



# THE ENTERPRISE

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

Vol. 148 No. 4 Website: www.theenterprise.net STUART, VIRGINIA WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 24, 2024 USPS 523-500 \$1.00

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



The Town of Stuart is seeking removal of the 'Opening 2023' signage at the Foresight Hospital and Health System property in Stuart. (Photos by Pat Delaney)

## Hospital property in collections for unpaid taxes as the town seeks removal of 'Opening 2023' signs

**By Taylor Boyd**

The Foresight Hospital and Health System property in Stuart, (formerly Pioneer Community Hospital of Patrick County) has been turned over to collections due to unpaid real estate taxes, according to Patrick County Treasurer Sandra Stone.

Stone said once the unpaid taxes reach the two-year mark on December 31, according to Virginia law, the property can be subject to being sold.

Stone said the hospital has delinquent taxes going back to 2022, plus penalties and interest.

The total for 2022 and 2023 is

\$33,101.12, or \$16,550.56 per year.

Stone said she started pursuing collections for the unpaid taxes in December.

"It's in the early stages" of the collection process, Stone said. "Anything can happen. They still have time to redeem it, but it has been turned over. They get delinquent notices when we mail delinquent notices. So, when they got their original bills, then they got a delinquent notice."

Stone said bills for 2024 will be generated in April and the first half of real estate tax will be due in June.

(See Hospital p. 3)

## Board chairman says hospital will not open

**By Debbie Hall and Taylor Boyd**

In a surprise announcement Monday, Brandon Simmons, chairman of the Patrick County Board of Supervisors, said that the hospital is not reopening.

Following months of speculation, Patrick officials recently learned that its former hospital in Stuart will not reopen as planned. The county had received assurances that Foresight Health group, which purchased the facility in 2022, would be remodeling and reopening the facility by December 2023, a release stated.

No reason was given by Foresight for the change of plans.

"We are disappointed that the promises made to Patrick County leaders and citizens by this company will not be fulfilled," said Simmons, who made the announcement Monday at a board meeting.

He said speculation that the hospital would not reopen at all had been circulating for months.

"There is not currently any additional information to share about the future use of the property located at 18688 Jeb Stuart Highway," he said.

Like many rural communities



Joseph Hylak-Reinholtz (right), the Chief Operating Officer (COO) and General Counsel for Foresight Hospital and Health System, is pictured in this file photo from 2022. Dr. Sameer Suhail, president and CEO of Foresight Health (center), and Jeanette Filpi, then the company's director of Project Development, discussed healthcare needs with providers.

that lose their hospitals, Patrick County's Pioneer Hospital closed in 2017. Healthcare access was the top identified need in a 2019 community health needs assessment and improvement plan led by the Virginia Department of Health (West Piedmont District).

Joseph Hyak-Reinholtz, the general counsel and Chief Operating Officer for Foresight Hospital and Health System, asked for patience in an emailed statement Friday:

"Foresight Health knows how important it is to have a hospital

(See Board Chairman p. 3)

## Public hearing on Woolwine solar farm set for February



More than two dozen residents attended the Planning Commission meeting, and many raised concerns about a proposed solar farm project in the Woolwine area.

**By Taylor Boyd**

Despite numerous people protesting a proposed solar farm in the Woolwine area, the Patrick County Planning Commission set a public hearing on the project for Tuesday, February 20.

The hearing will be at 6 p.m. in the community room of the Patrick & Henry Community College (P&HCC) Stuart site.

Larry Cowley, chairman of the

commission, said the hearing will determine whether the project is substantially in accord with the county's Comprehensive Plan, "which they are. All we do is hold this public hearing."

Afterward, Cowley said the project would be considered by the Board of Supervisors, which will schedule another public hearing and eventually vote on the project.

"As I understand it, this is a doc-

ument from the DEQ (Department of Environmental Quality) that Energix (the parent company) has to have approved by the county," Cowley said.

The document "says they're substantially in accord with our comprehensive plans. That's all it is," Cowley said and emphasized that the supervisors are not considering approval of solar energy. The board will vote only on whether the proj-

ect is in accord with the plan.

When Energix gets that approval, Cowley said the company can start the process of applying to DEQ, Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources (DWR), Appalachian Power, and other government agencies, and start negotiating the siting plan with the county. That plan also must be approved before the project moves forward.

(See Woolwine p. 7)

## Spencer man charged with attempted murder

A Spencer man has been charged with two counts of attempted murder in connection with a domestic disturbance on Monday, Jan. 15, according to Patrick County Sheriff Dan Smith.

A call from a woman alleging that a man shot into a vehicle at a Trent Store Lane home was received in the 911 center at 2:24 a.m. Monday, Smith said.

Senior deputies Matt Hodges, Andrew Kinney and Robbie Haynes all responded to the scene, and allegedly encountered a man in front of the residence wearing body armor. The man surrendered when confronted by the deputies.

Deputies learned that the man's girlfriend was trying to leave with her 5 year old child when multiple rounds were allegedly fired into her vehicle from both a rifle and a handgun in an attempt to keep them from leaving.

The woman sustained a gunshot wound to the head. She was airlifted to Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center in Winston-Salem, N.C. with non-life threatening injuries. The child was uninjured.

Multiple firearms were seized following the execution of a search warrant at the residence.



Dustin Lee Lawson, 23, of 504 Trent Store Lane, Spencer, was charged with two counts of attempted first degree murder, two counts of shooting into an occupied vehicle, two counts of use of a firearm in the commission of a felony, malicious wounding, felony child endangerment, wearing body armor while committing a violent offense, and carrying a concealed weapon.

Sheriff's Lt. Steve Austin and Investigator Linda Martin are leading the investigation. Special Agent Matt Wade with the Virginia State Police processed the crime scene.

Lawson is being held without bond in the Patrick County Jail.

## PCMA kicks year off with Praise & Worship, Mudflappers

**By Taylor Boyd**

The Patrick County Music Association (PCMA) will kick off its first show of the year with the Patrick County High School (PCHS) Praise and Worship Team and Barry Collins & the Mudflappers.

The show will be held at the Rotary Building in Stuart on Saturday, January 27. Doors open at 5 p.m., and the music will start at 6 p.m.

PCMA President Denny Alley said Charlie Chaney's students will also perform during the show during a new segment called "Charlie's Corner."

"The first half-hour of each month's going to be some of Charlie's students, and he'll be playing with them," he said.

Barry Collins & The Mudflappers is a bluegrass group from Floyd. It is led by Collins, who is an award-winning banjo player that's won the annual Galax Old Fiddler's Convention.

Alley said the February show

will be a Mandolin Festival with Ralph McGee and the GoodFellers serving as the host.

The March show will be a blues styled show with J.T. Morrison & the Foothill Boys and Lynn Fodrell and Piedmont Blues taking the stage.

Alley said Sammy Shelor's Banjorama held in December was a huge show.

"A little over 600 people were there. It was something to see, it was a big show. One of the biggest shows we've ever had in a long time," he said.

Admission is a \$5 donation at the door. Prizes will be awarded throughout the night.

Concessions will be available for purchase from the Patrick County Shooting Education Team, with proceeds going to teach children in the area firearm safety.

For more information or to watch past music performances, visit Facebook.com/PatrickCountyMusicAssociation.



# Applications for the Real Estate Tax Relief program due March 1

The Commissioner of the Revenue office will be mailing real estate tax relief applications for the Elderly and Handicapped to those who qualified last year and to those who requested applications for this year.

If you are a Patrick County resident, age 65 or older, and/or were 100% disabled on December 31, 2023, and you meet the requirements you could receive a reduction in your real estate taxes up to \$300. The combined gross income of the household for 2023 year cannot ex-

ceed \$24,000. The taxpayer's total combined financial net worth as of December 31, 2023 cannot exceed \$100,000. The net worth limit excludes up to \$100,000 for the assessed value of the residence and up to one acre surrounding the residence, other requirements must be met.

The Commissioner of the Revenue office is located in room 220 in the Patrick County Veterans' Memorial Building at 106 Rucker Street, telephone number is (276) 694-7131.

# Community center at Reynolds Homestead closes for upgrades

The Reynolds Homestead Community Engagement Center will be closed from January 22 through mid to late February for facilities upgrades. The center's staff will be working remotely to continue to bring the engaging programming and content expected.

Although the center is closed, the grounds are open daily from dawn until dusk. Enjoy the LEAF trail, friendship garden, and self-guided outdoor historic tour. To schedule a tour of the historic home during this time, please call the center at (276) 694-7181.

## Arrests Reported

The Patrick County Sheriff's Office reported the following:

\*Elvis Xavier Santiago Rivera, 27, of Martinsville, was charged Jan. 12 with one count each probation violation and fail to appear. Deputy M.R. Hodges made the arrest for Martinsville.

\*Adam Lee Daniels, 39, of Stuart, was charged Jan. 14 with probation violation. Deputy A. Kinney was the arresting officer.

\*Lori Hollandsworth Blais, 34, of Stuart, was charged Jan. 14 with possess Sch. I or II drugs and possess controlled paraphernalia. Deputy M.R. Hodges made the arrest for Franklin County.

\*Dustin Lee Lawson, 23, of Spencer, was charged Jan. 15 with two counts each malicious-

ly shoot at occupied motor vehicle, attempted murder, 1st degree, and use firearm in commission of a felony, 1st offense, and one count each reckless handling or firearm, carry concealed weapon, abuse/neglect child: reckless disregard for life, wearing body armor while committing a crime, and malicious wounding. Deputy M.R. Hodges and Inv. Linda Martin were the arresting officers.

\*Deborah Lee Dipasquale, 69, of Patrick Springs, was charged Jan. 15 with drive while intoxicated, 3rd offense within 5 years. Senior Trooper J.N. Mabe was the arresting officer.

\*Walter Elbert Spence, III, 48, of Critz, was charged Jan. 18 with fail to appear. The Virginia State Police made the arrest.



## Tourism Talks

Hello Patrick, How have you been? The roller coaster ride in this weather has been quite something, hasn't it? Preparing for the changes has been challenging, but I hope you're doing well.

I have some news to share with you. In case you haven't heard, there are going to be some changes at the Mabry Mill Restaurant this upcoming season. The restaurant will no longer be offering sit-down meals, and this will have an impact on visitation.

As you know, the restaurant is a popular stop along the Blue Ridge Parkway. To address this, the Tourism Department is hosting a Community Meeting in Meadows of Dan on February 8 at 5:30 p.m. in the Meadows of Dan Community Center. A representative from the Blue Ridge Parkway will be present to discuss this and help formulate a plan to drive those tourists who are looking for a meal back to Meadows of Dan.

There is much to offer them just down the road from Mabry Mill, and we want the merchants there to showcase all that they offer. We

have been in contact with some of the community leaders, and we invite you to come by and offer your support if you have the time.

Although we are saddened by the news, our office will take life's proverbial lemons and make lemonade out of this situation. So please remember the date and time of the meeting, and let's work together to make the awesome community of Meadows of Dan shine even brighter this year.

In closing, there are some businesses that will be celebrating some milestones this year, such as Howell's Grocery and Poor Farmers Market. Let's keep our ears tuned in as we look to help them with their celebrations and remember where we have come from.

Patrick, you are an awesome community. Stay strong, warm, and inviting. And remember, tell all of your business partners, your family, and friends, "Come get lost and find yourself here!"

Take care,  
James Houchins,  
Director of Tourism  
(jhouchins@co.patrick.va.us)

## Growth assessment reports released last week

The Virginia Department of Education released the new Parent Report covering the results of this year's Winter Virginia Growth Assessments. Designed to provide parents additional insight into their child's individual performance at this point in the school year, the report is available to parents whose children have already taken the Winter VGA in school divisions statewide, with other students scheduled to take the assessments in the weeks ahead.

"It is extremely important that parents have an accurate understanding of where their child stands at this point of the school year," said Superintendent of Public Instruction Lisa Coons. "As I have listened to parents across the commonwealth, I have heard their desire to have more understandable information on how their child is performing in school. I want to make sure parents have the information they need, and that they are empowered to work with their child's teacher to help their child meet or exceed their grade-level expectations."

"By providing an easy-to-read performance graphic along with resources families can use at home, the new VGA Parent Report empowers parents and students to understand academic performance, set goals together, and track progress over time," said Jenna Alexander, President of the Virginia PTA.

An example of the new Parent Report as well as additional re-

sources for parents can be found on the Parent & Caregiver Resources for Assessments webpage on the VDOE website.

Designed to provide a snapshot of their child's progress at this point in the year, the Parent Report ties together the child's Fall Growth Assessment score and the current winter results to show the current trend in the child's academic progress this year. The Parent Report also clearly informs parents if their child's test scores show that the child needs additional support, is considered at-risk of falling behind, or if the child is generally well prepared at this point of the school year.

The Winter VGA testing began November 27, 2023, and continues through February 16, 2024, with local school divisions choosing the dates to administer the assessments to their students. After a school division has completed the assessments, Parent Reports will be available to parents of children who are enrolled in Grades 3-8 mathematics and Grades 3-8 reading classes.

All school divisions already completing the Winter VGA currently have access to Parent Reports. Remaining school divisions will receive the reports after their students have completed the assessments. Parents in school divisions which provide access to the State Parent Portal, and which have completed the assessments will have access to their child's Parent Report as of Friday, January 19.

## Pets of the Week



This handsome guy and his sister were turned in with 3 other siblings. The boys and girls all need a new home. They are sweet and well-mannered, and are hoping for a second chance.

County Public Animal Shelter (PCPAS) at (276) 694-6259 for more information. 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.

Call the Patrick

VISIT US ONLINE AT WWW.ENTERPRISE.NET

**ANGLERS CHOICE**  
ANGLERSCHOICE.COM

# OPEN HOUSE

**COME JOIN US!**

# 2024

**CREWS**

**ROBERTSON**

**AREY**

**JOHNSTON**

**STONE**

**JAN 26 & 27**

**MARTINSVILLE, VA**

**FRI 12PM-5PM SAT 9AM-3PM**

**6611 A.L. PHILPOTT HWY**



# Hospital

(cont. from page 1)

“So, technically they’re being taxed now, we just haven’t generated the bills,” she said.

Stone said with the litigation process, Foresight will receive notices on the legal side before the property ever goes to auction – if it does.

However, “if they fail to comply, then it will go to auction and it will be auctioned off,” Stone said, adding at that point, the property would once again be for sale.

“I reiterate that it’s in the early stages,” of the collections process, “and it takes months to go through some of the channels that you have to go through, legal searches, and things that have to be done when it goes to sale,” she said. “It’s not like it’s going to be sold tomorrow.”

She added Foresight can pay the taxes any time before the sale.

Stuart Town Manager Bryce Simmons said as of Friday, January 12, the hospital has \$526.12 in past-due utilities and \$7,980.54 in unpaid property taxes with the town.

Simmons said he also sent an enforcement letter to remove the “Opening in 2023” signs from

the hospital property.

“We consider it to be out of compliance with our zoning, and we intend to have it removed, any reference to it opening in 2023,” he said.

Simmons told members of the Stuart Town Council that he issued a Notice of Violation letter to Foresight Hospital and Health Systems, owners of the hospital property, due to non-compliance with the town’s sign ordinance.

The letter was sent via certified mail on January 5, Simmons said at a January 17 meeting. “The nuts and bolts of it are the town intends to remove any sign referencing the facility opening in 2023.”

As of January 17, Simmons has not received a return receipt that the company received the letter.

It was mailed “to the address of record in the GIS (Geographic Information System) and the owner. So, I think I may just have to send another letter to the address in Chicago,” he said.

Chris Corbett, Town Attorney, said he, Simmons, and possibly some council members, have

received snarky comments from the public regarding the hospital’s signs.

The letter is the town’s effort to try “to alleviate that,” he said.

Mayor Ray Weiland said the town will get the signs taken care of once the required time elapses, or town officials receive a response from the company.

If that occurs, the ordinance stipulates that the cost will be charged to and paid by the property owner.

In mid-December, Simmons said foresaw the signs were going to be a compliance issue and emailed the company’s legal representation to ask if the town could remove the signs.

“I got no response then,” Simmons said. “I’m going to do everything I can to get those signs down because it’s egregious.”

Simmons said he sent the certified letter on January 4.

“By the zoning ordinance, they have 30 days to resolve the violation” after it has been received, he said.

# Board Chairman

(cont. from page 1)

with an emergency room in this community. Since we obtained ownership of the property formerly known as Pioneer Hospital, we have developed and considered several plans to achieve the goal of reopening the hospital.

“However, as 2023 turns into 2024, we have yet to develop a plan that makes sense both clinically and financially,” he wrote. “That is, we have yet to develop a plan that we believe can provide an adequate scope of services while also being profitable. That is precisely why we did not open the hospital in 2023.

“We are considering all options now that we are in the first quarter of 2024. Nothing is off the table,” Hylak-Reinholtz wrote. “We will continue to work with local officials to make something happen. We continue to speak with Del. Wren Williams and other local officials who have been nothing but supportive since day one. We ask that you remain patient.”

Williams, R-Stuart, said that the “costs of improvements started to stack up. I don’t believe they received good advice from their original architect from the jump.”

Although “I don’t think they’ll be able to go forward at this time,” Williams noted that “luckily, the license remains intact so it’s still a viable facility certified by the state - this was my bill from 2022. And no taxpayer dollars went into the project,” not from the town, county or state. He added that he also is “not aware of any federal grants” the company received.

County Administrator Beth Simms said she is not aware of any funds the company owes the county, besides taxes (see related

story).

“They’ve never pulled like a building permit or anything. So, they haven’t had any permit fees or anything yet,” she said, adding the county also did not provide incentives.

“Ultimately, they’re a private business that can do as they please,” Williams said. “We will continue to work with them on moving this project forward or some type of sale or transfer to another provider. Regardless, we should continue to work to find a solution such as finding a new owner-provider, consider a new building, and research more creative alternatives such as a stand-alone Emergency Room - something that’s being discussed in the General Assembly this year.”

Last week, House Speaker Del. Don Scott, D-Portsmouth, announced the creation of a temporary 12-member committee tasked with addressing the lack of healthcare access in rural areas like Patrick County.

The committee will begin meeting on May 1. It is directed to propose at least five legislative recommendations by Nov. 15, according to Scott’s release, which noted the 12-person committee will include seven Democrats and five Republicans.

In a release from Scott, announcing the committee, Scott said, “For the first time in generations, life expectancy in the United States has decreased. This is acute in our rural communities where suicide, overdose deaths, and diabetes are on the rise. ... It is critical that we address this matter with the urgency it deserves.”

Simmons said a Healthcare Access Committee was formed immediately after re-

ceiving confirmation that Foresight was not proceeding with its planned renovation and reopening.

Simms said the goal of the committee is to provide leaders and stakeholders with the ability to collectively approach legitimate healthcare providers about what healthcare services are feasible in Patrick County.

Mobile integrated healthcare solutions already are being developed in the county, she said. The model uses medical mobile units to deliver healthcare out into the community. Supporting these efforts is the existing Healthy Patrick County, a coalition of healthcare, educational, and economic development resources, and individuals who in December concluded a new health needs analysis in Patrick County.

Healthy Patrick County once again has identified access to healthcare as the top concern and is studying best practices to address the access issue.

The committee “is still under development,” said Simms, who is now working to develop the mission, vision, and bylaws of the committee. She will then present a proposal to the board, along with a draft roster of members.

Once established, committee members will collect data and make a “collaborative effort to go out and talk to legitimate healthcare providers” in a “concerted effort to bring sustainable healthcare access to the county.”

“Now that we have confirmation that Foresight will not be opening a hospital in Patrick County, we can seek partnerships with other healthcare providers and look at homegrown solutions,” Simmons said.

# Woods and Wildlife Conference comes to Wytheville

With more than 10 million acres of Virginia’s woods privately owned, the Woods and Wildlife Conference will provide information, tools, and personal contacts to help private land owners keep their woods, and the wildlife that live in them, healthy and productive.

Join Virginia Cooperative Extension in Wytheville on February 10 for the conference that will cover a variety of topics to help you get more from your land. This conference is for owners of large or small tracts of land. It is a one stop for indi-

viduals, families, and managers wanting to learn about woods, wildlife, and other natural resources.

The program provides multiple links to information, sources of assistance, and a better understanding of the natural resources around you. Come hear experts speak on Managing Hardwood Forests, Coexistence Ecology of Appalachian Carnivores, and Wild-simulated Ginseng: An Option for Underutilized Forest Land.

Additional topics covered in concurrent sessions include:

- Forest Health Update
- Tips for Purchasing the Perfect Parcel
- Riparian-stream Connections Support
- Water Quality and Aquatic Biodiversity
- Invasive Plants: Consequences, Identification, and Management
- Conservation Options for Landowners

Avia Influenza - Could it Be Falling from the Sky?

Prescribed Fire as a Tool for Land Management

Knowing When to Cut it Out

Winter Tree ID

Money for Management

Registration information can be found online at <https://forestupdate.frec.vt.edu/online-registration.html>

For more information contact Jennifer Gagnon at [jgagnon@vt.edu](mailto:jgagnon@vt.edu) or 540-231-6391.

## Firewater SERVICE CENTER

1329 Scenic Drive, Stuart, VA 24171  
(276) 694-7417 or (276) 358-1580

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

*Now Offering*  
**TIRES & FRONT END ALIGNMENT**



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

**10% DISCOUNT FOR VETERANS**

**GENERAC**

## Prepare for power outages today

WITH A HOME STANDBY GENERATOR

\$0 MONEY DOWN + LOW MONTHLY PAYMENT OPTIONS

Contact a Generac dealer for full terms and conditions

**REQUEST A FREE QUOTE**

CALL NOW BEFORE THE NEXT POWER OUTAGE

**(844) 947-1479**



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

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

**VISIT US ONLINE AT**

**WWW.ENTERPRISE.NET**

## DON'T FALL BEHIND ON YOUR READING

*JOIN OUR*  
**FREE DIGITAL NEWSLETTER INSTEAD**



**GO TO** [theenterprise.net](http://theenterprise.net)

**CLICK NOW TO JOIN**  
STAY UP TO DATE ON LOCAL NEWS



# Update on the Border: Things Are Only Getting Worse

Nearly one year ago, myself and other members of the Energy and Commerce (E&C) Committee's Oversight Subcommittee and Health Subcommittee traveled to McAllen, Texas, to hold a joint field hearing, which I chaired, on the state of our southern border. We heard from witnesses who had real-life experience dealing with the consequences of the Biden Administration's poor border policies.

A year on (and three years since the start of the Biden Administration) not much has changed. In fact, things have only gotten worse.

Customs and Border Protection (CBP) reported an astounding 2.47 million encounters at the southwest border for fiscal year (FY) 2023. In comparison, CBP reported roughly 450,000 encounters for FY 2020.

Incredibly, November 2023 (the latest month for which we have data) has been reported as the worst November on record, according to CBP, with 242,418 encounters at the southwest border alone.

Further, the Biden Administration's border policies are so inadequate, based on information from the CBP, we are even having issues now with our northern border. Encounters there by the CBP have increased by 160% since November 2021.

I recently held a hearing in the Oversight Subcommittee of the E&C Committee to reexamine the health, safety, and educational effects of the border crisis.

Fentanyl continues to flood over our southern border, causing tens of thousands of deaths every year. On one day alone, border patrol seized 304 pounds of fentanyl in between ports of entry at our southern border.

We've seen a rise in child labor trafficking, due in large part to the exploitation of unaccompanied minors in our country. I have long called for reforms in how unaccompanied minors are looked after by the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), especially after the New York Times reported that 85,000 children went missing in HHS' care.

Our nation's schools are also experiencing challenges. Many schools are facing strained resources as cities struggle to meet the educational needs of the illegal immigrants entering our country, on top of our nation's own children.

Recently, in New York City, students at one school were told they had to learn remotely, like they did during COVID, because officials moved illegal immigrants into the school due to inclement weather.

## Why should our children be negatively affected by poor Biden border policies?

Some Members of Congress recently visited a hospital in Eagle Pass, Texas, which is currently



**Morgan Griffith**

Representative

providing care for illegal immigrants. According to one of my colleagues, they learned that out of that particular hospital's five ambulances, one ambulance is solely dedicated to transporting illegal immigrants from the border. Additionally, at the hospital, illegal immigrants are prioritized over American citizens due to acuity concerns.

Another hospital in Denver, Colorado, reported that they have not been compensated for \$136 million in care due in part to 8,000 illegal immigrants in the city making 20,000 visits to the health system in 2023.

And still, the Administration does all it can to shift the blame away from their failed policies. "Border Czar" Kamala Harris recently did an interview in which she blamed Republicans for the border crisis, stating that since it's an election year Republicans are weaponizing the border situation. Meanwhile it is House Republicans who have passed a comprehensive border bill, which Democrats in the Senate refuse to take up.

Additionally, Republicans here in the House have begun impeachment proceedings against Department of Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas, for his inaction over the border crisis.

Need we remind the Biden Administration that we did not have this historic flood of illegal immigrants during the Trump Administration. Remember there were 450,000 encounters at the southwest border for FY 2020 vs. 2.47 million for FY 2023. That is nearly a 450% increase at the southwest border.

Americans are fed up. Unfortunately, it seems that no matter how bad things get, nothing can get the Biden Administration to act with regard to the border.

## Radford Testimony

As a side note, Radford University student Meredith Page recently testified before the Innovation, Data, and Commerce Subcommittee of the E&C Committee at a hearing about protecting student athletes' dealmaking rights. She is on the NCAA's Student-Athlete Advisory Committee and did a great job testifying. I was glad to be able to ask her a few questions about college athletics, the importance of protecting athletes, and her excellent experience at Radford University.

If you have questions, concerns, or comments, call my Abingdon office at 276-525-1405, my Christiansburg office at 540-381-5671, or to reach my office via email, visit <https://morgangriffith.house.gov/>.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Letter "On Abortion"

The January 17 edition contained a letter under the heading of "On Abortion." The writer was opposed to abortion rights and based solely on their religious beliefs. I thought it appropriate to point out that in this country there is a separation of church and state. If a person wants to follow their own personal religious beliefs, that is their right and privilege. However, their rights and beliefs cannot be imposed on others.

Abortion is part of healthcare for a woman, and a woman should not be prevented from controlling her own body. I have often felt that

all who oppose abortion, for any reason, should also be required to adopt, support, and educate any baby resulting from a forced birth. That might make some reconsider their positions. Too many states have enacted anti-abortion laws or placed "restrictions" that essentially prohibit abortion – such as approving it only if done within 6 weeks of becoming pregnant. Maybe those states should also require that the father be the custodial parent. That might eliminate many of the opponents.

William S. Rodgers,  
Brentwood, TN

## Girl Scout Lock-In Held

Patrick County Girl Scout Troop #1302 held their annual Lock-In on Fri/Sat, Jan. 12/13 at Providence United Methodist Church. The girls had dinner then worked on packing backpack foods, GS journeys, patches, badges and enjoyed being together. They also had some snack time breaks and then settled into some movies until they fell asleep. The next morning, they enjoyed breakfast then went home to get a little more sleep or were off to vari-

ous activities for the day.

Many thanks to Providence for allowing the girls the use of the church for this event. Supporting the Girl Scout Troop is much appreciated.

The girls are now into Girl Scout Cookie Sales. Contact a girl if you need to order. They will also be starting cookie booths next week-end so be sure to be on the lookout for them in the county and buy your cookies.



## Governor's Fellows Program seeks applications

Applications are now being accepted for the 2024 Governor's Fellows Program. The Governor's Fellows Program is a prestigious opportunity for rising seniors and recent graduates to get a first-hand look at the executive branch in action. Since 1982, fellows have worked alongside the Governor's Cabinet and staff, learning about state government and assisting in essential work for the Commonwealth.

"We are excited to welcome the next generation of leaders to kick off their careers with our administration," said Gov. Glenn Youngkin. "The Governor's Fellows Program is a unique opportunity for Virginia students to experience public service first-hand and gain essential work skills for their future."

During their time in service to the Commonwealth, Governor's fellows have the opportunity to learn from special guest speakers who are leaders in state government and beyond. Fellows also experience state government on the road, visiting state government agencies and historic sites that have shaped our past and are improving our future.

Qualified applicants must be rising college seniors, graduating seniors, or graduate students. All Virginia college and university students are eligible to apply. Virginia residents who attend out-of-state colleges and universities are also eligible. Both public and private college and university students are encouraged to apply.

The selection of fellows is based solely on merit. The Fellows Program does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, color, national origin, religion, sexual orientation, age, disability, or veteran status.

The deadline to apply for the Governor's Fellows Program is Monday, March 4. Interviews will begin on Monday, March 11. Applicants will be advised on decisions beginning on April 12. The program runs from June 3 through August 2.

To apply, visit the Governor's Fellows Program website and send the required recommendation letters to the address below:

Governor's Fellows Program  
Post Office Box 2454  
Richmond, Virginia 23219

Please email any questions to [govfellows@governor.virginia.gov](mailto:govfellows@governor.virginia.gov).

## 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.

If you enjoyed the recent columns by Ben Williams and Holly Kozelsky, they are available weekly in the Henry County Enterprise

Get your print or digital subscription today by calling (276) 694-3101 or visiting [henrycountyenterprise.com](http://henrycountyenterprise.com)

**CHECK US OUT**



## Patrick Pioneers

George and Elizabeth Anyon Taylor

By Beverly Belcher Woody

This February 6th will mark General James Ewell Brown (Jeb) Stuart's 191st birthday. In 1884, Taylorsville was incorporated into a town and renamed Stuart in honor of the heroic Cavalry General who was born west of the town in the community of Ararat, Virginia.

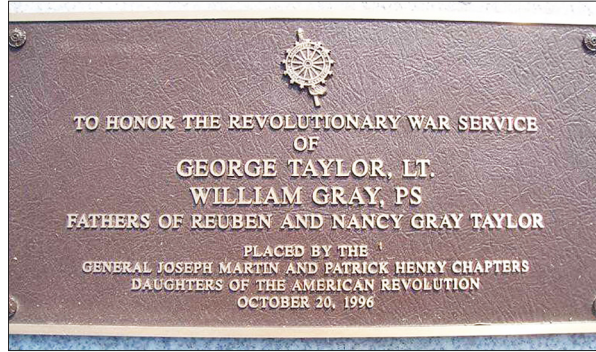
So, how did the county seat of Patrick get the name Taylorsville? According to local historians, Virginia and Lewis Pedigo, in 1792, Taylorsville was named in honor of Welsh emigrant, George Taylor. One year earlier, Patrick County had been created from part of its' eastern neighbor, Henry County.

George Taylor, born in 1745, brought his Welsh bride, Elizabeth Anyon, to the colonies and became one of the largest landowners in the area. George Taylor served in the Continental Army during the American Revolution; this may be the reason that the county seat was named in his honor.

According to an article in the June 17th, 1984, edition of the Martinsville Bulletin, the Henry County Courthouse holds two George Taylor land grants (both written on sheepskin). The first land grant is for 343 acres for the price of 35 shillings and was signed by colonial governor, John Murray, 4th Earl of Dunmore, in 1774. The second George Taylor land grant was for 254 acres on the south side of the Mayo River for 25 shillings and was signed by the second governor of Virginia, Thomas Jefferson, in 1781.

George and Elizabeth Anyon Taylor's first child, Mary (Molly) was born in November of 1769. Molly married a Hutchens and moved to Cumberland County, Kentucky. The couple's second child, Josiah Franklin Taylor, was born in November of 1771. Josiah married Miss Elizabeth (Betsy) Harris from Henry County on December 14th, 1805, and the couple made their home in Danbury, Stokes County, North Carolina.

The third of Taylor's children was James Le-



George Taylor and William Gray DAR marker.

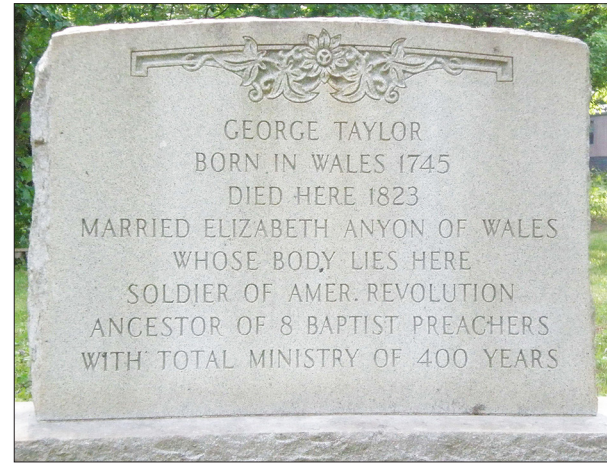
muell, born in 1775. According to the Pedigo's history, James died during the War of 1812. Susannah Taylor, child #4, was born in 1780. Susannah married Chadwell Vawter (Vaughter) in October of 1816 in Henry County. Susannah and Chadwell made their home in Stokes County, N.C.

George and Elizabeth's fifth child was John Taylor, born in 1872. John married Miss Elizabeth Pedigo, from Patrick County. John and his bride migrated to Monroe, Kentucky, where John was working as a wool carder in the 1850 census.

Tragically, the Taylor's sixth child, Blagrove Taylor, died at Fort Norfolk on January 4th, 1814, serving during the War of 1812. Elizabeth Matilda Taylor was the next child born to the couple in 1783; she married George Burrus in Henry County on February 3rd, 1805. The newly married couple migrated to Blue Springs in Jackson County, Missouri.

The eighth child born to the couple was Adelpia Taylor, born in 1784. Adelpia never married and in the 1850 through 1870 census, she was living with her great nephew in Horsepasture, Virginia. Adelpia passed away in 1871 at the age of 87. George Taylor Jr. was born on January 30th, 1875; he married Miss Elizabeth McMillan in Henry County on January 24, 1811. George Jr. fought in the War of 1812 and upon his return, he and Elizabeth settled in Giles County, Tennessee.

The last two sons of George and Elizabeth Anyon Taylor broke with tradition and did not



George Taylor's tombstone. (Courtesy of Terry Trefry)

marry a girl named Elizabeth! When I was researching the family, I kept double checking if this could be correct; could George Taylor have a wife and four daughters in law named Elizabeth Taylor? Yes!

William Anderson Taylor was born in 1788 and married Miss Catherine Ann "Kitty" Hill on November 10th, 1817, in Henry County, Virginia. Most of the couple's eight children settled in Patrick or Henry county or just over the North Carolina line in Stokes or Surry county.

Reuben Taylor, the youngest child of George and Elizabeth Taylor, was born on the 30th of August 1793. Reuben married Miss Nancy Gray on February 27th, 1816, and the couple had several children which remained in the area. In 1844, Reuben and Nancy Gray Taylor donated the land to build Mayo Baptist Church. The first services held at the church were conducted by Elder John Lee, and Elder John Robertson, of Leaksville, North Carolina. In 1996, the General Joseph Martin and Patrick Henry Chapters of the Daughters of the American Revolution honored Reuben and Nancy's fathers for their service during the War for American Independence.

Next week, we will look at George and Elizabeth Taylor's grandson, William Fountain Taylor, Elamsville doctor.

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 – How Can I Get Details about My Social Security Payment?

Dear Rusty: How do I find the actual breakdown of the Medicare insurance that I have auto deducted and my actual Social Security payment? I was just looking at a video which explained the 3% Cost of Living Adjustment we will be receiving this year, and it compared the current payout to the new payout. There seems to be a big difference in what I am getting and what they said in the video. Currently my Social Security payments are \$1,431. My Medicare insurance is supposed to be \$165, which means my total Social Security is about \$1,596. On the video it said all retired workers are getting \$1,848 with the new increase to take it to \$1,938.00. There are a couple hundred dollars there that I seem to be missing out on. Can you help me understand that difference? Signed: Confused Senior

Dear Confused Senior: What you're asking for is an itemized breakout of your gross Social Security benefit, any deductions being taken therefrom (e.g., your Medicare Part B premium), the amount of your COLA increase, and your net Social Security payment for 2024. If that is the case, the best way to get this detail is in your personal "my Social Security" online account,

which provides all the information mentioned. You can access your online account at www.ssa.gov/myaccount, and if you don't already have that online account set up, you'll need to first establish your online access credentials (instructions for how to do that will be at that website).

I'm not sure which video you watched, but "all retired workers" do not get \$1,848 (or \$1,938). Everyone's Social Security benefit is different, based on their lifetime earnings record and the age at which they claimed benefits. The numbers you heard in the video were likely average Social Security payments, not the actual amount you should personally be receiving. Here's how it works:

- Your personal benefit is based on your Primary Insurance Amount (PIA) which is the amount you get if you claim for your benefits to start at your full retirement age (FRA), which is somewhere between 66 and 67 depending on the year you were born. Claim before your FRA your benefit is permanently reduced; claim after your FRA it is higher. Your personal maximum benefit is achieved if you claim at age 70.

- The Medicare Part B premium (for outpatient healthcare services) is automatically deducted from your Social Security payment. Although the standard 2023 Part B premium was \$164.90, the standard 2024 Part B premium is \$174.70. You may also have other things (e.g., income tax) withheld from your monthly Social Security payment.

- The annual Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) for 2024 is 3.2%. That means your gross Social Security benefit goes up by that percentage starting in 2024. But there was also a \$9.80 increase in your Medicare Part B premium starting in 2024, which means that you won't see all of the COLA increase in your Social Security payment. Since your Medicare premium is deducted from your Social Security, that Medicare increase will also be taken from your SS payment, so you won't see the full 3.2% COLA increase in your 2024 Social Security payment.

To see all of this detail for you personally, I suggest you access your online "my Social Security" account as described above. As an alternative, you can also call Social Security at 1.800.772.1213 and request a Benefit Verification Letter which will include all the information you seek about your Social Security payment.

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

## You'll Feel Better Without Clutter – Part 1

Browsing Pinterest, I find myself absent-mindedly pinning photos of neat, minimalist rooms, filled with just enough, and no more. Orderly shelves, neat cabinets, bare countertops, organized closets . . . something about this speaks to me. The harmony, peace, and tranquility that it represents resonate deep inside of me. I want that.

Then, startled from my reverie by a hair-raising screech from my toddler, I look around. Dishes are piled in the dish drainer, the refrigerator is covered with drawings and magnets, bookshelves are stuffed to the brim, and baskets of toys are overflowing. And I don't even want to know what the dog just brought in and dropped on the carpet. My house is not dirty (well, except for what the dog just brought in), but with three kids, two adults, and six animals, there are signs of life everywhere.

Sure, I know this stuff all represents a life I love, but . . . does there have to be so much stuff?

I know I'm not alone in this. But what is the answer? Do we just muddle through the clutter the best we can, or subject our family to military-style inspections to keep the house ship shape? Do we rent a storage unit, or buy more organizing tools?

**The power struggle between you and**

**your stuff**

The problem isn't merely the amount of stuff in our homes, or our lack of organizational skills (although both may be a factor), but in the meaning and power, we let our "stuff" have. Often without realizing it, we give possessions a disproportionate amount of our time and energy—leaving us with schedules (and lives) that don't match our values. For instance, in the pursuit of a bigger house, nicer car, and all the latest gadgets, we may end up working longer hours or becoming selfish instead of spending time on things we would say really matter, such as our family or health.

In other words, as the saying goes, sometimes "we buy things we don't need, with money we don't have, to impress people we don't like."

It's an exhausting pursuit to get—and then organize and maintain—a lot of possessions, and that may very well be why minimalism is a growing movement. According to Joshua Fields Millburn and Ryan Nicodemus of theminimalists.com, "Minimalism is a tool to rid yourself of life's excess in favor of focusing on what's important—so you can find happiness, fulfillment, and freedom."

**How clutter affects emotions**

Human beings crave order and peace.

Think about opening a closet. Would you feel better if stuff comes flying out because it's packed in so tightly, or if everything is neat and ordered in its place? Which gives you more peace?

Having too much stuff—or stuff that is disorganized—can affect you mentally and physically. In a study in Life at Home in the Twenty-First Century, a group of anthropologists, social scientists, and archaeologists found a link between an overabundance of household objects and the homeowners' health. These crowded houses—termed "stressful home environments"—proved that clutter not only looks bad, it makes us feel bad as well.

Just as external chaos can lead to internal chaos, so can external peace lead to internal peace. According to Karen Reyes, a professional organizer from Kearneysville, West Virginia, "We feel better when our 'castle' is orderly, creating less stress. Anything that we are able to do to alleviate clutter brings a little more peace to our lives. Emotional baggage sometimes comes along with unorganized lives. It's quite liberating to lose both."

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



# Jimmie Johnson, Chad Knaus enter NASCAR Hall the way they should—together

**By Reid Spencer**  
*NASCAR Wire Service*  
*Call them inseparable.*

Despite a few rough patches in their 17-year working relationship, driver Jimmie Johnson and crew chief Chad Knaus achieved a level of success at NASCAR's highest level unparalleled in the current century.

Together, on Friday night in the Crown Ballroom at the Charlotte Convention Center, Johnson and Knaus reaped the rewards of their remarkable accomplishments—induction into the NASCAR Hall of Fame Class of 2024 in their first year of eligibility.

Johnson and Knaus entered the Hall along with Donnie Allison, elected to NASCAR's highest honor from the Pioneer Ballot. An original member of the famed Alabama Gang, Allison helped elevate stock car racing's visibility with both his driving skills and his fists.

Johnson earned high praise from Hendrick Motorsports teammate Jeff Gordon, who lobbied on Johnson's behalf when team owner Rick Hendrick considered adding a fourth team in 2002.

"He's the best driver I ever raced against," Gordon said in a video introducing his teammate.

In his acceptance speech, Johnson demurred with typical modesty, opening his remarks with a story about the motorcycle he found under the Christmas tree in 1979.

"I realize how many people played a role in this Hall of Fame induction," Johnson said later in the speech. "Thank you to my family, friends, fans—everyone at Jimmie Johnson Racing, former team members and teammates, everyone who has been part of this journey."

"This success story of seven championships and 83 wins, and now this, is all about relationships. I'm truly grateful for the journey and the amazing relationships forged and the incredible companies I've represented like Lowe's and Ally."

"Whether on two wheels or four, in SoCal or Charlotte, in the driver's seat or up on top of the pit box, moonlighting as race car mechanic or driving a school bus (as his parents did), whether you're looking up to your heroes, driving for them or competing against them... if you're with us now or up in heaven, thank you for being a crucial part of this incredible run."

"This is beyond my wildest dreams—and I thought Christmas morning in 1979 was special."

Johnson reserved special praise for his teammate and team owner.

"I'm forever grateful to Jeff Gordon and Rick Hendrick," Johnson said after receiving the Hall of Fame ring from his wife Chani. "You guys selected me for the No. 48 car, and I'm still not sure why."

"Congrats, brother," Johnson said to Knaus. "I'm so glad that we're able to go in on the same ballot."

After Tony Stewart won the



(L-R) NASCAR Hall of Fame inductees Donnie Allison, Jimmie Johnson and Chad Knaus pose for photos during the NHOFF Class of 2024 Blue Jacket Ceremony at NASCAR Hall of Fame on January 18 in Charlotte, North Carolina. (Photo by David Jensen/Getty Images)

2005 series title, Johnson embarked on a remarkable run, claiming a record five straight championships from 2006 through 2010—a streak broken only by Stewart's unexpected third title in 2011.

The pairing of Johnson and Knaus almost ended before the streak began. At the end of the 2005 season, they were barely speaking, and team owner Rick Hendrick considered splitting them up.

Before making a decision, Hendrick invited Johnson and Knaus to a meeting and served them milk and cookies on Mickey Mouse plates.

"If you're going to act like children, I'm going to treat you like children," was Hendrick's blunt message to his driver and crew chief.

Hendrick made his point, and with the ice broken, the pair became NASCAR's version of the "Untouchables" for the next five years.

"That shift allowed us to become champions," Knaus said.

The five straight Cup championships eclipsed NASCAR Hall of Famer Cale Yarborough's previous mark of three straight (1976-1978) and is one entry in the NASCAR record book that likely will remain unassailable. With two non-consecutive titles each, Kyle Busch and Joey Logano are the only active full-time Cup drivers with more than one.

Johnson added championships in 2013 and 2016, tying the record of seven held jointly by Richard Petty and Dale Earnhardt Sr., both members of the inaugural NASCAR Hall of Fame Class of 2010. He won his last Cup race—a track-record 11th victory at Dover Motor Speedway—on June 4, 2017, marking the 16th consecutive year he and Knaus had teamed to win at least two events.

That victory was Johnson's 83rd, tying him with Yarborough for sixth on the career list. The book on Johnson's career, however, is not quite closed. As co-owner of NASCAR Cup Series entry Legacy Motor Club, he will compete in select races this season, starting with the season-opening Daytona 500 on Feb. 18.

Knaus's wife Brooke presented the 2024 inductee ring to her husband.

"As I was growing up in the Midwest, my father taught me what it meant to have the best race cars," Knaus said during

his induction speech, "to have the proper maintenance schedule, to never settle for second and to continuously learn—and to always push the rules."

Thanking his driver of 17 years, Knaus said, "Jimmie let me find out who I was by believing in me."

A brilliant innovator dedicated to making Johnson's No. 48 Hendrick Motorsports Chevrolts go faster, Knaus manned the pit box for 81 of Johnson's 83 Cup wins, having been sidelined under suspension for the first two victories of 2006 for pushing the rules too far in trying to gain an aerodynamic advantage at Daytona.

After the Johnson/Knaus pairing ended following the 2018 season, Knaus served as crew chief for William Byron's first career victory in the summer 2020 race at Daytona. In 2021, Knaus took on a management role as vice president of competition at Hendrick Motorsports.

From a career standpoint, Knaus's seven championships as a crew chief are second only to NASCAR Hall of Famer Dale Inman's eight. His 82 victories are third all-time.

Allison and brother Bobby Allison accumulated the second-most Cup victories by two brothers (94), a number exceeded only by Kyle and Kurt Busch, who have accounted for 97 wins (with Kyle still active at 63).

Donnie Allison earned his greatest notoriety, however, after he had won the last of his 10 races (1978 at Atlanta). He and Yarborough were battling for the lead on the final lap of the 1979 Daytona 500, the first race featuring live flag-to-flag coverage on national network television, and after repeated contact between their cars, they both wrecked at the end of the backstretch.

The drivers climbed from their cars with anger in their eyes and started the fight that would captivate the television audience with its intensity. After Richard Petty inherited the victory, Bobby Allison parked his car near in Turn 3 and joined the fray, as the Alabama drivers ganged up on the South Carolinian.

The race and the fisticuffs that followed sparked interest in the sport of stock car racing and launched the sport's steady growth over the next two decades.

Allison is the fourth member of the Alabama Gang to enter the NASCAR Hall of Fame, joining brother Bobby, nephew Davey Allison and Hueytown patriarch Red Farmer.

Asked what the induction meant to him, Donnie replied, "The closest thing was the feeling I got when I married my lovely wife Pat."

Allison was the 1967 Cup rookie of the year. He also turned heads with a fourth-place finish in the 1970 Indianapolis 500, earning rookie-of-the-year honors for the race.

"All I can say is wow!" Allison said during his induction speech, during which, with tongue in cheek, he disputed the characterization of his altercation with Yarborough in 1979. "Fought? I never fought... I never touched that man. He never touched me..."

During the ceremony, pioneering driver Janet Guthrie was honored as the recipient of the Landmark Award for outstanding contributions to NASCAR. An accomplished sports car racer, Guthrie finished 15th in her NASCAR Cup debut in the 1976 Coca-Cola 600 and went on to compete in 33 Cup races, with a best finish of sixth at Bristol.

NASCAR Hall of Famer Rusty Wallace received the Buddy Shuman Award for his charitable endeavors. Also recognized at the ceremony were two titans of the sport who passed away in 2023—broadcaster Ken Squier, co-founder of the Motor Racing Network, and Yarborough.

It was Squier, providing play-by-play for the 1979 Daytona 500 for CBS, who called the fight against Yarborough that Allison insists never really happened.

Squier's legacy also extends to the Squier-Hall Award of Media Excellence, conferred on the late Shav Glick of the Los Angeles Times this year.

## Varsity Girls Get Win

**By Ashlee Mullis**  
The Girls Varsity Basketball Team picked up a 41-29 win against James River, on Wednesday, January 17th. Aniya Penn led the Lady Cougars with 12 points, 5 rebounds,

3 steals, and 1 block. Lilly Cobbler had 9 points and 1 assist. Kendra Worley had 8 points, 5 rebounds, 1 assist, and 3 steals. Journey Moore had 2 points, 9 rebounds, 3 steals, and 1 block.

## PCHS Sports Schedule

Patrick County High School Cougars Sports Schedule for the week of Jan. 26 to Feb. 1:

- 1/26** 7pm Boys Basketball at Floyd County
- 1/27** 9:30a Indoor Track Meet at Liberty University
- 1/29** 7pm Girls Basketball vs Floyd County
- 1/30** 4pm Wrestling Three Rivers District at James River  
7pm Boys Basketball vs Alleghany County
- 1/31** 4pm Indoor Track Meet at North Stokes H.S.  
7pm Girls Basketball at Alleghany County

**VISIT US ONLINE**  
**WWW.THEENTERPRISE.NET**



# Woolwine

(cont. from page 1)

Moscato Solar, LLC, a subsidiary company of Energix, is pursuing the project locally.

According to the review application, Moscato is proposing the development and construction of a 13.2MWac solar facility to be located on three parcels of land that totals approximately 213 acres privately owned by Michael McKenzie, a Woolwine-area property owner.

Land parcel IDs for the project include 4815-67, 4815-70, and 4815-109.

According to the review application, fewer than 100 acres are planned for panel coverage, with designated areas used for setbacks, vegetative buffers, wildlife crossings, and wetland protection areas. The site design accounts for 50 feet of setbacks from all public rights-of-way and adjacent property lines.

The review application states Moscato would contribute an estimated \$3,197,286 million in additional tax revenue to Patrick County over its approximate 42-year lifetime.

Fairy Stone Solar, LLC, another subsidiary company of Energix, also is pursuing a solar farm project on Commerce Street in Stuart.

Several county residents spoke out against the proposed project.

Mary-Beth Clement said "I and others have publicly spoken about several negatives to these projects and the ultimate goal of destroying rural lands and the rural way of life for money. Even members of this commission and supervisors themselves have expressed to citizens they don't want these in their backyard."

Despite this, Clement said board members seem to still be leaning towards approving solar projects because of pressure from Richmond and potential litigation that the county is sure to lose.

She said no one has spoken about these threats in detail and asked for enlightenment about the pressure from Richmond, potential litigation, and whether there's a precedent that shows the county would lose.

"I cannot understand why you as representatives of the county, and its residents and landowners, would approve projects based on potential threats from outsiders when the majority of citizens are opposed to this destruction and you yourselves don't want these projects in your backyard," she said.

Malcolm Roach said when the issue of solar first came about he was upset, and "asked at the

Board of Supervisors for acreage limits - five acres for a solar farm. That didn't happen. We asked for a water retention pond at every solar site so that the water could be cleaned and put back into our streams the way it should be," he said.

Roach said Energix has been fined multiple times because of sediment runoff into streams where it has projects.

"Patrick County feeds everybody down below us their water. Do we want to pollute their water too? Do we?" he asked.

Roach said this farm, which will be near Sycamore Baptist Church in Woolwine, is only about 50 feet off the road in some spots.

He also wonders why people would do this to their neighbors.

"It's a proven fact that where solar farms are put up, the property value around them goes down," he said and urged the audience to not be afraid of litigation.

In Pennsylvania, where Roach lived before moving to Patrick County, "the counties went back against the state again and again and won. Don't be afraid of litigation, that's a fear tactic," he said.

Gail Spencer said she's been living in the county for more than 20 years and loves the county's beauty.

"We already allowed the mountain to be pretty much destroyed. The trees have been cut down, and when hard rains come, mudslides occur," Spencer said, adding that also is likely further up the mountain when trees are destroyed for the solar farm.

"We don't need more trees cut down to accommodate I don't know who, to accommodate somebody to put solar panels in rural areas. It is not recommended to put these solar panels in rural areas," she said.

In her research, Spencer said solar panels are not efficient if they don't get a high enough quantity of sun, "and then there's the chemicals that come out and seep into the ground, seep into our waters, our waterways, seep into places that get their water from peoples' wells or streams," she said.

As a member of Sycamore Baptist Church, Spencer said she doesn't want this for the church or the county.

LeAnne Seeley said one of her main concerns was lithium batteries that might be used in the solar farms.

"There was a solar farm up in New York that caught on fire, lithium batteries, and they couldn't put it out. People had to be kept in their homes because of

the toxicity of the burn-off from the solar panel," she said.

Seeley said she has heard nothing about this or if there is a plan in place if the solar panels catch fire.

She also asked the commission questions regarding the 1,000-acre limit, the number of farms allowed in the county, and where the power was going to be brought to the powerlines.

David Profitt said from what he's seen, the county is no way near what would be considered a prime solar power generating location.

"We do not have enough hours of sunlight during the day to make it profitable. Where that comes into play, right now it's being pushed because of our tax money that's being given away largely to investors in other countries that have been funding companies like the ones that you see here that are presenting this thing," he said.

Profitt alleged that companies find places that lack the resources or knowledge about the potential downsides to fight. He also offered his assistance to the commission if they wanted or needed it.

Grant Foley said he is the first landowner downstream from where this project is going to be.

"This is a 238-tract of land, 120 acres of it's dedicated to this solar plantation. This property's been clear-cut in the last four years," he said.

Four years ago, Foley said his corner property stone was two feet from the creek bank. Since it's been clear cut, the runoff is ten-fold what it's ever been in the over 50 years he's lived there.

"Now, my land is eroded to within three inches of my property stone - from just a clear cut," he said. "So, when you take 120 acres, that's no trees, no root structure, nothing to stop the water, how much more is going to come into the creek?"

Foley said his well and his mother's well are right beside the creek, and this will affect their water.

"It's all good and well for Mr. McKenzie. Do you all know what he's getting for this? One hundred dollars per acre per month - \$144,000 a year is going into his pocket to wash my land down the creek," Foley said.

The bridge that goes across the creek that leads to his mother's house has a concrete pad beneath it. Since the clear cut, "the bank was right at the edge of the pad. Now, it's cut underneath that pad two-and-a-half feet," he said.

Foley said it would cost \$10,000 to take the bridge out, dig the creek out, and fix to put the bridge back, "because of a clear-cut" on his neighbor's property.

Mary Smith said the decisions don't just impact the county's residents, but future children and grandchildren.

"It's something that we all need to pray about. We need to go with our convictions, not with the money that you're going to get in your pocket," she said, crying.

John Hopkins said a solar company approached him about a property he owns in Henry County.

"We told them we weren't interested. The land that they were interested in was a 204-acre tract of land. We didn't want to be the ones that opened up a can of worms," he said.

Hopkins said the company makes the money sound good. He asked the man who came to look at his property how much land he had in solar farms.

"He had zero. So, I asked him how many acres the solar company owned that were in solar farms. He said zero," Hopkins said and added that he believes if a company can make enough money from a solar farm, it should buy the land instead of leasing it from someone else.

"They don't want to buy it because they are uncertain themselves of what the long-term effects are," he said.

Mike DeCapp said one of the things that attracted him and his family to the area was the view, "but the thing that makes this area so beautiful can also be the biggest danger of living down here. That's these dense, old-grown forests. People say you don't want this in your backyard when my backyard is 10-20-30,000 acres of forests, no, I don't."

Everyone's heard about the dangers of the panels and toxicity, DeCapp said, adding that Energix has said the panels are safe under normal working conditions, but he wondered what if the next Tuggle's Gap fire, which burned more than 1,000 acres last fall, is Buffalo Ridge and the fire runs over this solar facility.

"You can say all you want that these panels aren't flammable. The USDA (United States Department of Agriculture) says forest fires can range 2,000 degrees," he said. If that's the case, "it's gonna burn them, it's gonna melt them," he said.

Ed Pool also spoke about the dangers of cadmium telluride in solar panels.

## Local Ruritans recognized at National Convention

Kevin Smith, treasurer of the Ararat Ruritan Club, was recognized for his work with the Ruritan National Foundation at the Ruritan National Convention held earlier this year in Winston-Salem, N.C.

Smith was awarded the Ruritan National Foundation Garland Gray Award for having the district with the "most dollars donated by club." He was also presented a certificate (for second place) for the "Greatest Contribution Per Member in 2023." Serving as the Foundation Chairman on the Dan River District Cabinet afforded him the opportunity to visit the clubs within the district to encourage them to donate to the Foundation, which manages the scholarship program of Ruritan. Smith strongly believes in scholarships to help further a student's education, so much so that he has established a permanent fund (Kevin and Pamela Smith Education Fund) to grow into a guaranteed scholarship for years to come.

Smith is involved in the Ruritan clubs within Patrick County, as he and his wife, Pamela Roberson Smith (formerly of Stuart) are responsible for establishing the newly formed Stuart and Woolwine Community Ruritan Clubs. At the Dan River District Convention in November, they were recognized as "Distinguished Ruritan Members" and awarded a pin to wear to signify this prestigious award. During ceremonies at the National Convention, they were recognized



Kevin Smith with Ruritan Foundation President Phillip Bradshaw. (Contributed)



Kevin and Pamela Smith with 2023 President Michael Morrison.

by Ruritan National President Michael Morrison, along with immediate Past President Glen Broadwater and wife Linda, National Director Juliann Poff, and Executive Director Sara Kelly for their involvement in growing Ruritan over the last year with the formation of a total of four new clubs.

Kevin Smith became a Ruritan in 1999 and has served on the club, zone and district levels within the organization. Pamela joined the Ruritan organization in 2019 and also has served

on the club, zone and district levels. She is the past-president of the Ararat club and is serving as Stuart's secretary/treasurer.

Kevin said, "I don't do this for recognition, but it is nice to know that the folks on the national level appreciate what we're doing here in our area." When asked why she joined Ruritan, Pamela's reply was, "I have always had a servant's heart. I love helping people and I have a lot more time than I do money, or at least I hope I do!"



# Open Jam is a Family Affair



The Adams Family visited the Open Jam held at the Willis Gap Community Center on Friday, Jan. 19, and had their photo taken in front of the LOVE SIGN, The Crooked Road, Virginia's Heritage Music Trail. Pictured, left to right are Carol Adams, a Patrick County School Teacher, their daughter, and husband Philip Adams, he is

holding a copy of our recent Patrick County Magazine. Philip is a Patrick County School Bus Driver, a Minister and a Gospel Singer. He was among the list of singers to perform Friday Night. Videos are available on the center's Facebook page. The center is located at 144 The Hollow Road, Ararat. (By Mary Dellenback Hill)

## Early voting for March 5 primary is now underway

Early voting for the Virginia Presidential Primary on March 5 began Friday, January 19. Virginia will have a dual presidential primary election, which means both the Democratic Party and the Republican Party will have primaries on the same day.

In a dual primary, officers of election will ask voters if they want to cast their ballot in the Democratic Party Primary or the Republican Party Primary. All qualified voters may vote in either primary, but voters may not vote in both primaries.

The choice to vote in a party's primary does not mean that the voter will be "registered" with that party. Virginia does not have party registration. Six candidates will appear on the Republican primary ballot: Chris Christie, Ryan L. Binkley, Vivek Ramaswamy, Donald J. Trump, Ron D. DeSantis, and Nikki R. Haley. Three candidates will appear on the Democratic primary ballot: Marianne Williamson, Joseph R. Biden Jr and Dean Benson Phillips.

In-person early voting for the March 5, 2024, presidential primary election begins Friday, Jan. 19 and will continue through Saturday, March 2. To vote early in-person, registered voters should go to the general registrar's office for the jurisdiction in which they are registered, present their ID, and cast their ballot. The location of the general registrar's office for all jurisdictions can be found on the Virginia Department of Elections' website (<https://vote.elections.virginia.gov/VoterInformation/PublicContactLookup>) as well as a list of acceptable forms of identification at (<https://www.elections.virginia.gov/registration/voterid/index.html>).

Some jurisdictions may offer early in-person voting at both

the general registrar's office and satellite locations. Curbside voting is also available for those with disabilities and anyone over 65. Contact your general registrar's office for more information regarding voting hours and additional locations.

Requested absentee ballots will be mailed beginning Jan. 19, including ballots to registered military and overseas voters. Any registered voter can request an absentee ballot either in-person, by mail, online (<https://vote.elections.virginia.gov/VoterInformation/Lookup/absentee>) or by contacting your general registrar's office. Registered voters do not need a reason to request an absentee ballot.

In order to return a voted ballot, voters can drop off their absentee ballot at the general registrar's office or polling location on Election Day. Absentee ballots returned by mail must be postmarked on or before March 5 and received by the general registrar before noon Friday, March 8.

Anyone with visual or manual dexterity impairment has the option to vote an absentee ballot using an electronic marking tool. The deadline to register to vote and cast a regular ballot is Feb. 12. After that date, voters will have to use same-day registration and vote a provisional ballot. The deadline to apply for a mailed ballot is Feb. 23.

Voters with questions about absentee and early in-person voting should contact their general registrar's office or the Virginia Department of Elections by phone at 1-800-552-9745 or by email at [info@elections.virginia.gov](mailto:info@elections.virginia.gov). For more information, voters are encouraged to visit the Virginia Department of Elections website at [www.elections.virginia.gov](http://www.elections.virginia.gov).

## Sarah Belle Dalton Robertson

Mrs. Sarah Belle Dalton Robertson, age 86 of Stuart, Virginia passed away at her home on Friday, January 19, 2024. She was born in Patrick County on August 8, 1937, to the late Roy Dalton and Lillie Wilson Dalton. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Andrew Akers Robertson. Mrs. Robertson was of the Methodist faith, a longtime librarian,



loved to travel, and enjoyed watching football and racing. Mrs. Robertson is survived by two sons,

Michael Neil Robertson and Mark Sean Robertson and wife, Natalie; and three grandchildren, Jordan Chase Robertson, Carter Andrew Robertson, and Alana Suzanne Robertson.

A memorial service for Mrs. Robertson will be held at a later date. Moody Funeral Home in Stuart is serving the family and online condolences may be sent by visiting [www.moodyfuneralservices.com](http://www.moodyfuneralservices.com).

## Stuart man among 16 to complete EMT training course at SCC



Surry Community College is proud to announce that sixteen students have completed a six-month course in Emergency Medical Technician training. Back row, left to right: Michelle VanNostrand, Courtney Thomas, Hannah Shelton, Piper Marion, Aubrey Mabe, Megan Mabe, Abigail Jenkins, and Keeley Cuthrell. Front row, left to right are Madison Willard, Madison Spencer, Madison Jordan, Charles Crumpton, Cristian Boyd, Matthew Baliles, and Leeland Atwood. Not pictured is Samuel Reams.

Matthew Baliles, of Stuart, was among the 16 students to complete a six-month course in Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) training at Surry Community College.

According to Kenneth Vaught, SCC Emergency Medical Program Coordinator, some of these students will be applying their new skills with volunteer agencies in both North Carolina and Virginia, and some will begin their ascent into the Emergency Medical Services healthcare profession.

In addition to Baliles, students completing the EMT training course are Leeland Atwood of Mount Airy, Cristian Boyd of Mount Airy, Charles Crumpton of Mount Airy, Keeley Cuthrell of Mount Airy, Abigail Jenkins of Mount Airy, Madison Jordan of Pinnacle, Aubrey Mabe of Pilot Mountain, Megan Mabe of Jonesville, Piper Marion of Dobson, Samuel Reams of Clemmons, Hannah Shelton of Mount Airy, Madison Spencer of Dobson, Courtney Thomas of Mount Airy, Michelle VanNostrand of Danbury, and Madison Willard of East Bend.

In SCC's EMT course, students learn the basics of emergency medical care, from life-threatening medical conditions to major traumatic injuries, for adult and pediatric patients. The course also includes the American Heart Association's BLS/CPR certification, logistical operations of EMS, basic Anatomy and Physiology, and Emergency Vehicle Driving. Students finish with a foundation and the ability to provide the basics of emergency healthcare.

Anyone interested in the Emergency Healthcare profession can get more information at [www.surry.edu/ems](http://www.surry.edu/ems). SCC's next EMT course is scheduled to begin May 2024, at The Yadkin Center, 1001 College Drive, Yadkinville. Additional courses will begin in July 2024, at the Center for Public Safety, 1220 State Street, Mount Airy. Visit [www.bit.ly/SCC-EMT](http://www.bit.ly/SCC-EMT) to preregister. For questions, contact Kenneth Vaught, SCC EMT Program Coordinator, at (336) 386-3633 or [vaughtk@surry.edu](mailto:vaughtk@surry.edu). You may also follow the program page on Facebook @surryems.

## CPR Class to be offered at Yadkin Center

Surry Community College is offering a CPR certification class that will meet at The Yadkin Center, 1001 College Drive, Yadkinville, on Friday, January 26.

The class, which will be held in Room YA-116 from noon to 4 p.m., will certify students with Healthcare Provider-level

el CPR training. The cost of the class is \$74 and includes a CPR certification card.

For more information and to register, contact Doug Underwood at (336) 386-3584 or [underwoodd@surry.edu](mailto:underwoodd@surry.edu). Students who are part of a life-saving organization will be eligible for a tuition waiver.

**MOODY**   
*Funeral Services, Inc.*



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

202 West Blue Ridge Street, Stuart, VA  
Phone 276-694-3145  
[www.moodyfuneralservices.com](http://www.moodyfuneralservices.com)

Pete Campbell, Manager  
Terri S. Wood, Assistant Manager

**Norris**  
FUNERAL SERVICES, INC. AND CREMATORY

[www.norrisfuneral.com](http://www.norrisfuneral.com) 129 Howell Lane  
Stuart, VA  
276-694-2012

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



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

**OBITUARY SUBMISSION DEADLINE MONDAY AT NOON**

Thank You for reading the enterprise



# PATRICK PULPITS

## “Choose Life”

By Pastor Wayne Moore  
High Point Baptist Church, Stuart, VA

Genesis 9:1 (KJV) “And God blessed Noah and his sons, and said unto them, ‘Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth.’”

Following the flood, God reminded Noah that life is a blessing. God blessed Noah and gave him the same command as He did Adam (Genesis 1:28). Just as Adam stood at the head of creation before the flood, so Noah stood at the head of creation after the flood. The first thing God emphasized after the flood was the value of life.

God’s command to be fruitful and multiply is preceded by His blessing. The Bible makes it clear that children are a blessing from God. Psalm 127:3-5 puts it beautifully, “Lo, children are an heritage of the Lord: And the fruit of the womb is his reward. As arrows are in the hand of a mighty man; So are children of the youth. Happy is the man that hath his quiver full of them: They shall not be ashamed, But they shall speak with the enemies in the gate.” Jesus also affirmed His love for children in Mark 10:13-16, “And

they brought young children to him, that he should touch them: and his disciples rebuked those that brought them. But when Jesus saw it, he was much displeased, and said unto them, ‘Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God. Verily I say unto you, Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child, he shall not enter therein. And he took them up in his arms, put his hands upon them, and blessed them.’ As one of our contemporaries puts it, “Children are the universal evidence of the Lord’s creation ‘blessing,’ who are not to be disparaged nor exploited but celebrated by responsible parenting and societal protection.”[1]

God blesses children. If we want to be blessed by God, we will choose life. Let God’s Word have the final say. Deuteronomy 30:19 “I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live.”

[1] Mathews, K. A. (1996). Genesis 1-11:26 (Vol. 1A, p. 399). Broadman & Holman Publishers.

## Layoffs in Va. decrease in November

A decrease in layoffs were reported by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics’ November 2023 Job Openings and Labor Turnover Survey (JOLTS).

The Department of Workforce Development and Advancement (DWDA) said that according to the most recent BLS JOLTS survey data, the number of November 2023 layoffs in Virginia fell by seventeen percent over the month and by 4,000, or ten percent, over the year. BLS JOLTS data provides information on all the pieces that go into the net change in the number of jobs. These components include job openings, hires, layoffs, voluntary quits, and other job separations (which includes retirements and worker deaths). Putting those components together reveals the overall change in payroll employment. JOLTS data is seasonally adjusted and describes conditions on the last business day of the month. Current month’s data are preliminary and the previous month’s data have been revised.

On the last business day in November, there were 249,000 job openings in Virginia, seasonally adjusted, a 10,000 decrease from October’s 2023’s revised 259,000 job openings. Nationwide, the number of job openings changed little at 8.8 million; this measure is down from a series high of 12.0 million in March 2022. Over the month, job openings decreased in transportation, warehousing, and utilities (-128,000) and in federal government (-58,000). Job openings increased in wholesale trade (+63,000). The largest decreases in the job openings level occurred in Florida (-66,000), Georgia (-36,000), and Tennessee (-22,000). The larg-

est increases occurred in Texas (+67,000), Illinois (+65,000), and Colorado (+21,000).

In Virginia, the November job openings rate was 5.6%, down 0.3 points from October. The U.S. job openings rate was unchanged at 5.3 percent in November 2023. The U.S. rate was 2.1 percentage points lower than its peak of 7.4 percent in March 2022 and the lowest since the rate was 5.1 percent in February 2021. The largest decreases in job openings rates occurred in Mississippi (-1.3 percentage points), and in Florida, Georgia, and Tennessee (-0.6 point each). The increases occurred in Illinois (+1.0 point) and Colorado (+0.7 point).

The number of hires in Virginia edged down to 165,000 in November, a decrease of 2,000 over the month and by 1,000 from five years earlier in November 2018. JOLTS defines hires as all additions to the payroll during the month. The number of hires was over double the series low of 81,000 in April 2020. Nationwide in November, the number of hires decreased to 5.5 million (-363,000). The number of hires decreased in professional and business services (-163,000). The largest decreases in the hires level occurred in California (-117,000), Arizona (-21,000), and Oregon (-16,000). A large increase occurred in Alaska (+3,000). In Virginia, the hires rate was unchanged from October’s revised four percent rate. In November, the U.S. was little changed at 3.5 percent. The largest decreases in the hires rate occurred in Montana (-1.0 percentage point), as well as in Arizona and Oregon (-0.7 point each). The increase occurred in Alaska (+0.9 point).

## Town on budget midway through cycle

By Taylor Boyd

Town Manager Bryce Simmons presented the mid-fiscal year 2024 budget review to members of the Stuart Town Council

Simmons said the town is currently on budget.

“We have had \$1,250,771 in total revenues for six months, and we expensed \$980,167. So, we are currently \$45,604 to the good over six months. We’re tracking to be right on budget, we’re about 50 percent,” he said.

In other matters, the council:  
\*Approved the meeting minutes as amended.

\*Heard an update on public

works projects.

\*Discussed the recently obtained Community Development Block Grant (CBDG) for the Uptown Revitalization Project.

\*Discussed appointing a councilman to the STEP Board of Directors.

\*Formed a Budget Committee of members Terry Dalton and Rebecca Adcock, Weiland, and Simmons.

\*Formed a committee to create an amendment to the town’s meals tax ordinance, with members Jeff Houchins, Adcock and Corbett.

\*Paid the bills.

## BIBLE TRIVIA

BY WILSON CASEY

1. Is the book of Habakkuk (KJV) in the Old or New Testament or neither?

2. Joseph was buried in a plot of ground at Shechem costing how many pieces of silver? 1, 7, 30, 100

3. Which metal, used to sharpen other metals, does Proverbs 27 compare to friends? Gold, Silver, Iron, Tin

4. What is the middle chapter of the New Testament? Romans 13, Galatians 2, Ephesians 5, Titus 1

5. The book of Hebrews tells us to entertain strangers as they may be ...? Demons, Angels, Prophets, Reincarnations

6. From Ruth 1, who was Naomi’s husband? Elimelech, Mahlon, Chilion, Malachi

ANSWERS: 1) Old, 2) 100, 3) Iron, 4) Romans 13, 5) Angels, 6) Elimelech

Find expanded trivia online with Wilson Casey at [www.patreon.com/trivia-guy](http://www.patreon.com/trivia-guy). FREE TRIAL!

(c) 2024 King Features Synd., Inc.

**Skyline Pentecostal Holiness Church**  
1515 Rock Church Rd.  
Meadows of Dan, Virginia  
**Rev. Tommy Gosnell**  
**CHURCH SERVICES**  
Sunday School 10 am  
Worship Services 11 am

**FAIRWAY BAPTIST CHURCH**  
9427 Fairystone Park Hwy., Bassett  
Located 15 miles from Stuart - 276-629-6088  
**Sunday School 9:45 • Worship 10:50 am**  
**Sunday Night 6:00 pm**  
**Wed. Night - Adult Bible Study 7:00**  
**“Be the Change” Youth Night 6:30-8:00 pm**  
Our Mission: “Love God more, Love people more, and serve our community more with the gospel of Christ!”

**Patrick Springs Pentecostal Holiness**  
260 Spring Rd., Patrick Springs, VA - 276-694-6357  
Sunday Worship 10:45 am  
Sunday School for all ages 9:45 am  
Wednesdays  
Community Meal & Service 6:00 pm  
Food Distribution Ministry:  
Monday, Wednesday and Friday  
“To Ignite a Passion to Follow Jesus Christ”

**Stuart Baptist Church**  
Bringing the World to Christ  
108 W. Blue Ridge St. 9:45 Sunday School  
276-694-3440 11:00 Worship Service  
[www.stuartbaptist.org](http://www.stuartbaptist.org) [office@stuartbaptist.org](mailto:office@stuartbaptist.org)

**Risen Lord Catholic Church**  
59 Mountain View Loop  
Stuart  
(actually in Patrick Springs)  
276.236.7814  
Office Hours (Tue-Thu 8 am - 3 pm)  
**Mass Schedule**  
Sundays at 8:30 a.m.  
Reconciliation  
Sundays 7:45 - 8:15 a.m.



**Stuart Seventh-Day Adventist Church**  
220 Patrick Avenue, PO Box 1078, Stuart, VA 24171  
276-694-7677 • [www.stuartva.adventistchurch.org](http://www.stuartva.adventistchurch.org)  
**SATURDAY SERVICES:**  
Sabbath School - 9:20; Worship 11:00 a.m.  
Come visit our Bible-believing church

**Join the Church Page!**  
Call (276) 694-3101 Today

## Super Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 Grappler, backwoods-style
  - 8 Skylit courts
  - 13 Astronaut Wally
  - 20 “The Stranger Beside Me” true-crime writer
  - 21 Flowers in the iris family
  - 22 Some sweatshirts
  - 23 Swift warship for law enforcement?
  - 25 Finales
  - 26 Makes mother’s milk
  - 27 Comic Radner
  - 29 “How about that!”
  - 30 Lugosi of “The Raven”
  - 33 Hefty books
  - 34 Defectively built flat-bottomed boat?
  - 36 Pumpkin’s color
  - 38 Resident of Tehran
  - 40 Makes a choice
  - 41 Light, speedy boat transporting Oreos?
  - 45 Just barely
  - 48 Indian state known for silk
  - 49 United
  - 50 In a smoothly elegant way
  - 53 Neon, e.g.
  - 56 French mime master
  - 59 High-sterned ship orbiting Earth?
  - 61 “Brooklyn Nine-Nine” star Andy
  - 65 Central Canadian tribe members
  - 67 Upscale hotel quarters
  - 68 Small combo
  - 69 Discovering a sharp-bowed rowboat?
  - 74 Safe, at sea
  - 75 Do a tally of
  - 77 “Get what I’m sayin’, man?”
  - 78 Zealous
  - 80 Paint a passenger ship?
  - 83 Soapmaking solution
  - 86 Auditing org.
  - 87 Message on a tombstone
  - 89 Kabuki sash
  - 90 Enthusiasm
  - 95 Prison, in London
  - 96 Very fast ship decorated with shrubbery?
  - 99 Coll. reunion attendee
  - 102 Father
  - 103 Sarducci of old 3-Down
  - 104 Quick-witted
  - 105 Racing boat with lots of mollusks attached?
  - 109 Fill with joy
  - 113 Lyric verses
  - 114 Billiards stick
  - 115 They make up molecules
  - 116 Abstruse
  - 118 Reproductive organs
  - 120 Sub-sinking ship full of aquariums?
  - 125 Lay aside
  - 126 Bert’s pal
  - 127 Introductions
  - 128 In clothes
  - 129 Actors O’Neal and Reynolds
  - 130 Says “OK”
  - DOWN**
  - 1 Jay-Z’s music
  - 2 Year, in Portugal
  - 3 NBC skit show, in brief
  - 4 Indian Ocean island nation
  - 5 — Brasi (role in “The Godfather”)
  - 6 One voted in
  - 7 Book page opposite a verso
  - 8 Severe
  - 9 Samples something
  - 10 Singer Diana
  - 11 With
  - 12 BB shooter
  - 13 See 11-Down
  - 14 Magazine publisher
  - 15 Wannabe surfer
  - 16 Exiled Amin
  - 17 Key into a cash register
  - 18 Acting king
  - 19 Good traits
  - 24 He-sheep
  - 28 “— may be so bold ...”
  - 30 — Raton
  - 31 Lovers’ deity
  - 32 Neighbor of Thailand
  - 34 Clayey fertilizer
  - 35 Herd of seals
  - 37 “— a break!”
  - 39 Gave a new interior design to
  - 42 Welsh canine
  - 43 Mom’s bro
  - 44 Ball supporter
  - 45 Org. for cavity fillers
  - 46 Doc’s warm treatment
  - 47 “For” votes
  - 51 Like thrift store goods
  - 52 — facto
  - 53 Sly deception
  - 54 Prices to play
  - 55 Variety of trapshooting
  - 57 Spot’s noise
  - 58 Etching liquid
  - 60 Husband of Eva Perón
  - 61 Actress Keanan
  - 62 Enthusiasm
  - 63 Gold-fancying king
  - 64 Boxers’ event
  - 66 Waffle brand
  - 70 No, to Nikita
  - 71 Torres with 12 Olympic medals
  - 72 Antique item
  - 73 “Hooray!”
  - 76 “Guilty” or “not guilty”
  - 79 Onetime TV host Philbin
  - 81 Debut on Wall St.
  - 82 Zippo
  - 84 Woofing pet
  - 85 Actor Vigoda
  - 88 Olympic skier
  - 91 Meeting building regulations
  - 92 Tater
  - 93 Head, in Metz
  - 94 Mining strikes
  - 95 Big inits. in SUVs
  - 97 Certain deer leather
  - 98 Hamlet’s duel opponent
  - 99 Peace treaty
  - 100 Shutter piece
  - 101 Fidgetiness
  - 102 Valuable rock
  - 103 Long, loose outerwear
  - 106 Nitpickers split them
  - 107 Olympic skier
  - 108 Sprayed, with “down”
  - 110 Mining strikes
  - 111 Downed
  - 112 Electric car producer
  - 116 Sicilian resort city
  - 117 Investments for later yrs.
  - 119 Home: Abbr.
  - 121 Suffix with budget
  - 122 — and yang
  - 123 Doc for head colds
  - 124 Blog feed format inits.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19					
20							21						22										
23							24					25											
			26								27	28					29						
30	31	32			33						34						35						
36					37					38	39						40						
41							42	43	44				45	46	47								
48							49				50		51	52			53	54	55				
						56	57				58			59				60					
61	62	63	64							65	66						67						
68							69			70	71					72	73		74				
75							76									78	79						
80							81	82			83		84	85									
86							87				88			89			90	91	92	93	94		
							95					97					98						
99	100	101								102	103						104						
105							106	107	108											113			
114							115													117			
118							119														122	123	124
125																							
128																							



# CLASSIFIED

PUBLISHER'S NOTICE

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

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

**SERVICES**

**KENDRICK PAVING & TRUCKING, PAVING,** Sealing, Line Striping, Gravel Hauling and Mulch. Rodney Kendrick 276-629-3913 or 276-340-7786. Email at kendrickpaving@gmail.com Carrying on the tradition of quality.

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

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

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

**Morris Construction LLC** Home remodeling & repairs, carpentry, roofing, siding, painting, fencing, tree work & more! Contact Nick @ 276-259-4030 or 757-621-5219.

**FOR SALE**

**TWO (2) BURIAL PLOTS IN PATRICK MEMORIAL GARDEN.** LOCATION: LEFT CENTER MAIN SECTION. INCLUDES TWO \$1300 VAULTS, CURRENT MEMORIAL

**GARDENS SALE PRICE,** \$4400, MY PRICE NEGOTIABLE. MSG/CALL 276-693-0229

**WANTED**

Hood and/or hinge brackets for a 96/97 New Holland lawn tractor. 15hp, model LS35. Call 276-222-0219



**AUCTIONS**

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

**HOME IMPROVEMENT**

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

Replace your roof with the best looking and longest lasting material steel from Erie Metal Roofs! Three styles and multiple colors available. Guaranteed to last a lifetime! Limited Time Offer – up to 50% off installation + Additional 10% off install (for military, health workers & 1st responders.) Call Erie Metal Roofs: 1-844-902-4611

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

The bathroom of your dreams for as little as \$149/month! BCI Bath & Shower. Many options available. Quality materials & professional installation.

Senior & Military Discounts Available. Limited Time Offer - FREE virtual in-home consultation now and SAVE 15%! Call Today! 1-844-945-1631

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

**PETS**

Use the patented Flea-Beacon® to control fleas in the home without toxic chemicals or costly exterminators. Results overnight. Results overnight. At Northwest Ace Hardware & Southern States stores. (www.happyjackinc.com)

**SERVICES**

**DIVORCE**-Uncontested, \$475+\$86 court cost. **WILLS**-\$295.00. No court appearance. Estimated completion time twenty-one days. Hilton Oliver, Attorney (Facebook). 757-490-0126. Se Habla Espanol. BBB



Member. <https://hiltonoliver-attorneyva.com>.

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

FREE high speed internet for those that qualify. Government program for recipients of select programs incl. Medicaid, SNAP, Housing Assistance, WIC, Veterans Pension, Survivor Benefits, Lifeline, Tribal. 15 GB internet service. Bonus offer: Android tablet FREE with one-time \$20 copay. Free shipping & handling. Call Maxsip Telecom today! 1-855-970-1995

**DENTAL INSURANCE** from Physicians Mutual Insurance Company. Coverage for 350 plus procedures. Real dental



insurance - NOT just a discount plan. Do not wait! Call now! Get your FREE Dental Information Kit with all the details! 1-888-550-3083 [www.dental50plus.com/virginia](http://www.dental50plus.com/virginia) #6258

**WWW.THEENTERPRISE.NET**

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

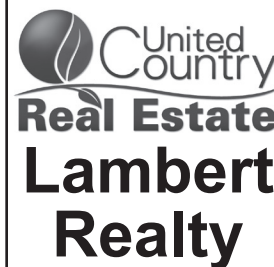
**Country Homes, Farms, Land, Mountain & Waterfront Property**

*Let Our Experience Work For You.*

Broker in Virginia and North Carolina

Call 276-694-2646 or email [jlambert@swva.net](mailto:jlambert@swva.net)

Check out our full listings at [www.uclambertrealty.com](http://www.uclambertrealty.com)



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



Johnny Lambert 276-952-5502 Donald Lewis 276-692-5442



Shane Vernon 276-229-6093 April Turman Webb 276-733-3575

**Pete And Cleve Foley Have Been Serving Patrick And Surrounding Counties For A Combined 58 Years.**



See us for all of your New & Used Transportation Needs.

**TRI-CITY FORD**

A Tradition of Excellence in Automotive Sales and Service  
912 South Van Buren Road, Eden, NC 27288  
336-623-2185

**When Family or Friends Need Care, Choose the Best**



- ◆ Home Health Care Services
- ◆ Nursing Services
- ◆ Social Work Services
- ◆ Physical, Occupational and Speech Therapy
- ◆ Disease Management Programs
- ◆ Caring Staff to Help with Recovery from an Illness or Injury



Liberty opens the door for patients to recover from injury, illness or accident, in the comfort of their home. Treatment at home supports improved results for patients, while creating peace of mind for caregivers. Our Staff, compassionate with their care, matched by experience and training, help patients and their caregivers with approaches that avoid a return to the hospital.



797 Woodland Drive, Suite 103  
Stuart, VA 24171

(276) 694-4424



**WE ARE HIRING WILDERNESS STUART INC.**

- OPEN POSITION :**
- Sawmill Machine Operator
  - Lumber Packers

LOOKING FOR GOOD DEPENDABLE WORKERS. PREVIOUS WORKERS NEED NOT APPLY. \$500 SIGN ON BONUS WITH STIPULATIONS.

APPLY IN PERSON AT: 14747 JEB STUART HWY STUART VA, 24171



# LEGAL

**VIRGINIA:**  
**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF PATRICK COUNTY**  
 COMMISSIONER OF HIGHWAYS, )  
 Petitioner, )  
 v. ) **ORDER OF PUBLICATION**  
 SAMUEL DAVID MARTIN, JR., MARY ) Project 0058-070-E18, R201  
 ELIZABETH MARTIN CLEMENT, ) UPC: 17536, Parcel 149  
 SANDRA M. MAHONY, ELLAMARIE M. ) Tax Map No. None Assigned  
 SMITH A/K/A ELLA MARIE M. SMITH, )  
 UNKNOWN OWNERS, as Their ) Case No. CL23000753-00  
 Interests May Appear and One parcel )  
 of land containing 1,560 square feet, )  
 more or less, land in fee, and all )  
 improvements and appurtenances )  
 thereon, )  
 Respondents. )

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:  
 Pursuant to an order entered on the 5th day of January, 2024, this notice is hereby given:

In this proceeding, the petitioner seeks to acquire by condemnation one parcel of land containing 1,560 square feet, more or less, land in fee, and all improvements and appurtenances thereon, from a parcel of land (Parcel 149) situated in Stuart, Virginia, for the uses and purposes of the petitioner for the construction, reconstruction, alteration, improvement, maintenance, and repair of Route 58, for a project known as State Highway Project No. 0058-070-E18, R-201, in Patrick County, Virginia, all of which uses and purposes are described more particularly in the petition and exhibits attached thereto on file in the office of the Clerk of this Court, to which petition and exhibits reference is hereby made for a full and accurate description thereof; and the petitioner further asks the Court to ascertain, or to appoint commissioners or to empanel a jury to ascertain, just compensation to the owners of any estate or interest in the property to be taken or affected as a result of the taking and use thereof by the petitioner.

For such purposes, the petitioner will apply to the Court, sitting at the Patrick County Courthouse, 101 W. Blue Ridge Street, Stuart, VA 24171, on the 25th day of April, 2024, at 1:00 p.m., or as soon thereafter as the petitioner may be heard, for the Court to ascertain, or to appoint commissioners or to empanel a jury to ascertain, and report just compensation as aforesaid.

And it appearing by affidavits filed according to law that all owners of Parcel 149 at the time the petitioner acquired the aforesaid property interests cannot be found, that all living heirs at law of any deceased owner cannot be found, and that due diligence has been used by and on behalf of the petitioner to locate all owners or all living heirs at law of any deceased owner of Parcel 149 without effect, the Court does hereby ORDER that:

1. Any owner of Parcel 149 shall appear within ten days after due publication of this order in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of Patrick County, Virginia, and do what is necessary to protect their interests; and

2. If any owner or heir at law of any deceased owner desires to assert any objection or defense to the taking or damaging of Parcel 149 or to the jurisdiction of the Court to hear the case and to proceed with a jury, commission, or bench trial, such person shall file an answer designating the property in which that person claims to be interested, stating the grounds of any objection or defense to the taking of the property or to the jurisdiction of the Court to hear the case, and asking the Court to proceed with a jury, commission, or bench trial for the determination of just compensation. Should any such person fail to file an answer as hereinabove provided, such failure shall not preclude the person from appearing on the date set for the jury, commission, or bench trial or from presenting evidence as to valuation and damage or from sharing in the award of just compensation according to that person's interest therein or otherwise protecting that person's rights, but such failure shall preclude such person from any other defense by way of pleas in bar, abatement, or otherwise.

An extract, Teste:

*[Signature]*  
 Clerk

Lori J. Bentley (VSB No. 40063)  
 Brian J. Brydges (VSB No. 43883)  
 Johnson, Ayers & Matthews, P.L.C.  
 310 First Street, S.W., Suite 700  
 Roanoke, VA 24011  
 P.O. Box 2200  
 Roanoke, VA 24009  
 Ph: (540) 767-2000  
 Fx: (540) 982-1552  
 lbentley@jamlaw.net  
 bbrydges@jamlaw.net  
 Counsel for Petitioner

# LEGAL

**VIRGINIA:**  
**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF PATRICK COUNTY**  
 COMMISSIONER OF HIGHWAYS, )  
 Petitioner, )  
 v. ) **ORDER OF PUBLICATION**  
 ELLAMARIE M. SMITH, ) Project 0058-070-E18, R201  
 A/K/A ELLA MARIE M. SMITH, ) UPC: 17536, Parcel 152  
 MICHAEL J. BELL, ) Tax Map No. None Assigned  
 BETTE G. BELL, )  
 UNKNOWN OWNERS, as Their ) Case No. CL23000745-00  
 interests May Appear )  
 and )  
 One parcel of land containing 3,091 )  
 square feet, more or less, land in fee, )  
 and all improvements and )  
 appurtenances thereon, )  
 Respondents. )

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:  
 Pursuant to an order entered on the 5th day of January, 2024, this notice is hereby given:

In this proceeding, the petitioner seeks to acquire by condemnation one parcel of land containing 3,091 square feet, more or less, land in fee, and all improvements and appurtenances thereon, from a parcel of land (Parcel 152) situated in Stuart, Virginia, for the uses and purposes of the petitioner for the construction, reconstruction, alteration, improvement, maintenance, and repair of Route 58, for a project known as State Highway Project No. 0058-070-E18, R-201, in Patrick County, Virginia, all of which uses and purposes are described more particularly in the petition and exhibits attached thereto on file in the office of the Clerk of this Court, to which petition and exhibits reference is hereby made for a full and accurate description thereof; and the petitioner further asks the Court to ascertain, or to appoint commissioners or to empanel a jury to ascertain, just compensation to the owners of any estate or interest in the property to be taken or affected as a result of the taking and use thereof by the petitioner.

For such purposes, the petitioner will apply to the Court, sitting at the Patrick County Courthouse, 101 W. Blue Ridge Street, Stuart, VA 24171, on the 25th day of April, 2024, at 1:00 p.m., or as soon thereafter as the petitioner may be heard, for the Court to ascertain, or to appoint commissioners or to empanel a jury to ascertain, and report just compensation as aforesaid.

And it appearing by affidavits filed according to law that all owners of Parcel 152 at the time the petitioner acquired the aforesaid property interests cannot be found, that all living heirs at law of any deceased owner cannot be found, and that due diligence has been used by and on behalf of the petitioner to locate all owners or all living heirs at law of any deceased owner of Parcel 152 without effect, the Court does hereby ORDER that:

1. Any owner of Parcel 152 shall appear within ten days after due publication of this order in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of Patrick County, Virginia, and do what is necessary to protect their interests; and

2. If any owner or heir at law of any deceased owner desires to assert any objection or defense to the taking or damaging of Parcel 152 or to the jurisdiction of the Court to hear the case and to proceed with a jury, commission, or bench trial, such person shall file an answer designating the property in which that person claims to be interested, stating the grounds of any objection or defense to the taking of the property or to the jurisdiction of the Court to hear the case, and asking the Court to proceed with a jury, commission, or bench trial for the determination of just compensation. Should any such person fail to file an answer as hereinabove provided, such failure shall not preclude the person from appearing on the date set for the jury, commission, or bench trial or from presenting evidence as to valuation and damage or from sharing in the award of just compensation according to that person's interest therein or otherwise protecting that person's rights, but such failure shall preclude such person from any other defense by way of pleas in bar, abatement, or otherwise.

An extract, Teste:

*[Signature]*  
 Clerk

Lori J. Bentley (VSB No. 40063)  
 Brian J. Brydges (VSB No. 43883)  
 Johnson, Ayers & Matthews, P.L.C.  
 310 First Street, S.W., Suite 700  
 Roanoke, VA 24011  
 P.O. Box 2200  
 Roanoke, VA 24009  
 Ph: (540) 767-2000  
 Fx: (540) 982-1552  
 lbentley@jamlaw.net  
 bbrydges@jamlaw.net  
 Counsel for Petitioner

# Local ag producers invited on 2-day trip

Join your local agriculture extension agent and fellow farmers on a two-day trip to Virginia State University.

The Patrick County Virginia Cooperative Extension Office is taking 10 producers to VSU to tour Randolph Farm, local farms, a brewery, a fertilizer manufacturing plant, museums and more. This tour is open to farmers, landowners, all agricultural producers and people interested in becoming producers.

Please join us on the two-day trip to Petersburg, VA to increase your knowledge of agriculture and networking with other producers and extension specialists. Hurry and sign up today.

Space is limited to 10 people. The registration fee is \$40, and that covers all meals for this trip. Transportation will also be provided from the Patrick County Extension Office to Petersburg, VA. You are responsible for the cost of lodging, but a block of rooms has been reserved for your convenience. Instructions for reserving your room will be provided upon registration. To register or for any questions, please call the local office at (276) 694-3341 or email at cmt26@vt.edu.

## SUBSCRIBE

to gain unlimited digital access to  
*The Enterprise*



Only \$2.50 a month!

PLUS 14 local papers in your region!

www.theenterprise.net

# LEGAL

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION SPECIAL COMMISSIONER'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE COUNTY OF PATRICK, VIRGINIA

Pursuant to the terms of those certain Decrees of Sale entered in the Circuit Court of County of Patrick, the undersigned Special Commissioner will offer for sale at an online only public auction the following described real estate beginning on **February 7, 2024** and ending **February 14, 2024**.

The sale of such property is subject to the terms and conditions below, and any term or conditions which may be subsequently posted or announced by Rogers Realty ("Auctioneer") and Taxing Authority Consulting Services, PC ("TACS"). Subsequent announcements made on the day of the auction take precedence over any prior written or verbal terms of sale.

Property Owner(s)	Tax Map No.	TACS No.	Property Description
1 Tommy Pauley, et. al.	4911-08(-)12-	725783	Providence Drive
2 James F. Nolen, et. al.	4910(-)-138-	445851	Big A. School Rd.
3 Charles E. Stegall, et. al.	5210(-)-12-K	747776	Log Cabin Lot #14
4 Edgar Ray Young, Jr.	4010(-)-69-	342748	Spring Branch Rd.
5 Shannon Williams, et. al.	4110(-)-117-A	445867	Ararat Hwy
6 Karson William Foley	5217(-)-44- and 5217(-)-45-	806426	Yeaman Sub Lt 38 and Lt 37 Fayerdale Dr.
7 Karson William Foley	5217(-)-46- and 5217(-)-47-	806426	Yeaman Sub Lt 36 and Lt 35 Fayerdale Dr.
8 Karson William Foley	5217(-)-72- and 5217(-)-75-	806426	Yeaman Sub Lots 7-10 Fayerdale Dr.

**GENERAL TERMS OF SALE:** All sales are subject to confirmation by the Circuit court. The Special Commissioner has the right to reject any bids determined to be unreasonable in relation to the estimated value of the Property. Any unsold property will be offered for sale again at the next auction, whenever that may be.

All interested parties must register and be approved by the Auctioneer. Registration and bidding are free of charge and are done through the Auctioneer's website <https://www.rogersauctiongroup.com/>. If any interested bidders are unable to attend for in-person bidding and wish to bid on property, but do not have access to the internet, please contact Rogers Realty, at (336) 789-2926 for assistance.

Properties are conveyed by Special Warranty Deed, subject to any easements, covenants, agreements, restrictions, reservations, and any and all rights of record which may affect the property. Properties are offered for sale as-is, where-is, and if-is, with all faults and without any warranty, either expressed or implied. Persons are encouraged to make a visual inspection of the property within the limits of the law and to obtain an independent title search, at their own expense, prior to bidding on any of the properties to determine the suitability of the property for their purposes. It is not guaranteed that the property has a right-of-way or that it is not landlocked. Property is sold in gross and not by the acre. There is no warranty as to the accuracy of any information contained in the GIS system, nor is the information contained therein a legal representation of any of the features of the property which it depicts.

**The sale of property to the highest bidder is not contingent upon obtaining financing.** Financing, if needed, is the sole responsibility of the high bidder. By bidding, parties are entering into a legally binding contracts waive all rescission rights, and understand that their bid is immediately binding, irrevocable, and enforceable. Additionally, by bidding, parties are representing that they have read, and agree to be bound by, all terms and conditions for this sale. Failure to complete the property purchase will result in forfeiture of any funds paid and may subject the highest bidder to additional damages, which may include expenses and any deficit upon resale.

**PAYMENT TERMS:** On the day of the auction, the highest bidder shall make a deposit in the amount of twenty-five percent (25%) or One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00), whichever is higher, **along with a 10% buyer's premium, subject to a minimum of \$150, added to the final bid.** Bids which are less than One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) shall be paid in full at the time of the auction. Deposits shall not exceed Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000) per parcel. Such sum shall be held by the Special Commissioner and credited towards the purchase price following confirmation of the sale. Subsequent taxes will be prorated from the auction date, and the highest bidder will be responsible for taxes from that date forward.

The balance of the purchase price and recording costs for deed recordation shall be deposited by the highest bidder with the Special Commissioner within fifteen (15) days of confirmation of the sale by the Court. The highest bidder will receive their purchase contract and balance due via email following the close of the auction. The contract shall immediately be executed and returned to TACS. **The deposit and buyer's premium must be received in full within seven (7) days following the auction closing (no later than February 21, 2024).** All payments must be made in the form of certified funds, cashier's check, money order or wire transfer. Cash and personal checks **will not** be accepted. Checks and money orders shall be made payable to County of Patrick and forwarded to TACS, at the address shown below. Wire transfer instructions will be provided to the highest bidder upon request.

**GENERAL TERMS:** To qualify as a purchaser at this auction, you may not owe delinquent taxes to County of Patrick and you may not be a Defendant in any pending delinquent tax matter. Questions concerning the registration and bidding process should be directed to the Auctioneer online at <https://www.rogersauctiongroup.com/>, by email to [keithgunter@rogersrealty.com](mailto:keithgunter@rogersrealty.com) or by phone to Keith Gunter, at (336) 789-2926. Questions concerning the property subject to sale should be directed to TACS online at [www.taxva.com](http://www.taxva.com), by email to [taxsales@taxva.com](mailto:taxsales@taxva.com), by phone to 804-548-4429, or by writing to the address below.

Taxing Authority Consulting Services, PC  
 Attn: Tax Sales  
 P.O. Box 31800  
 Henrico, Virginia 23294-1800

# LEGAL

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

### ON A PROPOSED SALE OF LAND IN THE TOWN OF STUART

The Council of the Town of Stuart will hold a public hearing at its regular monthly meeting on Wednesday, February 21, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. in Council chambers in the Stuart Town Office at 100 Patrick Avenue, Stuart, Virginia.

The purpose of the public hearing will be to receive comment from members of the public regarding a proposal to sell a tract of land owned by the Town of Stuart. The tract consists of 5.794 acres by survey, situated on Commerce Street, and bears Patrick County PIN 4811-14-4A. The proposed sale price is \$10,000 per acre.

The Mayor or Council may limit the time allotted to each speaker at the meeting.

Christopher A. Corbett, Town Attorney  
 108 North Main Street  
 P.O. Box 1270  
 Stuart, Virginia 24171  
 Telephone: (276) 694-7145  
 Facsimile: (276) 694-2320  
 cacorbett@cacorbettlaw.com

# LEGAL

## ORDER OF PUBLICATION

Case No. CL24000022-00

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA  
 VA. CODE §§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316, -317, 20-104  
 PATRICK COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT  
 101 WEST BLUE RIDGE STREET/PO BOX 148, STUART, VA 24171  
 DALTON BRADLEY BUTLER v. DALTON BRADLEY VANNOY

The object of this suit is to:  
 CHANGE THE NAME OF MINOR CHILD  
 It is ORDERED that WILLIAM BUTLER (FATHER)  
 appear at the above-named court and protect her interests on or before  
 FEBRUARY 20, 2024  
 JANUARY 17, 2024

*[Signature]*  
 JUDGE IN CLERK

# LEGAL

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

### ON A PROPOSED NOISE ORDINANCE FOR THE TOWN OF STUART

The Council of the Town of Stuart will hold a public hearing at its regular monthly meeting on Wednesday, February 21, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. in Council chambers in the Stuart Town Office at 100 Patrick Avenue, Stuart, Virginia.

The purpose of the public hearing will be to receive comment from members of the public regarding a proposal to enact an Ordinance to restrict, regulate, and/or prohibit certain noise within the Town limits. In summary, the purposes of the proposed Ordinance are to reduce, and to eliminate where possible, excessive noise and related adverse conditions in the community, and to prohibit unnecessary, excessive, harmful and/or annoying noises from all sources subject to the Town's police powers.

The full text of the proposed Town of Stuart Noise Ordinance is available for inspection in the Town Office during regular business hours.

The Mayor or Council may limit the time allotted to each speaker at the meeting.

Christopher A. Corbett, Town Attorney  
 108 North Main Street  
 P.O. Box 1270  
 Stuart, Virginia 24171  
 Telephone: (276) 694-7145  
 Facsimile: (276) 694-2320  
 cacorbett@cacorbettlaw.com

VISIT US ONLINE

WWW.THEENTERPRISE.NET

THANK YOU FOR READING  
**THE ENTERPRISE**



**Meetings**

**Monday, Feb. 12**  
The Patrick County Board of Supervisors will meet at 6 p.m. in the third-floor court room of the Patrick County Administration Building.

**Tuesday, Feb. 13**  
The Economic Development Authority of Patrick County will have a Special Meeting at 7 p.m. in the Second Floor Conference Room of the Patrick County Administration Building.

**Events**

**Friday, Jan. 26**  
Wayside Community Church will hold a Friday Night Music and Fellowship starting at 6:30 p.m. The music will be by Eric Sheppard with Pastor Teddy Hiatt delivering encouraging messages. A potluck supper will be served after the service. The church is located at 3520 Wayside Road, Stuart.

**Tuesday, Jan. 30**  
Patrick & Henry Community College (P&H-CC) will hold an Introduction to Cyber Security entrepreneurial workshop from 12-1 p.m. at the Daton IDEA Center. The cost is \$15. Pre-registration is required by going to ph.augusoft.net, or calling (276) 656-5461.

**Friday, Feb. 2**  
The Community Food Pantry will be at the Smith River Rescue Squad from 3-4:30 p.m.

**Tuesday, Feb. 6**  
The Church of the Living Water will hold a community coffee starting at 10 a.m. The guest speaker will be Brooke Hall, of the Alzheimer's Association, discussing healthy living for the body and brain.

**Thursday, Feb. 8**  
The Office of Tourism and the Meadows of Dan Community invite all merchants and interested

citizens to a meeting at 5:30 pm in the Meadows of Dan Community Building. The conference aims to discuss the Mabry Mill Restaurant, concerns surrounding the mill, and signage along Highway 58. A representative from the Blue Ridge Parkway and the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) will also be in attendance. Please come out and explore ways to work together to enrich MOD and the Parkway.

**Saturday, Feb. 10**  
The Patrick Springs Ruritan Club will hold a Poor Man's Supper at the Patrick Springs Park building from 4-7 p.m. The cost of the meal is \$8, and it includes pinto beans, potatoes, corn bread, dessert, and drink. Funds raised will be used for community service projects.

**Saturday, Feb. 10-Sunday, Feb. 11**  
Providence Super Sub Weekend. The Providence United Methodist Women will sponsor the Super Sub Weekend with subs or salads offered for \$10 each. They will have 3 meats, 3 cheeses, tomatoes, pickles and chips (crackers with salad). Call Doris (276) 694-6203, (276) 692-6046, or Cathy at (276) 692-7194 by Tuesday, Feb. 6 to place an order. Drive thru pickup available on Saturday, 4-6 p.m., or Sunday, 12:30-3:30 p.m.

**Wednesday, Feb. 14**  
The Patrick County Food Bank will hold distribution at the Stuart site from 8:30-11 a.m. and from 5-6:30 p.m., at Ararat starting at 8:30 a.m., and at Meadows of Dan starting at 5:30 p.m.

**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 Alzheimer's Group LLC meets at 7 p.m. the first Monday of every month at the Alzheimer's office at 109 Buena Vista Ave in Stuart. New members or volunteers are welcome to join in assisting with the needs of the clients. For more information, call (276) 693-6018.

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 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.

Messianic Bible Study, Fridays from 6-7:30 p.m. at The Honey Pot, 106 N. Main St., Stuart (across from The Coffee Break). Call (276) 694-2356 for more information.

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

The Patrick County Recreation Department will offer a Tai Chi Flow class for seniors on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3-4 p.m. in the Hooker Building at Rotary Field in Stuart. No experience needed, just wear comfortable clothing and sneakers. There is no registration for the program. Call the Park Office at (276) 694-3917 for more information.

**Revenues in line with forecast halfway through fiscal year**

General fund revenues for December 2023 remain in line with updated revisions to the official revenue forecast, Gov. Glenn Youngkin announced last week. Total general fund revenues grew by 0.2 percent for the month versus the same period last year and are up 7.1 percent year-to-date. "Through the first half of the fiscal year, our forecast continues to correctly reflect the economic risks and uncertainty on the horizon," said Youngkin. "As we laid out in our Unleashing Opportunity budget, lowering the cost of living for all Virginians and empowering an economic environment for our companies to compete and win to drive job growth across the Commonwealth remains a top priority." "Revenue collections are slightly ahead of plan through the first half of the fiscal year," said Secretary of Finance Stephen Cummings. "December fiscal year-to-date, general fund revenues are ahead of the revised forecast by \$363 million, but given broad economic risks and

uncertainty around refunds and nonwithholding collections, a cautious outlook is warranted." Among the major revenue sources, payroll withholding taxes were 3.8 percent higher for the month on an unadjusted basis, compared to last year, and up 2.1 percent year-to-date through December. Sales tax collections are 1.3 percent lower year-to-date, and corporate income tax revenues are up 14.8 percent year-to-date versus last year. In comparison to the revenue forecast assumed in the Governor's amendments to the Fiscal Year 2024 budget and accounting for monthly variations in tax collections, year-to-date total general fund revenues are ahead of projections by \$363.2 million. Excluding nonwithholding and refunds, which continue to be distorted due to the recently enacted Pass-Through Entity Tax, collections are ahead of the forecast by \$85.8 million.

**New area code comes to Virginia's 804 region**

Virginia's 804 area code region will soon have an additional area code - 686. Customers requesting new service or additional phone lines in the 804 area code region could be assigned the new 686 area code as soon as February 1, 2024, but not until all available phone numbers in the 804 area code have run out. That is expected to happen during the third quarter of 2024. In November 2022, the State Corporation Commission (SCC) approved the implementation of the new 686 area code to be superimposed over the same geographic region covered by the existing 804 area code. This area includes the central portion of Virginia including Richmond, Ashland, Charles City, Chesterfield, Henrico, New Kent and Petersburg, as well as the Northern Neck. The new 686 area code addresses the exhaustion of phone numbers in the 804 area code caused by increasing demand for phone lines. The relief provided by the new 686 area code is expected to last approximately 32 years. Existing customers will keep their 804 area code and seven-digit telephone number. Customers in the 804 area code already transitioned to mandatory 10-digit dialing (three-digit area code plus seven-digit phone num-

ber) for local calls in July 2022 as a result of the national implementation of 988, the three-digit abbreviated dialing code for the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline. Ten-digit dialing for local calls will also be required for customers in the new 686 area code. Thus, customers in the 804 and 686 area codes will dial 10 digits for local calls within and between the overlay area codes, and 1+10 digits for long distance calls. Under the 804/686 area code overlay, what is a local call now will remain a local call. In addition, the price of a call, coverage area or other rates and services will not change due to the 686 area code overlay. Customers can still dial just three digits to reach 911 and 988, as well as 211, 311, 411, 511, 611, 711, and 811. The SCC encourages consumers in the 804 area code region to ensure that all services, automatic dialing equipment or other types of equipment recognize the new 686 area code as a valid area code and continue to store or program telephone numbers as 10-digit numbers. For more information, please contact your local telephone service provider or visit the SCC website at [scc.virginia.gov/pages/Area-Code-Overlays](http://scc.virginia.gov/pages/Area-Code-Overlays).



**Weekly SUDOKU**

by Linda Thistle

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

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!

© 2024 King Features Synd., Inc.

**WHEO**  
**92.7 FM**  
**Classic Hits**  
[wheoradio.com](http://wheoradio.com)  
"Small Town Station with a BIG Town Sound"



# Rule changes may make college more expensive for farm families, small business owners

In an industry that already contends with slim margins, volatile commodity prices and high input costs, the thought of losing out on a child's college financial aid is a bitter pill to swallow.

That could be the reality for many farm families as a result of the FAFSA Simplification Act, which goes into effect for the 2024-2025 school year. Included in an omnibus bill passed in late 2023, the act's goal is to shorten the Free Application for Federal Student Aid form, making it easier for students to qualify for college financial aid.

But in doing so, a longtime exemption was removed—one that many farm families and small business owners relied on to help fund their children's higher education.

“Previously, there was an exemption in place for families who owned farms or small businesses, so that there was no asset test when those

kids were applying for financial aid,” explained Dustin Sherer, government affairs director for the American Farm Bureau Federation. “But that changed with the FAFSA Simplification Act, which got rid of the exemption.”

Now families with an adjusted gross income of over \$60,000 will be subject to the asset test, making it more expensive for farm families and small business owners to send their children to college.

Under the old rules, Sherer said, if a family owns a farm valued around \$1 million, they would have been expected to pay about \$7,600 toward a child's education.

“Under the new rules, that same family would be responsible for more than \$41,000, which essentially would take you out of the Pell Grant and federal and state aid programs and force most people to take out student loans,” he explained.

Trying to reinstate the exemption, members of Congress introduced The Family Farm and Small Business Exemption Act in both the House

and Senate.

“Virginia Farm Bureau supports this bipartisan legislation that would ensure that students coming from family farms or small businesses would not be unfairly penalized in the FAFSA process,” said Ben Rowe, VFBB director of national affairs. “For 30 years, the FAFSA procedure recognized that family farmers and small business owners pour their livelihoods into building up their businesses but often live with limited financial resources. Restoring this 30-year-old standard is about fairness and supporting families who continue the entrepreneurial spirit of our country.”

Not qualifying for financial aid is another barrier that could impede college access for rural families—a population that already experiences low rates of higher education. According to the Lumina Foundation, while rural students graduate from high school at rates higher than the national average, they're less likely to attend college than their suburban and urban peers.

Families concerned about the FAFSA changes can contact their legislators and encourage them to support The Family Farm and Small Business Exemption Act.



U.S. Sen. Mark R. Warner is pictured during a December press conference at Virginia Tech. Goc. Glenn Youngkin is shown in the background.

## Warner among those pushing to curb fentanyl influx at border

U.S. Sen. Mark R. Warner last week joined others in introducing the Stop Fentanyl at the Border Act. The proposal would increase staffing capacity and technology to bolster security and detect illicit drugs and other contraband being smuggled through ports of entry along the border.

“Families and communities across the Commonwealth have been devastated by the spread of fentanyl,” said Warner, D-Alexandria. “This legislation will help our law enforcement officers at the border stop the flow of fentanyl into this country by providing personnel and equipment needed secure our border.”

The Stop Fentanyl at the Border Act would enable U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to hire more Officers and Border Patrol Agents to increase capacity to stop illicit smuggling over the border. The bill also provides funding to purchase Non-Intrusive Inspection systems, which scan vehicles

and cargo at the border to provide detailed images of their interiors, which leads to the detection of fentanyl and other illicit drugs. Additionally, the bill would create an inspection program to increase seizure of firearms being exported from the United States to Mexico, which criminal organizations frequently purchase in the United States and smuggle into Mexico to support their fentanyl production operations and other violent criminal enterprises.

This legislation comes following the senators' call to President Biden to prioritize additional resources to strengthen security at the Southwest border in order to stop the flow of illicit drugs like fentanyl through ports of entry. Warner has led numerous efforts to curb fentanyl trafficking, and last week participated in a Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs Committee hearing on the topic.

**Max Kendall Lumber & Tin**  
**Price Reduced**  
**Metal Roofing**  
 Now Made In **Axton, Va.**  
**276-650-2825**  
 Free call 1-888-434-2825  
**Lynchburg, Va.**  
**434-821-3251**  
 Free Call 1-833-593-3251  
**Reidsville, NC**  
**336-348-1600**  
 Free call 1-833-205-1600

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

**Buy Direct and Save!**

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

**WE FINANCE METAL ROOFS ON YOUR HOME**

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

maxkendalllumber.com  
 8261 Mountain Valley Rd

### THE ENTERPRISE

Established in 1876  
 P.O. Box 348 - Stuart, Va.  
 24171-0348  
 Phone (276) 694-3101

www.theenterprise.net

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

Publisher Michael Showell  
 Editor Debbie Hall

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

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

### JAMIE'S RECYCLING CENTER

BUYING: Cans, #1 Copper, #2 Copper, Brass, Metal, Different types of Aluminum, Vehicles, Stainless Steel, etc.

Call for prices.



Roll off container & pick up service available.  
 Call for details.

**(276) 694-5692**

or 276-694-5697  
 Hours: Mon-Fri 8 am-5 pm,  
 closed 12-1 pm for lunch  
 3609 South Mayo Dr., Stuart

God Bless You

## Utility Bill Scams

Winter is upon us and with temperatures plummeting in many areas, keeping the heat on is critical — a fact that fraud criminals try to take advantage of. Each winter, utility scams spike as scammers claiming to be from the utility company say you haven't been paying your bill and they threaten to cut off service if you don't make an immediate payment. The goal of these crooks is to create a sense of panic — when we react first with emotion, it's hard to access logical thinking, and the criminals are adept with using this tactic. Their hope is that we stay in that state of pan-

ic long enough to complete a payment.

If you get a surprise call from the “utility company” threatening to shut off your service, hang up the phone. Contact your provider using the customer service number on a recent bill (or log into their website or app if that's an option). Chances are high you will find out your payments are up to date.

Report scams to local law enforcement. For help from AARP, call 1-877-908-3360 or visit the AARP Fraud Watch Network at [www.aarp.org/fraudwatchnetwork](http://www.aarp.org/fraudwatchnetwork).



### “We Feed What We Sell”

Economically priced and more feed value for your money.

#### AVAILABLE IN BAG OR BULK

- Horse Feed
- Chicken Feed
- Beef Grower Feeds
- Corn Gluten Pellets
- Sheep & Goat Feed
- Hay Stretcher
- Calf Feed
- Soyhull Pellets

**Whole Beef Hamburger \$5.75/lb.**  
 HAMBURGER PATTIES \$6.00 LB.

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

**Performance Livestock & Feed Company**  
 Call for prices today!  
**888-777-5912**  
 Mark Pendleton Jason Pendleton

### Super Crossword

#### Answers

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

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

**WE TAKE YOUR RELATIONSHIPS SERIOUSLY! DO YOU!**

**ASHBROOK AUDIOLOGY**  
 WHERE RELATIONSHIPS MATTER



Cynthia M. Jones, AA, AS

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

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

1-877-610-HEAR (4327)



# Accepting applications for Youth Conservation Corps Crew Leaders

Virginia State Parks is currently recruiting Crew Leaders for the Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) program for 2024. Crew Leaders will mentor youth by helping them complete trail maintenance, basic construction and beautification of the parks.

YCC Crew Leaders work directly with park staff and live alongside their crew of 10 high school youth between the ages of 14-17.

“Although the work can be challenging, participants will have the opportunity to gain field experience and build their leadership skills,” said Youth Engagement Coordinator Scarlett Stevens. “Crew Leaders will have opportunities for career development training from shadowing a park employee to receiving certification in Red Cross First Aid CPR/AED, Basic Trail Building Training and Mental Health First Aid.”

Room and board are provided. Crew Leader stipend for the employment period is \$6,500 that is divided into three, biweekly pay-



Crew Leader working with crew members on park project.

ments.

The dates of employment are June 5 - July 27, which includes a week of training. The program consists of two 2-week sessions with crews and days for park orientation, crew preparation and clean up.

Crew Leaders will have selected days off between sessions as well as



Crew leaders and members pose by park sign.

spending time at a park in between sessions engaging in professional development opportunities.

Eligible applicants must be 18 years of age, hold a valid driver's license and have previous leadership

experience with youth or peers. Applications are accepted on a rolling basis beginning in January until positions are filled.

Visit <https://www.dcr.virginia.gov/state-parks/jobs> to apply.

## Winter Landscaping Tips for Bringing Color to Your Yard

**Part One**  
By Sherry Easterbrooks  
Patrick County Master Gardener

I love to garden which is probably why during the winter months I stare fondly at my garden all the while thinking about spring and contemplating the changes I may make once warm weather arrives again. I imagine additions such as new perennial plants, a grouping of colorful annuals, or possibly a different shrub to replace one that has overgrown its location. But to be honest there is another reason why I stare repeatedly at my garden this time of year. I'm not totally happy with how my garden looks in February. I remember the abundance of colors and textures during the other seasons and in comparison, I now see the predominate colors of brown, tan, and gray. Dull. Drab. I tell myself that in spite of shorter, darker days my winter landscape does not need to be so dull. Next year at this time I could be looking at a more colorful and interesting garden like the ones

that inspire me in the gardening magazines. There is hope. I just need to revise my plan.

January/February are both excellent months to analyze your home landscape. You will want to be on the lookout for opportunities to make corrections, bring in a structural interest such as a trellis or arbor or a new shrub that adds the right touch to a neglected area of the yard. Simply put, look at your yard's landscape to see what looks good to you and what does not. For me my focus is to bring more color and texture into my winter garden. As I walk around my yard and garden, I ask myself, what does my garden need? If more color is my goal, which plants should I choose? I get ideas from gardening magazines and begin to consider different plant combinations that could complement my garden's existing palette or make my containers more eye-catching/appealing to look at in the winter. I like to create a winter-color wish list with the names of different plants I may want to try.

Before making any final decisions, I grab a pad of paper, a pen, a measuring tape (or several) and head out into my garden. I will start gathering information which I will need to complete an analysis of my site. If this is nothing you have ever done before I'm going to assure you it is a fun and interesting activity. It brings you into a close and personal relationship with your landscape in a way you may never have experienced before. Done thoroughly, you will come away with a better understanding of what you have in your yard/garden, the relationship between structures, and objects that enhance the landscape or ones that need to be removed or disguised.

Step 1: Get yourself some graph paper. Take measurements of your property or use a site survey if available. Note size/location of existing structures (you intend to keep) such as garage, fencing, workshop, greenhouse, storage shed etc. Note dimensions of house, placement of doors, windows, and access points to your house such as walkways/paths etc. Note the height of windows from the ground as you don't want to place plants that will block your view. Important to remember is to note the

location of utilities including electrical wires, phone lines, water, and sewer lines. You want to avoid placing trees/shrubs or structures on top of or underneath any of these.

Step 2: Create a site inventory. Make notes about your yard and surrounding areas. Look at conditions unique to your yard including special features or troublesome flaws. Are there views you want to highlight or disguise? Note the direction of prevailing winds, and orientation of house to the sun's path. Does your house face east receiving hours of early morning sun, or does it face more west where the intense afternoon sun creates challenges for the garden and gardener. Note microclimates of shady or sunny areas, areas protected from prevailing winds. Are there plants you might like to add, which will thrive in these spots? Be sure to add them to your wish-list. Note also, the number of hours of sunlight and shade in different areas of your yard. Full sun is equivalent to 6+ hours of direct sunlight per day. Full shade receives less than 3 hours of direct sunlight per day.

Step 3: Identify your must haves. Do you need a covered area as protection from the late afternoon sun? Is there a need for additional plant varieties to bring winter interest to your yard? Are you interested in attracting wildlife to your yard? Do some research to identify colorful varieties of plants that not only add color but will provide food and shelter for birds, small mammals, and beneficial insects/pollinators. Write down your ideas.

If your yard has few deciduous trees or shrubs, why not consider adding a few different varieties which have interesting and distinctive barks. Be sure to include plants with colorful berries to your wish list. You will benefit both the wildlife and bring pops of vibrant color to your winter garden. If your landscape lacks a focal point consider adding a structure such as an arbor, trellis, bench, or sculpture.

When creating your winter garden wish-list don't forget to consider four season perennials such as ornamental grasses, hardy plants that retain color all winter or those that bloom exclusively during the colder months.

(See Winter Landscape p. 15)

Tired of driving to the landfill?



We'll pick it up at your curb!

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



**WE ARE NOW OFFERING ROLL-OFF CONTAINERS.**

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

**RURAL SERVICES**

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

**HUGE SELECTION OF LIFT CHAIRS**



Small, Medium and Large size chairs available

Starting at Only **\$795**

**Riverside Furniture**  
1580 Greensboro Road  
Martinsville VA  
**276-632-1286**  
Monday - Friday 9am - 5pm • Saturday 9am - 2pm



**LIVESTOCK AUCTIONS EVERY SATURDAY AT 1 P.M.**

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

For directions to our facility, weekly updates of upcoming events and current sale prices, please visit our website:  
[www.springlakeauctions.com](http://www.springlakeauctions.com).

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

*We appreciate your business!*

1069 SICKLE COURT, MONETA, VA 24121

**Leaf Filter** CLOG-FREE GUTTERS FOREVER  
GUTTER PROTECTION



EXCLUSIVE LIMITED TIME OFFER!

**15% OFF + 10% OFF + 0%**  
YOUR ENTIRE PURCHASE SENIORS & MILITARY! APR FOR 24 MONTHS\*\*



Promo Code: 285

FREE GUTTER ALIGNMENT + FREE GUTTER CLEANING\*

CALL US TODAY FOR A FREE ESTIMATE **1-877-614-6667**

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

\*\*Wells Fargo Home Projects credit card is issued by Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., an Equal Housing Lender. Special terms for 24 mo. apply to qualifying purchases of \$1,000 or more with approved credit. Minimum monthly payments will not pay off balance before end of promotional period. APR for new purchases is 28.99% Effective: 01/01/2023 - subject to change. Call 1-800-431-5521 for complete details. The leading consumer reporting agency conducted a 16 month outdoor test of gutter guards in 2010 and recognized LeafFilter as the "#1 rated professionally installed gutter guard system in America." For those who qualify, One coupon per household. No original estimate valid for 1 year. Offer valid at time of estimate only. See Representative for full warranty details. Manufactured in Taiwan, Michigan and processed at LHM/Mercer Group in Ohio, AR #036602022, CA #1025795, CT #HIC064905, FL #HIC05678, IA #C127230, ID #HIC51604, LA #259544, MA #17647, MD #HIC48323, MI #210222986, #262000403, #210212946, MN #H231804, MT #261192, ND #7384, NE #F0145-22, NY #F04092920, WI #480652, WI #0080899, WI #410114, WI #22222, OR #210204, PA #H261053, RI #HIC41354, TN #7056, UT #10703038-0301, VA #270516945, WA #LEAFVW2202, WI #H056912.







# Above It All



Tammy Franklin captured this shot recently and submitted it to share. She titled the photo "Above It All."

## Virginia Cattlemen's Association launches one-stop-shop app for cattle farmers

VA Cattle, a new app launched by the Virginia Cattlemen's Association, offers the state's cattle farmers a ready source of valuable industry information.

Developed with grant funding from the Virginia Cattle Industry Board, the app was created to streamline the dissemination of helpful industry updates and resources to cattle producers.

"We're excited to be one of the only cattlemen associations to have something like this for our producers," remarked Brandon Reeves, VCA executive director.

"We wanted to create something that would help promote Virginia cattle, and also give our producers access to the information they need to best manage their herds."

The easy-to-navigate app features quick ac-

cess to "basically any report that is relevant to cattle producers." Under the "Market Report" tab, users can access cattle market reports from the U.S. Department of Agriculture and Virginia markets.

App users also can access CME Group Inc. quotes for feeder and live cattle, and futures for different agricultural commodities. Additionally, VCA is working to incorporate a Livestock Risk Protection quoter to assist farmers in protecting prices of cattle sales.

Other app features include a calendar with upcoming cattle sales and industry events; weather forecasts catered to the user's location; links to industry resources; and news stories relevant to cattle producers and their operations.

Feedback from users has been "very positive" in the app's early stages, Reeves said. Next to

making improvements and potentially introducing new features to the app, he hopes to generate engagement from users across the U.S.

"We hope that by promoting the app nationwide, we're able to promote Virginia cattle and the really great genetics and producers that we have here in the state," he explained.

VA Cattle is free to download in Apple and Google Play stores. New users will be prompted to create a login, but no fee or membership is required.

Visit [vacattlemen.org](http://vacattlemen.org) for more information on VCA and its hub of industry resources.

Virginia's cattle farmers can hear about the latest trends in feeder cattle markets and share their unique stories on the Virginia Farm Bureau CattlePulse podcast. Visit [spoti.fi/3ZDaBU](https://spoti.fi/3ZDaBU) to hear episodes.



Dr. Ruberte Thiele initially pursued a career as a biomedical engineer in the medical device industry and academia. Interested in directly impacting patients' quality of life, he applied to medical school with the singular goal of becoming an orthopedic surgeon. After completing additional training in robotics and navigation for partial and total joint replacement as well as revision arthroplasty, returns to the area eager to help patients get back to doing what makes them happy. When not attending one of his kid's swim meets or soccer games, he enjoys outdoor activities like biking and hiking as well as recreational basketball.

**SCHEDULE YOUR APPOINTMENT TODAY!!!!!!**

## Meet Our Providers

**DR. RAMON RUBERTE THIELE**  
Total Joint Surgeon Specializing In Hips & Knees



**DR. RAMON RUBERTE THIELE**  
BOARD-CERTIFIED TOTAL JOINT SURGEON

The full  
**SPECTRUM** of  
Musculoskeletal services in  
an integrated system...  
offering the FUTURE of  
Healthcare today.

- ORTHOPEDICS
- RHEUMATOLOGY
- PAIN MANAGEMENT
- FAMILY MEDICINE
- SPINE CARE
- CLINICAL RESEARCH
- SPORTS MEDICINE OUTREACH
- PHYSICAL THERAPY

## SAME DAY X-RAYS

- ORTHOPEDIC WALK-INS ACCEPTED
- SHORTER WAIT TIMES
- CASH PAY OPTION AVAILABLE







NO REFERRAL NEEDED

UNLESS REQUIRED BY INSURANCE

2 CONVENIENT LOCATIONS

DANVILLE

109 Bridge Street • 4th Floor  
434-793-4711

MARTINSVILLE

1075 Spruce Street  
276-790-3233

MONDAY - FRIDAY 08:00 AM - 4:30 PM