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Vol. 147 No. 38 Website: www.theenterprise.net STUART, VIRGINIA WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 30, 2023 USPS 523-500 \$1.00

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

Warner visits local areas on a swing through Southside



Sen. Mark Warner, D-Alexandria, visited Mabry Mill on a four-day tour of Southern Virginia. There, he visited community leaders, heard from local residents, and met with Blue Ridge Parkway Rangers.

By Taylor Boyd

During his four-day swing through Southside and Southwest Virginia, Sen. Mark Warner, D-Alexandria, stopped by Mabry Mill and the Martinsville Speedway to meet residents and

community leaders.

At his stop at Mabry Mill, Warner offered an update on the implementation of the Great American Outdoors Act and its impact on the Blue Ridge Parkway.

“We know how important the parkway is, not just to most of us here local at least, or Patrick or Floyd County, but it’s over a billion dollars in economic impact that I don’t think I fully real-
(See Warner p. 3)

Flooding occurs throughout county

By Pat Delaney

Heavy rainfall pelted the region Monday, causing streams and rivers to swell, downed trees in various areas of the county and county schools to hold

their first virtual learning day of the new school year. The National Weather Service issued flash flood watches and warnings for several areas in Virginia, including Patrick County.



Pictured is the boat launch at Fairy Stone State Park, looking towards the beach.



The Mayo River in Stuart on Monday. This photo was taken from the bridge to Narroflex, looking towards the S. Main St. bridge over Mayo River.

Puckett withdraws from race

Citing employment restrictions, Russell “Leon” Puckett withdrew his candidacy for the Blue Ridge District seat on the Patrick County Board of Supervisors.

“I want to thank everyone for their kindness and support over the last five months, and I will continue to support the nominated supervisor and the citizens of Patrick County in any way that I can,” Puckett said in a release announcing his withdraw-

al. The seat is currently held by incumbent Clyde DeLoach, who will now face Steve Marshall.

“I am really sorry to see this,” Marshall said of Puckett’s withdrawal. “A three-way race would have presented a broader choice of representation styles to the residents of Patrick County. This really is a loss to the county and to the process. I wish Mr. Puckett the best.”



Pictured, left to right, are Sandra G. Treadway, Librarian of Virginia; Hope Perry, principal of Patrick County High School; Maria Turner, and Billy Murray, Senior Vice President for Corporate Affairs and Communications at Dominion Energy.

PCHS senior one of four high school winners in writing contest

Maria Turner, a senior at Patrick County High School, was recognized as the western region winner of the 2023 Student Creative Expressions Contest, sponsored by Dominion Energy and the Library of Virginia as part of their Strong Men & Women in Virginia History

program. The annual program recognizes notable African-American business and community leaders who have overcome obstacles to make significant impacts across the state.

“Each generation builds on the
(See PCHS Winner p. 3)

Patrick Springs athlete competes in China



Ayla Gordon will compete in Bah Cham Dao (double swords) at the World Championships in China.



Though not a weapon she competes with, Ayla Gordon is proficient with nunchaku.



Ayla Gordon’s medals from the Pan American Championships and National Championships.

By Pat Delaney

Ayla Gordon, a local martial artist, has traveled to Emeishan, China to compete in the 9th World Kung Fu Championships, August 23-28. A member of Team USA, Gordon will put nearly a lifetime of hard work and training up against the best in the world.

Gordon, now 20 and a Patrick Springs resident who works and trains in Martinsville, began Kung Fu training at the age of three. After a break to explore her interest in dance, she returned to martial arts at age 10. Her father,

Kristain Gordon, a Shifu, or teacher of Kung Fu, didn’t push her newfound interest but was supportive of her choice.

“I wanted her to want to do it out of her own interest,” he said, “because she would develop skill, admiration, and love for it on her own.”

Ayla’s desire to compete took shape on a trip with her father to Atlantic City, where he was being inducted into the martial arts Hall of Honors. It was on this trip that Ayla saw and met several famous martial artists along with actors and actresses with backgrounds in martial arts.

“A lot of them got their start in competitions,” Kristian Gordon said, “so that piqued her interest.”

After competing in local events, Ayla said she began to “wonder what would happen if I tried to go up a level. I saw they had Team USA tryouts, and I really wanted to try it.”

Like so many things, COVID impeded her plans, putting off her Team USA tryouts until November 2022. Once there, she won gold in Bah Cham Dao - a discipline featuring two short swords, and silver in Biu Ji, which shows her
(See Athlete p. 11)

Reynolds Homestead launches the fall session of College for Older Adults

Virginia Tech's Reynolds Homestead in Critz, VA has opened registration for its fall session of College for Older Adults. Classes begin September 18 and run through October 27. This six-week session of classes is presented through the generous support of The Landmark Center. The variety of opportunities this session includes hikes, history classes, author series, arts and crafts, movement classes, and fun day trips. The full schedule of classes and activities is posted on the Reynolds Homestead website: www.reynoldshomestead.vt.edu.

College for Older adults is a semi-annual program lasting six weeks in both the spring and fall. The sessions offer cultural, intellectual, social, and fitness opportunities for adults ages 50 and older. College for Older Adults is perfect for: lifelong learners, those curious about the world around them, people interested in trying new things or making new connections, and

anyone who enjoys planned outings and activities.

The membership fee for COA is \$60 and includes tuition for all weekly classes along with specialty one-time offerings. Some classes such as art/crafts classes, make and takes, and field trips may have additional supply or transportation fees. A hiking only track is available for \$30 and includes six guided hikes. Payments may be made online by credit or debit card, or via check made payable to Treasurer of Virginia Tech. Online and printable registration options can be accessed from Reynolds Homestead's Facebook page and website. Paper catalogs are available at Reynolds Homestead, the Patrick County Chamber of Commerce and Blue Ridge Regional Library.

For more information contact Melanie Gilbert, Assistant manager for Community Engagement Programs at mtgilbert68@vt.edu or by calling 276-694-7181 ex.22.



Tourism Talks

Hello Patrick, There are many exciting activities taking place this Labor Day weekend. To see all the events happening, please visit our website at visitpatrickcounty.org. I would like to highlight two important events. Dominion Valley Park will have gospel music on Friday and Saturday at 5:30 p.m. and Sunday morning worship at 10:30 a.m. You can find more information on their Facebook page, Dominion Valley Park. Additionally, tickets are still available for Front Porch Fest 14, which will take place at Spirithaven Farm from August 31st to September 3rd.

Please keep in mind the various flea markets and yard sales happening throughout the re-

gion. Our unique communities will be bustling with festivals, gatherings, and performances over the next few weeks. If you are unable to find something to do, then you probably don't want to do anything at all! By the way, we have a wall in the visitor's center dedicated to local events, so feel free to drop by and check it out. Lastly, I hope you all have a fantastic Labor Day weekend and get to spend time with your loved ones. Remember, "Come Get Lost and Find Yourself Here."

I'll be in touch soon.
Best regards, James Houchins,
Director of Tourism
jhouchins@co.patrick.va.us

Villa Appalaccia Winery raises funds for Dolly Parton Imagination Library in Patrick County

Thank you to Villa Appalaccia Winery for their Imagination Library Fundraiser held during their Wine-versary on August 11-13 celebrating owning the winery

for 5 years. Through a percentage of Saturday sales, 50/50 raffle and visitors making donations they raised \$1209 for the Patrick County Dolly Parton Imagination

Library.

The library in Patrick County is made possible through the partnership of the Patrick County Chamber of Commerce, One Family Pro-

ductions, STEP Empowers, and Rotary Club of Stuart. For more information, to register your child or to donate, visit: <https://patrickchamber.com/info/DollyParton.cfm>



Pictured (left to right) Heyward Smith, Villa Appalaccia Winery; Rebecca Adcock, executive director of the Patrick County Chamber of Commerce, Julie & Tim Block, Owners Villa Appalaccia.

Claims drop in latest filing week

The number of initial claims fell a third lower in the latest filing week to 2,311 and returned to typical pre-Pandemic volumes experienced in 2019, according to the most recent data from the Virginia Employment Commission (VEC)

For the filing week ending August 19, the figure for seasonally unadjusted initial claims in Virginia was 2,311, which was a decrease of 1,149 claimants from the previous week. Continued weeks claimed totaled 13,715, which was five claims higher than the previous week and an increase of 9.3% from the 12,543 continued claims from the comparable week last year. Ninety-three percent of claimants self-reported an associated industry, of those reported over half (58 percent) of continued claims were from professional, scientific, and technical services (2,006), administrative and support and waste management (1,910), manufacturing (1,267), health care and social assistance (1,230), and retail trade (1,006). Eligibility for benefits is determined on a weekly basis, and so not all weekly claims filed result in a benefit payment. This is be-

cause the initial claims numbers represent claim applications; claims are then reviewed for eligibility and legitimacy.

In the week ending August 19, the advance U.S. figure for seasonally adjusted initial claims was 230,000, a decrease of 10,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised up by 1,000 from 239,000 to 240,000. The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs[1], unadjusted, totaled 198,357 in the week ending August 19, a decrease of 15,446 (or -7.2 percent) from the previous week. There were 179,220 initial claims in the comparable week in 2022. Looking at preliminary data, most U.S. states reported decreases on a seasonally unadjusted basis. Ohio's preliminary weekly change (-5,899) was the largest decrease. New Jersey's preliminary weekly change (-1,308) was the second largest decrease. Illinois's preliminary weekly change (-1,218) was the third largest decrease. Virginia's preliminary weekly change (-1,050) was the fourth largest decrease. Driven by its catastrophic wildfires, Hawaii reported the largest weekly increase (+3,679).

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



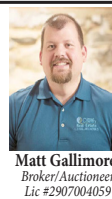
Check out this beautiful building lot in Meadows of Dan VA! Property features +/- 3.165 acres of wooded land. There are underground utilities in place. The property has one of the best views in the area! With some clearing, this would be an ideal spot for your dream home in the Blue Ridge Mountains. 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.

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Warner

(cont. from page 1)

ized,” Warner said, adding visitors entering his front office are greeted by a six-foot-tall picture of the mill.

Warner said the Blue Ridge Parkway is visited by more Americans than Yosemite National Park, the Grand Canyon, the Grand Teton National Park, and Yellowstone National Park combined.

He also acknowledged the work of Del. Wren Williams, R-Stuart, at the state level.

“I’m big on bipartisan, but you think it’s hard to get Republicans and Democrats to work together? Getting this funding, figuring out the battle between the park people, and the land and water conservation people, and the Bureau of Public Land people, that was real politics,” he said, as many in the crowd chuckled.

When the Restore Our Parks and Public Lands Act was passed, Warner said there was about an \$11 billion backlog on national park maintenance for roads and historic sites. The backlog went up to \$13 billion.

Sens. Lamar Alexander, R-TN, Rob Portman R-OH, Angus King, I-ME, and Warner worked on the Act.

“It took us a couple of years. It was always broad-based support, but it was a question of are we just going to do the parks, or are we going to end up doing a Land and Water Conservation Fund - a permanent set of funding,” he said.

Warner said the sausage-making of how the bill got passed included blood, sweat, and toil.

“We got a five-year stream. We’re not going to get all the backlog, because obviously each year the backlog goes up, but we’re going to get about \$6.5 billion, and it was kind of the art of compromise,” he said. “The art of sausage-making.”

The infrastructure bill, which fi-

nally has enough money for every community to have full, high-speed affordable broadband, was also a topic of discussion.

“I know there’s sometimes a challenge to get the fiber through the park service. I think we may work on a plan on how we can speed that up because my belief is Virginia is further along than almost any state,” Warner said. “We have \$700,000 from the previous governor and we just got \$1.4 billion” for the projects, he said.

Warner said if there isn’t broadband to every community at 98 percent penetration by 2025, it’s because someone screwed up along the way on execution, not due to a lack of funding.

“I want to make sure that all of the Board of Supervisor members who are here can take all of the appropriate kudos when they can make sure that everybody in their community is connected,” he said.

After the COVID-19 pandemic, Warner said he believes everyone realized that the idea that one must go to the Burger King parking lot to get a signal or broadband is not a practical long-term solution.

He said he was told during a conversation with Blue Ridge Parkway Superintendent Tracy Swartout that even getting people to come work at the park service is difficult.

“Something that I remember when I was a kid was one of the most competitive jobs around,” Warner said. “Hopefully, as we do all this restoration, we’ll be able to encourage more folks to join us. This is a great career, and it’s another version of public service.”

Swartout said the Blue Ridge Parkway was created to spur economic development in the Southern Appalachian communities it serves.

“We have more than 300 utili-

ty crossings on the parkway right now and in many cases, these are old crossings that are now being updated with fiber and new technology. We’re really looking forward to being a part of getting communities connected because that’s really part of what the park service mission was anyway,” she said.

With the money the state has in the Virginia Telecommunication Initiative (VATI) program, Warner said there should be enough funds for about 98 percent of households to have broadband access.

“There’ll always be someone that lives so far down the road they may not get to in the next two years. What I worry about is if other rural counties are getting big grants and” other counties aren’t, “I’m happy to meet with them because the money’s there,” he said.

Warner said once the fiber wires are there, it becomes cheaper to put in a cell phone tower.

“We need fiber. There will be some spots where 5G coverage will be an answer, but the main thing needs to be fiber,” he said.

At his stop in Martinsville, Warner said the Martinsville Speedway generates a ton of resources for the community, including \$170 million, 3,000 jobs, and 350,000 sports fans coming to the community.

Warner said when he was governor, the vocational education initiative started at the racetrack.

“I think it was with Hermie Sadler, we started the Race to the GED program. We advertised it all over Virginia, and what we said, ‘any kid in Virginia, we’re not going to lower our standards, but you’ve got to have a career path and it doesn’t have to be college,’” he said.

The program guaranteed an industry certification, and if one couldn’t get enough of that training in high school, it’d give up to a year

of free community college to finish getting that industry certification, he said.

“It would pay itself back in three years. We went from 6,000 kids to 11,000 kids on that effort on getting industry certifications,” he said.

The program was not continued by his successors, but Warner said he believes the program should be brought back before the state starts thinking about free four-year college.

Old school thinking about education needs to be changed like schools being compensated based on “butts in a seat on a semester-wide basis,” he said.

“If you get a Pell grant, you ought to be able to use your Pell grant for an industry certification, not simply go to college,” Warner said.

For more than 40 years, Warner said the country’s talked about the need to have improvements in infrastructure.

“A little over a year ago, we passed the biggest infrastructure bill since President Eisenhower invested” in the interstate, he said, adding this means additional resources for roads, bridges, airports, water and sewer, and most importantly broadband.

“We’ve got to get better connected. It shouldn’t matter where you live in the twenty-first century, you ought to be able to do your job anywhere, and I think post-COVID we also realized that highspeed affordable broadband is not just nice to have, it’s an absolutely essential economic requirement,” he said.

Warner said having affordable broadband doesn’t guarantee a community will be successful, but not having it means there’s really no chance to attract better jobs and keep young people in the area.

PCHS Winner

(cont. from page 1)

achievements of the one before. That’s why we are proud to honor Strong Men & Women in Virginia History who have used their talents and efforts to improve communities for the present and future generations,” said Bill Murray, Senior Vice President for Corporate Affairs and Communications at Dominion Energy.

Members of the armed forces, engineers, authors, community leaders, educators, journalists, judges, and politicians have been celebrated throughout the program’s history.

“These amazing men and women have proven that hard work and determination can shape one’s destiny and the world. Throughout time, African-American leaders have used their unique skillsets and unwavering passion to mentor leaders of the future. It’s important to honor their efforts and their legacy,” said Sandra G. Treadway, Librarian of Virginia.

In 2013, Strong Men & Women in Virginia History was born when Dominion Energy and the Library of Virginia began a new educational initiative that merged two phenomenal Black History Month

programs: Dominion Energy’s 22-year-old series, Strong Men & Women: Excellence in Leadership and the Library of Virginia’s eight-year-old program, African American Trailblazers in Virginia History.

As part of the initiative, high school students from each region of Virginia are invited to participate in a contest to honor outstanding African Americans and share stories they feel may be missing from the mainstream narrative.

Maria, her family, and Mrs. Hope Perry, PCHS principal, attended the June 16 gala in Richmond, where Maria was recognized and awarded an Apple MacBook Air laptop. Mrs. Perry also accepted \$1000 on behalf of PCHS as part of Maria’s recognition.

Maria’s essay honors Kitty Reynolds, a former slave of the Rock Springs Plantation (now Reynolds Homestead).

Maria’s winning entry is reprinted below:

Kitty Reynolds

Description: Although the story of Kitty Reynolds took place at a

very well-known landmark in my county, I had never learned about her until I began searching for stories within my community that are not always told. She and her family had a large impact on all African Americans and their right to a fair trial. It is crucial to share stories like Kitty’s, and, while this seems like an immense undertaking, it can truly be achieved by simply telling the story. It is a great responsibility to tell the untold story, but it does not have to be a grand gesture. While impressive events can be held in remembrance of people with hidden stories, their anecdotes are

best spread through plain actions, such as my short essay about Kitty. Sharing a story like Kitty Reynolds’ is best accomplished by directly telling the story to others. I believe my written project recounts Kitty’s life in a way that honors her courage and compassion, emphasizes the influence she had, and informs others of the notability of her life’s story.

Kitty Reynolds, a formerly enslaved woman at Rock Spring Plantation, was the mother of two men whose court proceedings led to a significant change in civil rights. From the stories that have survived, Kitty was a compassionate, strong woman who, despite the challenges she faced, persevered. Her memory is kept alive by her descendants, and her portrait is displayed in the Reynolds Homestead, the plantation where she was enslaved (Deffenbaugh).

Kitty was born in 1838 and, for the majority of her life, she was enslaved at Rock Spring Plantation, now the Reynolds Homestead. This plantation was built by Hardin Reynolds, the father of R.J. Reynolds who created the R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Company (“The Reynolds Family”). One story of Kitty that has passed through the generations describes her distracting a bull-charging Hardin Reynolds, the man under whom she was enslaved, thus saving his life. This act of kindness and courage secured her spot as the nanny of the sixteen Reynolds children (Deffenbaugh).

Kitty’s life changed exceptionally with emancipation. She became a free woman after living her entire life enslaved (Deffenbaugh). After this substantial adjustment, the Reynolds children Kitty helped raise kept in close contact with her. One of these children, R.J. Reynolds, bought Kitty a house and consistently asked her to visit him and his family in Winston-Salem, North Carolina (“The Legacy of Kitty Reynolds Nanny of the Reynolds Children”).

Kitty’s family made history in 1883. Two white men were mocking the school that had recently been created for African Americans, and two of Kitty’s

sons, Burwell and Lee, got into a fight with them. This resulted in Burwell stabbing one of the men and both sons being charged with murder (“The Legacy of Kitty Reynolds Nanny of the Reynolds Children”). A son-in-law of Hardin Reynolds and another attorney defended Kitty’s sons in their trial. Despite both being former members of the Confederate Army, the lawyers asked for a third of the jury to be composed of African Americans. The judge refused this suggestion, and after an appeal and many other proceedings, the case made it to the Supreme Court. The court determined that race could not be a deciding aspect of jury eligibility and made the decision called Ex Parte Virginia (“The Legacy of Kitty Reynolds Nanny of the Reynolds Children”).

Kitty Reynolds’ family paved the way for African Americans to have the right to a fair trial. In the anecdotes she is remembered by, it is clear that she was a capable, strong woman who possessed great amounts of courage, love, and forgiveness. She is inspiring, not just as the mother of a family that changed history, but as a formerly enslaved woman who had the resilience to live on despite the many obstacles laid before her. It is of the utmost importance that Kitty’s story, along with other untold stories, is shared. However, this does not have to be accomplished through a massive undertaking. Kitty’s story exemplifies that small gestures are just as important as large endeavors.

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Pets of the Week



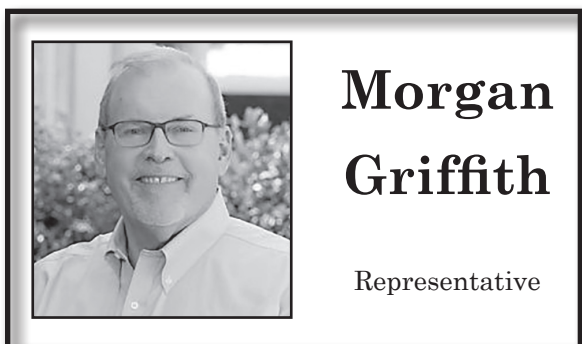
Look at those sad eyes. He was found on Nelson Lane and would really like to get back home. If you recognize him, or you can help him get home, please let the shelter know.

This sweet little tortoise looking youngster was found on South Mayo. She would love to have a lap to curl up on.

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

The Patrick County Animal Welfare Society’s (PAWS) spay/neuter program for dogs is now back on track. Call (276) 694-2378 and leave your contact information so someone can call you back.

Casework



Morgan Griffith
Representative

One role I have as a Member of Congress is to serve as a liaison for constituents with the federal government, including providing help with problems related to the federal government.

To help me serve you, I have a team of people in the district who specialize in assisting constituents, overlapping with my D.C. staff who coordinate on a variety of requests.

My casework team can intercede on a constituent's behalf to answer questions and find solutions.

The district staff is based in my one of my two Ninth District offices, located in Abingdon and Christiansburg and are at multiple locations around the district.

Given the district is larger than the land mass of nine separate states, and to make it easier for you, we have traveling staff office hours, where someone from the Griffith office team is in every county and city at least once a month.

You can conveniently find the location and timing of our travel-

ing staff office hours on my website. I encourage constituents to reach out to my staff via email, phone, through our website, or by scheduling appointments.

My team and I can assist on a variety of issues, whether it be claims with the Department of Veterans Affairs, problems receiving Social Security benefits, or tax related issues with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS).

We were recently contacted by a constituent regarding the IRS' refusal to waive penalties and interest fees for her mom who had missed the filing deadline due to dementia. My team worked with the Taxpayer Advocate Service, who asked the IRS to drop the penalties due to the mom's dementia. The IRS agreed to do so.

We also help constituents request or renew passports, asking for the expedited processing of these documents, or deal with issues involving travel visas.

A woman and her son were about to board a plane to Italy when she realized her son's passport expired in four months (six months is needed to travel). The airline changed her flight and sent her to get help from the passport agency office, but the agency wouldn't help because they didn't have an appointment.

After our team made a few phone calls, we were able to get them into the agency and the son was able to get an extension on his passport.

We are still seeing delays with passport processing, which first arose during the pandemic, so please reach out as early as you can for help.

Additionally, my staff can help navigate the process of applying for grants from the federal government or with requests pending with the Department of Education, the Department of Labor, the U.S. Postal Service, etc.

We also help students seeking a nomination from me to the U.S. Service Academies. Each year, I host an in-person Service Academy Day where students and parents can learn more about their options.

Please know that Members of Congress and our staff are generally not permitted to get involved in legal matters, override decisions made by a federal agency, or force an agency to expedite a case. We will do what we can to encourage an agency to consider a case and to advocate for a decision for the constituent.

When you reach out to my office for assistance, we will need your written authorization so we may comply with privacy requirements. Our privacy consent form can be found on my website, or you may contact us by phone or mail to obtain the form.

When returning this form to my team, do not forget to include any pertinent information and claim numbers that might be needed.

If you come to Washington, D.C., my office is available to answer questions or inquiries regarding your trip. We are able to set up tours at the U.S. Capitol, the Supreme Court, Bureau of Printing & Engraving, Library of Congress, and so on.

While White House tours are very limited, we can try to assist with getting you White House tour tickets. We encourage you to submit your request as early as possible.

Constituents can also reach out to our office to purchase American flags—including ones flown over the Capitol. In addition, an American flag for burial purposes may be obtained from my office for a veteran's casket at no charge if you have a completed VA27-2008 form.

No matter the federal issue, please reach out to my office. It is my honor and privilege to serve you and assist in your interactions with the federal government. My team and I will do whatever we can to help.

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

How A History Of Obesity Is Leading To Cancer Among Young People

Globally, the number of obese children and adolescents stands at 110 million.

When we think of obese children, we tend to jump to the stereotypes: young kids struggling to keep up in gym class and getting bullied by classmates, for example. However, there's a deadlier issue that's worth paying attention to. With time, gym classes and bullies fade into the background, but other, much more serious issues come into the picture. This time, we're talking about cancer.

Can being obese at a young age lead to cancer?

A recent analysis of multiple studies examined the frequency of cancers within groups of patients with a prior history of obesity. A study from Case Western Reserve University (CWRU) detailed a pattern of cancer occurring earlier among young adults who have extra risk due to obesity. With obesity making up more and more of our current population, cancer has been occurring at younger ages across 13 specific cancer types ranging from breast, colon, esophageal, to thyroid cancer. With the average cancer diagnosis being given at 66 years, this new appearance of cancer at younger ages may be linked to the pandemic occurrence of risk causing obesity.

Common malignant cancers that typically occur in patients older

than 50 years are now becoming common among younger patients. New obesity-linked malignancies reported within the U.S population show that that the lowest increase in cancer occurrence in young adults (22-44 years) is esophageal cancer at a 2.3%. Thyroid cancer had an astounding 23.9% jump in occurrence among young adults. Cancer in young people is becoming less uncommon, but is it possible for obesity to be the cause of this increased prevalence?

Obesity can affect the mechanisms that lead to cancer or the premalignant precursors of cancer. Stressors caused by obesity that can lead to cancer can be found in chronic inflammation, additional adipose tissue, and in various physiological issues, such as gastroesophageal reflux disease (GERD). Chronic inflammation can promote new cancer cell growth. Short-term inflammation to heal a normal injury is a perfectly normal, but chronic inflammation can cause permanent damage to DNA, cause rapid cell growth of mutated cells, and provide a microenvironment suitable for cancer growth.

Nathan A. Berger, M.D. the director of the Center for Science, Health and Society at CWRU has suggested that additional aspects of patient history should be introduced as parameters of cancer screening to address this added risk from obesity.

Dr. Berger states the issue to be,

"...(a) lack of (cancer) screening and...tumor promotion by lifestyle factors including obesity, consumption of red and processed meat, and possibly alcohol and tobacco use."

Cancer screening has been prescribed to older patients to help with early detection, but with the increasing incidence of cancer among young people, an earlier screening with parameters to detect at-risk patients with a history of current or past obesity needs to be implemented. Prevention and reversal of obesity by interdisciplinary collaboration needs to be

implemented to stop the pandemic of obesity and the matching rise in early cancers.

(Submitted by Betty Dean. Written by Justin Leal, MPH. Used by permission from www.lifeandhealth.org)

THE ENTERPRISE

Established in 1876
P.O. Box 348 - Stuart, Va.
24171-0348

Phone (276) 694-3101
Fax (276) 694-5110
www.theenterprise.net

The oldest continuously operated business in Patrick County. Published each Wednesday except the last week in December by The Enterprise, Inc., and entered as second class matter at the post office in Stuart, Virginia 24171. Postmaster: send address changes to The Enterprise, P.O. Box 348, Stuart, VA 24171-0348.

Publisher Michael Showell
Editor Debbie Hall

Subscription Rates:
\$32 per year in Patrick County;
\$42 elsewhere.
Single copies \$1.00.

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

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

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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

Tuggles of Patrick County
By Beverly Belcher Woody

I have had several people ask me if I know anything about the history of Tuggle's Gap and if it was the namesake for any Tuggle in particular, so I have been doing a little research. Here goes ...

According to Virginia and Lewis Pedigo's book, History of Patrick and Henry Counties, Virginia, written in 1933, "the Tuggles first emigrated to the colonies in 1614, only seven years after the founding of Jamestown Colony. Old records at Saluda, Middlesex County, Virginia, show that they kept coming until about 1740; the Tuggle men were listed at lawyers, planters, teachers, preachers, and surveyors.

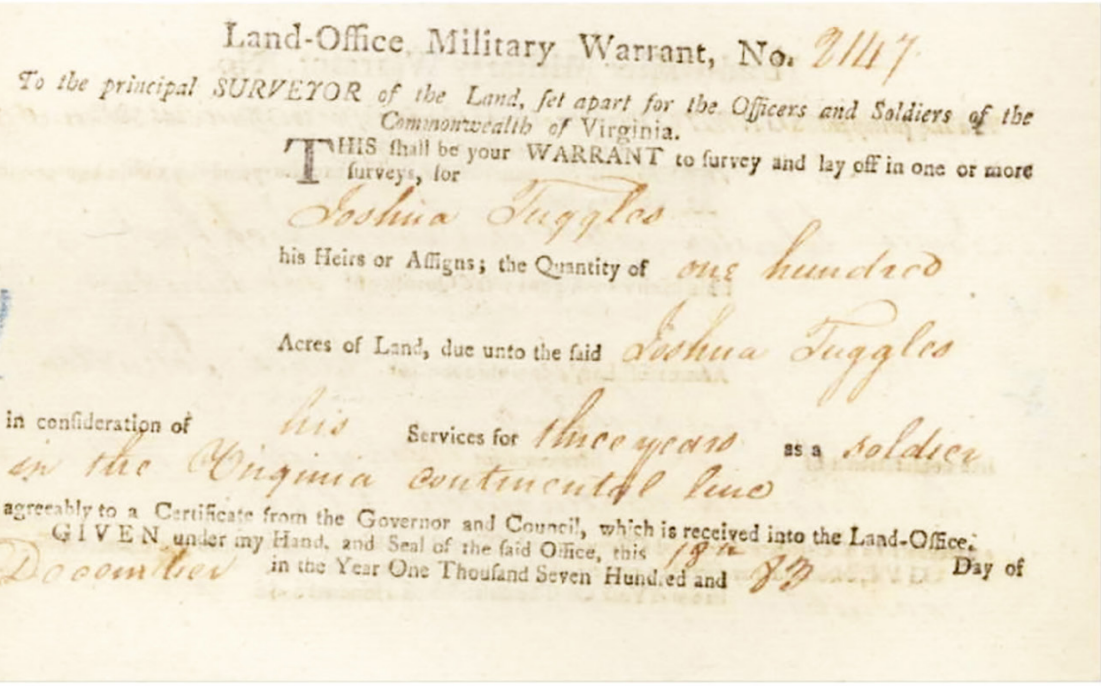
Mrs. Clarissa Ruth Barnes Smart, a 10th generation Tuggle descendant, who wrote the Tuggle Family history, states that the very first Tuggle to arrive on Virginia's shores was Thomas Tugwell. He received a land grant in Middlesex County, Virginia and raised his family there. His son, Henry signed his will, Henry Tuggle, in 1742, and this has been the spelling of the family name ever since. Many members of the early Tuggle family are buried at Christ Church Episcopal Church (built in 1666) in Saluda, Virginia.

Early American Tuggle descendants traveled westward through Goochland and Albemarle before Joshua Tasherway Tuggle and his cousins, father and son, John and Reverend Henry Tuggle arrived in Patrick County after the Revolutionary War. Tracing which Henry Tuggle is which has been a challenge, since nearly every Tuggle family had a son named Henry, including first cousins named Henry!

Joshua Tasherway Tuggle, my 6th great grandfather, fought in the Revolutionary War (Captain Samuel Cabell's Company of 6th Virginia Reg. of Foot, commanded by Lt. Col. James Hendricks (April-July 1777). He re-enlisted July 1778 in Captain John Marks's Company, 14th Virginia Reg. commanded by Colonel Charles Lewis. Joshua was among the troops that spent the winter at Valley Forge.

In 1807, Joshua and wife, Elizabeth Pace Tuggle moved their family to Patrick County where he purchased 400 acres on Rock Castle Creek from his cousin Reverend Henry Tuggle, who had resided there since 1790. The couple's sons, Joshua Jr., Henry, and John eventually moved westward to Scott County, Illinois and son Lee moved to Gallian, Ohio. Joshua and Elizabeth's daughter, Suzannah settled in Russell County, Virginia with her husband, James Singleton. The youngest daughter, Mary (my 5th great grandmother) remained on the land that her father purchased from Reverend Henry, and this is where she married Prior Pendleton.

Prior and Mary Tuggle Pendleton were the parents of William "Billy," John, Elizabeth, Harden, Jane, Anna, Royal Josiah, Wilson Tyler, and Exoney. Elizabeth married Samuel Hubbard, Anna married David Washington, Sarah married James Dudley Lyon, and Exoney married Nathan Benjamin Terry. Billy married Elizabeth Hubbard,



Joshua Tuggle Land Grant for Service in the Revolutionary War.

Harden married Ruth Burnette, Royal married Nancy Burnette, and Wilson Tyler married Sarah Elizabeth Conner. Wilson died during the Civil War and is buried at the Old City Cemetery in Lynchburg, Virginia.

Sadly, more tragedy struck on the 24th of February 1857; 68-year-old Mary was crossing Jack's Creek when she fell in the creek and drowned. She and Prior are buried on a ridge above Jack's Creek on Brammer's Spur Road in Woolwine.

Let's get back to Reverend Henry Tuggle, who originally acquired this same land in 1790 from his father, John. Reverend Henry's parents, John and Elizabeth Harrison Tuggle had moved his family from Goochland, Virginia to Patrick County in the late 1700s. Reverend Henry married Miss Martha Brammer in Patrick County on the 26th of January 1803. Martha was the daughter of Burgess and Mildred "Mollie" Boyd Brammer. Reverend Henry and Martha raised many children on Rock Castle and Jack's Creek before eventually selling out to Joshua Tasherway Tuggle and moving to Wayne County, Kentucky.

So ... eight paragraphs later, I believe that Tuggle's Gap was actually named for John Tuggle or possibly his son, Reverend Tuggle. Tuggle's Gap was an early mail stop for stagecoaches in the mid 1800's and the name

stuck. The following is an interesting excerpt from the Richmond Times Dispatch on March 30, 1863: "Route 2496-From Patrick Courthouse, by Elamsville, Rock Castle, and Tuggle's Gap to Floyd Courthouse; 35 miles and back, once a week. Leave Patrick Court-

house Wednesday at 6 a.m. Arrive at Floyd Courthouse same day by 6p.m. Leave Floyd Courthouse Thursday at 6 a.m. Arrive at Patrick Courthouse same day by 6 p.m."

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



Tuggle Family tombstone. (From Find a Grave)

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 - What About All the Money Congress Stole from Social Security?

Dear Rusty: Is there any way that Congress will vote to pay back the Social Security funds they took for their stupid reasons, and left IOUs in place of the funds? Because of the funds they took going back many years, we didn't have any decent COLAs for a few years. In fact, there were I think 3-5 years that we didn't get any COLA. Please Rusty, can you find out if this is true or false? Help us seniors! Signed: Resentful Senior

Dear Resentful Senior: I can assure you that I've fully investigated the allegation that politicians have squandered Social Security's money

and found that charge to be, simply speaking, a myth. I've gone back and looked at Social Security revenues and expenses since the government first started collecting FICA payroll taxes in 1937 and found that every dollar ever collected for Social Security has been used only for Social Security purposes. Over the years, various claims have been made that the money has been used for other things, but I've researched each of these charges and found them all to be false.

Where the misconception mostly originates is that any excess money collected from working Americans for Social Security is invested in "special issue government bonds" which pay interest, as mandated by President Roosevelt when Social Security began. As with any investment, a financial obligation instrument is given in return for dollars received.

Remember when we used to buy "U.S. Savings Bonds?" We'd use our money to buy those bonds, hold them, and later redeem them for a higher amount than we paid. That's exactly how Social Security contributions have always worked - excess money collected from working Americans is

used to purchase special issue government bonds which are held in reserve, earning interest, for future Social Security needs. These special bonds reside in a Social Security Trust Fund and, as of the end of 2022, were worth about \$2.8 trillion. Are these bonds "worthless IOUs" as some would claim? Hardly, since they are redeemable as needed to pay Social Security benefits.

Considering that, since 2010, Social Security's income from payroll taxes on American workers has been less than needed to cover benefits paid out, redemption of bonds held in the Trust Fund is the only reason that Social Security has been able to continue paying full benefits to every beneficiary. The Trust Fund is a financial safety net which is now protecting all SS beneficiaries from having their benefits cut. Problem is, unless Congress acts soon to reform Social Security's financial picture, the Trust Fund will be fully depleted in about 2033 resulting in about a 23% cut in everyone's monthly Social Security benefit. I'm optimistic that will not happen (it would be political suicide) and, hopefully, Congress will act soon to reform Social Security and restore it to financial solvency and avoid a future cut in everyone's benefits.

Regarding COLA (Cost of Living Adjustment) and the lack thereof for several

past years, COLA is determined by the government's standard inflation measure - the Consumer Price Index (CPI). There were several years (2010, 2011, and 2016) in which the CPI showed no inflation so, therefore, no COLA increase was given. Last year, due to soaring inflation, everyone got an 8.7% increase in their Social Security benefit, but that doesn't happen every year. FYI, the average annual COLA increase over the last two decades has been about 2.6%, although COLA for each year can be wildly different depending on each year's inflation measure. In any case, the lack of a COLA increase in past years was not a result of any political chicanery, it was the result of low inflation during those years.

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Grant Enfinger proves a point with decisive NASCAR Truck Series win at Milwaukee

By Reid Spencer
NASCAR Wire Service

After Carson Hocevar crashed a two-driver party, pole winner Grant Enfinger rallied for victory in Sunday's Clean Harbors 175 at the Milwaukee Mile and clinched a spot in the Round of 8 of the NASCAR CRAFTSMAN Truck Series Playoffs.

Enfinger, who led 95 of 175 laps, passed Hocevar for the top spot on Lap 159 and pulled away to win his third race of the season by 1.553 seconds. Hocevar was gambling on older tires and led the field to green for the final restart on Lap 148.

The victory—the 10th of Enfinger's career—was a point proven for the Alabama driver, whose GMS Racing truck team announced it would discontinue operations at the end of the season.

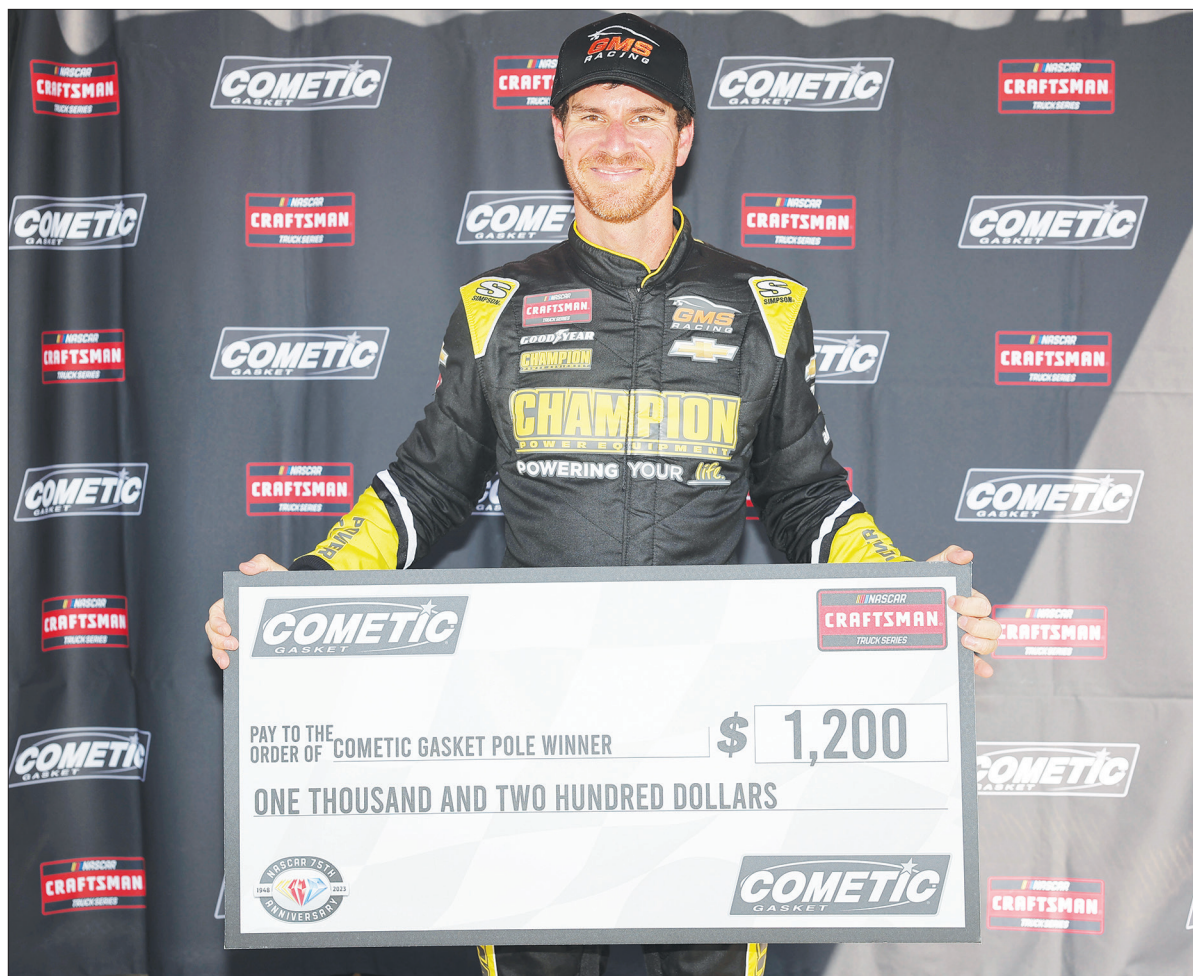
"I don't think anybody's going to ask if we're going to lay down again," Enfinger said after climbing from his No. 23 Chevrolet. "(Crew chief) Jeff Hensley's been focused the whole year. There's been distractions going on all year long. So if anything, this has clarity.

"None of these guys, including me, have a job next year, but I feel like we proved we deserve one."

Fast from the outset of the first NASCAR national series race at Milwaukee since 2009, Enfinger won the first stage wire-to-wire, leading all 55 laps. After surrendering the top spot on pit road during the stage break, he passed Corey Heim for the lead on Lap 95 and went on to capture Stage 2 by 2.149 seconds.

But Enfinger lost three positions on pit road during the second stage break and had to overcome the loss of track position as well as varying strategy from Hocevar and six other non-Playoff drivers who stayed out on older tires during caution for William Sawalich's contact with the Turn 2 wall on Lap 135.

Restarting 14th on Lap 141, Enfinger fought his way back to the front, passing Derek Kraus for second on Lap 153 and overtaking Hocevar six laps later.



Grant Enfinger, driver of the #23 Champion Power Equipment Chevrolet, poses with the pole award winner \$1,200.00 check during qualifying for the NASCAR Craftsman Truck Series Clean Harbors 175 at The Milwaukee Mile on August 27, 2023 in West Allis, Wisconsin. (Photo by Jonathan Bachman/Getty Images)

"It's kind of a bummer to run second," said Hocevar, who has three victories to his credit this season and holds a 56-point cushion above the cut line with one race left in the Playoffs' Round of 10. "I haven't done this in quite a while.

"Luckily, I've been fortunate enough to win three races, so it's close."

Christian Eckes and Heim finished third and fourth, respectively, and both clinched berths in the Round of 8 on points. Matt Crafton came home fifth and moved nine points above the cut-off for the next round.

Chase Purdy ran sixth, followed by Ty Majeski, who won the Truck Series Playoff opener at Lucas Oil Indianapolis Raceway Park. But Majeski raced under the specter of possible NASCAR penalties this coming week.

NASCAR confiscated the right rear tire from Majeski's No. 98 Ford and ejected crew chief Joe Shear Jr. Majeski started from the rear of the field and served a pass-through penalty after the opening lap but rallied to finish seventh. Any further penalties the team may accrue will be announced later in the week.

PCHS Sports Schedule		
Patrick County High School's Sports Schedule for the week of Aug. 30 - Sept. 5 is below:		
8/30	2 pm	Golf vs Bassett (Gordon Trent GC)
8/31	2 pm	Golf at Franklin County (Copper Cove GC)
	4 pm	Cross Country Invitational Meet at Smith River Sports Complex
	7 pm	Volleyball at Dan River
9/1	7 pm	Football vs Bassett
9/5	7 pm	Volleyball vs Glenvar

Consider neighbors in need ahead of National Food Bank Day

As sticker shock forces some families to opt for cheaper grocery alternatives, ongoing inflation makes it harder for others to consistently ensure a nutritious meal will be on the table.

Consider how many Virginians may be food insecure as National Food Bank Day is observed Sept. 1.

In 2021, Virginia's food insecurity rate stood at 8.1%, according to the Federation of Virginia Food Banks. This means over 704,000 people, including 164,000 children, were unsure where their next meal would come from on any given day.

"In 2023, we are expecting more Virginians to experience food insecurity as pandemic-era programs end and inflation continues to remain high," said Eddie Oliver, FVFB executive director. "Our member food banks are prepared to meet the needs of our neighbors as lines at food pantries grow longer."

The federation helps seven regional food banks build partnerships, secure resources and raise awareness of food insecurity throughout Virginia.

On the fourth Wednesday of each month, about 100 neighbors line up at The Meadow Event Park's Gate 6 and pop their trunks. Volunteers from the federation's member food bank, Fredericksburg Regional Food Bank mobile pantry, load cars with food items.

FredFood helps improve nutrition security for over 31,000 people through its network of 152 community partners operating more than 260 food assistance programs. The Meadow, located in Caroline County and owned by Virginia Farm Bureau Federation, is part of that service area.

60th Wedding Anniversary Celebration



Clifford T. & Louise (Nelson) Stone, of Bassett, recently celebrated their 60th Wedding Anniversary. They were married on August 17, 1963, at Whites Chapel Baptist Church in Ridgeway by the Rev. Jimmy Dillon. The couple was honored with a family gathering at the home of their son and daughter-in-law (Tim & Denise Stone).



"We are happy to share our acreage at The Meadow to help support this mission," said Marlene Jolliffe, vice president of park operations. "Their mobile pantry program brings items to remote and under-served areas of rural Virginia where many food-insecure families have limited access to healthy food."

In June, cohorts from The Salvation Army's Fredericksburg Corps distributed fresh produce bundled with FredFood's pantry items, purchased through a partnership with Little Green Farm in Spotsylvania County.

Providing fresh produce is a major component to fighting food insecurity in Virginia, Oliver added.

Farms to Food Banks is the federation's collaborative initiative to increase the amount of food sourced from local farmers and processors. On the Northern Neck, Healthy Harvest Food Bank's new aquaponics production facil-

ity will supply up to 140,000 pounds of protein and produce to food banks and schools year-round.

Milk is one of the most requested yet least donated items at Virginia's food banks, so the Milk For Good campaign collects contributions to purchase fresh milk. On average, a \$12 donation will provide five half-gallons of milk.

At the local level, neighbors can help neighbors by purchasing extra food for donation to food banks. The most needed food bank pantry items include:

- Peanut butter
- Canned soup or stew
- Canned fruit, vegetables and proteins
- Beans
- Whole-grain pasta
- Brown rice

Learn more about Virginia foodbanks at va-foodbanks.org.

Safety updates for hunting at Virginia State Parks

Each year Virginia's State Parks, managed by the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation, offer a wide variety of hunting opportunities. Managed deer hunts are key to handling the park's overall deer management program. Participating hunters are asked to support this effort by following harvest guidelines associated with each hunt.

Safety is an important factor in hunting, so all terms and conditions must be followed, especially when hunting at a Virginia State Park. Terms and conditions address weapon types that can be used, the clothes worn by hunters and a required safety course. Find more information, include terms and conditions and hunt maps on the website: <https://reservevaparcs.com/Web/>

Virginia State Parks Hunting Terms and Conditions:

- Hunting and camping are permitted only in designated areas.
- Virginia game laws apply in all designated hunting areas.

All state park hunts require proof of completion of a hunter safety course. This is beyond the requirements of State Hunting Regulations.

Hunters are required to wear a Blaze Color (Blaze Orange or Blaze Pink) hat and vest while hunting in any park. This is beyond the requirements of

State Hunting Regulations.

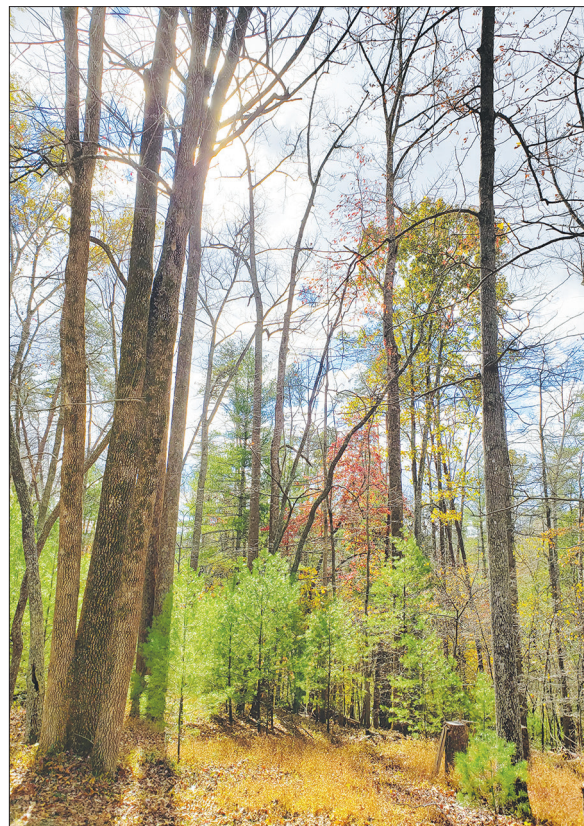
To make a reservation, visit <https://reservevaparcs.com/Web/> to participate. All reservation hunts have a \$15 reservation fee. Hunters must have an email and create an account in order to reserve a hunting date and location. It is encouraged that you do this well in advance before the reservation period opens, as it can take some time for the account information to process.

All hunts will have a go-live day in September and the sales begin at 9 a.m. so be sure to review this grid for more details on hunt locations and dates. All hunts have special regulations.

Hunting opportunities range from open hunting in designated areas to managed deer hunts. Hunters can also reserve stands or zones on a first-come, first-served basis using the online system.

For those interested in applying for a hunting opportunity who do not have access to the internet, call 1-800-933-7275 and select option 5. Please be advised that customer service representatives may not have access to all the hunt details. Hunters are strongly encouraged to apply online for the best experience.

For more information about hunting opportunities and programs in Virginia State Parks, visit www.dcr.virginia.gov/state-parks/hunting.



Wooded area in a state park.

Sports Briefs

By Ashlee Mullis Cougar Golf Finishes Fourth

The Cougars finished 4th in a field of 7 teams when they played at the Hanging Rock Golf Club on August 24th.

Patrick County shot a score of 345, finishing ahead of Carroll County and Alleghany. Floyd took the win with a score of 306.

Chance Corns shot an 84, Kendra Worley shot an 87, Kylee Joyce had a score of 88, and Lauren Worley finished with an 89.

"It was a good round today for us, seeing improvement in our short game. Our scores were all in the 80s," said Coach Philip Steagall.

Varsity Golf Settles in to New District

The Varsity Golf Team competed at Cliffview Golf Club on August 22. It proved to be a tough course for the young team with the Cougars finishing with a score of 359.

"Cliffview was a dry and hard course," said Coach Philip Steagall. "You need to play a few times on a golf course to be able to score low. We just have to keep getting better in the weeks ahead in the scoring area of our game."

Parker Roop shot an 88, followed by Kendra Worley with a score of 89. Kylee Joyce shot a 90, and Chance Corns shot a 92.

Golf Team Competes in Botetourt

The Varsity Golf Team played at the Botetourt Golf and Swim Club on August 17, finishing 5th with a score of 351.

Floyd County won the match, shooting a 318.

Chance Corns led the Cougars with a score of 81. Kylee Joyce shot an 87, followed by Lauren Worley with a 91, and Parker Roop shot a 92.

Coach Philip Steagall said, "We played well today as a whole. Chance and Kylee both had really good scores on the back 9."

Lady Cougar Volleyball Defeats Dan River

The PC Varsity Volleyball Team took on the Lady Wildcats of Dan River, August 24, winning in straight sets 25-19, 25-19, and 25-15. Camille Gonzalez had 4 aces, Marissa Bentley had 5 kills and 4 blocks, Lilly Hazelwood had 4 kills and 5 blocks, Jayden Callahan had 6 kills and 12 digs, and Journey Moore had 9 digs and 3 aces. The Cougars are 2-1 on the season.

Varsity Volleyball Loses to North Stokes

The Lady Cougars opened their season at home with a loss in straight sets to North Stokes, August 21. The scores were 23-25, 19-25, 24-26.

Marissa Bentley had 4 kills, 3 blocks, and 2 assists. Bryley Pike had 20 digs, 2 kills, and 2 kills.

Journey Moore had 27 digs, 2 kills, and 2 aces, and Lilly Hazelwood had 4 kills, 2 blocks, and 1 ace.

Volleyball Wins at Bassett

The Patrick County Lady Cougar Volleyball Team came out on top in a 5-set thriller at Bassett on August 22 with scores of 14-25, 25-19, 18-25, 25-19, 15-11.

Leading scorers were Bryley Pike with 11 kills and 6 digs, Jayden Callahan with 8 kills, 16 digs, and 6 aces, Eliza Clifton with 26 assists, 4 kills, and 9 digs, and Journey Moore with 17 digs and 4 kills.

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PCHS Cross Country team off to strong start

By Pat Delaney

The Patrick County Cougar Cross Country team got their season off to a fantastic start. Their opening meet, held at Anglers Park in Danville on August 23, showed the depth and strength of their boys' and girls' teams.

The boys came away from the meet with the team victory, strengthened by four Cougars finishing in the top ten, and six in the top twenty.

hind Martin in third was Noah Hiatt with Fisher Martin claiming fourth.

The other PCHS runners finishing in the top twenty were Greely Terry in tenth, William Overby in fourteenth, Xavier Torres-Seda in nineteenth.

The Cougar boys finished with a total time of 1:37:31, topping second place Galileo by over six minutes.

In the girl's race, PCHC placed all four varsity runners in the top eight, led by Sadie Martin's second place finish. Callie Wood finished fourth, with Mackenzie Williams in fifth, and Ellianna Montgomery in eighth. In a race where only eighteen runners beat the thirty-minute mark, all four Cougars were faster than twenty-seven minutes.

Next up for the Cougars is a meet on August 31 at the Smith River Sports Complex in Axton, with the varsity races starting at 5 p.m.

Boy's results

- Hunter Martin - 18:30.02
- Noah Hiatt - 18:51.50
- Fisher Martin - 18:54.92
- Greely Terry - 20:30.01
- William Overby - 20:43.64
- Xavier Torres-Seda - 21:39.59
- Brett Foley - 22:06.57
- Ryder Richardson - 28:38.73

Girl's results

- Sadie Martin - 21:04.32
- Callie Wood - 25:30.24
- Mackenzie Williams - 25:41.44
- Ellianna Montgomery - 26:41.52

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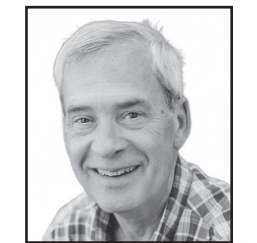
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Brenda Gail Martin Conner



Mrs. Brenda Gail Martin Conner age 66 of Stuart, Virginia passed away Wednesday, August 23, 2023, at Novant Health Forsyth Medical Center in Winston Salem, North Carolina. She was born on February 17, 1957, to William Noel Martin and Ruby Martin. In addition to her father, she was preceded in death by her maternal grandparents, John Edgar and Jettie Collins Martin; paternal grandparents, Andy and Gladys Clark Martin. Brenda loved hosting yard sales with her sister. She enjoyed gardening, crafts and loved her cats.

Florine Waddill Kirts

Florine Waddill Kirts of Newport News passed away Aug. 21, 2023. She was born in Clifton Forge on Nov. 26, 1923 to parents Arleen and William (Bill) Waddill of Iron Gate and on Dec. 12, 1944 married Wallace Keller Kirts of Clifton Forge. She is the mother of Dale Kirts (Heaven), Gary Kirts (Smithfield), Carla Kirts (Smithfield), Rita Milby (Newport News), and Tina Conner (Stuart); Grandmother of Austin Milby (Newport News), Allen Milby (Cambridge, MA), and Cathrine Conner (San Diego); sister of Charles Waddill and Doris Martin (both deceased), and aunt to many nieces/nephews. Services will be conducted at Nicely Funeral Home (Clifton Forge) Sunday, Aug. 27 with visitation at 1:00, funeral services at 2:00, and interment at Mountain View Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations to Florine's local hospice would be appreciated. Call 1.757.889.5900 or go to givebsmh.org (at top, select

Joseph Claude Slate

Joseph Claude Slate, 81, born June 26, 1942 departed this life on August 14, 2023. He was the devoted son of Robert Samuel and Sallie Hill Slate of Claudeville, VA. Distinguished by his devotion to family, Claude was preceded in death by brothers Leonard, Clifford, Pete, Will, Bennie, and Steve and his sister Nancy Meiers. Left to cherish his memory are sisters Dean Thatcher, Jane Har-

ris, Barbara Turner, Julie Via and Rebecca Cohn and brother Thomas "Sonny" Slate as well as his many nieces and nephews. Claude taught school for 41 years, 37 of those in the Business Department at Ferrum College. He was a member of the Rocky Mount Masonic Lodge for 49 years and a member of Calvary Baptist Church. His loving kindness and generosity will be missed by those fortunate enough to have

band, Frank of Walnut Cove, NC, Mary Hilda Martin of Stuart, VA, Sue Ellen Gattalaro of Kernersville, NC, and Polly Martin of Stuart; numerous cousins and many special friends. A graveside service will be held Monday, August 28, 2023, at 2:00 p.m. in the Martin Family Cemetery with Pastor Mike Morrison officiating. In lieu of flowers, memorial may be made to The American Cancer Society - Patrick County Chapter, P.O. Box 3907, Martinsville, Virginia 24115-3907. Moody Funeral Home in Stuart has been entrusted with the arrangements and online condolences may be sent by visiting www.moodyfuneralservices.com.

Bon Secours Foundation, click Hampton Roads; under causes click view all; select Hospice and donate). Discover more about Florine on the Nicely Funeral Home website, www.nicelyfuneralhome.com.

Florine was best known for her loving heart and her full-face, beaming-eyes smile. Her loving heart and smile will be missed. Borrowing Keller's favorite message to Florine, we love you "MTY LTT" (more than yesterday, less than tomorrow).

known him. A graveside service will be held on Saturday, September 2, 2023 at 11:00 a.m. at the Slate Family Cemetery. The cemetery is located on Johnson Lane, off Little Dan River Road in Claudeville, VA.

McKee-Stone Funeral Home, Martinsville, Va. is serving the family. To express condolences online, please visit www.collinsmckeeestonemartinsville.com.

Junior Willie Wimbush



Rev. Junior Willie Wimbush, age 90 of Woolwine, passed away Sunday, August 20, 2023, at his home. He was born in Patrick County on November 21, 1932, to the late Lester Wimbush and Nannie Conner Wimbush. In addition to his parents, Rev. Wimbush was preceded in death by his first wife, Avis Pilson Wimbush; five brothers, Leon, Curtis, Joseph, Bernard, and Alfred Wimbush; two sisters, Annie Hairston, Barbara Foddrell and husband, Turner; and two daughters-in-law, Rev. Juliaette Wimbush and Sheila Wimbush. He was a Godly man and a faithful servant who was devoted to God, the church, and his family. He served 52 years in the ministry with the last 36 years at Antioch Christian Church. He was the love of Shirley's life and was exceptional to his family.

Rev. Wimbush leaves to cherish his memory his wife, Shirley Claytor Everette Wimbush; seven children, J. Leroy Wim-

bush, Timothy W. Wimbush, Anthony S. Wimbush (Carol), K. Evonne Wimbush, Crystal Everette-Ross, Michael S. Everette and Cheryl E. Smith (Kenneth); 18 grandchildren, Jullian L. Wimbush (Dactily), Tina M. Martin, Mauri S. Wimbush (Jennifer), Melodie B. Ferguson (Dimitri), Sherry H. Wimbush, Tracey Hairston (Linda), Joanna M. Wimbush, William K. Vaughn, III, Chelane Ross-Parrish, Chayna Ross, Timera Brown, Tavia Moore, Jacob McCollum, Jonah McCollum, Christopher Smith, Sarya Smith, Darren Everette, and Stephanie Everette; 14 great-grand-

children; and 5 great-great-grandchildren; two brothers, Clifford Wimbush (Rosemary) and James Wimbush (Violet); two sisters, Dorothy Wells (James) and Virginia Ann Hairston (Kenneth); a brother-in-law, Elder Michael Preston (Linda); four sisters-in-law, Alma Pilson, Frances Pilson, Jenny Wimbush, Joeannah Vines; an aunt, Esther Conner; and a great host of nieces and nephews.

Funeral services will be held Friday, August 25, 2023 at 1:00 PM at Antioch Christian Church with Rev. Eugene Reynolds eulogizing and Elder Allen Watkins presiding. Burial will follow in the church cemetery. A wake will be held on Thursday from 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM at Moody Funeral Home in Stuart. If desired, memorial donations may be made to Fresh Harvest Christian Church, P.O. Box 21, Woolwine, Virginia 24185. Online condolences may be sent by visiting www.moodyfuneralservices.com.

Susan Ackermann Tabor



Mrs. Susan Ackermann Tabor age 67 of Stuart, passed away at her home on Wednesday, August 23, 2023. She was born on September 25, 1955, in Bristol, Tennessee to the late Frederick Ackermann and Margaret Wallace. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by a brother, Fredrick Ackermann, II; her mother-in-law, Doris Tabor and a sister-in-law, Kathy Tabor. Susan moved to Stuart, Virginia in 1987 where she remained a resident until her passing. Susan was a teacher and guidance counselor for over 30 years and cherished her years with her many students and co-workers. She was incredibly dedicated to her family and the best mom her boys could ask for. Susan was an amazing wife to Tom and his best friend. She really found her joy in her grandchildren and ded-

icated every day to showing them how very loved they are. She was such a good friend and made everyone feel like family. She loved her baseball boys and was always there to cheer them on under her big colorful umbrella. She was a blessing to everyone she met, and she will be missed beyond belief.

Susan is survived by her loving husband of 45 years, Tom Tabor of the home; her children, Nikolaus Tabor, Alex Tabor and Sonora Wood, Savannah Warren and husband, Kev-

in; five grandchildren, Max Smith, Charlie Tabor, Macie Tabor, Aryn Tabor, and baby Tabor; stepmother, Hazel Ackermann; stepfather, Bob Altar; sisters, Paula Ackermann and Margot Ackermann and husband, Dan; nieces, nephews, cousins, many friends, and her beloved chocolate lab, Silas.

A celebration of life service will be held Tuesday, August 29, 2023, at 3:00 p.m. at Stuart Presbyterian Church with Pastor Danny Redman officiating. The family will receive friends from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Church. Memorial donations can be made to Stuart Presbyterian Church, P.O. Box 944, Stuart, Virginia 24171. Moody Funeral Home in Stuart has been entrusted with the arrangements and online condolences may be made by visiting www.moodyfuneralservices.com.

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PATRICK PULPITS

God's Glory In Motion

By Van Yandell

Job 26: 7 "He stretches out the north over empty space; He hangs the earth on nothing."

When hearing the word "glory," many of us immediately think of the glory of God. Romans 3: 23 "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God."

In Romans 6: 23, glory refers to God's righteousness. We, being human captives-of-the-flesh beings, cannot be righteous on our own. Only by the blood of our precious Savior Jesus can we become righteous in a spiritual sense.

1 John 1: 7 "We are cleansed by His blood." Eternal salvation is a faith based (Ephesians 2: 8-9) belief in Christ Jesus crucified (Matthew 27: 35), for the remission of sin (Acts 2: 38) and resurrected (Matthew 28: 6).

Glory can only be His. Jesus on earth was God in the flesh (John 1: 14). All things are by Him and for Him. He was/is the Creator (John 1: 3).

There are many ways in which we may appreciate the glory of God. To observe His creation (Genesis 1: 1) is one of those ways. To witness His creation is many times seen in a picture or painting. To view a mountain scene, the ocean or a landscape is a first-hand witnessing of God's glory.

One of my favorite observations is a clear night sky. The moon and the stars are indeed a demonstration of His greatest handiwork. To see the moon move, to watch the sun rise over an ocean and to see stars that are hundreds of light years away tell me He is alive, and all is well.

Seeing a satellite pass over is to observe God's glory in the genius of His great creation (Genesis 1: 27), that of mankind. A "falling star (meteorite) proves He is in control of the universe (Jeremiah 33: 22).

Matthew 10: 30 "But the very hairs of your head are all numbered." God knows every molecule, every atom and every speck of knowledge lodged within our minds. His magnitude is without comprehension. Yet millions try to match wits with Him, and they are destined to miserably fail.

To consider Him and His universe is beyond understanding. The enormity of His masterpiece is beyond words and human comprehension.

We, however, also fail to realize that His work is in constant motion. He created the universe in motion. Galaxies are constantly swirling. The stars and their solar systems are in orbit around the center of the galaxies.

Astronomers tell us the universe is continually expanding. The outer galaxies are speeding away from the center. Many believe this proves the universe began by what is called The Big Bang. In one-billionth of a second (at the big bang), the universe became billions of light years across, but nothing theoretically can travel faster than the speed of light. Instantaneous creation by a Creator has been verified (Genesis 1: 1).

Spontaneous generation can only be possible by a higher spiritual power; a Creator (Colossians 1: 16). The second law of thermodynamics states order always devolves into chaos and chaos can never evolve into order. To expect a junk pile to turn into a new car would be considered foolish. Science actually verifies intelligent design and creation.

We live in the Milky Way galaxy. It is 100,000 light years across. If we could travel at the speed of light, 186,282 miles per second, it would take 100,000 years to cross this one galaxy. Astronomers estimate after the placing of the Hubble and James Webb telescopes in space, there are over 200 billion galaxies in the universe, and some are even stating numbers in trillions.

At creation, God set the movements of the moons, planets, suns/stars, and galaxies in motion. The exacting speeds and spins determine gravity which holds them in place. The size of the celestial

bodies is also a determining factor in gravitational forces and those also were surely established by a higher power.

Our solar system (sun and the planets) is in a perfect balanced orbit around the galaxy. We are traveling through the Milky Way at a speed of 800,000 kilometers per hour (514,000 miles per hour). At that speed, it takes 230 million years for our sun and planets to make one orbit of the galaxy.

The moon at an average of 240,000 miles from earth is perfectly timed at the speed of 2288 miles per hour to sustain its orbit. Changing the distance from the earth or slowing it down would cause it to fall. This perfect timing has been maintained for millions of years.

It amazes me that millions of people believe these perfect speeds, distances and sizes that are so precisely balanced happened by accident or coincidentally. Could perfect synchronization happen by chance?

Our earth is also constantly in motion (Isaiah 40: 22). The orbit around the sun and the rotational factor that determines day from night is obvious. There is also an inner turmoil that is constantly redesigning the planet under our feet. Earthquakes and volcanos around the world are reshaping our world both on the surface and underneath.

In addition, our atmosphere is also in constant motion (Ecclesiastes 1: 6). The winds provide a cooling breeze, provide power for generating electricity, bring us rain, move and reshape the clouds. The beauty of the clouds is one of the greatest visible effects of our God in motion. The shapes and colors are the envy of every artist that has taken a brush to canvas.

Even the blood flowing through our veins is God's creation in motion (Leviticus 17: 11). Our blood pumps through our bodies in thirty to forty-five seconds. We have over 60,000 miles of veins, arteries and capillaries that feed oxygen and nutrients to our thirty-trillion cells.

Our hearts will beat two and one-half billion beats in an average lifetime and pump enough blood to fill a super tanker.

Our bodies have a central nervous system that is in motion. We have 15 billion brain cells that store every bit of knowledge we have ever been exposed to. They store our experiences, emotions and preferences.

Electrical connections between our brain cells are constantly moving. These connections and disconnections called synapses join the eighty-six billion neurons and electrically connect and disconnect at a speed nearing light's speed. We wonder why our brains won't let us sleep some nights. Maybe those synapses do not want to turn off.

From the movement of growing grass and other plants to the speed of light, God's universe is constantly in motion. The moving clouds, birds in flight and the flow of the world's rivers are clearly a demonstration of His glory.

The last words spoken by our Jesus before ascending into Heaven provided us with a commandment. "Go ye therefore," requires movement and was not a suggestion.

We are HIS hands, feet and voices here on earth (Isaiah 52: 7). Telling others about the amazing power of God and salvation by a faith based belief in Christ Jesus is a privilege. When we miss the blessing of sharing the gospel, we are cheating ourselves and missing one of the greatest gifts from God (Acts 1: 8).

John 3: 16 "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have everlasting life."

Van Yandell is a retired Industrial Arts teacher, an ordained gospel evangelist and commissioned missionary, from Fredonia, Kentucky. A part of the Bible Connection series.

BIBLE TRIVIA

BY WILSON CASEY

1. Is the book of Amos (KJV) in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. From Exodus 16, what wilderness did the Israelites come unto between Elim and Sinai? Nod, Lot, Dan, Sin
3. In a letter to Christians at Corinth, what did Paul say was the greatest? Faith, Love, Charity, Tithes
4. What king wrote a letter to Hezekiah concerning surrender? Sennacherib, Artaxerxes, Belshazzar, Jabin

5. In Judges 1, who fed 70 kings at his table? Samson, Elisha, Adonibezek, Neco
 6. Who were Nadab and Abihu the sons of? Joshua, Aaron, Moses, Mordecai
 ANSWERS: 1) Old, 2) Sin, 3) Charity, 4) Sennacherib, 5) Adonibezek, 6) Aaron
 "Test Your Bible Knowledge," a book with 1,206 multiple-choice questions by columnist Wilson Casey, is available in stores and online.
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| ACROSS | 1 Web page directories | 9 Espressos, e.g. | 16 Basic lessons | 20 Open to suggestion | 21 Solar or lunar phenomenon | 22 U.S. island territory | 23 Start of a riddle | 25 Paree "to be" | 26 Tar's "Help!" | 27 Wrinkly tangelo variety | 28 Cavaliers' org. | 29 Stuff expelled from a volcano | 31 West Aleutian island | 33 Brand of contact lens solution | 35 Outbreak of zits | 37 Reply to "Which girl?" | 38 Mom on "The Cosby Show" | 41 Riddle, part 2 | 45 Old-style "Yay!" | 47 Voguish Christian | 48 — kwon do | 49 Was the father of | 50 — Lady of Guadalupe | 51 Eager kids' question | 53 Pinkish red | 55 Not even one | 56 Riddle, part 3 | 61 Aykroyd of film | 62 Favorite son of Isaac | 63 Beard on grain | 64 Eyes lewdly | 65 Fissure | 67 Great joy | 69 Remedies | 70 Cross the mind of | 74 — T (exactly) | 75 Boring carpentry tool | 76 Otology subject | 77 Bert who played a lion | 78 Spike on a film set | 81 Riddle, part 4 | 85 Grease-laden | 87 Diarist Nin | 88 Snares, e.g. | 89 Previous to, in verse | 90 Canonized fifth-cen. pope | 92 Barely manage, with "out" | 93 Canadian gas brand | 95 Ancient Greek lyric poet | 97 End of the riddle | 101 Campus complexes | 102 Commanded | 103 — Mawr College | 104 — a one (zilch) | 105 Rival of Lyft | 107 Threat ender | 109 Windows 10 runners, e.g. | 110 A few | 112 Ewe noise | 115 Viva — | 116 Riddle's answer | 122 Slaughter of baseball | 123 Racked up | 124 Anticlimactic happening | 125 Muralist José Maria — | 126 Rodent-catching cats | 127 With two-channel sound | DOWN | 1 Plank cutters | 2 Modest "I think," online | 3 Alternatives to 9-Across | 4 Suffix with absorb | 5 Bucko | 6 In re | 7 Put a stopper in | 8 Vend | 9 Ron of the 1970s | 10 Dodgers | 11 First female Supreme Court justice | 11 Viral cause of a winter woe, informally | 12 It funds Soc. Security | 13 Pollution-control gp. | 14 U.S. immigrants' class | 15 Gomez of "Getaway" | 16 Old Time film critic James | 17 Totally bungled | 18 The late 1970s, politically | 19 Applied, as finger paint | 24 Makes soiled | 30 787s, e.g. | 31 Lung filler | 32 Pamphlet | 34 Old name for Tokyo | 35 Classic game consoles | 36 Bamboozle | 38 Had grub | 39 Thelma's film sidekick | 40 Of a major blood vessel | 42 Astronomer | 43 Hubble | 43 Furry scarves | 44 Musical set in Oz, with "The" | 46 "Ver-r-ry funny" | 52 Salamander | 53 V8 vegetable | 54 Charley horse, e.g. | 57 French for "eight" | 58 Areas on a golf course | 59 Be in accord | 60 Bodily pouch | 66 Pooch with a corded coat | 68 Pai — poker (casino game) | 69 Adorable kids | 70 Waikiki's island | 71 Like many gory movies | 72 Constellation | 73 Aries | 75 Mandates | 77 Skywalker of "Star Wars" | 76 Scandalous corporation of 2001 | 78 Old sweeties | 79 Whichever of the two | 80 Alternative magazine to House Beautiful | 82 Rival | 83 "Sounds right to me" | 84 Back of a 45 record | 86 "Darn tootin'!" | 91 Poetic eyes | 93 "Roots" Emmy winner | 94 35mm camera inits. | 96 Fish-fowl linkup | 98 Coal mine vehicle | 99 Put in a crate | 100 Burden with one's problems | 106 Pintos, e.g. | 108 For fear that game | 109 Bygone | 111 Bygone Dodge | 112 Dutch South African | 113 Novelist Rice | 114 In re | 117 Doc's org. | 118 Rebel Turner | 119 Jewel box inserts | 120 Tennis barrier | 121 "Now — seen it all!" |
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VDOT

Virginia Department of Transportation ADVERTISEMENT FOR SNOW REMOVAL EQUIPMENT SERVICES WITH OPERATOR SIGNUP

The Virginia Department of Transportation invites heavy equipment owners to sign up for the rental of their equipment with operators for SNOW & ICE REMOVAL purposes in Martinsville Residency which includes the counties of Henry, Patrick and Carroll during the winter of 2023-2024. Price per hour shall include operators, fuel, tire chains, supplies and required insurance. VDOT will need dump trucks, pickups with plows, motorgraders, backhoes, dozers, tractors, loaders, tractors, rubber tire loaders and farm tractors. All equipment shall be equipped for night work and be in good mechanical condition to ensure a safe and dependable 24/7 operation. VDOT reserves the right to determine acceptability of equipment size and condition for the task. Contractors submitting prices meeting the requirements of the Agreement may be contracted with and may be eligible to receive a mobilization payment and a minimum guaranteed payment for the season.

Contractors must submit their application on the electronic M7B bidding site at https://plow4va.com/. All new and returning Contractors must be active in the Virginia eProcurement Portal (eVA) in order to do business with the Commonwealth of Virginia (https://eva.virginia.gov).

Applications received by 7:00 PM on Monday October 2, 2023 may be eligible for a mobilization bonus. See the EVA posting for additional information, including contract requirements.

Questions can be directed to the Martinsville Residency from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Monday - Friday. Phone: 276-629-2582

Email: SalemDistrictSnow@vdot.virginia.gov EEO/AA Employer

Wilderness - Stuart, Inc.

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Athlete

(cont. from page 1)

mastery of the form. Those medals placed her on Team USA, making her eligible for the 4th Pan American Kung-fu Championships in Unionville, Canada this August.

Before the Pan American Championship was a stop at the national championships where Ayla took home three golds, a silver, and a bronze in her five events.

Her trip to Canada for the Pan American Championships was an eventful one. "It was awful," said Ayla, with a smile.

Accompanied by her father, the trip took two days. There were delays, a four-hour wait in a parking lot, and buses that didn't show up. They ended up making the border crossing on foot at Niagara Falls. They arrived at their hotel at two in the morning, having to be

up and on their way to the event venue just three hours later. With precious little sleep, Ayla was fortunate to have only one event that first day.

She took the gold. In her four events, she won three golds and a silver. Muk Yan Jong, an event centered on a wooden "dummy," was a last-minute addition for Ayla, and she took gold. Her other golds came in Biu Ji and Bah Cham Dao, with her bronze coming in competition sparring.

In China, Ayla is scheduled to compete in Bah Cham Dao (double swords) and Biu Ji, in which she will do a form that has been passed down for more than 350 years in her primary style, Wing Chun. This form has a lineage going back to IP Man, one of the most influential martial artists of the last hundred years, and one time Shifu of Bruce Lee.

Kristian Gordon's teaching roots go back to IP Man and is a third-generation Shifu

in Wing Chun. One day, Ayla will become a fourth-generation Shifu.

Biu Ji, a simulated combat scenario, has been passed down for hundreds of years. Ayla said the traditional elements she will perform in China, "were put together like that so that they could teach the system and you could practice all the techniques in one routine."

In both events, they will judge her on her stances, footwork, and how clean and crisp her movements are. "You start out with a perfect score, and they deduct for every single mistake," said Ayla. The scoring is similar with the swords but, "you're adding all the different angles of attack."

The judges also look at the competitor's focus during the competition. The other events going on around them make focus tougher at many competitions. Ayla said that losing focus by glancing over at another competitor or reacting to the crowd would cause a deduction.

After China, Ayla's plans include making Team USA again in 2024 and the next World Championships

in 2025. The Olympics are another goal.

Kung-fu, while not currently an Olympic sport, is a member sport of the International Olympic Committee. The sport already meets its standard for judging and competitions. Should Kung Fu get the Olympic nod, Ayla, as a member of Team USA, would be eligible for the Olympic trials.

When her competition days are over, she would like to follow in her father's footsteps as a Shifu and pass on her knowledge to others.

In the runup to the Worlds, Ayla has been busy training, but even busier working, many weeks six to seven days to help cover the cost of her trip to China. Even with the busy work schedule, she has found time to train every day.

To help with the expenses, a GoFundMe page was started for Ayla, at <https://gofund.me/3343796b>.

With all the hard work put in, Ayla summed up her goals in China in one sentence:

"I want to come home with a world championship title."

LEGAL

RFP 2023 MNT 010

The Patrick County School Board is accepting competitive sealed proposals from licensed contractors for excavation work to build and pave five (5) new tennis courts at Patrick County High School, 215 Cougar Lane, Stuart, VA 24171. A general meeting for all interested contractors will be held on Wednesday, August 23, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. at the Patrick County High School Tennis Court site. Proposals will be accepted until 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, August 31, 2023. RFP packets will be available at the Maintenance Department, 117 Via Avenue, Unit #1, Stuart, VA 24171. For further information, call Chad Haynes, Facilities Supervisor at 276-694-6984.

LEGAL

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, VA 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. Addendum #1 - Proposal due date has been extended until Thursday, September 14, 2023 at 2:00 p.m.

LEGAL

IN THE JUSTICE COURT, LAS VEGAS TOWNSHIP
CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

AHERN RENTALS, INC.

Plaintiff,

vs.
LAND UNLIMITED, LLC and JODY DELLENBACK, an individual,
Defendant(s).

Case No. 22C013102
Dept. No. LVJCS

HEARING NOT
REQUESTED

ORDER GRANTING SERVICE BY PUBLICATION
OF SUMMONS AND COMPLAINT PER JCRCP 4(e)(1)
FINDING OF FACTS

The Court, having reviewed Plaintiff's Motion for Service by Publication of Summons and Complaint and good cause appearing, the Court finds Defendant(s) LAND UNLIMITED, LLC and JODY DELLENBACK, an individual, cannot be personally served in the state of Virginia;

NOW, THEREFORE, it is hereby ORDERED that Summons in this suit be served on Defendant(s) by publication thereof in The Enterprise, and that said publication be made for a period of four weeks and at least once a week during said time;

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED and DIRECTED that a copy of the Summons and Complaint be deposited in the United States Post Office at Las Vegas, Nevada, enclosed in an envelope upon which postage is fully prepaid, addressed to the Defendant(s):

Land Unlimited, LLC & Jody Dellenback
1278 Pedigo Ridge Rd.
Claudville, VA 24076

DATED this 17th day of August, 2023

Subscribed and sworn to before me on this 17th day of August, 2023, at Las Vegas, Nevada, by the undersigned authority of the State of Nevada, I, Justice of the Peace, Mark A. Kirkorsky, P.C., do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the original as the same appears in my records.

Submitted by:
MARK A. KIRKORSKY, P.C.

/s/Stephen R. Kopolow, Esq.

Stephen R. Kopolow, Esq.

Bar Number 8533

8020 W. Sahara Ave. Suite 225

Las Vegas, NV 89117

888-519-2173

nvlegal@makpc.com

Attorney for Plaintiff

LEGAL

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.bwwsales.com. Additional terms, if any, to be announced at the sale and the Purchaser may be given the option to execute the contract of sale electronically. This is a communication from a debt collector and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. The sale is subject to seller confirmation. Substitute Trustee: Equity Trustees, LLC, 8100 Three Chopt Road, Suite 240, Richmond, VA 23229. For more information contact: BWW Law Group, LLC, attorneys for Equity Trustees, LLC, 6003 Executive Blvd, Suite 101, Rockville, MD 20852, 301-961-6555, website: www.bwwsales.com. VA-365019-1.

Ararat squad held successful fundraiser

A large crowd gathered to participate on Saturday when Ararat Volunteer Rescue Squad had its BBQ and fundraiser at 4711 Ararat High-

way, Ararat.

Thank you to all the volunteers in the Ararat Volunteer Rescue Squad for their dedication.



Several volunteers in the kitchen serving and greeting the public (left to right) Josh Payne, Mike Fulk, Roger Gammons, Pat Shouse, Susan Norman, Katrina Culler, Doris Bowman, Wade Bowman.



Volunteers for the drawing are (left to right) Mike Fulk, Doris Bowman, Joshua B. Hill, Roger Gammons, Wade Bowman, Josh Payne, and Ashley Payne. (Photos by Mary Dellenback Hill)

Murder charge issued in stabbing death

Andrew "Drew" Russell Tabor, 41, was charged with first degree murder in connection with the Wednesday stabbing death of his mother, Susan Ackermann Tabor. She was 67.

Patrick County Sheriff Dan Smith and Commonwealth's Attorney Dayna Kendrick Bobbitt announced the charge in a release late Wednesday.

Smith alleged that Drew Tabor showed up on the property of Stuart Elementary School at approximately 3 p.m. on Wednesday afternoon. School staff immediately notified the School Resource Officer (SRO) assigned to work at the school.

Sheriff's Deputy Dan Gray confronted Drew Tabor outside of the school, Smith said. Other safety measures were quickly taken by school staff to protect the children, who were still at the school.

The school, according to Smith, is approximately 600 feet south of the home at 306 Staples Ave., Stuart, where both Susan and Drew Tabor lived.

Smith said Gray reported that Drew Tabor was not armed when he came onto the school property. Information obtained by Gray during the initial encounter with Drew Tabor led other responding deputies to the discovery of Susan Tabor's body at the home.

Patrick County Sheriff's investigators are being assisted by crime scene personnel with the Virginia State Police.

The investigation is continuing, and Susan Tabor's body will be transported to the Medical Examiner's office in Roanoke for autopsy.

Anyone with information about the incident is asked to contact Patrick County Sheriff's Lt. Steve Austin or Smith at (276) 694-3161.



Andrew Russell Tabor was charged with first degree murder in connection with the stabbing death of his mother.

Healthy Back-to-School Habits: Preparing for a Successful School Year

By Krista Nastaj, PNP - Pediatrics

As summer break comes to an end, there's a lot to accomplish in preparation for the new school year. The two most important things to do may seem fairly routine, but that doesn't make them any less of a priority: schedule annual physicals for you and your family and get up to date on immunizations. Routine wellness checks are essential to your family's ongoing health and are an integral part of children's healthcare. In fact, visiting a provider for regular preventive care is one of the best ways to help identify and treat health issues before they become serious.

This includes visiting your dermatologist annually to check for any skin health issues, including any suspicious or unusual spots that could be cancerous, as well as any other skin health problems that you may think are harmless. After a long, hot summer, there's no better time to ensure you're doing your part to help your skin stay healthy.

When scheduling check-ups, don't overlook vision screenings and mental health screenings, including depression screenings for 12 years and up. Eye health and mental health are both vital com-

ponents of overall health for both children and adults.

Annual physical exams also allow your child's pediatrician to confirm their vaccinations are up-to-date and answer any questions you may have about your child's health. Staying up to date on vaccinations and health concerns is not just vital for children, though. Vaccines for adults are recommended based on several factors, so you should ask your primary care provider which vaccines you may need. Be sure to ask your family's provider about vaccines for illnesses like flu, meningococcus and human papillomavirus (HPV) and others. And bring up any health-related issues you may be currently experiencing personally as well.

Here are a few more tips you can use to get your family ready for a healthy and successful school term.

Eat well and stay active. Healthy students are better learners. That's why it's crucial for children to eat nutritious meals and maintain a healthy weight. In addition to getting the nutrients their bodies need, experts recommend children get at least 60 minutes of physical activity each day to help reduce stress and increase focus.

Make sleep a priority. A lack of sleep can lead to a variety of

health issues for both students and parents, including memory problems, difficulty focusing, weakening of the immune system, common heart problems, depression and even obesity. Healthy sleep hygiene can contribute to better weight management, improved mood and increased productivity.

Regularly wash your hands and prevent the spread of germs. It's well-known that the school year can introduce an assortment of colds, stomach bugs and other transmittable illnesses. One of the most effective ways to defend against germs is handwashing, so always wash your hands before eating, after using the bathroom and after blowing your nose, coughing or sneezing.

Don't smoke. E-cigarettes are the most used tobacco product among youth in the U.S. The nicotine found in these popular smoking devices – like nicotine found in other tobacco products – can harm the developing adolescent brain – specifically areas of the brain that are responsible for learning, memory and attention.

To reach their full potential in the classroom, students need to be as healthy as possible – both physically and mentally. By following simple tips like those outlined



Krista Nastaj, PNP

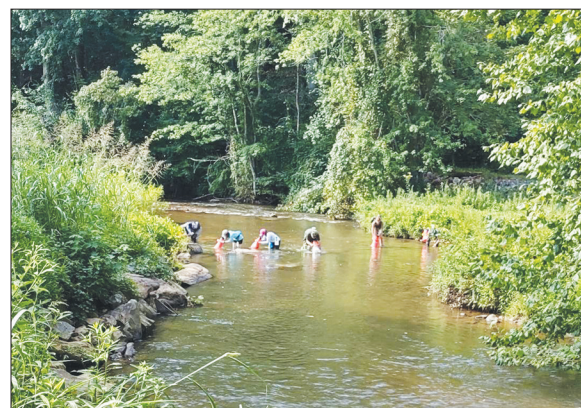
above, you can better prepare your family for the months ahead and make this school year one for the books.

If your family needs a primary care provider or pediatrician, Twin County Regional Healthcare can help. Call 800.424.3627/visit the Find a Doctor/Provider tab at TCRH.org to get connected with the right care for your family.

For additional information, please call (276) 236-8181 or visit www.TCRH.org.

Mussel survey conducted on Mayo

A recent mussel survey was done on the South Mayo with DWR Aquatic biologists Brian Watson and Louise Finger and volunteers. Mussels are some of the best water filters that we have, so a good population of mussels helps to keep the water clean. They are an important part of the ecosystem and we have lost many populations due to runoff, sediment build up and habitat loss. This is the first step to seeing what is happening on the Mayo and determining methods to keep the water clean.



Student Briefs

McAdams enrolls at James Madison University

Patrick Springs resident, Whitney McAdams, has enrolled at James Madison University for the fall 2023 semester. McAdams has selected Health Sciences - BS as a major.

JUM welcomes class of 2027
James Madison University welcomed the class of 2027 to campus this month. The incoming freshman class represents an accomplished, diverse group of individuals who hail from 35 states, the District of Columbia and 12 countries around the world.

The incoming class includes: Addison Belongia of Collinsville, who plans to major in Media Arts and Design - BA.

Ian Betton of Martinsville, who plans to major in Engineering - BS.

Ryan Lane of Ridgeway, who plans to major in Exploratory.

Grant Mayes of Martinsville, who plans to major in Finance - BBA.

Dayton Royster of Ridgeway, who plans to major in Marketing - BBA.

Summer Stone of Ridgeway, who plans to major in Biology - BS.

Affordable Health Screenings Coming to Stuart, Virginia

Residents living in and around the Stuart, Virginia area can learn about their risk for cardiovascular disease, osteoporosis, diabetes, and other chronic, serious conditions with affordable screenings by Life Line Screening. John D Hooker Memorial Building will host this community event on 10/3/2023. The site is located at 420 Woodland Drive in Stuart.

in your arteries, related to risk for cardiovascular disease, stroke and overall vascular health.

HDL and LDL Cholesterol levels

Diabetes risk
Kidney and thyroid function, and more

Screenings are affordable and convenient. Free parking is also available.

Special package pricing starts at \$159, but consultants will work with you to create a package that is right for you based on your age and risk factors. Call 1-877-237-1287 or visit our website at www.lifelinescreening.com. Pre-registration is required.

Screenings can check for: The level of plaque buildup

Skyline National Bank opens location in Meadows of Dan

After having no bank serving Meadows of Dan for five months, Skyline National Bank opened a branch there, with an official ribbon cutting held on Friday, August 18.

The Meadows of Dan branch is located at 3607 Jeb Stuart Hwy., Meadows of Dan Virginia, 24120. Hours of operation for the lobby and drive thru are Monday through Thursday 9 a.m. to 5

p.m., Friday 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. The lobby is closed on Saturdays. The ATM is available 24 hours.

For more information, visit www.skylinenationalbank.bank, or call (276) 222-3091.



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PHVFD crew teaches fire safety

Chaplain James Clifton and Marshall, the dog, from the Patrick Henry Volunteer Fire Department (PHVFD) recently visited Rutters Martial Arts in Bassett to educate the 3 to 5 year old Little Dragons on Fire Safety. The firefighters taught various safety rules, such as staying away

from things that can burn you, learning sounds of smoke alarms, checking smoke alarms monthly, making a family escape plan, stop, drop and roll, and others. Chaplain Clifton also demonstrated how his fire safety gear works, and told to students about the importance of not be-

ing scared if they come across a fire or fighter in gear. He also explained how fire crews help them if they are ever in need. Students also toured a fire truck. World Champion and Martial Arts Hall of Famer Scott Rutter has Martial arts locations in Bassett, Floyd and Stuart, with

programs ages 3 to 5 Lil Dragons teaching life skills along with Martial arts skills as well as programs such as Taekwondo, Shotokan Karate and Krav Maga for ages 6 to adult, with a focus on building confidence, discipline, social skills in a family friendly environment.



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Meetings

Monday, Sept. 11
The Patrick County Board of Supervisors will meet at 6 p.m. in the third-floor court room of the Patrick County Administration Building.

Thursday, Sept. 14
The Patrick County School Board will meet at 5:30 p.m. in the School Board Office.

Wednesday, Sept. 20
The Stuart Town Council will meet at 7 p.m. in the Town Office.

Events

Friday, Sept. 1 - Saturday, Sept. 2
Creasey Chapel will hold a yard sale benefiting the church. There will be household furniture, home accessories, clothing, toys, and something for everyone.

Friday, Sept. 8
The Patrick County Agricultural Fair exhibit coordinators will be accepting quilt entries from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Memorial Building at Rotary Field in Stuart.

Saturday, Sept. 9 - Sunday, Sept. 10
The Patrick County Agricultural Fair exhibit coordinators will be accepting all fair entries except quilts from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on both days in the Hooker Building at Rotary Field.

Saturday, Sept. 9
Fairy Stone State Park will hold a Corn Squezzins' play at the Park Amphitheater at 8 p.m.

Fairy Stone State Park will hold a FUN With Smokey Bear event at 2:30 p.m. at Shelter 4.

Sunday, Sept. 10
The 47th Hughes Family Reunion will be held on September 10th at the Hughes Family Shelter on Trot Valley Road. A covered lunch will be served at 1 p.m. following a brief meeting. Paper products and drinks will be provided. For more information call Mary H. Martin at (276) 692-5507.

Wednesday, Sept. 13
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.

Sunday, Sept. 17
High Point Baptist Church on Big A School Road will hold a Homecoming Service at 11 a.m. There will be singing by Yvonne Hughes and Shelley Roberts and preaching by Paul Hesman. A potluck meal will be served following the service.

Ongoing

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

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

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

The Patrick County Quilters' Sit-N-Sew is held on Saturdays from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

at Quilted Colors. For more information, call 276-694-3020 or email patrickcountyquilters@gmail.com.

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

The Ararat Ruritan Club will hold Rook games every Monday night from 6:30-8 p.m.

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.

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 at 6 p.m. Music gets underway at 7. Food is available.

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.

Ross Harbour Church will be collecting pennies, loose change, and any form of money to benefit The Penny House. It will start on Tuesday, Sept. 5, from 4-6 p.m. and Saturday, Sept. 9 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. and go every Tuesday and Saturday in September.

Information sought in alleged shooting incident

The Patrick County Sheriff's Office is seeking information in connection with an alleged shooting incident in Stuart

Officers responded to a home on Mayo Court Monday, Aug. 21, to a report of a man being shot.

Upon arrival, deputies found James Daniel Biggs had sustained a single gunshot wound to the groin. Biggs allegedly told deputies that he was shot by an unknown assailant.

The investigation quickly revealed that misleading information had intentionally been given regarding the incident.

"We do not believe that Biggs was shot by an unknown assailant," Patrick County Sheriff Dan Smith said in a release.

"In fact, evidence suggests that the gunshot wound was most likely accidentally self-inflicted," he alleged.

"It is frustrating that our nearby school had to initially be put on lock-down because of what we now believe was a lie," Smith alleged,

Biggs was transported from the scene by rescue squad and received medical attention.

The investigation is continuing, and a reward is being offered for information that leads to an arrest in this incident. Contact Investigator Jason Kruse at (276) 692-5123 or Smith at (276) 692-7012 with any information.

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Pair await extradition to NC

Two Mount Airy, N.C. residents are in custody following a pursuit that began in Mount Airy and ended in Patrick County, according to Patrick County Sheriff Dan Smith.

Ismael Valle Maysonet, 35, of 340 Gal-low Drive; and Alexis Danielle Collins, 24, of 136 Melissa Drive, are both being held without bail in the Patrick County Jail.

Shortly after noon on Monday, Aug. 21, the Patrick County Sheriff's Office 911 Center was notified by Surry County Sheriff's Office that one of their deputies was in pursuit of a vehicle coming into Virginia on Route 103. The suspect vehicle was described as a blue Chevy Cobalt.

Surry County terminated the pursuit shortly after entering Virginia onto Virginia 103. A short time later, Patrick Deputy Dustin Dillon spotted the suspect vehicle, which allegedly tried to evade Dillon by turning onto Beasley Hollow Road.

Dillon pursued the suspect vehicle to the end of Beasley Hollow and onto a



Alexis Collins



Ismael Valle-Maysonet

logging road, and continued for approximately one half of a mile. The suspect vehicle stopped, and the two occupants surrendered without incident.

Smith said that the pursuit was initiated because a Surry County sheriff's deputy allegedly witnessed a man running from the Probation and Parole office in Mount Airy, handcuffed with his hands in front of him. The man allegedly jumped into the Cobalt, allegedly being driven by a woman, and sped away.

The Surry deputy began the pursuit at that point, which eventually ended up crossing the state line into Virginia.

Alexis Collins is being held on Patrick charges of misdemeanor eluding law enforcement and driving on a revoked license. Among the pending charges in Surry County, North Carolina are felony eluding law enforcement, and reckless driving.

Ismael Valle-Maysonet is being held on a fugitive of justice warrant.

Both are awaiting extradition back to N.C.

Arrests reported

The Patrick County Sheriff's Office reported the following:

*Sklar Dwayne Dix, 29, of Patrick County Jail, was charged Aug. 12 with assault and battery. Sgt. C. Frick was the arresting officer.

*Jason Wendell Wagner, 37, of Asheboro, N.C., was charged Aug. 12 with drive while intoxicated. Senior Trooper L.G. Foley was the arresting officer.

*Kenneth Russell Griffith, 33, of Ararat, was charged Aug. 13 with one count each strangulation, damage phone line, and assault. Deputy A. Kinney was the arresting officer.

*Joyce Lee Charles, 40, of Stuart, was charged Aug. 15 with one count each credit card larceny, ID theft, credit card fraud, and obtain money by false pretense. Deputy E. Sain was the arresting officer.

*Kenneth Russell Griffith, 33, of Ararat, was charged Aug. 15 with one count each strangulation and abduction. Inv. Tennille E. Jessup was the arresting officer.

*Randy Lee Ashby, 60, address unavailable, was charged Aug. 15 with warrant of extradition. Sgt. Lewis K. Carroll, Jr., was the arresting officer.

*Galvin Hunter Moore, 32, of Stuart, was charged Aug. 15 with assault. Deputy D. Perry was the arresting officer.

*Jennifer Rose Meunier-Garcia, 37, of Stuart, was

charged Aug. 16 with assault and battery. Deputy E. Sain was the arresting officer.

*Niki Nicole Roberts, 38, of Ferrum, was charged Aug. 16 with petty larceny. Deputy C. Gilbert was the arresting officer.

*Kevin Wayne Peters, 41, of Ferrum, was charged Aug. 16 with petty larceny. Deputy C. Gilbert was the arresting officer.

*Mary Jo Miller, 42, of Spencer, was charge Aug. 18 with assault. Deputy E. Sain was the arresting officer.

*Ysidro Delasanchez, 29, of Martinsville, was charged Aug. 20 with assault. Deputy J.S. Kendrick was the arresting officer.

*Michael David Knox, 43, of Stuart, was charged Aug. 21 with one count each reckless handling of firearm and possess firearm by non-violent felon. Deputy J.S. Kendrick was the arresting officer.

*Tyler Benjamin Dehart, 25, of Bassett, was charged Aug. 21 with probation violation. Martinsville PD made the arrest for Patrick County.

*Alexis Danielle Collins, 24, of Mt. Airy, N.C., was charged Aug. 21 with one count each drive motor vehicle- license revoked suspended and disregard law enforcement command. Deputy D. Dillon was the arresting officer.

*Maysonet Ismael Valle, 35, of Mt. Airy, N.C., was charged Aug. 21 with warrant of extradition. Deputy C.L. Adkins was the arresting officer.

*Ariona Glenda Coleman, 20, of Macon, GA, was charged Aug. 22 with fail to appear. Deputy J.C. Forner made the arrest for York County.

*Alexis Danielle Collins, 24, of Mt. Airy, N.C., was charged Aug. 22 with warrant of extradition. Sgt. C. Frick was the arresting officer.

*Keondre Holmes, 31, of Patrick County Jail, was charged Aug. 22 with four counts of violation of protective order. Inv. Tennille E. Jessup was the arresting officer.

*Kimbra D. Foss, 56, of Myrtle Beach, SC, was charged Aug. 22 with call officer by phone without just cause. Sgt. C. Frick was the arresting officer.

*David Wayne Paschal, 51, of Stuart, was charged Aug. 22 with assault. Lt. D.L. Foley was the arresting officer.

*Ronnie Daniel Goad, 49, of Meadows of Dan, was charged Aug. 22 with fail to comply with support obligation. Deputy A. Kinney was the arresting officer.

*Christine Spencer Minter, 58, of Patrick Springs, was charged Aug. 23 with one count each threaten illegal/immoral act over telephone and threat orally to school employee. Deputy J.G. Pickrel was the arresting officer.

*Johnny Ray Gwyn, 55, of Mt. Airy, N.C., was charged Aug. 23 with two counts fail to appear and one count violation of court order. Sgt. E.J. Litz was the arresting officer.

VT awarded funds for Nuclear Engineering Fellowship Program

Congressman Morgan Griffith, R-Salem, announced Friday that the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has awarded a \$400,000 grant to Virginia Tech for its Multi-campus Nuclear Engineering Fellowship Program.

"Virginia Tech is home to some of the strongest research and engineering programs in the United States. I applaud the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission for awarding Virginia Tech this \$400,000 fellowship grant, as it will not only help the University attract high quality candidates to their nuclear engineering program, but will also have the potential to bring more high paying nuclear jobs to the region," said Griffith.

Made possible through the University Nuclear Leadership Program authorization, the NRC has awarded this grant in an effort to "support fellowships for nuclear science, engineering, technology and related disciplines to develop a workforce capable of supporting the design, construction, operation, and regulation of nuclear facilities and the safe handling of nuclear materials."

Warner calls on AI companies to ramp up security

U.S. Sen. Mark R. Warner, D-Alexandria, Chairman of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence, urged several artificial intelligence (AI) companies to take additional action to promote safety and prevent malicious misuse of their products. In a series of letters last week, Warner applauded certain companies for publicly joining voluntary commitments proposed by the Biden administration, but encouraged them to broaden their efforts, and called on companies that have not taken this public step to commit to making their products more secure.

As AI is rolled out more broadly, researchers have repeatedly demonstrated a number of concerning, exploitable weaknesses in prominent products, including abilities to generate credible-seeming misinformation, develop malware, and craft sophisticated phishing techniques. In July, the Biden administration announced that several AI companies had agreed to a series of voluntary commitments that would promote greater security and transparency. However, the commitments were not fully comprehensive in scope or in par-

ticipation, with many companies not publicly participating and several exploitable aspects of the technology left untouched by the commitments.

In a series of letters sent Thursday, Warner pushed directly on companies that did not participate, including Apple, Midjourney, Mistral AI, Databricks, Scale AI, and Stability AI, requesting a response detailing the steps they plan to take to increase the security of their products and prioritize transparency. Sen. Warner additionally sent letters to companies that were involved in the Biden administration's commitments, including Amazon, Anthropic, Google, Inflection AI, Meta, Microsoft, and OpenAI, asking that they extend commitments to less capable models and also develop consumer-facing commitments – such as development and monitoring practices – to prevent the most serious forms of misuse.

"While representing an important improvement upon the status quo, the voluntary commitments announced in July can be bolstered in key ways through additional commitments," Warner wrote.

He also called specific attention to the urgent need for all AI companies to make additional commitments to safeguard against a few highly sensitive potential misuses, including non-consensual intimate image generation (including child sexual abuse material), social-scoring, real-time facial recognition, and proliferation activity in the context of malicious cyber activity or the production of biological or chemical agents.

The letters follow up on Warner's previous efforts to engage directly with AI companies to push for responsible development and deployment. In April, Warner directly called on AI CEOs to develop practices that would ensure that their products and systems are secure. In July, he also pushed on the Biden administration to keep working with AI companies to expand the scope of the voluntary commitments.

Additionally, Warner wrote to Google last week to raise concerns about their testing of new AI technology in real medical settings. Separately, he urged the CEOs of several AI companies to address a concerning report that generative chatbots were

producing instructions on how to exacerbate an eating disorder. Additionally, he has introduced several pieces of legislation aimed at making tech safer and more humane, including the RESTRICT Act, which would comprehensively address the ongoing threat posed by technology from foreign adversaries; the SAFE TECH Act, which would reform Section 230 and allow social media companies to be held accountable for enabling cyber-stalking, online harassment, and discrimination on social media platforms; and the Honest Ads Act, which would require online political advertisements to adhere to the same disclaimer requirements as TV, radio, and print ads.



Former SCC Students Bring Home Awards from N.C. Taxidermist Association Competition



This mounted bobcat, created by Michael Mitchell of Nathalie, Va., received a first-place award. Mitchell also won the Best Up-and-Coming Amateur Award, as well as a third-place award for a separate rock base he created. SCC offers Taxidermy classes ranging from beginner to advanced levels. If you'd like to learn more about the availability of these courses, contact Jill Harding, SCC Director of the Pilot Center and Occupational Programs, at (336) 386-3331 or hardingjm@surry.edu.



Roger Miller (left) of North Wilkesboro, won multiple first, second, and third-place awards for various creations, and also received the Most Creative Amateur Award, The President's Challenge Award, and the Chris Barnhardt Award. Pictured at the right is SCC Taxidermy Instructor Doug Shores. SCC offers Taxidermy classes ranging from beginner to advanced levels. If you'd like to learn more about the availability of these courses, contact Jill Harding, SCC Director of the Pilot Center and Occupational Programs, at (336) 386-3331 or hardingjm@surry.edu.



Steve Spell of Pfafftown won first place, as well as the People's Choice Best of Show Amateur Award, with a life-sized bear. SCC offers Taxidermy classes ranging from beginner to advanced levels. If you'd like to learn more about the availability of these courses, contact Jill Harding, SCC Director of the Pilot Center and Occupational Programs, at (336) 386-3331 or hardingjm@surry.edu.

Several former Surry Community College Taxidermy students won awards at the recent North Carolina Taxidermist Association Annual Convention and Competition.

The North Carolina Taxidermist Association (NCTA) is a non-profit educational organization to further contacts and better understanding among taxidermists and related industries, according to the NCTA website. Surry Community College offers a Taxidermy course, in which many of this year's NCTA winners participated.

Steve Spell of Pfafftown won first place, as well as the People's Choice Best of Show Amateur Award, with a life-sized bear. He also received first and second-place award for two raccoons that he mounted in honor of the 35th anniversary of the movie, "The Great Outdoors."

Michael Mitchell of Nathalie, Va., received a first-place award for a mounted bobcat, a third-place award for a rock base he created, and the Best Up-and-Coming Amateur Award.

Roger Miller of North Wilkesboro brought home multiple first, second, and third-place awards for various creations,

and also received the Most Creative Amateur Award, the President's Challenge Award, and the Chris Barnhardt Award, which is a people's choice award named in honor of Chris Barnhardt, an international award-winning taxidermist and artist who was a mentor and inspiration to many before his untimely death in 2013.

Instructor Doug Shores said, "As always, I am very proud of all my students, but these guys right here brought home the goods. There are times while being an instructor that I think to myself, 'Am I giving the students what they need to perform in a form of art to recreate something that was created by God?' At the moment I walked into the display room to see what ribbons we won, I didn't even look at mine. I looked to see what my students' ribbons were. I knew right then

that I must be doing something right. If you are a former student, I urge you to join the state taxidermist association in the state where you live and attend the conventions. You'll get more information in the seminars and by just talking with other taxidermists."

Shores, from Archdale, also placed very well, winning a second-place award for a mounted deer and a third-place award for a mounted duck, both in the Professional Division of the competition.

Surry Community College offers Taxidermy classes ranging from beginner to advanced levels. New classes will be offered in January 2024. If you'd like to learn more about these courses, contact Jill Harding, Director of the SCC Pilot Center and Occupational Programs, at (336) 386-3331 or hardingjm@surry.edu.

Lies, Sex, and Rock and Roll

By Robin Reichelt
Patrick County Master Gardener

When I was a kid, we harvested everything in the garden by the end of September. Even though it was sometimes still quite warm, my mother would not deviate from this schedule telling me that nothing will survive past the end of September.

I have since learned that is not necessarily true. I think my mom knew that once we were in school, she'd have to do the weeding, watering, protecting, and harvesting herself. And so, she stretched the truth.

Now I know better.

To get the most out of your garden you have to do a little planning. Succession planting of warm-weather crops, such as green beans, can extend your growing season right up to the first killing frost. Cool season crops that withstand light frosts grow well during cool fall days. Planting at the right time is the key to success.

Frost and Microclimates

Here in Patrick County, we are dealing with two planting zones, 6B and 7A. The northwestern portion of the county is 6B with the first killing frost hitting us around October 5th to the 15th. The rest of the county is 7A with the first killing frost arriving around October 15th to the 25th.

That's not to say that there couldn't be pockets of 6A or 7B micro-climates. You will have to make that determination to

be able to plan accordingly.

The topography of a region is the most important natural contributor to the formation of a microclimate. It is primarily the shape and the change in altitude of a local surface that is responsible for the creation of a microclimate. Cold air is heavier than warm air. As it rolls down a slope, as in a small valley, the temperature tends to drop, potentially causing a zone change.

For example, a large hill can create two distinctly different localized climates in close proximity. Here in the Northern Hemisphere, the southern slope of a mountain receives more sunlight than the northern slope. As a result, if you live on the southern slope, you will experience a warmer and generally drier climate throughout the year. You will also find vegetation that flourishes in warm, drier conditions on the south-facing slope.

In contrast, if you live on the northern slope, you will experience a cooler and often wetter climate. Vegetation on northern slopes tend to flourish in cooler, wetter conditions.

Why Plant in the Fall

You may be wondering why you would want to fall cool season crops in the fall. One reason is that you will be more successful in the fall.

Often when we plant lettuce and broccoli in the spring our temperatures warm up too quickly and these crops bolt before we really get much out of them. And by bolt, I mean go to flower, not run out of the

garden.

We also fight insects like cabbageworms that will destroy your brassicas before you can blink twice. Constant and frequent inspections of these plants are necessary to pick the squishy worms off your plants, which by the way make great feed for your chickens!

In the fall, you are not fighting the warming temperatures. The plants benefit from the warm days and cooler nights. They also benefit from the end of the life cycle of insects like the *Pieris rapae*, or cabbage-worm butterflies. Their sex life is limited to the summer!

What to Plant

So, you have determined your zone and whether or not you have a micro-climate. You are ready to rock and roll with this extra effort, what do you plant for that late fall, early winter harvest here in Patrick County?

If you are in 6B the following can be planted until the first week of September with success. Beets, broccoli, cabbage, cauliflower, collards, kale, kohlrabi, leeks, lettuce, mustards, radishes, spinach, and turnips can all be planted now.

For 7A, all the same vegetables can be planted with the addition of Brussel sprouts, carrots, and rutabaga. As the list indicated, you can have quite a harvest this winter.

If you plan on trying to get past these later dates, be prepared to cover the beds with



burlap or floating row covers. You can also protect individual plants using milk jugs, cloches, or water walls. If a hard freeze is imminent, you will have to mulch heavily around root crops such as carrots and radishes to protect them.

A little planning will go a long way to a successful fall/winter harvest easing the strain on your pocketbook. Just because it is the lazy days of summer, doesn't mean your garden is almost done, no matter what your mother told you. And if you plan it right, those promiscuous insects won't be a concern either.

If you start rocking and rolling now, you could be harvesting up to Christmas.

(References: Grant, Amy (2023) Planting Fall Gardens. <https://www.gardeningknowhow.com/garden-how-to/gardening-by-zone/zone-7/planting-fall-gardens-in-zone-7.htm>

Hesser, Alex (2019) Virginia's Home Garden Vegetable Planning Guide: Recommended Planting Dates and Amounts to Plant. VA Cooperative Extension https://www.pubs.ext.vt.edu/content/dam/pubs_ext_vt_edu/426/426-331/SPES-170.pdf)

What would you do if a bear visited?

Mary Dellenback Hill found out last week, when a persistent bear visited her property at least three times.

Hill said she first saw the bear on Aug. 24, around 6 p.m. When she opened the door, the bear ran away from her copper birdfeeder.

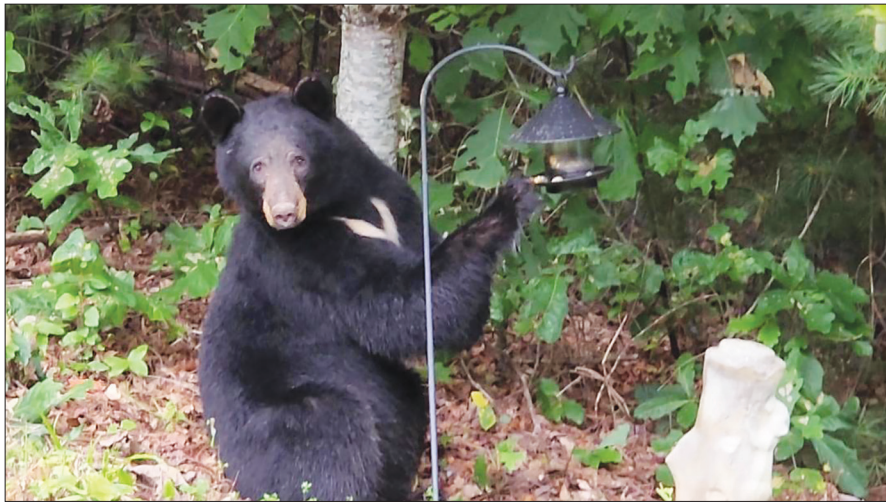
About 10 minutes later, Hill said the bear

returned. "Same bear I think," she said, adding it must have wanted to taste the delights in "an old birdfeeder on the bank at the side of the cabin."

The last two photos show the same bear at the side of the cabin.

"Look at its chest," Hill said, noting the

white pattern that seemed to form a V. "I have never seen a black bear with white markings," Hill said. "I grew up between 1949 and 1966, about 3 miles from where I live now. We never saw deer, bears, or turkeys. Now I have all three visiting me here at my cabin!"



(Photos by Mary Dellenback Hill)

PC 4-H Marksmen Compete in Central District

The Patrick County 4-H Marksmen recently traveled to Holiday Lake 4-H Educational Center in Appomattox, Virginia on Saturday, July 15th to take part in the 2023 Central District Shooting Education Competition. Eleven 4-H shooting clubs from around the state attended, with more than 99 kids

competing in six different events.

Competing for the Patrick County 4-H Marksmen were Abby Corriher, Levi Corriher, Reagan Underwood, Cooper Wikstrom, and James Pumbo.

Individual and team results include:

Air Pistol PPP Basic Supported

Individual: Reagan Underwood, 3rd place, Cooper Wikstrom, 4th place, James Pumbo, 7th place

Air Pistol PPP Basic Supported Team – 1st place: Reagan Underwood, Cooper Wikstrom, James Pumbo

BB Individual: Cooper Wikstrom, 3rd place, Reagan Underwood, 4th place, James Pumbo, 6th place

BB Team – 1st place: Cooper Wikstrom, Reagan Underwood, James Pumbo

3P Smallbore Scope Junior Individual: Reagan Underwood, 2nd place, Cooper Wikstrom, 10th place, James Pumbo, 18th place

3P Smallbore Scope Junior Team – 3rd place: Reagan Underwood, Cooper Wikstrom, James Pumbo

3P Smallbore Iron Senior Individual: Abby Corriher, 1st place, Levi Corriher, 8th place

Silhouettes Smallbore Rifle Junior Individual: Reagan Underwood, 6th place, Cooper Wikstrom, 15th place, James Pumbo, 21st

Silhouettes Smallbore Rifle Junior Team – 5th place: Reagan Underwood, Cooper Wikstrom, James Pumbo

Silhouettes Smallbore Rifle Se-

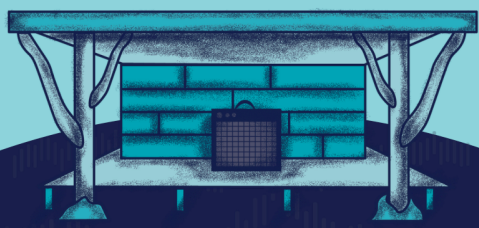
nior Individual: Abby Corriher, 5th place, Levi Corriher, 13th

Silhouettes Smallbore Pistol Senior Individual: Abby Corriher, 2nd place, Levi Corriher, 3rd

For more information on the 2023 Central District Shooting Education Competition results visit <http://www.orionresults.com/vt> and choose Central District 2023 under the recent results section.

The Patrick County 4-H Marksmen use shooting as a vehicle to teach youth ages 9-19 life skills such as responsibility, self-discipline, and teamwork through skills learned in archery, muzzle loading, pistol, rifle, and shotgun. Through these disciplines, youth also learn firearm safety and marksmanship. Thanks to our generous supporters American Legion Post 105 and Meadows of Dan Veterans of Foreign Wars.

The Patrick County 4-H Marksmen Club practices in Stuart and new members are welcome starting in October 2023. For more information, please contact the Patrick County Extension Office at (276) 694-3341.



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Cooper Wikstrom and Reagan Underwood



Patrick County 4-H Marksmen Abby Corriher, Levi Corriher, Reagan Underwood, Cooper Wikstrom, and James Pumbo competed in the 2023 Central District Shooting Education Competition.



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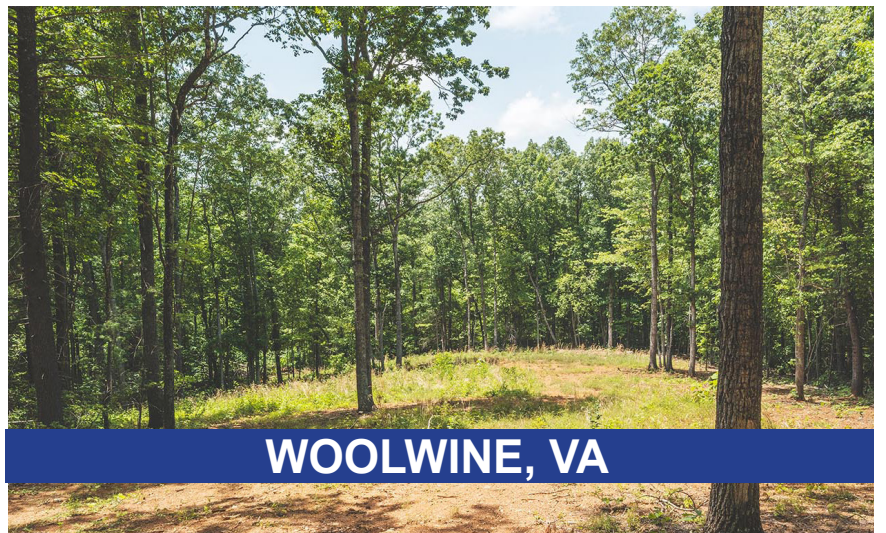
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Secluded 10.2 acre property with a driveway already in place. With some clearing, this would be a great building site! Adjoining lots are also for sale. **\$70,000**

PENDING



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PENDING



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PENDING



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