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

Franklin County's economic development director tapped to serve as new county administrator

By Taylor Boyd

Franklin County's current director of Economic Development was named the new Patrick County Administrator at the September 11 Board of Supervisors meeting.

Beth Simms, 36, will officially start in her new role on October 12. She will receive a salary of \$120,000 per year.

Simms will succeed Geri Hazelwood, who resigned from the position on March 1. Tim Hall, an executive manager with the Berkley Group and retired Henry County administrator, served as the interim county administrator during the search for the new administrator.

Simms said there would be a couple of days of overlap between her and Hall. Then, it will "just depend on how things play out."

Having grown up on the southside of Franklin County, Simms said she decided to apply for the position because she always enjoyed working with southern partners in Patrick, Herny, and



Beth Simms inks her employment contract as Tim Hall, interim County Administrator, looks on. Simms was tapped to serve in the top slot starting next month.

Pittsylvania counties.

"When I was looking for a job change, I was looking in that region. I'm excited for the challenge and the opportunity, and we're excited to



Beth Simms is pictured with her husband, Kyle, and other family members on September 11.

move to Patrick," she said.

While she is still a resident of Rocky Mount, Simms will relocate to Patrick County within

(See Franklin County p. 3)

Covington leaves a legacy of wisdom and knowledge

By Debbie Hall

Retired Henry County Circuit Court Judge Kenneth M. Covington, 94, died on Monday, September 11, but his wisdom, fairness, and knowledge of the law will be remembered for decades.

Covington was "the best I've ever seen," said retired Circuit Court Judge David Williams, who practiced before him as both a private and commonwealth's attorney.

"I was blessed, I truly was" to practice before Covington for many years, Williams said. "Practicing in front of Judge Covington was like taking a post-law school graduate course in litigation."

Covington served Henry County as Commonwealth's Attorney for 12 years and then as judge of the Martinsville Municipal Court and Henry County Court, which later became a district court. He retired as a Judge of the 21st Circuit

(See Covington p. 3)



Bill Clark and Glenn Roycroft (center) were presented resolutions for their years of service on the Patrick County Economic Development Authority (EDA). Pictured on Clark's right are Clayton Kendrick, chairman of the Patrick County Board of Supervisors and of the Mayo River District, and Brandon Simmons, of the Dan River District. On Roycroft's left are Denise Stirewalt, of the Peters Creek District; Clyde DeLoach, Blue Ridge District, and Doug Perry, Smith River District.

Solar farms top list of concerns

By Taylor Boyd

Several residents voiced their opposition to solar farms being started in the county at the September 11 Patrick County Board of Supervisors meeting.

Representatives from Energix were scheduled to attend the meeting to discuss the Fairy Stone Solar project but were unable to attend. They requested to be put on the November meeting agenda.

Mary Beth Clement, of the Blue Ridge District, said she's an advocate against solar 'non-farms' on rural land and was disappointed to hear the Patrick County Planning Commission approved the proposed Fairy Stone Solar Project.

"There have been lots of discussions and meetings concerning this topic with most citizens being against such type of resource destruction," she said.

However, Clement said she was not surprised by the Commission's approval after Energix, the solar company, and Energy Rite, an advocate group, gave their presentation as "all the right things were said at that public meeting to give you warm and fuzzy feelings" about the project.

Clement said she's concerned by the push from outsiders trying to force their views on the locality and supervisors, enticing them to go against the wishes of their constituents.

"Solar may very well be a good source of clean energy, but it doesn't have to come at the price of those who call rural counties home. These outsiders are pushing elected officials to go against their voter base and instead permanently sacrifice rural land for solar large-scale utility, mostly in support of Virginia's Clean Energy Act," she said.

(See Solar Farms p. 3)

History Program To Support Perry Family Scholarship

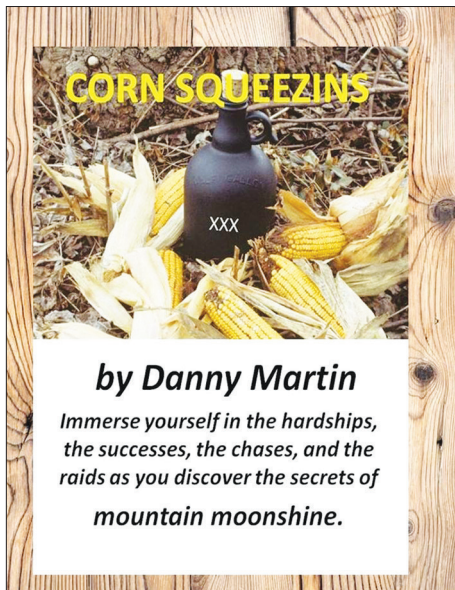
Historian Tom Perry and Danny Martin, author, will talk about the history of moonshine in Patrick County. Focusing on Ararat's own Jimmie Rorrer, an ABC officer for years, this program is for everyone who is encouraged to come tell their moonshine stories.

This is a fundraiser for the Perry Family Scholarship. It will be held on Saturday, September 23, at 10 a.m. at the Ararat Virginia Ruritan Club. 4711 Ararat Hwy, Ararat.

The Perry Family Scholarship was started by Historian/Author Thomas D. "Tom" Perry after the death of his parents, Erie Meredith and Betty Hobbs Perry, within two months of each other in 2021. Seven scholarships of \$500 have been given to Patrick County High School seniors who write a 1,000-word history essay. Erie Perry was a teacher and principal at Red Bank and Blue Ridge in the Dan River District of Patrick County, including the Ararat, Claudville, and Willis Gap areas.

Tom Perry published the book Corn Squeezins for his high school algebra teacher, Danny Martin, in 2023. Thanks to the Ararat Ruritan Club for supporting these programs and the scholarship.

Read more about the book Corn Squeezins at



by Danny Martin

Immerse yourself in the hardships, the successes, the chases, and the raids as you discover the secrets of mountain moonshine.

<https://theenterprise.net/corn-squeezins-details-the-areas-moonshining-history/>

The book details the history of moonshining in Patrick County from the time of the Scotch-Irish settlers through the prohibition era into more contemporary times.

Martin said he wrote the book because of his wife, Susan.

"She went to work at Fairy Stone Park when she moved here back in 2000, and she was looking through some old files and found where I had done the playback in the 70s. Once we met and got to talking, she

(See History Program p. 14)



Martin Clark, author of "The Plinko Bounce," is pictured with Missy Hazard, who was selected as the winner of a scholarship in memory of Ann Belcher. (Contributed photos)

Hazard named scholarship winner

Melissa "Missy" Hazard was selected as the winner of the scholarship in memory of Mrs. Ann Belcher at a book signing/release of Martin Clark's latest book, "The Plinko Bounce."

Clark, a retired circuit court judge, kicked off his six-month book tour with the celebration held last week at the Patrick County Branch Library.

The celebration in Stuart "was our most successful event to date, and we are indebted to the Patrick County community for turning out to support The Plinko

Bounce," Clark said. "We tried to bring back a little bit more of the party and fellowship feel this year, and for me especially, it was meaningful to be able to see so many old friends and swap stories and catch up."

Profits from the event benefit a \$10,000 scholarship fund that was created to honor Ann Belcher, Clark's high school English teacher. Her husband, Larry Belcher, selected the winner.

Clark said a check was written to Hollins University on Haz-

(See Hazard p. 14)



Governor Glenn Youngkin ceremonially signs Virginia's budget on the Capitol steps on Thursday, September 14.

Youngkin inked state budget last week

The state budget signed by Gov. Glenn Youngkin last week boosts aid for K-12 education and school divisions with funds targeted to fight learning loss, chronic absenteeism and hire more support staff for students and teachers, as well as new spending for mental health services and supporting law enforcement.

"This budget is the result of what we can accomplish when we put politics down and choose conservative commonsense solutions and make critical investments to ensure Virginia is the best state to live, work, and raise a family. I'm proud that we're delivering on our promises to our veterans, our families, and fellow Virginians to lower the cost of living by providing an additional one billion dollars in tax relief on top of last year's historic four billion dollars," said Youngkin.

Some of the highlights include:
Restoring Excellence In Education \$653.3 million in aid for K-12 education and schools divisions.

\$418.3 million of that is one-time General Funds targeted to fight learning loss and chronic absenteeism.

\$152.3 million is to hire more support staff for students and teachers.

\$6.7 million in federal Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund dollars devoted to expanding the Virginia Literacy Act to grades 4 through 8.

\$54.6 million from the General Fund to give teachers and other school staff a 2% raise starting on January 1, 2024. This is on top of the 10% raise for teachers that the Governor proposed last year.

Keeping Our Communities Safe \$155.6 million in new spending for mental health services, including:

\$58.0 million to create crisis receiving centers and crisis stabilization units

\$34.0 million for permanent supportive housing and housing for individuals with serious mental illness

\$18.0 million for a targeted pay raise of an average of 5% for all Community Service Board staff

\$11.7 million for school and community-based children's mental health services

\$10.0 million for 15 additional mobile crisis teams

\$10.0 million to contract for psychiatric emergency programs in hospitals

\$4.4 million to increase funding for first three steps of STEP-VA

\$4.0 million for the Virginia Mental Health Access Program

\$15.0 million to increase support for the Operation Ceasefire Grant Program

\$9.5 million for healthcare workforce initiatives to close the nursing and behavioral health workforce shortage.

\$10.0 million to establish the Safer Communities Program.

\$5.1 million to support TDO/ECO transportation activities and local law enforcement agencies.

\$1.2 million for the Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force to backfill reduced fine and fee revenue receipts.

Reinvigorating Economic Growth And Making Government Work for You

\$150 million devoted to widening Interstate 64 between Richmond and Williamsburg.

\$125 million devoted to the Virginia Business Ready Sites Fund, plus \$75 million to empower the Commonwealth to procure sites and make them ready for large employers.

\$18 million devoted to the victims of the Southwest Virginia floods that occurred in 2022.

\$17.0 million for managing stormwater encroachment in the City of Virginia Beach.

\$12.3 million devoted to closing the remainder of the unemployment insurance appeal backlog.

\$10 million devoted toward developing an inland port in Southwest Virginia.

\$4 million will go toward launching the Virginia Power Innovation Fund to make Virginia the landing ground for future energy technologies and supply chains.

\$6 million devoted toward economic development activities related to the Partnership for Petersburg.

\$700,000 for the Dairy Producer Margin Coverage Premium Assistance to support Virginia's dairy farmers.

Cutting Costs For Virginians \$1 billion in tax cuts. On top of last year's cuts, which totaled \$4 billion, Governor Youngkin has signed over \$5 billion in tax relief.

Reinstates the state-wide sales tax holiday for school supplies, clothing and footwear.

Sends taxpayers back their money, up to \$200 for single filers and \$400 for married couples filing jointly.

Increases the standard deduction to \$8,500 for single filers and \$17,000 for married filers.

Provides tax relief to more veterans by eliminating the age restriction on military retirement income tax relief.

Increases the business interest deduction from 30% to 50%, which will save small businesses and employers \$10.3 million annually in tax year 2024.

"This budget not only reflects our commitment to our students and teachers but also our law enforcement community in the Commonwealth," Youngkin said. "Together, we are accelerating results and building a Virginia that competes to win and gives the next generation of parents, teachers, students, farmers, law enforcement, nurses and first responders the tools needed to ensure their success and prosperity in the Commonwealth."

SCC Approves Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard Plan for Appalachian Power

The State Corporation Commission (SCC) approved the 2023 Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard (RPS) development plan for Appalachian Power Company for new solar and onshore wind generation capacity. The company is required to submit an annual plan to the SCC to comply with the Virginia Clean Economy Act (VCEA).

The SCC found that Appalachian Power's plan is reasonable and prudent giving due consideration to the statutory factors contained in the VCEA.

The Commission approved six new power purchase agreements ("PPAs") totaling 184 megawatts, one renegotiated PPA totaling 20 megawatts and acquisition of an out-of-state wind facility totaling up to 146.2 megawatts.

The Commission denied the company's request for cost recovery associated with a legacy wind contract, finding the economic analysis did not show positive value for customers.

The SCC also approved a revenue requirement of \$16,373,821 for the recovery of VCEA-related resources for the rate year of October 2023 through September 2024.

In its final order, the Commission stated, "The Commission ... is guided in these matters by the statutes and the record. The Commission has continued to exercise its delegated discretion in a manner that faithfully implements the VCEA's carbon-reduction requirements, while best protecting consumers who expect and deserve reliable and affordable service."



Volunteering with Virginia State Parks

Virginia State Parks celebrate National Public Lands Day, provide free parking Sept. 23

State parks across Virginia will celebrate National Public Lands Day (NPLD), the nation's largest single-day volunteer effort for public lands on Sept. 23.

NPLD, now in its 30th year, highlights the vital impact of public lands on our well-being, from the air we breathe to the spaces we inhabit, and it brings together thousands of volunteers across the country, fostering community, teamwork and the enjoyment of public lands for education and recreation.

In Virginia, the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR), the state's lead natural resource conservation agency, manages nearly 130,000 acres of land, including nearly 80,000 acres of public land across 41 state parks.

"Since 1936, Virginia State Parks have provided citizens a fun, safe place to connect with nature, learn and participate in outdoor recreation," said DCR Director Matt Wells. "For National Public Lands Day, we invite Virginians to support their state parks by volunteering to help restore, improve and protect the lands they cherish, preserving them for future generations to enjoy."

There's a state park within an hour's drive of every Virginian, and each park depends heavily on volunteers for everything from trail maintenance to interpretative programs. In 2022 alone, volunteers across the state donated 210,693 hours of service, equivalent to 101 full-time employees.

"Our skilled and passionate volunteers play a vital role in our mission to protect, conserve and enhance our natural resources," said Virginia State Parks Director Dr. Melissa Baker. "Without them, the parks that millions of visitors have come to love would not be the same."

One of those parks is Mason Neck, located in Northern Virginia. Chief Ranger of Visitor Experience Jamie Leeuwrik said their highly dedicated volunteer base has helped the park's staff

provide excellent service and opportunities for the public.

"From our volunteer paddle guides leading kayak trips to the Fairfax Master Naturalists revitalizing pollinator gardens, there has been a significant impact made by our volunteers," said Leeuwrik. "The Friends of Mason Neck State Park have also been instrumental in numerous projects over the decades, including our work toward improving accessibility in the park, establishing the pollinator gardens and helping to organize the annual Eagle Festival."

Established and new volunteers are invited to Virginia State Parks for NPLD. They can choose from more than 30 NPLD events, including invasive species removal, shoreline cleanup, habitat restoration and environmental education activities.

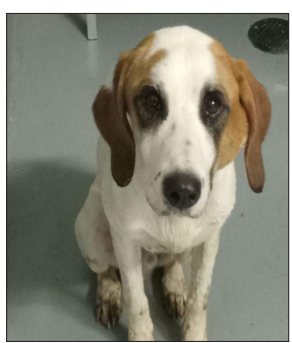
"National Public Lands Day is a reminder that the preservation of our natural treasures depends on the dedication of volunteers," said Katie Gibson, chief ranger of visitor experience at Douthat State Park, in Millboro, Virginia. "Their efforts embody the spirit of unity and stewardship that ensure the beauty, diversity and wonder of these spaces remain accessible and protected for generations to come."

For the complete list of NPLD events, click here. Volunteers should dress for the weather and the project and bring water, insect repellent and sunscreen.

Standard parking fees, such as trailhead parking, will be waived at most state parks for NPLD. The parking fee at Grayson Highlands and the admission fees for Natural Bridge and Southwest Virginia Museum will not be waived. To learn more, go to www.virginiastateparks.gov/parking-fees.

NPLD also coincides with Bike Your Park Day. Visitors and volunteers are encouraged to bring their bikes to their park on Sept. 23. For more information about biking at Virginia State Parks, visit <https://www.dcr.virginia.gov/state-parks/biking>.

Pets of the Week



This black and white handsome guy was found on Old Orchard Loop and is wearing a collar. Have you ever seen such a cute face?

This red and white sad looking fella was found on Willis Gap Road.

They both would sure like to go home. If you recognize either one, please let the Patrick County Public Animal Shelter (PCPAS) know. The shelter is packed with a lot of nice pets looking for homes. Call them 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.

Franklin County

(cont. from page 1)

one year of her official start date. Simms said one thing that attracted her to the job was that Patrick County seemed like a little bit simpler place to live. She was also attracted to the numerous moving pieces and the idea of “putting all those pieces together.”

“I see a lot of potential in the present and the future of Patrick County. You know the school system has a great reputation, you got the Blue Ridge Parkway, there’s just a lot of assets that Patrick County can play off of,” she said.

As county administrator, Simms said she works for the Board of Supervisors, manages the county staff, and works with the community, including its residents, business owners, and other types of organizations.

“I kind of see county administration as a three-legged stool, and so you got to be able to balance all of

that,” she said. Simms does not have a preset agenda.

“I don’t want to come in from the outside and kind of make declarations. I plan to work with the board, the department heads, and community members and make goals from there,” she said.

While she has some project ideas in mind, Simms said she will first go through those listed in the job description, such as helping the board create a strategic vision and plan.

“I’m sure as we’re going through that, things will emerge and we’ll deal with them as we go,” she said.

Simms graduated from Ferrum College with her bachelor’s degree in 2009 and has done post-graduate work in government, education, and accounting at Hollins University and the University of North Carolina/Greensboro.

Simms is also a graduate of the University of Oklahoma’s Economic Development Institute and the University of Virginia’s Local Government Equity Clinic.

She started pursuing her career while in college and was promoted to a management position in the restaurant industry. She served as a Social Studies teacher for two years in Henry County and then was the owner of a CrossFit business in Eden, NC.

After relocating to Rocky Mount, Simms worked in the beverage industry. In 2020, she was appointed as the Cultural and Economic Development Director of the Town of Rocky Mount where she was



Beth Simms will start her new role on October 12.

responsible for business development, tourism, and the operations of the Harvester Performance Center. She became the Franklin County Director of Economic Development in 2021.

In her free time, Simms enjoys being outside, gardening, traveling, and exploring new places. She and her husband, Kyle, have two dogs.

Covington

(cont. from page 1)

Court of Virginia. Not only was Covington knowledgeable about the law, but he was also “the best judge of people I’ve ever seen. He knew when to give them a break and he knew when to put the hammer down,” Williams said. “He had this unique ability. He was tremendously kind to people, and he understood people ... their ups and downs, their downs and outs.”

Williams said he always thought “If I was half as good as Judge Covington when I went on the bench, I’d be satisfied. He was just the best I ever saw.”

“Judge Covington was the template and touchstone for so many judges, myself included,” retired Patrick County Circuit Court Judge Martin Clark said. “His influence has been--and will continue to be--generational. He was wise, smart, fair, and knew the law, but just as important, he knew people. “Notably, he was thoroughly pa-

tient and professional, but somehow, everyone--from litigants to lawyers--understood an important, unspoken rule: It wasn’t wise to cross Ken Covington. He simply had a gift and a presence that set him apart,” Clark said.

“He ran a perfect courtroom and made it seem effortless. Sadly, he was the last lion from this part of the world, but he surely schooled us all, and we’re all better for having crossed paths with him,” Clark said.

Ward Armstrong, of The Armstrong Law Firm in Martinsville, recalled that Covington “was a great jurist. He knew the line, what reasonable doubt was as well as any judge could.”

Noting that baseball players don’t mind if an umpire uses a wide strike zone or a narrow strike zone, so long as it’s consistent, Armstrong said, “You could always count on Judge Covington. He knew where the strike zone was,

and that was day in and day out.” Covington also lived by the creed of tempering justice with mercy, Armstrong said.

“He could be tough, but he also understood that people make mistakes. He was the kind of judge that all judges aspire to be, and all lawyers learn from,” Armstrong said.

Attorney Fred D. Smith Jr., or Fred D. Smith PC, in Martinsville, said he and Covington served as elders at the Broad Street Christian Church, also in Martinsville.

“We were elders together and we said prayers together,” Smith said and recalled that Covington was “the first judge I appeared before as a lawyer. He was a very special man. Just a one-of-a-kind judge and a one-of-a-kind man.”

“I’m so thankful for every moment I had with him, both as a judge and as a friend,” Smith said.

A native son of Martinsville-Henry County, Covington deeply loved

the community and its people and had an encyclopedic knowledge of its history, according to his obituary. He judged people in the courtroom but not in life: his grace and kindness touched many lives, both inside and outside of the courtroom. His mind and spirit were ageless. He learned to play guitar in his early 80s and purchased a home on a trout stream in his late 80s, where he enjoyed the natural beauty of Carroll County and spent many great times with his Laurel Fork friends.

Covington lived in the Ridgeway area of Henry County.

Ridgeway Mayor Craig O’Der, Jr., also a law enforcement officer, said that Covington “was the model jurist. He set the example as a jurist. He will be missed.”

O’Der recalled often seeing Covington in the community.

“He was always friendly,” O’Der said. His death “is a great loss to our community.”

Solar Farms

(cont. from page 1)

Clement said she’s come to realize it isn’t about “green energy” but rather about “green money” in the form of taxpayer dollars already set aside by legislation in the form of tax credits or “redirecting” tax liabilities to the solar industry to build and operate “non-farms.”

“When approached, these companies and groups offer an alternative that could support clean energy and immediately reduce utility costs at the local level by asking for help in seeking grants to install solar on the rooftops of school and government buildings and parking lots,” she said.

Clement said another argument organization highlights the potential to lower individuals’ utility bills due to the electricity they generate.

As a resident of Pittsylvania County, which has 23 solar projects, eight of which are complete, she said there is no mention of any tax rate decrease as public officials have stated the funds will be used for capital projects.

“Keep in mind this economic windfall is coming from taxpayer funds already approved in legislation, so if legislation changes, then what,” she said. “I encourage you to listen to your constituents and remember they are who you represent, not the solar company or their advocate groups. The solar companies are concerned about money, nothing more.”

Ed Pool said that while many ar-

en’t opposed to green energy, they are opposed to cadmium telluride, which will be in the panels used in projects here.

“It’s a particular panel and a particular chemical that’s in there. So, you understand that seven percent of the marketplace – cadmium telluride, 97 percent are polysilicon panels. So, if it’s a question of green energy, there’s other ways this can go in lieu of something that’s that toxic,” he said.

Pool said cadmium telluride is the sixth most known toxic toxin to humans.

“For the life of me, I cannot understand why we want to bring that into the county regardless of if it’s in solar panels or anything else,” he said.

While he’s in favor of green energy, Vance Agee said he thinks it’s important that the board either request or draft a defined resolution related to solar farming that’s specific and includes the language to prohibit the use of highly toxic materials.

“Following the procedures and protocols for the Board of Supervisors, the resolution needs to be either redrafted or more clearly defined so that it protects our citizens and our environment,” he said.

Judson Witham said toxic chemicals in the environment have caused numerous problems across the world.

“I believe it would be quite wise

to study that issue very closely,” he said.

Witham said the World Health Organization (WHO) and the World Economic Forum (WEF) recently pushed their 2030 program up six years.

“I don’t know precisely where the county stands with some of the sustainability agendas and some of the globalization agendas and some of the United Nation’s intentions on stripping away from” Virginia residents of their human and constitutional rights, he said.

Kurt Bozenmayer, a member of the Planning Commission, spoke about ‘fearmongering’ regarding solar.

Bozenmayer said the company proposing to build the Fairy Stone Solar Project has given several presentations to the public about how the project will take place.

“These presentations have been polite and comprehensive, and the company has answered many of the public’s questions to the best of their ability,” he said. “But we have a few opponents who appear to be bent on convincing the citizens of Patrick County that solar panels will irreversibly pollute our beautiful county, destroy our farmland, and kill all the fish between here and Portugal.”

Bozenmayer said one of the recent fearmongering tactics is to present Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) as “scientific proof” of the deadliness of the solar pan-

els.

An example he stated, “When heated to decomposition it emits toxic fumes” and “electrolysis... May lead to formation of explosive nitrogen trichloride” to describe common table salt.

“The Board of Supervisors are not professional chemists, nor are they medical professionals, neither is the Planning Commission. They are not capable of deciding whether or not to reject this solar project based on a few documents of questionable relevance,” he said.

Instead, Bozenmayer said he believes any decision at this level must be based on the success or failure of similar projects in similar circumstances.

In other matters, the board:

- *Approved resolutions honoring Bill Clark and Glenn Roycroft for their years of service as part of the Patrick County Economic Development Authority (EDA).
- *Approved the Aug. 14 meeting minutes.
- *Approved the bills, claims, and appropriations.
- *Approved a resolution in support of the Critz Community Center’s application for a Virginia Transportation Alternative Funding grant, contingent on receiving the necessary information from the group.
- *Heard the administrator’s report.
- *Heard the supervisors’ reports.

Arrests Reported

The Patrick County Sheriff’s Office reported the following:

- *Jacob Christopher Edwards, 21, of Stuart, was charged Sept. 6 with fail to appear. Deputy M.L. Harris was the arresting officer.
- *Brett Lane Williams, 54, of Stuart, was charged Sept. 8 with

- intentional damage to a monument. Sgt. C.A. Frick was the arresting officer.
- *Chasity Michelle Woods, 44, of Danbury, N.C., was charged Sept. 11 with fail to appear. Sgt. C.A. Frick made the arrest for Henry County.
- *Melanie Faye Constantin, 33,

- of Stuart, was charged Sept. 11 with probation violation. Deputy C.L. Elgin made the arrest for Henry County.
- *Ryan Matthew Haynes, 31, of Bassett, was charged Sept. 12 with probation violation. Virginia State Police made the arrest for Patrick County.

- *Dustin Seaver Hazlewood, 34, of Stuart, was charged Sept. 13 with intentional damage to a monument. Deputy A. Kinney was the arresting officer.
- *Jeffery Scott Bridgeman, 40, of Stuart, was charged Sept. 15 with trespass. Deputy A. Kinney was the arresting officer.

More Audits Coming from the IRS

Even the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) recognizes that more audits are coming. They admitted as much on September 8, 2023.

Since taking office more than two years ago, President Biden, his Administration, and Democrats in Congress have made it their mission to supercharge the IRS.

Last year, Democrats in Congress passed the so-called "Inflation Reduction Act" (IRA), which allocated \$80 billion dollars in mandatory funding to the agency (the IRS previously requested this funding in conjunction with President Biden's first budget proposal). More than half of that funding was specifically intended to hire 87,000 new IRS agents.

Republicans in Congress, including myself, as well as many Americans around the country, have raised concerns about this new funding and the hiring of so many new IRS agents, fearing that the agency will use these funds to target low- and middle-income families and small businesses.

Unlike wealthy people and big businesses, average American families and small businesses cannot afford lawyers to deal with an intrusive IRS. They likely file their taxes themselves and now the agency will have tens of thousands of new agents breathing down their necks.

When allocating the new money to the IRS, Democrats claimed that the agency would be targeting wealthy taxpayers and large corporations who they said are cheating on their taxes, and that families, people, and small businesses making under \$400,000 wouldn't see an increase in audits.

I, like many, have found this claim to be dubious.

When Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen was called before House Ways and Means Committee in March, she testified that, "IRA resources will not be used to increase the share of households and small businesses earning less than \$400,000 that are audited, relative to historic levels."

I'd like to note, while some small businesses may gross more than \$400,000 a year, most of these mom-and-pop shops only take home a small fraction of their gross income.

Secretary Yellen certainly chose her words carefully that day.

If you listen closely, I believe you will hear that she gives the IRS two outs if they raise audit rates, by both saying the share won't change relative to other groups being audited, and that it would be compared to historic levels which means rates can depend on certain years.

More recently, on September 8, the IRS put out a statement saying that they were putting in place additional "safeguards" to ensure taxpayers making less than \$400,000 wouldn't face more audits.

But why are new "safeguards" be-



Morgan Griffith

Representative

ing put in place now if the agency does not expect to increase audits on average American families and small businesses?

Hmmm...

Even more concerning, since the passage of the IRA, the IRS has not submitted to Congress a detailed plan on how they will use the \$80 billion in new funding.

Instead, the agency has sent Congress a series of lackluster outlines of their activities, raising even more questions about how Americans' tax dollars will be spent.

But wait, it gets worse! The IRS wants even more money.

The agency asked Congress for another \$43 billion, of which \$29.1 billion would be used to 'continue IRA funded enforcement and compliance initiatives.'

What are these enforcement and compliance initiatives? We still don't know.

And don't forget about how Democrats changed the minimum threshold for reporting money transfers made on third-party settlement organizations to \$600, essentially giving the IRS and Big Tech a mandate to scrutinize individuals, small business owners, and just about anyone who uses money transfer apps.

Payments made on apps like Venmo, PayPal, and Square between roommates or friends will be reviewable by the IRS next year.

This new requirement would also affect individuals hoping to unload their used goods or sell their handmade works on online platforms like eBay, Etsy, and Poshmark.

If you want to sell your used stereo equipment or sell a handmade quilt, why does the IRS need to know?

There should be a threshold, but \$600 a year? I think not. (It's currently \$20,000.) I guess to Democrats if you "Venmo" more than \$600 a year, you are either wealthy or a big business.

Republicans are committed to finding ways to prevent average Americans and businesses from being burdened by a behemoth IRS. Only the Sheriff of Nottingham could like this policy.

Unlike the villain in the Robin Hood legend, in January the first piece of legislation we passed with our new Republican majority was to rescind this new Democrat-driven \$80 billion in funding for the IRS.

If you have questions, concerns, or comments, call my Abingdon office at (276) 525-1405, my Christiansburg office at (540) 381-5671, my Washington office at (202) 225-3861, or via email at www.morgan-griffith.house.gov.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Some School Districts Hide Information

(Newsmax, Parents Defending Education, Education News, New York Post)

A new report sounds the alarm on the growing number of schools embracing transgender ideology and keeping parents in the dark.

According to Parents Defending Education, at least 1,040 U.S. school districts have adopted policies instructing or encouraging faculty and staff to keep students' gender identities a secret from parents.

Those districts include over 18,000 schools responsible for nearly 11 million students. The vast majority of those school districts (593) are in California.

In Virginia (updated August 8, 2023) the following 12 school districts are listed in the report.

Accomack County Public Schools
Albemarle County Public Schools
Appomattox Regional Governor's School

Arlington Public Schools
Chesapeake Public Schools
Chesterfield County Public Schools

Dinwiddie County Public Schools
Fairfax County Public Schools
Hampton City Schools
Lexington City Schools

Loudoun County Public Schools
Prince William County Schools

Our educational system that is supposed to work with parents will often work around parents instead. At this point, parents need to assume they will be deceived by their

school if their child makes a gender identity declaration to a teacher or counselor at school.

Commonly called "Transgender/Gender Nonconforming Policies," such dictums have been the subject of controversy and even protest across the nation, with parental rights organizations such as Moms for Liberty and Mama Grizzly forming to combat the policies and others like them.

A recent example of the controversy may be found in New Jersey, where a state judge blocked a trio of school districts from enforcing a policy requiring faculty and staff to inform parents of students' gender identities at school, effectively forcing the school districts to keep parents in the dark.

When the government (local, state, or federal) removes parents from the decision-making process, that makes children wards of the State. That is Marxism. It also violates the Due Process Clause of the 14th Amendment. As a unanimous Supreme Court explained in *Pierce v. Society of Sisters* (1925), the State may not "unreasonably interfere with the liberty of parents and guardians to direct the upbringing and education of children under their control," adding "The child is not the mere creature of the state."

Pray for our country.
William Salser,
Stuart

Taking a stand against big money

As we honor Constitution Day, often known as "Citizens Day," we should ask why our freedoms are currently held hostage by the tyranny of big money in our elections.

The money coming into our political system is stifling our voices. Over the past 40 years, Supreme Court rulings, culminating in the 2010 decision, *Citizens United*, have muted the political voices of average citizens while amplifying those of corporations and special interests who now flood money into our political system. In Virginia, despite the fact that surveys show that 4 out of 5 citizens feel that large donors have too much influence in our elections, our legislators seem to be okay that millions of dollars from out of state billions dominate our elections spending.

There are opportunities for reform, both to combat Supreme Court rulings and push Virginia legislators to enact common sense

campaign finance limits adopted by 45 other states. We should ask our Congressional delegation, including Rep. Morgan Griffith, to support an amendment to the U.S. Constitution which would re-establish state and Congressional rights to regulate election spending. And all candidates running for the General Assembly, irrespective of party, should complete the Virginia Good Governance Scorecard which signals their commitment to a Commonwealth that works for all Virginians. I'm thankful to have candidates Patty Quesenberry, running for Delegate, and Renie Gates, running for State Senate, for doing so, and taking a stand against big money tainting our elections, unlike our current representatives who haven't the courage to do so.

Lynn Chipkin,
Woolwine

Physicians & Pastors

I just turned 30, and I've already had four colonoscopies in my life. I have ulcerative colitis, something more and more people have now than days gone by. Wonder why? I receive very strong medicine every eight weeks. "Could cleaning up my diet help?" I've asked. Every gastroenterologist has told me, "That doesn't really matter. It is what it is." Now, we all know better than that. Those same physicians promote the classic American food pyramid! But, I digest, I mean digress.

Anyhow, I recently had a hiccup with my insurance which meant my eight-week appointment would be postponed until it was fixed. Well, my insurance was straightened out, but my eight-week appointment was postponed again. "What now?" Well, my physician then had to "prior authorize" the same medicine that had already been "prior authorized" and he was out of the clinic for days.

Do you know I don't even know my physician's name? Someone says, "That's your problem." Well, he's a new-to-me physician: they assigned me to him after my old G.I. died. Do you know that I did not even know my G.I. had died until a year after the fact? Last year on the phone with a nurse I pieced it together that my doctor had died, and I hesitantly asked, "Did Dr. ___ die?" and she answered, "Oh no, did you not get a letter?" No, I did not get a letter, and now I don't know my new physician's name. I doubt he knows my name.

My story isn't unusual. Loads of Americans could say, "Amen!" Don't get me wrong, my medicine

has helped my condition, however I don't like the idea that I'm just supposed to be on it for an undisclosed amount of time. I thank God for modern medicine, but I do question the modern diet.

Again, don't get me wrong: physicians are quitting as they're overworked. We say, "There ought to be a cap on patients per physician." Well, get ready to drive however far to find one who hasn't met his cap. Someone says, "Well, they make enough money." I think we all know money does very little for stress. I say, "pray for patients, not patience, but also pray for physicians."

You know who else is overlooked? The average church-goer. There are congregations throughout the nation whose one-man-pastor will fail to name every member in the congregation. If he does not know their name, how can he know their problems? How can he help their problems if he does not know them?

Physicians and pastors are the same: they can only care for so many people. Which is why the New Testament calls for a plurality of pastors for every one congregation (see Acts 14:23, 20:17, and James 5:14). Read Exodus 18:17-18 and see that even Moses was told that a one-man-pastor-system was "not good."

Pastors and physicians: one helps your inner man, the other your outer (2Cor. 4:16). In both instances you determine what each has to work with.

Caleb Robertson,
Martinsville

email us
DHALL@THEENTERPRISE.NET

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

Judge Ruth Williams and her great aunt, Serrada

By Beverly Belcher Woody

Well, I fell in one of those rabbit holes again this week. Saturday, I was at the Patrick County Historical Museum in Stuart (which has some amazing stuff, by the way) and started reading an article about the late Judge Ruth Williams. I got to thinking about what an independent woman she was and where she must have got those pioneering genes.

First, a little background for those who don't know Judge Ruth. She was born on the 13th of June 1913 to James Franklin Williams and Marcella Barnard Williams. Ruth attended the small community schools of Five Forks and Creasey's Chapel before she, her parents, and her sisters moved to Blue Ridge Street in Stuart.

Ruth was the valedictorian of the Stuart High School graduating class of 1930. After graduation, she moved to Roanoke where she attended National Business College. Ruth returned home and went to work as a legal secretary at the law firm of Hooker & Hooker (J. Murray Hooker and John Dillard Hooker).

In 1934, the trial justice system was established in Patrick County and Ruth was appointed as Clerk of Court. By 1942, John Dillard Hooker was now a judge but resigned to serve in the United States Naval Reserve. Judge Turner Clement appointed Ruth to the position of Judge for the Combined General District/Juvenile Domestic Relations Court. When Judge Hooker returned from World War II, Judge Ruth went back to being the Clerk of Court.

Shortly after she resumed the business of being a Clerk, Judge Kennon Whittle appointed her to be the Judge of the Combined Courts again. Judge Ruth held that position until 1956, when the two courts separated. Judge Ruth served as Judge of the Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court until her appointment to the General District Court in 1968. Judge Ruth served in that capacity until her retirement in 1978.

Judge Ruth's mother, Marcella was the daughter of Isham Nathaniel Thompson Barnard and Mary Jane Webb of Meadows of Dan. Judge Ruth's father, James Franklin Williams was the son of Thomas Tunstall Williams and



Serrada Williams, great aunt of Judge Ruth Williams.

Henrietta Hines of the Peter's Creek area of Patrick County.

Here is where I fell into the rabbit hole ... Thomas Tunstall Williams was the son of Francis Marion Williams. In the 1860 census, the Francis Marion Williams family was living in Swansonville in Pittsylvania County. In the 1870 and 1880 census, Francis Marion Williams was working as a millwright in the Dan River district in Patrick County. Before the 20th century, Francis Marion Williams and most of his family moved again-this time to Palo Pinto, Texas! Thomas Tunstall Williams remained in Patrick County where he raised his family, including Judge Ruth's father, James Franklin Williams.

Thomas Tunstall Williams' sister, Serrada (Rada) was born in Stuart on the 25th of May 1866. Rada married John Hutchings Pigg in Patrick County on August 7, 1886. Pigg was from the Chatham area and the couple re-

MRS. RADA E. PIGG
Funeral services for Mrs. Rada Ellen Pigg of 750 S. Alexander avenue, Claremont, were held Tuesday afternoon in Todd Memorial South chapel with Rev. Thomas R. Marshall, rector of St. Paul's Episcopal church, officiating. Interment was made in Oak Park cemetery, Claremont, by the side of her husband, John H. Pigg, who passed away in 1936. Mrs. Pigg was born May 25, 1866, in Stuart, Va. She came to California from Chatham, Va., and first made her home in Hollywood. In 1919 she moved to Claremont, and for the last 15 years she has made her home with her daughter, Mrs. Ellen C. Colbath. Mrs. Pigg is survived by three daughters, Mrs. Mattie Overbey of St. Petersburg, Fla., Mrs. Elizabeth McInnis of Fairfield, Calif., and Mrs. Ellen C. Colbath of Claremont. There also are seven grandchildren and three great-

Obituary for Rada Ellen Pigg.

turned there to make their home. Rada was appointed postmaster of the Dry Fork Post office in August of 1899. By 1910, Rada and John were living in El Paso, Texas with their three daughters. Ten years later, the family was living in Claremont, California where they owned a 400-acre citrus farm. According to family lore, Pigg was deciding where to invest his money in a land purchase. He stood on the corner of Hollywood and Vine and reportedly said, "this pile of rocks will never amount to anything!"

Rada passed away in Hollywood, California on September 23, 1950; she was 84 years old. Judge Ruth passed away on March 2, 1988; she was survived by her sister, Marjorie W. (Mrs. Carl) Ayers.

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 - Will Opening a Joint Account Affect My Disabled Father's "SSI?"

Dear Rusty: I live in Michigan and my senior disabled father lives in rural Kentucky. His income is part Social Security and part disability. I talked to a local credit union near his home and explained I would like to open a joint account. They said as long as he comes in with his ID it's possible. My question is - will adding money to our joint account affect his SSI and disability? Signed: Caring Daughter

Dear Caring Daughter: First,

I need to clarify that there are two types of disability programs administered by the Social Security Administration - Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI), and Supplemental Security Income (SSI). The acronym "SSI" normally refers to "Supplemental Security Income" which is a benefit for disabled senior adults (and children) who have very little income and very few assets. "SSI" is not Social Security income; rather it is a general benefit program jointly administered by the Social Security Administration and the State in which your father lives. In contrast, Social Security Disability (SSDI) benefits are earned from working and are not affected by the recipient's assets, as are "SSI" benefits.

From what you've written, I as-

sume that your father may have a small Social Security retirement benefit (because he has reached his full retirement age and SSDI isn't available after full retirement age), and he is also receiving Supplemental Security Income (SSI) disability benefits. If this is the case, although your father's Social Security retirement benefit would not be affected by opening a joint account at the credit union, his Supplemental Security Income (SSI) disability benefit likely will be. As co-owner of the joint account your assets would count towards your father's "SSI" asset limit, and your assets, as well as any "in kind" assistance you otherwise provide, would likely put your father over the SSI income/asset eligibility limit and result in his SSI benefits being terminated.

So, although the credit union may be willing to open a joint account for you and your father, I'm afraid that would result in your father losing his SSI (Supplemental Security Income) benefits, leaving him with only his small Social Security retirement benefit. You may wish to

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gov/ssi/eligibility or you could contact the Social Security Administration and ask to speak with someone experienced with Supplemental Security Income matters. For clarity, "SSI" assistance is jointly administered by the Social Security Administration and each State's Human Services department, and assistance available varies somewhat depending on the recipient's state of residence. Thus, since your father lives in Kentucky, you might also contact that state's human services agency to discuss your options for providing remote assistance to your father without jeopardizing his Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefit: www.chfs.ky.gov/Pages/contact.aspx.

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

Free for All Ages Patrick County Alzheimer's Group

Register:
<https://bit.ly/InsuranceRoundTable>

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INSURANCE ROUND TABLE & AFTERNOON TEA

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2:00 P.M.
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STUART

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Vicki Bennett - New York Life

Lisa Martin - The Landmark Center

Debbie Tatum - Dept. of Social Services

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Cougars top Chatham in hard fought homecoming game

By Pat Delaney

The Patrick County Cougars won a close, hard fought game in front of the homecoming night crowd on September 15, defeating the Chatham Cavaliers, 17-14.

Chatham came into the game having outscored their opponents 108-52, averaging 36 points a game. "We knew they were going to be dynamic on offense, but we also knew we had a great game plan," Coach David Morrison said after the game. "We did a really great job. I give all the credit to our players and our defensive staff for that performance. That was fantastic. To come out here and hold that squad that's so explosive and so talented to 14 points, it's awesome."

Offensively, the Cougars looked good from the start. Their rushing attack moved the ball downfield, but like their opponents, couldn't find the end zone in the first quarter.

Chatham took a 7-0 lead in the second quarter following a long play on 1st & 40, moving deep into Cougar territory. The Cavaliers scored two plays later.

After being forced to punt, the Cougar defense held firm, getting the ball back to their offense, who responded. The Cougars marched down the field behind solid block-

ing from the offensive line, punching it in on a 4-yard quarterback run by Easton Harris. Then Reyli Martinez-Tejeda's extra point tied the game, 7-7.

The offensive line was solid all night, creating openings for the Cougar backfield to run through.

Coach Morrison had praise for the defensive line as well, helping to hold the Chatham offense in check. "I can't say enough about the way those guys stepped up to-night."

The second half got off to a strong start with the Cougars defense forcing a quick punt. The offense once again looked strong, driving down the field. With 7:52 left in the third quarter, solid blocking broke Jay Howard free for a 37-yard run for a touchdown.

With less than a minute to go in the third, Chatham tied the game 14-14 on a 43-yard touchdown pass.

The Cougars showed their determination and toughness on the next drive. After receiving the Chatham kickoff, Patrick County moved the ball while eating up more than half of the fourth quarter. While the drive stalled in Cavalier territory, Reyli Martinez-Tejeda drilled a 38-yard field goal, giving his team the 17-14 lead with 5:54 left in the game.

With Chatham's high powered offense hoping to drive the field for at least a tying field goal, the Patrick County defense was outstanding. With the game on the line, the Cougars held on fourth down, ending the Chatham drive.

One of the biggest plays of the game with little time on the clock. Going for it on fourth down, the Cougars drew a Chatham defensive lineman offside. The penalty gave the Cougars the first down, needing only to run out the clock for the hard fought victory.

Offensively, Aden Penn led the Cougars with 130 yards on the ground. Easton Harris had 78 yards and a touchdown. Jay Howard added 68 yards with a touchdown, and blocked a Chatham field goal attempt.

On the defensive side, Joshua Jimrusti had four tackles, three for a loss and two sacks. Seth Geiger led the team with six tackles, two for a loss, with Josiah Spangler chipping in five tackles, two for a loss. Trevor Joyce and Paul Pascale both had a quarterback sack.

Coach Morrison gave credit to his players and coaching staff for the win, adding how getting back some injured players has helped the team.

"We had a lot of early season inju-

ries and they've kind of hampered us, slowed us down. We started getting some guys back last week, and we got a couple more guys back this week. That's really helped us out on both sides, offensively and defensively," he said.

The Cougars showed determination and grit throughout the entire game, responding to whatever Chatham threw at them.

"That's something we talk about all the time," Morrison said. "You can't ever stop. We don't have any quit in us. We've been in tight games this year, every game but one, and that's something that's been a blessing. It's tough when you have to be in those tough games, and those close games because it wears on you mentally, but it toughens you. It makes you so much stronger, mentally and physically."

"I'm just so proud of these guys, the way they stepped up and stayed true to what we're teaching these guys all week," said Coach Morrison. "They're just tough as nails. We love each and every one of them. These guys are fantastic ball players."

The Cougars will travel to Carroll County for their next game on September 22, returning home on the 29th to face Floyd County.



Reyli Martinez-Tejeda sends the game winning kick on its way.



Jay Howard raises the ball as he crosses the goal line for a touchdown.



The Cougar defense swarms the Chatham runner.



The Cougar defense held Chatham's high powered offense to just 14 points.



The offensive line's play was instrumental in the Cougar's rushing attack.



Coach Morrison and his staff had the team ready, while the Cougar faithful cheered on their team.

Volleyball Team Wins Two and Loses One

By Ashlee Mullis

The Varsity Volleyball Team traveled to Martinsville, on Monday, September 11, winning in 3 sets with scores of 25-14, 25-13, 25-18. Jayden Callahan had 8 kills and 3 aces. Journey Moore had 8 aces and 3 kills. Camille Gonzalez had 5 aces and 15 assists.

Lilly Hazelwood had 6 kills and 2 blocks, and Marissa Bentley 5 kills.

The Lady Cougars hosted Floyd Tuesday, September 12, winning in straight sets with scores of

25-15, 25-10, 25-20. Callahan had 5 kills and 5 aces. Moore had 10 digs and 4 kills. Bentley had 5 kills, 2 blocks, and 2 aces. PC lost a touch match Thursday, September 14 on the road at James River. Scores were 26-28, 13-25, and 18-25. Eliza Clifton had 16 assists, 6 aces, and 7 digs. Hazelwood had 5 kills, 3 blocks, and 3 aces, and Journey Moore had 25 digs.



Bryley Pike receives the serve for the Cougars.

PCHS Sports Schedule

Patrick County High School's Sports Schedule for the week of Sept. 20-27 is below:

- 9/21 7pm Volleyball at James River
- 9/22 7pm Football at Carroll County
- 9/23 10:30a Cross Country Invitational at Jackson River Sports Complex
- 9/26 7pm Volleyball vs Bassett

THANK YOU FOR READING THE ENTERPRISE

Why You Should Try the Bible-Based Daniel Fast

Not long ago, actor Chris Pratt gave the age-old Daniel Fast a popularity boost when he posted a now-expired Instagram story, saying, “Hi, Chris Pratt here. Day Three of the Daniel Fast, check it out. It’s 21 days of prayer and fasting.”

Our social media feeds are plastered with articles and videos about different diets and health regimens. We’ve heard all about the keto diet, intermittent fasting, and of course, our tried-and-true plant-based lifestyle, but what’s the Daniel Fast? Why does this diet include prayer as part of its protocol?

What is the Daniel Fast?

The Daniel Fast originated from a story in the book of Daniel which is part of the Old Testament. In the story, Daniel decides that he wouldn’t take part in the rich, indulgent foods that surround him in the royal court and instead asks to be served, “nothing but vegetables to eat and water to drink” for ten days. Later, in chapter ten of the book of Daniel, he takes up the fast again, this time for three weeks. Both instances were inspired by Daniel’s desire to deepen his relationship with God in a trying time, and both led not only to better health, but increased knowledge and understanding as well.

It’s important to note here that no verse in the Bible instructs us to follow the fast that Daniel undertook. However, Daniel’s story acts as a powerful example of what can happen when you choose to eat simply and live prayerfully and mindfully.

Here’s a breakdown of the Daniel Fast:

*21 days

*Exclude alcohol, caffeine, meat, dairy, sugar, fats, and processed foods

*Include foods grown from seeds, such as fruits, vegetables, legumes, and whole grains

*Drink lots of water

*Oftentimes, people will dedicate their Daniel Fast to spending more time in prayer and Bible study

Broken down like that, the Daniel Fast seems to be a very healthy, low-fat, plant-based diet, which has been shown to do the following, and much more:

*Reverse type 2 diabetes

*Reverse heart disease

*Reverse symptoms of depression and other mental disorders

*Fight cancer

*Prevent dementia and Alzheimer’s

*And lower your risk for many other life-threatening conditions, including BMI, blood pressure, cholesterol, A1c, to name just a few.

Don’t ignore the “prayer” part of the Daniel Fast

And yet, it’s easy to focus on the food element and completely disregard the spiritual factor. After all, even in this age of information and sensory overload, the simple topic of food still dominates. Cheerful recipe videos populate our social media feeds, meal subscription packages turn every one of us into proper home chefs, and new, modern restaurants pop up every day, turning food into art. It’s easy to turn even the Daniel Fast—a diet plan designed to bring your focus to God—into an obsessive hunt for the perfect non-GMO, organic lettuce and a race to eight glasses of water per day.

In this age of plenty—plenty of healthy food options, plenty of workout DVDs and fitness classes, and even plenty of TV shows and articles about all of the above—the Daniel Fast is a reminder that you need spiritual health, too. We believe spirituality and health go hand-in-hand. Many of us don’t like to eat healthy because our hearts are lacking a sense of purpose, and so the cycle to an unhealthy lifestyle begins.

If you’re planning on giving the Daniel Fast a try, don’t forget about the spirituality part. Because you’re eating clean, healthy food, your mind should be clear and ready to practice some mindfulness. If you’re not sure how to pray, or if you don’t have a relationship with God, here are a few ideas that can get you there:

At the end of each day, write down 2-3 things you’re thankful for.

Be intentional about helping people around you that you might have overlooked before.

Check out a short devotional that you can read in the morning to get your day started on a positive note.

Get yourself and a friend started on a Bible study.

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

Initial claims for unemployment insurance decrease

The number of initial claims decreased in the latest filing week to 2,118 and remained at typical pre-Pandemic volumes experienced in 2019, according to data from the Virginia Employment Commission (VEC).

For the filing week ending September 9, the figure for seasonally unadjusted initial claims in Virginia was 2,118, which was a decrease of 450 claimants from the previous week. Continued weeks claimed totaled 13,027, which was 65 claims lower than the previous week but an increase of 26.5% from the 10,296 continued claims from the comparable week last year. An industry was reported for ninety-four percent of claimants. Of those, over half (52 percent) of continued claims were from professional, scientific, and technical services (1,958), administrative and support and waste management (1,822), manufacturing (1,432), and health care and social assistance (1,187). 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 applica-

tions; claims are then reviewed for eligibility and legitimacy.

In the week ending September 9, the advance U.S. figure for seasonally adjusted initial claims was 220,000, an increase of 3,000 from the previous week’s revised level. The previous week’s level was revised up by 1,000 from 216,000 to 217,000. The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs[1], unadjusted, totaled 174,499 in the week ending September 9, a decrease of 16,854 (or -8.8 percent) from the previous week. There were 152,144 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 (-3,527) was the largest decrease. Missouri’s preliminary weekly change (-3,302) was the second largest decrease. New York’s preliminary weekly change (-2,959) was the third largest decrease. Texas’s preliminary weekly change (-1,443) was the fourth largest decrease. Virginia’s preliminary weekly change (-619) was the eighth largest decrease.

OBITUARIES

Alberta Hatcher Fain



Alberta Hatcher Fain, age 90 of Stuart, passed away on September 15, 2023, at SOVAH Hospital of Martinsville, VA. She was born on September 26, 1932, in Patrick County to the late Thomas Wilton Hatcher and Mollie Hylton Hatcher. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Elder Dolphus Ray Fain; her brothers, Irving Hatcher, Moir Hatcher, and Thomas Wilton Hatcher, Jr.; and her sisters, Estelle Hatcher Barnes, Eleanor Hatcher Turner, Elizabeth “Dib” Hatcher, and her twin sister Roberta Hatcher Adams.

After many years of dedicated employment, she retired from J.P. Stevens. She enjoyed cooking for her family, especially preparing her famous chicken and dumplings, which was always a hit at the third Sunday church lunches. She always made sure each meal was complete with some type of sweet des-

sert. Alberta was especially proud of her sewing abilities and was known for her skill at creating both clothing for her and her daughter, as well as making doll clothes. Alberta was known for her gardening skills and love of flowers. She enjoyed mowing her lawn and keeping it perfectly manicured. She was a member of Woolwine United Church and was a faithful attendee of Jacks Creek Primitive Baptist Church for many years. Alberta was an amazing mom, grandma, and “Gimmie”, and her memory will be cherished and remain in the hearts of many.

Alberta is survived by her son, Thomas Eugene “Gene” Fain (Linda) of Martinsville, VA; daughter, Sheila Fain Clary (Steve) of Martinsville, VA; grandchildren, Jennifer Fain Guizar (Rosendo) of Walla Walla, WA, Chad Flanagan (Jennifer) of Henrico, VA, Matthew Clary of Falls Church, VA; step-granddaughter, Natalie McKenzie of Roanoke, VA; great-grandchildren, Jacob Thomason, River Flanagan, and Lanier Flanagan.

A funeral service for Alberta will be held on Monday, September 18, 2023, at 11:00 AM at Moody Funeral Home in Stuart with Elder David Kamoda officiating. The family will receive friends one hour prior to the service at Moody Funeral Home. Burial will follow in the Woolwine Cemetery. Expressions of condolences can be sent by visiting www.moodyfuneralservices.com.

Patricia Ann Wright Cannaday



Mrs. Patricia Ann Wright Cannaday age 68, of Stuart, Virginia lost her battle with cancer on Tuesday, September 12, 2023. She was born November 18, 1954 to the late Luther Paul Wright and Mayola Turner Wright. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by a son, Michael Cannaday.

Surviving is her loving husband of 52 years, Leroy Franklin Cannaday of the

home; son, Tony Cannaday and wife, Krystal of Sumter, South Carolina; daughter, Amy Winikur and husband, Jeffrey of

Patrick Springs, Virginia; five grandchildren, Braydon Priest, Kinsley Winikur, Adaleigh Winikur, Logan Cannaday, and Gracie Cannaday; and special friend, Regina Massey of Stuart, Virginia.

Funeral services will be private. Moody Funeral Home in Stuart had been entrusted with the arrangements and online condolences may be made by visiting www.moodyfuneralservices.com.

Jo Ann Ayers Bishop Corns

Mrs. Jo Ann Ayers Bishop Corns, age 84 of Stuart, passed away Wednesday, September 13, 2023, at Surry Health Center in Mt. Airy, NC. She was born in Patrick County on July 5, 1939, to the late Bonnie Ayers and Mae Shockley Ayers. In addition to her

parents, she was preceded in death by her 1st husband, Charles

Bishop; her 2nd husband, Paul Corns; one brother, Frank Ayers; and an infant sister. Jo Ann was a member of Minnie’s Chapel Wesleyan Church and had retired from United Elastic.

Surviving is a special caretaker, Sandra Perry of Stuart.

A graveside service will be held Saturday, September 16, 2023,

at 11:00 AM at Minnie’s Chapel Wesleyan Church with Pastors David Bishop and Gary Combs officiating. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Minnie’s Chapel Wesleyan Church c/o Dot Overby, 1873 Salem Hwy, Stuart, VA 24171. Online condolences may be sent to www.moodyfuneralservices.com.

Employment Scams Haven’t Gone Away

When it comes to the labor market, the supply of jobs is outpacing demand but that doesn’t mean that employment scams have gone away. Just because there are more job openings than job seekers doesn’t mean that criminals have closed up shop. With many Americans looking for a side hustle to help make ends meet or an opportunity to make more money or work remotely, there are still enough potential victims to fuel these schemes.

Here’s what you need to know to avoid employment scams. Beware of any job that offers a large income with little to no training or experience. The Business offers that are guaranteed to “pay off quickly” or

“double your investment” are also highly suspicious. Lastly, avoid any job offer which requires you to pay in advance for certification, training or materials.

Many of these employment scams are advertised as “work from home” which is particularly dangerous with so many people looking for these opportunities. Before accepting any work from home position, do your homework and ensure that the company you are agreeing to work for is indeed a legitimate one.

Visit the AARP Fraud Watch Network at www.aarp.org/fraudwatchnetwork or call the AARP Fraud Watch Helpline at 1-877-908-3360.

Kenneth M. Covington



Retired Henry County Circuit Court Judge Kenneth M. Covington of Martinsville, Va. passed on September 11, 2023 surrounded by family. He was born in Martinsville, Va. on January 1, 1929 to John G. "Glennie" Covington and Fannie B. Covington of Ridgeway, Va.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his wife of 65 years, Norma Pulliam Covington; son, Benjamin "Benny" C. Covington; brothers, J.G. Covington Jr., Billie W. Covington, Jack R. Covington, all of Ridgeway, and sisters, Peggy C. McCall of Rocky Mount, Va. and Jane C. Hargreaves of Tullahoma, Tenn.

Surviving are his son John R. "Randy" Covington (Wendy) of Ridgeway; daughters Kim C. Darnell (David) of Anna Maria Island, Fla., Patti Covington of Martinsville, VA., and Jane R. Covington (Crane Jones) of Brentwood, Tenn.; grandchildren, J.R. Covington Jr., David Darnell Jr. (Allie), and Anne Marshall (John); great-grandchildren, Hudson Darnell and Bennett, Maddie, and William Marshall.

Judge Covington was a lifetime member of Broad Street Christian Church where he served as deacon, elder, trustee, and former chairman of the board. He graduated from Bluefield Col-

lege and T.C. Williams School of Law at the University of Richmond. He served in the U.S. Army in Korea during the Korean Conflict as a member of the KMAG as an advisory member to the Korean Army Judge Advocate General, helping to establish a judicial system for the Korean Army. During this service, he became an honorary member of the Korean Bar and earned a bronze star.

Following his military service, he served Henry County as Commonwealth Attorney for 12 years and then as Judge of the Martinsville Municipal Court and Henry County court, which later became a district court. He retired as a Judge of the 21st Circuit Court of Virginia and was known widely for his wisdom, fairness, and knowledge of the law. "Practicing in front of Judge Covington was like taking a post law school graduate course in litigation", said Retired Circuit Court Judge David Williams, who practiced before him as both a private

and commonwealth attorney.

As a native son of Martinsville-Henry County, he deeply loved this community and its people and had an encyclopedic knowledge of its history. He judged people in the courtroom but not in life: his grace and kindness touched many lives, both inside and outside of the courtroom. His mind and spirit were ageless: he learned to play guitar in his early eighties and purchased a home on a trout stream in his late eighties, where he enjoyed the natural beauty of Carroll County and spent many great times with his Laurel Fork friends.

A visitation will be held on Friday, September 15, 2023 from 5-8 p.m. at Broad Street Christian Church, 106 Broad Street. A graveside service will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, September 16, 2023 at Oakwood Cemetery, 107 Cemetery Street, Martinsville, Va. and will be officiated by Reverend Tim Mills.

Memorials may be made to Broad Street Christian Church, Old Well Christian Church, or the SPCA of Martinsville-Henry County.

McKee-Stone Funeral Home, Martinsville, Va. is serving the family.

To express condolences online, please visit www.collinsmckee-stonemartinsville.com.

Nancy Ruth Greer



Nancy Ruth Greer, 82 of Patrick Springs, VA passed away on Friday September 15, 2023 at Woltz Hospice Care in Dobson, North Carolina. She was born on February 14, 1941 to the late George Goode Trent and the late Ivory Shough Trent. In addition to her parents, she is preceded in death by two brothers; Gene Trent and Leonard Trent.

Surviving are her husband of 63 years; Perry E. Greer of the home, one daughter; Robin Letchworth (Craig), and a son; Steve Greer (Connie). Two brothers; Larry Maynard "Hoss" Trent (Vernel) and Cecil Trent (Linda) both of Patrick Springs, Virginia. Mrs. Greer is sur-

vived by six Grandchildren; Lindsey Rogers (Donald), Kelsey Land (Dustin), Carley Letchworth, Zach Letchworth, Sagan Greer and Michael Greer. She is survived by three Great grandchildren; Layla, Brady, Gabriel and several nieces and nephews.

She was employed at East Hampton Rubber Thread as an Inspector. Mrs. Greer has been a church mem-

ber of Patrick Springs Pentecostal Holiness Church since she was nine years of age. She was active in many ministries at church which included: Choir Director, Church Soloist, the Lead Singer in a girl's quartet and worked with the youth program.

A service will be held on Sunday, September 17th at 3:00 pm with a visitation one hour prior to service at 2:00pm, with Pastor Samuel Leonard and Reverend Greg Martin officiating. Burial will be at Providence Community Cemetery in Patrick Springs, VA.

Norris Funeral Services in Stuart is serving the Greer family.

On line condolences may be made at www.norrisfuneral.com.

Oscar Harold "O.H." Fain



Mr. Oscar Harold "O.H." Fain, age 91 of Claudville, passed away Wednesday, September 13, 2023, at Woltz Hospice Home in Dobson, NC. He was born in Wentworth, NC on June 25, 1932, to the late William Melvin Fain and Minnie Sue Fain. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by two sisters, Annie Mae Watkins, Alma Sue Blakley; and four brothers, William Edgar Fain, Charlie Alvis Fain, Melvin Carlton Fain, and James Moyer Fain. O.H. served in the 82nd Airborne Division with the U.S. Army and was a member of Trinity Baptist Church. He loved flying and was a wonderful husband, father, grandfather, and brother.

Surviving is his

wife, Martha Maness Fain of the home; two children, Dale Fain of Reidsville, NC, Kimberly (Ed) Lehanka of Climax, NC; two step children, Donna Marie (Paul) Hussey of Biscoe, NC, Diane (Robert) Kellam of Candor, NC; four grandchildren; two step grandchildren; two step great grandchildren; two sisters, Ann Duncan, Mildred Mageline Roberts; two brothers, Harry Eugene Fain, Morris

Wayne Fain all of Reidsville, NC; and several nieces and nephews.

Funeral services will be held Sunday, September 17, 2023, at 3:00 PM at Moody Funeral Home in Stuart with Pastor Chad Harrison officiating. The family will receive friends one hour prior to the service at the funeral home. A graveside service will be held Monday, September 18, 2023, at 1:00 PM at Faith Baptist Church in Candor, NC. Bumgarner Family Funeral Home in Troy, NC will be handling the graveside service. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Mountain Valley Hospice, 945 Zephyr Rd, Dobson, NC 27017. Online condolences may be sent to www.moodyfuneralservices.com.

Lonnie Millard Dillon



Mr. Lonnie Millard Dillon, age 77, of Stuart, Virginia passed away at SECU Hospice Home of Yadkinville, North Carolina on Sunday, September 17, 2023. He was born on March 8, 1946, to the late Merton and Della Belcher Dillon. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by seven siblings, Marie Barbour, Jeanette Pendleton, Myrtle Hollingsworth, Jewell Haden, Green Dillon, Bobby Dillon, and Avery Dillon. Lonnie attended Jack's Creek Primitive Baptist Church. He made lots of friends over the years who trusted him wholeheartedly. People knew Lonnie was a man of his word. He was a proudly and faithfully served in the United States Army during the Vietnam War. His favorite place to go was his homeplace where he was raised. Lonnie had draft horses and raised minia-

ture horses. He was an avid hunter, fisherman, and sports fan; he especially enjoyed watching his granddaughter play basketball. Lonnie will be dearly missed by his family, friends, and all who knew him.

Lonnie is survived by his loving wife of 54 years, Bonnie Harris Dillon of the home; two sons, Kelly Brooks Dillon, and James Kevin Dillon, both of Woolwine, Virginia; three grandchildren, Abigail Elise Dillon, Coby James Dillon, Eli Brooks Dillon; four siblings, Allen Dillon and wife, Emogene, Percy Dillon and wife, Maxine,

Elva Dillon Fulcher, Jean Dillon Hughes and husband, Alvin; sister-in-law, Claudia Dillon; numerous nieces and nephews and his beloved dogs, Charlie, Maddie, and Bo.

A graveside service will be held in Jack's Creek Primitive Baptist Cemetery, on Thursday, September 21, 2023, at 11:00 a.m. with Elder David Kamoda officiating. Military rites will be provided by the Patrick County Veterans Memorial Honor Guard. Mr. Dillon will lie in state on Wednesday, September 20, 2023, at Moody Funeral Home in Stuart. 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.

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PATRICK PULPITS

Embrace An Old Reality

By Van Yandell

Genesis 45: 7-8 "And God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. So it was not you who sent me here, but God. He has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt."

Amazing and meaningful are not adequate to describe the lessons we can learn from the Old Testament stories. Sarah telling Abraham to go to Hagar's tent and make her pregnant (Genesis 16: 2) so he could have a son should teach us something. Taking God's decisions into one's own hands is not advisable for anyone.

This action because of Sarah resulted in two warring factions (Ishmaelites and Jews) that would be at odds for thousands of years. The world religions created were Islam and Judeo-Christianity. Much blood has been spilled over the centuries because of their differences.

Three generations later, the story of Joseph, the eleventh son of Jacob, makes numerous points to us that both disturb and comfort. Joseph was hated by the ten sons of Leah, Bilhah and Zilpah to the point they sold him into Egypt as a slave (Genesis 37).

The ten brothers saw Joseph as a hindrance to their actions because he told their father, Jacob, of their actions of which they knew Jacob would not approve.

Also Jacob made Joseph a "coat of many colors" (Genesis 37: 3) which said to them, "his love for Joseph is much greater than his love for us." Jealousy is a terrible burden to carry and leads to many problems not initially seen.

Once in Egypt, Joseph was sold to Potiphar, the Captain of the Guard of Pharaoh, the king of Egypt. Potiphar found favor with Joseph and placed him in charge of his entire house. The only problem was the wife of Potiphar.

She found Joseph attractive and tried to seduce him. Failing because of Joseph's loyalty to Potiphar and God, she accused him of trying to abuse her. Potiphar sent Joseph to prison.

Any time we think we have troubles or problems it would be a good practice to read Genesis chapters thirty-seven through forty-five. We clearly see in the leading scripture (Genesis 45: 7-8), Joseph did not blame his ten brothers for selling him into Egypt.

As would be anticipated by the natural mind, they expected Joseph to be bitter with vengeance against them. Nonetheless, he was not and far from it. Joseph sincerely believed God had initiated their action to sell him in order to "preserve life."

By moving Jacob's family to Egypt, they were removed from the presence of the Canaanites, escaped the famine that gripped the land and presented God an opportunity to demonstrate His awesome power.

By the Pharaoh sending Jacob's family to Goshen, we see proof that God provides for His chosen. Goshen was the richest, most productive land in Egypt. The Nile river delta is a fertile land, not the desert we usually think of when thinking about Egypt.

While we, in many cases, depend on God to solve our problems, do we ever consider that He may use our adversities to glorify Himself? Did He arrange for Joseph to be sold into Egypt or did He simply use the situation to His purpose?

It doesn't really matter. God used Joseph's situation to accomplish His purpose. This was a time in Jewish history God's chosen had not been established to the world. This proves God has a plan and works that plan even when we do not understand.

We also see God takes advantage of the opportunities to glorify Himself. In Judges 7: 3, God told Gideon that 32,000 men were too many to drive the Midianites from Israel. The people would believe they themselves had accomplished the task rather than God. The number was trimmed to 300 so that

all would know that God Himself had driven the oppressors from the land.

The Israelites are God's chosen in that He needed a race of people to provide the world with a Savior. The word "whosoever" in John 3: 16 leaves little doubt that mankind as a whole is special to God.

In considering the implications from the Old Testament stories, we clearly see God can be powerful to save and rescue or He can be a punisher of disobedient people. The Jewish people seemed to pass through a series of conditions with their Creator and Gentiles should take heed.

First, they would be obedient to God and walk in His commandments. Second, they would become disobedient, usually following after the gods of other races of people. The third condition was punishment and finally reconciliation.

Time after time, God verifies how important His own glorification is to Him. Perhaps His thought is, by confirming Himself as the ultimate power and authority, the people are more likely to walk in His statutes.

To embrace an old reality, mankind must realize who God is and what He is capable of. His power is infinite and humans today apparently do not believe He will punish for disobedience.

Taking glory from God is a form of disobedience and would definitely be displeasing to Him. Assuming that humans are glory seekers, the old reality of giving the glory to God will be a difficult change for people but to defuse the current state of affairs between God and man, for survival, it must be done.

We can only assume our own power and protection so long without suffering the consequences.

Exodus 20:5-6. "You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and the fourth generation of those who hate me, but showing steadfast love to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments."

Sooner or later the axe will fall and wake up the world but by then it may be too late. It is never too late to repent and return to the old reality of the scriptures.

Matthew 4:17. "From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.'" Noah told the people to repent, so did Jonah. John the Baptist called on people to repent and many others.

Repentance may be old fashioned but the key to a desirable eternal destination. A life not changed is a life not saved.

2 Corinthians 5: 16-17 reads: "So if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation: everything old has passed away!" The Apostle Paul taught change. He stated we "become a new creature."

Jesus taught Nicodemus in John 3, "Ye must be born again." To be born spiritually is a change that unfortunately, many will never experience. The false teachers are alive and well and are leading their followers to an eternity separated from their Creator.

The Old Testament stories such as the story of Joseph and Gideon teach us how very important it is to follow the teachings of our Creator. Through history, prophesy, science and lessons about life and living, the Holy Bible is proven in the minds of many to be the word of the almighty God.

Without these old realities taught by God in the Bible, we will certainly pay the price as did many Old Testament characters and people groups.

Romans 10: 9 "If thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved."

(Yandell is a retired Industrial Arts teacher, an ordained gospel evangelist and commissioned missionary, from Fredonia, Kentucky. A part of the Bible Connection series. His email is vmy2121@outlook.com.)

BIBLE TRIVIA

BY WILSON CASEY

1. Is the book of John (KJV) in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. On watching Jesus' arrest and trial, which disciple claimed three times he didn't know the Lord? Judas, James, John, Peter
3. From Proverbs, "A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in pictures of ____?" Song, Silver, Meadows, Eden
4. Who was quoted, "Is there any taste in the white of an

egg"? Solomon, David, Daniel, Job

5. What did Job behold as the fear of the Lord? Distrust, Wisdom, Unrighteous, Sympathy

6. Who was the father of Samson? Manoah, Isaiah, Abdon, Felix

ANSWERS: 1) New, 2) Peter, 3) Silver, 4) Job, 5) Wisdom, 6) Manoah

Comments? More Trivia? Gift ideas? Visit www.TriviaGuy.com.

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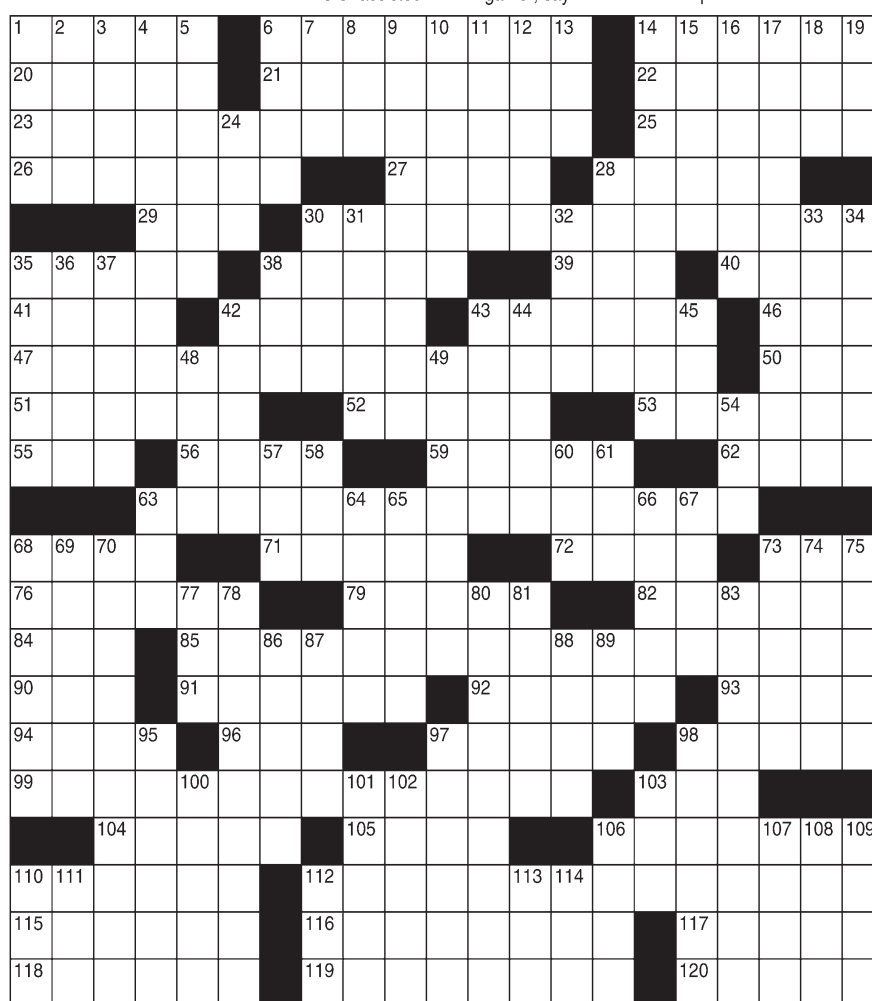


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| 1 Mess up on | 51 Airing of ads on the tube | 96 Mined stuff | 5 "Star Wars" won seven of them | 34 Decides (to) | 77 Sporty English autos |
| 6 Dismiss, as an ill student | 52 Eyeliner flaw | 97 Female hip-hopper | 6 Weeps noisily | 35 Pick up on | 78 Supreme Court's Sonia |
| 14 Pause-causing marks | 53 Least plentiful | 98 Self-indulgent suffix | 7 Musician Brian | 36 Blow up | 80 "Let's move!" |
| 20 Skunks' defenses | 56 Warty hopper | 99 Comment upon finally getting a chance to sit down? | 8 S.Sgt. or M.Sgt. | 37 Big name in photocopiers | 81 Natives of Bangkok |
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| 22 1998 Masters winner Mark | 62 Busy insects | 104 Typical | 10 Pay-to-stay places | 42 Great devastation | 86 Hannah of "Roxanne" |
| 23 Giving an officer a leg up? | 63 Two things a baby might be wearing in cold weather? | 105 In perfect condition | 11 Sheep-related | 43 "— of angels coming after me" ("Swing Low, Sweet Chariot" line) | 87 Design detail |
| 25 Defaced | 68 — -Cola | 106 Not mixing well with others | 12 High-IO club | 44 Chocolate substitute | 88 Raison d'— |
| 26 Neighbors of Czechs | 71 St. Teresa's birthplace | 112 Ruling house enjoying great prosperity? | 13 Minuscule bit of work | 45 Santa —, California | 89 — Paese (cheese type) |
| 27 Composes | 72 Chili bit | 115 Comparable with | 14 Jet engine part that includes the igniter | 48 Comics' Kett | 95 Thumbs-up |
| 28 "Lit" fellow | 73 Neighbor of Wash. | 116 Get robots to do | 15 Muscat-ee? | 49 Like Mutant Ninja Turtles | 97 Witticism |
| 29 Previous to | 76 Leaves weaponless | 117 Kate's mate on 1980s TV | 16 Most trifling | 54 Actress Issa | 98 Part of ASAP |
| 30 Food favored by logicians? | 79 Finger or toe | 118 Part of BBB | 17 Guys wearing wedding rings | 57 Alias letters | 100 Mozart's "Così fan —" |
| 35 Belgrade citizens | 82 MRI alternative | 119 Rubs the wrong way | 18 "My lips — sealed" | 58 Actor Patel | 101 Love, to Gigi |
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| 39 Extra NFL periods | 85 "I pray our reservation doesn't get canceled!"? | DOWN | 24 Barely get, with "out" | 61 Garden tool | 103 — -Ops (CIA tactics) |
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| 42 Port-au-Prince's place | 92 Totally fills | 3 Unassisted | 31 Author Joyce Carol — | 65 Full of energy | 108 Toiling away |
| 43 2017-19 labor secretary Alexander | 93 Fabled snow humanoid | | 32 Unskilled PC gamer, say | 66 Tijuana treats | 109 Strong alkalies |
| 46 Poor grade | | | | 67 Wild about | 110 Collar |
| 47 Monkey setting off big experimental blasts? | | | | 68 Fluffy clouds | 111 Singer Turner |
| | | | | 69 Comparable (with) | 112 Grocery holder |
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TRUSTEE'S SALE 1518 WILLIS ROAD MEADOWS OF DAN, VA 24120

In execution of the Deed of Trust in the original principal amount of \$91,937.00, dated August 6, 2018, and recorded as Instrument Number 1801321 in Patrick County land records, the appointed Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction at the entrance to the Circuit Court of Patrick County, 101 Blue Ridge Street, Stuart, Virginia 24171-0148 on October 20, 2023 at 1 p.m., the property described in said deed of trust, located at the above address and more particularly described as follows:

ALL THAT CERTAIN TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND LYING AND BEING IN THE BLUE RIDGE MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT OF PATRICK COUNTY, VIRGINIA, AND BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS, TO WIT: CONTAINING 2.332 ACRES AS SHOWN ON PLAT OF SURVEY ENTITLED "NANNIE H. BOYD," PREPARED BY DAVID B. SCOTT, CLS, DATED OCTOBER 23, 1989, REVISED MAY 28, 1992, AND RECORDED IN THE CLERK'S OFFICE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF PATRICK COUNTY, VIRGINIA, IN PLAT CABINET I, SLIDE 74-D; AND BEING THAT SAME TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND CONVEYED TO WALLACE V. CLEVE AND MARGARET H. CLEVE, HUSBAND AND WIFE, BY DEED FROM JOHNNY H. LAMBERT AND WILMA A. LAMBERT, DATED AUGUST 6, 2018, AND RECORDED IMMEDIATELY PRIOR HERETO IN THE AFORESAID CLERK'S OFFICE, TO WHICH DEED REFERENCE IS HERE MADE FOR A MORE PARTICULAR DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY HEREIN CONVEYED. TOGETHER WITH MANUFACTURED HOME DESCRIBED AS: FLEETWOOD HOMES SANDPOINTE, SERIAL VAFML19A28681SP

The property and improvements will be sold in "as is" physical condition without warranty of any kind. TERMS OF SALE: A non-refundable bidder's deposit of 10% of the sale price or 10% of the original principal amount of the subject Deed of Trust, whichever is lower, by cashier's or certified check required at time of sale except for the party secured by the Deed of Trust. Risk of loss on purchaser from date and time of auction. Balance of the purchase price must be paid by cashier's check within 15 days from sale date. Except for Virginia Grantor tax, all settlement costs and expenses are purchaser's responsibility. Taxes are pro-rated to the date of sale. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining possession of the property. If purchaser defaults, deposit may be forfeited and property resold at the risk and cost of the defaulting purchaser who shall be liable for any deficiency in the purchase price and all costs, expenses and attorney's fees of both sales. If Trustee does not convey title for any reason, purchaser's sole remedy is return of deposit without interest. This sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan secured by the Deed of Trust including but not limited to determining whether prior to sale a bankruptcy was filed, a forbearance, repayment or other agreement was entered into or the loan was reinstated or paid off; in any such event this sale shall be null and void and purchaser's sole remedy shall be return of deposit without interest. This communication is from a debt collector and is an attempt to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE: RAS Services, LLC, 4012 Raintree Road Suite 100A, Chesapeake, Virginia 23321 FOR INFORMATION CONTACT: RAS Trustee Services, LLC, Substitute Trustee c/o Robertson, Anschutz, Schneid, Crane & Partners, PLLC 11350 McCormick Road, Executive Plaza I, Suite 302 Hunt Valley, Maryland 21031 (844) 442-2150 (470) 321-7112



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Wilderness - Stuart, Inc.

Buying Logs

Standing Timber or Timberland

Stuart, VA

Contact Ronnie Bolt at (276) 694-4432

LEGAL

RFP 2023 MNT 011

Blue Ridge Elementary School - Sidewalk Canopy The Patrick County School Board is accepting competitive sealed proposals from licensed contractors to furnish all material, labor, equipment, fees and perform all work necessary to construct a sidewalk canopy at Blue Ridge Elementary School, 5135 Ararat Highway, Ararat, VA 24053. Drawings and specifications are available as a PDF file from the office of Conrad Knight Architecture, PLLC, 212 Starling Avenue, Suite 30, Martinsville, Virginia 24112, phone 276-638-8794, email 88knight@comcast.net. Proposals will be received and opened in the office of the Patrick County School Board located at 104 Rucker Street, Stuart, Virginia 24171 on Thursday, September 21, 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

JUSTICE COURT, LAS VEGAS TOWNSHIP Clark County Nevada

Ahern Rentals Inc, Plaintiff(s) vs. Land Unlimited LLC, Jody Dellenback Defendant(s)

Case No. 22C013102 Department No.: 05

SUMMONS

NOTICE: YOU HAVE BEEN SUED. THE COURT MAY DECIDE AGAINST YOU WITHOUT YOUR BEING HEARD UNLESS YOU RESPOND WITHIN 20 DAYS. READ THE INFORMATION BELOW.

TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANT: You are hereby summoned and required to serve upon Plaintiff's attorney, whose address is set forth below, an Answer to the Complaint which is herewith served upon you, within 20 days after service of this Summons upon you, exclusive of the day of service. If you fail to do so, judgment by default will be taken against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

* If you intend to defend this lawsuit, within 20 days after this Summons is served on you, exclusive of the day of service, you must do the following:

- File with the Clerk of the Court, whose address is shown below, a formal written response (Answer) to the Complaint in accordance with the rules of the Court. A \$71.00 filing fee is required, or you must file an Application to Proceed In Forma Pauperis and request a waiver of the fee. (You may obtain forms and information at the Civil Law Self-Help Center located in the Regional Justice Center or at its website at http://www.civillawselfhelpcenter.org/.)
- Serve a copy of your response upon the attorney whose name and address is shown below.

* Unless you respond, your default will be entered upon application of the Plaintiff, and this Court may enter a judgment against you for the relief demanded, which could result in the taking of money or property or other relief.

* If you intend to seek the advice of an attorney, you should do so promptly so that your response will be timely.

Kopolow, Stephen R, ESQ 8533 Mark A. Kirkorsky PC 8020 W Sahara Ave Ste 225 Las Vegas, NV 89117 888-519-2173 Attorney Name, Address and Phone



APPROPRIATE COURTROOM ATTIRE AND SHOES ARE REQUIRED. NO SHORTS, HALTER TOPS, TANK TOPS, FOOD OR DRINK ARE PERMITTED.

¹Notwithstanding the above, the State of Nevada, its political subdivisions, agencies, officers, employees, board members, commission members, and legislators, each have 45 days after service of this Summons within which to file an Answer to the Complaint.

² When service of the Summons is made by publication, the Summons shall, in addition to any special statutory requirements, also contain a brief statement of the object of the action substantially as follows: "This action is brought to recover a judgment for the sum of (indicate dollar amount), due and owing," or as the case may be. (JCRC4(b)).



Land Transfers in August

The following land transfers were recorded in the Patrick County Circuit Court Clerk's Office in August.

Donna Akers to Darrell Saxton and other, 1.037 acres, Dan River District.

Glenda J. Bangs to Cecile Estheimer and other, 5.7094 acres, Smith River District.

Gerald D. Bell to Jason Brokaw and wife, 6.0 acres, Blue Ridge District.

Jackson Ray Bird Jr., to Blake A. Bartley, lot, Mayo River District.

Leon A. Brown and other to Eli Shane Roberson, 1.885 acres, Peters Creek District.

Tabitha Ann Cassell and others to Codie Lee Marion, 1.258 acres, Mayo River District.

Donna I. Caviness to Christopher L. Caviness, 2.128 acres, Mayo River District.

Roger W. Churchwell and other to Olivia Faith Cochran, 22.25 acres, Dan River District.

CKSJS LLC to Elliot Spencer Fain,

6.1710 acres and 35.994 acres, Blue Ridge District.

William Glenn Clark to Robin Lee Hiatt, 2.822 acres, Mayo River District.

Darrell L. Conner to Randolph T. Kearns and wife, 48.5183 acres, Blue Ridge District.

Cozy Cabins and Homes LLC to Green Galaxy LLC, INT 1.037 acres, Dan River District.

Daniel Clifford Steven and wife to Michelle Gilley, unit, Blue Ridge District.

Dolan Reid PLLC to Ashley Stockner, 2.000 acres, Peters Creek District.

Steven Everett Draughn and wife to PCN Holdings, 3.55 acres, Dan River District.

Robin Foster to Cynthia Shaw Johnson, Lot 87, Blue Ridge District.

Emily R. Goad to Kenneth M. Handy, 1 acre, Blue Ridge District.

Beatrice A. Hall to Patrick B. Cooper and wife, 7.7494 acres, Mayo River District.

Christopher S. Handy to James Michael Hall and other, 8.5824 acres, Peters Creek District.

Richard A. Harold and other to Robert Stanley Williams, 38.906 acres, Dan River District.

Dana Hensley to Nathan T. Connor, 1.09 and 1.40 and 3.41 and 2.14 acres, Peters Creek District.

Mary Susan Campbell Holt to Richard Allen Spence and other, lots, Mayo River District.

Timothy R. Hutchens and other to Andrew J. Hazelwood, 1.1910 acres, Mayo River District.

James W. Ingle and other to Shane Ray Nelson, 9.421 acres, Peters Creek District.

Clyde M. Jones TR to David Walter Boyd and wife, 0.288 acres, Smith River District.

Ella Sue H. Joyce and other to Jerry Lawson and wife, 52.654 acres, Peters Creek District.

Sharon E. Joyce to Patrick Murphy and wife, 0.5829 acres, Peters Creek District.

Paul Labarr and other to Charles John Milligan II, 135.9594 acres, Peters Creek District.

Johnny H. Lambert and others to Janet M. Nickerson, 2.030 acres, Mayo River District.

Jimmy D. Lankford to Ralph E. Scales, 1.4792 acres, Dan River District.

Lucas Revokable Agreement to John Coffey and wife, 5.401 acres, Mayo River District.

Edward Armstrong Martin and other to Thomas E. Smith and other, 2.000 acres, Blue Ridge District.

Ruth P. Martin to Burr Oliver McLawhorn, lot, Mayo River District.

Terry Edward Martin to Miguel Angel Rodriguez Rosado, 1.9122 and 1.615 acres, Mayo River District.

Mark Allan McLellon to Millard Lee B r y a n t , 8.36 acres, Smith River District.

Gayle D. Woods and Meadows Properties to Richard L. Foust II, 1.1603 acres, Blue Ridge District.

nor Alexander and other, 3.427 and 7.047 acres, Smith River District.

Palm Beach REI Capital Inc., to Logan Conner, 2.150 acres, Mayo River District.

Greg Phillips TR to Pam McDaniel, 5.74 acres, Mayo River District.

Louis W. Rakes Jr. to Janice Manning-Crowe, lots, Mayo River District.

Brenda Lou Roberson to Rebekah Marie Morgan, 0.958 acres, Mayo River District.

James Davids Roberts to Jay Durga LLC, 1.63 and 0.125 and 0.10 acres, Smith River District.

Karen Fay Saltz to Hanna Nicole Hiatt, 2.17 acres, Dan River District.

W.D. Smith and other to Kim Leigh Turner and other, 2.008 and 2.026 and 2.017 acres, Mayo River District.

Stuart Laurel Court LLC to Brenda L. Roberson, 0.220 acres, Peters Creek District.

Thurman N. Thompson to Robert Joseph Purdy, 2.4532 acres, Mayo River District.

Ray Wilson Tillery and other to Kelly S. Carnes, 1.5 and 1.7 acres, Smith River District.

Sean E. Tyrrell and other to James Ray Martin and other, 8.795 acres, Dan River District.

Bradsher C. Weaver and wife to Esther Hedgepeth and other, 1.699 acres, Mayo River District.

William James Graves Trust to Lisa M. Delabuere, 13.58 and 0.915 acres, Peters Creek District.

James Wood Curtis to Michael Bryan and other, 2.234 acres, Mayo River District.

LEGAL

RFP 2023-SPED-03
The Patrick County School Board is in search of a qualified provider for educational and related services to eligible students ages Preschool through High School. Interested providers should contact (276) 694-3163 or elizabeth.minter@patrick.k12.va.us to obtain an electronic copy of the RFP proposal document. All proposals shall be submitted electronically only by Wednesday, September 27, 2023, at 4:30 p.m. EDT to the email address elizabeth.minter@patrick.k12.va.us.

LEGAL

ORDER OF PUBLICATION Case No. JJ004919-06-00/07-00
COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
VA. CODE §8.01-316
PATRICK J & DR - JUVENILE
Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court
Commonwealth of Virginia, *in re* EASTER, BREYER
PATRICK CO. DSS v. TIFFANY ALFRED RONALD EASTER

The object of this suit is to: PATRICK CO. DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES SEEKS TO TERMINATE THE RESIDUAL PARENTAL RIGHTS OF TIFFANY, ALFRED, MOTHER AND RONALD EASTER, FATHER TO THE CHILD BORN TO THEM ON 6-16-2019 NAMED BREYER EASTER. ALL PURSUANT TO VIRGINIA CODE SECTION 16.1-283 It is ORDERED that TIFFANY ALFRED & RONALD EASTER appear at the above-named court and protect his or her interests on or before 10/26/2023 at 2:30 p.m.
SEPTEMBER 14, 2023
Kimberly R. Belmgia [CLERK] *[Signature]* [JUDGE]

LEGAL

ORDER OF PUBLICATION Case No. JJ004920-06-00/07-00
COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
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Kimberly R. Belmgia [CLERK] *[Signature]* [JUDGE]

Legal Notice

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC OF A PETITION BY
APPALACHIAN POWER COMPANY
FOR APPROVAL OF A MODIFICATION TO ITS
RATE ADJUSTMENT CLAUSE, BC-RAC, PURSUANT
TO §§ 56-585.1 A 6 AND 56-585.1:9 OF THE
CODE OF VIRGINIA
CASE NO. PUR-2023-00102

- Appalachian Power Company ("APCo") has applied for approval to revise its rate adjustment clause, BC-RAC.
- In this case, APCo has asked the State Corporation Commission ("Commission") to approve the BC-RAC for the rate year beginning February 1, 2024, and ending January 31, 2025 ("2024 Rate Year").
- For the 2024 Rate Year, APCo requests a revenue requirement of \$6.75 million, which would increase the bill of a residential customer using 1,000 kilowatt hours of electricity per month by \$0.92.
- A Hearing Examiner appointed by the Commission will hold a telephonic hearing in this case on December 13, 2023, at 10 a.m., for the receipt of public witness testimony.
- An evidentiary hearing will also be held on December 13, 2023, at 10 a.m., or at the conclusion of the public witness portion of the hearing, whichever is later, in the Commission's second floor courtroom located in the Tyler Building, 1300 East Main Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219, to receive the testimony and evidence of the Company, any respondents, and Staff.
- Further information about this case is available on the SCC website at: scc.virginia.gov/pages/Case-Information.

On August 25, 2023, Appalachian Power Company ("APCo" or "Company") filed a petition ("Petition") with the State Corporation Commission ("Commission"), pursuant to § 56-585.1 A 6 and § 56-585.1:9 of the Code of Virginia, seeking to approve to revise its existing Broadband Capacity Rate Adjustment Clause, the BC-RAC, to reflect the actual costs of providing broadband capacity under the Company's existing broadband projects in Grayson County and Bland and Montgomery Counties, respectively, as well as the projected costs associated with its broadband project in Patrick, Henry, and Franklin Counties.

Through its Petition, APCo requests approval of an annual revenue requirement of approximately \$6.75 million through its existing BC-RAC to be in effect during the rate year beginning February 1, 2024, and ending January 31, 2025. The Company states that the annual revenue requirement is related to all three broadband projects and is composed of three elements: a combined forecast revenue component of \$5.76 million; a true-up revenue component credit of \$3.84 million; and a bridge period revenue component of \$4.83 million. The Company states that implementation of the revised BC-RAC, as proposed, will result in an increase of \$0.92, or 0.6%, on the monthly bill of a residential customer using 1,000 kilowatt hours per month.

Interested persons are encouraged to review APCo's Petition and supporting documents in full for details about these and other proposals.

TAKE NOTICE that the Commission may apportion revenues among customer classes and/or design rates in a manner differing from that shown in the Petition and supporting documents and thus may adopt rates that differ from those appearing in the Company's Petition and supporting documents.

The Commission entered an Order for Notice and Hearing in this proceeding that, among other things, scheduled a public hearing on APCo's Petition. On December 13, 2023, at 10 a.m., the Hearing Examiner assigned will hold the telephonic portion of the hearing for the purpose of receiving the testimony of public witnesses. On or before December 6, 2023, any person desiring to offer testimony as a public witness shall provide to the Commission (a) your name, and (b) the telephone number that you wish the Hearing Examiner to call during the hearing to receive your testimony. This information may be provided to the Commission in three ways: (i) by filing out a form on the Commission's website at scc.virginia.gov/pages/Webcasting; (ii) by completing and emailing the PDF version of this form to SCCInfo@scc.virginia.gov; or (iii) by calling (804) 371-9141. This public witness hearing will be webcast at scc.virginia.gov/pages/Webcasting.

Beginning at 10 a.m. on December 13, 2023, the Hearing Examiner will telephone sequentially each person who has signed up to testify as provided above.

On December 13, 2023, at 10 a.m., or at the conclusion of the public witness portion of the hearing, whichever is later, in the Commission's second floor courtroom located in the Tyler Building, 1300 East Main Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219, the Hearing Examiner will convene a hearing to receive testimony and evidence related to the Petition from the Company, any respondents, and the Commission Staff.

To promote administrative efficiency and timely service of filings upon participants, the Commission has directed the electronic filing of testimony and pleadings, unless they contain confidential information, and has required electronic service on parties to this proceeding.

An electronic copy of the public version of the Company's Petition may be obtained by submitting a written request to counsel for the Company: James G. Ritter, Esquire, American Electric Power Service Corporation, 3 James Center, 1051 East Cary Street, Suite 1100, Richmond, Virginia 23219, or jritter@aep.com. Interested persons also may download unofficial copies from the Commission's website: scc.virginia.gov/pages/Case-Information.

On or before December 6, 2023, any interested person may submit comments on the Petition electronically by following the instructions on the Commission's website: scc.virginia.gov/casecomments/Submit-Public-Comments. Those unable, as a practical matter, to submit comments electronically may file such comments by U.S. mail to the Clerk of the State Corporation Commission, c/o Document Control Center, P.O. Box 2118, Richmond, Virginia 23218-2118. All comments shall refer to Case No. PUR-2023-00102.

On or before November 1, 2023, any person or entity wishing to participate as a respondent in this proceeding may do so by filing a notice of participation with the Clerk of the Commission at: scc.virginia.gov/clk/efiling. Those unable, as a practical matter, to file a notice of participation electronically may file such notice by U.S. mail to the Clerk of the Commission at the address listed above. Such notice of participation shall include the email addresses of such parties or their counsel, if available. A copy of the notice of participation as a respondent also must be sent to counsel for the Company. Pursuant to 5 VAC 5-20-80 B, *Participation as a respondent*, of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure ("Rules of Practice"), any notice of participation shall set forth: (i) a precise statement of the interest of the respondent; (ii) a statement of the specific action sought to the extent then known; and (iii) the factual and legal basis for the action. Any organization, corporation or government body participating as a respondent must be represented by counsel as required by 5 VAC 5-20-30, *Counsel*, of the Rules of Practice. All filings shall refer to Case No. PUR-2023-00102.

On or before November 8, 2023, each respondent may file with the Clerk of the Commission, at scc.virginia.gov/clk/efiling, any testimony and exhibits by which the respondent expects to establish its case. Any respondent unable, as a practical matter, to file testimony and exhibits electronically may file such by U.S. mail to the Clerk of the Commission at the address listed above. Each witness's testimony shall include a summary not to exceed one page. All testimony and exhibits shall be served on Staff, the Company, and all other respondents. In all filings, the respondent shall comply with the Rules of Practice, including 5 VAC 5-20-140, *Filing and service*, and 5 VAC 5-20-240, *Prepared testimony and exhibits*. All filings shall refer to Case No. PUR-2023-00102.

Any documents filed in paper form with the Office of the Clerk of the Commission in this docket may use both sides of the paper. In all other respects, except as modified by the Commission's Order for Notice and Hearing, all filings shall comply fully with the requirements of 5 VAC 5-20-150, *Copies and format*, of the Commission's Rules of Practice.

The Commission's Rules of Practice, the public version of the Company's Petition, the Commission's Order for Notice and Hearing, and other documents filed in this case may be viewed on the Commission's website at: scc.virginia.gov/pages/Case-Information.

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1069 SICKLE COURT, MONETA, VA 24121

Meetings

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

Thursday, Sept. 21
The Board of Directors of the New College Institute will hold a board meeting at 1 p.m. in the Gardner Board Room at the New College Institute, 191 Fayette Street, Martinsville, Virginia. The public is invited to attend, and public comments will be received at the end of the meeting, not to exceed 3 minutes.

Wednesday, Sept. 27
The Patrick County Economic Development Authority (EDA) will meet at 7 p.m. in the Patrick County Administration Building.

Events

Thursday, Sept. 21
The Carroll County Genealogy Club will meet at 5 p.m. in the Historical Courthouse on Mainstreet in Hillsville.

The Patrick County Republican Committee will host a candidate forum for local offices at the Motorsports Hall of Fame Auditorium at 6 p.m.

Friday, Sept. 22
The Patrick County Library will hold an educational presentation about Medicare and Social Security starting at 12 p.m.

A Spaghetti Supper will be held at the Dobyms Community Building from 4-7 p.m.

Sunday, Sept. 24 - Wednesday, Sept. 27
Smith River Church of the Brethren will hold revival services each night starting at 7 p.m. Rev. Terry Martin is the evangelist and there will be special music each night.

dress is 4698 Woolwine Hwy, Stuart. Call Pastor Ken Terry at (276) 930-2673 for more information.

Wednesday, Oct. 11
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, Oct. 20
The Patrick County Library will hold an educational presentation about Medicare and Social Security starting at 12 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 22
Lace up those sneakers and meet in Downtown Stuart for the Annual Apple Dumpling Festival 5K. The Patrick County Chamber of Commerce, in partnership with Dan River Basin Association, is presenting this annual fundraiser. The 5K race is run along the Mayo River Rail Trail before the Town's Apple Dumpling Festival. For more information and to register for the 5K visit: www.patrickchamber.com or call (276) 694-6012

Ongoing

The Patrick County Parks and Recreation Office is now accepting basketball registration for the 2023 - 2024 school year. Students who are currently in grades K - 7 are eligible to participate in the recreation department's basketball program. Registration forms are available at any elementary school or parents can call the recreation office at (276) 694 - 3917 to register children. The deadline for registration is Friday, October 27, 2023. Games will begin the second week of November 2023.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Ross Harbour Church collects pennies, loose change, and any form of money to benefit The Penny House on Tuesdays and Saturdays in September.

Messianic Bible Study, Fridays from 6-7:30 p.m. Event is for anyone wanting a deeper understanding of the Old Testament and how it relates to us now. Come and discover the Hebrew side of the Christian Faith during the meetings held at The Honey Pot, 106 N. Main St., Stuart (across from The Coffee Break). Call (276) 694-2356 for more information.

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

Dellenback Hill's weekend adventures

Mary Dellenback Hill dropped into Boyd's Restaurant to have lunch on Saturday, Sept. 16, after having Pancake breakfast at the Ararat Ruritan Building earlier, and then headed out to Dan River Park for the yard sale. Upon entering the restaurant, she saw retired Patrick County deputy Darryl Rorrer.

"I just had to speak with him about the book that Danny Martin," also a retired Patrick County deputy, had written about his dad, Deputy/ABC Officer Jimmie Rorrer and Patrick County Moonshine," Dellenback Hill said. Then, "in comes Tom Perry. So, we all begin to talk about the book, about his dad, and about The Tom Talk with Author Danny Martin, which will be held on Saturday, September 23 at 10 a.m. in the Ararat Ruritan Building, 4711 Ararat Highway, Ararat.



Pictured, left to right, are Dan River District Tourism Representative Mary Dellenback Hill, Author/Historian Tom Perry, and Darryl Rorrer, a retired Patrick County deputy. (Photo by Geri Young Aldridge.)

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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.

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Entries Sought For 2023 Veterans Day Student Essay Contest



The Virginia War Memorial in Richmond is seeking entries for its Virginia War Memorial 2023 Veterans Day Student Essay Contest. The annual competition is open to all Virginia middle and high school age public, private, and homeschooled students. One winner will be selected from among all middle school entries (grades 6-8) and one from high school entries (grades 9-12).

The essay topic for the 2023 contest is "A Virginian Who Served in The Military During the Korean War Era Who Inspires Me." Students may consider a member of their family, of their community, or any Virginian who served in any branch of the U.S. Armed Forces, anywhere in the world, during the Korean War Era (1950 – 1953) as their subject.

The two students who write the winning essays will each receive a prize pack-

age courtesy of McDonald's Restaurants of Richmond and Hampton Roads. The student winners will also be invited to come to Richmond to read aloud their essays and participate in the Veterans Day Ceremony at the Virginia War Memorial in Richmond on Friday, November 10, 2023.

Essays should be 500-750 words in length and utilize interviews and primary sources whenever possible. Students are encouraged to contact Sylvia Marshall, Virginia War Memorial archivist (Sylvia.Marshall@vawarmemorial.org) for additional resources regarding Virginia's Korean War Era veterans if they wish. Entries will be judged on clarity of thought, adherence to the contest theme and guidelines, proper grammar, spelling, and punctuation. Detailed information regarding rules, guidelines and how to enter are available online at <https://vawarmemorial.org/learn/contests-scholarships/essay/>.

All entries must be submitted to the Virginia War Memorial website by 11:59 p.m., Sunday, October 15, 2023. For additional information or questions, please contact Crystal Coon, Assistant Director of Education, at crystal.coon@vawarmemorial.org or at 804-786-2060.



Dancing Fiddler Hillary Klug To Perform at 50th Blue Ridge Folklife Festival

Hillary Klug is a talented self-taught dancing fiddler hailing from Fayetteville, Tennessee. Her unique performances involve her dancing on a wooden platform while simultaneously playing her violin. This year, she will bring her unique talents to the 50th Blue Ridge Folklife Festival on October 28.

Klug learned about the Folklife Festival and Ferrum College through the outreach of the Blue Ridge Institute and Museum. "I'm excited to perform and immerse myself in the culture and learn more about it," she said.

Klug has previously showcased her talent at venues such as Dollywood and the Nashville Symphony Schermerhorn Symphony Center. In addition, she has won the title of National Buck Dancing Champion. Klug's exceptional skills were showcased in the Independent film "Wild Rose," where she also contributed her original song "Le Petit Chat Gris" to the soundtrack.

The 50th Folklife Festival will take place on October 28 at the Blue Ridge Institute and Museum at Ferrum College.

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Congressional staff plan visit

Congressman Griffith's Ninth District staff will be available in Patrick and Henry counties on Sept. 27.

Staff will be in the Henry County Administration Building, Summerlin Room - Board of Supervisors Meeting Chambers from 10 – 11:30 a.m. The building is located at 3300 Kings Mountain Road, Martinsville.

Staff will be in the Patrick County Administration Building Conference Room from 12:30 – 2 p.m. The building is located at 106 Rucker Street, Stuart.

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September is Suicide Prevention Month

Suicide is a serious public health problem in the United States. It contributes to lost productivity, and significant healthcare costs.

But suicide deaths reflect only a portion of the problem. Every year, millions of Americans seriously think about suicide, plan, or attempt suicide. Suicide and suicide attempts can contribute to lasting impacts on individuals, families, and communities. The good news is that suicide is preventable.

In 2020, Congress designated the new 988 dialing code to be operated through the existing National Suicide Prevention Lifeline. In July 2022, the Lifeline transitioned to the 3-digit 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline.

At Tri-Area Community Health, our Behavioral Health Services help when habits, behaviors, stress, worry, or emotional concerns about physical or other life problems are interfering with your daily life and/or overall health. The Behavioral Health Provider works with your medical provider to help you address these issues. If indicated, we also have case managers who work closely with patients on meeting their healthcare goals and connecting to community resources.

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

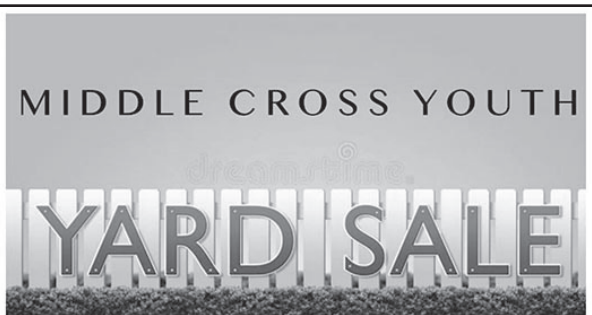
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Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆◆◆

◆ Moderate ◆◆ Challenging
◆◆◆ HOO BOY!

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When: September 23rd
Where: 59 Wayside Rd, Stuart
Time: 8am to 2pm

ALL proceeds go directly towards the youth fund for outreach programs, like camp, outings and community/ministry activities
Teen Camp is the main focus for them because of the wonderful opportunity to spend their time focusing on their relationship with Christ!!

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History Program

(cont. from page 1)

immediately started saying, "You should write a book," he said.

Martin said he also had others tell him about the same thing over the years, especially after he started doing moonshine hikes at Fairy Stone State Park.

"I finally just did it. I sat down back towards the end of February or early March, which probably took about two weeks or so. I sat up a lot of mornings until 1 a.m. After I got home from work, I would start on it. After I started on it, I went gung ho until I finished it," he said.

Martin then contacted Tom Perry, owner of Laurel Hill Publishing, LCC, who was interested in publishing the book.

"I went through a couple of proof books and got all the errors and typos and so forth out of it" before it was ready to be published, Martin said.

"Corn Squeezins" is a nine-chapter, 192-page book with nearly 100 photographs.

Martin said his favorite chapter is the first chapter, "The Beginnings," which focuses on the Scotch-Irish settlers coming over in the 1700s.

They were very strong-willed people, and I think our culture in Patrick County and surrounding counties, the Appalachian area, I think our citizens are strong-willed, and I think a lot of it probably came from our ancestors who settled up and down the Appalachians.

"They were determined to make a living, and they were going to do what it took, and I think that attitude has carried over for hundreds of years - we're going to do what it takes," he said.

"Corn Squeezins" focuses on the Appalachian area's moonshining history.

Martin also has a special chapter about a former Patrick County deputy sheriff who became a special agent with the Alcohol Beverage Control (ABC) agency.

"His name is Jimmie Rorrer. He was pretty much legendary in his ability to find stills and conduct

raids. I have a lot of photographs I got from his family" for the book, he said.

Though they share the same title, Martin said his book is not connected to the play he previously wrote about the area's moonshining history.

"It was really two separate concepts from the beginning," he said.

The play was initially performed in 1975, and again during the 2022 summer at Fairy Stone State Park's Amphitheater.

Martin said the main difference between the play and the book is the number of skits in the play, which focus on a fictional family, called the Crawly family, who he uses to showcase moonshine's history.

"The play is kind of centered around history, but in the book, I elaborate a whole lot more about the history," he said.

A chapter called "True Moonshine Stories" details a number of true stories about things that actually happened in the areas of Franklin, Henry, and Patrick counties.

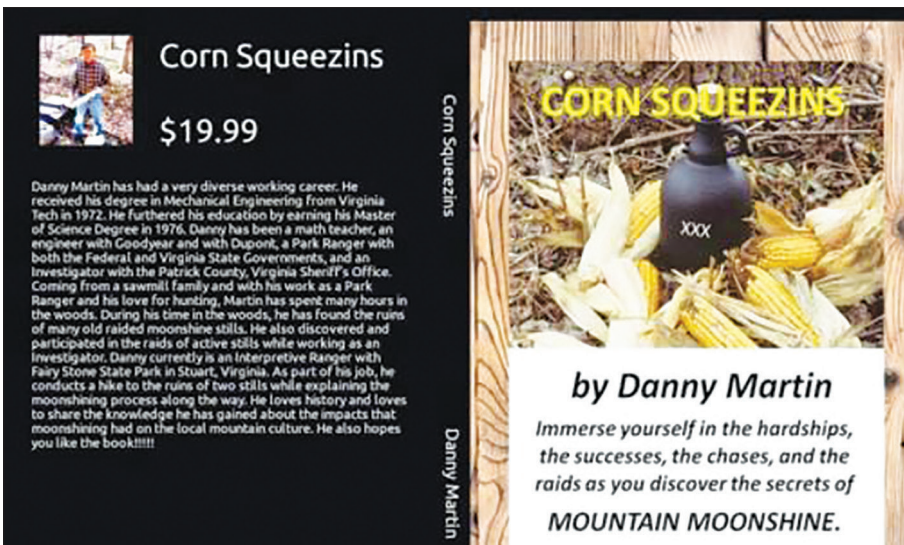
"Some of them are kind of funny, some of them are kind of sad, some are actually tragic. There's one in particular that involves several people getting killed, and that happened in Patrick County," he said.

Martin added he also goes into more detail about the moonshine manufacturing process in the book than in his play.

"I didn't necessarily write it to try and make money off it or get rich off it or anything of that nature. I really pretty much just wrote it to give people an idea about the history and culture, some of the hard times people had in Patrick County, and how they were determined to do what it took to get by, and in many cases that was making moonshine," he said.

Perry said he always wanted to publish a book on moonshine.

There is a "chapter about Jimmie Rorrer, who I always wanted to do a book about. Jimmie was an ABC officer for decades in Patrick Coun-



ty," he said.

"Corn Squeezins" is available on Amazon as a paperback. It is also available in Patrick County at

57 Pit Stop, 57 Grocery, Robert's Market, Hatteras Pearl, Mayberry Trading Post, Poppys, and Boyd's Restaurant."

Hazard

(cont. from page 9)



Throng of people came out last week to Martin Clark kicked off the 6-month book tour on his latest novel, "The Plink Bounce," in Stuart last week. The celebration was one of the most successful to date.

ard's behalf in the amount of \$16,052.

"Despite the line, I hope folks enjoyed themselves, and I appreciate everyone's patience. I also got to meet a number of new people, readers who came to visit from different parts of the state. Thanks to them as well for making the trip," Clark said.

Some of the other early events/signings will

be held in several areas of Virginia as well as locales in North Carolina and Tennessee.


On Oct. 10, Clark is slated to return to Patrick County for an event at the Reynolds Homestead in Critz. He then will be back on the early tour through October 19.

"The Plinko Bounce" is also available in bookstores and online.



Judge David Melesco and his wife Cece, who with some local help, dug up Martin Clark's picture in a 1968 Stuart Elementary School annual.

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BOOK SIGNING


Sat. Sept. 30
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Fair goers pick favorites



The Demolition Derby continues to be one of the biggest attractions at the annual Patrick County Fair. (Photos by Norma Bozenmeyer)



Other visitors list reasons that may include the midway barkers, cotton candy, funnel cakes, overall atmosphere, performances, exhibits and rides a plenty. Regardless of the reason, the annual Patrick County Agricultural Fair has large crowds each year. (Photos by Taylor Boyd)

Ruritan Club to reinvest funds in community

The Stuart Ruritan Club would like to thank everyone who bought a raffle ticket in support of starting up the club. Funds will be used for community service projects.

The club's first community service project is a Mental Health Awareness Walk, which is scheduled for Saturday, October 7, at the Patrick County High School Football Field/Track. Pre-registration for walkers is suggested in order to guarantee an event T-shirt. Registration will begin at 10 a.m., with Opening Ceremonies and speakers beginning at 11 a.m. Representatives from Celebrate Recovery, which is led by Terry and

Robin Amos, and Piedmont Community Services are slated to speak on Mental Health issues that are prevalent in our community now. Walkers will then take the track to "Walk for the Mental and Physical health of it."

A DJ will be playing some music to get your walk on as you peruse the vendor booths around the track.

"We are really hoping folks will come out for this walk and help us raise awareness on Mental Health," said club vice-president Stacy Martin.

Club president Tabitha Overby encourages everyone to pre-register in order to get one of the "cool" event T-shirts.

"A couple of our members have worked really hard on securing event and T-shirt sponsors and designing the T-shirts, so it'd be a shame if you don't get one from this, our inaugural event," Martin said.

The event sponsors are The Landmark Center, Piedmont Community Services, Patrick County Family Practice, Clark Gas & Oil, and CPB Behavioral Therapy and Advocacy Services.

Registration forms also can be found online at www.theenterprise.net.

Ruritan National President Michael Morrison's project this year is honoring and supporting our veterans and first

responders. The Stuart Ruritan Club will be doing just that with "Bowling for Heroes" on Friday, November 10, from 6-10 p.m. at Tin Pen Alley. Anyone can participate by paying only \$25 for the night of bowling. Teams of four will take to the lanes and enjoy an evening of what promises to be fun!

ALL LOCAL VETERANS AND FIRST RESPONDERS WILL GET TO BOWL FOR FREE.

For more information on the Stuart Ruritan Club and/or their events, email at StuartRuritans@gmail.com, or contact them via Stuart Ruritans on Facebook page.

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Dinky Railroad exhibit set for Saturday

An exhibit of The Dinky Railroad will be held beside the Stuart Pavilion at JEB Stuart Birthplace, 1091 Ararat Highway, Ararat 2 p.m., on Saturday, September 23, and you are invited to participate.

"Come help us drive a few railroad spikes on the Original Dinky railroad track," organizers said. "Learn about the Mount Airy and Eastern Railway at the Laurel Hill Farm, the Birthplace of the Civil War

General James Ewell Brown "Jeb" Stuart and see the new exhibit about the narrow gauge railroad that came by the site from 1899 until 1924."

Photos and a model of the Dinky will be displayed.

The special guest is Thomas D. Perry, historian and author of *A Dinky Railroad: The Mount Airy and Eastern Railway*, which tells the story of the Mount Airy and Eastern Railway, a narrow gauge "Dinky" railway that ran from Mount Airy, North Carolina, to Kibler Valley, Patrick County, Virginia, from 1899 until 1924.

The text of the sign appears be-

low:

The Mount Airy & Eastern Railway, also known as the Virginia and North Carolina Railroad nicknamed the "Dinky," was a narrow gauge (36" inside track to track) short-line railroad that ran from Mount Airy, North Carolina, to Kibler Valley, Virginia, between 1899 and 1924. The Dinky started as a logging railroad carrying logs and lumber from Kibler to the sawmill at the depot in Mount Airy. After a short time and due to demand, passengers, mail, and dry goods service opened the local stops along the way. For Dinky Stations, see Map Exhibit A. Passengers enjoyed Sunday excursions to White Sulphur Springs and the Danube Church in Kibler Valley, where the railroad even took a circus to the banks of the Dan River. The Dinky weaved its way through the beautiful countryside following the Ararat River, Clark's Creek, Fall Creek, and the Dan River, keeping close to water to fill its coal-fired boiler.

You are standing in front of a recreated 24' section with the original Dinky railroad track unearthed

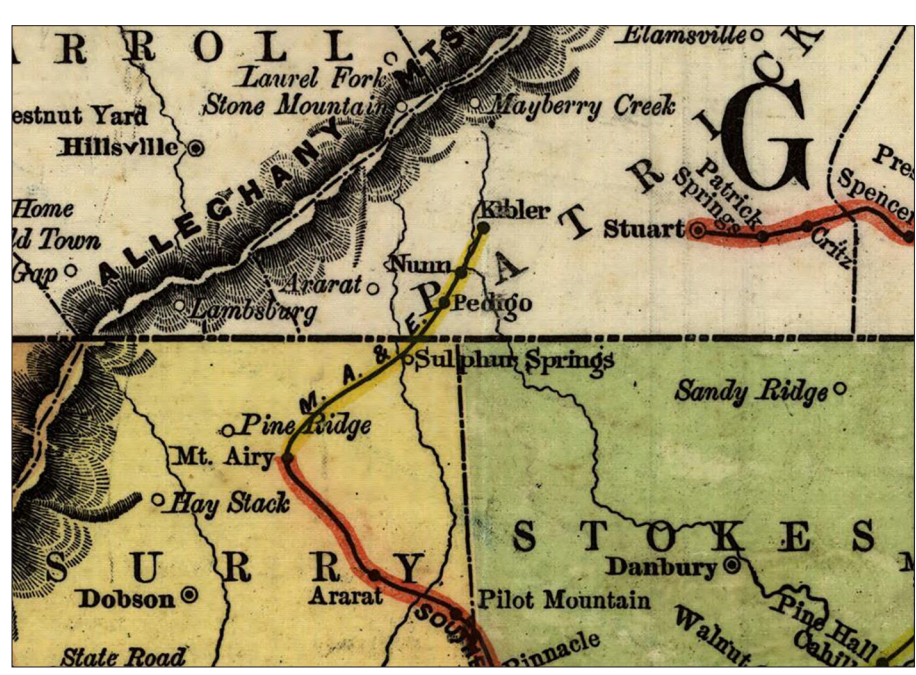
during a recent excavation ¼ mile away and generously donated by the Brown Family. To your left, below the railbed, you can see what is believed to be the original wagon road from Mount Airy, North Carolina, to Taylorsville, Virginia (present-day Stuart) that J.E.B. Stuart used. When the railroad came through, it is believed they graded the roadbed you see in front of you. After the railroad declined and went broke, possibly due to a catastrophic weather event in 1916, and unable to recover. It is believed when the railroad ceased operations in the mid-1920s, the tracks were pulled up, and the commissioner of the roads moved the highway from the wagon road to the lesser-grade railroad bed. It remained

here until the late 1930s when the newly formed VDOT straightened the road. All three transitions can be seen on the 1948 aerial map Exhibit B.

Around the bend, the Dinky crossed the current Ararat Highway. In the field below the JEB Stuart Grocery was the Pedigo

Stop with a wooden station platform. You can still see the outline of the roadbed in the 1948 aerial map Exhibit B. In the house lived Dr. David Floyd Pedigo, grandfather of Porter Bondurant and Carrie Sue Culler, who did an interview discussing riding the Dinky as children. You can watch the interview video at JEBStuart.org. Also living there was Joseph Reed Pedigo, brother to David, who was Postmaster for "The Hollow Post Office" which was located at the home from 1872-1916 when it moved to the top of the Hill at the intersection of The Hollow Road and Ararat Highway. The Dinky had a daily mail service to the Pedigo Station. Lewis Pedigo, the father of Dr. David and Joseph, the county surveyor, moved his family to "The Hollow" in 1853 after purchasing 400 acres of land next to the Stuarts. It is safe to say the Pedigos were friends with the Stuarts because they signed as witnesses on legal documents for Mrs. Stuart upon Archibald's death.

(Submitted by Mary Dellenback Hill. Written by Chip Bondurant, and Author Tom Perry.)



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10th October is...
WORLD MENTAL HEALTH DAY

WALK FOR THE MENTAL HEALTH OF IT...
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 Patrick County High School
 Football Field/Track
Saturday, October 7

Pre-Register for \$25 (includes event T-shirt)
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10:00 am - Registration/Check-In
 11 am - Introductory Ceremony with guest speakers
 11:45 am - Walk begins around the track with DJ, vendor booths open
 1:00 pm - Walk ends

EVENT PARTNERSHIPS:

- The Landmark Center
- Clark Gas & Oil
- Patrick County Family Practice
- Piedmont Community Services
- CPB Behavioral Therapy & Advocacy Services

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Spencer, Rose to serve as Homecoming King and Queen

The Homecoming Court included:



Stephen Spencer and Elizabeth Rose were selected as Patrick County High School's Homecoming King and Queen.



8th grade- Bristol Goad escorted by her mother Tammara Castor.



8th grade- Meredith Wood escorted by her father Jason Wood.



9th grade- Aaliyah Reynolds escorted by her uncle Norman Reynolds.



9th grade- Ava Hiatt escorted by her mother Angela Hiatt.



10th grade- Ginny Nations escorted by her grandfather Dewey Nelson.



10th grade- Millie Clement escorted by her father Josh Clement.



11th grade- Tara Collins escorted by her mother Michelle Collins.



12th grade- Broc Taylor escorted by his mother Jordan Taylor.



12th grade- Bryley Pike escorted by her father Scott Pike.



12th grade- Cecelia Leon-Cisneros escorted by her father Olegario Leon Garcia.



12th grade- Cheryl Lynn Lopez-Gonzalez escorted by her father Lorenzo Lopez.



12th grade- Elizabeth Rose escorted by her brother Lincoln Rose.



12th grade- Jackson Barbour escorted by his father Douglas Barbour and nephew Branson Hodges.



12th grade- Jermaine Penn escorted by his mother Melanie Penn.



12th grade- Kyle Handy escorted by his mother Mary Handy.



12th grade- Kylee Joyce escorted by her father Brandon Joyce.

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12th grade- Stephen Spencer escorted by his mom Michelle Spencer.



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FEATURED LISTINGS



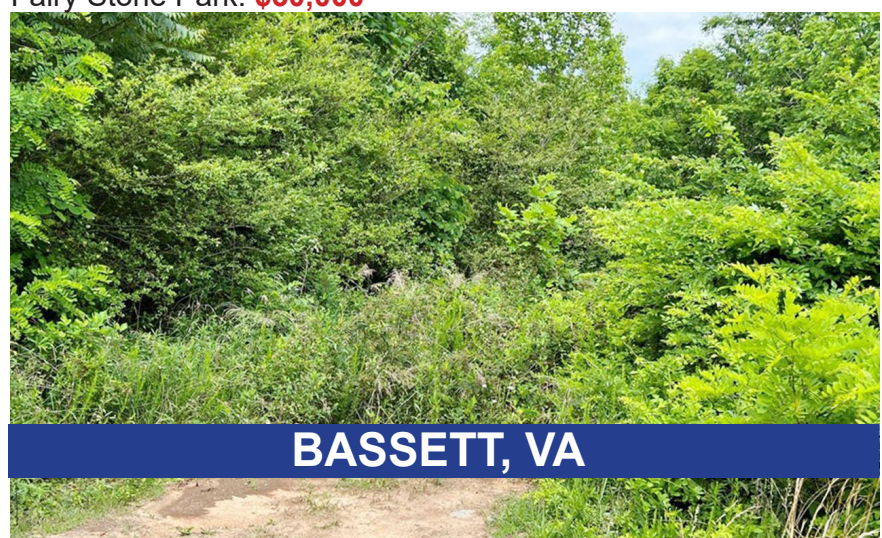
WOOLWINE, VA

This 4.742 ac tract is all wooded with great frontage on Lee Elgin Rd. Lot would be ideal for building your dream home! Located roughly 15 minutes from the town of Floyd, Philpott Lake, and Fairy Stone Park. **\$30,000**



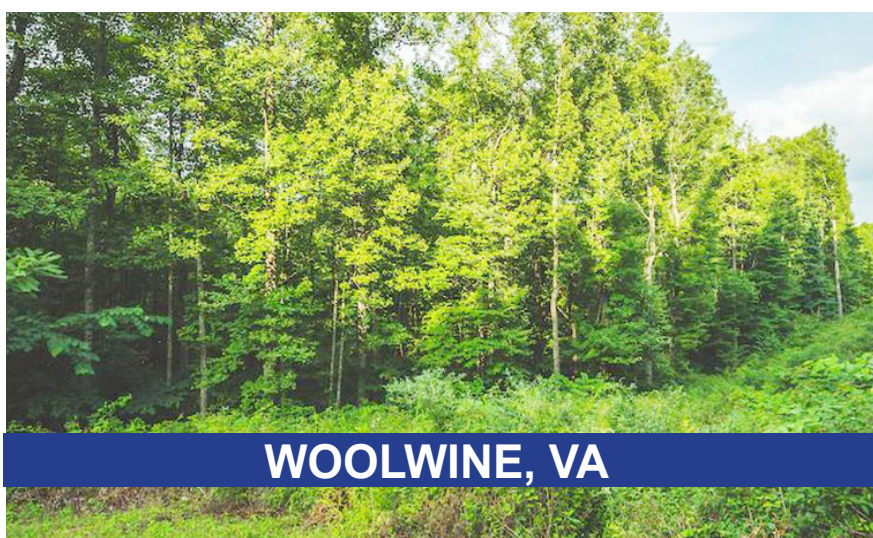
FLOYD, VA

Well-maintained 3 bedroom, 2 bath home on 3.48 acres located minutes from town! The home has just over 1,500 sq ft of living space. **\$239,000**



BASSETT, VA

Large 33.11 acre wooded tract of land with over 1,500 ft of road frontage. Property would be great for hunting, ATV riding, or building your dream home. **\$74,900**



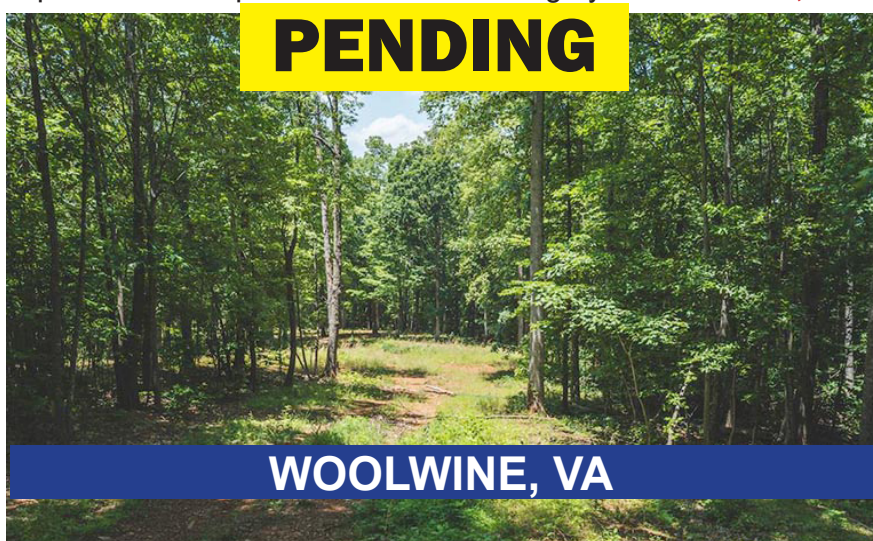
WOOLWINE, VA

This 4.98 acre lot has frontage on Route 8 and Dogwood Mountain Ln. Property is wooded with underground utilities in place. Jill Creek runs throughout. Adjoining lots provide a great opportunity to purchase multiple to secure the acreage you desire. **\$35,700**



ARARAT, VA

This 6.319 acre lot in the Seven Springs Subdivision provides breathtaking mountain views! Property awaits your dream mountain home. Located near Kibler Valley trout stream. **\$75,000**



PENDING

WOOLWINE, VA

All wooded 10.2 acre property with great road frontage. There is an existing driveway and several great building sites. Property has a nice stream and several springs.



SOLD

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. **\$341,000**



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**

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