



THE ENTERPRISE

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



Connect Health + Wellness is preparing to open a permanent location at the former BB&T building in Patrick Springs.

Healthcare agency opens permanent location in Patrick Springs

By Taylor Boyd
To help with the growing need for accessible healthcare in Patrick County, Connect Health + Wellness, a Henry County-based medical service provider, is preparing to open a permanent location at the former BB&T building in Patrick Springs.

Effective immediately, all mobile

clinic services will be available at its new Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) located onsite at 22121 Jeb Stuart Highway, according to the company.

Brittany Anthony, the agency's marketing director, said additional healthcare access is a top concern in the county.

(See Healthcare Agency p.3)

School board approves amended dress code, new bag policy at athletic events takes effect Aug. 23

By Taylor Boyd
The Patrick County School Board approved the Patrick County High School (PCHS) dress code as amended at its Thursday, August 8 meeting.

PCHS Principal Hope Perry said before the school year began, she thought she had created a dress code that would be accepted by the community, school staff, and students.

"I put it on Facebook and found out very quickly that I was the devil and the bane of many existences for my students. So, I said 'okay, I did wrong.' I talked to my staff, and I talked to parents, but I didn't talk to students, initially," she said.

On July 31, before the school year even started to discuss the school's dress code, she brought in about 12 to 15 students from the PCHS Student Advisory Board, which is composed of former class officers, Student Government Association (SGA) officers, and current class and SGA officers.



Dante Belcher (left) and Rylee Soliday (right) gave a presentation on the proposed dress code to the Patrick County School Board.

"We had to come to a compromise, because it (the code) had to be something that we all could live with," she said.

Student Advisory members Rylee Soliday and Dante Belcher then

(See Dress Code p.3)

County in better financial position as pandemic funds dwindle

By Taylor Boyd
Overall, the county is in a better financial position, partially due to pandemic funds, Treasurer Sandra Stone told the Patrick County Board of Supervisors in a year-end report for fiscal year 2023, which ended June 30.

"The net general county fund balance carried forward was \$11,843,743, which was an increase of a little over \$282,071 from last fiscal year. Our carryover balance comes from different sources, different budgets, unspent funds, some revenues received that are higher than budgeted, and some unspent carryover funds from a previous year," Stone said at the August 12 meeting.

Stone said the carryover funds are needed as the county always saves them to use during lower revenue months, which are typically August to October and February to April. The county's contingency fund balance at the end of June was \$460,958, and interest earned on



Patrick County Treasurer Sandra Stone gave the county's year-end report.

investments was \$509,195, which was an increase of \$174,143 from the previous year.

"Interest on our bank deposits was \$38,682, which was an increase of \$38,409 from last year. These in-

(See County Finances p. 11)



Lynn Chipkin, Lynn Regan, Amber Rakes (left to right), at the first Pet Food Bank. (Photos by Pat Delaney)

Pet Food Bank deemed a success

By Taylor Boyd
More than 175 bags and cans of cat and dog food were distributed to those in need at the first ever Pet Food Bank held Aug. 12. The project was made possible through a partnership between the Patrick Animal Welfare Society (PAWS) and the Patrick County Community Food Bank.

"The majority of bags we put in gallon Ziploc bags because most of the bags we had, they were like 30

to 40-pound bags, which of course we couldn't do that. So, we repacked them into one-gallon sizes," PAWS Vice-president Lynn Chipkin said.

The idea for the pet food bank is to help the community feed and hopefully keep their pets as the costs of animal food has drastically increased, she said.

"A lot of people are surrendering their animals to the pound because

(See Pet Food Bank p.13)

Two vie for Dan River seat

Stories by Taylor Boyd
Steve Ferring and Andrew Overby are seeking the Dan River District seat on the Patrick County Board of Supervisors in a special election in November. Brandon Simmons resigned from the post earlier this year. The board appointed former supervisor Jane Fulk to represent the district until the special election. Fulk does not plan to seek a full term.

FERRING

Ferring said he was inspired to run after looking at the county's finances for the past year and a half.

"I'm finding that there's no pre-planning for a number of things. The county finances, they leave a bit to be desired in the way they are put together for the budget," he said.

Many of the supervisors have no idea what expenses are contained in the line items on the budget, and "I would like to make sure that they all have a very good idea of what they are before they vote on the budget itself, and I've been doing some research on that particular thing," he said.

While he has detailed some of his ideas to the board, Ferring said little had changed. "So, now I'm going to run and see if I can't do more things and build an awareness of the fact that the budget, the true budget, should be vetted down to the budget line items," he said.

He would like to see the county use a centralized purchasing department, through which departments would request goods and services. The centralized office "would elim-



inate excess or duplicate purchases as well as provide bulk discounts on goods that are needed throughout the county. More unique departmental requests for goods and services would be verified and all purchases subject to a bidding process which would be open to the public. We could see bids for those, we could buy in bulk by consolidating the needs of various departments. That would save us a good deal of money," he said.

The county needs to earmark funds each year to pay for the replacement of maintenance equip-

(See Ferring p.13)

OVERBY

Overby said he applied to serve as the interim after Simmons departed, and considered running for the seat before then, "but at the time, I felt that Brandon would represent everyone's interests appropriately, so I didn't feel the need to run at that time," he said.

Overby said his main reason for running is his desire to ensure that Patrick County is properly represented by people from Patrick County.

"That's my number one thing. I don't really like people that have come here and moved into the area and then try to recreate the area that they come from," he said.

A Patrick County native, Overby said he's lived here all his life except for the 15 years when he was in the military or working for the federal government. Once he had the opportunity to move back to the area during the COVID-19 pandemic, his interest in what's going on locally was piqued.

"I feel drawn to do what I can to preserve Patrick County as the unique place that it is as well as work to improve the county in a



fiscally responsible way. There's a lot of speculation and a lot of things that go on in social media and at the meetings, where I really think a lot of information is not portrayed to the public well," he said.

"I believe that communication between the county government and its citizens is of paramount importance, and I pledge to listen to the citizens and make decisions to maximize the benefit to all citizens, not just a select few," Overby said.

"I think the main issue that I have with the board of supervisors is I don't feel that they com-

(See Overby p.13)

Exhibit open through Sept. 30, reception set

STOKES COUNTY ARTS COUNCIL

An Exhibit of Original Art



THE APPLE GALLERY
502 Main Street, Danbury, NC

Hillary Norman

GALLERY OPENING: Sunday, August 25, 3:30 - 5:00 PM
EXHIBIT DATES: August 16 - September 30, 2024



An exhibit of original art by Hillary Norman is now open in the Apple Gallery. A reception is scheduled for Sunday, August 25 from 3:30-5 p.m. in the Apple Gallery of the Stokes County Arts Council 500 Main Street Danbury, N.C.

Norman works primarily in oils and water-soluble oils and occasionally in acrylics. She explained that she loves the extended blending time that is afforded by oil-based media in general, as well as the depth of color and translucent layering. Traditional oils give longer time to dry and glaze beautifully in translucent layers whereas water soluble oils dry a little faster which allows her to keep the momentum she can get when she starts a new piece.

Norman is a self-taught painter. She studied Art History and Economics at Duke University and Furniture Design and Industrial Design at S.C.A.D.

Norman described her work in this exhibit as **VIBRANT | ELEMENTAL | SURREAL | IN-**

TRICATE | EXISTENTIAL | FUTURE FORWARD. "We descend from generations who lived in a world in which people changed faster than the world. Individuals were the agents of change. Now we live in a world in which change happens faster in the world than it can in most individuals. We must learn a new kind of personal evolution to survive. What breaks down our norms and beliefs about self is merely creating raw materials for the future self to use in our collective remaking."

Norman said that she feels, both individually and collectively, that we are experiencing a paradigm shift in the world. The small changes in her own life parallel the large changes in the zeitgeist. "This Aquarian Age disruption will either break you or teach you. I choose to learn, to shift, to reinvent," Norman said.

Norman described that her art is always shifting lenses, from macro to micro: zooming in and out on reality in an attempt to find beauty in the weird, the real, and the unreal.

"Art takes me places outside my mind. It is a reservoir of my own psyche: each piece takes on the tone of my shifting mind states. Inspired heav-

ily by surrealism, cubism, and abstract expressionism, I aim to bring the subconscious world to light in my art. Half process-oriented, half experimental, my work has a lot of range," she said. "However, the underlying thread is my desire to tease apart the seams of reality and reveal a deeper truth of being in painted form."

Norman is a freelance CRO consultant by day; she works in the space of optimizing e-commerce websites when she is not painting, making jewelry, writing, running or practicing Muay Thai.

This exhibit will be on display through September 30 in the Apple Gallery. The Stokes County Arts Council is open to the public Monday through Friday, 9 a.m.-6 p.m., Saturday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. and Sunday 12-6 p.m. For additional information about the exhibit, please contact the Stokes County Arts Council at (336) 593-8159 or visit www.stokesarts.org.

Dr. Blake Brockbank is here! And we're all smiles.



Martinsville Smiles is happy to announce the addition of Dr. Blake Brockbank to our family dentistry practice.

A graduate of the School of Dentistry at VCU, Dr. Brockbank is welcoming new patients and is pleased to provide comprehensive family dental care at Martinsville Smiles. Please call (276) 632-9266 to schedule your appointment with Dr. Brockbank.

He'd love to see your smile.

Martinsville Smiles, PLLC
(276) 632-9266 • MartinsvilleSmiles.com
407 Starling Avenue, Martinsville, VA 24112

Pets of the Week



This sweet little beagle girl is still waiting for a home. She is an owner surrender, and she is confused and waiting for her new home. She is adorable, so please come meet her.

The black and white guy was found at the post office in Claudville. If you recognize him, please call the Patrick County Public Animal Shelter at (276) 694-6259.

Come see these two and the many other nice dogs that don't belong here. Adoption fees are only \$10 and include spay/neuter and a rabies vaccination. Visit the (PCPAS) Facebook page to view other available pets.

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Healthcare Agency

(cont. from page 1)

“Patrick County is a rural area, and residents are faced with various barriers to accessing healthcare, such as living in a medically underserved area, insurance status, and/or transportation,” she said in an August 16 release.

Connect Health + Wellness began coming to the county with its mobile clinic earlier this year to offer dental care and medical visits. Anthony said the organization will continue operations inside the building on a schedule similar to its mobile clinic, with dental visits on Mondays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and medical visits on Wednesdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

“We will offer a full range of comprehensive medical and dental services. This includes not only general medical and preventive care but also lab services, referrals, health education, chronic disease management and more. Dental care including diagnostic and preventive services, fillings, root canals and extractions, etc. will also be offered,” she said.

Additional days at the clinic will be added to the schedule as demand grows, as building renovations are completed, and personnel are in place.

Anthony said renovations are not yet complete for the entire facility. However, it has completed the initial phase that will allow Connect Health + Wellness to open and begin serving the community.

“We also plan additional renovations in the near future, which will allow us to grow with the demand of services. This phased approach has allowed us to initiate needed services quickly, while also accommodating future plans for growth. We are also working on recruiting/reassigning additional clinical personnel and using a portion of the clinic that has been uplifted with



Operations will continue inside the building on a similar schedule as the mobile clinic, with dental visits on Mondays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and medical visits on Wednesdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. All insurance is accepted, but not required. Fees are on a sliding scale.

the proper medical/dental equipment,” she said.

Currently, staff from Connect Health + Wellness’ other sites and mobile clinics are assisting with opening the new clinic where different numbers of staff are required for dental and medical services.

As the clinic and demand grows, Anthony said the organization plans to grow staffing accordingly.

Any open positions for its health centers will be posted on its website at www.connecthealthva.org.

New patients are welcome, and all insurance as well as Medicare and Medicaid are accepted, but not required.

“The clinic operates on a sliding fee discount program, which is based on household income. Our goal is to provide high-quality, affordable and accessible care to meet the diverse needs of the community,” she said.

According to a release from U.S. Sens. Mark Warner and Tim Kaine, this project was included in the U.S. Senate’s Fiscal Year 2025 draft funding bills. The two successfully secured \$772,000 for

Martinsville Henry County Coalition for Health and Wellness to expand access to medical, dental, and behavioral health services in Patrick County.

“We’re thrilled to see the Senate move forward on government funding legislation that includes essential funding to support our service members and military families, implement our seismic investments in infrastructure and manufacturing, promote public safety, invest in affordable housing, curb fentanyl trafficking, improve customer service at the IRS, and much more,” said Kaine, D-Richmond, and Warner, D-Alexandria. “We’re also very glad this draft legislation includes \$125 million for communities in every corner of the Commonwealth to carry out community-based, high-impact projects that grow our economy and benefit Virginians. We are looking forward to advocating for these priorities and working with the House of Representatives to provide robust funding bills that address the needs of Virginia and the country.”

Connect Health + Wellness CEO Marcus Stone said expanding into

Patrick County represents a significant step forward in the company’s mission to bridge the gap in healthcare accessibility.

“We’re excited to offer our comprehensive services at a brick-and-mortar location in this community and are committed to offering additional access to healthcare and improving outcomes for residents in the community,” he said.

County Administrator Beth Simms said the county is thrilled to welcome Connect Health + Wellness to the Patrick community.

“This development represents a significant milestone in our efforts to enhance additional access to essential healthcare services. By establishing a permanent presence here, they will not only provide consistent and reliable care, but also contribute to the overall health and well-being of our residents. This is a crucial step toward ensuring that everyone in our community has the opportunity to receive the care they want,” she said.

Anthony said the mobile clinic will still be used in Patrick and Henry counties as well as the City of Martinsville “in multiple different aspects – we will continue mobile medical and dental days throughout our region along with attended health fairs and other community outreach events to provide health screenings, etc. this mobile clinic program will continue to help us increase access to healthcare services,” she said.

Connect Health + Wellness was initially funded in 2005 through a five-year, \$4.5 million grant from the Harvest Foundation as the Martinsville-Henry County Coalition for Health and Wellness.

For more information, go to www.ConnectHealthVa.org, call (276) 638-0787, or via email at info@connecthealthva.org.

Dress Code

(cont. from page 1)

presented the compromised dress code to the board for consideration and approval.

For pants length, Soliday said the dress code originally stated they had to be mid-length on the students’ thighs.

“We thought it would be more applicable to do quarter-thigh. Mainly because it’s harder to find longer shorts these days and because it’s not in style anymore, so students don’t wear it,” she said.

Soliday said it’s also hard for taller students to find shorts that go to mid-thigh, than it is also harder for students who are shorter. Belcher said this also applies for students who have fuller figures as it’s harder for shorts to fit onto their bodies.

Belcher said another rule that pants or shorts with holes above the top quarter of the students’ thighs may not be worn and underwear must not be visible.

Soliday said another rule is that tops and shirts need to go up to the armpit and have straps.

“So, spaghetti strap tank tops wouldn’t be okay, but sleeveless shirts would be. It would also rule out wife beaters (style of shirt) and a lot of the shirts that guys like to wear that have cut-outs and completely show everything,” she said.

Under the guidelines, Belcher said clothing must cover the midriff and navel.



Members of the Patrick County School Board at a meeting last week.

When discussing it with the PCHS faculty, Belcher said students would be given the opportunity to put a jacket on to cover the midriff area.

“You can wear the shirts if they are a bit higher, but you have to wear a hoodie to still cover your midriff and navel,” she said.

Soliday said clothing with suggestions of illegal substances or pieces with phrases or art that is considered lewd or violent will not be permitted. Shoes will be worn at all times in and around school buildings.

Except for pre-approved school events, costumes, full face paint, costume accessories, and props are not allowed due to safety issues. Soliday said this is why fishhooks on hats are also prohibited.

Hats, bandanas and other inappropriate headgear will not be allowed to be worn in the front office, cafeteria, auditorium, gym, or auditorium, Belcher said.

“We removed the part about headwraps and headbands” in this list “because headbands, we don’t even know why it was

there and then headwraps, some headwraps are for your culture or your religion, and it seems insensitive to leave that in the dress code,” he said.

For increased safety in schools, Soliday said sunglasses are not permitted inside school buildings.

“Some teachers may not be able to recognize who a student is or some people who look really young all they’d have to do is put the sunglasses on. So, it’s a safety issue,” she said.

Belcher said dog collars, dog chains, pocket chains, and any type of chain or metal shouldn’t be on students’ or staff’s person as they can be used as weapons.

“We added that no blankets or coverings are permitted at school. Wear a hoodie or jacket,” he said.

A new bag policy for sporting events at Patrick County High School (PCHS) will take effect this year to increase safety for students.

Schools Superintendent Jason Wood said the policy will go into effect August 23, which is the first home sporting event. He added that the

proposal was from PCHS principal Hope Perry and Assistant Principal and Athletic Director Terry Harris.

“Because in our new Three Rivers District, and also many of the schools in the Piedmont District, they have moved to a clear bag policy at sporting events and also making sure there’s not outside food allowed in an event,” he said.

Wood said the new policy is just another layer of safety.

“We’re hoping to hear in the near future that we are awarded a grant for metal detectors that would be (used) for athletic events at the high school and are portable that could be taken down to the stadium for football, soccer, and other events,” Wood said, adding this is an example of the division reflecting on its safety protocols to ensure it continues to put the safety of students, staff, the community, and visitors first.

Under the new policy, Wood said anything larger than a small clutch purse that isn’t in a clear gallon bag, or a clear tote bag would have to be returned to the



PCHS ATHLETIC CLEAR BAG POLICY

effective 8/23/2024

APPROVED BAGS



Clear Totes



Gallon Bag



Clutch Purse



Diaper Bag
Must be accompanied by a child

- Clutches, medical supplies, and diaper bags may be searched
- NO outside food or drinks will be allowed at after school events
- ALL elementary and middle school age students must be accompanied by an adult at all times
- NO re-entry for ticketed events (except for events with all-day passes)

Violators may be denied entry or may be asked to leave school property.

A new bag policy for sporting events at Patrick County High School (PCHS) goes into effect on Aug. 23.

vehicle. “If it’s a diaper bag, they would do a quick search to just ensure the safety of everyone in the athletic event,” he said.

Under the new policy, outside food and drinks will not be allowed in for after-school events and all elementary and middle school students must be accompanied by an adult at all times.

There is also no re-entry for ticketed events except for events with all-day passes, Wood said, and most of the families of PCHS athletes have been aware of this policy in other school divisions.

“When our Patrick County families would travel to someone else in the neighboring school division or in our district, this was the policy. So, it gets us in alignment

with the other schools in which we are competing,” he said.

Wood said the district has not heard of any pushback to the new policy.

“It’s maybe an inconvenience, but you can’t argue when you are putting safety first,” he said.

In other matters, the board:

*Heard chairman Rob Martin, of the Dan River District, read a letter from Hannah Wood, who thanked the board for donating 40 Chromebooks to schools in Ethiopia.

*Approved the consent agenda.

*Heard the superintendent’s report.

*Approved the monthly personnel reports as amended.

*Approved contract negotiation for one year for the online provider.

Our Region, Birthplace of Soft Drinks?

Virginia's Ninth District is home to an array of nationally iconic items.

Previously, one of my columns discussed the significance of the Crooked Road and the D-Day Memorial. These monuments demonstrate that our regions have profound roots in country music and service to the U.S. military.

What is lesser known to some is this District has deep ties to the soft drink industry.

The early days of mixing soft drinks are filled with cloak-and-dagger intrigue and accusations of stolen formulas.

One soda of notable prominence is Dr Pepper.

Texas claims credit for Dr Pepper's incarnation. A young pharmacist, Charles Alderton, worked at Morrison's Old Corner Drug Store in Waco, TX and allegedly liked to experiment with different fruit syrups in his free time.

After multiple trials, Alderton offered his formula to the store owner, Wade B. Morrison.

Morrison didn't always live in Waco. He originally worked in a pharmacy in Rural Retreat, Virginia for a "surgeon" named Charles Taylor Pepper.

A 1996 article from the Virginia-Pilot noted that Pepper happened to mix mountain herbs, roots and seltzer into a fizzy brew and allowed Morrison to mass produce his beverages.

A coincidence that Morrison, who worked with Pepper to sell a soft drink, moved to Waco and founded his own drug store, and in that very store, a soda named "Dr Pepper" is conceived?

Local lore, as I've heard it, is that Morrison took one of Dr. Pepper's formulas to Texas with him along with Dr. Pepper's daughter. That is not the official company line, but that is what local storytellers have said.

While the soda's origins are disputed, Charles Pepper's gravesite remains a Wythe County attraction to this day. I have made multiple stops by it during my travels.

One county over, in Smyth County, the town of Marion is also connected to the creation of a popular soda, Mountain Dew.

The Hartman brothers, Barney and Ally, opened Hartman Beverage Company in Knoxville, Tennessee. The Hartmans allegedly explored different recipes for a lemon-lime soda, until they created Mountain Dew.

The term "Mountain Dew" can be traced to Appalachian slang for mountain-brewed moonshine. The talented Stanley Brothers out of Dickenson County recorded the song "Mountain Dew."

However, it is disputed who should get credit for the final recipe. At one time, the Hartman brothers joined forces with William "Billy" Jones, President and General Manager of Marion's TIP Corporation. Ally Hartman became an investor in TIP at one point.



Morgan Griffith

Representative

Some claim that Jones obtained the rights to Mountain Dew during this time!

Marion was one of three total sites in the country to begin marketing Mountain Dew, according to PepsiCo.

The Hartman brothers sold the beverage locally in Virginia and Tennessee until 1964, when PepsiCo purchased the brand and production rights. PepsiCo acquired TIP, making Jones a lot of money.

In fact, Steve Smith, CEO of Food City, has told me as a young man he saw a photocopy of the check when working for his father's grocery stores.

One book by Dick Bridgforth documents the history of Mountain Dew and recognized Marion as having a hand in the beverage's origins.

While the Hartman brothers receive credit for creating the soft drink, Marion town leaders have successfully pushed for a Virginia Historic Marker acknowledging Bill Jones and his contributions to the founding of Mountain Dew. The marker will read "The Birthplace of Modern Mountain Dew."

A unique beverage that also has ties to Southwest Virginia and Tennessee is one of my personal favorites.

Dr. Enuf, a vitamin-enriched concoction that tastes like a soda but produces the boost of an energy drink, was first bottled in 1949 by Tri-City Beverage Corporation in Johnson City, Tennessee. Because of Tri-City Beverage Corporation, also bottling Mountain Dew, Johnson City was one of the other early marketing sites for "the Dew."

Unlike Hartman Beverage Company, Tri-City Beverage Corporation retains the rights to Dr. Enuf to this day.

While I typically drink the regular green version, they also have an herbal red version and diet versions.

Also, Pepsi Bottling Company's plant in Wytheville bottles the popular sports-themed beverage, Gatorade.

There are other soft drinks with ties, but these are currently the most significant.

The rich history of the Ninth District's contributions to the soft drink industry is well documented. And no one can argue that Dr Pepper and Mountain Dew have nationally become a part of America's culture.

So in these hot days of August, have a chilled soft drink of your choice and remember you live in "America's Soft Drink Capital."

Call my offices with questions, concerns, or comments: Abingdon, (276) 525-1405; Christiansburg, (540) 381-5671, or via email at <https://morgangriffith.house.gov/>.

Letters to the Editor

You Can't Fix Stupid - Vol 1

(Tik Tok, Mike Huckabee, Todd Starnes, MRCTV, Daily Signal, MSNBC, The New York Post, The Federalist)

*A Japanese man says he can no longer communicate with his holographic wife after the company that made the software that allowed them to communicate stopped offering the program. And yes, this is real. Well, the story is. But the wife? No, she's not real. She's a computer program. Akihiko Kondo was married to a make-believe pop singer named Hatsune Miku in 2018. Unable to communicate Kondo says it has been tough to keep the spark alive.

*A woman who testified against a Louisiana bill that would ban sex change surgeries for minors in the state said she saw that her biological daughter liked green vegetables as a child which boosts testosterone which indicated her daughter was a transgender male. Another mother who offered testimony against the same Louisiana bill insisted that she knew her biological daughter was a boy due to her attraction to "boy's toys" at 18 months old. She now plans to begin "gender-affirming care" for her 10-year-old child. Some people should not be parents.

*If you are in the Pre-TSA line to board an airplane, illegal aliens who are using the CBP One app, some 45,000 people per month, don't have to have an ID to get through security, and it's their choice whether they want to have their picture taken. Terrorists will love this rule. Here's the rule for American citizens who want to pass through a TSA checkpoint: "You will not be allowed to enter the security checkpoint if your

identity cannot be confirmed, you choose to not provide proper identification or you decline to cooperate with the identity verification process."

*A socialist member of Chicago's city council believes that the idea of using police to ensure safe streets and punishing criminals is "racist" and America is "a garbage society" because it "favors White people."

The American flag was removed and replaced with a gay pride flag inside the VA Medical center in Orlando, Florida. Video of the flag was posted on social media. The video also shows a sign posted asking veterans to provide their preferred pronouns. It sounds like the Dept. of Veterans Affairs has a mission creep problem.

*A group of teen criminals in Chicago attacked a couple who were out on a date, leaving both victims injured from being beaten and causing the pregnant wife to miscarry her child. Their crime? Walking down the street. The woman said the gang of more than 10 teens walked up and began beating her husband in the head and beating her and kicking her in the stomach and shouting "We own the street." Only after the police showed up did the mob take off running. Only two teens - a 17-year-old girl and a 14-year-old boy were arrested. Despite having just brutally beaten two innocent people and killed a baby for no reason whatsoever, the two teens were immediately released, and charged only with misdemeanor battery.

Pray for our country.
William Salser,
Stuart

Griffith and Baker to Debate

Karen Baker and Morgan Griffith, candidates to represent our district in the US House of Representatives, will debate on September 28 at 5 p.m. in the radio studios of Virginia Tech. It will be available live at www.wuvt.vt.edu. This is our opportunity to hear how each candidate views the role of the federal government in our lives in rural Virginia.

Karen will be in Stuart Thursday evening at the Hooker Building (5:30 to 7:30 p.m.) to meet and listen to the citizens of Patrick County. Come out and enjoy some potluck food dishes.

Learn how your representatives will affect your families, register, and VOTE on November 5th.

Oscar Joost
Stuart

Veteran concerns among voters

Many veterans and their families in the area surely are following Project 2025 which is the most chilling plan ever proposed to change our government and would eliminate most of what makes our country great.

Vote Vets says draconian cuts to the right, care and benefits the Military has earned. Russell Lemier PHD and Senior Policy Analyst for Veterans Health Care Policy Institute from 12981-2019 and Jasper Craven wrote "Project 2025 proposes several alarming recommendations that could significantly reduce veterans' access to healthcare. One would realign healthcare benefits to cover only "service-connected conditions,"-i.e., medical or mental health problems that were acquired or exacerbated by military service. Currently, once veterans prove they have a service-related condition, they can receive care for that problem as well as other conditions that they may develop. For example, a veteran whose leg was amputated in the military would not only have lifetime care for that problem, but also for the high blood pressure or cancer that they develop in civilian life.

The Heritage blueprint argues for the Veterans Health Administration (VHA) to eliminate some clinical services that "don't align with service-connected conditions." If this strategy to authorize care based on service-connected disabilities is taken to its logical extension, other care, like for an amputee's hypertension in the example above, would no longer be furnished. There are five million veterans who have

a service-connected designation, and they all potentially stand to lose access for the bulk of their healthcare needs. Two million veterans without a service-connected designation could potentially be disenrolled from VA healthcare entirely. Such a draconian concept accords with the Kock-backed group Concerned Veterans for America."

A few days ago, CNN reported about a co-author of 2025 Russell Vought on video saying despite Trump's denial of any connections that Trump blessed his organization and is very supportive. Check the internet for the video. Trump is also connected through JD Vance.

Hang on now, Trump recently said the civilian awarded Medal of Freedom is better than the award of the Medal of Honor. His reason, "They're either in very bad shape of because they have been hit so many times with bullets or they're dead." Does anyone in SWVA want to vote someone in office --with a mind like this and total disrespect --as commander in chief of our armed forces. Does SWVA want Morgan Griffith in office --he votes against veterans and several women issues as often as he can.

Let's move FORWARD!! There is a much better ticket to a brighter day when we can work on the real changes needed instead of taking the structure of our democracy apart. Vote November 5th for those who listen and care about you and your family and have records to prove it.

Gerry Scardo, Veteran,
Clintwood, VA

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WWW.ENTERPRISE.NET**

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Patrick Pioneers

Shelton Family of Patrick County, Virginia

By Beverly Belcher Woody

I first wrote on Captain Eliphaz Shelton and his descendants in February of this year; since then, I have begun corresponding with his descendants Deborah Lee from the Willamette Valley in Oregon and Eric Shelton of Virginia. I have learned a great deal more from his descendants about the man who donated the land for the county seat of Patrick and this writing should be the most accurate and thorough summary of the Shelton Family of Patrick County.

On July 11, 1791, Captain Eliphaz Shelton executed a performance bond in penalty of 200 pounds (British currency) binding him to convey 18 acres of land to the county for a county seat. On October 10, 1791, he deeded this land to the county. It was located near the center of his 590-acre land grant. The Patrick County courthouse has stood on this land at the head of Main Street for 200 years. The Shelton home and family cemetery were located at the bottom of Main Street.

On July 21, 1763, Ralph Shelton, Sr. sold his land in Amelia County, and with his wife, Susannah "Mary" Daniel, and family, he moved west to Halifax County (that area now being Patrick County). There, he purchased 400 acres of land on the South Mayo River from Josiah Leake in 1771. Ralph Sr. had ten sons, five of whom were named: Ralph Jr., Crispin, John, Daniel, and James Roderick and all had served in either the French and Indian or Rev. Wars or both.

Ralph Jr. Shelton had eleven sons and four had served in the Revolutionary War. Eliphaz, James R., Roderick J., and Jeremiah. In most cases, all who served in the Revolutionary War from both Ralph Sr. and Jr. generations had served Captains in the Virginia Militias. Eliphaz Shelton took the oath of allegiance and was appointed Captain in 1779. Jeremiah furnished supplies to the county militia, John and Crispin were early militia captains, Daniel was a captain with Pittsylvania County Militia in 1778, and James "Roderick" was appointed Captain in 1777 and he served at King's Mt. and Guilford Courthouse battles. Colonel Abram Penn of Patrick County was summoned to the aid of General Nathaniel Greene at the Battle of Guilford Courthouse during March 1781 and Captain Eliphaz Shelton and his men accompanied Penn.

On February 28, 1784, Eliphaz Shelton received a land grant of 590 acres from Governor Benjamin Harrison for payment of services during the Revolutionary War. This land bordered his father's land on the north and his brother James' land on the west. The progenitor Ralph Jr. Shelton died March 30, 1789, and was buried beside his wife, Susannah "Mary" Daniel Shelton in the Shelton cemetery at the foot of Main Street. Ralph had lived to see his land included in three counties - Halifax, Pittsylvania, and Henry. Two years later, this same land was in the newly formed county of Patrick. Eliphaz and his wife, Nancy Anne raised ten children at the home at the foot of Main Street in Stuart.

On March 13th, 1826, the following obituary appeared in "The Lynchburg Virginian" The original newspaper is held by Jones Memorial Library, Lynchburg, Virginia, which is located on the second floor of the Lynchburg Public Library. "At his residence near Taylorsville, in the county of Patrick on the 16th ult. after a protracted and lingering illness, Captain Eliphaz Shelton, passed away in the 86th year of his age. The deceased defended bravely the liberties of his country during the revolutionary war and at the period the excitable Tories so much disturbed the country, he shouldered his musket, and marching in the van, made every possible effort and exertion, both in bravery and skill, to immolate them. Patriotism and an ardent devotion to the cause of his country were the first principles of his character. He who writes this last tribute of respect

to Captain Shelton knew him well and he knows that in the various characters of husband, father, master, and neighbor, no one was more indulgent, kind and hospitable. A very large circle of relatives are remaining to grieve his dissolution."

Eliphaz and Nancy's first child, Hannah, was born in 1778. She never married. The 1850 and 1860 census records state that she was living in the town of Stuart with her niece, Nancy Newman Fitzgerald and her husband, James, who was the town blacksmith. Hannah died at the age of 82 and was buried in the Eliphaz Shelton cemetery.

Eliphaz and Nancy Asher's second child, Philapenia was born in 1776; she married Robert Sharp of Patrick County on the 17th of August 1796. Philapenia and Robert had six daughters, Jane "Jincey" b. 1798, Lucinda "Lucy," born in 1799, Sarah "Sally" b. 1801, Nancy Martha b. 1807, Frances "Frankie," born in 1812, and Lavenia b.1814. The only son of the couple was Samuel C. Sharp b. 1805. He was very active in Patrick County government positions. He left with the early groups of Patrick County citizens to Missouri. There is a link to the cabin he built in Cass County, MO that is fascinating: <https://www.casscolibrary.org/casscounty-history/panel2>.

Robert Sharp served with the Virginia Militia in the War of 1812 and died on the 16th of June 1814 in Norfolk, Virginia, while walking home to Patrick County barefoot. According to the National Archives record #11450, Philapenia received a war widow pension for Robert's service in the war, he had served as a medical assistant/orderly/physician during the war. His grave has never been found. Philapenia passed away on the first of February 1857 and was buried in the Eliphaz Shelton cemetery.

Philapenia and Robert's daughters both married men from the Wayside community of Stuart. Lucy married Samuel Lafayette Gilbert on the 5th of March 1823, and they raised at least eight children near Wayside Community church. Lucy and Samuel are buried at the cemetery at Wayside Church. Frankie married Armistead "Street" Newman on the 10th of January 1837, and they also had eight children. Frankie and Street are buried at the Mitchell, Beasley, Rodgers Cemetery in the Peters Creek community.

The third child of Eliphaz and Nancy Shelton was Claiborne, born in 1777. By 1832, his wife, Elizabeth, had died and he went with his son, Haman, and family to Independence, Jackson County, Missouri to farm. Sadly, he died in 1833.

The fourth child of Eliphaz and Nancy Shelton was Archibald, born in 1777. Archibald married Miss Rhoda Nowlin on the 28th of November 1797. Rhoda was the daughter of James Edmund Nowlin and Ursula Patterson Nowlin of Stuart. Archibald served in the 6th Virginia Regiment during the War of 1812 and was able to return to Patrick County, but he died in 1816, leaving Rhoda with seven young children to raise on her own. Rhoda died on the 28th of July 1854, and she was buried with Archibald at the Eliphaz Shelton Cemetery.

The fifth child of Eliphaz and Nancy, was named Elizabeth b.1780 and died young.

Eliphaz and Nancy's sixth child, Sarah "Sallie" was born in 1781. Sallie married Rhoda and Samuel Nowlin's brother, Francis Nowlin, on the 19th of February 1801. Sallie and Francis had five children before Sallie passed away in 1818. Sallie was also buried in the Eliphaz Shelton cemetery.

Nancy Elizabeth Shelton was the seventh child born to Eliphaz and his wife, Nancy. Daughter Nancy was born in 1783 and married Elam Newman in Patrick County on the 16th of February 1804. Nancy and Elam Newman were the parents of Armistead "Street" Newman mentioned earlier in the column, along with at least six more children. Nancy and Elam's daughter, Nancy Newman Fitzgerald was the one who took care of her aunt Hannah



Eliphaz Shelton House, located at the old downtown mobile home park. (Photo from Patrick County Historical Society)

Shelton.

The eighth child of Eliphaz and Nancy, Frederick, was born in 1784. Frederick married Miss Winifred Jones in Patrick County on the 6th of February 1809. Frederick also fought in the War of 1812 but returned to Patrick County where he passed away in December of 1813. Frederick was also buried in the Eliphaz Shelton cemetery.

The ninth child of Eliphaz and Nancy Shelton was Olive Amanda Shelton was born in 1785. Olive married Samuel Nowlin on the 19th of January 1809 in Patrick County. Samuel was also the son of James Edmund Nowlin and Ursula Patterson Nowlin. I'm starting to see a lot of double first cousins here! Olive and Samuel moved west and settled in the township of Little York in Washington County, Indiana.

The youngest and tenth child of Eliphaz and Nancy Shelton was Hudson, born in 1790. Hudson also served in the War of 1812 in Captain Abraham Staples company of Virginia Militia. Hudson married Miss Lucy Murphy on the 9th of February 1813; the couple raised their eight children in Patrick County.

Rumors came back to Patrick County about a potential good life in Missouri. Community meetings were held, questions were raised, and answers were given about how it was possible to "sell out" in Virginia, load necessities onto a wagon, gather the families, and head west! After the 1830 Patrick County census was taken, serious plans were made and the first groups from the region left for Missouri together as groups in 1831 and 1832...there is always safety in numbers!

Haman Shelton, born in Patrick County in 1799, was the son of Claiborne Shelton, son of Captain Eliphaz Shelton, farmer and supporter of Patrick County before and after the Revolutionary War and War of 1812. Haman's family had been friends and colleagues of the Harvey and Frederick Fitzgerald family. Hamon had been struck by one very nice young woman in their household, Miss Priscilla Sarah Fitzgerald. Some courting took place and in the three years after the war, love grew and so did excitement about life in the west in Missouri. By the 26th of September 1819, Haman had married Miss Priscilla Fitzgerald in Stuart, Virginia.

Priscilla was the daughter of Harvey Fitzgerald and Elizabeth Gaway Fitzgerald of Patrick County. Several of Priscilla's brothers and their families lived in Patrick County their entire lives: Thomas; James; Leonard; and Madison Fitzgerald. Harvey and several of the sons and relatives had served in the wars and they understood the desire to leave. Large Patrick County family groups were signing up for the wagon train west and plans were shaping up.

People from very prominent families locally were leading the charge to make the plans to move west and close out their farms and businesses in Virginia. By 1820, babies started to arrive in the Haman Shelton household. By the time they left for Missouri in 1832, the family included 7 children, one an infant. (This family was found in the 1830 Patrick County Census and in the 1840 Jackson County, Missouri Census.) In the Claiborne Shelton family, all of his descendants had planned to head west except for Harbert Shelton's family. Their father, Claiborne was coming, Priscilla's younger brother, Harvey Lee Fitz-

gerald, and cousin Sam Sharp.

Most of the pioneers from the Patrick County area originated from hard-working Virginians looking for a new life and opportunities, including the family names of Phillpott, Lyon, Tuggle, Newman, McAlexander, Newman, Nolin, Sharp, Carter, Penn, Critz, Shelton, Staples, Cassell and Harris. As Cass County, Missouri historical accounts explained, "Each group loaded their ox-drawn wagons for the two-month trip and followed the Blue Ridge Mountains down the Wilderness Road, through the Cumberland Gap, across Kentucky, up the Mississippi to St. Louis, west on the Boonslick Trail to what was then southern Jackson County." This effort was the beginning of a new life for many of the Patrick County families; however, the Shelton family was eventually headed to the "Promised Land" in Oregon!

The Shelton family knew this trip required funds, planning, supplies, etc. From the time they reached Missouri, they were working on the next steps to prepare for the treacherous trip to Oregon. First, they would stick with friends near Jackson County, Missouri and build up new farmland, do their research regarding the trip, and make some good connections. The Sheltons stayed in Jackson County for 12 years, then moved to the St. Joseph area to make more connections with those who were westward bound and to secure more land and build wealth for the trip west in 1847. This included collaboration with approximately 400 Baptists from central Missouri who had been permitted on the 1847 James Curl Wagon Train.

The following is an account written by Roy Shelton in 1962 about his great grandparents, Haman and Pricilla Fitzgerald Shelton. "I am writing the account of Haman Shelton Sr. and his family, who came to Oregon in 1847. My great grandfather Haman Shelton was born in Patrick County, Virginia on February 22, 1799. He lived there until manhood and married Priscilla Fitzgerald, a neighbor girl in 1819. Pricilla was born on December 26, 1797. Haman and Priscilla from 1819 to 1843 had 13 children."

Shelton continued, "They left St. Joseph, Missouri in April of 1847 by ox team, with 11 of their children. (Son, William stayed behind and arrived in 1853 and daughter, Elizabeth, died before the 1847 wagon train to Oregon left in early spring.) They tried to make 10 miles per day. They arrived in the Willamette Valley in the last days of August 1847. They averaged 13 miles per day. Their journey across the plains was very hard work, getting the oxen over the ground, camp, cook, and eat. With the Holy Bible, prayer every night, they plodded on. They had no Indian trouble as their scouts were of the best."

"When they reached The Dalles, Oregon Territory, they were confronted with three ways to reach the Willamette Valley. One was to make log rafts and put everything on the rafts and float them down the Columbia River to the Cascade Rapids, take everything off the rafts and portage six miles around the rapids, rebuild the rafts, and float on down to the Willamette River to Oregon City. The second way was to ford the Columbia River, at The Dalles and go down to Fort Vancouver on the north bank of the Columbia, which was mountainous and rough."

"The third way was to go over-

(See Patrick Pioneers p.14)



Patrick County's All-American High School Pole Vault

David Lee Williams, of Patrick County and a rising senior at North Stokes, placed 5th in the AAU Junior Olympic pole vault competition for the 17-18 year old Men's Division. The Junior Olympics were held at Aggie stadium in Greensboro from July 27- August 3. The top eight finishers are considered All-American. The competition featured 47 vaulters from all over the United States including Puerto Rico.

Tyler Reddick gets second win of the season in double overtime at Michigan



Tyler Reddick, driver of the #45 McDonald's Toyota, celebrates in victory lane after winning the NASCAR Cup Series FireKeepers Casino 400 at Michigan International Speedway on August 19, 2024 in Brooklyn, Michigan. (Photo by Jonathan Bachman/Getty Images)

By Holly Cain
NASCAR Wire Service

Certainly, the FireKeepers Casino 400 at Michigan International Speedway was not lacking in action or drama. 23XI Racing's Tyler Reddick claimed his second victory of the season – seventh of his career – while the 2024 NASCAR Cup Series Playoff standings shifted dramatically yet again in Monday's weather-delayed double-overtime finish to the race.

Reddick's No. 45 Toyota pulled away from William Byron's No. 24 Hendrick Motorsports Chevrolet on the second overtime restart – holding off Byron and Joe Gibbs Racing's Ty Gibbs to claim the win by a slight .168-second and break a nine-race winning streak at the historic two-mile track for Ford.

"Just great teammate and a fantastic push from Ty Gibbs, the Toyota racing family tries to take care of each other," said Reddick, who immediately dedicated his win to longtime family friend and late model racing legend Scott Bloomquist, who was killed in a plane accident this week.

"The last couple days have been tough, but this really helps. This win goes to him [Bloomquist] and his family and friends, and all that meant a lot to him. It's always tough when someone you care about passes away.

"We did a really good job today," he said of the win. "I think we were the last car on the lead lap starting stage three today so good effort for us."

Byron, a three-race winner and the 2024 Daytona 500 champion, second-guessed the decision to start his Chevrolet alongside Reddick on the high-side of the front row on that final restart after starting on the bottom lane previously.

"I will re-live that restart and what lane to choose overnight for sure," Byron said. "It seems like always as the leader you want to take the top, but I've gotten beat twice here by the bottom and I had the lead on the bottom barely over him.

"But he had a better car than us, he was a little bit faster. Second sucks, but really proud of the effort. I feel like we've been trying to put weeks together like this and this is a really good step."

Richard Childress Racing's Kyle Busch finished fourth and led 24 laps in the race, one of his better showings of the season. The two-time series champion still sits more than 100-points out of the Playoff standings and is trying to extend a record 19-year winning streak in the series but Monday's showing marks his second

consecutive top-five finish – answering a fourth-place at Richmond, Va. last week.

"Overall, just net positive on the weekend, being better on speed and up front and having a shot anyways, but we ran top-10 all day," said Busch, whose win in Stage 2 marked his and the RCR team's first stage win of the year.

"This is how we would expect to run, this how we want to run," he added. "We want to run up front, have top-10s and have opportunities to excel.

"If I had to say, maybe an eighth, 10th-place car today and we got a fourth out of it. Good pit calls and making a couple good moves on the late restarts got us that. ... good momentum rolling in the right direction and need to just keep that going."

Roush Fenway Keselowski Racing teammates, owner-driver Brad Keselowski and Chris Buescher were fifth and sixth place - the top finishing Fords. Keselowski was hoping to win at his home-state track for the first time in 28 starts there. For Buescher that sixth-place finish may have felt a little like a win after two days of dramatic ups and downs.

It improved his place in the championship standings to 15th out of the 16-drivers currently Playoff eligible – now 16 points up on the cutoff line. Trackhouse Racing's Ross Chastain moved into the 16th and final position – only a single point ahead of Reddick's 23XI Racing's Bubba Wallace.

Chastain, who brought out a caution flag in the first overtime, had been 12 points to the good inside the Playoff standings taking the first overtime green flag.

It was indicative of the non-stop action from Sunday's green flag and red flags to Monday's checkers. The race resumed Monday on Lap 52 and so did the aggression with 16 different race leaders and 26 lead changes in all.

On Sunday, polesitter, Joe Gibbs Racing's Denny Hamlin spun out while trying to pass Wallace for the lead early. His No. 11 JGR Toyota was largely undamaged despite a slide through the infield grass and he ultimately battled his way back up through the field Monday to secure an impressive ninth-place finish.

Hendrick Motorsports' Kyle Larson, who led the NASCAR Cup Series championship points standings coming into the race, was sidelined early after triggering a seven-car accident on Lap 116 after misjudging a pass on Wallace as well.

The defending Michigan winner

P&HCC Soccer Team Ranked #17 in NJCAA DII Preseason Polls

Patrick & Henry Community College's (P&HCC) men's soccer team has been ranked #17 in the 2024 National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) Division II Preseason Polls. Entering the 2024 campaign as back-to-back Region 10 champions and the 2023 Atlantic District champion, this marks a significant achievement for the program and sets high expectations for the upcoming season.

"We are thrilled to see our team recognized at the national level," said Head Coach Brennan Murphy. "This ranking is a testament to the hard work, dedication, and talent of our student-athletes, as well as the support from our coaching staff and the entire P&HCC community."

The P&HCC soccer team has been training rigorously throughout the preseason, aiming to build on last year's successes and continue their journey toward excellence. The team has a balanced mix of returning players and new talent, all eager to make a significant impact on the field.

"The preseason



Coach Brennan Murphy addresses players following a preseason exhibition game.

ranking is an honor, but it also serves as motivation for our student-athletes to prove themselves throughout the season," said Assistant Vice-President of Student Engagement and Athletic Director Brian Henderson, adding, "Coach Murphy's teams have always been committed to working hard, staying focused, and giving their best effort in every game, which is shown by their back-to-back championships."

P&HCC's soccer program has a history of fostering talent and promoting sportsmanship. With strong community support

and an emphasis on academic and athletic excellence, the team is poised for a promising season.

The first game of the season is scheduled for August 22, where P&HCC will face Pellissippi State in Knoxville, Tennessee. Fans, students, and community members are encouraged to support the Patriots as they embark on what promises to be an exciting and competitive season.

For more information on the P&HCC men's soccer team, including the full schedule of season matches, please visit www.phccsports.com.

Buescher, Chase Briscoe, Christopher Bell, Joey Logano and Todd Gilliland were all involved in the incident in varying degrees. Although Larson, Bell, Logano and Gilliland's cars were sidelined, Buescher's Mustang was able to continue with an assortment of challenges. His team called him in for two new tires on the final caution period and he was able to race back to that sixth-place finish.

Larson's miscue had a major effect on the Regular Season Championship with race winner Reddick now taking the lead by 10 points over Chase Elliott, who led laps but finished 15th.

Hamlin's race recovery moves him into third place, 28 points back and Larson has dropped to fourth place, 32 points behind Reddick with only two races remaining to decide who will earn the regular season title and receive that all-important 15-point Playoff bonus.

"Had an extremely fast car so hate I screwed that up for our team as well the others out there that got collected in it," said Larson, driver of the No. 5 Hendrick Motorsports Chevrolet. "Just trying to get what I could, get some stage points and just lost it."

Rookie Zane Smith finished seventh, followed by Daniel Suarez, Hamlin and rookie Carson Hocevar.

The NASCAR Cup Series returns to competition in Saturday night's Coke Zero Sugar 400 at Daytona International Speedway (7:30 p.m. ET, NBC, MRN, SiriusXM NASCAR Radio). Buescher is the defending race winner.

NASCAR Cup Series Race - FireKeepers Casino 400

Michigan International Speedway
Brooklyn, Michigan
Sunday, August 18, 2024

- (2) Tyler Reddick, Toyota, 206.
- (9) William Byron, Chevrolet, 206.
- (19) Ty Gibbs, Toyota, 206.
- (13) Kyle Busch, Chevrolet, 206.
- (15) Brad Keselowski, Ford, 206.
- (18) Chris Buescher, Ford, 206.
- (27) Zane Smith, Chevrolet, 206.
- (12) Daniel Suarez, Chevrolet, 206.
- (1) Denny Hamlin, Toyota, 206.
- (11) Carson Hocevar, Chevrolet, 206.
- (26) Ryan Preece, Ford, 206.
- (25) Noah Gragson, Ford, 206.
- (30) Ricky Stenhouse, Chevrolet, 206.
- (34) Harrison Burton, Ford, 206.
- (6) Chase Elliott, Chevrolet, 206.
- (28) Erik Jones, Toyota, 206.

- (10) Austin Dillon, Chevrolet, 206.
 - (8) Ryan Blaney, Ford, 206.
 - (19) Michael McDowell, Ford, 206.
 - (29) Justin Haley, Ford, 206.
 - (36) Cody Ware, Ford, 206.
 - (16) Josh Berry, Ford, 206.
 - (32) Daniel Hemric, Chevrolet, 206.
 - (24) Martin Truex, Toyota, 206.
 - (7) Ross Chastain, Chevrolet, 205.
 - (5) Bubba Wallace, Toyota, 205.
 - (22) Alex Bowman, Chevrolet, 205.
 - (23) Austin Cindric, Ford, 204.
 - (33) John Hunter Nemechek, Toyota, 202.
 - (35) AJ Allmendinger, Chevrolet, 200.
 - (21) Chase Briscoe, Ford, Suspension, 157.
 - (31) Corey LaJoie, Chevrolet, Accident, 135.
 - (14) Joey Logano, Ford, Accident, 117.
 - (4) Kyle Larson, Chevrolet, Accident, 115.
 - (3) Christopher Bell, Toyota, Accident, 115.
 - (20) Todd Gilliland, Ford, Accident, 114.
- Average Speed of Race Winner: 135.675 mph.

Time of Race: 3 Hrs, 2 Mins, 12 Secs. Margin of Victory: .168 Seconds.
Caution Flags: 7 for 41 laps.
Lead Changes: 26 among 16 drivers.

Lap Leaders: D. Hamlin 0; K. Larson 1-34; B. Wallace 35-39; R. Blaney 40-47; C. Elliott 48-57; K. Busch 58-65; M. Truex 66-92; R. Blaney 93-99; T. Gibbs 100-101; B. Keselowski 102-103; K. Larson 104-105; M. Truex 106; K. Larson 107-111; R. Chastain 112-115; K. Busch 116-126; W. Byron 127-141; C. Elliott 142-160; T. Reddick 161; K. Busch 162-166; D. Suarez 167-173; C. Hocevar # 174-176; R. Stenhouse 177-178; H. Burton 179-183; J. Berry # 184-187; T. Reddick 188-199; W. Byron 200-204; T. Reddick 205-206.

Leaders Summary (Driver, Times Lead, Laps Led): Kyle Larson 3 times for 41 laps; Chase Elliott 2 times for 29 laps; Martin Truex 2 times for 28 laps; Kyle Busch 3 times for 24 laps; William Byron 2 times for 20 laps; Tyler Reddick 3 times for 15 laps; Ryan Blaney 2 times for 15 laps; Daniel Suarez 1 time for 7 laps; Harrison Burton 1 time for 5 laps; Bubba Wallace 1 time for 5 laps; Ross Chastain 1 time for 4 laps; Josh Berry # 1 time for 4 laps; Carson Hocevar # 1 time for 3 laps; Ty Gibbs 1 time for 2 laps; Brad Keselowski 1 time for 2 laps; Ricky Stenhouse 1 time for 2 laps.

Stage	#1	Top	Ten:
12,9,24,23,17,8,6,19,48,1			
Stage	#2	Top	Ten:
8,1,54,24,3,6,19,43,15,12			

Crossing the Lines

News snippets from outside the town/county lines...



The Fayette Street Lofts building includes 25 loft apartments, two marketplace storefronts, and nine Make Your Space Studios. Currently, every loft apartment and two of the Make Your Space Studios have been rented.

New lofts and business spaces open on Fayette Street

Fayette Street Lofts, located at 62 Fayette Street, was inaugurated during an August 13 ribbon cutting that was attended by several county and city officials, as well as community members.

The building includes 25 loft apartments, two marketplace storefronts, and nine 'Make Your Space Studios,' ranging from 550 to 940 square feet. Currently, every loft apartment and two of the nine studios are rented.

"With the completion of this project, not only has the Historic Collective addressed our local need for affordable workforce housing by designed 25 modern studio loft apartments, but we have new, affordable commercial space at the same property that's specifically designed and

priced for small businesses, non-profits, and artists," Brenell Thomas, president of the Martinsville-Henry County Chamber of Commerce, said when formally welcoming the building Uptown.

"This convenient location is within close proximity to the thriving Uptown business district, and the many landmarks of our city- New College Institute (NCI), the Martinsville Uptown Farmers Market, the Thomas P. Dalton Idea Center, the Historic Courthouse, FAHI (Fayette Area Historic Initiative) Museum, the clocktower, Prillaman's Market, Renewal Brewery, the Ground Floor, TAD Space and TAD tavern, and a host of churches, retail, restaurant, and fitness options," she said.

Bikers for Babies Benefit Ride set for Aug. 24

Pregnancy Care Center

13th Annual Bikers for Babies

ALL VEHICLES WELCOME

MHC MARTINSVILLE / HENRY COUNTY

Registration 10 AM
Kickstands up at 12 PM

\$10 solo rider
\$15 w/ passenger
\$20 per car full

MEAL INCLUDED

Saturday AUG 24

BROAD STREET PARKING LOT (THE BIG CHAIR)

WWW.MHCBIKERSFORBABIES.COM - REGISTER ONLINE TODAY

CONTACT PATRICK @ 276-734-9585 OR JAY SANTOEMMA @276-732-4100 FOR MORE INFORMATION

Bikers for Babies flyer

The 13th annual Bikers For Babies event is set to take place on August 24, with participants gathering to support the Pregnancy Care Center, a pro-life crisis pregnancy center located in Martinsville. This event, which includes a scenic ride into Franklin County before ending on Joseph Martin Highway, is open to drivers of all types of vehicles.

The Pregnancy Care Center provides vital support to women facing pregnancy crises. "It is a pro-life pregnancy center that offers prenatal care, ultrasounds, counseling, and parenting classes," explained Patrick Rusmisl, a key supporter of the event. The center also assists with baby furniture, clothing, and provides information about adoption for expectant mothers, offering all services at no cost.

Rusmisl emphasized the center's

commitment to supporting mothers throughout their journey. "It's not like having your baby and we will leave you alone. We help you through this crisis, and part of that is having a baby," he said, highlighting the center's goal of saving the lives of unborn babies. "We don't believe in abortion."

The Bikers For Babies ride welcomes all types of vehicles, including motorcycles, trucks, and even larger vehicles like tractor-trailers, which have participated in previous years. Rusmisl noted that the event typically draws around 150 participants.

Drivers interested in participating can register online at www.mhcbikersforbabies.com/registration. The registration fees are \$10 for single riders, \$15 for riders with passengers, and \$20 for carloads. The fee includes lunch, which is served after the ride.

Studio 107 seeks financial support from city

Studio 107, the brainchild of Piedmont Arts, is now facing challenging times as it struggles to attract enough foot traffic and financial support. The studio, which was initially supported by Piedmont Arts, lost that backing about a decade ago due to financial constraints, leaving the artists to sustain the space on their own.

"We've done the best we could with the resources we've had, which have been our own pockets," said Karen Eggleston, an egg artist. She explained that the studio rents booths to artists and is currently working to move the gallery to the front of the studio to draw in more visitors.

"We've got ribbon winners here. We are the heart of art in Martins-



Karen Eggleston poses with two different egg projects.

ville," said Eggleston. However, many artists are taking a loss each month just to pay booth rentals.

TAD Tavern Celebrates Grand Opening with an Exquisite Experience



County and city officials were on hand as TAD Tavern celebrated its grand opening with a ribbon-cutting ceremony.

Uptown Martinsville welcomed its newest upscale restaurant, TAD Tavern, with a ribbon-cutting ceremony on August 9. The event featured speeches from the owners and prominent community members, all highlighting the restaurant's significance to the city.

TAD Tavern is the latest addition to the growing portfolio of locations owned by Wayne Draper, who also owns TAD Space, a premier event space that opened in 2021. Draper expressed gratitude to his team during the ceremony, emphasizing the collective effort

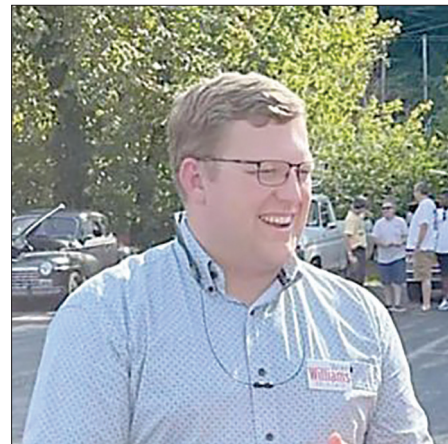
behind the restaurant's success. "I always say it's we, not me," Draper said.

Reflecting on his entrepreneurial journey, Draper acknowledged the challenges of starting a business, particularly the financial uncertainties. "Being an entrepreneur isn't always easy, especially when you see funds in your account dwindle and then 'poof,' you have the funds to grow to the next level," he said. Draper noted that the expansion of his ventures was not meticulously planned but rather a natural progression.

Delegates praise bid aimed at increasing election security



Del. Eric Phillips



Del. Wren Williams

Local politicians support Gov. Glenn Youngkin's Executive Order 35, which was implemented to increase election security, and codifies the election procedures put into place during the Youngkin administration, is getting high marks from Del. Eric Phillips and Wren Williams.

"It's something to secure our elections. Everyone wants to make sure we have fair and secure elections by people who are actually residents of the Commonwealth of Virginia," Williams, R-Stuart, said.

Phillips, R-Martinsville, said he supports Youngkin's Executive Order, and sees election integrity as an American and Virginia issue rather than a political one.

"All of us, regardless of what party we're a part of or what candidate

we're voting for, should want safe, legal, fair elections where the people that should be voting are voting and the people who shouldn't be voting are not," Phillips said.

Youngkin, who signed the order on August 7, said the Virginia model for election security works.

"This isn't a Democrat or Republican issue, it's an American and Virginian issue. Every legal vote deserves to be counted without being watered down by illegal votes or inaccurate machines. In Virginia, we don't play games and our model for election security is working," he said.

Youngkin said Virginia uses 100 percent paper ballots with a strict chain of custody, and counting machines that are not connected to the internet and are tested prior to every election.

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TRAP 1-3-5-7-9PM

Vallie Mae Hylton Mankins



Mrs. Vallie Mae Hylton Mankins, age 93 of Bassett, Virginia passed away Tuesday, August 13, 2024, at Stanleytown Health & Rehab. She was born in Patrick County on February 4, 1931, to the late Clifford Hylton, stepfather, Winfred Hughes and Jettie Lawson Hughes.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, William "Lester" Mankins; and one sister, Virgie Hylton. Mrs. Mankins was a faithful member of Fort Trial Christian Church. She enjoyed shopping, driving, sewing, and making floral arrangements as long as she was able. She along with her beloved husband, Lester enjoyed travelling and collecting wares to sell at their flea market booth. She had a very special dog, Skipper,

that she cherished. Vallie loved her family dearly, and always baked a cake for every holiday and birthday. Mrs. Mankins is survived by two daughters, Mary Ethylene Tatum and Bobby of Stanleytown, Virginia, and Charlene Bryant and Kent of Stuart, Virginia; two grandchildren, Shannon Lynette Townsend and Alex of Nebraska, and Brandon W. Horton of Fieldale, Virginia; one step-grandson, Robby Tatum and Reenie of Roanoke, Vir-

ginia; one great granddaughter; and two step grandchildren.

Funeral services for Mrs. Mankins will be held on Monday, August 19, 2024, at 1:00 p.m. at Fort Trial Christian Church in Bassett with Pastor Danny Hart and Pastor Sam Caldwell officiating. Burial will immediately follow in Patrick Memorial Gardens. The family will receive friends one hour prior to the service at the church. In lieu of flowers memorial donations may be made to the Martinsville-Henry County SPCA or to Fort Trial Christian Church, 6356 Virginia Ave, Bassett, VA 24055. Moody Funeral Home in Stuart has been entrusted with the services and online condolences may be sent by visiting www.moodyfuneralservices.com.

Nancy Lee Price Moore



Sister Nancy Lee Price Moore, born to the late Wallace Benton and Leola Joyce Price in Stokes County, North Carolina, on September 26, 1952, departed this life on August 12, 2024, at Blue Ridge Nursing Home.

A proud graduate of Charles Drew High School, Class of 1970, Sister Nancy began her career at Panel Knitting, where she worked for over 20 years. In the late 1990s, she pursued her passion for cosmetology, opening a home salon where she continued to serve the community until her retirement in 2017.

In 1992, Nancy dedicated her life to the Lord at her mother's home church, Mt Zion Church, however she requested her membership be at Hylton Thessalonina where she remained a devoted member. Known affectionately as "Sister Nancy," she rarely missed a service at her church or any others in the association. Her presence was a cherished constant, and her absence was notable only when something was amiss. Her church family will fondly remember her for her powerful renditions of songs such as "Ride Out the Storm," "Too Close to the Mirror," and "God is Good," which uplifted many through challenging times.

She also served as the church secretary until 2019. Sister Nancy had a deep love for decorating, flowers, and gospel music, but her true passion lay in clothes, jewelry, and—most notably—hats. Her impressive hat collection numbered over 50 pieces and was a testament to her unique style and flair. In addition to her parents, Sister Nancy was preceded in death by four brothers: Michael, Raeford, Jimmy, and Barry Price; and two sisters: Marilyn Wade and Beverly Watkins.

Sister Nancy leaves to cherish her memory: her husband, Rickie Moore, of the home; two sons, Steve Moore (Neal) of Atlanta, Georgia, and Seneca Moore (Emily) of the home; one granddaughter, MacKenzie Moore of Roanoke, Virginia; three brothers-in-law: George Watkins (Beverly) of Sallisaw, Oklahoma, Joe Moore (Margie) of

Dover, Delaware, and Mike Moore (Lucy) of Stuart, Virginia; seven sisters-in-law: Ommie Price (Michael) of Wentworth, North Carolina, Dorothe Price (Barry) of Cascade, Virginia, Maddie Sue Bostic (Brock), Dollie McKenney (Freddie) (both of Brooklyn, New York), Bernice Kellem (Willie) of Stoneville, North Carolina, Sarah Moore (Frank) of Charlotte, North Carolina, and Virginia Galloway (Grady) and Iris Hines (James) of Stuart, Virginia; as well as a host of nieces, nephews, and other relatives and friends.

Sister Nancy's warm spirit, unwavering faith, and vibrant personality will be deeply missed by all who knew her. The homegoing service of Sister Nancy will be held on Wednesday, August 21, 2024, at 12 noon at Hylton Thessalonina Primitive Baptist Church with Elder Emmanuel Jessup officiating. Burial will immediately follow in the church cemetery. A wake will be held from 11:30 until the time of the service at the church on Wednesday morning. Moody Funeral Home in Stuart has been entrusted with the services and online condolences may be sent by visiting www.moodyfuneralservices.com.

Darlene Underwood Roop



Mrs. Darlene Underwood Roop, 74, of Critz passed away at the Woltz Hospice Home in Dobson, North Carolina after a brief stay prior to her death on August 16, 2024.

Darlene was born to Gilbert Calvin and Estelle Roberson Underwood on October 6, 1949. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband of fifty-two years last year, Harvey Roop.

Darlene retired as credit manager from Bassett Mirror Company after forty-six years of service in 2016 to join Harvey and to happily keep and spend time with her only grandson, Parker before he started school.

Darlene retired as credit manager from Bassett Mirror Company after forty-six years of service in 2016 to join Harvey and to happily keep and spend time with her only grandson, Parker before he started school. Surviving Darlene to cherish her memory are her daughter, Andrea Amos and husband Mike; her son Adam Roop and wife Alicia; and her grandson Parker and his girlfriend Kendra Worley; also grandpups Tucker, Nyla and Goose. Also surviving are her brothers, Gerald Underwood (Marie) and Doyle Underwood (Mary Grace); sister-in-law Debra Burge (Jerry); bonus grandchildren Amanda and Rob Higgins, Brandon Amos; bonus great-grandchildren Riley Higgins,

Lilli Higgins, Mason Duncan and Willow Bousman; numerous nieces and nephews, cousins, special neighbors and special lifelong friends.

Darlene was a loving, endearing, protective mother and grandmother; she was a faithful Christian lady of the Brethren faith, with a servant's heart, always thinking of and doing for those special to her. She had a determination and drive to courageously fight cholangiocarcinoma (bile duct liver cancer) over the last few years until progression over the past month. This strong determination and drive became even more powerful in her last year of life; spending all her time and making memories with her family, keeping the roads hot, while checking items off her "to-do lists" until she was no longer able.

A visitation will be held on Tuesday, August 20, 2024 from 5

p.m. until 7 p.m. at Collins Funeral Home, 30 Riverside Hwy., Bassett VA. Funeral service will follow in the chapel of Collins Funeral Home on Wednesday, August 21, 2024 at 11 a.m. with her cousin, Rev. Dr. JD Harmon, officiating. Interment will in Patrick Memorial Gardens, Stuart, VA.

As per his Grandma's request, in lieu of flowers she requested that memorials be made to the scholarship fund set up for Parker Roop to further his education, c/o Adam Roop 1621 Hollandsworth Drive, Bassett VA 24055.

Our sincerest gratitude and thanks to all those within Mountain Valley Hospice and the Woltz Hospice Home for their care and unwavering support during the last several months, especially in the final week of life for our beloved mother, mother-in-law and grandma.

Pallbearers will be Adam Roop, Parker Roop, Mike Amos, Gerald Underwood, Doyle Underwood, Ronnie Bowles, Andy Wiggington, and Ashton Wiggington.

Online condolences at www.collinsmckeeestonebassett.com. Collins Funeral Home is respectfully serving the Roop family.

Betty Handy Townes



Betty Handy Townes, 88, of Powhatan, VA, passed away peacefully on August 16, 2024. Born on June 18, 1936, in Stuart, VA, she was the eldest child of Roy and Maude Handy. Betty was a devoted mother to three children: Charles "Chuck" E. Martin, Jr. (Tammy), Catherine McDaniel (William), and Jennifer Morgan (Chris). Her legacy continues

through her ten grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren. She is also survived by

her brother, Wayne. Betty was preceded in death by her husband, Calvin Townes; her parents; her brother, Bill; and her sister, Lulaware.

Betty was known for her strong Christian faith, her love for her family, and her sweet and gentle spirit. A graveside service will be held 1 p.m. August 22, 2023 at Patrick Memorial Gardens in Stuart, Va.

Congressional staff plan visit

U.S. Rep. Morgan Griffith's Ninth District staff will visit Martinsville and Stuart on August 28. They will be in Patrick County from 12:30 - 2 p.m. in the Patrick County Administration Building, Conference Room, 106 Rucker Street, Stuart. Staff will be in the City of Martinsville from 10 - 11:30 a.m. in the City Hall, Council Chambers, Second Floor, 55 W. Church St. Call the Christiansburg Office at (540) 381-5671 or the Abingdon Office at (276) 525-1405 with any questions.

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PATRICK PULPITS

Not only a religion, but essential knowledge

By Van Yandell

1 Timothy 3: 16a "All scripture is given by inspiration of God,"

The passing of a law in Oklahoma to teach the Bible in every classroom is not to advocate a state religion. It is not to begin a state of Christian Nationalism, and it certainly is not an attempt to ram a belief into the minds of children as has been done with other ideologies.

The Bible, unknown to many (including Christians), teaches civility and common sense. One can teach the Bible for a semester or even a full school year without addressing the subject of religion.

This is not to say that will be done; simply that it could be. The administering of ideologies would be within the circumference of the individual teacher.

A great part of American law/governance is based on Biblical teachings. A Biblical presence in the lives of the framers of the Constitution and the Bill of Rights is evident.

The basic premise of "All men are created equal" is based on the concept of Genesis 1: 27 "God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them."

The science in the Bible begins in the first chapter in the first book. Genesis 1: 1 "In the beginning, God created the heaven and the earth." While this statement is fully debatable to the atheist, if anyone can provide me with a better explanation for our existence, I'd like to hear it.

Genesis 2: 1 "Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them." The scripture confirms the first law of thermodynamics in that matter and energy are constant. Creation was finished; no more, no less! Matter and energy are not created or destroyed; they simply change state.

Ecclesiastes 1: 7 is an example of that law of physics. "All the rivers run into the sea; yet the sea is not full; unto the place from whence the rivers come, thither they return again." This writing by Solomon three-thousand years ago again verifies the first law of thermodynamics.

The rain falls, the animals and plants use it; evaporation returns it into the sky to fall again. Excess rainfall runs to the sea to be condensed into vapor to return over land and sea to fall again as rain. That glass of water you drank this morning may be the same water used by Abraham, Isaac or Jacob nearly 4000 years ago.

The second law of thermodynamics confirms that order cannot result from chaos. Believing we evolved from a lower form of life contradicts science to the fullest.

Genesis chapter one states a scientific process called photosynthesis. The first three verses confirm the presence of matter, water and light. These ingredients are necessary for a process called photosynthesis and the production of chlorophyll of which a by-product is oxygen.

We humans and other animals breathe in oxygen and exhale carbon dioxide which plant life necessitates for the production of chlorophyll. Can this be taken as coincidental by the non-believer? You decide!

Proverbs 22: 6 "Train up a child in the way he should go and when he is old, he will not depart from it." Does this verse teach religion or simply a state of civility and decency? Who can argue with teaching children the difference in right and wrong?

Leviticus chapter eleven and Deuteronomy fourteen teach dietary lessons. In our current state of poisoning ourselves with chemical additives, processed foods, excessive amounts of salt and sugar and the omitting of healthy foods, should this not be considered a teaching of benefit?

Daniel 1: 8 teaches the health benefits of the consumption of vegetables and water. Genesis 1: 29 tells us to include nuts and fruits into our diets.

Proverbs 22: 7 "The borrower is servant to the lender." If anyone

cannot see the damaging effects of easy credit, the words "can't see the forest for the trees" come to mind. Our government is rapidly destroying the U.S. dollar with excessive debt. Current inflation rates are an example, as debt becomes greater, consumer prices rise.

Thousands of homes and other possessions have been lost by individuals because of easy credit. Yet advertisers promote services that help individuals to raise their credit score to go even deeper into debt. Many product prices are advertised as monthly payments. Debt is encouraged, but the Bible teaches the opposite.

The Bible teaching concerning credit and debt was written nearly 3000 years before interest rates, credit scores and monthly payments were even thought of. Perhaps a few lessons on the Bible teachings of economic practices could benefit many.

1 Timothy 6: 10 "For the love of money is the root of all evil." The crime resulting from the ignoring of this verse requires no explanation. Again, let's address civility.

Politics and the holder of political offices are addressed in the Bible. Romans 13: 1 "Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God."

While we may not agree with the beliefs and opinions of those in office, the Bible clearly states, God has them in those positions for a reason. Civics and government can also be taught using the Bible as a basis.

Astronomy can be taught from the Bible. Job 26: 7 "The earth hangs on nothing." Mankind believed until about 500 years ago, the earth was flat and sat on the back of a giant animal. That the sun and stars revolved around a stationary earth was the conventional belief.

Isaiah 40: 22, written about 2300 years before Columbus discovered America, tells us the earth is round. "It is he that sits upon the circle of the earth."

Jeremiah 33: 22a "As the host of heaven cannot be numbered, neither the sand of the sea measured." Until the Hubble space telescope was placed in orbit, some astronomers believed that the stars could be mapped, named and/or numbered.

Hubble launched April 24, 1990 and soon thereafter becoming operational, the students of the night sky admitted there are far too many stars and galaxies to ever be counted. Jeremiah and God knew this 2600 years ago.

The Bible is of course the book for faith based believers to consult for religious/Christian teachings. Being the most sold and read book to ever exist, the reality and functional reliability of this great text goes unmatched and unchallenged.

To oppose the Oklahoma law to require the teaching of Biblical concepts is comparative to opposing the teaching of common sense and logic.

For those that choose to believe, the knowledge and wisdom of God is unmatched by human knowledge and wisdom, the Bible also teaches eternity for those that believe. Should one accept this Biblical reality as a faith and way of life, so be it.

No one is trying to force a belief on children. Using the Bible as a teaching tool only enlightens them to a way of thinking. A common phrase often heard is "Think outside the box." Let's just make sure our minds are not sealed and locked into that box.

If one is to adhere to the Christian faith and belief, the basic fundamental is a faith based belief that Christ Jesus was crucified for the remission of sin and resurrected.

To require the teaching of Bible knowledge does not try to brainwash anyone. Each individual has the right to believe or disbelieve. The choice is yours!

Van Yandell is a retired Industrial Arts teacher, an ordained gospel evangelist and commissioned missionary.

BIBLE TRIVIA

BY WILSON CASEY

1. Is the book of Hosea (KJV) in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. From Judges 16, what had Samson been to God from his mother's womb? Nazarite, Philistine, Reubenite, Protestant
3. In Exodus 4, who had a staff or rod that turned into a snake? Noah, Aaron, Adam, Moses
4. How many books of the Bible are named for a woman? 0, 1, 2, 3
5. What biblical name means "peace"? Salome, Jacob, Abraham, Adam
6. Which of these died on Mount Hor? Paul, Noah, Aaron, Solomon

ANSWERS: 1) Old, 2) Nazarite, 3) Moses, 4) Two (Ruth, Esther), 5) Salome, 6) Aaron
 "Test Your Bible Knowledge," a book with 1,206 multiple-choice questions by columnist Wilson Casey, is available in stores and online.

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- ACROSS**
- 1 Human rights org.
 - 5 Costa —
 - 9 Scored two under par
 - 15 Apparel
 - 19 Stars and Stripes, e.g.
 - 20 Big whoops
 - 21 Louisiana cuisine style
 - 22 French girlfriend
 - 23 Places to buy salmon filets and such
 - 25 Everyday routine
 - 26 Metal beam with two flanges
 - 27 Brainpower stats
 - 28 Actor Bana
 - 29 Overnight delivery, say
 - 31 Regret deeply
 - 32 Nothin' at all
 - 33 Lauder of perfumery
 - 34 Shutter strip
 - 35 Breathable gym bottoms
 - 38 Actor Alan
 - 40 Vaping devices
 - 43 Some tech. inst. grads
 - 44 Trio after G
 - 46 They're like lay-ups, but farther from the basket
 - 48 Father, to a tiny tot
 - 51 Like some artificial body parts
 - 54 A snake injecting venom, e.g.
 - 55 Become too warm
 - 58 Like a bass voice
 - 60 Napoleonic marshal
 - 61 Coin that was worth 12 pence
 - 65 Purvey
 - 69 Often-flexed arm muscles
 - 70 Paint coat applied to rough plaster
 - 71 Brand of snowmobiles
 - 73 Snow glider
 - 74 Informal name for a herding breed
 - 76 Congregated
 - 78 Concealed
 - 79 City development area
 - 80 Dangler on a garment in a store
 - 85 Most modern
 - 88 Harper of "Far North"
 - 89 Top worn on a safari
 - 91 Snooze
 - 92 Epoch
 - 94 Opera solos
 - 95 Tomb-raiding Croft
 - 97 Resembling a plate
 - 103 Turner of the Washington Nationals
 - 105 Check recipient
 - 107 Tubular snack cake
 - 108 Flat-fixing org.
 - 109 Guard to keep something dry
 - 112 Novelist Kingsley or Martin
 - 113 "Despicable Me" villain
 - 114 Very dry
 - 115 Tiki bar drink
 - 116 What nine answers in this puzzle suggest that you do twice?
 - 118 Donate
 - 119 Peeves
 - 120 Les — (French for "some")
 - 121 Emend
 - 122 Tomahawks
 - 123 Level
 - 124 Indiana-to-Ohio direction
 - 125 Witly types
 - DOWN**
 - 1 Validate
 - 2 In-group
 - 3 Maidens
 - 4 "Yuck!"
 - 5 Pep rally cheers
 - 6 Excited response to "Who wants dessert?"
 - 7 Police ride
 - 8 Horse cousin
 - 9 Beige shades
 - 10 Sony record label
 - 11 Be assisted
 - 12 Bungled
 - 13 "In the Valley of —" (2007 drama film)
 - 14 Slaw sources
 - 15 Cold Spanish soup
 - 16 Eager desire
 - 17 "Knives Out" director Johnson
 - 18 Arctic hazard
 - 24 Gut feeling
 - 29 Pine product
 - 30 — v. Ferguson (landmark court case)
 - 36 Word after big, cold or soft
 - 37 Albeit, in brief
 - 39 For — (very cheaply)
 - 41 Former rival of AT&T
 - 42 Former Russ. state
 - 45 First lady after Melania Trump
 - 47 Move hastily
 - 48 Lou formerly of CNN
 - 49 Pop rocker Lavigne
 - 50 Rid of frost
 - 51 Crank's cry
 - 52 "Challenge accepted!"
 - 53 Rum mixers
 - 56 Clued in
 - 57 Lion chaser?
 - 59 Hope (for)
 - 62 Opposite of 58-Across
 - 63 "You Be —" (1986 Run-D.M.C. hit)
 - 64 Avian abodes
 - 65 Savors Earl Grey, say
 - 66 Funny Murphy
 - 67 Sacks in war
 - 68 Balcony sections
 - 71 Use stitches
 - 72 Mattel man
 - 74 Online biz
 - 75 Torrid
 - 76 Untidy states
 - 77 Afr. country
 - 80 Keglers' org.
 - 81 Karel Capek sci-fi play
 - 82 Question starter in old Memorex ads
 - 83 Total shams
 - 84 Plotting in math class
 - 86 Walked in water
 - 87 Dermis or Pen lead-in
 - 90 Turncoat
 - 92 Most pasty
 - 93 Phantom
 - 96 "Yes, cap'n!"
 - 98 Reporter on "Parks and Recreation"
 - 99 Buds from the hood
 - 100 Multi-roof temple
 - 101 Winged bug with pincers
 - 102 Intimidates
 - 104 Sportscaster Rashad
 - 106 "Für —" (piano piece)
 - 109 Chronicle
 - 110 Grand — (annual race)
 - 111 Clearheaded
 - 116 "— pasa?"
 - 117 Dawn drops

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RFP 2024 MNT-003

The Patrick County School Board is accepting competitive sealed proposals from licensed contractors for the Gymnasium Alterations and Addition Project at Blue Ridge Elementary School, 5135 Ararat, VA 24053. RFP electronic file plans are available from the Architect's office (88knight@comcast.net) or School Maintenance Office, Chad Haynes (chad.haynes@patrick.k12.va.us). Proposals will be received on Thursday, September 12, 2024 at 2:00 p.m. at the Patrick County School Board Office, 132 North Main Street, Stuart, VA 24171.

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Applications received by 7:00 PM on Wednesday October 2, 2024, may be eligible for a bonus payment. See the EVA posting for additional information, including contract requirements.

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County Finances

(cont. from page 1)



Benjamin "Ed" Pool spoke about solar.



Trena Anderson addressed the board regarding the new rules concerning the public comment portion of the meetings.

creases were, of course, due to higher interest rates," she said.

Stone said the county only set up one new fund this fiscal year, which was the required school payroll escrow account. It has since been closed, and the delinquent tax list has been completed. Copies are available for the board to view.

"If you do decide, which you've never done since I have been treasurer, if you wanted to publish that delinquent list in the newspaper, you can do so. Just let me know," Stone said, adding the percentage of tax collections as of June 30 for 2024 real estate was at 87.80 percent for the first half. For 2023 it was 97.81 percent, 2022 was 99.8 percent, and 2021 was 99.77 percent.

Stone said collections for the county's personal property in 2023 was at 95.73 percent and 2022 was at 98.92 percent.

"I think those are pretty good percentages, and I would like to commend my office for their hard work. They work hard to bring in the revenue for the locality," Stone said. "Delinquent taxes are collected daily, the methods of collection include DMV (Department of Motor Vehicle) stops, debt setoff, tax interception, wage liens, bank liens, summons, real estate land sales, and monthly payment agreements."

When Jane Fulk, of the Dan River District, asked about unrestricted reserves, Stone explained they are funds that are not marked for a specific fund.

"Your general county fund is there. There are certain funds that are allocated, they have to be used for specific funds, so they are restricted. General county funds can be used for whatever you the board, deems fit. I had given you the figures, and so it's up to you to decide what to do with them," she said.

When Fulk asked if the unrestricted reserves are part of carryover money that the county needs to use during the low-income months, Stone said yes, and noted she's talked with Fulk and several others about the county's financial situation.

"I want to point out that we all know where we were a few years ago, and we weren't in such a great shape. We are in much, much better shape" now than we were, Stone said. "The COVID money helped us. I mean it wasn't a good thing, but the COVID money that we received definitely helped us, but now that those funds are dwindling, it's kind of where the rubber meets the road and the board's going to have to decide how to use what you've got and how to keep it operating and going forward because" the Covid funds will not continue.

In other matters, the board:
*Heard from Benjamin "Ed" Pool about solar energy. Pool distributed a letter from U.S. Rep. Morgan Griffith, R-Salem, and the response from Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 3 Administrator Adam Ortiz. He asked for the documents to be entered into the board's records.

He also thanked Griffith's staff in their quest to get a formal response to his request from the EPA.

"As was presented to the board of supervisors in previous documents, the Toxicity Characteristics Leaching Procedure (TCLIP) are not overseen, regulated, or reviewed by EPA personnel. Rather it's stated previously they are conducted by contracted third parties, thereby placing at risk the validity of any conclusive results," he said.

Should any future tort claims arise in the future forcing the county to

seek redress, Pool said the third-party tests will place the jurists in the position of deciding statement of facts and not statement of law that will create expensive and complex litigation.

"Competent personnel and the planning of risk-management should have long ago brought these issues before the board of supervisors and county administration. There is no way on earth that a county administrator can make informed decisions based upon marketing speak and inaccurate or biased information," he said.

Pool said the letter should also bring into question the position and opinion of the Berkley Group, who he noted previously stated to the press that this is a political question about cadmium telluride solar panels.

"This is a question of risk exposure to heavy metal contamination. Always has been, always will be," he said.

*Heard from Trena Anderson regarding the new "rules" read aloud by Doug Perry, chairman, and of the Smith River District, before the public comment portion of the meetings. Anderson said law and procedure requires new rules for a public meeting be discussed by the entire board in public and allow public input on proposed rules changes.

"A couple of supervisors and a county administrator can't pull new 'rules' out of the air and implement them. This board can implement rules that impact time, place and manner with public input, but they must be discussed in public with an opportunity for public input. This was not done. The 'rules' read by the chair were crammed down the throats of the entire board and the public. They weren't adopted as per procedure and regulation," she said.

Anderson noted a similar case was recently ruled on by the U.S. District Court in Danville. The court ruled that the arbitrary 'rules' imposed by the board violated citizens' right to free speech and petition that are secured by the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution - a verdict that cost Pittsylvania County \$1 million, she said.

"The First Amendment provides 'Congress shall make no law abridging the freedom of speech or the right of the people peacefully to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances,'" she said. "Our public comments are quintessentially political speech and a redress of grievances from the government. The U.S. Supreme Court has recognized that political speech is the core of what the First Amendment is designed to protect. The rights of free speech have been incorporated on the states by the Fourteenth Amendment, which protects citizens of this county from you forbidding our right to free speech."

Anderson said each board member, who took an oath to protect and defend the U.S. Constitution upon election, violated the First and Fourteenth Amendment rights of every county resident when the new rules regarding public comment were installed.

"Each supervisor is guilty because no supervisor stood up to protest the unconstitutional 'rules.' The loss of First Amendment freedoms, however intangible and even if limited in time, is an irreparable injury to citizens" who are "constitutionally allowed and entitled to question and criticize the board within our three-minute time limit," she said, adding the county attorney should have shopped the board's errors.

Anderson said the board has



Eight members of Boy Scout Troop #69 attended the meeting in their journey to become Eagle Scouts.



Several residents attended the August 12 meeting.

placed itself in a serious situation, and alleged that every county resident has the right to sue the board and the county for the violations. She suggested the board revisit the rules regarding public comment, remove the unconstitutional rules, "discuss them while allowing public input and apologize publicly to each and every resident of this county for the violation of our rights."

*Heard from Jamie Clark regarding the county's growing issues with Emergency Medical Services (EMS). Since June 1 when Jeb Stuart Volunteer Rescue Squad reverted back to a volunteer-only squad, Clark said the number of calls it's been able to respond to has dramatically decreased.

"From my understanding, they responded to less than 10 calls during the month of June," said Clark, who played a recording of a call with the dispatcher giving the 13th county-wide tone.

"At that point, you're an hour into the call. From my understanding, Smith River Rescue (Smith River Volunteer Rescue Squad) was transporting a patient from the Woolwine area to Franklin Memorial in Rocky Mount. They finally agreed that once they got to Rocky Mount, they would drop their patient off then respond from Rocky Mount all the way back to Stuart to answer that call," Clark said, adding the situation is getting worse.

He asked what the county is going to do to try and rectify the situation. "I can tell you as a former paramedic when we had a delayed response years ago.

"When I walked through the door, she said, 'just call the funeral home. I called you when he collapsed. He's dead now,'" Clark said.

*Approved the FY24-25 budget increase for the Patrick County School system.

*Tabled the proposed one percent Transient Occupancy Tax (TOT) increase until a later date. The board also heard from Kurt Bozenmayer, Steve Ferring, and Bessie Weber,

who spoke against the increase.

*Approved setting the Personal Property Tax Relief (PPTR) as 30.8. The PPTR for last fiscal year was 30.6. Commissioner of Revenue Glenda Morse said the increase is "going to be spread out for each payer to have that qualifying fee. It is favorable" for taxpayers, she said.

*Approved the other FY25 budget requests of \$169,868 using unrestricted reserve funds to cover projects at the school, animal shelter, Jeb Stuart Volunteer Rescue Squad donation, and the public library HVAC.

*Approved the July 8 and July 22 meeting minutes with corrections.

*Approved the bills, claims, and appropriations.

*Answered questions from Boy Scout Troop #69, who attended the meeting as part of their communications requirement to earn the Eagle Scout ranking.

*Heard an overview on the Virginia Association of Counties (VACo) from Executive Director Dean Lynch.

*Approved a resolution to seek a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) along with Step Inc. A local match is not required.

*Heard from James Houchins, director of Economic Development & Tourism about the Appalachian Gateway Community Initiative Spring 2024 presentation. Parks & Recreation Director Travis Murphy discussed community engagement and partnerships, and programs manager Sarah Wray also spoke about a trip to Alabama.

*Appointed Robert Pruitt to the Department of Social Services (DSS) Advisory Board as representative of the Peters Creek District; Jeffrey Riff will serve as the Blue Ridge District representative.

*Appointed Janet Rorrer as the Mayo River District representative on the Planning Commission.

*Appointed Derek Wagoner as the Mayo River District representative on the Public Safety Authority (PSA).

*Heard the administrator's report.

*Heard the supervisors' reports.

Experts offer social media tips as VA kids head back to school

Will Walkey
Virginia News Connection

It is back-to-school time, and health experts are offering tips about improving children's physical and mental well-being.

The advice comes amid a recent global increase in anxiety and other behavioral health issues among kids. In Virginia, about one in five children have had a major depressive episode, according to a 2023 report.

Dr. Tierra Oseji, a pediatrician for Permanente Medicine, said social media use is a major factor in these trends and suggests finding ways to limit the time kids spend using it.

"The use of a screen is a privilege and it's not a default," Oseji asserted. "It should be considered after chores are done. After family time has occurred over dinner. After we've done outdoor play."

For children aged 13-17, 95% report using some form of social media. Oseji also suggested deacti-

vating apps while learning and using parental control locks to limit screen time. Gov. Glenn Youngkin has asked Virginia school districts to look for ways to restrict cell-phones in classrooms.

Beyond screen time, experts said it is important to keep up with nutrition, dental hygiene and physical checkups.

Dr. Rhonda Randall, chief medical officer and executive vice president of UnitedHealthcare Employer and Individual, said having a routine like a good night's sleep and a sit-down meal can be beneficial.

"All of those things around consistency help your child feel more confident and secure and stable and also promote their health," Randall explained.

She suggested booking health checkups soon, as physicians are often busy this time of year. Virginia faces a shortage of doctors, nurses, psychiatrists and other health care workers.

Meetings

Wednesday, Aug. 21
The Stuart Town Council will meet at 7 p.m. in the town office.

Monday, Sept. 9
The Patrick County Board of Supervisors will meet at 6 p.m. in the third-floor court room of the Patrick County Administration Building.

Thursday, Sept. 12
The Patrick County School Board will meet at 5:30 p.m. in the Patrick County School Board Office.

Wednesday, Sept. 18
The Stuart Town Council will meet at 7 p.m. in the town office.

Events

Wednesday, August 21
Fairy Stone State Park events: Stuart's Knob Hike, 8:30 a.m., Iron Mine Parking Lot; Fairy Stone Hunt, 11 a.m., Visitors Center.

Monday, Aug. 19 - Wednesday, Aug. 21
Revival at Ross Harbour Methodist Church starting at 7 p.m. each day. Dave Taylor, speaker and singer Philip Adams, are scheduled for Monday. On Tuesday, David Gaylor Jr., with the Sycamore Sisters. On Wednesday, Tommy Shepard will be the guest speaker and Roger Wells will sing.

Thursday, Aug. 22
The Patrick County Democratic Committee will host its annual mixer at the Hooker Building at Rotary Field from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Karen Baker, candidate for U.S. House of Representatives will attend.

Fairy Stone State Park events: Lakeshore Trail, 8:30 a.m., Amphitheater Parking Lot; Fairy Stone Hunt, 11:30 a.m., Visitors Center; Who Made Those Tracks While You Slept, 3 p.m., Shelter 4.

Friday, Aug. 23
Girl Scout Troop #1302 will hold a yard sale from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Providence United Methodist Church in Patrick Springs. Proceeds from the event will go to help with

travel and events for the girls.

Thursday, Aug. 22, Friday, Aug. 23 and Saturday, Aug. 24
Revival and homecoming at Life Tabernacle, 711 Iron Belt Lane, Stuart, 7 p.m. each night. Guest speakers include Kenny Bullins and Billy Thomas. Homecoming begins at 11 a.m. on Saturday. Music by Sue Nester. Lunch provided.

Saturday, Aug. 24
Girl Scout Troop #1302 will hold a yard and bake sale from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and lunch - starting at 10:30 a.m., that includes hotdogs, chips, soda, and water, at the Providence United Methodist Church in Patrick Springs. Proceeds from the event will go to help with travel and events for the girls.

The Christian Bowhunters of Blue Ridge will host a Youth Archery j3D target shoot for ages 6-17 at Sycamore Baptist Church from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Bow and arrow are provided, or you can bring your own. Lunch will be provided.

Sunday, Aug. 25
Wayside Community Church, located at 3520 Wayside Road, Stuart, will hold its annual Homecoming and Old-Fashioned Day. The special singing guest will be Chord of Faith. The worship service begins at 11 a.m., with a meal after service.

Friday, Sept. 6
The community food truck will be at Woolwine SRRS from 3-4:30 pm.

Saturday, Sept. 7
Piedmont Community Services (PCS) will hold its 4th annual National Recovery Month event at Dehart Park from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. This year's theme is "Peers Soar in 2024."

Wednesday, Sept. 11
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 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. For more information, call (276) 693-6018.

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

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

The Ararat Ruritan Club holds 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.

Free Community Meal, every 4th Wednesday, 5 p.m., Raven Rock Wesleyan Church, 1912 Raven Rock Road, Ararat. Take out or dine in. Call Scott or Nann Phillips at (276) 773-6004 or email pastor@ravenrockchurch.org.

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.

The Carroll County Genealogy Club is open 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

The Willis Gap Community Center: Members Meeting, the first Monday of the month at 6:30 p.m.; Appalachian Acoustic Open Jam, every Friday. Doors open at 6 p.m. for food. The music and dancing are 6:30-9 p.m.; Golden Oldies Open Jam is the last Tuesday of the month. Doors open at 6 p.m. for food, music and dancing from 6:30-9 p.m.

Ararat Club awards scholarships, collects school supplies



The Ararat Ruritan club has been busy during the summer. During the August meeting, the club presented three \$1,000 scholarships. The recipients - Rayshawn Sawyers, Jr, Marissa Bentley, and Benjamin Hiatt, and their families enjoyed a covered dish meal.

The club collected school supplies during its July bingo and purchased another \$500 for the cause. All of the supplies were presented to the

Blue Ridge Elementary School principal Jessica Horton by Ruritan members (and teachers) Donna Fariss and Mary Slate.

The club also hosted local author and historian Tom Perry as an ongoing "Tom Talks History" series. The summer talk was presented by Beverly Belcher Woody. She discussed her new book Patrick Pioneers.

The club is getting geared up for its fall activities.

The Disaster Food Ministry will bring its mobile pantry for distribution on August 24 from 10-11:30 a.m. The Patrick County Patriots are instructing a Hunter Safety Education Class on September 7 (pre-registration is required). The club hosts cash Bingo on the third Saturday of each month. The annual BBQ/Cruise-In is a long-standing tradition dating back to the "Wagon Train Days" and is scheduled for October 26 from noon until 6 p.m.

Weekly SUDOKU
by Linda Thistle

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

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Pet Food Bank

(cont. from page 1)



PAWS members distribute pet food at a project that was made possible by donations from by donations from county residents and a partnership between PAWS and the Patrick County Food Bank.



Both bags and cans of cat and dog food were distributed on August 12.

of the cost of food, cost of veterinary care, everything,” Chipkin said, adding the Patrick County Animal Shelter “is always crowded, and so we’re trying to partner with the

shelter to help people keep their pets.

“We just want people to be able to keep their pets,” Chipkin said, adding that PAWS hopes to contin-

ue with the pet food pantry, but its ability to do so will depend on the generosity of county residents and their ability to help those in need.

Those wishing to donate to the

pet food pantry or spay/neuter fund, may send monetary donations to Patrick Animal Welfare Society, Inc., P.O. Box 743, Stuart, VA 24171.

Ferring

(cont. from page 1)

ment “so that it doesn’t constitute a major problem in the budget 10 or 12 years down the road. It’s already paid for,” he said.

“We have endured more than one case-in-point during this fiscal year: the replacement of 30 year old air conditioning equipment for the library and the 12 year old loader at the transfer station. Had we put aside money earmarked for their replacement, we would have had the funds to replace them without” the potential of a tax increase.

He also prefers a streamlined budget that is easy to understand. “All of us are interested in where

our tax money goes. Next year we should have a public operating budget that we all can read and understand easily,” Ferring said. “I am promoting that effort and want all budget line items to carry an explanation of the expenses tracked, current and anticipated, in each account. “I want to present next year’s budget in a fashion that almost every taxpayer in the county can take a look at it and say, ‘okay. I know what they’re spending their money on here,’ line by line in that budget,” he said.

While he believes it’s “probably a shot in the dark,” Ferring said it’s what he’s working on.

Overby

(cont. from page 1)

municate well with the people, and that’s one thing that I hope to drastically improve by being on the board,” Overby said. “I think the public airs concerns and they don’t feel like their issues are being addressed, or their concerns are being addressed. That’s one of the things that I hope to improve. I definitely want to be able to listen to the opinions of everybody throughout the county, not just my district, and really make decisions based on, as much as I can tell, what everybody in the county wants.”

He vows to “not be just another vote for the status quo. I will be a voice for those that have often felt ignored, and I will ensure that our tax dollars are spent wisely. I welcome discussion on any topic that the board can change, but I also want to ensure that discussion includes facts and reality, not just conjecture and assumptions,” he said.

Overby said he also wants to help improve the county’s financial situation, and feels his financial background would be a benefit to the county.

Home Country

Slim Randles

Looking around at all the yard signs and hearing politicians tell us on television what a lying crook their competition is, I have to admit I miss Guv Reeve.

Guv had a real first name, but I sure don’t recall it now, because this was back in the 1960s and 1970s in the high desert of California. He had his first name legally changed to Guv so everyone would know what he was all about. Every four years, he ran for governor. I worked for the Victor Valley Daily Press in Victorville, which is just 30 miles from Barstow, where everyone’s car breaks down on the way to Vegas.

The other folks in the newsroom knew me as the “weirdo reporter” because if someone needed some serious couch time, they were pointed toward my desk.

Guv was maybe in his early 50s when I met him. He came into the newsroom one morning surrounded by four attractive middle-aged women, and all of them were smiling and handing out free cookies.

Guv and I closeted ourselves for the story while everyone else munched cookies, and I learned the Guv Reeve story.

He was a self-proclaimed preacher and lived in a large cabin about 30 miles away in the desert mountains. Yes ... with the sunshine girls.

His mission, he explained, was to gather food and clothing, and when they had enough for a large cardboard box, they would pack it up, find the name of a village in Mexico that he thought might be poor, and mailed it to them. Every time one of those boxes “ripped” and was ready for taping, they’d find a different village on the map.

His election platform was fairly simple: no taxes, more jobs, constant access to free cookies, and the love of God spreading throughout every person in California. You’d think a message that powerful would make his election a slam dunk. But the folks in California elected Ronald Reagan governor, instead. I met him, too, but he didn’t have cookies.

Sometimes I really miss ol’ Guv.

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Steve Hall, Housing Specialist

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Patrick Pioneers

(cont. from page 5)

land on a road that was little known in 1847. In 1845, Samuel Kimbrough Barlow, a sturdy pioneer from Kentucky, was wagon master of his train and trail boss. The Dalles was full of wagon trains, so Barlow decided to follow an old Indian trail to Tygh Valley and on to Wamic, White River over the Barlow Pass, around the south side of Mount Hood to Laurel Hill, to Government Camp, and zigzag to Oregon City. The terrain was so rough, and the hills were so steep, it is a wonder they ever made it, but make it they did, with broke wagons, fresh graves, lots of their cattle dead, some abandoned their belongings to save themselves. When Haman and his train reached the Dalles in July 1847, this was the third way he and his companions could get to Willamette Valley and the Promised Land.”

Shelton concluded his great grandfather’s story, “Haman and his companions, being of sturdy stock and wishing to get to the valley as soon as possible, to get shelter built before winter, decided to go the Barlow Trail. In July 1847, they left Fort Dalles to Tygh Valley and over the Pass. There was no Pass. Just mountains, rivers, and steep bluffs. I’ve heard Grandfather tell of falling trees and with rope tied to the tip of the tree to the wagon, and using this for a drag, or brake, would ease the wagon down in the steepest places.”

The entire Shelton family finally reached Oregon City and on up the Valley. They settled seven miles east of Scio. The time being the later part of August 1847. A campsite was decided on the north bank of the South Fork of the North Santiam River, later designated as Thomas Creek.

In the 1970’s, a plat of survey was given to the Col. Abram Penn Chapter of Daughters of the American Revolution that showed the 18 acres of land given for the site of the courthouse and the town. The Eliphaz Shelton home and family cemetery are clearly marked on the survey too. These plats had been given to the chapter by a descendant of Eliphaz, James H. Martin, of Bluefield, W. Va. The Colonel Abram Penn DAR chapter voted to donate the plats to the Patrick County Historical Society and Museum.

On page 303 of Tombstone Inscriptions of Patrick County, Virginia, published in 1984, Mr. O.E. Pilson states the following: “Eliphaz Shelton Cemetery, located at the foot of Main Street in Stuart. Except for a few crude field stones markers with no inscriptions, there is nothing now left of this cemetery. According to Mr. W.R. Shelton, Jr. of Columbus, Ohio, a descendant, the following are buried here: Ralph & Susannah Shelton, parents of Captain Eliphaz Shelton; Captain Eliphaz Shelton, and wife, Ann; Archibald Shelton and wife, Rhoda; Archibald was the son of Eliphaz; Hannah Shelton, oldest child of Eliphaz & Ann; Peany Shelton Sharp, daughter of Eliphaz and Ann; Sally Shelton Nowlin, daughter of Eliphaz & Ann and her husband Francis Nowlin; Frederick Shelton, son of Eliphaz & Ann. There may be others. The remaining undisturbed graves are probably those of the Shelton slaves.”

The location of this cemetery, dating back to 1787 and full of American Revolution and War of 1812 patriots has become of great interest to me. I have spent six months trying to find out

what happened to this invaluable piece of property and have received nothing but bad news. Several people reached out to tell me that the cemetery was overlooking the Mayo River on the ridge between the trailer park (1960’s-1990’s) and the back of Curtis Carter’s childhood home-place.

From what I have discovered, the landowner, (now deceased) was aware of the cemetery and it was dug up, in order to make room for the bypass road named Wood Brothers Drive at the bottom of Main Street. The remains of these patriots and early settlers were taken to the largest perpetual-care cemetery in Patrick County. According to this cemetery, which has changed ownership, there are no records of burials from the Eliphaz Shelton Cemetery ever taking place. I am sick at heart that no respect or regard was given to these early settlers, patriots, and likely, enslaved Africans.

I know there is a way these brave pioneers can be honored and remembered for all the contributions they made to Patrick County; they donated the land for the town, for goodness sake! There certainly is no way to make up for the destruction of a family cemetery, but I would love to hear from other like-minded individuals who think there should be some sort of memorial to Eliphaz Shelton and his family. I want to especially thank Deborah Lee for corresponding back and forth from Oregon to ensure that I get this family story complete and correct. 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 – Does Some of my Social Security Payment Include Repayment of my Contributions?

Dear Rusty: I have a question about my Social Security benefits. Would I be correct to assume that part of the monthly Social Security income I get is a repayment of what I contributed to the fund while I was working? If so, how much of my monthly benefit payment is my own money coming back to me? Signed: *Curious Beneficiary*

Dear Curious: I’m afraid that is not how Social Security works. The money you contribute to Social Security during your working years does not go into a special account to be repaid to you. Rather, the Social Security taxes your pay while working are used to pay benefits to all those currently receiving Social Security benefits. The system is, in effect, a “pay as you go” program where all those currently contributing help pay benefits for all those now receiving. What your contributions do, however, is earn you “quarter credits” and, when you have enough credits, you become eligible for Social Security retirement benefits for life. Generally, someone must have about 40 quarters (about 10 years) contributing

to Social Security to be eligible for SS retirement benefits.

How much you receive monthly is determined not by how much you contributed but, rather, by how much your work earnings were over your lifetime. You will get a percentage of your average pre-retirement work income as your monthly Social Security payment, but that is also affected by your age when you claim benefits. It is your average lifetime earnings (adjusted for inflation) which determines your “Primary Insurance Amount” (or “PIA”). Your PIA is what you get at your Social Security full retirement age (FRA), but your age when you claim benefits determines if you get more or less than your PIA. Claiming SS before your FRA means a smaller monthly benefit, while waiting longer than your FRA means a benefit higher than your PIA. (SS benefits reach maximum at age 70). FYI, each person’s FRA is different based on the year they were born, but full retirement age today is between age 66 and 67. When you claim benefits relative to your FRA determines how much of your PIA you will receive each month.

So, your contributions to Social Security aren’t used to determine your monthly benefit amount, but your average lifetime work earnings and age when you claim are. Nevertheless, you may be interested to know that most people get back ev-

erything they have personally contributed to Social Security within about 3 to 5 years of collecting their benefits. In that sense, Social Security is an exceptionally good deal, since most Americans now collect benefits for about two decades. And therein lies much of Social Security’s financial dilemma – people are now collecting benefits for many more years than the current program is designed to support. And that is what Congress needs to fix as soon as possible. The Social Security trust funds (which now provide supplemental money to pay benefits) are projected to be depleted around 2033, which will mean a cut in everyone’s monthly Social Security payment, unless Congress acts soon to reform the program and restore it to fiscal solvency.

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.

3 Days and 3 Keys to Undo Diabetes and Restart Your Health - Part 1

Three days and three goals for a healthy new you!

You’ll probably agree that getting started is the most difficult part of the change. Most of us have a long list of goals we’d like to accomplish. But for some reason, our dreams don’t always turn into realities. It’s difficult to turn intention into action.

That’s why I’m excited to introduce Restart Your Health. This power-packed, 3-day plan will jumpstart your wellness journey and stage you for success. We’ve taken out the guesswork and created a simple way for you to start strong.

Believe it or not, most people with type 2 diabetes or prediabetes can dramatically lower their blood sugars in less than three days. How? By following three simple keys to success.

The 3 Restart Keys

Restart Your Blood Sugars – Check your blood sugars. Record your blood sugar before each meal and two hours after the beginning of each meal. If you’re on insulin, you also need to check at bedtime.

Restart Your Food – Eat three balanced meals each day without snacking. Build your meals around non-starchy vegetables and legumes. Avoid animal products, refined grains, sugar, and oil. Limit starch consumption to one to two servings per meal, and continue to check blood sugars.

Restart Your Exercise Plan – Walk 10-20+ minutes after each meal. After-meal exercise is a secret weapon to lower blood sugar spikes.

Let’s take a closer look at each of your action items.

1. Restart Your Blood Sugars

We promote diet and exercise change that can rapidly lower blood sugars. You may need to lower your insulin or oral diabetes medication within just a day or two of starting. Many people who follow this program have discontinued all blood sugar meds within one to two weeks. This is great news! But it needs to be done safely and in collaboration with your healthcare team. It’s

impossible to know how quickly your blood sugars will drop since everyone is different. That’s why testing is critical. On the Restart plan, you must test your blood sugars before and after every meal. Your health care providers need this information to know what recommendations to make for adjusting your medications. Tracking your blood sugars will also help you learn how various foods are impacting your blood sugars.

The goal is eventually to get your blood sugars to:

- Under 100 before meal
- Under 160 1 hour after meal
- Under 140 2 hours after meal

Because this program is so effective, it can quickly lower your need for diabetes-related medications. That’s why the number one concern is to prevent dangerous drops in blood sugar. Checking blood sugars regularly will guide you and your medical team to adjust your medications and keep you safe.

Since low blood sugars are very dangerous, it would be better to err on the side of taking too little medication than too much. Since you are checking your blood sugars frequently, repeated high blood sugars at certain times of the day can easily be corrected after you have adjusted to the right diet and exercise strategies. Typically, insulin is adjusted by only about 10 percent every few days, but in an intensive lifestyle intervention program, insulin and oral medications may need to be adjusted dramatically by as much as 50 to 100 percent within days. This is all determined by your blood sugar response to the program.

Some people with type 2 diabetes are no longer able to produce adequate amounts of insulin. This occurs when the pancreas has been damaged over time from chronically high blood sugars. These individuals will have higher blood sugars and won’t require as rapid an adjustment in insulin and oral medications. However,

they have a good chance of eventually reducing the amount of medication they need. More importantly, they will experience a much higher quality of health and greatly lower their risk of diabetes related complications.

Remember, check your blood sugars frequently to stay healthy and safe!

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



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Fire Risks in College Housing Detailed During Campus Fire Safety Month

As the new school year approaches, college students nationwide are preparing to move into campus dormitories and off-campus housing. The National Fire Protection Association® (NFPA®) and The Center for Campus Fire Safety™ (CCFS) collaborate on the annual Campus Fire Safety Month campaign every September to ensure students, parents, and campus housing staff and administrators have the relevant information and resources they need to make resident living spaces as safe as possible from fires and associated hazards.

The latest statistics, according to NFPA, show that U.S. fire departments responded to an estimated average of 3,331 structure fires each year in dormitories, fraternity houses, sorority houses, and barracks between 2018 and 2022. Fires in dormitory-type properties caused an annual average of 21 civilian deaths, 23 civilian injuries, and \$21 million in direct property damage during that period. Approximately three out of four fires in these properties began in the kitchen or cooking area, accounting for 58 percent of the civilian injuries and 11 percent of the direct property damage. Cooking equipment was involved in nearly eight out of 10 fires.

“As students return to campus this fall, many of them will be preparing their own meals. Some will be using kitchen appliances for the

first time or cooking food after studying or coming home late from a party,” said Lorraine Carli, vice president of Outreach and Advocacy at NFPA and CCFS Advisory Council member. “The data tells us that more education is needed about when and where cooking hazards exist, along with ways to prevent them. Campus Fire Safety Month is a great way to raise public awareness of fire safety on our college campuses.”

NFPA and CCFS offer a wealth of tips and resources for cooking safely in resident housing, including these key messages:

- *If you are sleepy or have consumed alcohol, don't use the stove or stovetop.
- *Stay in the kitchen while preparing meals; use a timer to remind you that you're cooking.
- *Keep anything that can catch fire — oven mitts, wooden utensils, food packaging, towels or curtains — away from your stovetop.
- *Further, while cooking remains a leading cause of fires in campus housing, there is growing concern on college campuses about the increasing number of fires caused by lithium-ion batteries.

Alan Sactor, vice president of the Center for Campus Fire Safety, said, “Micromobility devices like e-bikes and e-scooters and smaller electronics such as cell phones, laptops, and tablets are vital to the daily life of college stu-

dents. However, the mishandling or misuse of these batteries can lead to safety hazards such as overheating, fire, or even explosions. NFPA and the CCFS are working together to help educate students on how to use, store, and charge these devices safely to reduce the risk of fire.”

The NFPA and CCFS provide several resources and tips for safely buying, charging, storing, and using lithium-ion batteries to help prevent fires:

- *Use only charging equipment that is supplied with your device.
- *Do not keep charging the device or device battery after it is fully charged.
- *Stop using your device if the battery shows signs of damage, such as an unusual odor, excessive heat, popping sounds, swelling, or change in color.

In 2023, CCFS launched the Micromobility/Lithium-Ion Battery Fire Reporting Program for fire safety professionals. The program aims to support the development of educational programs, policies, and advocacy efforts to help reduce the risk of these battery fires on college campuses. Learn more and submit a fire incident on the CCFS website.

For this information and more about the Campus Fire Safety Month campaign and to find free resources and safety tips, visit nfpa.org/campussafety and the CCFS webpage.

Girl Scout Silver Award Presented

Emma Purdy and Halo Martin, of Girl Scout Troop #1302, were presented with their Silver Award at the Girl Scout Bridging ceremony on Mon. Aug. 12. These girls each worked more than 50 hours planning, working and presenting their projects.

Emma prepared the land, installed concrete blocks and finally placed a bench onto the blocks. The bench has a plaque that tells this bench was donated in honor of Cecil and Barbara Hall. The bench is near the play area so is useful for parents to sit and watch their children when at the park or for the children to sit and rest or for anyone walking by to have a seat to rest a bit.

Halo repainted the sign that identifies the park. She had to sand the sign and prepare it for painting. She designed the sign to be pleasing for people to see, and then painted it for all to see and know this is Dominion Valley Park.

The girls did their projects at the park



as a thank you for allowing the girl scouts to use the park twice a year for weekend camporees. Both girls were helped in their projects with other members of their Girl Scout troop as well as leaders, parents and friends.

This award is the second these girls have received. They earned

their Bronze Award as Junior Girl Scouts and now the Silver as a Cadette Girl Scout. Next, they will begin work on the highest award in Girl Scouting - their Gold Award. Leaders, parents and other troop members are very proud of these girls for their accomplishment of their Silver Award.

Gold Bar Scams

Olympic athletes aren't the only ones after gold this summer. Criminal scammers are increasingly trying to steal your savings through gold bar schemes.

Criminals may impersonate representatives from the government to convince you that your bank account is compromised. They'll instruct you to withdraw your money and convert it into gold, before sending a "courier" to collect the bars for safe storage. However, once your gold is picked up, they'll cut off contact and disappear. Thankfully, there are some warning signs of gold bar schemes.

No legitimate entity is going to ask you to buy gold. In addition, you should always be very wary if someone suggests that you must move your money to make it safe. While the involvement of couriers in gold bar scams may make it appear more legitimate, it's another red flag.

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

SBA Disaster Loan Program includes VA counties

Patrick and Henry counties, along with Carroll and Grayson, are included in the U.S. Small Business Administration's (SBA's) federal Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDLs).

The four Virginia counties are included in the announced loan program in North Carolina for small businesses, small agricultural cooperatives, small businesses engaged in aquaculture, and most private nonprofit organizations with economic losses due to drought that began on July 9.

“Working capital loans from the SBA are essential to eligible small businesses when the Secretary of

Agriculture declares a disaster due to farmers' crop losses,” said Francisco Sánchez, Jr., Associate Administrator for the SBA's Office of Disaster Recovery and Resilience. “These loans help sustain rural economies when a disaster occurs.”

Under this declaration, the SBA's Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) program is available to eligible farm-related and non-farm-related entities that suffered financial losses as a direct result of this disaster.

Apart from aquaculture enterprises, the SBA cannot provide disaster loans to agricultural producers, farmers, and ranchers. Nurseries are eligible to apply for economic injury disaster loans for losses caused by drought conditions.

The loan amount can be up to \$2 million with interest rates of 4% for small businesses and 3.25% for private nonprofit organizations, with terms up to 30 years. Interest does not accrue, and payments are not due, until 12 months from

the date of the first loan disbursement.

The SBA sets loan amounts and terms based on each applicant's financial condition. Eligibility is based on the size of the applicant, type of activity and its financial resources. These working capital loans may be used to pay fixed debts, payroll, accounts payable, and other bills that could have been paid had the disaster not occurred. The loans are not intended to replace lost sales or profits.

For information and to apply online visit SBA.gov/disaster. Applicants may also call the SBA's Customer Service Center at (800) 659-2955 or email disastercustomerservice@sba.gov for more information on SBA disaster assistance. For people who are deaf, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability, please dial 7-1-1 to access telecommunications relay services.

Submit completed loan applications to SBA no later than March 24, 2025.

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Arrests Reported

The Patrick County Sheriff's Office reported the following:

*Erick Louis Alwine, 23, of Stuart, was charged Aug. 5 with fail to appear. Senior Deputy I.R. Wood was the arresting officer.

*Alivia Ann Gail Law, 22, of Stuart, was charged Aug. 6 with unauthorized use of vehicle. Inv. F.M. Hubbard was the arresting officer.

*DeShaun Hughes, 36, of Stuart, was charged Aug. 7 with fail to appear. Sgt. L.K. Carroll, Jr., was the arresting officer.

*Anthony Clinton Slover, 47, of Stuart, was charged Aug. 7 with one count each threaten to bomb/burn building and assault. Inv. J.W. Kruse was the arresting officer.

*Benjamin Codey Cromer, 32, of Lawsonville, N.C., was charged Aug. 8 with trespass. Senior Trooper J.N Mabe was the arresting officer.

ficer.

*Christopher Taylor Canipe, 45, no address available, was charged Aug. 12 with obstruct justice. Senior Deputy C. Gilbert was the arresting officer.

*Skylar Dwayne Dix, 30, of Martinsville City Jail, was charged Aug. 12 with probation violation. Martinsville City PD made the arrest for Patrick County.

*Tawnya Lynn West, 48, of Myrtle Beach, S.C., was charged Aug. 13 with fail to appear. Deputy H. Hylton was the arresting officer.

*Vernon Leon Henry Charles, 39, of Stuart, was charged Aug. 14 with probation violation. Sgt. J.C. Pick-erel was the arresting officer.

*Robin Davis, 43, Stuart, was charged Aug. 14 with obstruction of justice. Lt. D.L. Foley was the arresting officer.

Draft cell phone guidance includes 'bell-to-bell' policy

The Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) has developed draft guidance for school divisions on policies and procedures to establish cell phone-free education and remove cell phones and personal electronic communication devices from Virginia's public school classrooms.

The draft guidance defines cell phone-free education in Virginia's schools as "bell-to-bell," meaning phones should be turned off and stored away from the first bell at the start of the school day to begin instructional time until the dismissal bell rings at the end of the academic school day. "Bell-to-bell" includes lunch and time in between class periods.

The draft has been published on VDOE's website and is available for review and comment through September 15.

To better understand Virginians' expectations for cell phone-free education, Superintendent of Public Instruction Lisa Coons hosted nine Commonwealth Conversations throughout the state. More than 600 parents, teachers, division superintendents, principals, community members, and students attended the Conversations, and nearly an additional 1,500 commented on the VDOE website.

Coons and other state education and mental health leaders also participated in 11 additional stakeholder group conversations with over an additional 500 community and faith leaders, parent organizations, school boards, superintendents, principals, and school nurse associations to better understand their concerns on cell phones and personal electronic communication devices.

"The extensive input we received from Virginians was clear and direct," Coons said. "They asked for cell phones and personal electronic communication devices to be removed from our children's public schools during the school day at every level—elementary, middle, and high school. By refocusing our students' attention back into learning and away from their phones and social media, all our children will have a better opportunity to learn and succeed academically."

The draft guidance came after Gov. Glenn Youngkin issued Executive Order 33 on July 9, to help bring cell phone-free education to Virginia schools. It also incorporates age-appropriate cell phone restrictions in Virginia's elementary and secondary public schools.

If a parent determines an elementary student needs to bring a cell phone or personal electronic communication device to school, it must be stored, off, and away from the student during the school day. It should not be used in the school building or on the school grounds before or after school.

In middle school, a student should not have an easily available cell phone or personal electronic communication device during the bell-to-bell school day. School divisions should establish local policies that determine cell phone and personal electronic communication device use within the school building or on school grounds outside of bell-to-bell, including before and after school.

In high school, students should not have an easily accessible cell phone or personal electronic communication device during the bell-to-bell school day. Outside of the bell-to-bell

instructional time, cell phones and personal electronic communication devices may be used on a high school campus before or after school.

When considering cell phone-free education, parents expressed concerns regarding students with documented medical conditions who use their phones to monitor their medical needs. Incorporating input from school nurses, pediatricians, and health care officials, the draft guidance recognizes students with medical needs may have a medical exemption to the bell-to-bell policy included in their Individualized Education Plan, 504 plan, and/or individualized health care plans.

Parents throughout the Commonwealth were also very clear that they wanted the ability to know about their child's well-being during an emergency. The draft guidance recognizes the importance of emergency communications to parents and requires that all school divisions build plans to communicate directly with parents, as well as reunification plans with children and parents, into their already required crisis and contingency plans. The draft guidance also encourages school divisions to discuss those emergency communication and reunification plans so that parents and students know how such situations will be handled proactively if they occur.

Parents also asked for the ability to communicate with their children during the school day in case of a family-based emergency. While many public schools already have such procedures in place, the draft guidance looks to school divisions to develop and share family-based emergency school plan procedures with parents and students, as well as post them on their website.

"This draft guidance is the result of Virginians coming together and saying, 'Enough,'" Secretary of Education Aimee Rogstad Guidera said. "Virginia parents and teachers have witnessed first-hand the damage cell phones in schools have had on our youth's academic, mental and physical health and social development. Communities are committed to implementing common sense approaches to restore vibrant and healthy learning environments for all our children throughout the Commonwealth."

"The Youngkin administration stands ready to support public schools, families, and communities as we change the culture around cell phones," Guidera added.

"This draft guidance clears the cloud of distraction over classrooms and creates an environment where Virginia students can meaningfully connect with their schoolwork, friends, and teachers," stated Secretary of Health and Human Resources Janet Kelly. "I anticipate this guidance having a positive impact far beyond the classroom."

After considering Virginians' feedback to the draft guidance, the VDOE will issue final guidance on September 16.

School divisions will adopt policies and procedures by January 1. School divisions are encouraged to review their current policies and adopt age-appropriate policies and procedures aligned with the final guidance ahead of this date or policies that are more comprehensive than the final guidance.

Federal funding will boost healthcare expansion in Patrick County

A healthcare project in Patrick County is set to receive significant federal funding as part of the U.S. Senate's Fiscal Year 2025 draft funding bills, according to a release from U.S. Sens. Mark R. Warner and Tim Kaine. The two successfully secured \$772,000 for Martinsville Henry County Coalition for Health and Wellness to expand access to medical, dental, and behavioral health services in Patrick County.

As part of the Fiscal Year 2025 appropriations process, members of Congress worked with their constituents to request funding for local community projects, otherwise known as earmarks, in a manner that promotes transparency and accountability. The senators worked to secure more than \$125 million for community projects across the Commonwealth in the 11 bills released by the Senate so far. In addition to battling for these priorities, the two vow to work to ensure funds obtained by Virginia House members also remain in the final spending bills.

So far, 11 of 12 appropriations bills have been passed out of the Senate Appropriations Committee on a broad bipartisan basis. Senate appropriators continue to work to negotiate the 12th and final bill, which would provide funding for homeland security priorities.

Many other provisions championed by Warner and Kaine also were included in the 11 government funding bills. Among them:

*Boosting Local Economies: Includes \$200 million for the Appalachian Regional Commission and \$21 million for the Southeast Crescent Regional Commission to support their work to build economic partnerships, create opportunity, and foster economic development.

*Fighting the Flow of Fentanyl: Includes \$1.4 billion to strengthen law enforcement cooperation between governments and to counter drug trafficking. This includes \$170 million — \$45 million more than fis-

cal year 2024 — to support efforts to stop global flows of fentanyl and other synthetic drugs, as well as their precursor materials, including through the implementation of the FENTANYL Results Act. Sen. Kaine also secured \$88 million for the Caribbean Basin Security Initiative, which fosters joint government efforts on counternarcotics, migration, and law enforcement. Sen. Kaine recently traveled to Brownsville and McAllen, Texas to discuss fentanyl interdiction at the southern border with various law enforcement agencies and international partners from Mexico. Last year, significant portions of Sen. Kaine's bipartisan Disrupt Fentanyl Trafficking Act were signed into law to direct increased federal attention to fentanyl trafficking and strengthen U.S.-Mexico cooperation on drug trafficking. The senators also helped pass a supplemental national security funding package that included the FEND Off Fentanyl Act, bipartisan legislation cosponsored by Sens. Warner and Kaine, to strengthen the Treasury Department's ability to sanction transnational criminal organizations and others that launder money to facilitate opioid trafficking.

*Implementing the CHIPS and Science Act of 2022: Includes \$11.2 billion to implement the bipartisan CHIPS and Science Act of 2022, championed by Sens. Warner and Kaine. Funding will allow the U.S. to keep pace with China and other competitors in scientific fields that power the economy, such as artificial intelligence, quantum computing, microelectronics, clean energy, and advanced communications. Sen. Warner first introduced the Creating Helpful Incentives to Produce Semiconductors (CHIPS) for America Act in June 2020 along with Sen. John Cornyn (R-TX).

*Supporting Our National Parks: Includes \$2.99 billion for the operation of the National Park System, an increase of more than \$100 million from Fiscal Year 2024.

Initial filings for unemployment benefits increase

The 2,294 unemployment insurance weekly initial claims filed during the week ending August 10, 2024, is 18.4 percent higher than last week's 1,937 claims and 33.7 percent lower than the comparable week of last year (3,460), according to Virginia Works. Nearly 73 percent of claimants self-reported an associated industry; of those reported, the top five industries (56 percent) were Administrative and Support and Waste Management (256); Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services (212); Health Care and Social Assistance (185); Retail Trade (146); and Manufacturing (137).

Continued weeks claims (16,675) were 1.3 percent lower than last week (16,893) and were 21.6 percent higher than the comparable week of last year (13,710). Nearly 93 percent of claimants self-re-

ported an associated industry; of those reported, the top five industries (58 percent) were Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services (2,498); Administrative and Support and Waste Management (2,225); Health Care and Social Assistance (1,629); Accommodation and Food Services (1,381); and Manufacturing (1,357).

A person who has already filed an initial claim and who has experienced a week of unemployment files a continued claim to claim benefits for that week of unemployment. On a weekly basis, continued claims reflect a good approximation of the current number of insured unemployed workers filing for UI benefits, and are a good indicator of labor market conditions. While continued claims are not a leading indicator, they provide confirming evidence of the direction of the economy.



Estate Auction

923 Mulberry Road, Martinsville, VA 24112
Saturday, August 24, 2024 - 10:00 AM

Directions: From Starling Avenue, turn onto Mulberry Road (at First Baptist Church) go to House #923 on left. Auction sign in yard.

Partial Listing: (Selling by the room) * Henkel-Harris Corner Hutch * Omega Gold Plated Watch * Lead Crystal Vase * Gun Cabinet * Radio Controlled Airplane, 5' Wingspan * Stack-on Tool Box/tools * Hand Tools * Refrigerator * Arnold Palmer Award Plate * Secretary * Computer Desk * Lane Cedar Chest * Dresser by Bassett * Aircraft Stamps * Dresser by Hooker * Lamps * Twin Beds * Book Shelves * Crossley Radio * Recliner * Sofa * End Tables * TV * Picture of Airplane signed by Jack Hankins WWII * Ceramic Heater * Leaf Blower * Patio Furniture * Step Ladder * Lawn Mowers * Dolly * Large Assortment of glass ware / serving sets / different patterns, Plates / Saucers / Cups / Bowls * Baking Ware * Frying Pans * Stoneware, Cooking Utensils — too many to list * Coffee Maker * Juicer * Martha Stewart Stock Pot * Upright Vacuum * Many Pictures * Earth-ware Set * Recent purchased \$2600 Recliner * Office Furniture * Asus Computer with Flight Controls * Lead Crystal Clock * Area Table by Bombay * Poster Bed * Jewelry Stand * Lane Cedar Chest * Much Furniture by Hooker / Bassett / Henkel Harris * Watches * Bracelets * A Lot of Collectable * Whirlpool Washer/Dryer * Lawn/Garden Tools * and many, many more items! Too much to list.

Terms/Conditions - Selling for the Estate of Ronald R. Crouch; who was a successful businessman in this area and which can be seen in the contents of the home. **Personal Property** — Selling "AS IS". Sale goes to highest Bidder, 10% Buyers Premium. Cash or Good Check. Items must be paid for before leaving the premises. Announcements made day of Auction supersede all prior communications. Contact Auction Office for details. **Berry Elliot Agent will be on premises for sale of House.**

ANOTHER PROFESSIONAL AUCTION CONDUCTED BY:

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Illegally imported food prompts health alert

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) issued a public health alert for various meat and poultry products that were illegally imported from the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, a country that is ineligible to export meat and poultry products to the United States.

Among the products covered in the alert are several Grandma Style brand products, including Sardine in Tomato Sauce, Fried Carp with Curry Paste, Anabas Curry and several others. Visit www.fsis.usda.gov/sites for a complete list of the products that are subject to the public health alert, regardless of the product date.

The products subject to the public health alert do not bear any import marks on the la-

bel. These items were shipped to retail locations nationwide.

The problem was discovered when the FSIS was performing routine surveillance activities at a retailer and found meat and poultry products from Myanmar that are not eligible to be exported to the U.S.

There have been no confirmed reports of adverse reactions due to consumption of these products. Anyone concerned about an illness should contact a health care provider.

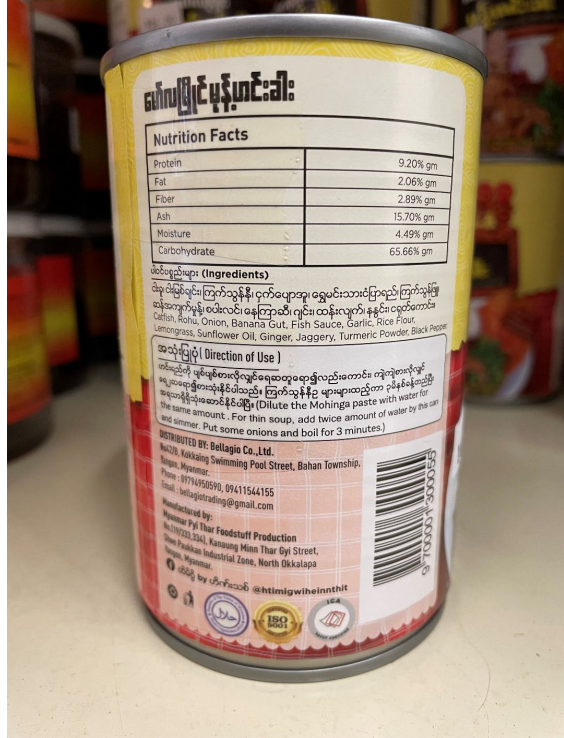
The FSIS is concerned that some product may be in consumers' pantries and on retailers' shelves. Retailers who have purchased the products are urged not to sell them. Consumers who have purchased these products are urged not to consume them. These prod-

ucts should be thrown away or returned to the place of purchase.

The FSIS is continuing to investigate how these products entered the country.

Consumers with questions about the alert can contact Pyae Phyo Thandar, Sales Manager at Hong Sar, LLC – Hinthar Inc., at (317) 701-4039 or kinghongsar@gmail.com.

Consumers with food safety questions can call the toll-free USDA Meat and Poultry Hotline at 888-MPHotline (888-674-6854) or send a question via email to MPHotline@usda.gov. For consumers that need to report a problem with a meat, poultry, or egg product, the online Electronic Consumer Complaint Monitoring System can be accessed 24 hours a day at <https://foodcomplaint.fsis.usda.gov/eCCF/>.



Hti Mi Gwi Mawlamyine Mohinga UPC 9700001300055



Hti Mi Gwi Mawlamyine Mohinga UPC 9700001300055



Striped Catfish & Mango Curry UPC 8834000186455



Grandma Style Steamed Carp Fish (labeled Beef Curry) UPC 8834000127090



Grandma Style Ohn No Khao Swe UPC 8834000127236



San Pya Daw Kyi UPC 8834000198182



Grandma Style Chickpea Curry (labeled Mutton Soup) UPC 8834000127137



San Pya Daw Kyi UPC 8834000198182



Grandma Steamed Nga Gyin Fish (labeled Beef Curry) UPC unknown



Grandma Style Fried Carp with Curry Paste (labeled Goat Curry) UPC 4669048000009



Fish with Salt (labeled Beef) UPC unknown



Grandma Style Sardine in Tomato Sauce (labeled Beef Curry) UPC 8834000127021



Grandma Style Anabas Curry (labeled Duck) UPC 8834000186141



Grandma Style Striped Catfish & Mango Curry UPC 8834000186448



Grandma Style Steamed Duck UPC 4669148000005



Grandma Style Striped Catfish & Tomato Curry UPC 8834000186479



Grandma Style Striped Catfish & Tomato Curry UPC 8834000186462



Grandma Style Catfish & Noni Leaf Curry UPC 8834000186486

IRS pushed for faster review of employee retention credit claims

Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Commissioner Danny Werfel received a letter from Sens. Mark Warner and Tim Kaine expressing concern regarding the current backlog of Employee Retention Credit (ERC) claims and persistent delays for Virginia taxpayers awaiting payment.

Both said they regularly hear from constituents regarding their unprocessed claims and lack of transparency and communication from the IRS regarding the status of these claims.

“While we applaud the work IRS has done since June 20th to root out improper claims and identify valid claims, we continue to hear from an increasing number of Virginians frustrated by the lack of clarity on when their individual claims will be adjudicated,” the letter stated.

“As you know, businesses and other organizations need answers about their ERC claims to determine whether to undertake investments in operations, workforce, and capital projects. Unfortunately, many of our constituents are telling us they cannot make informed decisions because they have no knowledge as to when and if their claims will be processed. Many Virginia organizations with ERC claims have been waiting a year or more with no response whatsoever from the agency. Despite our best efforts to advocate on behalf of these constituents, engagement from our offices have similarly yielded little to no clarity on when claims will be processed. Simply put, this is unacceptable,” Kaine, D-Richmond, and Warner, D-Alexandria, wrote.

The ERC was created in response to COVID-19 to incentivize employers to keep their employees on payroll and off unemployment during the height of the pandemic. Virginia small businesses kept those promises, but years later, due to IRS processing delays, many are still waiting to receive the tax credits they believe they are due.

The IRS asserts that in the wake of the pandemic the program was overwhelmed by improper and, at times, fraudulent claims. In order to address this, last fall, the IRS announced a moratorium on processing claims submitted after Sept. 14, 2023, however this moratorium offered no clear path forward to those who had submitted legitimate claims. On June 26th, 2024 National Taxpayer Advocate Erin M. Collins reported that the backlog of ERC claims awaiting adjudication had grown to about 1.4 million.

The IRS has taken action in recent months to address the backlog. On June 20, the IRS announced the end of a detailed review of over 1 million ERC claims and confirmed that a significant portion were improperly filed. The Service stated it would begin to deny high-risk claims while “judiciously processing” claims found with low levels of risk. More recently, the Service announced that it was moving forward with processing ERC claims submitted before January 31, 2024, including processing a block of 50,000 low-risk claims for payment – a step the senators welcomed. However, they said the lack of clarity and information from the IRS is still a major concern.

The letter requested the IRS to answer specific questions:

- The IRS’ June 20th announcement indicated that over 1 million ERC claims have been categorized into three designated categories: 10%-20% are “Highest-risk” 60%-70% are “Unacceptable risk,” and 10%-20% are “low risk”. On August 8th, IRS announced that 28,000 high-risk claims received disallowance letters, “thousands” of unacceptable-risk claims are under audit, and 50,000 low-risk claims are being processed and should receive payment soon. This still leaves hundreds of thousands of claims the IRS has yet to act on. What is the timeline for the remaining applicants? When will all pending claims have received an initial response, whether it be approval, denial, or request for further information?

- How will filers not part of either initial group be made aware that their claims will take longer?

- How were the 50,000 claims IRS has said will soon receive payment identified? Was any consideration given to the financial situation of the taxpayers in that block? Now that processing of valid claims is beginning to ramp up, will there be a pathway for taxpayers reporting with documented financial hardship to have their claims adjudicated more quickly?

- We have made numerous inquiries on behalf of Virginians and receive new requests frequently. How does the agency intend to partner with our offices to ensure that these inquiries are reviewed and addressed in a timely manner?

July’s unemployment rate unchanged at 2.7 percent

Virginia’s seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in July remained unchanged at 2.7 percent, which is 0.1 percentage points above the rate from a year ago, according to Virginia Works and the most recent data available.

Household survey data in July suggested the labor force decreased by 4,066 to 4,570,647 as the number of unemployed residents increased by 2,160 to 124,643. The number of employed residents decreased by 6,226 to 4,446,004. Virginia’s seasonally adjusted unemployment rate is 1.6 percentage points below the national rate, which increased by 0.2 percentage points to 4.3 percent.

The Commonwealth’s labor force participation rate decreased by 0.1 percentage points to 66.1 percent in July. The labor force participation rate measures the proportion of the civilian population aged 16 and older that is employed or actively looking for work.

In July, Virginia’s nonagricultural employment, from the monthly establishment survey increased by 4,800 to 4,256,200. June’s preliminary estimate of employment, after revision, decreased by 9,500 to 4,251,400. In July, private sector employment increased by 5,300 to 3,510,300 while government employment decreased by 500 to 745,900. Within that sector, federal government jobs decreased by 100 to 192,000, state government employment increased by 2,100 to 160,900, and local government decreased by 2,500 to 393,000 over the month.

Seasonally adjusted total nonfarm employment data is produced for eleven industry sectors. In July, five experienced over-the-month job gains, two remained unchanged, and four experienced a decline. The largest job gain occurred in Leisure and Hospitality (+4,600) to 420,300. The second largest job gain occurred in Professional and Business Services (+2,100) to 823,600. The third largest job gain occurred in Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (+800) to 678,900. The other gains were in Construction (+300) to 225,800, and Miscellaneous Services (+100)

to 205,000.

The largest job loss occurred in Financial Activities (-1,800) to 219,800. The second largest job loss occurred in Information (-600) to 71,000. The third largest job loss occurred in Government (-500) to 745,900. The other loss was in Education and Health Services (-200) to 608,400.

Manufacturing as well as Mining and Logging remained unchanged.

From July 2023 to July 2024, Virginia Works estimates that total nonfarm employment in Virginia increased by 84,400 to 4,256,200, private sector employment increased by 72,500 to 3,510,300, and government employment increased by 11,900 to 745,900 jobs. Within that sector, federal government jobs increased by 2,700 to 192,000, state government employment increased by 7,000 to 160,900, and local government increased by 2,200 to 393,000 over the year.

For the eleven industry sectors in Virginia over the year, nine experienced over-the-year job gains, one remained unchanged, and one experienced a decline. The largest job gain occurred in Education and Health Services (+24,900) to 608,400. The second largest job gain occurred in Professional and Business Services (+14,500) to 823,600. The third largest job gain occurred in Government (+11,900) to 745,900. The other gains were in Construction (+11,300) to 225,800; Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (+6,900) to 678,900; Leisure and Hospitality (+6,800) to 420,300; Miscellaneous Services (+5,600) to 205,000; Manufacturing (+4,200) to 250,200; and Information (+1,000) to 71,000.

The only job loss occurred in Financial Activities (-2,700) to 219,800. Mining and Logging remained unchanged.

Seasonally adjusted total nonfarm employment data is produced for ten metropolitan areas. In July, eight experienced over-the-month job gains, and two experienced a decline. The largest job gain occurred in Virginia Beach-Norfolk-Newport News (+3,300)

to 824,900. The second largest job gain occurred in Richmond (+2,700) to 728,800. The third largest job gain occurred in Roanoke (+1,000) to 169,700. The other gains were in Harrisonburg (+500) to 72,900; Winchester (+500) to 73,500; Blacksburg-Christiansburg-Radford (+300) to 85,900; Charlottesville (+300) to 128,400; and Staunton (+100) to 54,200.

The largest job loss occurred in Northern Virginia (-4,600) to 1,598,700. The second largest job loss occurred in Lynchburg (-300) to 105,900.

Over the year, all metro areas experienced over-the-year job gains. The largest job gain occurred in Northern Virginia (+22,300) to 1,598,700. The second largest job gain occurred in Richmond (+18,600) to 728,800. The third largest job gain occurred in Virginia Beach-Norfolk-Newport News (+16,500) to 824,900. The other gains were in Charlottesville (+5,500) to 128,400; Roanoke (+5,000) to 169,700; Blacksburg-Christiansburg-Radford (+3,500) to 85,900; Lynchburg (+2,100) to 105,900; Winchester (+1,700) to 73,500; Harrisonburg (+1,600) to 72,900; and Staunton (+500) to 54,200.

Not Seasonally Adjusted Data

Virginia’s unadjusted unemployment rate increased by 0.3 percentage points to 3.3 percent in July. It has increased by 0.4 percentage points to 3.3 percent compared to last year. Compared to a year ago, the number of unemployed increased by 20,081 to 151,694, household employment decreased by 15,986 to 4,454,089, and the labor force increased by 4,095 to 4,605,783. Virginia’s not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate is 1.2 percentage points below the national unadjusted rate, which increased by 0.2 percentage points to 4.5 percent.

Compared to last month, the July unadjusted workweek for Virginia’s 160,200 manufacturing production workers increased by 0.9 to 39.8 hours. Average hourly earnings of private-sector production workers decreased by \$0.20 to \$26.32, and average weekly earnings increased by \$15.91 to \$1,047.54.

No Fuss Perennials for Sun and Shade

By Ginnie Conaway and Sherry Easterbrooks

Patrick County Master Gardeners

For those of you who love flowers but have limited time or energy to care for them, consider a few no fuss perennials for sun or shade. The wonderful thing about perennials is that they return year after year. Saving you time and the expense of purchasing new plants each spring. Annuals bloom all summer, never varying, but most perennials bloom for two to four weeks, giving you an ever-changing parade of color and something new to look forward to during the growing season. In addition, perennials come in an array of flora and foliage to delight the senses without much upkeep. Whether you are looking to create an attractive garden in full sun or one with little to no direct sunlight there are perennials that will meet your needs.

To have something in bloom from spring to late fall in your sun-filled garden, it’s helpful to plan for bloom succession. Peonies and Iris bloom in early spring along with many bulbs. The perennials that follow, such as salvias, penstemon (beardstongue), cranesbill geraniums, and veronica will help hide aging bulb foliage. Summer brings nepeta (catmint), hemerocallis (daylilies), asclepias tuberosa (butterfly milkweed), monarda (beebalm), hibiscus, leucothoes (shasta daisies), lavender, and perennial poppies to your sunny garden. Late summer stars include, rudbeckia (black-eyed susan), heliopsis (false sunflowers), achillea (yarrow), and Agastache (hyssop or hummingbird mint). The growing season in your sun garden finishes with fall asters, eutrochium purpureum (joe-pye weed), chrysanthemums, and the ornamental grasses that will provide winter interest. Many of these perennials are native and will attract pollinators and/or provide seed for songbirds and small mammals. Another benefit is that many of these perennials spread or reseed, providing extra plants at no cost.

Shady gardens typically aren’t as flower-filled as sunny ones. Making flowers takes a lot of energy, which plants get from sunlight. The less sun available, the less energy the plants have and the fewer

flowers they produce. This does not mean you won’t have flowers at all, it just means that most of them won’t be as big and abundant as you would find in a sun-filled location (at least during the summer and fall). Gardens under deciduous trees can be absolutely spectacular in spring, when many woodland wildflowers take advantage of the ample sunlight before the trees leaf out and block the sun.

In the fall, consider planting spring blooming bulbs such as daffodil, crocus, snowdrops, grape hyacinth. These will all bring much welcomed color to your spring garden. Also consider spring-blooming non-native flowers such as English primrose (*primula vulgaris*), Solomon’s Seal, Wake Robin (*trillium grandiflora*), Dutchman’s Breeches (*Dicentra cucularia*). Definitely consider planting some of our amazing natives including, Wild Columbine (*Aquilegia canadensis*), Common Jack-In-The-Pulpit (*Arisaema triphyllum*), Bellwort (*Uvularia grandiflora*), Spring Beauty (*Claytonia virginica*), Dwarf Crested iris (*Iris cristata*), Woodland Phlox (*Phlox divaricata*), and Common Blue Violet (*Viola sororia*). All of these native and non-native perennials are examples of no-fuss early bloomers suitable for your “not so shady” spring shade garden.

As the season progresses other no-fuss perennials can be added. Starting at the back edge of your garden bed consider planting taller plants (3-4 feet) such as; Bleeding Heart (*Dicentra spectabilis*), Astilbe, and taller varieties of Hosta. Towards the middle of your bed place medium tall plants (18-24 inches) including; Hellebores, Coral bells (*heuchera*), Jacob’s Ladder (*Polmonium caeruleum*), Spiderwort (*Tradescantia*) and Foamflower (*Tiarellia cordifolia*). At the front of your garden border place lower growing (6- 12 inches) shade lovers such as Wild Ginger (*Asarum caudatum*), Wild Geranium (*Cranesbill*), Sweet Woodruff (*Galium odoratum*), Green and Gold (*Chrysogonum virginianum*), Lungwort (*Pulmonaria officinalis*), Wild stonecrop (*sedum ternatum*), and Barrenwort (*Epimedium*).

In addition to shade-loving, blooming perennials, shade-loving foliar plants are a must have in your limited sunlight garden. Ferns, hostas, and certain

woodland grasses and sedges fall into this category. These plants add color and texture to your shade garden. Hostas come in a variety of sizes from giants, which are taller than 28 inches, small hostas, which are 8 to 12 inches and minis, which are less than 8 inches. There are also hostas which fall into the medium and large category. Hostas also come in a variety of different colors. Shades of blue, green, variegated, and yellow, white with green edges, green with yellow edges, etc. In other words, if it fits the space you have and you find a color that you like, it’s most likely a good choice. Buy it. Plant it. Enjoy!

Ferns are another wonderful low-maintenance option for your shade garden. They too add texture and visual interest. Northern Maidenhair fern (*Adiantum pedatum*) grows to 1 ft. in height in full to partial shade. It is especially happy growing underneath deciduous trees. Southern Lady fern (*Athyrium asplenoides*) can reach heights of 3ft. and thrives in full shade though will tolerate some morning sun. Other ferns appropriate for your shade garden include the Sensitive Fern (*Onoclea sensibilis*), Cinnamon Fern (*Osmundastrueum cinnamomeum*), Marginal Wood Fern (*Dryopteris marginalis*), and Christmas Fern (*Polystichum acrostichoides*).

Whether you are growing plants in full sun or full shade or somewhere in-between there will always be challenges as well as benefits. Challenges include hungry deer, pesky voles, a myriad of tree roots, and weeds. While no fuss perennials generally look after themselves, your garden will always need some sort of maintenance whether it is pulling weeds, transplanting/dividing, mulching or an occasional pruning. No fuss is not the same as no maintenance.

Remember, choose the right plant for your site conditions and over time you will have a beautiful and peaceful retreat.

Resources: A Guide to Gardening With Southwest Native Plants; Smithsonian Encyclopedia of Garden Plants For Every Location; The Perennial Gardener’s Design Primer by: Stephanie Cohen and Nancy J. Ondra, and The Ultimate Flower Gardener’s Top Ten List by Kerry Ann Mendez.

Grammy-winning bluegrass heads to the Blue Ridge Music Center

The Alison Brown Quintet will perform as part of the Deep Roots, Many Voices: Summer Outdoor Concert Series at 7 p.m., Saturday, Aug. 24, in the Blue Ridge Music Center's outdoor amphitheater on the Blue Ridge Parkway just south of Galax, Va.

Brown is a Grammy-winning musician, Grammy-nominated producer, and co-founder of Compass Records Group, which celebrated its 30th anniversary in 2023. She is also one of The First Ladies of Bluegrass – an elite group of women who were the first in their categories to win Instrument of the Year awards from the International Bluegrass Music Association.

Brown began her musical career as a teenager in the Southern California bluegrass scene and has built a reputation as one of today's most forward



Alison Brown

thinking and innovative banjo players. She is known for taking the instrument far beyond its Appalachian roots by blending bluegrass and jazz influences into a sonic tapestry that has earned praise and recognition from a variety of national tastemakers including The Wall Street Journal, CBS Sunday Morning, NPR, and USA Today.

Brown has released 12 albums, including the Grammy-winning Fair

Weather (2000) and the acclaimed On Banjo (2023) on which she explores the range of the banjo on a set of original compositions with collaborators including Steve Martin and Kronos Quartet. Brown's first solo album Simple Pleasures (1990) was rereleased earlier this month. The Grammy-nominated album was remixed and remastered by Compass Sound Studio and features collaborations

(See Bluegrass p.20)

ONLINE AUCTION

Log Home & Acreage for Sale in Stuart, VA
Bidding Ends Wednesday, September 18th at 4 PM
2311 Central Academy Rd., Stuart, VA 24171
Bid NOW at VAAuctionPro.com

Searching for your weekend retreat or permanent home in the mountains of Patrick County, VA? Check out this 1,664 sq ft log home which features 3 bedrooms and 2 full baths. The kitchen appliances included a range, fridge, microwave and wood cook stove. The walls in the kitchen, living room, and dining area are wood, while the bedrooms and baths are a mix of wood and drywall. You will find hardwood flooring throughout the home, ceramic tile in the bathrooms, and vinyl in the laundry area. This home, which was constructed in 1999, features a full unfinished basement. The basement has been plumbed for a bathroom and could easily be finished into more living space. Downstairs you will also find a 2 car garage.

The home is surrounded by +/- 55.98 acres of wooded and open land with a small stream. Enjoy the views from the front porch. The barn would be ideal for equipment storage. Home does have a well, but it is no longer in working order, the current water source is a spring. The first approximately 400ft of the driveway is through a private, gravel right of way. The driveway leading to the home is paved.



Preview Date: Saturday, August 31st at 10 AM

TERMS & CONDITIONS: 10% Buyer's Premium will be added to final high bid to arrive at contract price. Earnest Money Deposit of \$5,000 is required on the day of sale. Close on or before November 4th, 2024. Subject to seller confirmation. Property sold as is, where is with any and all faults. Buyer is expected to complete their own due diligence before placing a bid. Auction starts ending at 4 PM on September 18th, 2024. Please note that during the last two minutes of bidding, if a new bid is placed, the clock is automatically extended an additional two minutes. Be sure to register to bid early to ensure you receive notifications regarding any changes to the Auction. Bidder Packet and/or Pre-Auction offers received. Download Bidder Information Pack for complete terms and conditions, purchase contract and maps.

CONTACT: Auctioneer Matt Gallimore at 540-239-2585 or email Gallimore.Matt@gmail.com. You can also contact Realtor Levi Cox 540-230-7162 or email LeviCox87@gmail.com

102 S. Locust Street,
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VAAuctionPro.com



**Blue Ridge
 Land & Auction**

ONLINE ONLY AUCTIONS

REAL ESTATE & PERSONAL PROPERTY MACHINERY SALES, LLC

27399 Jeb Stuart Hwy., Stuart, VA
Bid Monday, Aug. 26 - Ending Thursday, Sept. 5 at 11am
Preview: Friday, Aug. 30 & Saturday, Aug. 31 from 9am-4pm



Liquidation Auction

69 Corvette Stingray, Service Trucks, Trailer, Vehicles, Vintage & Collectible Signs, Gas Pumps, Clocks, Toolboxes, Welder, Tools, Shop Equipment & More!



See Website for Terms and Details.

www.RogersAuctionGroup.com

Keith Gunter
 Auctioneer/Sale Manager

276-952-5281 VAAL#2
 1310 EMS Dr, Mount Airy
 336-789-2926 NCAL#685



ONLINE ONLY AUCTION

4 INVESTMENT PROPERTIES IN CLAUDVILLE, VA

Bidding Begins Mon, August 19
Bidding Ends Thurs, August 29 at 10am
Preview: Wed, August 21 from 4pm-6pm



Property #1:
 309 & 327 State Line Rd.
 Claudville, VA
 2BR/2BA Trailer & 2BR/1BA House



Property #2:
 725 State Line Rd.
 Claudville, VA
 2BR/1.5BA House



Property #3:
 747 State Line Rd.
 Claudville, VA
 2BR/2BA Trailer



Property #4:
 1765 Holly Tree Rd.
 Ararat, VA
 14x66 Trailer, Totally Remodeled

See Website for Terms and Details.

www.RogersAuctionGroup.com



Keith Gunter
 Auctioneer/Sale Manager

276-952-5281 VAAL#2
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Bluegrass

(cont. from page 19)



Wayne Henderson

with Alison Krauss (fiddle), Mike Marshall (guitar, mandolin, fiddle), Matt Eakle (flute) and more.

Wayne Henderson and Friends will open the show. Henderson is an accomplished luthier and performer from Rugby, Va. He developed a unique musical style using a thumbpick and fingerpicks that mimics the sound of flatpicking — producing fast, accurate, clean notes.

In addition to handcrafting guitars that are coveted by musicians around the world, Henderson has won more than 300 ribbons at fiddlers' convention competitions, is a National Endowment for the Arts National Heritage Fellow, and was part of the Masters of the Steel String Guitar tours.

Henderson has performed at Carnegie Hall, Smithsonian Institution, on A Prairie Home Companion, and for the 1992 presidential inaugura-

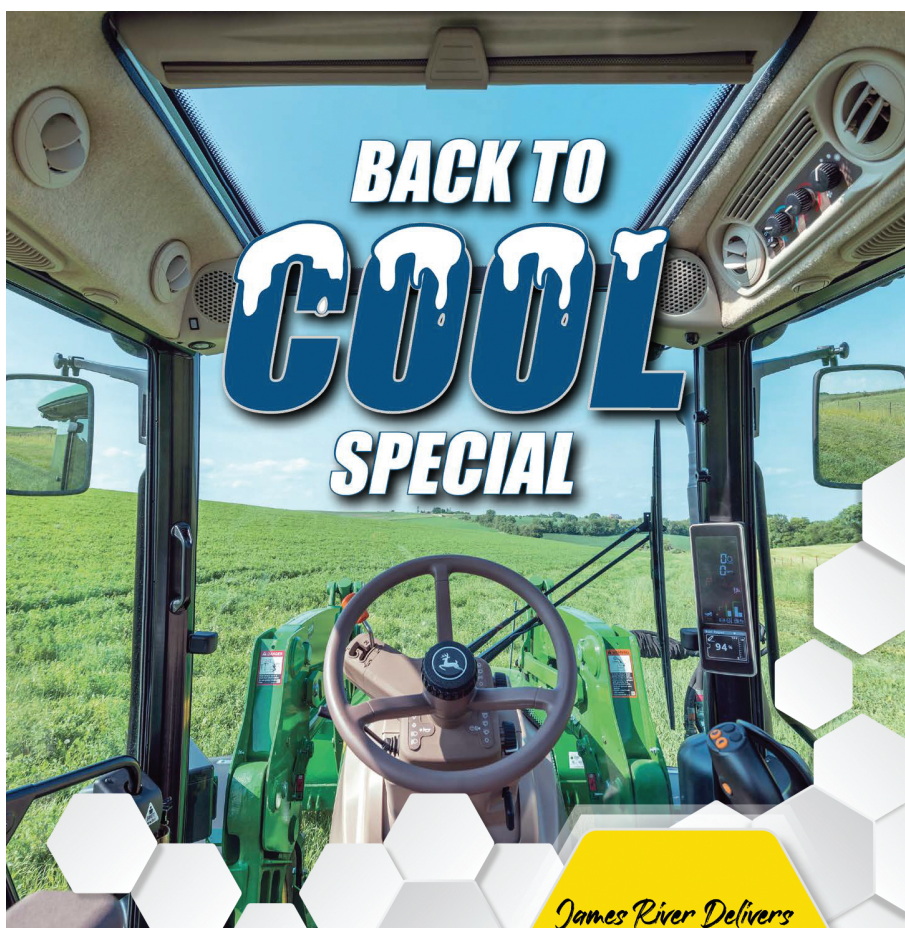
tion. He hosted the annual Wayne C. Henderson Music Festival and Guitar Competition from 1995 to 2024. Winning the competition was said to be the only way to skip the waiting list for a handmade Henderson guitar.

Tickets are \$30 for adults and \$10 for children ages 12 and younger. Advance tickets are available at BlueRidgeMusicCenter.org. Tickets can be purchased on the evening of the show at the admission gates.

Parking opens at 5:15 p.m. and is free. The gates open at 5:45 p.m. The concert begins at 7 p.m.

The Galax Smokehouse will offer homestyle food and beverages for purchase during the concert. Visitors may bring their own food and beverages into the amphitheater. Alcoholic beverages are not permitted.

The presenting sponsors for the series are W.L.A. Trucking and Yadkin Arts Council.



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