and around ears, inside navel, back of knees, in and around hair, between legs and around the waist for any unwanted visitors.

For extra protection, treating clothing and gear with products containing 0.5% permethrin or purchasing permethrin-treated clothing can help ward off ticks.

Find an insect repellent best suited for you using the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's registered repellent search tool at epa.gov/insect-repellents/find-repellent-right-you.

For more tips on avoiding ticks, visit cdc.gov/ticks/avoid/on_people.html.

Meetings

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.

Tuesday, Aug. 22
The Patrick County Department of Social Services Board meets at 6 p.m. in the second-floor conference room of the Patrick County Administration Building. For more information, call (276) 693-2084.

Events

Wednesday, Aug. 16
The Patrick County Community Food Bank will hold a food distribution day at the Stuart site from 8:30-11 a.m. and from 5-6:30 p.m. There will be a morning distribution in Ararat from 8:30-11 a.m., and an evening distribution in Meadows of Dan from 5-6:30 p.m.

Thursday, Aug. 17
The Patrick County Republican Committee will meet at 6 p.m. in the Motorsports Hall of Fame Auditorium. Sen. Bill Stanley and De. Wren Williams are expected to attend.

Friday, Aug. 18
The Stuart Farmers' Market will be open from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. Free blood pressure checks will be available.

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 at 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.

Fairystone Volunteer Fire Department will hold a country breakfast from 6:30-10 a.m. Dine in process are \$10 for an adult plate and \$5 for a child plate. All to go plates are \$10. To call in an order, call (276) 930-2113.

Author Bracky Rogers will be in Meadows

of Dan, with coauthor Tom Perry for the annual folk fair from 10 am until noon.

Sunday, Aug. 20
The 68th annual Griffith Reunion will be at 1 p.m. at Griffith Valley in Woolwine. All descendants of Tyler Griffith are asked to attend and bring a covered dish and a good family story. Call Bruce at (276) 692-5310 for more information.

Ross Harbour Methodist Church's Homecoming with special singing starting at 10 a.m. and worship to follow at 11 a.m., with David Gaylor to serve as guest speaker. A covered dish meal will follow.

Monday, Aug. 21
A second meeting to gauge interest for a new Ruritan Club in the Woolwine/Fairystone area will be held at 7 p.m. at the Woolwine Volunteer Fire Department. Anyone interested in helping the community is invited to attend. Address questions to Kevin Smith, (276) 229-6493.

Author Bracky Rogers will be at the Mount Airy Public Library with coauthor Tom Perry starting at 6 pm. This is a program for the Friends of the Mount Airy Public Library.

Monday, Aug. 21-Wednesday, Aug. 23
Revival at Ross Harbour Methodist Church, 6260 Elamsville Road. Special singers and speakers each night.

Thursday, Aug. 24
Charcuterie Class at the Patrick County Branch Library. A \$5 nonrefundable supply fee od required to register. For ages 18 and over.

Friday, Aug. 25
The Stuart Farmers' Market will be open from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. There will be a monthly Master Gardeners program and pressure canner seal checks.

Friday, Sept. 1 - Saturday, Sept. 2
Creasey's Chapel will hold a yard sale to benefit the church. Sale to include household furniture, home accessories, clothing, toys, and something for everyone. Located on Highway 103, Stuart.

Ongoing

Messianic Bible Study, Fridays from 6-7:30 p.m. Event is for anyone wanting a deeper understanding of the Old Testament and how

it relates to us now. Come and discover the Hebrew side of the Christian Faith during the meetings held at The Honey Pot, 106 N. Main St., Stuart (across from The Coffee Break). Call (276) 694-2356 for more information.

The Patrick County Parks and Recreation Office is now accepting football registration for 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 Story Time with Ms. Sam at 10:30 a.m. on Tuesdays, with books, songs, finger plays, and more. For more information, call (276) 694-3352.

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

The 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.

Last Tuesday of each month, Golden Oldies, Open Jam at Willis Gap Community Center, 144 The Hollow Road, Ararat, with 50s, 60s, 70s Rock and Roll. Doors open 6 p.m. Music gets underway at 7. Food is available.

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

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Doc at 100 tribute celebrating the life and music of Doc Watson

The Blue Ridge Music Center is presenting a tribute to Doc Watson with the show *Doc at 100* at 7 p.m., Saturday, August 19, in the outdoor amphitheater. The Music Center is located at milepost 213 on the Blue Ridge Parkway, just south of Galax and 30 minutes from Sparta and Mount Airy, N.C.

Doc at 100 explores the history and legacy of Doc Watson, who was born in Deep Gap, N.C., in 1923, and went on to become one of the most influential acoustic guitar players in the world of folk music. Hosted by author Ted Olson, the concert program celebrates the anniversary of what would have been Doc Watson's 100th birthday and honors his life and legacy with performances, stories and songs by artists who performed with him, who were profoundly influenced by his music, and who called him a friend.

Doc at 100 includes T. Michael Coleman and Jack Lawrence, who performed, recorded, and toured with Doc longer than any other musicians he worked with. Joining them are fellow guitarists Wayne Henderson and Jack Hinshelwood, who were both heavily impacted by Doc's music through his many recordings and performances.

T. Michael Coleman toured with Doc and Merle Watson from 1974 to 1986, and continued recording with Doc after Merle's death. Coleman rejoined him on the road, along with David Holt, during the final years of Doc's life. Over the many years of traveling and playing with Doc, he amassed a treasure trove of stories as well as music.

Jack Lawrence began playing with Doc in 1983, filling in for Merle as he pursued other interests. After Merle's death in 1985 Lawrence became Doc's full-time musical partner. They played side-by-side for over 25 years with a guitar partnership that capitalized on both of their



Doc at 100 performers

strengths.

Wayne Henderson is well-known for his guitar playing and instrument building. He and Doc first met in the late 1960s, and went on to form a long friendship, especially in Doc's later years when Doc would make regular visits to Henderson's guitar-making shop in Rugby, Virginia. Henderson frequently includes Doc's tunes and tells stories about Doc when he performs. He made a couple of instruments for Doc, including a mandolin and a guitar, and Doc played several times at the Wayne C. Henderson Festival.

Jack Hinshelwood began playing bluegrass guitar in the early 1970s, was strongly influenced by Doc's guitar picking and repertoire. He

has won many guitar contests over the years, including taking the top guitar prize at the Galax Old Fiddlers' convention in 2014. Hinshelwood co-hosts *Doc at 100* with Olson.

Doc at 100 was recently named one of the 5 nominees for the 2023 "Event of the Year" award presented by the International Bluegrass Music Association (IBMA).

Tickets are \$25 in advance, \$30 day-of-show, \$10 for children 12 and younger. Advance tickets are available online at BlueRidgeMusicCenter.org. Tickets can be purchased on the evening of the show at the admission gates.

Parking opens at 5:15 p.m. and is free. Admission to the amphitheater begins at 5:45 p.m.

Fire crews douse Vesta fire



Damage from the blaze was contained to half of the brick ranch-style house.

By Taylor Boyd

Local volunteer fire departments responded to a call for a Vesta-area house fire on Friday, Aug. 4.

Clint Weidhaas, assistant chief of the Patrick Springs Volunteer Fire Department, said the call was first toned out to Meadows of Dan Volunteer Fire Department at 2:46 p.m.

"Meadows of Dan Fire Department was alerted of a house on JEB Stuart Highway with a significant amount of smoke coming from it there at Hilltop Restaurant," he said.

Weidhaas said the fire was brought under control within 25 minutes, and the damage was contained to half of the brick ranch-style home.

"Half of it received fire damage, which was like two bedrooms, the hallway, a living room, and the attic space was damaged," he said.

No one was injured as everyone evacuated the

house prior to the department's arrival. Fire crews remained on scene for three hours.

Weidhaas believes a rough estimate of 7,000 gallons of water was used to extinguish the fire.

Meadows of Dan had three apparatus and eight personnel, Stuart Volunteer Fire Department had one apparatus and five personnel, Patrick Springs Volunteer Fire Department had four apparatus and nine personnel, and Woolwine Volunteer Fire Department had two apparatus and an unknown number of personnel.

"The warm temperature outside made it extra difficult for firefighters dealing with the fire. I mean here lately it's just been miserable," he said.

Weidhaas said this is the fifth structure fire in the county in less than two and a half months, "which has kept the local fire departments busier for this time of year."

Hay bale decorating contest spotlights community creativity, agriculture

Showcasing creativity and sparking conversations about agriculture are the aim of the Virginia Farm Bureau Federation Women's Leadership Committee's annual Hay Bale Decorating Contest.

Now in the contest's ninth year, the committee is encouraging communities and individuals to embrace their imaginations and tell a story through decorative hay bale displays.

"I love to see how creative they are," said Julia Stephens, a Wythe County farmer and District 3 representative on the VFBF Women's Leadership Committee. "The displays remind the non-farming community about local farmers and promote a healthy relationship within their communities."

Entries will be accepted Sept. 1 through Nov. 15. The contest is open to anyone, including farmers markets, farm supply businesses, student groups, community associations, individuals and county Farm Bureaus.

Decorators can demonstrate their artistic ingenuity by converting round or square bales into animals, structures, shapes and farmscapes. Items such as corn stalks, farm tools, pallets, pumpkins and other props can be used alongside bales to create various scenes.

Guidelines and an entry form are available at bit.ly/3KC08TE. Participants must include a photograph of the hay bale display with each application.

Winners will be selected and receive a cash award in the following categories: junior (8 and younger); square bale display; community spirit; and most creative. This year also will have a special themed category, "Stars of Agriculture," in which participants are invited to decorate hay bales like celebrities or agricultural figures—real or fictional.

"I anticipate the big reveal of all the entries," Stephens added. "I applaud and appreciate all the effort that goes into them."

The displays generate a lasting impression and typically are placed in visible areas near schools, outside of businesses, at county Farm Bureau offices and in people's yards.

Winners will be notified by email or phone. Photos of contest entries will be displayed at the 2023 VFBF Annual Convention in Virginia Beach in late November.

Last year's contest received 46 entries, with displays encompassing farm animals, horticulture, farm life, farm machinery and farm safety. Past winning entries featured farmers "Dancing Through the Seasons of Life"; a Halloween-themed Count Dracula proclaiming, "You can Count on Farmers"; a farm-fresh bacon and eggs breakfast noting "Page County is Fueled by Farming"; and a combine made of round and square bales.

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AUG 26th
@ 10AM



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- Size: 1.52 acres

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- Office
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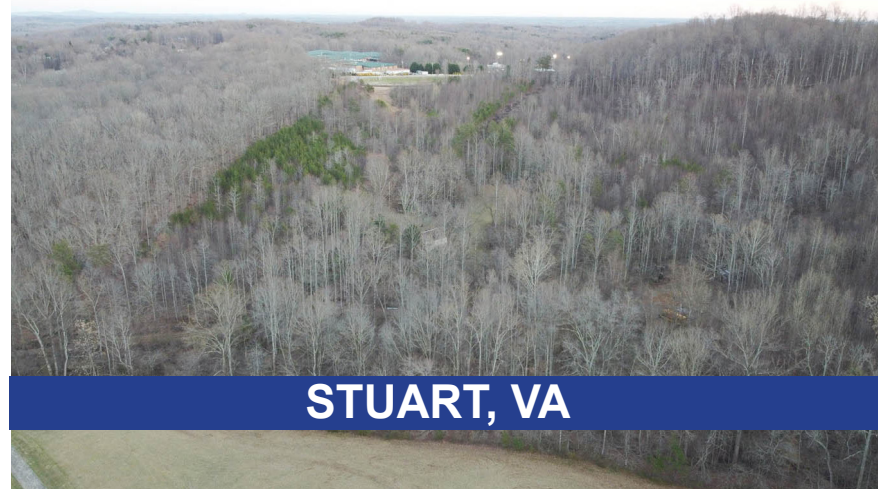
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