



# THE ENTERPRISE

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## Wildfire now 70 percent contained



A portion of the parking lot at the Tuggles Gap Roadside Inn was used by emergency vehicles, including the Henry County Department of Public Safety/Sheriff's Office command center.



Firefighters have faced extremely dry conditions, as evidenced by the low water level at Phillpott Lake, near Ryan's Branch. (Photo by Pat Delaney)

**By Taylor Boyd**  
A wildfire that involved 1,100-1,200 acres at its highest point was estimated to be 70 percent contained as of Monday.  
"That number should go up again today. We got a few little hotspots out there we're mopping up. We've still got boots on the ground, Vir-

ginia Forestry, U.S. Forestry, and some of the Woolwine people are still here," Patrick County Emergency Management Services (EMS) Director Scottie Cassell said.  
Cassell said crews are still holding around 1,100-1,200 acres, but that total may go down once they are able to get in and take inven-

tory.  
There has been no damage to any property or injuries to people, he said of the blaze that has affected portions of the Ravens Den, Tuggles Gap, and Blue Ridge Parkway areas in Woolwine.  
Cassell has said emergency crews worked tirelessly to create fire containment lines to safeguard lives,

properties, and structures in the affected areas. Containment is defined as a control line that has been completed around the fire, and any associated spot fires, which can reasonably be expected to stop the fire's spread.  
At a press conference last week, Patrick County Administrator Beth (See Wildfire p. 3)



The Patrick County School Board and Stuart town officials held a ribbon cutting to celebrate the opening of the new Patrick County School Board office. Pictured, left to right, are Bryce Simmons, Rob Coleman, Ryan Lawson, Walter Scott, Jason Wood, Amy Walker, Shannon Harrell and Rebecca Adcock.

## Opening of new school board office now official

**By Taylor Boyd**  
The Patrick County School Board celebrated the opening of its new school board office with an official ribbon cutting to coincide with its November 9 meeting.  
Schools Superintendent Jason Wood said the school system is very blessed to have a building that allows for staff development, situating many of its departments under one roof, and training for staff.  
"Also, where we can be a bless-

ing to the community and hopefully continue to open our doors to the county for meetings they may have. Also, for all of the events on Main Street, I think it's a blessing that we own the parking lot so that we can help and actually be a blessing to the community," he said.  
Shannon Harrell, of the Blue Ridge District, said one of the primary reasons for the building is its purpose to serve as a showcase for (See School Board Office p. 3)

## Goad selected as Grand Marshal of the Meadows of Dan Christmas Parade

Trinity Goad, a long-time community servant, was selected to be the Grand Marshal of this year's Meadows of Dan Christmas Parade, held annually on the Saturday after Thanksgiving.  
Goad, who along with Brenda Quesenberry (now deceased), "spoke the" parade into existence 13 years ago. The two "immediately set about acquiring the permits and choosing a date that took all other county events into consideration—the Saturday after Thanksgiving was decided on. This is still the day the Meadows of Dan Christmas parade is held every year," according to Angie Dribben, who has since moved to the Meadows of Dan community.  
"At the parade, you can always expect Santa to make an appearance as well as classic cars, chromed-out tractor trailers, and a Ruritan club's float," Dribben wrote. "The other excitement to anticipate is the Grand Marshal, who is often chosen because they are someone who contributes to the community without seeking recognition or profit. In



Trinity Goad will lead the Meadows of Dan Christmas Parade.

years past, we've honored generous community members like Betty Lou Banks, Annalee Shelor, Pat Stanley, and Brenda Quesenberry.  
"These are folks who show up for fundraisers like Pancake Days, Hot-dog Socials, and Spaghetti Suppers. (See Grand Marshal p. 7)



Those participating in the morning tour walk to another site. (Photos by Desmond Kendrick)

## Donations from walking tours fund scholarship

**By Staff Reports**  
Another Patrick County student will receive help with their education from the Perry Family Scholarship thanks to donations received at recent walking tours at the Laurel Hill Farm in Ararat.  
Thomas D. "Tom" Perry hosted two free tours of the J. E. B. Stuart Birthplace on November 4. The date also marked Perry's birthday.  
"I did it on my birthday on purpose, because there is no place I would rather be," said Perry, who worked for many years, raising funds to buy and preserve the prop-

erty and then complete various projects that help tell the story of the family, the working farm previously located on the property, and provide recreational activities in the present day, such as walking trails.  
Several people attended the morning tour, which kicked off at a historical marker on the property.  
"The old road bed to Stuart went that way, Mount Airy was that way," Perry said, indicating the direction by pointing first in one, then the other direction. "Stuart, which was then Taylorsville, was 25 miles (See Walking Tours p. 7)

## Amended hunting rules target cut in county's deer population

**By Judy Ferring**  
State deer hunting regulations, population status and management objectives for Patrick County have been amended by the Virginia State Department of Wildlife Resources (DWR), largely due to detection of chronic wasting disease (CWD) last year in North Carolina, within 10 miles of the county's border. Regulations pertain only to private land; publicly held land is regulated separately.  
Overall, the DWR strategy is to reduce deer herd densities by increasing the buck and antlerless deer kill in CWD-affected areas. It includes prohibiting the use of artificial food sources (bait piles, feeders, mineral licks, etc.) in Patrick County as well as in 36 other counties in the state.  
In addition, all deer harvested in Patrick County on opening day (November 18) of the firearms season must be tested for CWD. Additional testing for the disease will be available throughout the season.  
The state's deer hunting regulations are evaluated and amended every other year, effective in the odd years.  
**How we got here**  
The DWR's management plan in-

corporates any county located within 10 miles of a CWD detection into a disease management area (DMA), according to Justin Folks, DWR's deer project leader, and Katie Martin, its deer-bear-turkey biologist. Due to a North Carolina detection, Patrick County has been added to Disease Management Area 3 (DMA3), which also includes Carroll, Floyd, Montgomery and Pulaski counties.  
DMA3 was established in 2021 when a 2.5 year-old male deer legally harvested in November 2020 in Montgomery County, VA was confirmed to be infected with CWD. Up until that time, the closest case of CWD in Virginia had been found more than 160 miles away, in Madison County.  
The presence of CWD is not quickly or easily discernible. At the time of the November 2020 harvest in Montgomery County, the hunter had not noticed any outward signs of disease and the deer appeared to be in good condition.  
Further surveillance since 2021 has detected 11 cases of CWD-infected deer in DMA3: 6 in Montgomery, 4 in Floyd, and 1 in Pulaski. Additionally, CWD has been (See Hunting Rules p. 11)

# NFPA urges extra caution when preparing your Thanksgiving feast,

by far the leading day of the year for U.S. home cooking fires

The National Fire Protection Association® (NFPA®) urges added caution when cooking on Thanksgiving Day, by far the leading day of the year for home cooking fires. In 2021, an estimated 1,160 home cooking fires were reported to U.S. fire departments on Thanksgiving Day, reflecting a 297 percent increase over the daily average.

"Thanksgiving is a hectic holiday with multiple dishes cooking and baking at the same time, along with lots of guests, entertaining, and other distractions that can make it easy to lose sight of what's on the stove or in the oven," said Lorraine Carli, vice president of Outreach and Advocacy at NFPA. "With all these factors at play, it's not surprising that the number of cooking fires spikes so dramatically."

Overall, cooking is the leading cause of U.S. home fires and injuries, and the second-leading cause of home fire deaths. Unattended cooking is the leading contributing factor in cooking fires and fire deaths.

"Keeping a close eye on what's cooking and minimizing the likelihood of getting distracted are key steps people can take to ensure a festive, fire-free holiday," said Carli.

Following are additional tips and recommendations from NFPA to help cook safely on Thanksgiving:

\*Never leave the kitchen while cooking on the stovetop. Some types of cooking, especially those that involve frying or sautéing with oil, need continuous attention.

\*When cooking a turkey, remain

at home and check it regularly.

\*Make use of timers to keep track of cooking times, particularly for foods that require longer cook times.

\*Keep things that can catch fire like oven mitts, wooden utensils, food wrappers, and towels at least three feet away from the cooking area.

\*Avoid long sleeves and hanging fabrics that can come in contact with a heat source.

\*Always cook with a lid beside your pan. If a small grease fire starts, smother the flames by sliding the lid over the pan, then turn off the burner. Do not remove the cover because the fire could start again. Let the pan cool for a long time.

\*For an oven fire, turn off the heat and keep the door closed. Only open the door once you're confident the fire is completely out, standing to the side as you do. If you have any doubts or concerns, contact the fire department for assistance.

\*Keep children and pets at least three feet away from the stove and areas where hot food or drink is prepared or carried. Hot foods and liquids should be placed away from table and counter edges.

In addition, NFPA strongly discourages the use of turkey fryers that use cooking oil, which can cause devastating burns. For a safe alternative, NFPA recommends purchasing a fried turkey from a grocery store or restaurant or buying a fryer that does not use oil.

For more information, visit [www.nfpa.org](http://www.nfpa.org). All NFPA codes and standards can be viewed online for free at [www.nfpa.org/freeaccess](http://www.nfpa.org/freeaccess).

# VADOC aims to hire more veterans

As America recognizes the men and women who have served this great country on the 69th Veterans Day, the Virginia Department of Corrections (VADOC) would like to remind our military veterans that the VADOC values our veterans and their families, and the Department is committed to supporting them with employment opportunities.

Around 7.5 percent of the VADOC's more than 11,000 employees are veterans, who bring with them a wealth of skills, experience, and abilities that enable them to excel in their new roles. In return, we provide a competitive salary, excellent benefits, and numerous opportunities for professional growth and advancement.

Employment opportunities at the VADOC range from security to food service, maintenance, nursing, information technology, and much more from the Eastern Shore to the Appalachian Mountains. The Department has boosted its veteran ranks by its strong connection with the Virginia Department of Veterans Services whose V3 initiative links veterans with employers.

"As veterans have displayed their commitment to serving the United

States of America, the Virginia Department of Corrections is equally committed to ensuring employment opportunities for those who served," said VADOC Director Chadwick Dotson. "Leadership and integrity are just two of the transferrable qualities veterans possess that make them excellent candidates for careers with the Department and we hope veterans consider VADOC as a career option, either post-military career or while in reserve."

Virginia is home to one of the largest veteran populations in the United States, with more than 691,000 veterans residing in the Commonwealth. Virginia's population of more than 8.6 million ranks 12th in the nation. Virginia ranks 5th in the number of veterans and has the second-highest percentage of veterans among all U.S. states.

To view open job opportunities, please visit <https://vadoc.virginia.gov/job-opportunities/> and apply. Job openings are updated each Friday. Follow the VADOC on social media to stay informed about the Department's regional hiring events. Don't miss your opportunity to start your new career with the Virginia Department of Corrections.

## Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims Increase

Data from the Virginia Department of Workforce Development and Advancement (DWDA) indicates that the number of initial unemployment insurance claims increased in the latest filing week to 1,730 and remained at typical pre-Pandemic volumes experienced in 2019.

For the filing week ending November 4, the figure for seasonally unadjusted initial claims for unemployment insurance in Virginia was 1,730, which was a decrease of 70 claimants from the previous week. Continued weeks claimed totaled 12,341, which was unchanged from the previous week and an increase of 78% from the 6,951 continued claims from the comparable week last year. An industry was reported for ninety-three percent of continued claims. Of those, over half (53 percent) of continued claims were from professional, scientific, and technical services (1,851), administrative and support and waste management (1,715), manufacturing (1,410), and health care and social assistance (1,096). Eligibility for benefits is determined on a weekly basis, and so not all weekly claims filed result in a benefit payment.

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

In the week ending November 4, the advance U.S. figure for seasonally adjusted initial claims was 217,000, a decrease of 3,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised up by 3,000 from 217,000 to 220,000. The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 213,132 in the week ending November 4, an increase of 13,826 (or 6.9 percent) from the previous week. There were 206,079 initial claims in the comparable week in 2022.

Looking at preliminary data, most U.S. states reported increases on a seasonally unadjusted basis. California's preliminary weekly change (+3,416) was the largest increase. New York's preliminary weekly change (+2,457) was the second largest increase. Pennsylvania's preliminary weekly change (+1,677) was the third largest increase. Minnesota's preliminary weekly change (+1,510) was the fourth largest increase. Virginia had the fourth largest decrease (-314).

## Online Shopping Scams

Social media has become a dangerous marketplace. Scammers are great at creating slick ads and professional looking websites and for minimal cost they can force them into your feed. According to the Federal Trade Commission, \$2.7 billion in reported fraud losses have been

tied to social media since 2021 and 44% of those came from fake sales.

Look out for any online sales that are too good to be true; experts say to be suspicious of anything marked down 55% or more. Also be wary of any product or websites that offer popular or hard-to

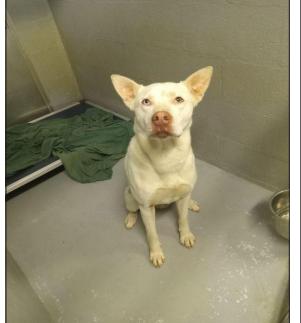
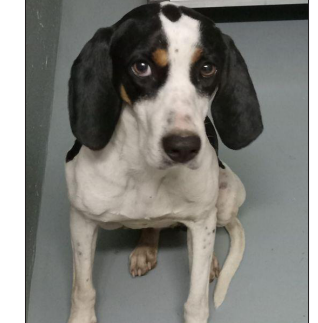
find products at a steeply discounted price. Purchasing products on these sites can lead to shoddy products being delivered or receiving nothing at all. Worse, the site could steal your payment information or upload credential-stealing malware onto your device.

Links cannot be trusted - whether from a social media post, an ad, an email or a text. Shop on sites you trust, and always go directly to the online store by typing the web address into your browser.

The AARP Fraud Watch Network is a free resource for all. Learn how to proactively spot scams or get guidance if you've been targeted. Visit [www.aarp.org/fraudwatchnetwork](http://www.aarp.org/fraudwatchnetwork) or call our dedicated helpline to speak to a fraud specialist at 1-877-908-3360.

To learn more about AARP Virginia, like us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/aarpvirginia](http://www.facebook.com/aarpvirginia) and follow @AARPVa on Twitter at [www.twitter.com/aarpva](http://www.twitter.com/aarpva).

## Pets of the Week



This pretty tricolor hound was found on Willis Road in Meadows of Dan. Someone must really miss her.

This guy with the sweet expression was found on Dry Pond Hwy., near Peters Creek.

If you recognize either of these dogs, please call the Patrick County Public Animal Shelter (PCPAS) at (276) 694-6259. To view available pets, visit or check out the shelter's Facebook page. Adoption fees are \$10 and include spay/neuter and a rabies vaccination.

**email us**  
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 PATRICK COUNTY  
 COMMISSIONER OF THE REVENUE

Paid by Glenda C. Morse, Commissioner of the Revenue Elect

**PINK FRIDAY**

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# Wildfire

(cont. from page 1)

Simms said, "Wildfire firefighting is a process, and operations can last for days."

This blaze began as a brush fire on October 30 when a tree fell onto a powerline and knocked it down, according to Kenny Brady, a member of the Woolwine Volunteer Fire Department.

Fire crews in Patrick County were joined by those from Henry, Floyd, Carroll, Montgomery, Franklin counties, the City of Martinsville, and Surry County, N.C., officials have said.

By last week, "the Virginia National Guard, the Virginia Department of Forestry (VDOF), Virginia

Department of Emergency Management, National Park Service, and other pertinent agencies are coordinating in the ongoing operation," and the Virginia National Guard was expected to provide a Blackhawk helicopter to drop water on the fire, Simms said.

Also last week, officials noted that residents may continue to see fire spread, but the spread is controlled when containment is in place.

Simms added first responders successfully kept the fire from reaching 20 structures.

Rain and cooler temperatures have helped fire crews contain the blaze, but the conditions remain

dry.

To ensure safety, travelers were asked to avoid the affected area and be vigilant of increased emergency vehicle traffic.

A county-wide burn ban is still in effect and will remain in effect until further notice.

Gov. Glenn Youngkin declared a State of Emergency on November 6, specifically addressing what has been referred to as the Tuggles Gap Fire.

Continuous emergency personnel presence and patrols are in effect throughout the duration of this incident.

First responders extended their

gratitude to Nick Bieneck, owner of Tuggle's Gap Roadside Inn, for his support in providing a command center, accommodations for firefighters, and nourishment. Crews also appreciate the "overwhelming support from residents and business owners in Patrick, Floyd, and Henry counties who have generously contributed food, beverages, and personal hygiene items. For the time being no additional donations of goods are needed."

For concerns about home safety, call the nonemergency number for the Patrick County Sheriff's Office (276) 694-3161. In case of an immediate threat, dial 911.



Patrick County Administrator Beth Simms at a press conference last week.



Snacks, beverages, and personal care items are pictured at the Tuggles Gap Roadside Inn, which was instrumental in supporting firefighters. (Photos by Taylor Boyd)



# School Board Office

(cont. from page 1)

the work students produce.

"Not only will students display their work in the CTE (Career and Technical Education) Marketplace daily, but art displays, science fairs, and student presentations in the large room for community members to come in and see," she said.

While the conversation about the new building began with the need to protect the school system's servers and renovate the technology building, Harrell said it evolved into creating a space that could also serve its students and accommodate the staff.

"To our students, this building is for you. It's a space where your dreams are not only welcomed but

celebrated. It's a place where your hard work will be proudly displayed for all to see," she said. "May you find inspiration inside these walls, and may you continue to strive for greatness in every endeavor you pursue. May this building be a symbol of our collective commitment to education and a source of pride for the entire community."

Walter Scott, chairman and of the Smith River District, said the new building was possible because of the assistance of several individuals and organizations, including former interim superintendent David Martin, several board members, Hopkins Lumber, Clark Brothers, the taxpayers, and others.

He noted this could not have been done without the taxpayers of Patrick County.

"A lot of you were very skeptical of what we were doing here. Wasting money and those kinds of things. Sales and use tax, do you all remember that one? Twenty percent of this building was paid for by sales and use tax," he said.

Scott said the rest of the building was paid for by grants, or 'free' money to Patrick County.

"Without the sales and use tax, we would have never done this. That was a big player in making this happen," he said.

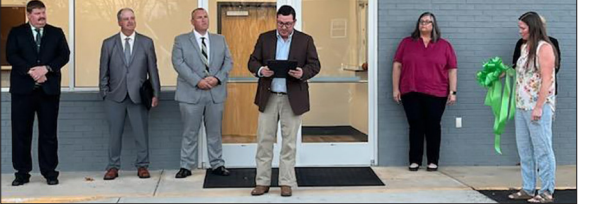
Stuart Town Manager Bryce Simmons read a letter of apprecia-

tion recognizing the school division, the school board, and the staff that worked to complete the new facility.

The school board later approved turning the former school board office back over to the county.

In other matters, the board:

- \*Approved the personnel report as amended.
- \*Approved the religious exemptions.
- \*Read a letter from Carol Vernon about the new tennis courts at Patrick County High School (PCHS).
- \*Heard the superintendent's update.
- \*Approved the consent agenda.
- \*Approved the revised budget.



Stuart Town Manager Bryce Simmons read a letter supporting the school division, the school board, and the staff that worked to complete the new school board office.

The Patrick County School Board and staff celebrated the full accreditation of various schools.

Patrick County Assistant Superintendent of Instruction Andrea Cassell and Assistant Superintendent of Administration Shannon Brown received certificates of appreciation.

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# Remembering Veterans

Each year on November 11 we celebrate Veterans' Day, honoring our fellow Americans who have served our country in the United States Armed Forces.

Originally called Armistice Day, commemorating the end of World War I at the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month in 1918. Unfortunately, the "war to end all wars" was not the end and the day was renamed Veterans' Day, recognizing all of the other conflicts our brave men and women in uniform have fought in.

This year's Veterans' Day coincides with the anniversary of the end of a number of major conflicts in our country's history.

This year is the 50th anniversary of the official end of the Vietnam War. On January 27, 1973, the Democratic Republic of Vietnam, the Republic of Vietnam, the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Vietnam, and the United States signed a peace agreement known as the Paris Peace Accords. By August 1972, the last of our infantry battalions had withdrawn from Vietnam. The Paris Peace Accords in 1973 removed any remaining American troops from the conflict.

Unfortunately, despite the peace agreement, fighting between the North and South Vietnamese resumed not even a day later and continued for more than two years.

The war lasted almost 20 years and it is estimated anywhere from 1.3 to 3.4 million people lost their lives during the conflict. Approximately 58,000 Americans died in the war and 153,000 Americans were wounded. Keep in mind that those who were listed as wounded may not include those who came back with some degree of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder.

About nine million American military personnel served on active duty during the Vietnam War era, with more than 2.7 million Americans serving on the ground in Vietnam. Today, there are about 6.3 million veterans still alive. According to the Department of Veterans Affairs, there are 203,807 Vietnam veterans living in Virginia.

This year is also the 70th anniversary of the end of the Korean war. In 1950, North Korea invaded South Korea following years of hostilities. After a little more than three years, the fighting ended with the signing of the Korean Armistice Agreement on July 27, 1953.

In just three years, approximately three million people died in the war. Approximately 36,000 Americans died in the war and 103,000 were wounded. About



**Morgan Griffith**

Representative

5.7 million American servicemen and women served on active duty during the war, with 1.7 million serving on the ground in Korea. According to the Department of Veterans Affairs, there are 1,165,000 Korean War veterans still living today. Of those, there are 31,535 living in Virginia.

Along with our Korean and Vietnam War veterans, we must not fail to recognize the thousands of World War II veterans that are still with us and the many veterans who served more recently in the Desert Shield/Desert Storm conflict and during the Global War on Terror in Afghanistan, Iraq, Somalia, etc. In total today, about 16.5 million living Americans have served in our armed forces.

I recently had the pleasure of meeting a remarkable veteran, Marcus Luttrell, who was on Capitol Hill visiting his brother, Congressman Morgan Luttrell. Marcus is a retired Navy SEAL who received the Navy Cross and Purple Heart for his actions in 2005, fighting against the Taliban. He fought in Operation Red Wings in Afghanistan, in which he was the lone survivor. His story was featured in the 2013 movie, Lone Survivor, where he was played by Mark Wahlberg. The movie was based on Luttrell's 2007 book of the same name.

As the Athenian Greek historian and general Thucydides (c. 460-400 BC) said, "the bravest are surely those who have the clearest vision of what is before them, glory and danger alike, and yet notwithstanding, go out to meet it."

During this Veterans' Day season, I'd ask everyone to reflect on what called these brave men and women to risk their lives to serve their country and to consider the tremendous debt we owe them.

Thank you to our veterans, like Marcus, who served their country in the most extraordinary way.

I urge you to thank any veterans you come across in your life, including family members, friends, and neighbors. It is the least we can do to honor the heroes who risked their lives for our freedoms.

If you have questions, concerns, or comments, call my Abingdon office at (276) 525-1405, Christiansburg office at (540) 381-5671, or to reach my office via email, visit [www.morgangriffith.house.gov](http://www.morgangriffith.house.gov).

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Bidenomics Myths

(Daily Signal, Newsmax, The Federalist, MRCTV, Moody's, Truflation, Joint Committee of Taxation, Tax Foundation)

President Biden touts the success of Bidenomics. Central to Bidenomics is The Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) which he managed to get passed. Biden himself has admitted that the IRA has nothing to do with inflation but contains the following 6 primary benefits for the American people listed below.

A closer examination of the facts reveals a very different story.

**Lowering costs for families:** Data from Truflation paints a much different story than the White House. According to Truflation's U.S. aggregate data, the true inflation rate is 23.9 percent, which they report is the compounded inflation rate since January 2020. But, if you go from January 20, 2021, when Biden took office, the aggregated inflation rate was at 2.749 percent. That means that the aggregated inflation rate has jumped 21.151 percent since he became the president. According to Moody's analysts, inflation and new regulations has cost the average American family \$10,000.

**Increasing energy security:** The IRA provides a \$7,500 tax credit for wealthy individuals who can afford to pay from \$60,000 to \$80,000 for a new EV, but it provides no relief to lower income Americans who are pinching pennies to repair or replace old cars. The IRA also enables the government to distribute more than \$350 billion worth of loans and grants to green energy projects nationwide while imposing stringent fees and regulations on conventional energy companies, jeopardizing millions of good paying energy jobs.

**Restoring fairness to the tax**

**code:** The IRA provides massive tax subsidies to the least taxed corporations: green energy companies. Companies with more than \$1 billion in revenue receive more than 90 % of the tax benefits, over half of which are banks, and insurers, according to the Joint Committee of Taxation.

**Job Creation:** More than 70 % of all jobs gained since 2021 were jobs recovered from the pandemic. Job growth has never reached pre pandemic levels. According to the Tax Foundation, the IRA's burdensome taxes on manufacturers will cost 29,000 jobs.

**Cutting the deficit:** The Joint Committee on Taxation recently adjusted the estimated cost of the IRA to cost more than \$650 billion, 240% higher than the original projections. Goldman Sachs estimates the costs will be even higher, totaling \$1.2 trillion.

The IRA estimates that its climate regulations will reduce US carbon emissions by 1 billion metric tons, a figure that members of the Democratic party say is not possible. The US has steadily decreased emissions since the mid-2000s. Chinas emissions continue to skyrocket, as do those of other Asians nations. The IRA does not compel China or other Asian nations to reduce their emissions, meaning the global effect of US reductions will be negligible. Bidens new crippling green energy regulations will lead companies to offshore more American manufacturing jobs, weaken our supply chains, and deepen our reliance on the Chinese Communist Party.

Pray for our country.  
William Salser,  
Stuart

# Mayberry Trading Post selected for grant

The Mayberry Trading Post in Meadows of Dan was among 131 small businesses, Destination Marketing Organizations (DMOs), downtown business associations, and chambers of commerce as part of the Virginia Tourism Corporation's (VTC) Microbusiness Marketing Leverage Program (MMLP) to receive a portion of more than \$757,000 in matching grant funds.

Gov. Glenn Youngkin announced the awards last week. The Meadows of Dan project will receive \$5,000 in the program designed to leverage local marketing dollars with matching state funds to increase visitation and traveler spending in the off-season. This funding cycle, local partners will commit more than \$1.1 million in private-public sector funds to match the VTC funding, providing more than \$1.9 million in new marketing activity focused on small businesses and off-season visitation. Funding will be awarded to 131 marketing programs, ultimately impacting 655 combined partners, and supporting more than 1,300 jobs.

"Driving tourism during the off-season is part of our strategy to grow Virginia's economy," said Youngkin. "These programs will help bring in year-round overnight visitation which will support small businesses and jobs in localities across Virginia. In 2022, the tourism industry supported more than 210,000 jobs in Virginia and travelers spent over \$83 million per day in Virginia, and we will continue to grow thanks to these programs."

"Virginia Tourism's Microbusiness Marketing Leverage Program provides the tourism industry with the tools they need to succeed and thrive in an incredibly competitive landscape," said Rita McClenny, President and CEO

of Virginia Tourism Corporation. "Tourism is a multibillion-dollar industry in Virginia, and it is imperative that we are able to market the abundance of travel experiences across the Commonwealth year-round and invite travelers to discover for themselves why Virginia is for Lovers."

The VTC Microbusiness Marketing Leverage Program is designed to increase visitor spending by leveraging limited marketing dollars, to stimulate new tourism marketing through partnerships, and to extend the Virginia is for Lovers brand to drive off-season visitation. Using the hub and spoke tourism model, five Virginia entities partner financially to apply for funding. Partners may consist of Virginia cities, towns, counties, convention and visitors' bureaus, chambers of commerce, other local or regional destination marketing organizations, private businesses, museums, attractions, cultural events, and other tourism-related businesses.

The VTC Microbusiness Marketing Program was created in 2022 to provide marketing funding to target off-season visitation to tourism-oriented small businesses with less than 20 full-time employees. Designed to drive overnight visitation during fall, winter, and early spring, the program provided up to \$10,000 in matching dollars for marketing initiatives. Small businesses were eligible for up to \$5,000, while DMOs, downtown business associations, and chambers of commerce were eligible for up to \$10,000.

VTC will have additional Marketing Program grant and sponsorship rounds opening throughout 2024. Organizations and businesses that are interested in applying may visit [vatc.org/grants](http://vatc.org/grants) for more information.

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## Letters to the Editor/Viewpoints Policy

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

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.

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## Patrick Pioneers

*George's Mill*

**By Beverly Belcher Woody**

Several weeks ago, I wrote about Mrs. Mary Clark Mooney's father, William Hughes Clark, building a mill downtown on the Mayo River. Clark built the mill in 1885 and ran it for several years before selling it to Robert Lee George and Thomas Jefferson George of the Francisco community of Stokes County, North Carolina.

The George brothers were very familiar with what it took to run a successful mill. Their father, Robert William "Bob" George, was a minister who also owned a successful mill in Stokes County. Reverend Bob and his wife, Margaret Hatcher George, had a household of children, but for this story, we will focus on the two sons that moved to Stuart - Robert Lee and Thomas Jefferson George.

Thomas Jefferson (T. J.) George married Miss Minnie Handy, the daughter of Beverage Handy and Rebecca McGhee Handy on the 4th of May 1904. Robert Lee (R. L.) George married Miss Elva May Shockley, the daughter of John Calvin Shockley and Lelia Howard Staples in January of 1908. In the 1910 census, the George brothers and their little families lived next door to each other. R. L. listed his occupation as dry goods salesman and T. J. listed his occupation as merchant.

On November 4, 1913, tragedy struck. R. L. George died suddenly. It was believed his death was caused from a fractured skull he had received over a year before and never quite completely recovered. He was survived by his wife, Elva and his two sons, Robert William George and John Shockley George.

T. J. George continued to run the mill, which was known as the largest in Patrick County. George's Mill manufactured flour and corn meal as well as cattle and horse feed. The George's built a large home across the



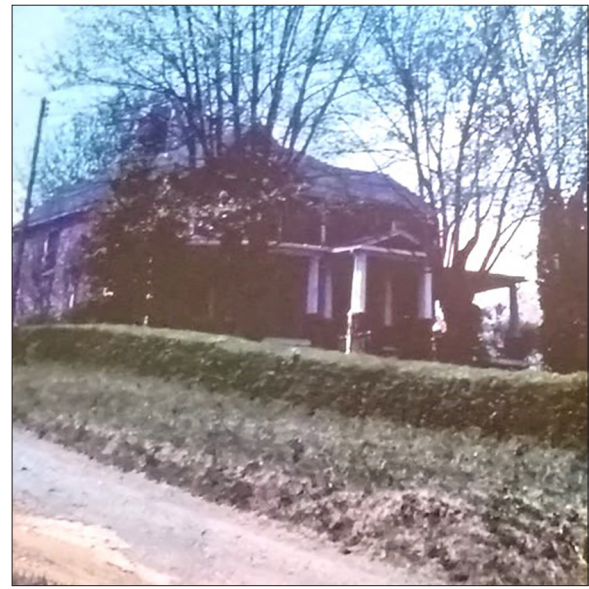
Tom George Mill from Curtis Carter photo collection.

road from the mill where they raised their children, Thomas Leonard, William Brooks, Thomas Jr., Bruce Handy, Garland Hatcher, and Margaret Ann George Anderson.

T. J. George also served as president of the First National Bank of Stuart which was located downtown. According to the late Charles C. Baughan, from 1920-1935, national currency notes were issued by the bank with the signature, Thomas J. George. These banknotes were lawful money but not legal tender since they were just obligations of the bank officials.

T. J. George also served as the delegate from Patrick County in the Virginia House of Delegates for the terms 1926-1929; 1934-1935; and 1946-1949. T. J. George's nephew, John Shockley George, served as delegate from Patrick County from 1950 until his tragic death in a car accident in 1951.

John Shockley George was the son of Robert Lee and Elva Shockley George. John S. had also served as a supervisor for Patrick County from January of 1944 to December 1949. He also owned the building beside the post office, now known as Uptown Suites, and owned by



Tom George House from Curtis Carter photo collection.

Leslie Marsh. Just prior to his death, he had purchased the Patrick Springs Hotel.

In the 1950 census, 68-year-old T. J. George listed his occupation as manager of Stuart Milling Company and his son Bruce was listed as bookkeeper for Stuart Milling. Sadly, both men died in 1955, Bruce was only 38 years old.

I was born in the sixties, so I don't remember George's Mill when it was in action. The funny thing that I do remember is the small entrance door on the Route 8 side. The entrance was so close to the road that if you were not careful when you stepped out of the door, you would step out right into the road. George's Mill was torn down in the late 1980's as part of the flood control project by the Corp of Engineers. The only memory remaining of George's Mill is the T. J. George Memorial Bridge downtown where Route 8 crosses the Mayo River.

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 – Social Security Disability vs. Spouse Benefits vs. Survivor Benefits (and COLA)**

**Dear Rusty:** I retired from working in June but will not sign up for Social Security until age 70 and, to do that, I plan to draw from my IRA for the next 3 years. My wife is receiving Social Security disability benefits and will reach her full retirement age in March of next year. I know that my wife simply reaching her full retirement age will not mean an increase to her benefit – except for COLA. What I'm wondering is, can my wife get spousal benefits of any sort based on my Social Security benefits - either before I draw or after I am drawing - apart from her benefits at my death? Her Social Security disability amount is only a fraction of my maximum benefit. Signed: Baffled Husband

**Dear Baffled:** Looks like you're confused about your wife's Social Security disability benefits, retirement benefits, spousal benefits, and survivor benefits. Here's what you need to know:

When your wife reaches her full retirement age (FRA) next year, her current Social Security

Disability Insurance (SSDI) benefit will automatically convert to become her regular SS retirement benefit at the same amount she was receiving on SSDI (disability). The amount stays the same because your wife's SSDI amount is based on her FRA entitlement.

Your wife cannot get any spousal benefits from you until you claim your own Social Security retirement benefit. Since you plan to delay claiming until you are 70 several years from now, after your wife's SSDI converts to become her regular retirement benefit at her FRA next year, she will continue to receive her own SS retirement benefit until you claim. At that point your wife will get a "spousal boost" added to her own SS retirement benefit. The amount of her spousal boost will be the difference between her FRA entitlement (same as her SSDI amount), and 50% of your FRA entitlement (not half of your age 70 amount - spouse benefits are always calculated using FRA amounts, regardless of when Social Security is actually claimed).

Your wife cannot get a spousal benefit from you until you start your Social Security, but after you claim she will receive her higher spousal benefit (her own SS retirement benefit plus a spousal boost) for the rest of her life, or until you predecease her. If you die first, your wife will get 100% of the amount you were receiving

at your death (e.g., your age 70 amount), instead of the smaller amount she was receiving as your spouse while you are both living.

Regarding COLA, after becoming eligible for benefits, everyone gets the annually awarded COLA increase whether they are already collecting SS benefits or not. The next annual COLA increase will be added to your wife's SSDI at the end of this year and added to her SS retirement amount each year thereafter, and then to her higher amount as your spouse after you claim. And even though you are waiting until age 70 to claim, the annual COLA will still be added to your Primary Insurance Amount (PIA) each year, and you will receive that past COLA in your monthly payments after you later claim.

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](http://amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory)) or email us at [ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org](mailto:ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org).

## Diabetes – From Drugs to Diet

In the United States alone about half of all adults have one chronic lifestyle disease. More than 115 million people suffer from pre-diabetes or diabetes. Diabetes often leads to heart problems, nerve damage, blindness, strokes, and kidney failure. In fact, diabetes is the seventh leading cause of death in the United States.

There is a need for sharing lifestyle studies that do not always make the headlines. Health educators can lead the way to a healthier future. Even though research shows the positive implications of a plant-based diet, it is still undervalued. Partially, the reason can be due to the lack of coverage and education programs. Even though the statistics are dark and saddening, society can defeat the odds by making a change in diet and lifestyle. If you find yourself part of these statistics stated above, do not claim defeat. We can accept the facts, but we do not have to accept the fate of an unhealthy future.

What should you do?

First, work with your doctor. Strategize a plan to transform your health using a plant-based diet. Eliminate animal products, highly processed and high-fat foods. Add fruits, vegetables, grains, and legumes to your menu. Eliminating meat is not impossible, but it takes determination and an understanding of the benefits. There are so many examples of patients who applied this change to their life and have seen amazing results in their health.

Proof it works

Per a study conducted by the world-re-

nowned doctor, Neal Barnard MD, it was shown that a plant-based diet controls blood sugar three times more effectively than the traditional diabetes diet. The plant-based diet tackles the problems that lead to the disease initially. A follow-up study confirmed these results finding that patients eating a plant-based diet had an approximately 50% less chance of developing diabetes compared to those eating animal products. Therefore, a plant-based diet has become an accepted treatment plan for type-2 diabetes. The plant-based diet is so successful that it was endorsed in the American Diabetes Association's 2018 Standards of Medical Care in Diabetes. It also encouraged healthcare providers to include education on lifestyle management.

One more large breakthrough in the healthcare system is the incorporation of a plant-based diet in one of the largest managed healthcare organizations in the United States. Kaiser Permanente Medical Center encourages all physicians to consider recommending a plant-based diet to their patients. The American Medical Association, American College of Cardiology, and the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics all urge the plant-based diet.

Dr. Neal Barnard states:

"It's one of the most profound shifts I've witnessed during my medical career. As a student, I was taught that diabetes was progressive and incurable and that once you have it, it never goes away. I watched patients...walk through the door in the early stages of the disease. Over time, I saw them

experience serious complications, like vision loss, kidney failure, and debilitating neuropathic pain, all the while receiving more and more medication. Never once did I hear a doctor say that a patient was cured. Never once did I see a patient hope that it was possible. For the millions of Americans living with diabetes today, that's no longer the case. With a plant-based diet, the solution for the diabetes epidemic is now at hand."

(Submitted by Betty Dean. Used by permission from [www.lifeandhealth.org](http://www.lifeandhealth.org) Courtesy of LifeSpring – Resources for Hope and Healing Stuart, VA)

## Marriage Licenses issued in October

The following marriage license were issued in October according to records in the Patrick County Circuit Court Clerk's Office:

Justus Moorefield- Reid Hawkins  
Branden Hubbard- Chelsie Dalton  
Samuel Jackson - Stephanie Blake  
Benjamin Johnson - Lindsay Newsome  
Daye Shelor - Cassida Quillen  
James White - Amanda Wood  
Wesley Hudson - Madison Martin  
Benton Boyd - Stacy Gwyn  
Lee Hauger - Lisa Lawson  
David Lane - Cathleen Williams  
Eric Lowe - Judith Negron  
Maxmillan Friederich - Hailey Williams

# Cougar Football falls to Glenvar in playoffs

**By Pat Delaney**  
The Patrick County High School football team dropped their playoff game with Glenvar, 56-0, ending the Cougars season. Glenvar came into the game as the third seed in the region and was able to gain the momentum early against the sixth-seeded Cougars.  
Forced to punt from their own end zone on their first drive, Glenvar took over on the Patrick County 29, and scored two plays later. They would score on their next three possessions, taking a 28-0 lead.  
Field position was a major factor in the game, with Glenvar beginning many drives on the Cougar side of the field. While the Cougars had some big plays, their drives would ultimately stall, forcing them to punt deep in their own end, giving Glenvar a short field to work with.  
Glenvar "did an excellent job of

playing field position football all night long. They kept us pinned down deep all night," said Cougar head coach David Morrison. "You cannot give up that kind of field position all night long and expect to beat a team of this caliber."  
Heading into the second half down 35-0, the Cougars looked better on both sides of the ball but couldn't overcome the momentum Glenvar had built. Glenvar would add 21 points in the second half for the 56-0 win.  
"That's a fantastic Glenvar team down there. It's an 8-2 team that is tough and they're where they are for a reason," said Morrison, adding, "and that's the level that we've got to get ourselves to."  
Despite the loss, there were many positives during the season. Finishing with a 5-6 record and making the postseason, all the Cougar losses were to playoff teams. Another bright spot was

their game against #1 Radford, who in their last six games allowed only 30 points with four shutouts. The Cougars scored 27 of the 30, the most of any Redford opponent.  
"All season long we've had to overcome injuries, and things like that. I'm very proud of the way that they stepped up all year. For us to make it to this point in the season, that's something that these young men should also be proud of," said Morrison.  
"We were talking before the game. A lot of these guys have been with us since middle school. They've been in the program since 7th grade. And when you're around these kids for that long, they become part of your family. And that's something that is very special. All these young men are very special to each and every one on the coaching staff."  
Of the Cougar seniors who had just finished their high school foot-

ball careers, Morrison said, "I can't say enough about how proud I am of our seniors and that senior class. Each and every one of these guys means the world to us and has meant the world to our program."  
With the season over, the coaching staff will begin looking ahead to next year.  
"Moving forward, we need to get a little bit better. We need to make it to this level. We've got to improve our game to get to the level that these guys (Glenvar) are because ultimately, if winning the state championship is not your goal, you've got the wrong goals," said Morrison. "At the end of the day, we fell short of that goal, and we've got to get back to work. Off season is probably going to be short, and then we're going to get back to work as soon as we can and we're going to start making a run for next year. We've got to have a short memory."



Jermaine Penn breaks through the line for a gain.



The Cougar defense swarms the Glenvar runner.



Stephen Spencer fights for extra yards.



Aden Penn avoids the Glenvar tackler.



Stephen Spencer attempting to get through the Glenvar defenders.



Bringing down the Glenvar runner.

# Martin Places 8th in State

**By Ashlee Mullis**  
For the first time in school history, the Patrick County Cross Country Team was represented at the State 2A Cross Country Meet in Salem, VA, Saturday, November 11. Sadie Martin qualified for the girls' team, taking 8th place in the state.  
The boys' team competed as well, but did not place.



# Learn to Protect Yourself from Banking Impostor Scams

One of the most nefarious scams today is bank impersonation. Money stolen through these schemes is rarely recoverable, so it's particularly important to be aware of this scam and share what you know with others.  
Most of these schemes start with a text from what appears to be your bank, alerting the target to a suspicious transaction, and asking to respond "yes" or "no" as to whether it's legitimate. As soon as the target enters "no" the phone rings, and the caller claims to be with their bank's fraud department and warns that the account has been compromised. The solution involves moving money out of the account and into a new one, or even into cryptocurrency. The criminal then makes off with the funds. When the victim contacts the bank, they are told that because they "authorized" the transactions to move the funds, the

bank is not liable for the losses.  
These scams can be especially effective because they mimic real fraud alerts used by banks. The clue that it is an impostor is the live call after the text: banks monitor for suspicious activity using algorithms and machine learning – not using humans who then call you in person to address the issue.  
You aren't able to trust text messages, or emails, or phone calls these days. Anytime your bank contacts you, do not engage. Rather, contact them through a channel you know to be legitimate to see if there is an issue.  
The AARP Fraud Watch Network is a free resource for all. Learn how to proactively spot scams or get guidance if you've been targeted. Visit [www.aarp.org/fraudwatchnetwork](http://www.aarp.org/fraudwatchnetwork) or call our dedicated helpline to speak to a fraud specialist at 1-877-908-3360.

# Grand Marshal

(cont. from page 3)

Citizens who know who is hungry and ensure they are fed, warm, and safe,” Dribben wrote. “They care about their community because to nurture and nourish rests at the core of their souls. It is no surprise that this year, our Grand Marshal is Trinity Goad.”

Dribben notes that “Goad is a backbone for Meadows of Dan. He’s one of the first faces you see when you come to town. A several decades employee of Poor Farmer’s Market, he is present constantly in the heart of our community.”

Many activities benefit from Goad’s talents, time, and attention to detail.

“When it looked like we would be without a bank, it was Goad who leaped into action, contacting the CEO and President of Skyline Bank to begin negotiations to bring a branch here,” Dribben wrote. “Goad organized meetings, sent emails, and blasted social media so that we would know to show up and show support thus helping to make our community desirable to Skyline.

Thanks to these efforts we now have a branch of Skyline Bank.”

Goad also heads the Meadows of Dan Community Association, Dribben said, and “one of the organization’s responsibilities includes hosting the folk fair—held on the third Saturday every August—now coming up on its 20th year. This event draws people into town who support the vendors as well as our local businesses. The fair is also a significant fundraising opportunity for Meadows of Dan Elementary and the Ruritans.”

Goad served as president of the Meadows of Dan Ruritans twice and was Ruritan of the Year. He served on the Patrick County Chamber of Commerce for six years, holding the offices of president and vice president twice, she said.

“While taking responsibility for these roles is the mark of a leader,” Goad is more than that, Dribben said. “He is so central in the community that he knows the needs of individuals. He quite literally helps people keep their lights on. Some-

times a child needs a coat, sometimes a tutor. Either way, Goad sees to it the need is met.”

He also helps newcomers navigate their way into the community and welcomes everyone without judgment. In short, “he shows us where we are needed and makes us feel as though we belong,” Dribben said.

“I can’t imagine the ways our town would dim without him. He does far more work than any one of us knows, especially since he doesn’t tell. Being a good Samaritan is simply who he is,” she added.

Stephanie Eckman, also a newcomer to the community, said, “We are new to Meadows of Dan. Early on, everyone told me if I needed to know what was happening in town, Trinity is the one with the low down. After getting to know him, I realized he isn’t just in the know, he’s a leader in our town. He’s a friend to all and gets whatever the job is done no matter the circumstances. He’s an easy pick for Grand Marshal 2023 and definitely

earned the unofficial, but universally recognized, title of Mayor of Meadows of Dan.”

“Trinity is one of the most friendly people in Meadows of Dan. As president of the Community Association, he has earned this recognition. He organizes both the Folk Fair and the Christmas Parade for our community every year,” said Betty Banks.

When asked why he does this work for Meadows of Dan, Goad said, “This is a place I want to see be and remain vibrant.” He added that the community is his home and not just his address.

The Meadows of Dan Christmas Parade is held annually on the Saturday after Thanksgiving. The parade begins at 3 p.m. Line-up begins at 2 p.m.

Santa Claus will make an appearance at Primitive Coffee Shop after the parade.

Call Goad, who is the director of the parade, to enter or if you have questions, at (540) 230-7943.

# Walking Tours

(cont. from page 2)

away.”

Perry recalled that when “I was a little boy, the only thing here was this,” a marker noting the site. The initial marker is believed to have been installed in December 1932, possibly written by Douglas Southall Freeman, biographer of Robert E. Lee and George Washington.

The sign had signs of wear and tear, as well as a few bullet holes when it was replaced in 2000 by the Virginia Department of Historic Resources, Perry said.

He noted that a few years ago, a friend “called me up to say he had something I might want. The Virginia Department of Historical Resources office in Roanoke, Virginia, contacted him to offer him the original Virginia Historical Highway Marker from Stuart’s Birthplace.”

Perry said he went to the friend’s garage to pick up the sign. His friend, Gerald Via, has since died

but is fondly remembered.

“I want everyone to know his role in saving this marker that meant so much to me. I hope you all have a friend like Gerald Via,” Perry said as the group embarked onto other sites on the property, including a portion of a railway to denote the route of the Dinky Railroad through the property.

A portion of the rails were unearthed during a construction project, Perry said.

“The railroad came in in the early 1900s. When the railroad left in the 1920s, we believe they moved the road because” that portion of the property was more level, he said, adding the railroad had crossed Ararat Highway.

Chip Bondurant was instrumental in that and other projects, Perry said. He added that many people have helped with projects on the property through the years. Many

were included in the tour, with other offerings featured during the tour, such as cemeteries, markers, and historical stories shared by Perry.

The tour is among many events held throughout the year to raise funds for the scholarship.

“We are planning on doing at least three Tom Talks History at the Ararat Ruritan Building to raise money for the scholarship,” Perry said, adding that plans are underway for more walking tours of the Laurel Hill property next year.

Donations are accepted. Visit the Perry Family Scholarship Facebook Page at [www.facebook.com/perry-scholarship](http://www.facebook.com/perry-scholarship), or mail a check to the Perry Family Scholarship, P. O. Box 11, Ararat, VA 24053.

To donate using a credit or debit card via Square, visit Tom Perry’s Laurel Hill Publishing LLC at <https://laurel-hill-publishing-llc.square.site>.

square.site.

To be considered for a scholarship, Patrick County High School seniors are required to write a 1,000-word essay on the historical topic of their choosing.

Perry also is an author and publisher of both his books and those of others, including “Corn Squeezins,” by Danny Martin.

A small sample of Perry’s books include “The Strange Case Of Not Adams: Arson, Power, and Politics in Civil War Era Patrick County Virginia,” “The Free State of Patrick,” “Return to Mayberry,” and “The Dear Old Hills of Patrick,” which is said to be Perry’s favorite book about J. E. B. Stuart’s family and his connections to Patrick County.

For more information, visit [laurel-hill-publishing-llc.square.site](http://laurel-hill-publishing-llc.square.site).



Thomas D. “Tom” Perry kicks off a walking tour at the J. E. B. Stuart Birthplace, Laurel Hill Farm in Ararat. (Photos by Desmond Kendrick)



Chip Bondurant was instrumental in the Dinky Railroad project.



The Laurel Hill property was listed on the National Register of Historic Places on Jan. 23, 1998.



Other sites along the tour of Laurel Hill.



A portion of the rail was erected in an area that is believed to have been part of the initial site of the Dinky Railroad.



Other sites along the tour of Laurel Hill.



# Wildlife in Franklin County Tested Positive for Rabies

To protect the health of residents and visitors, the West Piedmont Health District is advising the community that two skunks have tested positive for rabies. They were found in the same general area of Glade Hill within the past two weeks.

On October 13, a skunk testing positive for rabies was found in the vicinity of Old Franklin Turnpike and Brooks Mill Road. Most recently, on October 31, another skunk testing positive for rabies was found in a neighborhood around Crafts Church Road in Glade Hill. Due to the relative proximity and timing of these cases within Glade Hill/Union Hall, the West Piedmont Health District wants to remind everyone, and especially pet owners, of the risks of rabies.

Rabies is a deadly disease caused by a virus that attacks the nervous system. It is almost always fatal, unless preventive treatment is administered before symptoms develop. “Prevention is everything when you’re dealing with rabies,” said Dr. Kerry Gateley, director for the West Piedmont Health District. “We have to do everything we can to minimize exposures, from vaccinating pets to avoiding unnecessary human contact with unvaccinated animals. This includes not creating situations in which feral or wild animals might expose each other.”

Virginia law requires that all dogs and cats four months of age and older be vaccinated for rabies by a licensed veterinarian, and that vaccinations be kept current.

Additional Steps to Protect Against Rabies Exposure:

- \*Do not feed stray animals. Avoid wild animals, especially raccoons, bats, foxes and skunks. Feed your pets indoors and do not let them wander.
- \*Make sure your pets are vaccinated against rabies and their shots are up to date. By law, all dogs, cats and ferrets must be vaccinated against rabies.
- \*Teach children to avoid contact with wild animals and pets they are not familiar with.
- \*Do not handle sick, injured, or dead animals.
- \*Keep wild animals out of homes by capping chimneys with screens and blocking openings in attics, cellars and porches. Ensure trash cans have

- tight fitting lids.
- \*Do not try to trap or handle stray and wild animals.
- \*If bitten by a wild or stray animal, do not panic. Wash the wound(s) thoroughly with warm soapy water and contact animal control, a local medical provider or the Franklin County Health Department for further recommendations.
- For additional information, visit <https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/animal-contact-human-health/rabies-control/> or call the Franklin County Health Department at 540-484-0292. To report a rabies incident after hours, please contact Franklin County Animal Control at 540-483-3000.

**Robert D. Martin**



Robert D. Martin, 93 of Stuart, Virginia passed away at his home on Monday, November 6, 2023. He was born on December 11, 1929 in Slab Fork, West Virginia. He is preceded in death by both of his parents; Nettie and English Martin of Stuart, Virginia. Three sisters, Sadie Wiggington of Stuart, Evelyn Viperman of Martinsville, and Catherine Nelson of Martinsville. Two Brothers; Edward Martin and Wayne Martin both of Stuart. He is survived by his wife Hazel Martin of the home and one daughter Karen Wood (Danny) and one sister Ella Hall of Stuart. Also surviving is a Grandson Jonathan Wood (Holly) and three Great Grandchildren; Brooklynn, Bridgette (Hunter) and Levi.

He was a member of Stuart Baptist Church. He was previously employed at Carnation Milk Plant for 23 years. He then worked at American Furniture for 10 years. He had a passion for gardening and raising cattle. He also served in the Army during the Korean Conflict as a shipping clerk in the Post Office. He was awarded The

Korean Service Medal with Two Bronze Stars and the United Nations Service Medal.

The funeral will be held at 2:00 pm Thursday, November 9, 2023 with a visitation one hour prior to the service at Norris Funeral Services, Stuart Chapel with the Pastor Mark Heckler officiating. The burial will be at Patrick Memorial Gardens in Stuart with military rites by Patrick County Veterans Memorial Honor Guard.

Memorials can be made to the Alzheimer's Association. P.O. Box 1301, Stuart, Virginia 24179.

Norris Funeral Services in Stuart is serving the Martin family

Online condolences may be made at [www.norrisfuneral.com](http://www.norrisfuneral.com).

**Barbara Ann Rorrer Wood**



Mrs. Barbara Ann Rorrer Wood, age 79, of Stuart, Virginia went to her heavenly home on Friday, November 10, 2023, at Stanleytown Health and Rehabilitation Center in Bassett. She was born in the Fairystone park area of Patrick County on August 18, 1944, to the late Harold Oakley Rorrer and the late Mozell Chaney Rorrer. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Marion Akers Wood; and a sister-in-law, Rodaliah "Sissie" Gilley Rorrer. She worked at United Elastic where she met her husband and was married on July 10, 1965. Barbara had retired from Hanes Brand in Martinsville. At a very young age she began living and babysitting with families while attending school. Barbara was a member of Providence United Methodist Church. She loved returning to the Rorrer homeplace each Sunday to be with her siblings and their families. Barbara was known for her great coleslaw, creamed potatoes, and delicious banana pudding each Sunday at her family gatherings. Barbara had faced many ob-

stacles during her life with her health, but she never gave up and always kept the faith. She was a beautiful soul and a very classy lady. Barbara was a special aunt to many nieces and nephews, which included great nieces and nephews too. She always supported them in their adventures such as beauty pageants, dance recitals, band, and sports. Barbara was a loving wife, sister, aunt, cousin, and friend. Barbara will be sadly missed by all who knew and loved her.

Left to cherish the fond memories of Barbara Wood are three sisters and brothers-in-law, Sue Rorrer Carter of Fieldale, Virginia, Betty Rorrer Peal (William) of Stuart, Virginia, Verna Rorrer Shepherd (Ernie) of Bassett, Virgin-

ia; two brothers and sister-in-law, Elwood Harold Rorrer (Faye) of Stuart, Virginia, Larry Wayne Rorrer of Bassett, Virginia; one special aunt, Clemmie Chaney of Stuart, Virginia; one sister-in-law, Charlotte Wood of Stuart, Virginia; several nieces, nephews, special cousins, and friends.

A funeral service for Mrs. Barbara Wood will be held on Tuesday, November 14, 2023, at 1:00 P.M. at Moody Funeral Home Chapel in Stuart with Pastor Rick Randall and Pastor Derrick Layman officiating. The burial will immediately follow the funeral service in Patrick Memorial Gardens. The family will receive friends on Monday evening, November 13, 2023, from 6:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M. at the funeral home. Flowers will be accepted, or memorial donations in memory of Barbara may be made to the Fairystone Volunteer Fire Department, 6687 Fairystone Park Hwy., Stuart, VA 24171. Moody Funeral Home in Stuart is serving the Wood family, and online condolences may be sent by visiting [www.moodyfuneralservices.com](http://www.moodyfuneralservices.com).

**Susan Elizabeth Shelor**



Ms. Susan Elizabeth Shelor, age 91 of Meadows of Dan, Virginia, passed away peacefully at her home on November 11, 2023. She was born in Patrick County on June 10, 1932 to the late Posey Lester Shelor and Eloise Badger Newell Shelor. In addition to her parents, Ms. Shelor was preceded in death by three brothers, Glenn D. Shelor, Joseph B. Shelor, and Morgan L. Shelor; two sisters, Nancy Wynn and Alice Campbell; and a favorite nephew, Jay Shelor.

Susie Betts graduated from Virginia Tech and the Medical College of Virginia, and enjoyed a successful career in laboratory sciences education for decades. She loved the Lord and her church, Meadows of Dan Baptist Church, where she served as Treasurer for many years and was a choir member. She loved her homeplace, Tobax, where she was born and died. She loved her family, which led to a sound knowledge of the Shelor genealogy. She made many attractive wood-working pieces and needlework pictures. She tenderly cared for several favorite cats during her lifetime.

Ms. Shelor is survived by a daughter,

Kathryn S. Higgs and husband, Dale Higgs; one sister, Edna Ann Williams of Roanoke; and many nieces, nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews.

Funeral services for Ms. Shelor will be held Thursday, November 16, 2023 at 2:00 p.m. at Meadows of Dan Baptist Church with Pastor Shawn Carter officiating. Burial will follow in the church cemetery. The family will receive friends one hour prior to the service. If desired, memorials may be made to Meadows of Dan Baptist Church, 2511 Jeb Stuart Hwy., Meadows of Dan, Virginia 24120. Moody Funeral Home in Stuart has been entrusted the arrangements and online condolences may be sent by visiting [www.moodyfuneralservices.com](http://www.moodyfuneralservices.com).

Ms. Susan Elizabeth Shelor, age 91 of Meadows of Dan, Virginia, passed away peacefully at her home on November 11, 2023. She was born in Patrick County on June 10, 1932 to the late Posey Lester Shelor and Eloise Badger Newell Shelor. In addition to her parents, Ms. Shelor was preceded in death by three brothers, Glenn D. Shelor, Joseph B. Shelor, and Morgan L. Shelor; two sisters, Nancy Wynn and Alice Campbell; and a favorite nephew, Jay Shelor.

Susie Betts graduated from Virginia Tech and the Medical College of Virginia, and enjoyed a successful career in laboratory sciences education for decades. She loved the Lord and her church, Meadows of Dan Baptist Church, where she

**Work on U.S. 58 project is more than 30 percent complete**

In an update on the work to widen U.S. 58, the Virginia Department of Transportation's (VDOT) design-build contractor Branch Civil Inc. began work on the construction phase of the \$300 million project to widen U.S. 58 over Lovers Leap Mountain in Patrick County in the spring 2022. As of October 2023, overall construction on the project is more than 30 percent complete with the final completion anticipated in summer 2026.

"The project team has been working diligently to deliver this roadway improvement that will enhance safety and support economy development opportunities," said Rob Griffith, district construction engineer for the Virginia Department of Transportation's Salem District.

"Even with the challenges of working alongside and maintaining safe traffic operations on the existing roadway, the steep terrain and heavy rain events, we have been very successful in maintaining our construction schedule," said Jeff Humphreys, design-build project manager for Branch Civil Inc.

The Lovers Leap project will widen 7.4 miles of U.S. 58 from two lanes to four lanes over the mountain, including the area where the existing overlook is located. The project begins approximately a quarter mile west of the Poor Farmers Farm store in Vesta and continues eastward over and down the mountain,

ending at the existing four-lane section of the Stuart Bypass.

Construction entails widening the road to four lanes, improving alignments and grades, expanding the shoulders, adding turn lanes at all secondary road connections as well as enhancing the Lovers Leap Overlook. In addition, brake check areas and escape ramps for trucks will be added.

Work initially began at the top and bottom of Lovers Leap Mountain. The mountainous terrain and amount of excavation make this a significant project. The project entails excavating more than 10 million cubic yards of soil and rock at elevations that range between 1,300 and 3,000 feet. Approximately 3.3 million cubic yards has been moved so far.

Drivers should continue to expect flaggers and possible delays on U.S. 58. In addition, intermittent blasting may be scheduled between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. on weekdays at various locations on the project through summer 2025.

For blasting that is close to U.S. 58, traffic in both directions may be blocked for approximately 15-20 minutes at a time. Drivers and residents along the Route 58 corridor should expect loud noise and allow extra travel time. Electronic message boards will be used to inform drivers of scheduled blasting that will impact traffic.

**Arrests Reported**

The Patrick County Sheriff's Office reported the following:

\*Joseph Michael Murphy, 27, address unavailable, was charged Nov. 3 with probation violation. Deputy M.R. Hodges was the arresting officer.

\*Corey Adam Martin, 35, address unavailable, was charged Nov. 3 with fail to appear. Deputy C.L. Elgin was the arresting officer.

\*Courtney Michelle Thompson, 27, of Henry County Jail, was charged Nov. 3 with probation violation. Henry County made the arrest for Patrick County.

\*Samantha Rose McMillan, 25, of Cana, was charged Nov. 5 with fail to comply with terms of pretrial services. Deputy A. Kinney was the arresting officer.

\*Brikk Michael Bennett, 34, of Spencer, was charged Nov. 6 with fail

to appear. Deputy C.L. Elgin was the arresting officer.

\*Michael Aaron Napier, 37, of Bassett, was charged Nov. 6 with probation violation. Arlington County made the arrest for Patrick County.

\*Phillip Kentrell Womack, 29, of Greensboro, N.C., was charged Nov. 7 with one count each reckless drive and disregard law enforcement command. Deputy C.L. Adkins was the arresting officer.

\*William Edward Roberts, 43, of Martinsville, was charged Nov. 8 with probation violation. Martinsville PD made the arrest for Patrick County.

\*Dale Anthony Helms, 27, of Bassett, was charged Nov. 8 with fail to appear. Deputy J.C. Fortner was the arresting officer.

\*Joshua Jarrard, 31, of Stuart, was charged Nov. 8 with assault, 3rd or subsequent offense. Sgt. W.D. Hill was the arresting officer.

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

**OBITUARY SUBMISSION DEADLINE MONDAY AT NOON**



# PATRICK PULPITS

## America's Greatest Threat

By Van Yandell

Matthew 22: 36-38 "Master, which is the great commandment in the law? Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself."

Lately we've heard several currently existing conditions described as the "greatest threat to America."

The open southern border is one of those. We have no idea what or whom is crossing into this country. Fentanyl has been found among the possessions of some of the illegals as well as other drugs that can lead to death.

Diseases such as diphtheria, typhoid, whooping cough and measles are among those that have once again emerged. Polio and tuberculosis are airborne diseases and are showing up in several states where migrants are being placed.

Another stated threat is the possibility of terrorism. With the Israel-Hamas war raging, the country and world is being divided on yet another front.

Whichever side one happens to be on, the possibility for violence is very high and many are only waiting for the starting gun to fire to pursue such actions. "Trigger happy" might describe the attitude of many in America eager to get in the fight.

The economy has also been described as the greatest threat to America. It appears, when making a trip to the local grocery or hardware store, the inflation rate is totally out of control and shows no sign of easing.

While inflation and price gouging are close akin, regardless of what it is, our dollars are quickly becoming worth less. Products are not better or more valuable, but our buying power is lessened.

Shortages are predicted in the food supply. If this happens one result would be an increase in crime. When people are hungry, their actions to procure food are untethered. We have seen these actions in Gaza in recent days where food supplies have been limited or totally non-existent.

Threats by several of America's enemies present a technological disaster. Threats to the power grid controlled by computers is only one virus away from a total shutdown. The introduction of an electromotive pulse which impedes the flow of electricity could stop the function of anything that operates on computers/electricity.

While safeguards are in place to prevent such an action, we have witnessed, the perpetrators of such crimes are very resourceful and ingenious.

Any of these can and may in the future cause a state of disaster like we have never before seen in America. Add to these the increase in crime, a non-functioning government and the extreme political division among the citizenry and we most certainly have a recipe for

an impending disaster that would make all the hurricanes, floods, wild fires and tornados look like a gentle breeze.

While these do pose threats to the people and the integrity of the nation, there is another that would be much more devastating than any of the above.

America is rapidly losing its Christian base. Church attendance is declining at an exponential rate and less than half of Americans now claim Christianity as a faith.

Matthew 24: 9-10 "Then shall they deliver you up to be afflicted, and shall kill you: and ye shall be hated of all nations for my name's sake. And then shall many be offended, and shall betray one another, and shall hate one another." Those are words of Jesus stated nearly 2000 years ago and we are seeing this happen not only in the U.S., but in all the world.

With the selection of Mike Johnson, a Christian, of Louisiana, as the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the onslaught of jokes and insults to the Christian community has increased. The hatred Jesus spoke of is happening before our eyes and will only increase simply because the teachings of Judeo-Christianity interfere with the lifestyle of so many.

Isaiah 5: 20 "Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!"

It is my contention that those that claim to disbelieve the Holy Bible as being the Word of the one Creator God, have not read it and considered the uniqueness and supernatural nature of it.

The Bible tells us of many situations and conditions in prophesy and science that no one could have known except the Creator of it all. The Bible is proven by the finding and carbon dating of the Dead Sea Scrolls to be a text written over 1900 years ago. Bible history goes back nearly 4000 years in the study of the patriarchs and 6000 years in the creation of mankind (Genesis 1: 26-31).

By evidence generated by other writers of those periods and archeological finds, Biblical authenticity is further reinforced.

The Bible sets a standard of behavior for humanity that no other text can even begin to claim. Without the teachings of the Holy Bible the fabric of civilization is being shredded into dust.

The Holy Bible and the words of Jesus offer mankind the only eternal salvation. A faith based belief in Christ Jesus crucified for the remission of sin and resurrected is the only eternal salvation (John 14: 6).

If Christians do not tell the world about Jesus, no one will, and this degradation of society will continue.

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

## BIBLE TRIVIA

BY WILSON CASEY

1. Is the book of Ezekiel (KJV) in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. A woman of this place is the only woman in the Bible (KJV) described as a wench. En-rogel, Gilead, Damascus, Ziba
3. Who met a man (or angel) and then wrestled him until the breaking of the day? Solomon, Goliath, Aaron, Jacob
4. What group of consecrated men did not cut their hair? Canaanites, Midianites, Nazarites, Hagarites

5. In Genesis 32, who/what was Mahanaim? Messenger, Mountain, Ford, Place

6. Who was the mother of Moses? Abigail, Jochebed, Elisheba, Athaliah

ANSWERS: 1) Old, 2) En-rogel, 3) Jacob, 4) Nazarites, 5) Place, 6) Jochebed

Sharpen your understanding of scripture with Wilson's Casey's latest book, "Test Your Bible Knowledge," available in bookstores and online.

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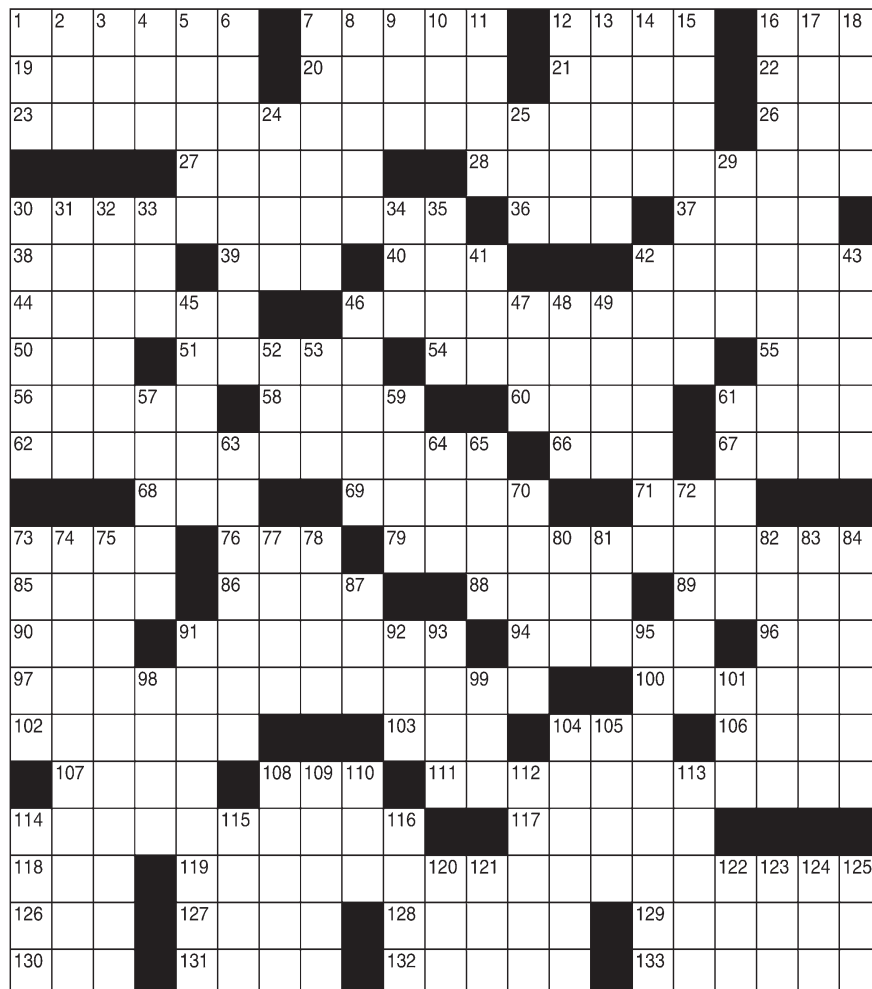
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## Super Crossword

WOMEN'S MOVEMENTS

- |   |  |                                    |
|---|--|------------------------------------|
| <b>ACROSS</b>   | <b>DOWN</b>                              | <b>WOMEN'S MOVEMENTS</b>           |
| 1 Golf tourney  | 1 Thurman of Hollywood                   | 32 Original Mouseketeer — Tracey   |
| 7 "Nonsense!"   | 2 Fa follower                            | 33 Channel for Wolf Blitzer        |
| 12 Wordplay bits  | 3 Undivided                              | 34 Parts of city grids: Abbr.      |
| 16 Jump   | 4 — Romana (peace)                       | 35 Noted times                     |
| 19 Tiny country in Europe   | 5 Digital money                          | 41 Tyrant Amin                     |
| 20 Similar  | 6 Unrelated to maritime armed forces     | 42 Structure for storing music     |
| 21 Woodwind instrument  | 7 Sit down, slangily                     | 43 Some ctrs. of learning          |
| 22 Spring mo.   | 8 Makes laugh loudly                     | 45 "You win"                       |
| 23 Prima ballerina who received the Kennedy Center Honors in 1989 | 9 Shrouded                               | 46 Charged, as particles           |
| 26 Winning sign   | 10 Nickname lead-in                      | 47 From long ago                   |
| 27 Sinuous  | 11 Proceeded                             | 48 Autos from long ago             |
| 28 2003 Tony winner for "Movin' Out" choreography                 | 12 Coral colony member                   | 49 Kitty chip                      |
| 30 Vamp player in "Singin' in the Rain"                           | 13 Curved fastening bar                  | 52 Maven                           |
| 36 Choose   | 14 — Scotia                              | 53 "Rambo" war zone, in brief      |
| 37 Writer Jaffe   | 15 Marine fish of the western Atlantic   | 57 Neuters, as a stallion          |
| 38 Vast period  | 16 West Indies' largest city             | 59 Smelling junk                   |
| 39 Doggy doc  | 17 Outerwear for some high-culture shows | 61 GIF or JPEG                     |
| 40 Part of TNT  | 18 Get ready                             | 63 Throw a few back in a bar       |
| 42 "The Wedding Singer" director Frank                            | 24 Have the gall                         | 64 52, to Livia                    |
| 44 Magical land of C.S. Lewis                                     | 25 — Jima                                | 65 Kin of -ess                     |
| 46 Noted performer in a Greek tunic and bare feet                 | 29 Tooting thing                         | 70 Goad                            |
|   | 30 Trudeau's country                     | 72 Baseball executive Joe          |
|   | 31 "About this large," informally        | 73 Jungian inner personality       |
|   |  | 74 Sticky, nutty treats            |
|   |  | 75 Endlessness                     |
|   |  | 77 Onetime teen idol Garrett       |
|   |  | 78 Nevada city                     |
|   |  | 80 Suffix with Caesar              |
|   |  | 81 Nutrition amt.                  |
|   |  | 82 Texas city                      |
|   |  | 83 1990s "caught on tape" series   |
|   |  | 84 Belgrade site                   |
|   |  | 87 Dress in a pillared structure   |
|   |  | 91 In a pillared structure         |
|   |  | 92 Educ. org.                      |
|   |  | 93 Onetime rival of Atari          |
|   |  | 95 Diagrams for brainstorming      |
|   |  | 98 Infatuated                      |
|   |  | 99 Deep longing                    |
|   |  | 101 — Kan (classic dog food brand) |
|   |  | 104 Typewriter formatting aid      |
|   |  | 105 Apple tablet                   |
|   |  | 108 Kind of navel                  |
|   |  | 109 T-bone, e.g.                   |
|   |  | 110 Brooks of film                 |
|   |  | 112 A lack of musical skill        |
|   |  | 113 Actress Vivian                 |
|   |  | 114 Jump                           |
|   |  | 115 French river                   |
|   |  | 116 Electric jolts                 |
|   |  | 120 "OB-viously!"                  |
|   |  | 121 NYSE event                     |
|   |  | 122 — laude                        |
|   |  | 123 Enabler of web access          |
|   |  | 124 Once named                     |
|   |  | 125 Mutt's noise                   |



Puzzle answers page 12

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A GED or High School Diploma is required. Accounting experience or degree preferred. Knowledge of real estate and personal property records a plus. The successful candidate must possess professional letter writing & secretarial skills, be competent in the areas of math and computer technology, and possess the ability to complete transactions with efficiency and accuracy. Honesty, dependability,

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## LEGAL

**BALLOON TEST NOTIFICATION** SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2023, 9:00 A.M. UNTIL 1:00 P.M. LOCATION: PATRICK COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL; 215 COUGAR LANE, STUART, VA 29171 CONDUCTED BY MILESTONE TOWERS IN REGARD TO MILESTONE TOWERS' NEW TOWER APPLICATION TO CONSTRUCT A 197-FOOT MONOPOLE AND WIRELESS TELECOMMUNICATION FACILITY ON THE PATRICK COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL PROPERTY (In the event of inclement weather, poor visibility, wind in excess of 15 mph or weather conditions otherwise preventing the balloon test, the test will be held Sunday, December 3, 2023 if weather permits, same location and hours) CONTACT: Jonathan L. Yates TELEPHONE: 843-414-9754

## LEGAL

**Trustee's Sale** 1069 Shortcut Drive, Woolwine, Virginia 24185 (Parcel ID: 4918-47 and 4918-47-A) Default having been made in the terms of a certain Deed of Trust dated March 25, 2008, in the original principal amount of \$43,269.76 and recorded in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of the County of Patrick, Virginia in Instrument No. 080000696, the undersigned Substitute Trustees will sell at public auction on **November 29, 2023, at 2:15 p.m.**, in front of the building housing the **Patrick County Circuit Court**, 101 West Blue Ridge street, Stuart, VA 24171, the property designated as TRACT 1: PORTION OF MAP NO. 4918 - ( ) --47- BEGINNING at a 3/4" rebar set on the northeast line of Virginia Secondary Route #716, Shortcut Drive, corner to Michael J. Moss and Martha Cyr-Moss; thence leaving said road with a line of Moss, N. 57° 03' 29" E., crossing Woods Road and an existing branch, 242.06 feet to a 3/4" rebar set, corner to George E. Nolen & Judy P. Nolen; thence with a line of Nolen, S. 43° 25' 01" E. 228.64 feet to a 3" pipe found, corner to Brenda N. Harris; thence with a line of Harris, the following calls: S. 42° 14' 36" W. 106.28 feet to a 1/2" rebar set at turn in fence; thence S. 32° 17' 55" W. 34.39 feet to a 1/2" rebar set at turn in fence; thence S. 27° 29' 10" W. 141.06 feet to a pipe found; thence S. 33° 56' 53" W. 28.23 feet to an axle found on the east line of Virginia Secondary Route #716, Shortcut Drive; thence with the east line of said road, the following calls: N. 23° 19' 24" W. 66.85 feet to a point; thence N. 27° 09' 36" W. 56.72 feet to a point; thence N. 30° 37' 35" W. 63.15 feet to a point; thence N. 35° 53' 41" W. 66.29 feet to a point; thence N. 41° 15' 35" W. 60.95 feet to a point; thence N. 45° 57' 38" W. 36.28 feet to the point of the BEGINNING, containing 1.595 Acre, as shown as Tract "1", by Survey dated January 26, 2007, and revised April 10, 2007. TRACT II: PORTION OF MAP NO. 4918 - ( ) --47-A. BEGINNING at an axle found on the west line of an existing branch, corner to George E. Nolen & Judy P. Nolen; thence crossing said branch with a line of Nolen, S. 43° 25' 01" E. 169.58 feet to a nail set in fallen tree, corner to Michael J. Moss and Martha Cyr-Moss; thence with a line of Moss, N. 56° 02' 56" W., crossing said branch and Woods Road, 181.30 feet to a 3/4" pipe found, corner to George E. Nolen and Judy P. Nolen; thence with a line of Nolen, N. 57° 03' 29" E. 40.32 feet to the BEGINNING, containing 0.077 Acre, as shown as Tract "2" by Survey dated January 26, 2007, and revised April 10, 2007. Inclusive of Mobile Home with VIN: CLM088518TN. Sale is subject to all prior liens, easements, restrictions, covenants, and conditions, if any, of record, or other matters which would be disclosed by an accurate survey or inspection of the premises. TERMS: CASH. A deposit of \$6,500.00 will be required of the successful bidder at time of sale. Prior to the sale, interested bidders will be required to register with and must present a bid deposit which may be held during the sale by the trustee. The bid deposit must be certified funds and/or cash, but no more than \$9,900.00 of cash will be accepted. The successful bidder's deposit will be retained at the sale and applied to the sale price. If held by the trustee, all other bid deposits will be returned to the unsuccessful bidders. Settlement is to be made within 15 calendar days. The successful bidder will be responsible for obtaining possession of the property, and for all costs and fees related to recording the Trustee's Deed, including the grantors tax. The successful bidder will be required to execute a Memorandum of Trustee's Sale, available for review on the Foreclosure Sales page of [www.glasserlaw.com](http://www.glasserlaw.com), outlining additional terms of sale and settlement. A Trustee's Deed will be prepared by Trustee's attorney at high bidder's expense. This is a communication from a debt collector, Glasser and Glasser, P.L.C. on behalf of Atlantic Trustee Services, L.L.C., and/or NFPDS-VA LLC, Substitute Trustees, Crown Center Building, Suite 600, 580 East Main Street, Norfolk, VA 23510, File No. 232619-01, Tel: (757) 321-6465, between 10:00 a.m. & 12:00 noon only. **Cheryl Decker** Legal Assistant **Glasser and Glasser, P.L.C.** 580 E. Main Street, Suite 600 Norfolk, Virginia 23510 Office: (757) 625.6787, ext. 472 Fax: (757) 625.5959 [cdecker@glasserlaw.com](mailto:cdecker@glasserlaw.com) [www.glasserlaw.com](http://www.glasserlaw.com) THIS COMMUNICATION IS FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR AND IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

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# Hunting Rules

(cont. from page 1)

detected in several northern North Carolina counties that border Virginia.

## Abundance of caution

CWD is a disease found in some deer, elk and moose populations but exact details are yet to be scientifically established. The infection is believed to be caused by abnormal proteins called prions, which are thought to lead to brain and neurological damage to portions of the brain. In deer, it typically causes progressive loss of body condition, behavioral changes, excessive salivation and death.

"To date, there is no strong evidence for the occurrence of CWD in people, and it is not known if people can get infected with CWD prions," according to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). "Hunters harvesting wild deer and elk from areas with reported CWD should check state wildlife and public health guidance to see whether testing of animals is recommended or required."

In Virginia, testing is required in three multi-county regions where the presence of CWD is known or strongly suspected. Not all counties in the state are included in a DMA but more are added as new instances of the disease are detected.

None of the changes, current or past, are expected to solve the CWD issue in Virginia, cautions DWR. "There is still much to be learned about CWD management in white-tailed deer. At this time, there are two major emerging approaches. First, to reduce deer herd densities by increasing the antlerless deer kill and, second, to increase the buck mortality rate in CWD-affected areas."

Carroll, Floyd, Montgomery and Pulaski counties are subject to earn-a-buck regulations and are open for late (Jan. 7 – March 31) antlerless-only general firearms

season on private lands. (Note that Patrick County is not included in this list.)

## Hunters' obligations

The heads and at least 4 inches of neck of all deer harvested on Nov. 18 in DMA3, which includes Patrick County, must be taken to either a DWR-staffed sample station or a refrigerated CWD testing drop off station.

Cana Volunteer Fire Department's main station at 391 Fire House Road, Cana;

Cana VFD station at 4235 Flower Gap Road, Cana (staffed 8a.m. to 7p.m.);

Howell's Grocery: 230 Woolwine Hwy, Stuart (staffed 8a.m. to 7p.m.);

Dominion Valley Park -- 692 Dominion Valley Ln, Stuart;

Fairystone Farms Wildlife Management Area -- Fairystone Farm Ln off Goose Point Road, Bassett, VA;

Meadows of Dan Community Building, 2858 Jeb Stuart Hwy, Meadows of Dan

After Nov. 18, CWD testing is voluntary.

Hunters will be asked to identify the one-mile grid in which their deer was harvested. DWR provides an online map to help; the grid number can be found by either zooming in on the location of harvest or with the search bar using GPS coordinates or a nearby address.

Whole deer carcasses and certain carcass parts cannot be legally transported outside of DMA3. The exceptions:

- Boned-out meat;
- Quarters or other portions of meat with no part of the spinal column or head attached;
- Hides and capes with no heads attached;
- Clean (no meat or tissue attached) skulls and skull plates with or without antlers attached;

Clean jaw bones; Antlers with no meat or tissue attached;

Upper canine teeth, also known as "buglers," "whistlers," or "ivories."

Since adult males are the sex and age class most likely to have CWD, DWR also works with a network of taxidermists in a statewide surveillance strategy. Approximately 2,000 samples from hunter-harvested deer have been submitted by participating taxidermists with no new detections found until fall 2022. That was when Fairfax County's first CWD infection was found.

## Reducing herd sizes

Past experience indicates that the ups and downs in annual deer kill totals often depends on the size of the years to mast crops (acorns, mostly). In years of poor mast crops, the deer kill typically goes up as deer move more in search of food and are more likely to be seen by hunters. In years of good mast crops, the deer kill typically goes down. DWR expects a slight uptick in total deer kill numbers this fall due to a below-average acorn crop.

"A major increase or decrease in the statewide deer kill total is not expected," say Folks and Martin in their report. "Over the past 30 years, the statewide annual deer kill has been relatively stable and ranged from about 179,000 to 259,000 and averaged about 212,300."

During the 2022 deer season, Virginia deer hunters reported 186,788 killed, including 90,349 antlered bucks, 12,117 button bucks, and 83,058 does. (The numbers above do not include deer taken on out-of-season deer kill permits or those deer hit and killed by vehicles.)

Patrick County's 2022 deer harvest included 925 antlered males, 45 button bucks and 375 females. From records dating back to 1957,

the county's largest harvest was in 2003, with 2,954 deer taken.

The best way to compare deer populations in Virginia is based on the antlered buck deer kill per square mile of estimated deer habitat, according to Folks and Martin. Still, it's an estimate, not a census. The relative abundance descriptions are subjective.

DWR posts a map on its web site that depicts the relative differences among 97 "deer management units" (most are counties, some are not) in the kill of antlered bucks per square mile of habitat on private land, averaged over the past three hunting seasons. This is considered the best map of "where" deer are in Virginia and "what" deer population level is targeted by DWR for that area.

The current deer population status on private lands is indicated by the base color of the unit, ranging from red for more abundant through orange, yellow and green to white for less abundant.

The same red-to-white spectrum is used for up- and down-arrows to indicate the Department's objective for deer population on private lands. Units without an arrow are currently within or at their desired deer population level. No arrow is red. Patrick County has a white star instead of an arrow because its population goal was changed late in the biannual analysis. Originally, a moderate decrease; the objective now is for stabilization.

Bottom line: in 46 units, or approximately half of the state, the Department is actively managing to reduce deer populations. In 42 management units, or 43 percent, the Department wants to maintain current deer population levels, and lastly, in only nine management units, is the Department actively managing to increase deer numbers.

# Youngkin Issues Executive Order to Prevent Student Overdoses, Require Prompt Parental Notification

In response to nine student overdoses at a Loudoun County high school just last month, Gov. Glenn Youngkin issued Executive Order Twenty-Eight. While the Loudoun County Public School division reportedly waited more than twenty days to notify parents to the overdose incidents,

Youngkin is taking immediate action to enhance prompt parental notification. The order directs the Virginia Department of Education to issue guidance ensuring school divisions notify all parents of school-connected overdoses within 24 hours, work closely with law enforcement

to prevent overdoses, and enhance student education about the dangers of abusing drugs.

"Parents have a right to know what's going on in their child's lives, especially in schools. Overdoses that occur on school grounds or are connected to the school must lead to an

immediate parental notification," said Youngkin. "School administrators' first instinct when there is a problem cannot be to delay relevant information on critical children's health and safety matters - it must be passed on to parents immediately. Opioid overdoses have claimed the lives of far too many Virginians, devastating families and communities across the Commonwealth and we must

continue to combat opioid abuse and overdoses with action and transparency."

The Governor's executive order instructs Virginia's Superintendent of Public Instruction and the Department of Education to notify parents within twenty-four hours of a student overdose that has occurred within a school system. The order instructs the issuance of new guidance in coordination with

law enforcement to prevent student overdoses and address the scourge of fentanyl on Virginia's families and communities.

Acknowledging that transparency and community understanding of available resources are essential to ensuring the wellbeing of young Virginians, the order instructs the issuance of information to local school divisions and parents about drug education and prevention programs for students. The One Pill Can Kill campaign led by the First Lady of Virginia and the Attorney General, along with the Attorney General's Virginia Rules program will develop critical decision-making skills in Virginia's children and help generate conversations around the dangers of counterfeit drugs and fentanyl.

On his first day in office, Youngkin signed Executive Order Number 2 to reaffirm the fundamental rights of parents in the upbringing, education, and care of their children. In May 2023, he issued Executive Order Number Twenty-Six to strengthen Virginia's interdiction and response to the ongoing fentanyl and opioid crisis.

The Governor continues to address the ongoing behavioral health crisis with his Right Help, Right Now plan to support individuals in crisis. In June, Youngkin signed 24 bills into law delivering on his promise to deliver.

## Noel P. Kornett D.D.S. Retirement Announcement

Dear colleagues, patients and friends,

I am writing to announce my upcoming retirement from active Dental practice after 42 years of dedicated service, it is time to embark on a new chapter of life.

It has been a fulfilling journey working with such talented and inspiring staff members throughout my career. I am grateful for the opportunities we have had to contribute to the health and well being of this community.

I want to express my sincere appreciation to all my colleagues for their support, guidance, and friendship over the years. Your collaboration and teamwork have made every day at work enjoyable and fulfilling. I will cherish the memories we have created together.

To my patients, thank you for your trust and confidence in my abilities. It has been a privilege to serve you and contribute to your dental health. I am grateful for the relationships we have built and the experiences we have shared.

As I transition into retirement, I look forward to spending more time with my loved ones, pursuing personal interests, and taking care of some health issues. While I will miss the daily interactions and challenges of the workplace, I am excited about the opportunities that lie ahead.

The office will close to patient visits on Thursday December 21. Records will be made available at your request or the request of your chosen Dental office.

Once again, thank you for being a part of my professional journey. I am grateful for the memories and experiences that will stay with me forever.

Wishing you all continued health, success and happiness.

**Best regards,  
Dr. Noel P. Kornett**

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**Meetings**

**Wednesday, Nov. 15**  
 The Stuart Town Council will meet at 7 p.m. in the Town Office.

**Thursday, Nov. 16**  
 The Patrick County Economic Development Authority (EDA) will hold a special meeting at 6 p.m. in the second-floor conference room of the Patrick County Administration Building.

**Monday, Nov. 20**  
 The Patrick County Board of Supervisors will meet at 6 p.m. in the third-floor court room of the Patrick County Administration Building.

The Patrick & Henry Community College (P&HCC) boards to meet: Budget & Finance Committee, 11:30 a.m. in Room 124 in the Frith Economic Development Center and the Academic & Student Affairs Committee, 11:30 a.m. in Room 145 in the Frith Economic Development Center. Both are public meetings, but the committees will not receive public comment.

The Patrick & Henry Community College (P&HCC) Board will meet at 12:30 p.m. in the Hooker Exhibit Hall, Frith Economic Development Center. Public comments will not be received.

**Tuesday, Nov. 21**  
 The Patrick County Planning Commission will hold a sub-committee work session at 4 p.m. followed by a regular business meeting at 6 p.m. in the Community Room at the Patrick & Henry Community College (P&HCC) Stuart site.

**Wednesday, Dec. 6**  
 The Patrick County Economic Development Authority (EDA) will meet at 7 p.m. in the Patrick County Administration Building.

**Events**

**Saturday, Nov. 11**  
 Ross Harbour Church will hold a Fall Supper and Sale. Supper is from 4-6 p.m. for dine in or take out. Call ins are welcome at (276) 930-1661. There will be chicken or ham plates with adult plates being \$10 and child plates being \$5. The sale starts at 6:30 p.m.

**Wednesday, Nov. 15**  
 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.

The Patrick County Chamber of Commerce and the Reynolds Homestead will hold a Lunch with Our Community Leaders event from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Hooker Building located at 420 Woodland Drive in Stuart. Tickets are available online at the Chamber's website: www.patrickchamber.com.

**Thursday, Nov. 16**  
 The Patrick County Republican Committee will meet at 6 p.m. in the Motorsports Hall of Fame Auditorium, 212 Johnson St., Stuart.

**Friday, Nov. 17**  
 The Woolwine Methodist Church food truck will be at the Fairystone VFD from 3-4:30 p.m.

Patrick & Henry Community College (P&HCC) will hold an Advanced level Microsoft Office 265: Excel class from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. The cost is \$60. Pre-registration is required by going to ph.augusoft.net, or calling (276) 656-0260.

**Saturday, Nov. 18**  
 Home Alone Thanksgiving Meal, Hunters Chapel Assembly (3057 Ararat Hwy.), 4-6 p.m. Take out orders will be available. Deliveries can be made in the Ararat area only. Please let organizers know if you plan to attend by calling (276) 251-7232. Call Joseph or Lori Easter at (276) 251-7232 for more information.

The Fairystone Volunteer Fire Department will have a cash giveaway at 7 p.m. The grand prize is \$2,500 with additional prizes of \$100 each, and two prizes of \$200 each. Cash raffle tickets are \$20 each. Contact a fire department member to purchase a ticket at (276) 930-2117.

The Fairystone Volunteer Fire Department will hold a hamburger steak dinner from 4-6:30 p.m. The menu will include a hamburger steak, French fries, baked beans, slaw, roll, and a drink for \$10. The meals can be eat-in or take out. To place an order, call (276) 930-2113.

The annual chicken stew will be held at the Collinstown-Stateline Community Building starting at 4 p.m. The stew is carry out only and donations are accepted.

**Wednesday, Nov. 22**

A Community Thanksgiving Dinner will be held at the Meadows of Dan Community Building from 4-6 p.m. The meal is free. Those who in the Meadows of Dan or Laurel Fork area can contact Katlyn Boyd at (276) 694-9708 to be added to the delivery list if they are unable to drive to attend the event.

**Saturday, Dec. 2**  
 The Church of the Living Water (formerly Stuart UMC) will hold its annual Christmas Bazaar from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. There will be Christmas items, soups, and baked goods. For more information, call (276) 694-3322.

**Ongoing**

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

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

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

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

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

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

The Patrick County Veterans Memorial Honor Guard meets the first Tuesday of every month at the American Legion Post 105 at 7 p.m. Interested veterans are welcome to attend.

Starting Oct. 24, from 1:30-2:30 p.m. on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month there will be an Introduction to Zen Meditation and Zen Buddhism at the Blue Ridge Regional Library Stuart site.

**Operation Christmas Child National Collection Week November 13-20**

Drop-off Locations in Patrick County are:

**Meadows of Dan Baptist Church**  
 2511 Jeb Stuart Highway  
**Meadows of Dan:**  
 Mon, Nov. 13: 2pm-4pm  
 Tues, Nov. 14: 2pm-4pm  
 Wed, Nov.15: 2pm-4pm  
 Thu, Nov. 16: 5pm-7pm  
 Fri, Nov. 17: 5pm-7pm  
 Sat, Nov. 18: 10am-12pm  
 Sun, Nov. 19: 1pm-3pm  
 Mon, Nov. 20: 9am-11am

**Minnie's Chapel**  
 161 Minnie's Chapel Loop  
**Stuart:**  
 Mon, Nov. 13: 6pm-8pm  
 Tues, Nov. 14: 6pm-8pm  
 Wed, Nov. 15: 6pm-8pm  
 Thu, Nov. 16: 6pm-8pm  
 Fri, Nov. 17: 6pm-8pm  
 Sat, Nov. 18: 10am-2pm  
 Sun, Nov. 19: 1pm-4pm  
 Nov, Nov. 20: 8am-10am

**Nettle Ridge Church**  
 70 Nettle Ridge Loop  
**Stuart:**  
 Mon, Nov. 13: 5pm-7pm  
 Tues, Nov. 14: 4pm-6pm  
 Wed, Nov. 15: 7pm-9pm  
 Thu, Nov. 16: 5pm-7pm  
 Fri, Nov. 17: 5pm-7pm  
 Sat, Nov. 18: 10am-12pm  
 Sun, Nov. 19: 1pm-5pm  
 Mon, Nov. 20: 8am-10am

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

**NOTICE**

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

**Super Crossword**

*Answers*

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# Farmers need innovative technology to feed world's growing population

It's possible to combine climate-smart agriculture with increased food production and innovative technology.

That's according to Ted McKinney, CEO of the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture, who spoke at the Virginia Agricultural Trade Conference on Nov. 1.

Co-hosted this year by the Virginia Farm Bureau Federation, the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, The Port of Virginia and the Virginia Tech Department of Agricultural and Applied Sciences, the event has been held annually since 2008.

During his presentation on "Trade and Domestic Policy Priorities," McKinney told the nearly 200 conference attendees that farmers need to combine climate-smart practices with technology that will enable them to increase productivity.

Studies have shown that farmers need to double their production in order to feed a projected 10 billion people in 2050. However, McKinney and other speakers said farmers around the world are losing productivity growth because innovative technologies are being rejected.

Virginia Tech's Global Agricultural Productivity Initiative, which leverages partnerships, innovation, policy and analysis to ensure farmers have access to productivity tools, found that global agricultural productivity is in steep decline. The report also said current efforts to accelerate productivity growth fall short of the need. "We're not getting the job done," McKinney said.

He added that the European Union's Precautionary Principle "is dangerous." That principle states that if a given policy or action might cause harm to the public or the environment, and if there is no scientific agreement on the issue, then the policy or action should not be

carried out.

Greg Doud, COO of the National Milk Producers Federation, agreed. In his talk, "Current Risks to U.S. and Global Markets," he said that Europeans are "going backward" in terms of global trade.

"We need to leave geopolitics out of this and focus on food production," Doud noted.

McKinney added that trade threats related to technology adoption—like Mexico refusing to buy yellow corn from the U.S. because it's genetically modified—are "troubling."

He then gave a synopsis of NASDA's position on trade with various countries. "I'm an advocate for sustaining trade with China," McKinney remarked. He also said there are many opportunities in the Asia-Pacific region.

While the U.S. previously was hesitant to trade with Africa, there is more interest now.

Paul Spencer, a global trade policy advocacy leader for Corteva Agriscience, said his company is

working to boost African farmers' productivity.

He said a 10-year program in Tanzania that provides 100,000 farmers with hybrid corn seed and herbicides doubled their income and increased production by 300%.

To improve global productivity, Spencer said "we need science-based, internationally compatible regulatory approaches."

Gov. Glenn Youngkin also spoke at the trade conference and said Virginia is constantly working to expand its global trade, as evidenced by the record \$5.1 billion in agricultural and forestry exports it generated in 2022. The 2022 export total eclipses the previous record \$4 billion set in 2021 by 25%.

Virginia's top agricultural and forestry exports in 2022 were soybeans at over \$2.3 billion, animal products at more than \$960 million, tobacco at \$215 million, wood products at more than \$509 million, and beer at \$145 million.

"We have to set an aggressive bar for this next year," Youngkin said.

## Heat Your Home Safely This Winter

We're approaching months where the temperatures begin to drop, and many families are beginning to turn the heat on. Heating equipment is a leading cause of home fires in the U.S., and the American Red Cross is urging families to take steps to heat their home safely.

According to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), fire departments respond to more than 44,200 home heating fires each year which cause hundreds of deaths and more than 1,300 injuries.

Also, the NFPA reports space heaters are most often responsible for home heating fires and a Red Cross survey showed that more than half of us have used one. It's critical to keep at least three feet of space around all heating equipment, and never leave space heaters unattended. Follow these additional tips:

If you must use a space heater, place it

on a level, hard and nonflammable surface, such as a ceramic tile floor. Don't place it on rugs and carpets, or near bedding and drapes. And keep children and pets away from the heater.

Plug space heater power cords directly into outlets — never an extension cord. Turn it off every time you leave the room or go to sleep.

Never use a cooking range or oven to heat your home.

Never leave a fire burning in the fireplaces unattended. Make sure any embers in the fireplace are extinguished before going to bed or leaving home. Use a glass or metal fire screen to keep em-

bers in the fireplace.

Have furnaces, chimneys, fireplaces, wood and coal stoves inspected annually by a professional and cleaned if necessary.

To help protect your family year-round, test your smoke alarms monthly and practice your home fire escape plan until everyone can escape in less than two minutes — the amount of time you may have to get out of a burning home before it's too late.

If you cannot afford to purchase smoke alarms or are physically unable to install one, the Red Cross may be able to help. Contact your local Red Cross for help.

Visit [redcross.org/](http://redcross.org/) for more information, including an escape plan to practice with your family. Download the free Red Cross First Aid app so you'll know what to do if emergency help is delayed and the free Emergency app for weather alerts, open Red Cross shelter locations and safety steps for different emergencies. Choose whether you want to view the content in English or Spanish with an easy-to-find language selector. Find these and all of the Red Cross apps in smartphone app stores by searching for the American Red Cross or going to [redcross.org/apps](http://redcross.org/apps). [HS1]

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# New PA-C joins Northern Orthopaedics

Alex Parker, Physician Assistant (PA-C), has joined the medical staff of Northern Orthopaedics to serve as a Physician Assistant for orthopedic injuries and conditions.

Parker has gained valuable experience in both surgical and primary care environments during her tenure at healthcare institutions like Adventist Health in Ukiah, CA, and Barbour Orthopaedics & Spine in Atlanta, GA.

Alex Parker, PA-C, is a proud alumna of Wake Forest University School of Medicine, where she earned a Master of Medical Science in Physician Assistant studies. Additionally, she holds a Master of Science in Business Management from Wake Forest University School of Business and a Bachelor of Science in Kinesiology from Texas A&M University. Her educational background, along with her participation in the Emerging Leaders Program, makes her an asset to the Northern Orthopaedics team.

Born in Seattle, WA, and raised in Houston, TX, Parker's early fascination with medicine and personal connection to orthopedics stemmed from her experiences as a high school athlete, inspiring her journey toward becoming a healthcare professional.

Parker's patient-centric philosophy emphasizes compassion, trust, and open communication. She strives to ensure every patient feels valued, heard, and respected, addressing not only their medical needs but also their concerns and preferences.

Joining Northern Orthopaedics, Parker was particularly drawn to the warm and welcoming atmosphere fostered by the entire team. Their commitment to a family-oriented approach aligns seamlessly with the culture of Northern Ortho-



paedics, making it an ideal fit for Parker's professional aspirations.

"We are excited to welcome Alex Parker, PA-C, to the practice," says Dr. Robert Williamson, a surgeon at Northern Orthopaedics. "Her dedication to exceptional patient care and her extensive experience in orthopedics makes her a valuable addition to our team."

As part of the Northern Orthopaedics team, Parker looks forward to addressing various orthopedic issues, including hip, shoulder, knee, and back pain. Her versatile skill set and dedication to patient well-being will make a positive impact on the community we serve.

Outside of her professional endeavors, Parker enjoys exploring the great outdoors through hiking and camping. She also cherishes quality time spent with family on their farmstead and indulging in the simple pleasures of a good book and a cup of tea.

To schedule an appointment with Alex Parker, PA-C, call Northern Orthopaedics at (336) 719-0011. For more information about Northern Orthopaedics, please visit us online at [www.choosenorthern.org](http://www.choosenorthern.org).



Wayne & Hazel Clark and Kevin & Christie Yates won the 2023 Patrick County Farm Bureau Hay Bale Decorating Contest and received a Fall Prize Package.

# Winners announced in local agriculture contest

Congratulations to neighbors Wayne & Hazel Clark and Kevin & Christie Yates in the Critz community of Patrick County. They were the winners of the 2023 Patrick County Farm Bureau Hay Bale Decorating Contest and received a Fall Prize Package. They all worked together to put the display together. This was a result of neighbors coming together to celebrate the long history of agriculture in their community.

According to Sandra W. Heath, volunteer Board member of Patrick County Farm Bureau, the contest is designed to showcase and highlight agriculture across Patrick County and the Commonwealth, engage local communities, and spark conversations about the food we eat and where it begins. Patrick County Farm Bureau appreciates all the entries, and the committee would like to thank everyone who entered the local contest. All entries submitted will be entered in the State-wide Contest.

Agriculture is Virginia's largest private industry by far. The indus-

try has an economic impact of \$82.3 billion annually. The industries of agriculture and forestry together have a total economic impact of \$105 billion.

Patrick County Farm Bureau invites you to join a growing membership and be a Virginia Farm Bureau member. It is a simple yet powerful way to put your support squarely behind the farms that produce your family's food. When you join the Virginia Farm Bureau, your annual membership is used for a wide variety of programs, education tools and events that help agriculture prosper. Your annual membership to Virginia Farm Bureau directly supports farmers in your community and throughout Virginia. As a member, you'll also get access to valuable discounts and member services from leading manufacturers and retailers. Contact Betsy Conner at Patrick County Farm Bureau at 276-694-7108 for more information. (Photo by Terri Clark Collins. Information submitted by the Patrick County Farm Bureau Board of Directors.)

# Tree Farm sets hours for the season



as a teaching and learning experience for students.

The tree farm is maintained throughout the year by the Christmas tree farm manager and students. In the spring, students assist with planting young seedlings and relocating mature transplants to the tree field. In the summer and fall, they shear trees and groom the fields.

During the winter, the students harvest trees for wholesale. Once the Christmas tree farm opens, students assist visitors with choosing a Christmas tree and the packaging process.

Wreaths will be available to purchase as well. All purchases will support this organization that serves as a home for the holidays and all year round for many young men.

**Tree Farm Dates and Hours for 2023**  
 Open Friday, Saturday and Sunday  
 November 24, 25, 26 | 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.  
 Open Saturday and Sunday  
 December 2-3, 9-10 and Saturday, December 16 | 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Santa will be available for photos on December 2 and 3 from 11 a.m. – 3 p.m.

The address is 1118 Bear Wallow Flat, West Augusta, VA, or call (540) 939-4106

For more information about Boys Home, or to donate, visit the website at [www.boyshomeofva.org](http://www.boyshomeofva.org).

## 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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The Boys Home Christmas Tree Farm will open on Friday, November 24 for its 30th season.

The updated hours for the 2023 season are below. In her bequest, Joanne Tannehill left her Augusta County tree farm to Boys Home

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# Fair bigger, better than ever

By Paula Drady

A favorite, fall fun week, the 69th annual Patrick County Agricultural Fair was back again this year, bigger and better than ever. Kids of all ages experienced a wonderful, excitement-filled week of rides, exhibits, animals large and small, fair food, games, music, and so much more.

Despite the rained-out first night, the fairgrounds were packed the rest of the week with estimates of attendance at more than 8,000. Visitors came not only from Patrick County but also from as far away as West Virginia, Richmond and Charlotte. The Demolition Derby featured more than 30 cars

with an estimated 1,800-2,000 in attendance, one of the best years ever. The newest event, the Saturday night dance, was well attended and attracted skilled dancers of all ages.

Stuart Rotarians and volunteers from the community work many hours each year to make the fair a success. This year there were over 300 shifts that needed to be filled with many of those spots filled by community volunteers. The Patrick County Cougars baseball team parked cars every night. Many Patrick County folks filled spots to process all the agricultural exhibits. Volunteers from the local fire and rescue and sheriff's

departments were on hand each night.

Besides providing a fun-filled, wholesome week of entertainment, the fair plows its income back into Patrick County. Each year, those profits provide thousands of dollars in scholarships to graduating PCHS seniors and help fund other Rotary service projects. Currently, a series of walking trails is being developed at Rotary Field. The fair profits also fund expansion and renovation of ballfields, trails and buildings which are then available to Patrick Countians of all ages all year round. At the volunteer appreciation dinner after the fair, the first of this year's donations

were presented to local agencies to thank them for their service, not just at the fair but all year long.

Fair Treasurer Julia Hennessey presented donations to Kenny Brady, representing the various Patrick County Fire and Rescue teams; Tal Swails, for the PC Cougar baseball program; and Rob Coleman, Patrick County Sheriff's Department, for the Shop with a Cop Program.

The Patrick County Fair and The Rotary Club of Stuart wish to thank all the people from Patrick County who supported the fair, especially our volunteers. See you next year.

(Drady is Rotary Club Secretary)



Julia Hennessey, the fair treasurer, presented checks to (1) Rob Coleman, Sheriff's Department; (2) Kenny Brady, Fire and Rescue and (3) Tal Swails, Patrick County Cougars.

# Legislators connect with students

Sen. Bill Stanley and Del. Wren Williams enjoyed the recent "Legislators Day" at Galax High School.

Williams, R-Stuart, and Stanley, R-Moneta, visited with 8th graders and seniors, and discussed the legislative process. (Contributed photos)

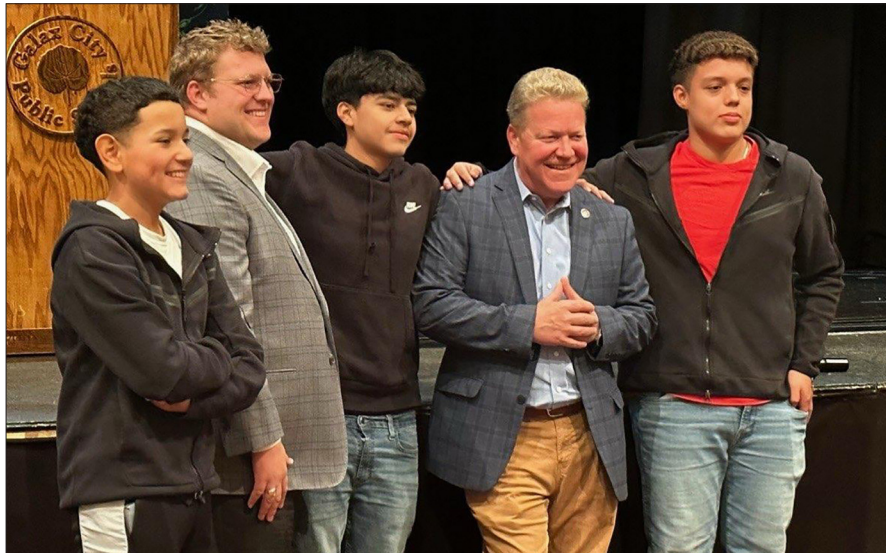
Williams, R-Stuart, and Stanley, R-Moneta, visited with 8th graders and seniors, and discussed the legislative process. (Contributed photos)



Sen. Bill Stanley (right) and Del. Wren Williams discussed the legislative process.



Students in Galax High School gathered for Legislators Day, which featured Sen. Bill Stanley (left) and Del. Wren Williams.



Sen. Bill Stanley (second from right) and Del. Wren Williams are pictured with a group of students.



Del. Wren Williams converses with a Galax High School student during Legislators Day.

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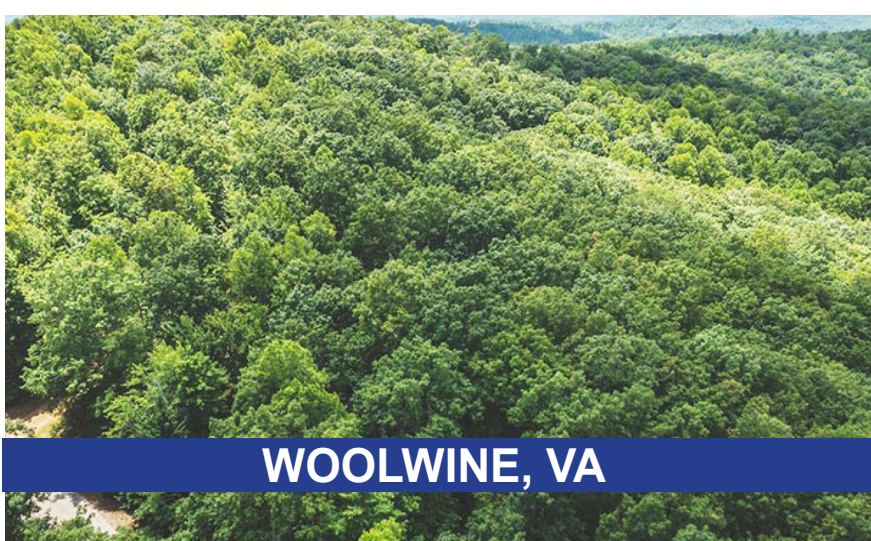
**STUART, VA**

Well maintained 3 bedroom, 2 bath brick ranch home. It sits on 3.4 acres of land, with a full unfinished basement and nice deck. **\$190,000**



**BASSETT, VA**

Check out this historic home that was built in 1837. It features a lot of its original character, 4 bedrooms, 1.5 baths, and 4 non-conforming bedrooms. **\$495,000**



**WOOLWINE, VA**

This wooded 5.4 acre lot features frontage on Dongwood Mountain Ln. IT has underground utilities in place and a new survey was just completed. Jill Creek runs through the property. **\$35,997**

## ONLINE AUCTION



**Ends Thursday, December 7th at 3 PM**

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Searching for farmland, a great family home, or building site? Check out these 5 offerings which total 174.78 acres. Acreage features mostly open farmland with good views, several building sites, access to Beaver Creek, and an existing brick ranch home. Property is being offered in 5 tracts, so purchase multiple to get the acreage you desire!

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