



THE ENTERPRISE

Calendar	12
Church	9
Classified	10
Family Album	5
Obituaries	8
Sports	6
Viewpoints	4

Vol. 147 No. 39 Website: www.theenterprise.net STUART, VIRGINIA WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2023 USPS 523-500 \$1.00

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

“The Plinko Bounce” book tour kicks off Sept. 12 in Stuart

By Debbie Hall

Andy Hughes is an overworked, underpaid public defender who faces life and death decisions after catching the case of a lifetime in Martin Clark’s latest book, “The Plinko Bounce.”

Clark, a retired circuit court judge, will kick off his six-month book tour on September 12, with a book signing and celebration from 3:30-8 p.m. at the Patrick County Branch Library. The event will include catered bakery treats from Dragon’s Beard Farm, homemade sweets from Kimberley Redd, door-prize gift certificates from local businesses, and the first 75 people to buy the new book will get a free copy of “The Substitution Order.”

If the early reception to “The Plinko Bounce” is any indication, Clark’s newest book will be another bestseller – perhaps the biggest yet.

“The reception early has been the best I’ve had,” Clark said, and explained that while the book is set in Patrick and Henry counties and includes several familiar characters, it also represents somewhat of a departure from his other books.

For instance, the majority of his books are longer – about 340 pages. “The Plinko Bounce,” which is nearly 300 pages, “is quicker. It’s leaner,” Clark said. “It is more character driven, and more plot driven than my last” book.

The plot is a byproduct of the nearly 30 years Clark served as a circuit court judge.

For the book to work, “you need a plot trick,” Clark said, and explained that like most books in the legal thriller genre, “you have some corruption. You have sort of an evil doer behind the scenes” and “you have fraud. To use Bernie Mac’s term, ‘there has to be some ‘trickeration’ going on.’”

“It struck me it would be interesting” to write about a situation where the system works as it should, “and all the lawyers do what they’re supposed to do. They’re good lawyers” and the case is well-presented, the judge does what he or she is supposed to do, and “the system works as it should, but the outcome does not follow, or track, the objective truth. In other words, you have this really good mechanism, but it misfires,” Clark said.

“I know that of course everybody thinks these days, given sort of the backdrop of the world in which we live and all the turmoil, that the system is beaten down and corrupt and it doesn’t work,” Clark said.

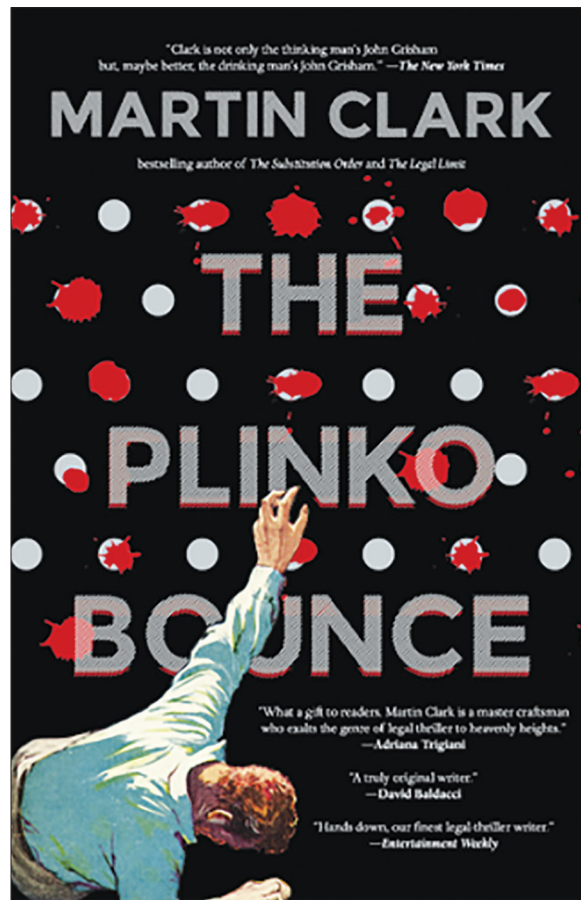
However, “I’ve worked in the sys-



Martin Clark

tem for as a judge for almost three decades and I ran into two cases” in which “you had a jury getting sort of put in a straitjacket because the law didn’t allow them to hear all the evidence, and that made me think what an interesting fictional story that would be if you have someone who’s on trial and perhaps is guilty, but the jury is not able to hear because the judge does the right thing,” Clark said.

He recalled similar experiences “twice in my career. Once in Henry County case, when a confession ... was lawyered out, and it should



A book signing and celebration for Martin Clark’s latest book, “The Plinko Bounce,” will be held Sept. 12 at the Patrick County Branch Library in Stuart.

have been. It just was not a proper confession. Maybe that’s a technicality, but that’s the way the system works, so the confession is gone and then the evidence was suppressed.

(See *The Plinko Bounce* p. 3)



Cat ‘Tales’ on Main

Thomas the Town Cat spends many mornings people watching while relaxing in his window seat. (By Pat Delaney)

Bobbitt named to P&HCC Board

Dayna Bobbitt is Patrick & Henry Community College Board’s newest member.

Bobbitt serves as Patrick County’s Commonwealth’s Attorney, and has been an adjunct professor in the Legal Assisting/Paralegal program at P&HCC.

She is a member of the Virginia State Bar, Virginia Association of Commonwealth’s Attorneys, Patrick County Bar Association, Patrick County Elder Abuse Team, Sexual Assault Response Team, Child Abuse Review Team, and Special Victim’s Unit.

Bobbitt also serves the community as the president of Stuart Rotary Club, a member of Sycamore Baptist Church and a volunteer for the Community Backpack Program at Blue Ridge Elementary



Dayna Bobbitt

School.

She was appointed by Patrick County to represent the locality on P&HCC’s board for a four-year term.

Annual agricultural fair to run through Sept. 16

By Taylor Boyd

The 69th annual Patrick County Agricultural Fair is set to be held from Tuesday, September 12 to Saturday, September 16 at Rotary Field in Stuart.

Sonny Swails, a member of the Rotary Club of Stuart who works on the fair project, said the weather is forecast to be gorgeous, with no chance of rain to hinder the fun.

“We had one year off which was 2020. This is our third year after the pandemic, and I think people have begun to find us after we had shut down for a year. We’re expecting a really great year again,” he said.

Swails said the annual fair is sort of the county’s flagship event for the year.

“I’m not sure that any other event in Patrick County brings in the amount of people that we bring into the fair. So, it’s a big deal for Patrick County,” he said.

He estimates the fair attracts 8,000 to 9,000 visitors annually, excluding volunteers and those who receive free passes.

Because the Rotary Club isn’t allowed to take any funds from the fair proceeds, Swails said proceeds will either be pumped back into the maintenance and upkeep of Rotary Field or donated to an organization in the county.

“We give scholarships to graduating seniors at the high school, we support the Free Clinic (Caring Hearts Free Clinic), we support the food bank (Patrick County Community Food Bank),” he said.

The annual Demolition Derby is set for September 16 at 7 p.m., and Swails said a Power Wheel Derby will start at 6 p.m.

“That’s for the little kids that come in with their battery-operated demolition derby cars. We put balloons on them, and they try to pop each other’s balloons which is kind of a cute little event,” he said.

There will also be entertainment nightly in the Hooker Building from 6 to 9 p.m. showcasing Pat-

rick County talent. On Thursday, Herbert & Tina Conner, Patrick County Dancing Arts, Cindy Joyce, Trinity Church, Burgie Penn, and Barry Hutchens will perform.

Shelley Roberts, Debbie Bennett, Borrowed Earth, Scott Eustler, Joyful Noise, and Rick Hill will take the stage on Wednesday night.

Thursday night features Sue Nester, Jackie Belcher, Mike Hall, and Phillip Adams performing with Mary Joe & Charlie Leet, Ron and Tommy, Garry Collins, Marcie Horne, Jason Harris and Sawmill Road performing on Friday.

On Saturday, Jordon T. Morrison & the Foothill Boys will perform before the first ever square dance is held from 6:45-8:15 p.m. Snow Creek Old Time Band, Charles Bowman, Old Dominion Cloggers, and Margarie Richard will perform during this time.

Following the square dance, there will be a clogging and flat-footing contest with the winner chosen by the crowd, and \$20, \$15, and \$10 cash prizes for the top three performers.

A Saturday afternoon matinee designed for small children will be held from 3-6 p.m., and those who come during this time with a small child will receive free admission.

“From 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. we will sell a wristband to families that come in and bring small children to ride. At 5 p.m. we will stop selling those wristbands, but the rides will continue. At 6 p.m., we will turn on all the rides, so the big rides and everything else will be opened up to everyone,” he said.

Wristbands for the Saturday afternoon matinee are \$15. Swails said wristbands are \$25 at the gate, or \$20 by preordering them by September 12 at 6 p.m. at www.innovativeticketing.com and searching for Patrick County Fair 2023.

For more information, go to www.patrickcountyfair.com, or Facebook.com/PatrickCountyFair.

Portion of Friends Mission Road to be closed

Beginning Monday, September 11, a portion of Virginia 675 (Friends Mission Road) will be closed to through traffic from

0.60 mile from Virginia 735 (Boyd Hollow Road) to 0.80 mile from Virginia 631 (Doe Run Road) for a bridge replacement over Ararat

River.

Weather permitting, the road will re-open to traffic on Friday, September 29.

A detour and directional signs will be used to assist the traveling public.

P&HCC, SME parter to address workforce shortage, skills gap crisis

SME, the national nonprofit committed to accelerating new manufacturing technology adoption and building North America's manufacturing talent and capabilities, announced a new initiative involving a partnership with community and technical colleges to address the urgency of revitalizing manufacturing's industrial base, growing the industry's talent pipeline, and enhancing the skills and productivity of manufacturing workers.

The Manufacturing Imperative – Workforce Pipeline Challenge (MI-WPC) launches this fall and combines the industry and workforce expertise of SME with the educational programs and innovations of a select group of US community and technical colleges, including Patrick & Henry Community College. The initiative builds awareness of careers in manufacturing, optimizes workforce systems and accelerates the education and skill development needed to place individuals in jobs making family-sustaining wages.

"I am pleased to celebrate SME's newest initiative, the Manufacturing Imperative – Workforce Pipeline Challenge to help address the national workforce crisis facing our manufacturing sector," said US Department of Education Assistant Secretary Amy Lloyd. "We appreciate SME's leadership and willingness to bring together the national voice of manufacturers alongside our nation's community and technical colleges to address local and regional labor market needs and support efforts to invest in American and prepare youth and adults for good jobs."

Through the Workforce Pipeline Challenge, SME will work with schools to conduct a labor analysis of the local, regional, and state landscape; develop and expand sector strategies to attract new populations – particularly those under-served and under-represented in the workforce; and implement new programs, curriculum and applicable certifications to develop skilled individuals that are ready to hire for the vast array of growing, unfilled positions in manufacturing.

Jeannine Kunz, SME's chief workforce development officer, explained the key motivation behind launching the initiative: "SME, along with many other industry organizations, understands that manufacturing is a critical engine of America's economic strength and national security, playing a role in almost every sector of our economy. It is our responsibility to support the development of a diverse and qualified talent pool by stepping up our efforts and investments to strengthen the manufacturing sup-

ply chain with technically skilled individuals. Only then can we ensure our industrial base remains resilient now and into the future."

"Patrick & Henry Community College has worked strategically for the last 10 years to develop and expand training programs and facilities to address the workforce needs of our manufacturing employers and prepare our students with the skills needed for careers that provide family-sustaining wages. Through the Manufacturing Imperative-Workforce Pipeline Challenge, we look forward to sharing our best practices and learning from others, a model of collaboration at the heart of community colleges, in order to address the labor force challenges for the manufacturing industry. While P&HCC enjoys strong partnerships with manufacturers in our region, we are excited to add national resources, like SME and their partners, to our work," said Rhonda Hodges, P&HCC Vice President for Workforce, Economic & Community Development.

The Workforce Pipeline Challenge is a three-year pilot program with a goal to attract 1,000 individuals at each of the initial 25 participating community and technical colleges annually, resulting in 75,000 or more qualified workers in pursuit of manufacturing careers. The estimated economic impact of growing the industry's workforce in this way is \$6 billion. Best practices identified throughout the program will be shared nationally to help other programs implement innovative solutions to grow local economies, reduce barriers to employment, and fill vacant manufacturing jobs.

The partnership between SME and the initial institutions will leverage a strong alliance with the National Coalition of Advanced Technology Centers (NCATC). Craig McAtee, NCATC's executive director shares that "any advanced manufacturing, workforce development initiative led by SME is top-notch and impactful for education, students, and employers across America – NCATC is inspired to be a partner o the SME Manufacturing Imperative – Workforce Pipeline Challenge."

P&HCC President Dr. Greg Hodges said, "Patrick & Henry Community College is deeply honored to be among the select group of community colleges in the country invited to address the nation's need to maximize American manufacturing. We are thrilled to help create national and scalable models that accelerate the development of a diverse workforce pipeline leading to high paying jobs in our college's service region. Manufacturing has been our region's largest employment sector



for decades, and P&HCC possesses the facilities, faculty, staff, and state-of-the art equipment to educate and train our citizens while also increasing our country's competitiveness on the global stage."

In addition to Patrick & Henry Community College, Wallace State Community College (AL), WSU Tech (KS), Grand Rapids Community College (MI), Wake Tech Community College (NC), Columbus State Community College (OH), Tulsa Community College (OK), Greenville Technical College (SC),

and Lonestar Community College (TX) have committed to a specific set of requirements, demonstrating commitment to this national approach to pipeline development and to implementing innovative solutions to address long-standing industry challenges. Their collective voices will also inform legislation, policy and funding. Based on the program's collective success, SME looks forward to expanding this initiative beyond the initial 25 pilot institutions.

Traditional bluegrass to be featured at the Blue Ridge Music Center



Nick Dumas & Branchline

The Blue Ridge Music Center is presenting Nick Dumas & Branchline for an evening of bluegrass at 5 p.m., Saturday, October 7. This concert will take place in the small indoor theater at the Music Center, located at milepost 213 on the Blue Ridge Parkway, just south of Galax and 30 minutes from Sparta and Mount Airy, N.C.

Nick Dumas grew up in Brier, Wash., and was introduced to bluegrass music at a young age by his dobro-playing grandfather. Dumas soon began taking fiddle lessons and then joined the family band The Three Generations, formed by his grandfather, mother, and aunt. After learning to play mandolin, guitar and banjo and to sing lead

and harmony vocals, he became a co-founder of the popular Northwest-based bluegrass band Northern Departure.

In 2015, Dumas relocated to Chicago to play mandolin with the band Special Consensus. He made his Special C recording debut on the 2016 Compass Records band release Long I Ride, which received the 2016 International Bluegrass Music Association (IBMA) Instrumental Recorded Performance of the Year Award for the tune "Fireball." He also appeared on the 2018 Compass Records band release Rivers and Roads that won two IBMA awards (one for Album of the Year) and a Grammy nomination for Best Bluegrass Album.

After leaving Special Consensus and relocating to Wisconsin, Du-

mas released his first solo recording, Story of a Beautiful Life in 2019.

For this tour, Dumas (mandolin and lead vocals) will be joined by an incredible lineup of musicians from across the United States and Canada including Carley Arrowood on fiddle, Daniel Thrailkill on guitar, Will McSeveney on banjo, Michael Kilby on dobro, and Andrew Knapp on bass. Arrowood and Thrailkill are North Carolina natives. Thrailkill plays with bluegrass band The Trailblazers, and Arrowood played with Darin & Brooke Aldridge for many years before embarking on a solo career.

Tickets are \$25. Seating is limited for this concert so advance tickets are recommended, available online at BlueRidgeMusicCenter.org.

VISIT US ONLINE
WWW.THEENTERPRISE.NET

The Plinko Bounce

(cont. from page 1)

“So basically, you’re trying to convict this defendant on circumstantial a case ... and so you watched this jury and everybody in the courtroom knows the defendant is guilty, including the defendant. The defendant has never said anything else,” Clark said. “But you watch as the jury does the right thing and they let him go, and they should have. I would have.”

Because that situation was a departure from the norm, Clark said it made a lasting impact, and while the plot in “The Plinko Bounce” is fictional, it is “a story that needed to be written. This story is about what

happens in the courtroom and what happens after, and it’s pretty much that straightforward.”

For 17 years, Hughes “has been underpaid to look after the poor, the addicted, and the unfortunate souls who constantly cycle through the courts, charged with petty crimes,” the book jacket states.

“And then you catch this this case of a lifetime,” Clark said.

When all is said and done, and despite his misgivings, the book jacket adds that Hughes “agrees to fight for a not guilty verdict,” and that will “ultimately force him to make profound, life and death choices, both

inside and outside the courtroom.”

“The ending of this book, I understand will create a little controversy in some circles, but for it to work you have to like” Hughes, Clark said.

Hughes is more than likable and relatable, and “The Plinko Bounce” is a page turner, from the first sentence to the last.

Many of Clark’s novels have appeared on numerous bestseller lists, and the audio version of The Substitution Order was a number one national bestseller. Additionally, his novels have been chosen as a New York Times Notable Book, a New York Times Editors’ Choice, a

Washington Post Book World Best Book of the Year, a Bookmarks Magazine Best Book of the Year, a Boston Globe Best Book of the Year, a Book-of-the-Month Club selection, a finalist for the Stephen Crane First Fiction Award, and the winner of the Library of Virginia’s People’s Choice Award in 2009, 2016 and 2020.

Profits from “The Plinko Bounce” book signing will be used to fund a \$10,000 scholarship in memory of Ann Belcher, Clark’s high school English teacher. The winner of the scholarship will be announced at the Sept. 12 event.

Initial unemployment claims increase

The number of initial claims increased in the latest filing week to 2,777 and remained at typical pre-Pandemic volumes experienced in 2019, according to data from the Virginia Employment Commission (VEC).

For the filing week ending August 26, the figure for seasonally unadjusted initial claims in Virginia was 2,777, which was an increase of 466 claimants from the previous week. Continued weeks claimed totaled 13,258, which was 457 claims lower than the previous week and a decrease of 1.7% from the 13,486 continued claims from the comparable week last year. Ninety-three percent of claimants self-reported an associated industry, of those reported over half (58 percent) of continued claims were from professional, scientific, and technical services (1,983), administrative and support and waste management (1,865), health care and social assistance (1,196), manufacturing (1,113), and retail trade (985). Eligibility for benefits is determined on a weekly basis, and so not all weekly claims filed result in a benefit payment. This is because the initial claims

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

In the week ending August 26, the advance U.S. figure for seasonally adjusted initial claims was 228,000, a decrease of 4,000 from the previous week’s revised level. The previous week’s level was revised up by 2,000 from 230,000 to 232,000. The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs[1], unadjusted, totaled 192,467 in the week ending August 26, a decrease of 6,970 (or -3.5 percent) from the previous week. There were 173,867 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 (-4,695) was the largest decrease. Missouri’s preliminary weekly change (-1,712) was the second largest decrease. Hawaii’s preliminary weekly change (-1,305) was the third largest decrease. Texas’s preliminary weekly change (-729) was the fourth largest decrease. Virginia’s preliminary weekly change (+596) was the fourth largest increase.

Danville Man Sentenced to Eight Years for Child Porn Possession

A Danville man, who used the online messaging application Kik to communicate and share child abuse images with an undercover law enforcement officer, was recently sentenced to 102 months in federal prison.

William Allen Wolf, 46, pled guilty in November 2022 to possession with intent to view a visual depiction of a minor under 12 years of age engaged in sexually explicit conduct.

According to court documents, in December 2021, a law enforcement officer acting in an undercover capacity entered a public group on Kik Messenger where users were known to regularly share information and images of child abuse, and Wolf was already a member. The undercover officer purported to have two prepubescent daughters.

On December 6, 2022, Wolf initiated a Kik conversation with the undercover officer telling him that he was a member of the group because he enjoyed train-

ing children for sexual activity. Wolf then sent the undercover officer a video depicting an adult male engaged in sexual activity with a prepubescent female under 12 years of age. Wolf continued to send the undercover officer additional videos during the course of their online conversations.

United States Attorney Christopher R. Kavanaugh and Stanley M. Meador, Special Agent in Charge of the FBI’s Richmond Division, made the announcement.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation investigated the case.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Michael Baudinet prosecuted the case.

The case is brought as part of Project Safe Childhood. In 2006, the Department of Justice created Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative designed to protect children from exploitation and abuse. Led by the U.S. Attorneys’ Offices and the DOJ’s Child

Exploitation and Obscenity Section, Project Safe Childhood marshals federal, state, and local resources to locate, apprehend, and prosecute individuals who exploit children, as well as identify and rescue victims.

For more information about Project Safe Childhood, visit www.projectsafechildhood.gov/.

Pets of the Week



This robust fella looking up into the camera was found in the Moorfield Store area. He sure hopes his owner is looking for him and will be smart enough to check the shelter.

This cool guy is just relaxing and smiling while he waits for his owner to come claim him. He was found on Providence Road in Patrick Springs, and if his owner doesn’t come for him, he would be happy to be someone’s best friend.

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 (PAWS) offers a spay/neuter program for dogs. Call (276) 694-2378 and leave a message. Someone will call you back.

VDOT projects continue throughout district

The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) suspended most highway work zones and lifted most lane closures on interstates and other major roads over Labor Day weekend, but work crews were scheduled to return to their respective projects on Tuesday.

In Patrick and Carroll counties, that includes pipe replacements.

* Local traffic will need to seek alternate routes in the Ararat area of Patrick County and near Gladesboro in Carroll County due to four pipe replacements. Recent heavy rains have washed out pipes on Route 923 (Cabbage House Road) in Carroll County and on Route 645 (Homeplace Road), Route 823 (Spring Branch Road) and Route 735 (Boyd Hollow Road) in Patrick County. Barricades are in place, blocking thru traffic from using these routes. Drivers can use alternate routes in the area around the closures. Crews with the Virginia Department of Transportation will be replacing the pipes which will take approximately three to four weeks, weather permitting.

* Beginning Monday, September 11, a portion of Route 675 (Friends Mission Road) will be closed to through traffic from 0.60 mile from Route 735 (Boyd Hollow Road) to 0.80 mile from Route 631 (Doe Run Road) for a bridge replacement over Ararat River. During this time, a detour will be used, and directional signs will be in place to assist the traveling public. Weather permitting, the road will re-open to traffic on Friday, September 29.

* Weather permitting, crews will pave, patch and repair pavement on various routes. Lane closures may be in place and flaggers may control traffic at times during daylight or nighttime hours. Drivers should watch for signs and expect possible delays.

* Construction is underway on Lover’s Leap area of Route 58. Current work includes clearing and grading activities on the west and east portions of the project. A 45-mph speed reduction is in place on Route 58 for the entire length of the project. Drivers should expect flagging operations during day and nighttime hours. Message boards are in place to alert traffic and drivers should expect delays. Estimated completion date is Summer 2026.

The escape ramp located 2.9 miles

east of the Lovers Leap Overlook/Fred Clifton Park and 1.1 miles east of Dehart Botanical Gardens has been permanently closed. Please be aware of brake check points along Route 58 and check your brakes frequently. A brake check point is located 0.6 miles east of Route 610 (Cloudbreak Road) near Poor Farmer’s Farm. All trucks MUST check their brakes prior to traveling down the mountain.

Blasting operations are underway on the project. Intermittent blasting will be scheduled between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. on weekdays and continue at various locations on the project through summer 2025. The first blasting will impact traffic in the vicinity of Dehart Botanical Gardens, approximately 1.7 miles east of the Lovers Leap Mountain overlook and Fred Clifton Park. For blasting that is close to Route 58, traffic in both directions may be blocked for approximately 15-20 minutes at a time. Drive and residents along the Route 58 corridor should expect loud noise and allow extra travel time. Electronic message boards will be used to inform drivers of scheduled blasting that will impact traffic.

While detour signs in a fluorescent pink color are in place, these do not designate a permanent or scheduled detour. The signed detour route is suitable for all traffic during incidents, including tractor-trailers and other large vehicles. These signs are used for incident detours only.

For up to date traffic alerts,

The most current traffic and road work information can be found by calling 511, downloading the 511 App or visiting www.511virginia.org. On the 511 website, drivers can also sign up to receive personalized traffic alerts, view traffic cameras or download the free Android or iPhone mobile app.

You can also follow 5.11 Twitter feeds for the southwest area of Virginia at @511southwestva or follow @VaDOTSalem on Twitter.

Join our Facebook community group page at www.facebook.com/groups/VDOTSalem for traffic and general information on projects in the Salem District area. The Salem District covers Bedford, Botetourt, Carroll, Craig, Floyd, Franklin, Giles, Henry, Montgomery, Patrick, Pulaski and Roanoke.

Arrests Reported

The Patrick County Sheriff’s Office reported the following:

*Michael David Knoxx, 44, of Stuart, was charged Aug. 25 with unauthorized use of vehicle. Sgt. C. Frick was the arresting officer.

*Matthew Eldridge Scott, 45, of Stuart, was charged Aug. 25 with petty larceny. Deputy A. Kinney was the arresting officer.

*Jenny Marie Holt, 41, of Martinsville,

was charged Aug. 29 with fail to appear. Deputy Roger Campbell was the arresting officer.

*Ryan Travis Doss, 28, of Westfield, N.C., was charged Aug. 30 with one count each sawed-off gun: possess/use for any other purpose, carry concealed weapon, possess controlled paraphernalia, and firearm: remove/alter serial numbers. Deputy M.R. Hodges was the arresting officer.

*Michael Robert Ems, 43, of Knoxville, TN, was charged Aug. 30 with reckless driving. Deputy J.C. Fortner was the arresting officer.

*Buddy Dewayne Wade, 45, address unavailable, was charged Aug. 31 with probation violation. Franklin County made the arrest for Patrick County.

Cadmium Telluride is toxic when wet.

To prevent contamination of Patrick County ground water be at the next County Board meeting on Monday the 11th of September, 2023 at 6pm in the County Administration building at 106 Rucker St. in Stuart.

For more information call 605-415-1116.

Labor Day



Morgan Griffith

Representative

We have seen high rates of inflation in the past couple of years, which has made everything more expensive, from Fritos to washing machines. For those Americans who are living paycheck to paycheck, they can't afford the extra costs. According to Moody's Analytics, inflation now costs families \$700 per month more in spending on the same items they bought two years ago.

Americans need relief. Americans deserve a government that makes their lives easier, so that they can earn living wages and live their lives the way they want. They want a government that is able to help those who are truly in need. But they want government programs to be effective and efficient, instead of being meddlesome and burdensome.

Many Democrat politicians and the Biden Administration believe that more government, more regulation, more taxes, and more tax collectors are better for Americans.

Democrats want government to be involved in every aspect of people's lives, from what kind of car you drive to what health care you can have.

Theirs is the absolute wrong approach.

As a native of Southwest Virginia, I know many people in the Ninth District, and all around the country, don't want to be controlled by the government! They want freedom from the government!

I came to Washington to try to make people's lives better - to provide resources to help Americans be able to prosper.

I came here to fight against job-killing regulations and against job-stragglng bureaucracy and have been doing so.

So, this Labor Day, I want to acknowledge and thank our coal miners, our farmers, our truck drivers, and everyone who works for an honest living.

For our men and women who feel forgotten or feel like they can't win in today's America, I want you to know, our country and the Fightin' Ninth wouldn't be anything without you.

Let me assure you, some of us are fighting for you in Washington, D.C. Not all in Washington, D.C. are 'Rich Men North of Richmond.'

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.

While some recognize Labor Day merely as the unofficial end of summer, the holiday was created to recognize the value of the labor movement in this country and how the American workforce has contributed to the success of our great nation, and our district.

The labor movement of the 19th and early 20th centuries brought about increased wages, more reasonable working hours, and vastly improved working conditions. We all benefit to this day from some of the actions taken.

Our American workforce continues to be the backbone of our country and our district.

Unfortunately, on this Labor Day, there is a sentiment among many hardworking men and women that our government and politicians have forgotten them.

This can be clearly seen in Oliver Anthony's song 'Rich Men North of Richmond,' which went viral just about the moment Mr. Anthony uploaded it to the internet.

The Virginia native, who is a farmer by trade, sings about the frustrations of blue-collar Americans, who are fed up with the direction our country is headed and with our leaders.

Most of you already know this but, he is referring to the D.C. swamp. While I work in Washington, D.C. regularly, I am not one of the 'Rich Men North of Richmond.'

That being said, Mr. Anthony is right. There are those in Washington, D.C. who want to control your thoughts and tell you what you are supposed to think.

Many Americans are tired of politicians trying to dictate what they should think, do, and say.*

The song talks of Mr. Anthony, and others like him, working long hours and receiving too little pay, much in part due to high taxes, and feeling like those 'Rich Men North of Richmond' want them to waste their lives away.

He compares the fact that there are many who are starving in our country while there are also many who are not truly putting in the effort and are "milking" our safety net systems.

It's understandable why Mr. Anthony and others have these frustrations.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Time for action

We just had Labor Day Weekend in 2023, there are still signs stating, "Opening in 2023" and still we have no hospital in Patrick County. A local physician's advertisement states, during local and state ballgames, a "hospital we don't have." Local candidates, up for re-election, have their nominations, their faces smiling for the media, and their mailers in our mailboxes, and we still don't have a hospital. Statewide candidates for re-election will soon be smiling and talking about what they have done to benefit the area. Vines grow on the side of the building, "delays" are the excuse, and we still don't have a hospital. In June of 2022, news articles stated, "Foresight Medical Hiring in Southside, Southwest Virginia." It is September 2023, and we

still do not have a hospital in Patrick County. Regarding the word "foresight," one source defines the word as "prudent care as in the foresight to invest wisely." Well, we have hindsight and that tells us we need new "foresight."

"Foresight" to take whatever action is necessary to find a new purchaser for the hospital who will finally get it open. To the politicians, to any player in the mix, I suggest we seek out names we know ... Atrium Health/Wake Forest Baptist Medical, Carilion, UNC Medical, UVA Healthcare System, Duke Medical, Northern Regional, Moses C. Cone, Lewis Gale Health to make the hospital a reality. It is time for "a little less talk, and a lot more action."

Robert Stout,
Bassett

Fraud Alert: Medicare Data Breach

Last month Medicare announced that one of their contractors had been hacked and the personal information of 612,000 Medicare beneficiaries was stolen. The security breach put Social Security numbers, birth dates, driver's license numbers, health insurance claims, medical history notes, prescription information and other personally identifiable information at risk.

Anyone whose information was compromised in the breach will be notified by Medicare and offered two years of free credit monitoring. However, even if your data weren't stolen, this incident reminds us of one stark reality - we have little control over much of our personal

data.

So many companies and government entities have our personal data and so many have been hacked in the past that the most practical thing for people to do is assume that your information is out there and take the necessary precautions. Two things you can do to protect against ID fraud are to check your credit reports regularly for suspicious activity (www.annualcreditreport.com), and be sure that you are using strong and unique passwords for all websites and storing them securely.

Report scams to local law enforcement. For help from AARP, call 1-877-908-3360 or visit the AARP

Fraud Watch Network at www.aarp.org/fraudwatchnetwork.

SUBSCRIBE
to gain unlimited digital access to
The Enterprise

Only \$2.50 a month!

PLUS 14 local papers in your region!

www.theenterprise.net

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

Answer

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

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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!

© 2023 King Features Synd., Inc.



Lindsey Puckett
ASSOCIATE BROKER

(276) 732-6544
LPuckett@fourriversva.com
www.lindseypuckett.com



21521 JEB Stuart Hwy, PO Box 823, Stuart, VA 24171

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

WE TAKE YOUR RELATIONSHIPS SERIOUSLY! DO YOU!



Cynthia M. Jones, AA, AS



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

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

1-877-610-HEAR (4327)

Letters to the Editor/Viewpoints Policy

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

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

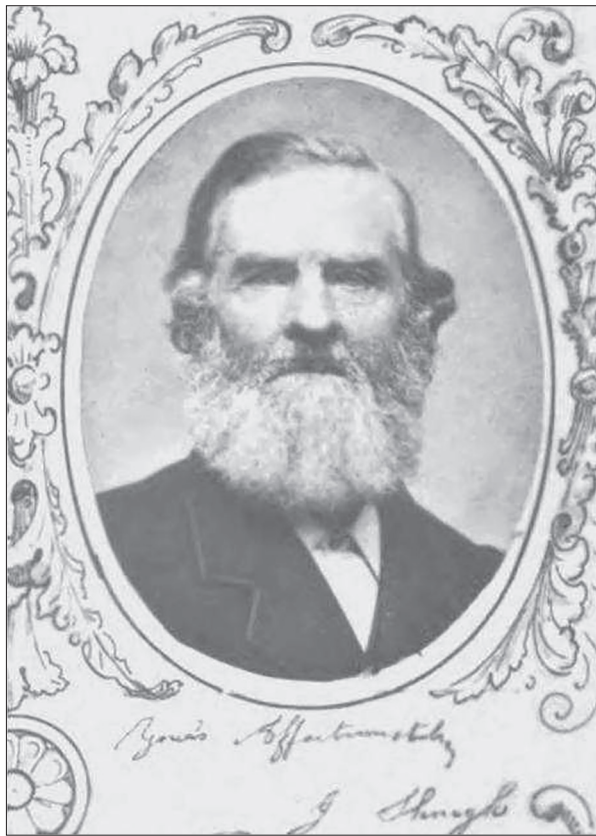
Patrick Pioneers

Reverend Jacob Shough
By Beverly Belcher Woody

Did you know that the Patrick Springs post office used to be named Shuff? In 1857, a post office was established in the area and called Spabrook Station; two years later, the name was changed to Patrick Springs. The name was changed again in 1907, this time it was named Shuff to honor the memory of Methodist minister, Reverend Jacob Shough. I have not been able to find out why it was spelled Shuff, instead of the way the minister spelled his name, especially since the names are pronounced the same.

So, who was Reverend Jacob Shough? According to the Sketches of the Virginia Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South (1890) by John Lafferty, Jacob Shough, "This man of God was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania on November 11, 1814. While he was quite young, his parents moved to Harper's Ferry, (which was still part of Virginia). His opportunities for acquiring an education were limited. He had a pious mother, who taught him at a tender age the truths of religion. When in his fourteenth year, he made a profession of his faith in Jesus and joined the Methodist Church. He was twice married. His first wife was Miss Jane T. Bishop, of Shepherdstown, Jefferson County, West Virginia. This wife lived but twenty-two months, leaving him one child, who is now the widow of the late Reverend John W. Wonycott, of the Virginia Conference. In 1842, he married his second wife, Miss Lucy Fitzhugh Stuart, of Greene County, Virginia. She died on September 6, 1886. There were ten children of this marriage, only three of whom survived. He, at the age of twenty-five, March 1839, joined the Baltimore Conference, and immediately transferred to the Virginia Conference, and appointed to Madison Circuit. From that day, he served for twenty-seven years, in the itinerant work among us."

Reverend Shough was the grandson of Josephus Antonius Schock from Johlingen, Karlsruhe, Baden, Germany; his parents were Jacob and Elizabeth Williamson Cox Shough. In the 1860 census, Reverend Shough and his



Reverend Jacob Shough

second wife, Lucy Fitzhugh Stuart were living in Scottsburg, Halifax County, Virginia and he was serving as a Methodist minister. Living with the couple was his daughter, Jane Elizabeth, from his first wife and he and Lucy's children: William Gibbons, Mary Stuart, Richard Watson, Henry Bascom, and Francis Asbury Shough.

On May 12, 1864, tragedy struck; William Gibbons was killed in a battle at Brooks Church, Virginia which is near Richmond. He had enlisted in the 19th Virginia Infantry on March 12, 1864, and was killed exactly two months later; he was 19 years old.

The first time that Reverend Shough shows up in the records of Patrick County is on the 26th of April 1864. His name appears as the father of the bride on the license for his daughter

Jane Elizabeth's marriage to Reverend John W. Wonycott.

By the time of the 1870 census, Reverend Shough and his family were living next door to Haman Critz. Critz Mill was located on Spoon Creek, and I have to wonder if this is how Reverend Shough got in the county.

Reverend Shough and Lucy's son, Francis Asbury (named for the British-born Methodist minister) married Mary S. Taylor of Patrick County. Francis and Mary's children, Roxanne Shough Roberts and Robert Milton Shough have many descendants still living in Patrick County today. On October 1, 1881, a horrible accident occurred; 36-year-old Francis was moving a bull to a different pasture. He had tied the rope around his wrist when the bull ran off, dragging him to his death.

Reverend Shough's other children married and raised their families in the area. Henry Bascom married Rosellie Cheshire, from Leaksville, Rockingham County, North Carolina and had at least eight children. Mary Stuart married Christopher Columbus Gregory, a blacksmith from Nettle Ridge and had a large family. Richard Watson married Almira Jane Carter from Ararat Post Office district and had ten children.

Lucy passed away at the age of 70 on the sixth of August 1887 and Reverend Shough lived for five more years, passing away at the age of 77; their will is recorded in Will Book Volume 8 at the Patrick County courthouse.

Reverend Shough left his Spoon Creek Mill to his sons, Richard Watson and Henry Bascom. He left Richard the family Bible and his gold watch and Henry all land that was not attached to the mill. He left daughter Mary her mother's gold locket, silver teaspoons, their clock, and a rocking chair. He asked that his library of books be divided amongst his children, with the exception of his collection of Adam Clarke's Commentary of the Bible. He asked that this collection be given to his little granddaughter by his first wife, Carrie B. Wonycott.

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

Social Security Matters

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

Ask Rusty - I'm 64. When Should I Claim My Social Security?

Dear Rusty: I am 64 years old and still working full time. My question is - when should I start my Social Security? I would like to start it in January 2024 and go part time at work, but would I be losing much Social Security by not waiting until full retirement age? Signed: Trying to Plan Ahead

Dear Trying, to Plan: You are smart to evaluate the impact of claiming your Social Security (SS) benefits early. First, be aware that your full retirement age (FRA) for Social Security purposes is 66 years and 8 months, and that is when you get 100% of the SS benefit you've earned from a lifetime of working.

It appears you already know that if you start benefits before your FRA, you'll be subject to Social Security's "earnings test" which limits how much you can earn from working before they take away

some of your benefits. But if you go part time at work you can mitigate the earnings test and claim your benefits early - just understand that your payment will be permanently reduced by doing so.

If you claim your benefits to start in January 2024, you'll be taking your Social Security about 18 months early, which means that instead of 100% of your FRA entitlement you'll get about 90% (a reduction of 10%). The earnings test will still apply, and we don't yet know what the 2024 earnings limit will be, but it will be something more than the 2023 limit of \$21,240. If your 2024 earnings exceed the annual limit, SS will take away \$1 in benefits for every \$2 you are over the limit. They "take away" benefits by withholding future payments until they recover what you owe for exceeding the limit. If you work part time and don't exceed the 2024 annual earnings limit, there will be no penalty and you will get every month's SS payment. If you find you will exceed the annual 2024 earnings limit, you can call Social Security and inform them of that and by how

much, and they will suspend your benefits for the number of months necessary to avoid overpaying you. If you don't inform them and you exceed the annual 2024 limit, they will catch up in 2025 when they get your 2024 earnings info from the IRS and issue an Overpayment Notice requiring you to pay back the amount owed (half of what you exceeded the 2024 annual limit by). As you likely know, the earnings test no longer applies after you reach your full retirement age.

So, the decision on when to claim your Social Security benefit is yours to make, and you are smart to consider your work plans - but should also consider your life expectancy and marital status. If you are married and eventually die before your lower earning spouse, your spouse's benefit as your survivor will be based on your benefit amount at the time of your death. Thus, your age when you claim your benefit may also affect your spouse's benefit as your survivor; the longer you wait (up to age 70) the more your spouse's survivor benefit would be. And if you enjoy at least average longevity,

which is about 84 for a man your current age, then by waiting until your FRA or later to claim you'll not only get a higher monthly payment but also get more in cumulative lifetime benefits. If, however, your financial circumstances are such that you need the SS money sooner, then claiming earlier may be the right decision, provided you don't substantially exceed the annual earnings limit prior to reaching your full retirement age. I hope the above provides what you need to make an informed decision.

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

Your Life and Health - Salt

Imagine food without salt... pretty bland right? That's because salt is one of our basic tastes. However, we are also told that too much can be bad for our health.

Table salt, which is also known as sodium chloride, is made up of two elements, sodium and chlorine. Sodium is an essential nutrient used in several of our bodies' functions. However, consuming too much sodium is unhealthy. Among other things, high sodium intakes are known to raise the blood pressure. High blood pressure, also known as hypertension, is a serious problem worldwide.

High blood pressure increases the risk of heart attack, stroke, aneurism, kidney failure and dementia. If left uncontrolled, it could even cause blind-

ness or heart failure.

But there is good news, hypertension is not only controllable, but it's actually preventable. Blood pressure can be lowered naturally, without drugs or expensive treatments.

Simple lifestyle changes can have substantial effects. One of the easiest places to start is salt intake.

These numbers lead us to the obvious question: Where is all of this salt in our diet coming from?

A study published in the Journal of the American college of Nutrition found that processed foods were responsible for 77 percent of Americans' daily sodium intake. Food manufactures in America seem to be cramming their products full of salt. Take these common pantry items as an example:

small box of Kraft Mac and Cheese contains a whopping 1740 mg of sodium. A Hungry Man Beer Battered Chicken Dinner contains 2,400 mg. That amount will put half the country well over their daily intake level.

But even these servings may be relatively small compared to what you'll find at a restaurant. For example, a bean burrito at Taco Bell will provide you with a hefty 960 mg of sodium. Olive Garden's classic lasagna weighs in with 2830 mg of sodium. And the vegetarian version of P. F. Chang's Double Pan Fried Noodles contains a whopping 5,360 mg of sodium.

So as you begin to cut the excess salt from your diet, think of the added benefits you'll experience. Processed foods aren't only packed with salt, but they also contain a host of preservatives and chemicals. By eating more fresh, unprocessed foods you'll also reap the benefits of consuming a healthier, more nutrient-rich diet. At the end of the day, nothing beats a simple home cooked meal.

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

Tired of driving to the landfill?



We'll pick it up at your curb!

Household pickup once a week - \$20 month
Dumpsters for residential and business use available.



WE ARE NOW OFFERING ROLL-OFF CONTAINERS.

Please call for pricing. **276-251-1303**

RURAL SERVICES

Residential & Commercial Garbage Collection in P.C.
ruralservicesinc@swva.net



HOLLOW-POINT MUNITIONS
www.hollowpointmunitions.com

YOUR LOCAL SHOOTING SPORTS DEALER
SPECIALIZING IN FIREARMS, AMMUNITION,
SUPPRESSORS, ACCESSORIES & FFL TRANSFERS

208 LYNNE DR, ARARAT, VA - 276-692-2269

Cougar Golf takes match with Bassett

By Pat Delaney
The Patrick County High Golf Team, led by Chance Corns' 74, bested Bassett on August 30 at Gordon Trent Golf Course.

"This is our lowest team score all year," said Cougar coach, Philip Steagall, of his team's performance in their victory. Lauren Worley and Parker Roop added 81s, with Kendra Worley shooting 85, for a team total of 321.

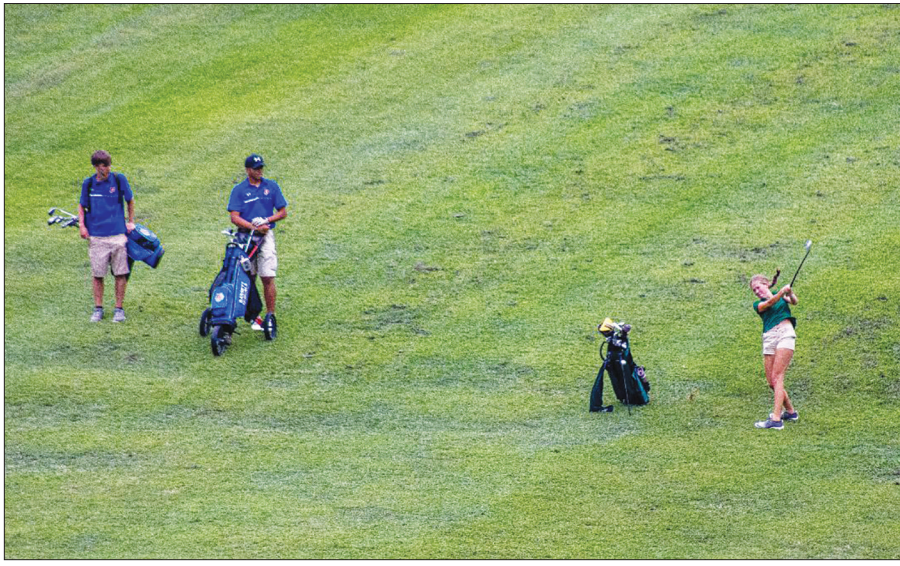
Bassett's Isaac Rodgers was the match medalist with a 71, with his team finishing at 372.

"We're making progress and playing well," said Steagall. I'm very proud of them for what they've done,

and the hard work they've put in." Of what's ahead for the Cougars, Steagall said matches at Olde Mill Golf Course and Great Oaks Country Club in Floyd will help them prepare for postseason tournaments.

"That's kind of the way we set it up, so we could play at Olde Mill and Floyd toward the end of the year," said Steagall of the postseason host courses, "so we can spend as much time there as we could."

As for now, Steagall likes what he sees from his team. "We just got to continue coming out every day to get a little better. We've got to keep trying to bunch our scores in the 80s and we'll be ok."



Lauren Worley hitting her approach into the 18th green against Bassett.



Parker Roop on the 18th fairway at Gordon Trent GC.



Chance Corns with a greenside chip.

Cross Country team performs well in meet

By Pat Delaney
Hundreds of high school cross country runners from all over the region met at the 10th Annual Bengal Clash at the River, held at the Smith River Sports Complex in Axton. For the Patrick County Cougars, it was another solid performance.

Patrick's boys' team ran well against strong competition, finishing third out of the sixteen teams competing, behind only meet winner Cave Spring and runner-up, Bassett.

Hunter Martin led the way for

the Cougars, finishing sixth. With 137 racers competing, the Cougars placed five runners in the top 50. Noah Hiatt finished tenth, Fisher Martin came in 18th, Moises Cisneros crossed the line in 24th and Greely Terry in 44th. Thomas Fulcher from Bassett finished first with a meet record time of 16:18.76.

The girls race started with 107 runners, with the field spreading out as they covered the 3.1-miles of rolling terrain. Patrick High runner Sadie Martin ran a strong race, keeping pace with the lead-

ers throughout. Martin crossed the finish line in third place, just twenty-seven seconds behind the winner, Carol-Anne Garrett from Galileo High in Danville.

Mackenzie Williams finished 32nd for the Cougars, with Lexus Owens coming in 48th.

In the team competition, the Cougars finished in 9th place with Cave Spring taking first.

Results:
Girls
Sadie Martin 20:49.24
Mackenzie Williams 25:24.68

Lexus Owens 26:53.96
Ellianna Montgomery 27:44.05
Willow Hylton 34:15.52
Melissa Barker 38:41.92

Boys
Hunter Martin 17:38.50
Noah Hiatt 17:56.48
Fisher Martin 18.24.41
Moises Cisneros 19:12.28
Greely Terry 20:12.76
William Overby 20:52.95
Xavier Torres-Seda 20:59.88
Brett Foley 21:39.78
(For more photos, visit www.thcenterprise.net)



The Patrick High girls begin their 3.1-mile race.



Sadie Martin running with the lead pack.



Hunter Martin rounds a turn in the early stages of the race.



137 runners springing into action at the sound of the starter's pistol.

Flora of Virginia app launched

The Foundation of the Flora of Virginia Project (the Flora) has launched a new guide to the Natural Communities of Virginia in the Flora of the Virginia smart-phone App. The classification system developed by Vegetation Ecologists with the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation's Natural Heritage Program (Natural Heritage), provides a framework to describe natural communities. It gives context to the importance of protecting

certain habitats and species and will guide efforts to restore landscapes to functioning ecosystems that support native flora and fauna.

"The integration of Natural Communities into the App was the Flora's primary objective for 2023," said Flora of Virginia Project Foundation board president Caitie Cyrus. "Board members Andrea Weeks (George Mason University) and Joey Thompson (Natural Heritage) worked diligently to drive the proj-

ect, and we could not have completed the work without the guidance of Natural Heritage, our longtime partners and collaborators."

The new guide:
- Describes in detail the 80 Natural Community groups;
- Includes over 1,000 new captioned photos;
- Illustrates the diverse and unique habitats where our native flora grow and why certain species are always found together;

- Provides range maps detailing where these groups are most likely found; and,

- Includes abbreviated lists of species frequently found in each community group.

Purchase the Flora App for iOS and Android at <https://floraofvirginia.org/flora-app/>. Learn more about Natural Heritage's Natural Communities classification system at <https://www.dcr.virginia.gov/natural-heritage/natural-communities/>.

PCHS Cougars drop home opener to Bassett

By Pat Delaney

The Patrick County High School Cougars got the night off to a strong start, but maintaining the momentum proved elusive. In their opener on September 1, the Cougars fell 34-10 to the Bassett Bengals.

After kicking off to start the game, the Cougars forced a three-and-out, looking solid on defense. Following a Bassett punt, Patrick County moved the ball downfield, highlighted by a 33-yard run by Stephen Spencer. The Bassett team held the Cougars on the next plays, forcing them to settle for a 35-yard field goal by Reyli Martinez-Tejada.

Bassett took the lead for good on their next possession, and added to their lead with a 51-yard field goal and a long touchdown throw.

Offensively, the Cougars struggled to maintain any momentum they might have gained. Mistakes, a lost fumble, and penalties brought many drives to a halt.

“We’d get a little momentum and just couldn’t seem to string stuff together,” said head coach David Morrison. “It was tough going down the stretch. We had some opportunities and just didn’t execute the way we should have. Penalties like false starts and things like that you just can’t have. That comes down to guys knowing and understanding what we’re doing, and we just have to do a better job of making sure that everybody’s on the same page.”

The Cougars played hard throughout the game and found the end zone with 8:46 left in the

fourth. Aden Penn, behind stellar blocking by the offensive line, broke several tackles in the secondary on his way to the end zone for a 54-yard touchdown run. Ethan Cobbler threw a solid block on the Bengal 20-yard line, taking out the last Bassett defenders with any chance of catching Penn.

Penn finished the game with 75 yards on the ground on eight carries. Stephen Spencer also rushed for 75 yards on 16 carries.

In the air, quarterback Easton Harris went 6-9 for 27 yards.

Joshua Jimrusti led the Cougars’ defense with six tackles, including one for a loss. Jay Howard and Matthew Allen each had four tackles.

Despite the score, Coach Morrison liked some of what he saw from

his team. “I feel like we actually played a little bit better in places this week than we did last week. But we’ve still got a lot of growing to do to reach our full potential.”

While Morrison feels his team is progressing and moving in the right direction, it’s “just not at a pace that I’m very happy with right now. We’ve got to get better faster because we’re in the season right now and we’ve got to get a little bit better, a little bit faster. We’ll get there. It’s just going to take a little bit of time.”

The 1-1 Cougars will travel to North Stokes for their next game on September 8. Their next home game will be on September 15, hosting Chatham.

(For more photos, visit www.thcenterprise.net)



Stephen Spencer carrying the ball behind the blocking of his offensive line.



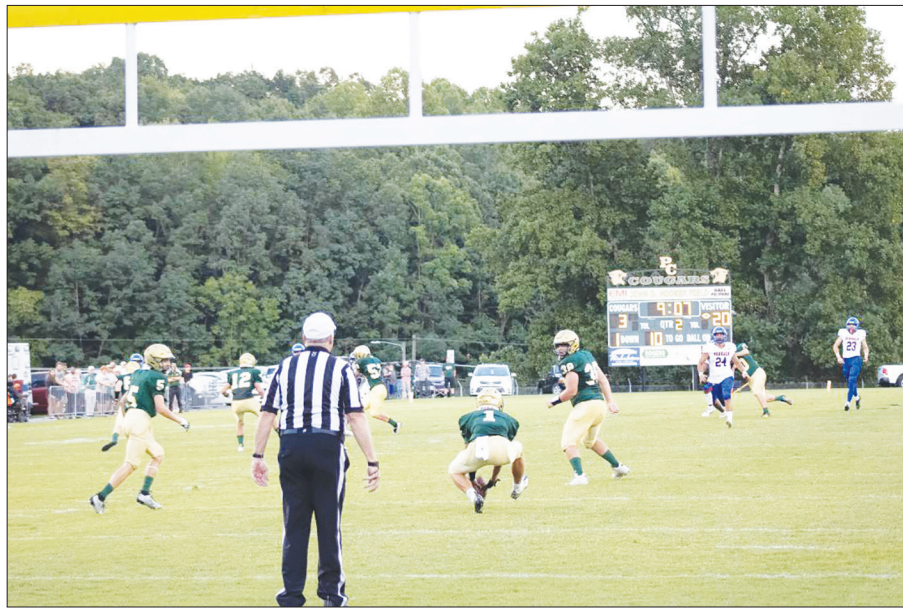
Aden Penn speeds into the secondary on his way to the end zone.



Joshua Jimrusti breaks into the backfield and tries to wrap up the Bassett QB.



Stephen Spencer following the lead block of Joshua Jimrusti (#38).



Cougars receiving Bassett kickoff.



Cougar quarterback Easton Harris throwing downfield.

Environmental Science Professor Featured on Episcopal News Service About “Season of Creation”

Ferrum College Professor of Environmental Science Delia Heck was interviewed by the Episcopal News Service where she spoke about the Church’s Season of Creation.

The Season of Creation begins on the World Day of Prayer, September 1 for the Care of Creation and concludes on the feast of St. Francis, October 4, who is revered for his love of all creation.

During the interview, Heck said people are currently much more aware of climate change and how we affect others, and she cites the recent fires on Maui as an example. “When we look at issues of sustainability, what does loving your neighbor look like?” she said. “How is that lived out in a world with increasing disasters from extreme weather?”

Heck relates the Season of Creation to climate justice and environmental racism. She also says that caring for the earth is a Christian principle, and the Season of Creation is the time to do that. “How do we bring us back to the core of who we

are as followers of Jesus?” she asked.

Heck is also a member of the Church’s Task Force on Care of Creation and Environmental Racism. They work to respond to the growing threat of climate change, systemic environmental racism and injustice, biodiversity loss, and localized environmental degradation.

Most recently, Heck was featured on the Episcopal Church’s Prophetic Voices podcast. The episode touched on Creation Care, Environmental Racism, and Climate Justice, topics she previously discussed at the 2023 It’s All About Love” Episcopal Festival that took place from July 8-12 in Baltimore, MD.

Listen to the full podcast episode at https://media.episcopalchurch.org/podcasts/podcast/preaching-proper-17/?mc_cid=dd4cb1f5a0&mc_eid=a821818119.

Read the full interview at <https://www.episcopalnewsservice.org/2023/08/30/season-of-creation-emphasizes-creation-care-as-a-way-for-episcopalians-to-care-for-neighbors/>.



Delia Heck

Elizabeth "Irene" Clement Belton

Mrs. Elizabeth "Irene" Clement Belton, age 87 of Ararat, Virginia, passed away on Wednesday, August 30, 2023, at the Joan and Howard Woltz Hospice Home in Dobson. Mrs. Belton was born July 10, 1936, in Patrick County to the late Raffle Alexander Clement, Sr. and Sallie Frances Hiatt Clement. Irene was a loving wife, mother, grandmother, sister, and friend. She will be deeply missed by all that knew her. Surviving is her son and daughter-in-law, David Clement and Joanna; two grandchildren and spouses, Daniel Clement and Nipa, Alex Clement and Joanna; five sisters, Phyllis Clement Foley, Girlene Clement Dollyhigh, Loraine Clement Bowman, Pam Clem-

ent Wood, Pansy Faye Clement Hunter; along with many nieces, nephews, and special friends. In addition to her parents, Mrs. Belton was preceded in death by her husband, Lonnie Charles Belton; seven sisters, Edith Dianne Clement, Margie Ella Clement Shiffler, Lena Ann Clement Bowman, Clercy Agnes Clement King, Lena Clement Bowman, Lala Clement Abruzzo, Florence Virginia Clement Fain; five brothers; Otis B. Clement, Woodrow Clement, Okles Clement, Randolph Clement, Raffle Alexander Clement, Jr.. A funeral service will be held on Saturday, September 2, 2023, at 12:00 PM at Moody Funeral Home Chapel in Mount Airy with Reverend Buford

Jessup and Reverend Barry Clement officiating. Interment will follow in the Clement Family Cemetery in Ararat, Virginia. The family will receive friends on Saturday, September 2, 2023, at Moody Funeral Home in Mount Airy from 11:00 AM until 12:00 PM. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Clement Family Cemetery, c/o Charlie Clement, 7101 Ararat Highway, Ararat, Virginia 24053 or to Mountain Valley Hospice and Palliative Care, 1427 Edgewood Drive, Suite 101, Mount Airy, North Carolina 27030. Moody Funeral Services in Mount Airy has been entrusted with the arrangements. Online condolences may be made at www.moodyfuneralservices.com.

David T Shereda



On Thursday, July 27, 2023, David T Shereda, passed away peacefully at the age of 89, in Seattle, WA. Born in Czechoslovakia, he came to the US in 1938. He graduated from Bluefield College & Va Tech. He worked for 20 years with TVA in Knoxville, TN, retiring as Asst. General Manager.

In his backyard on the Tennessee River, David built a seafaring sailboat, Blackberry. Launching downstream, he traveled with his family for the next 16 years traversing oceans and continents. Blackberry

was the first American flagged-crewed ship to sail down the Danube River to the Black Sea. Later, He & Dawn lived & worked at Baptist Theological Seminary in Zimbabwe. In 2001, they moved to Meadows of Dan, VA, where he loved hiking & exploring the

mountains and meeting many wonderful friends. David was known for his humor, humility, curiosity, and thirst for adventure. He sincerely valued every person he met and every step he took. He loved working with his hands, being outdoors, playing his jazz trombone, drawing with pen & ink, reading theology and volunteering with his church & community.

He is mourned by his wife of 62 years, Dawn Shereda; sister Ruth Peaco, children Wendy Van Koevering & Dave Shereda Jr. & all their families.

Maryln Lane Johnson



Mrs. Maryln Lane Johnson, age 64 of Stuart, Virginia passed away peacefully at the SECU Hospice Center in Yadkin, North Carolina. She was born in Montgomery County, Virginia on January 1, 1959 to the late James M. Lane and Betty Dalton Lane. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Timothy Craig Johnson.

Mrs. Johnson is survived by two children, Aaron Thomas Worley, and wife, Kayla of Lawsonville, North Carolina, and Jennifer DeCosta and husband, Michael of Summerville, South Carolina;

one very special granddaughter, Alyvia DeCosta; one brother, Jimmy Lane and wife, Molly of Figsboro, Virginia; one nephew, Ricky Morgan Lane; one niece, Renee Kendrick; three aunts; and many dear friends.

A celebration of life service will be held on Wednesday, September 6, 2023, at 11:00 a.m. at Moody Funeral Home in Stuart with Bart Santucci officiating. The family will receive friends one hour prior to the services at the funeral home on Wednesday morning. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be made to SECU Hospice Care Center of Yadkin, 243 N. Lee Avenue, Yadkinville, NC 27055. Online condolences may be sent by visiting www.moodyfuneralservices.com.

ber 6, 2023, at 11:00 a.m. at Moody Funeral Home in Stuart with Bart Santucci officiating. The family will receive friends one hour prior to the services at the funeral home on Wednesday morning. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be made to SECU Hospice Care Center of Yadkin, 243 N. Lee Avenue, Yadkinville, NC 27055. Online condolences may be sent by visiting www.moodyfuneralservices.com.

"My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever."
~Psalm 73:26

Avery Leo Dillon



Mr. Avery Leo Dillon, age 89, of Stuart, VA passed away at Carilion Roanoke Memorial Hospital, on Tuesday, August 29, 2023. He was born on September 22, 1933, to the late Merton and Della Belcher Dillon. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by six siblings, Marie Barbour, Jeanette Pendleton, Myrtle Hollingsworth, Jewell Haden, Green Dillon and Bobby Dillon. Avery was drafted into the United Corps of Engineering in 1954 and deployed to the Aleutian Islands, which is located within the Arctic Circle; part of his duties was constructing radar towers. He worked in timber and farming. He enjoyed hunting, fishing, and watching NASCAR racing but truly loved his family and being Papa Avery

to his grandchildren.

Avery is survived by his loving wife of 71 years, Nancy Laura Lee Dillon of the home; one son, Bennie Dillon and wife Deborah; step grandson, Jerry Cochran, III and wife Sierra; six great grandchildren, Austin, Katelynn, Avery Grace, Aislinn, Finley and Maddox; five siblings, Allen Dillon and wife, Emogene, Percy Dillon and wife, Maxine, Lonnie Dillon and wife, Bonnie, Elva Dillon

Fulcher, Jean Dillon Hughes and husband, Alvin; sister in-law, Claudia Dillon; several nieces and nephews.

A graveside service will be held at the Woolwine Cemetery, on Thursday, August 31, 2023, at 2:00 p.m. with military rites will be provided by the Patrick County Veterans Memorial Honor Guard. The family will welcome friends at the graveside from 1:30 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Donations may be made to Patrick County Veterans Memorial Honor Guard, c/o Richard Cox, 7888 Woolwine Hwy., Woolwine, VA 24185.

Moody Funeral Home in Stuart, Virginia has been entrusted with the arrangements and online condolences may be sent by visiting www.moodyfuneralservices.com.

Life Insurance Awareness Month Reminders from the SCC

Many Virginians would face financial hardship if a wage earner in their immediate family died unexpectedly. Life insurance is designed to protect loved ones against the loss of an individual's income or services. During Life Insurance Awareness Month (September), the State Corporation Commission's (SCC) Bureau of Insurance (Bureau) reminds Virginians that there are many factors to consider when determining if life insurance is right for you and your family.

"When planning for your family's financial future, review your existing resources, debts and other liabilities, as well as your family's needs and goals," said Virginia Insurance Commissioner Scott White. "Understand the different types of life insurance and shop around to compare prices and coverage."

White encourages Virginians who already have life insurance to review their policies and beneficiaries regularly to ensure their coverage keeps pace with their changing circumstances. Life events such as a birth, divorce, remarriage or other changes affecting your finances (such as a new mortgage or a new job) may trigger a need to update your life insurance pol-

icy.

If you do not have life insurance, shop around and understand the different types of policies available and the costs. When determining how much coverage you may need, evaluate your existing resources and your family's likely financial situation following a death. Consider the following: Does your spouse work? Do you have any sources of income other than salary? Do you have life insurance through your job?

Also think about financial obligations that may fall upon family members if you die, such as mortgage or rent payments, business expenses, medical expenses, car loans or student loans. Also consider your family's short-term and long-term goals such as your spouse's retirement, providing care for a loved one, or your children's education.

Understand the difference between term life and permanent life insurance and how benefits are paid if you die. What you pay for life insurance (premiums) depends largely on the type of policy chosen, your health status, age, gender, occupation, family

health history and lifestyle. Be sure to compare premiums, coverage and claims service when considering life insurance options.

Contact the Bureau in Richmond at 804-371-9741 or toll-free at 1-877-310-6560 for questions, or to make sure the company or individual offering the coverage is licensed and in good standing. The Bureau offers a free Virginia Life Insurance Consumer Guide with answers to many questions about life insurance. Consumer resources on a variety of insurance topics are available at scc.virginia.gov/pages/Tips,-Guides-Publications.

Additionally, the National Association of Insurance Commissioners offers a free Life Insurance Policy Locator Service that can help consumers find lost life insurance policies and annuity contracts insuring deceased individuals.

Norris
FUNERAL SERVICES, INC. AND CREMATORY

www.norrisfuneral.com 129 Howell Lane
Stuart, VA 276-694-2012

**SIMPLE, LOW-COST FUNERALS, MONUMENTS,
AND CREMATIONS FOR ONLY \$1,195**

Moody
Funeral Services, Inc.

"We appreciate the confidence you have shown in us for over 60 years."

202 West Blue Ridge Street, Stuart, VA
Phone 276-694-3145
www.moodyfuneralservices.com

Pete Campbell, Manager
Terri S. Wood, Assistant Manager

CLASSIFIED

PUBLISHER'S NOTICE

All real estate advertised in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968, which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitations or discrimination based on race, color, sex or national origin," or an intention to make any such preferences, limitation or discrimination. Our readers are informed that all dwellings advertised in this paper are available on an equal opportunity basis. This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate or employment which is in violation of the law.

CLASSIFIED AD DEADLINE: MONDAY AT NOON
Call (276) 694-3101

SERVICES

KENDRICK PAVING & TRUCKING, Paving, Sealing, Line Striping, Gravel Hauling and Mulch. Rodney Kendrick 276-629-3913 or 276-340-7786. Carrying on the tradition of quality.

CLAYTON KENDRICK PAVING (Original Kendrick Paving) Gravel hauling and spreading, grading, mulch, dirt, pavement maintenance and striping. 42 years experience. Reasonable prices. Call (276) 694-7786 (office) or (276)-340-8786 (cell) Email: ckendrick@embarqmail.com or claytonk81@gmail.com

STEVE'S MOWER REPAIR Service and repair for all makes of lawn mowers. Pick up and delivery for a reasonable charge based on your location. We offer disposal of old mowers with free pick up. Call 276-694-3748. If no answer, leave your name and number. We'll call you back.

WOODWRX, INC. Est. since 1988 Carpentry/Cabinetry - fine woodworking, design, tile, closet & garage organizers, repairs, etc. Originally based in Palm Beach County-References Bob Morehouse Phone: 276-930-1703 Cell: 561-881-8292 E-Mail: Bob@Woodwrx.net Website: Woodwrx.net

HYDRO AIR SYSTEMS Heating, Cooling & Electrical Contractors,

SERVICES

Sales & Services, Licensed in VA & NC (276) 694-7308.

THOMAS LAND SOLUTIONS LLC Forestry mulching, overgrown property cleanup, bush-hogging, pasture & field reclamation, ATV & walking trails, hunting lanes, skid-steer, tractor and mini-excavator work. Free estimates. Call 276-229-9410 or Facebook Thomas Land Solutions LLC

FOR SALE

Custom spreading of agricultural lime available. Also have hay for sale in 4x4 & 4x5 net-wrapped rolls. Call for information and pricing 276-694-7443 or 276-692-5475.

TWO (2) BURIAL PLOTS IN PATRICK MEMORIAL GARDEN. LOCATION: LEFT CENTER MAIN SECTION. INCLUDES TWO \$1300 VAULTS, CURRENT MEMORIAL GARDENS SALE PRICE, \$4400, MY PRICE NEGOTIABLE. MSG/CALL 276-693-0229

NOTICE

Jerry & Connie's House of Collectibles We will continue to operate with the same great vendors as we keep Jerry's dream alive. We will welcome a new manager at the beginning of the year. Thank you for your support.

YARD SALE

Multi-family yard sale Saturday, Sept. 9, 8 until, 1559 Hill Valley Rd., Stuart, clothing,

glassware, household, wood stoves, furniture, something for everyone.

HELP WANTED

Searching for high school student to help landowner with weekend mowing and occasional additional outdoor work. If interested, please call 276-694-6510.



AUCTIONS

ATTN. AUCTIONEERS: Advertise your upcoming auctions statewide and in other states. Affordable Print and Digital Solutions reaching your target audiences. Call this paper or Landon Clark at Virginia Press Services 804-521-7576, landonc@vpa.net

HOME IMPROVEMENT

Now Offering Financing! Ronnie Jenkins II Windows, Siding, Roofing and Gutters! FREE Estimates! Call 804-739-8207 for More Details! American Made Products!

Jacuzzi Bath Remodel can install a new, custom bath or shower in as little as one day. For a limited time, we're waiving all installation costs! (Additional terms apply. Subject to change and vary by dealer. Offer ends 9/30/23) Call 1-877-460-5348

Prepare for power outages today with a GENER-AC home standby generator. \$0 Money Down + Low Monthly Payment Options. Request a FREE Quote. Call now before the next power outage: 1-844-947-1479

Replace your roof with the best looking and

longest lasting material - steel from Erie Metal Roofs! Three styles and multiple colors available. Guaranteed to last a lifetime! Limited Time Offer - \$500 Discount + Additional 10% off install (for military, health workers & 1st responders.) Call Erie Metal Roofs: 1-844-902-4611

Eliminate gutter cleaning forever! LeafFilter, the most advanced debris-blocking gutter protection. Schedule a FREE LeafFilter estimate today. 20% off Entire Purchase. Plus 10% Senior & Military Discounts. Call 1-877-614-6667

The bathroom of your dreams for as little as \$149/month! BCI Bath & Shower. Many options available. Quality materials & professional installation. Senior & Military Discounts Available. Limited Time Offer - FREE virtual in-home consultation now and SAVE 15%! Call Today! 1-844-945-1631

Safe Step. North America's #1 Walk-In Tub. Comprehensive lifetime warranty. Top-of-the-line installation and service. Now featuring our FREE shower package and \$1600 Off for a limited time! Call today! Financing available. Call Safe Step 1-877-591-9950

PETS

Use Happy Jack® Kennel Dip™ as an area spray to control fleas, ticks, stable flies & mosquitoes where they breed. Biodegradable. At Northwest Ace Hardware & Southern States stores. (www.happyjackinc.com)

SERVICES

DIVORCE-Uncontest-



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

aid, SNAP, Housing Assistance, WIC, Veterans Pension, Survivor Benefits, Lifeline, Tribal. 15 GB internet service. Bonus offer: Android tablet FREE with one-time \$20 copay. Free shipping & handling. Call Maxsip Telecom today! 1-855-970-1995

Portable Oxygen Concentrator May Be Covered by Medicare! Reclaim independence and mobility with the compact design and long-lasting battery of Inogen One. Free information kit! Call 888-608-4974

FREE high speed internet for those that qualify. Government program for recipients of select programs incl. Medic-

DENTAL INSURANCE from Physicians Mutual Insurance Company. Coverage for 350 plus procedures. Real dental insurance - NOT just a discount plan. Do not wait! Call now! Get your FREE Dental Information Kit with all the details! 1-888-550-3083 www.dental50plus.com/virginia #6258

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

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, track 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

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 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 State 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

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
JUSTICE OF THE PEACE

Wilderness - Stuart, Inc.

Buying Logs Standing Timber or Timberland Stuart, VA

Contact Ronnie Bolt at (276) 694-4432

VISIT US ONLINE AT WWW.ENTERPRISE.NET



LIVESTOCK AUCTIONS EVERY SATURDAY AT 1 P.M.

- We sell cattle, goats, sheep & pigs.
- State Graded Feeder Sale every Saturday

For directions to our facility, weekly updates of upcoming events and current sale prices, please visit our website: www.springlakeauctions.com.

Please feel free to call us at (540) 297-1707.

We appreciate your business!

1069 SICKLE COURT, MONETA, VA 24121

Prepare for power outages today WITH A HOME STANDBY GENERATOR

\$0 MONEY DOWN + LOW MONTHLY PAYMENT OPTIONS

REQUEST A FREE QUOTE CALL NOW BEFORE THE NEXT POWER OUTAGE (844) 947-1479

FREE 7-Year Extended Warranty* - A \$695 Value!

*To qualify, consumers must request a quote, purchase, install and activate the generator with a participating dealer. Call for a full list of terms and conditions.

DON'T FALL BEHIND ON YOUR READING

JOIN OUR **FREE DIGITAL NEWSLETTER** INSTEAD

GO TO theenterprise.net

CLICK NOW TO JOIN STAY UP TO DATE ON LOCAL NEWS

Virginia's Broadband Plans Released

Governor Glenn Youngkin recently announced that Virginia's plans for closing the digital divide were released. The plans outline the strategy for connecting Virginians to high-speed, affordable broadband and will allow Virginia to access its \$1.48 billion federal allocation to deploy high-speed internet networks to areas without broadband.

"In today's increasingly digital world, having access to high-speed broadband is no longer a luxury, it is necessary in order to fully participate in daily life," said Gov. Glenn Youngkin. "I'm proud to share that the Commonwealth is the first in the nation to release these plans and to strategize the effective utilization of these funds, ensuring that all Virginians are connected through broadband."

The 5-Year Plan and Volume 2 of the Initial Proposal outlines Virginia's plans for the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) program under the federal Infrastructure

Investments and Jobs Act. These funds will be prioritized to reach the estimated 160,000 remaining unserved homes, businesses and community anchors in the Commonwealth that are not yet in a broadband deployment project area.

The BEAD program is a \$42.45 billion nationwide program to expand high-speed internet access by funding planning, infrastructure deployment and adoption programs. The Department of Housing and Community Development's (DHCD) will administer the Commonwealth's \$1.48 billion BEAD allocation to build upon the work of the Virginia Telecommunication Initiative (VATI) to reach the remaining unserved regions of the Commonwealth. Once funding for universal broadband access is delivered, DHCD will focus on leveraging these investments through promoting affordability and improving adoption of this critical service.

"Broadband is as critical today as electricity was in the last

century, and this administration is committed to ensuring that no communities are at risk of being left behind," said DHCD Director and Chief Broadband Advisor Bryan Horn. "Virginia and the VATI program continue to be a national model for bridging the digital divide, and we will continue working to ensure that broadband in Virginia works for all Virginians."

DHCD is accepting public comment through Sept. 19 for Volume 2 of the BEAD Initial Proposal.

Since 2017, Virginia has allocated over \$935 million in state and federal funding to extend broadband infrastructure to over 388,000 locations in 80 cities and counties across the Commonwealth. These investments have leveraged an additional \$1.1 billion in matching funds from local governments and internet service providers.

For more information about Virginia's broadband efforts and to submit comments on Volume 2, visit dhcd.virginia.gov/vati.

Board of Education approves 2023 Math Standards of Learning

Last week, the State Board of Education unanimously approved new Mathematics Standards of Learning that will raise the floor and remove the ceiling for student performance and achievement. The 2023 Math Standards are informed by best practices and aligned with the needs of the world beyond K-12 education. The revisions were part of the seven-year cycle for review of the Standards of Learning, and the new standards will be implemented in schools beginning in the 2024-2025 school year.

"Virginia students deserve to be held to high expectations," said Secretary of Education Aimee Guidera. "These updated math standards embody high expectations and provide the North Star in our efforts to re-orient our education system to be one grounded in excellence."

"The 2023 Math Standards represent a key improvement to focus on mastery of foundational skills, rigorous content development, and personalized pathways that meet every student where they are and take them where they want to go" said Dr. Lisa Coons, Superintendent of Public Instruction.

The 2023 Math Standards will

ensure Virginia's students master mathematics skills before moving on to a new concept or course. Students will also have the freedom to pursue different math courses based on their interests. Following the successful completion of Algebra, students can meet the necessary math credits with traditional high school math pathways, college credit bearing courses such as AP, or through dual enrollment or concurrent courses at a community college or university. Students will learn how to effectively integrate technology and math skills and simulate real-world scenarios that integrates the application of mathematical reasoning and critical thinking.

The VDOE staff will provide ongoing technical assistance and support to teachers, administrators, and instructional personnel across the Commonwealth to ensure a smooth and successful transition to these new standards.

The 2023 Math Standards of Learning as adopted today by the board are available on the VDOE website. Under the implementation timeline approved by the board, all math instruction and state assessments will be based on the 2023 standards beginning with the 2024-2025 school year.

Virtual Sessions Offered for Physical Therapist Assistant Prospective Students and Counselors

Surry Community College is offering three virtual information sessions for students who are interested in becoming Physical Therapist Assistants. These sessions will also be helpful for educational personnel who advise or coach students on career paths.

During each session, Dr. Eileen Coleman, Director of the Physical Therapist Assistant Program at Surry Community College, will talk to prospective students about the program's opportunities and requirements, as well as advise students on how to prepare for the admissions process. Participants will have the opportunity to ask questions during each session.

The Physical Therapist Assistant is a two-year degree program, located at Surry Community College's Yarkin Center, that prepares graduates to work in direct patient care settings under the supervision

of physical therapists.

Assistants work to improve or restore function by alleviation or prevention of physical impairment and perform other essential activities in a physical therapy department under the direction and supervision of a physical therapist.

The admissions deadline for Fall 2024 is May 31, 2024. The average salary for a Physical Therapist Assistant is around \$64,000.

The virtual meetings will be held via Microsoft Teams on Monday, September 11, from 9 to 10 a.m.; Tuesday, September 19, from 3 to 4 p.m.; and Wednesday, September 27, from 7 to 8 p.m. You can sign up for a session by completing a brief registration form on surry.edu.

For more information, contact: Dr. Eileen Coleman, PT, DPT, Director - Physical Therapist Assistant, at (336) 386-3513 or colemane@surry.edu.



Dr. Eileen Coleman, PT, DPT, is Director of the Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA) Program at Surry Community College. She will host three upcoming virtual information sessions on the PTA program for prospective students and counselors. The virtual meetings will be held via Microsoft Teams on Monday, September 11, from 9 to 10 a.m.; Tuesday, September 19, from 3 to 4 p.m.; and Wednesday, September 27, from 7 to 8 p.m. You can sign up for a session by completing a brief registration form on surry.edu.

Virginia's Ginseng Harvest Season Started September 1

Ginseng harvest season in the Commonwealth began on Sept. 1 and the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (VDACS) advises ginseng harvesters to be aware of the laws protecting this valued plant. Wild American ginseng is listed as a threatened species in Virginia and VDACS is responsible for regulating ginseng harvest and sales in the Commonwealth.

American ginseng is a native slow-growing, shade-loving perennial that grows wild in Virginia's forests. The root of the American ginseng plant is valued as a medicinal herb. Anyone planning to harvest ginseng should be aware of the harvest regulations protecting this valued plant.

Wild ginseng harvest season begins on Sept. 1 and ends on Dec. 31 of each year. Wild ginseng cannot be harvested from Jan. 1 through Aug. 31.

Wild ginseng that is younger than five years old, has fewer than four stem scars present on its rhizome or has fewer than three prongs cannot be harvested.

Any person who harvests wild ginseng must plant the seeds of the harvested plant at the harvest site at the time of harvest.

Ginseng collection is prohibited on most public lands in Virginia, to include state and national parks and forests. On public lands where ginseng harvesting is allowed, diggers must obtain a permit from the appropriate office or agency before harvesting any ginseng. Collect-

ing any portion of the plant, including the berries, for personal or commercial use from federal land is strictly prohibited. Anyone caught removing ginseng from federal lands may face a fine of up to \$5,000, six months in jail, or both. Violation of Virginia's wild ginseng harvest regulations is punishable by imprisonment for up to 12 months, up to a \$2,500 fine, or both.

Ginseng harvest regulations do not apply to individuals harvesting wild ginseng from their own land. Individuals harvesting ginseng from private property must obtain permission from the property owner prior to plants being removed. Permission should be in writing and kept with the individual harvester at the time of harvest. Landowners are encouraged to observe the same size and age restrictions and seed planting guidelines to help ensure the continued, long-term viability of wild ginseng when ginseng digging occurs on their property.

Individuals shipping or transporting ginseng from Virginia in amounts of eight ounces or greater per calendar year must have the ginseng certified by VDACS. Individuals buying or accepting ginseng to sell must obtain a license from VDACS.

During the 2022 season, approximately 1,600 pounds of wild ginseng roots were harvested in Virginia, with a value of nearly \$1.1 million. It takes between 250 and 300 roots to acquire one pound of wild ginseng.

Visit www.vdacs.virginia.gov/plant-industry-services-ginseng.shtml for more information or contact Keith Tignor at (804) 786-3515 or keith.tignor@vdacs.virginia.gov.

Firewater SERVICE CENTER

1329 Scenic Drive, Stuart, VA 24171
(276) 694-7417 or (276) 340-4472

Hours: Mon - Fri 8:00 to 5:30, Sat 8:00 to 2:00
VALVOLINE AND SCHAEFFER OIL PRODUCTS

Now Offering

STATE INSPECTIONS

- Oil Changes using Amsoil, Valvoline & Schaeffer Oil Products
- Full Brake Service for Disc and Drum Brakes
- Replacement of Belts and Hoses
- Tune Ups
- Tire Rotations
- Starter and Alternator Replacement
- Battery Replacement

10% DISCOUNT FOR VETERANS

Double your impact with Print & Online Advertising!

To advertise in the Mountain Messenger call 304-647-5724 or email ads@mountainmessenger.com

LeafFilter CLOG-FREE GUTTERS FOREVER

GUTTER PROTECTION

BEFORE LeafFilter

AFTER LeafFilter

EXCLUSIVE LIMITED TIME OFFER!

15% OFF + 10% OFF + 0%

YOUR ENTIRE PURCHASE SENIORS & MILITARY! APR FOR 24 MONTHS**

USA Promo Code: 285

FREE GUTTER ALIGNMENT + FREE GUTTER CLEANING*

CALL US TODAY FOR A FREE ESTIMATE

Mon-Thurs: 8am-11pm, Fri-Sat: 8am-5pm, Sun: 2pm-8pm EST

1-877-614-6667

A COMPANY OF LEAFHOME

** Wells Fargo Home Projects credit card is issued by Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., an Equal Housing Lender. Special terms for 24 mo. apply to qualifying purchases of \$1,000 or more with approved credit. Minimum monthly payments will not pay off balance before end of promotional period. APR for new purchases is 25.99% (Effective 01/01/2023 - subject to change. Call 1-800-431-5921 for complete details.) *The leading consumer reporting agency conducted a 16 month outdoor test of gutter guards in 2018 and recognized LeafFilter as the "#1 rated professional installed gutter guard system in America." **For those who qualify. One coupon per household. No obligation estimate valid for 1 year. Offer valid at time of estimate only. See Representative for full warranty details. Manufactured in Pleasant, Michigan and processed at LeafHome Group in Ohio. AF #636520022, CA #1035795, CT #MC6366955, HI #63255876, IA #C112720, ID #ICE-216164, LA #592544, MA #176447, MD #MHC148329, MI # 2102212986, #20200022, #20200043, #210212946, MN #R731804, MO #226192, ND #7304, NE #50145-22, NJ #19492602, NH #486180, NV #486180, NY #486180, WY #486180, OR #212694, PA #PA636983, RI #RC-41254, TN #7656, UT #UT63655501, VA #270264945, WA #LAFATN6222, WY #WY65912

“We Feed What We Sell”

Economically priced and more feed value for your money.

AVAILABLE IN BAG OR BULK

- Horse Feed
- Chicken Feed
- Beef Grower Feeds
- Corn Gluten Pellets

- Sheep & Goat Feed
- Hay Stretcher
- alf Feed
- Soyhull Pellets

Whole Beef Hamburger

HAMBURGER PATTIES \$6.00 LB.

\$5.75/lb.

We buy Corn, Oats, Wheat & Barley. Call for price.

Performance Livestock & Feed Company

Mark Pendleton

Call for prices today!

888-777-5912

Jason Pendleton

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.

Monday, Sept. 18
The Patrick & Henry Community College Board Academic & Student Affairs Committee will meet at 11 a.m. in Room 124 in the Frith Economic Development Center. This is a public meeting, but the committee will not receive public comment.

The Patrick & Henry Community College Board Legislative Committee will meet at 11 in Room 133 in the Frith Economic Development Center. This is a public meeting, but the committee will not receive public comment.

The Patrick & Henry Community College Board will meet at 11:30 p.m. in the Hooker Exhibit Hall, Frith Economic Development Center. This is a public meeting, but the Board will not receive public comment.

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

Events

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.

Patrick & Henry Community College (P&H-CC) will hold a Beginners level Microsoft Office 265: Excel class from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. The cost

is \$60. Pre-registration is required by going to ph.augusoft.net, or calling (276) 656-0260.

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 FUN With Smokey Bear event at 2:30 p.m. at Shelter 4.

Town of Danbury's 49th annual Parade, "Celebrating First Responders: Hearts of Heroes," line up is 8 to 8:30 a.m., float judging is 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. For more information, call (336) 403-2207.

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.

Friday, Sept. 15
The Woolwine Methodist food truck will be at the Fairystone Volunteer Fire Department from 3-4:30 p.m.

Saturday, Sept. 16
The Fairystone Volunteer Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary will hold a country breakfast from 6:30-10 a.m. at 6687 Fairystone Park Highway (57 West), Stuart. Dine-in prices are

\$10 for an adult plate and \$5 for a child plate. All to go plates are \$10 each. To place an order for pick up, call (276) 930-2113.

Fransico Farmfest 2023, Old Fashioned County Fair, with tractor parades, a farm equipment show and lots of other activities, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., 7165 NC HWY 89 West, Westfield, N.C.

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

Ross Harbour Church, 6260 Elamsville Road, will collect pennies, loose change of any other form of money to benefit The Penny House from 4 to 6 p.m. on Tuesdays and 10 a.m. till noon each Saturday in September.

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's LEGO Club with Ms. Sam, Mondays from 4:30-5:30 p.m. This program is mainly intended for school age children. For more information, call (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.

Creating a thriving butterfly habitat at home can alleviate habitat loss

They're vibrant and elusive, often vanishing as quickly as they appear—making each unexpected visit all the more memorable.

There are over 102 butterfly species that have been observed in Virginia, according to butterfly-identification.org.

But Mary Free, a Virginia Cooperative Extension Master Gardener serving Arlington County and the city of Alexandria, has noticed a decline in the number of winged visitors to her garden over the last 17 years.

"Habitat loss is a major factor in the decline of insect and bird populations," Free explained. "Everyone who creates a butterfly habitat adds a steppingstone to reverse that trend by providing a place where pollinators can safely eat and repro-

duce, planting trees and shrubs that reduce carbon, and using fewer chemicals."

While it may seem daunting, creating a thriving butterfly habitat can be as simple as several potted plants or as expansive as acres of flora.

"The key is to provide the plant food butterflies need as both caterpillars and adults," Free noted.

Location, soil type, light conditions and hardiness zone can help guide plant choices.

Free encourages sticking with native plant species, as they attract native butterflies, provide the quality food they need, adapt to local climates and conditions, and promote biodiversity.

Every butterfly is unique, with some species and their caterpillars feeding on a variety of plants while others only need one host plant.

Some host plants may already be growing in gardens, like parsley, carrots, dill and fennel, which attract Eastern Black swallowtail caterpillars. Some may exist in neighborhoods, like white clover and oak, wild cherry and flowering dogwood trees.

Free suggested finding what native host plants are nearby, and planting something different to maximize results.

Consider incorporating a rock in a sunny spot for butterflies to warm their wings, and a puddling area for male butterflies, as they need soil minerals for reproduction. Planting densely is preferred, she said, as butterflies need refuge from wind and rain.

Don't buy plants that have been treated with pesticides, as they can be deadly to butterfly larvae, and avoid using chemicals in and around the garden.

It's also important to avoid clearing away dead flowers or foliage on or near host plants—they may harbor butterfly eggs or feeding caterpillars.

For a complete list of nectar and host plants for mid-Atlantic butterflies and moths, visit mgmv.org/pollinators-and-more/lepidoptera/.

Read more at bit.ly/3E5Psch.

NEWS | SPORTS | LOCAL PROGRAMS



The Southside's #1 Local TV Station

THANK YOU FOR READING THE ENTERPRISE

JOIN US

WEEKLY SUNDAY

MORNING SERVICE
10:30AM

Subscribe to our
YouTube Channel
NEVER MISS A SERVICE



NEW DAY CHURCH
MHC

705 LIBERTY ST MARTINSVILLE, VA 24112

NOTICE

All announcements to be included in the Community Calendar must be received by 5 p.m. on Friday the week before publish date. Items are published as space permits.

Email to: dhall@theenterprise.net

WHEO



92.7 FM
Classic Hits

wheoradio.com

"Small Town Station with a BIG Town Sound"

Super Crossword

Answers

P	A	S	T	O	R	A	L	S	E	C	E	D	E	L	O	A	F	S	
O	N	P	A	R	O	L	E	I	S	O	M	I	L	O	M	N	I	A	
W	O	R	K	A	T	I	T	D	O	R	I	S	L	E	S	S	I	N	G
E	D	I	E	G	L	U	E	I	R	K	I	N	G	M	A	G			
R	E	G	I	S	P	H	I	L	B	I	N	S	E	D	A	T	E	L	Y
M	A	R	T	Y	R	S	M	I	C	H	E	L	L	E	O	B	A	M	A
I	C	A	N				N	A	D	A	W	E	E	D	S	S	A	P	
F	A	I	T	H	E	V	A	N	S	B	I	A	S	T	I	R	E		
F	I	N	E	R	I	N	B	A	N	S	T	J	M	A	X	X			
P	E	T	A	L	S	T	E	A	M	O	P	E	D	I	M	A			
A	S	O	F	S	E	X	Y	L	A	U	R	A	I	N	N	E	S		
C	A	R	S	T	A	C	I	S	E	N	T	B	O	T	H				
T	I	M	O	T	H	Y	H	U	T	T	O	N	B	E	T	A	R	A	Y
K	A	T	E	M	O	S	S	D	O	N	A	L	D	G	L	O	V	E	R
A	R	B																	
P	E	O	P	L	E	O	F	N	O	T	E	P	A	R	O	D	I	E	D
P	A	L	A	U	T	I	T	L	E	D	E	M	I	N	E	N	C	E	
A	L	T	O	S	H	A	V	E	N	S	D	E	F	E	R	S	T	O	

emailus

DHALL@THEENTERPRISE.NET

Making the sound of rain



In many cultures, summoning rain often included the use of musical instruments. One well-known example is a rain stick, an instrument that mimics the sound of rain. Young artists and their parents built their own musical rain sticks out of local bamboo, dried beans and wooden skewers in a library art workshop led by Norma Bozenmayer, of the Master Gardeners, and Sam Edmondson, children's librarian on Saturday August 19.

Visit or call the library for information on more exciting upcoming workshops.



Edd Martin & Associates
Real Estate
Buying or selling real estate?
Call us today!



Edd Martin, Broker
276-952-5008



Margaret Blevins
276-692-5376



Stephen Henderson
276-229-9684



Vicki Porter
276-694-6563



Pam Joyce
276-732-0802



Cameron Kolinski
276-340-8181



Deana Clark
276-229-7937

Edd Martin & Associates
18376 Jeb Stuart Hwy.
Stuart, VA 24171
276-694-5002
eddmartinrealestate.com



Are you looking to sell or buy a home or property in VA or NC?

Country Homes, Farms Mountain & Waterfront Property

Let Our Experience Work For You.

Broker in Virginia and North Carolina

Call 276-694-2646 or email jlambert@swva.net

Check out our full listings at www.uclambertrealty.com

United Country Real Estate Lambert Realty
Broker, Johnny Lambert

NEW LOCATION
Now located at 22199 Jeb Stuart Hwy. Stuart, VA



Johnny Lambert
276-952-5502



Donald Lewis
276-692-5442



Shane Vernon
276-229-6093



April Turman Webb
276-733-3575

Take a trip to taste some of Virginia's finest sugary delights

Virginia's dream team of homemade ice cream, custard and sorbet is only a scenic road trip away.

The "Mouthwatering Ice Cream Trail," created by OnlyInYourState in 2021, entices visitors to taste some of Virginia's finest frozen treats. Winding through Northern Virginia and the Shenandoah Valley, the seven-stop route features "farm-to-cone" delights, including frozen custard, seasonal sorbets and gelato—along with breathtaking sights along the way.

Hit the road with friends or family, and cool off with these sweet treats before fall weather returns.

You can start or finish the trail in Northern Virginia, where The Dairy Godmother offers Wisconsin-style frozen custard in the heart of Alexandria.

The popular shop features a daily flavor of fresh custard, like "Bordeaux Cherry Chip," as well as chocolate and vanilla each day. It also offers a variety of sorbets that change daily.

Visit thedairygodmother.com for more information.

Sugar Mama's in Fairfax is a stop for adventurous ice cream lovers. The shop's "mini scoops" are perfect for exploring the unique ice cream flavors or piling them high in a homemade waffle cone or cup.

Popular flavors include "Banana Cream Pie" and "Coco Choc Crunch."

Visit sugarmamasicecream.com for more information.

The charming Moo Thru is a Remington staple that offers a true "farm-to-cone" experience, sourcing from local dairy farmers and using fresh, local ingredients.

The slow-churned ice cream flavors of blackberry, cake batter and dark chocolate are among the most popular choices.

Find a Moo Thru location nearest you by visiting moothru.com.

Carl's in Fredericksburg has been serving up classic soft-serve frozen custard for 76 years, and visitors may experience a wave of nostalgia when visiting this retro ice cream stop.

Made with a much higher concentration of eggs and butterfat and the earliest Electro Freeze® machine models, the famous Carl's custard is a richer, creamier dessert than most traditional ice cream.

Visit carlsfrozencustard.com for more information.

Max Kendall Lumber & Tin
Price Reduced
Metal Roofing

Now Made In Axton, Va.
276-650-2825
Free call 1-888-434-2825

Lynchburg, Va.
434-821-3251
Free Call 1-833-593-3251

Reidsville, NC
336-348-1600
Free call 1-833-205-1600

20 COLORS
Classic Rib - PBR Panel
Standing Seam - 5V

Buy Direct and Save!

American Made Top Quality Low Prices Made Same Day 40 Year Warranty

WE FINANCE METAL ROOFS ON YOUR HOME

Snow Guards Lumber
Rough - Dressed - Treated
PACKAGE BUILDINGS
Contractors Welcome

maxkendalllumber.com
8261 Mountain Valley Rd

"Clark is not only the thinking man's John Grisham but, maybe better, the drinking man's John Grisham." — *The New York Times*

MARTIN CLARK
bestselling author of *The Substitution Order* and *The Legal Limit*

THE PLINKO BOUNCE

"What a gift to readers. Martin Clark is a master craftsman who exalts the genre of legal thriller to heavenly heights." — **Adriana Trigiani**

"A truly original writer." — **David Baldacci**

"Hands down, our finest legal-thriller writer." — **Entertainment Weekly**

Over the years, I've often noted how indebted I am to my community for its support of me and my books. Dating back to 2000, Patrick County people have always been remarkably kind to me and my novels, and I'm deeply grateful for that. I've tried to acknowledge that support and goodwill with the release of each new book. Last go-round, in 2019, we ended the big "thank-you party," and instead dedicated the party money and the sales profits from an event at the local library to a scholarship. The scholarship was in honor of the remarkable Mrs. Ann Belcher, who selected our winner, Lindsey Marshall.

This year, in memory of Mrs. Belcher, her husband, Larry Belcher—a crackerjack educator himself—will pick the scholarship recipient, and we'll once again announce the winner at the release celebration for the new book, *The Plinko Bounce*. The release celebration will be on September 12, 2023, at the Patrick County library from 3:30 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. And we're bringing back just a little bit of the old fun—we'll have some catered bakery treats from Dragon's Beard Farm, homemade sweets from Kimberley Redd, door-prize gift certificates from local businesses, and the first seventy-five folks to buy the new book will get a free copy of *The Substitution Order*. Deana and I hope you can come. Many thanks.

—Martin Clark

.....

EVERYONE IS WELCOME AND INVITED, AND WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU AT THE PATRICK COUNTY LIBRARY ON SEPTEMBER 12 FROM 3:30 UNTIL 8:00 FOR THE PLINKO BOUNCE RELEASE CELEBRATION.

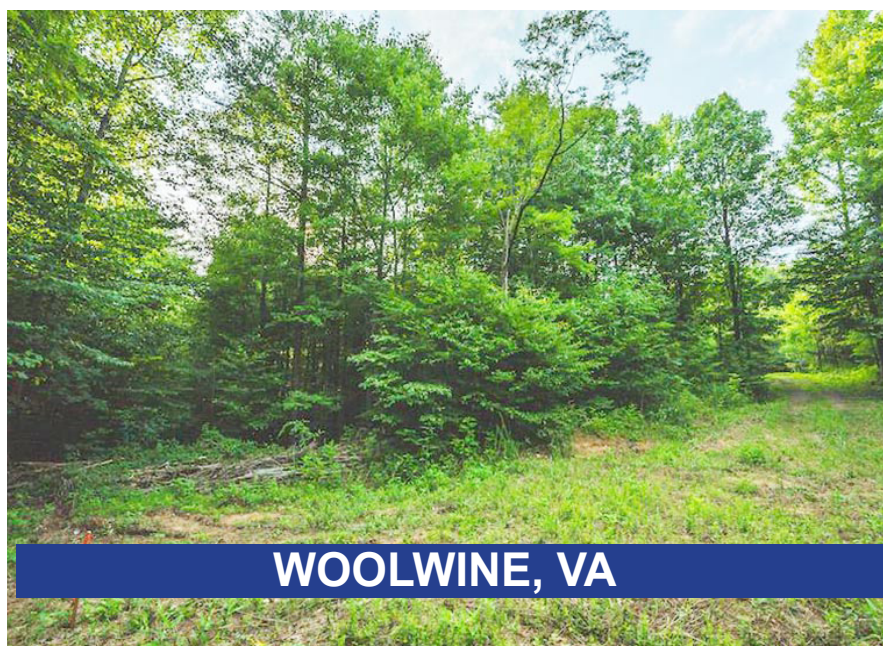


Blue Ridge Land & Auction Co., Inc.

Phone: (540) 745-2005 or Toll Free: (800) 375-0423
102 S. Locust Street, Floyd, VA 24091

BlueRidgeLandandAuction@gmail.com • www.BlueRidgeLandandAuction.com

FEATURED LISTINGS



WOOLWINE, VA

This 2.045 acre tract has frontage on Route 8. It is wooded with underground utilities in place. Jill Creek runs through this property. Adjoining lots are for sale. **\$16,700**



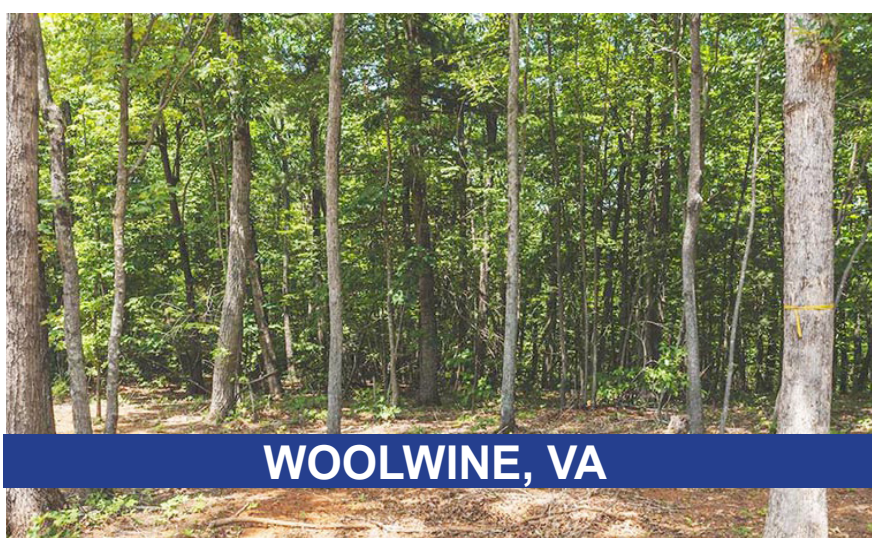
LAUREL FORK, VA

Nice 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath home on the Olde Mill Golf Course. Home has over 2,632 sq ft of living space. **\$339,000**



LAUREL FORK, VA

Wooded building lot with frontage on the 9th hole of the Olde Mill Golf Resort. Build your home overlooking the beautiful front nine which displays lush fairways, water, and amazing scenery! **\$39,500**



WOOLWINE, VA

This 12.39 ac wooded tract features multiple springs and a stream. It has great road frontage on Lee Elgin Rd. Adjoining lots could also be purchased if you desire more acreage! **\$75,000**



PENDING

PATRICK SPRINGS, VA

This 4 acre lot would be great to build a home on. It is located approximately 15 minutes from Stuart and 35 minutes from Martinsville.



SOLD

STUART, VA

Adorable 1 bedroom, 1 bath bungalow with 944 sq ft of living space. Home sits on 3.2 acres with great mountain views! **\$235,000**



PENDING

STUART, VA

Nice 3 bedroom, 2 bath home on 12.5 acres of land. Home features 2,016 sq ft of living space on 12.5 acres.



SOLD

STUART, VA

Adorable 3 bedroom, 2 bath home with +1,500 sq ft of living space. Home sits on .58 acres of land, nestled in the woods, with bold creek frontage. **\$150,000**

Farms - Homes - Land - Estates - Personal Property

Interested in selling? Our Jumpstart Program might be the answer! Contact us today for more information at (540) 745-2005.



Blue Ridge Land & Auction Co., Inc.
Awarded "National Top 10 Office
2016 - 2022"

Phone: (540) 745-2005
or Toll Free: (800) 375-0423

102 S. Locust Street, Floyd, VA 24091

BlueRidgeLandandAuction@gmail.com
www.BlueRidgeLandandAuction.com



Matt Gallimore,
Broker/Auctioneer
Lic.#0226000240