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



Dr. Greg Hodges, president of Patrick & Henry Community College, provided an update on the Patrick Promise, noting it is just \$110,000 away from launching for its first three

Patrick Promise \$110,000 shy of launch

By Taylor Boyd

Foundation's Patrick Promise program is just \$110,000 away from being fully funded for its first three years, Patrick & Henry Community College (P&HCC) President Dr. Greg Hodges announced during an update to the Patrick County Board of Supervisors.

"Frankly, we're only \$110,000 away from being able to launch what would be a tremendous opportunity and benefit for the students of Patrick County and for the citizens of Patrick County to stay local," Hodges said.

Hodges explained the threefold purpose of the Patrick Promise, emphasizing its potential impact on the county.

"To decrease the population migration from Patrick County, to increase the post-high school credential attainment rates, and increase

the economic attractiveness and The Patrick County Education workforce development potential of the Patrick County region in general," he said.

> The Patrick Promise is modeled after the SEED Program in Martinsville and Henry County, which provides free tuition to P&HCC for local students. Hodges said the Patrick Promise aims to offer the same opportunity for Patrick County residents.

> Hodges commended Patrick County Public Schools for its strong high school graduation rates. In 2023, Patrick County ranked within the top 10 performing constituencies in the state of Virginia.

> "You all have much to be proud of with your on-time high school graduation rates," Hodges said. "It's something you should celebrate and should be a point of great pride."

However, post-high school cre-

(See Patrick Promise p.3)

Council approves \$170,000 payment to resolve decadesold VRS discrepancy

By Taylor Boyd

At its Nov. 20 meeting, the Stuart Town Council unanimously approved a \$170,000 payment to the Virginia Retirement System (VRS) to address a decades-old discrepancy involving employee retirement contributions.

Town Manager Bryce Simmons informed the council of a letter received from VRS detailing a plan to resolve the issue over the next few vears. "What we have talked about is, \$170,000 was paid to a previous town employee that was vested in the system that was paid out by VRS, but not paid into by the town and that goes back to the '70s," Simmons explained. "I fully think that the town should be immediately responsible for that \$170,000 to VRS."

Although Stuart is enrolled in VRS, Simmons said the town has not actively participated since the 1980s.

"The town enrolled in VRS in the '70s, and once you enroll in VRS you cannot get out of it," he said. "At some point in the '80s, VRS changed the way that they report employment to the state, and at that time, I understand that the town tried to get out of VRS but basically has been non-reporting since that time."

The \$170,000 payment is just part of the issue. Simmons noted that the town also owes approximately \$560,000 in back payments to VRS for employee contributions dating back to the mid-1980s.

"I've told [VRS] there's no way we could pay that right off," Simmons

said. "So, they have come up with a payment plan over the next 31 months that would basically equate to \$17,500 per month that the town would be paying to VRS to make that whole. That does not include any interest in that outstanding balance."

Mayor Ray Weiland expressed concern about the town's liquidity if it commits to such a payment plan while balancing other upcoming projects.

"The longer we wait, the more that keeps billing onto us," Simmons cautioned, but Weiland suggested exploring options to extend the repayment period.

Weiland added that potential developments, such as a hospital and an apartment complex, could contribute to the town's tax base and utility revenues, improving its ability to meet financial obligations.

"We do owe the \$170,000, and for us to be in the good graces of VRS, we should pay them what we owe them," Weiland said.

The council's approval of the \$170,000 payment reflects an effort to demonstrate good faith in resolving the issue. "I think that does at least show them that we are operating in good faith instead of just dragging along," Simmons said.

Town Attorney Chris Corbett raised the question of whether reinstating active participation in VRS would be an incentive for current and future employees. "A retirement plan? Yeah," Simmons responded.

(See VRS Discrepancy p.3)

Banjorama set for Saturday

By Taylor Boyd

The annual Sammy Shelor's Banjorama hosted by the Patrick County Music Association (PCMA) will be held Saturday, December 14.

The event, which is held in partnership between PCMA and the Patrick County Tourism Department, will be in the Patrick County High School (PCHS) Auditorium with doors opening at 5 p.m. The music will begin at 6 p.m.

The show is sponsored by Hopkins Lumber, according to PCMA President Denny Alley, who added admission will be free. "It's their (Hopkins) annual

Christmas party to the county," he

The Lonesome River Band, a contemporary bluegrass group, will be the feature act.

The band, which was formed in Meadows of Dan, has released 15 recording projects since its formation in 1982. The current six-piece band is led by Shelor, a Virginia



Sammy Shelor and The Lonesome River Band headline the annual Sammy Shelor's Banjorama on Saturday, December 14, in the Patrick County High School (PCHS) Auditorium with doors opening at 5 p.m. and music starting at 6 p.m. Admission is free.

a five-time International Bluegrass Music Association Banjo Player of the Year recipient.

Shelor's "had that band, I don't know, 40 years. A long time," Alley

About a dozen other banjo players Country Hall of Fame member and will also take the stage during the

show.

"The opening act will be Nick Goad and Kyser George," Alley said, adding that he anticipates the

show will be well attended.

"I think last year it was a little over 600" people that came. The PCHS Auditorium "holds 740 seats, we want them all full," he said, adding a Lonesome River Band show is

formally a \$45 ticket show. Alley said the November Veteran's Appreciation Show was well

attended. "We had a lot of veterans that have never been to our show," he

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

The PCMA also has events planned for the first quarter of 2025. For more information or to watch past music performances, visit Facebook.com/PatrickCounty-MusicAssociation.

Public hearing set on proposed budget amendment

The Patrick County Board of Supervisors will hold a public hearing on a proposed \$2.2 million budget amendment when the meeting gets underway at 6 p.m. on Monday, December 9.

The proposed amendment includes revenue of \$1,706,000 Child Services Act (CSA) Pool Funds, \$100,000 Transfer Station Fees, \$200,000 Ambulance Services and \$194,000 Use of Reserves, according to the notice. CSA expenses include \$2.2 million, which is the total of the proposed amendment.

At its most recent meeting, the board discussed a portion of the CSA funds.

In other matters, according to its draft agenda, the board will:

*Hear from Lisa Brandon, Blue Ridge Parkway, about storm damage and Mabry's Mill.

*Discuss topics of the board's re-

*Consider the meeting schedule

*Hear about Circuit Court Security Needs from Facilities Director Mike McGuinness. *Consider old business that in-

cludes a proposed Dangerous Dog Vaccination Fees Ordinance and FCC to Include Virginia News in Local Television Media. *Consider meeting in closed ses-

sion to discuss personnel matters, including appointments to the Department of Social Services Advisory Committee; Planning Commission; Public Service Authority and Stormwater Board of Appeals.

The meeting will be held in the third-floor courtroom of the Patrick County Veterans Memorial Building on Rucker Street in Stuart.

Teen Pens Sci-Fi Adventure

By Taylor Boyd

At just 14 years old, Bailey M. Walker has become one of Patrick County's youngest authors with the release of his debut science fiction novel, "The Underlands."

Walker said book combines his love of science fiction with original ideas.

"It's about a guy named Jack, and he is trying to survive with his friends. They go onto the surface, and basically there was a war nobody knew how it started or how it ended. They just know that basically world ended," Walker explained.

The book's synopsis introduces Jack as a cadet training to ex-



Bailey M. Walker released his debut science fiction novel, "The Underlands," in September 2024. "The Underlands" is now available on Amazon and Kindle.

(See Sci-Fi Adventure p. 3)

Tourism Talks

Greetings Patrick.

I hope you had a wonderful Thanksgiving and had the chance to spend time with family and friends. As is common during this festive time of year, our office is busy, and we hope you and our visiting travelers are enjoying the sights, sounds, and smells of the season.

With a heavy heart, I share the news of the passing of one of our musical icons, Charley Chaney. Charley was a teacher and mentor to many Patrick and Henry County musicians. He dedicated over sixty-two years to teaching and performing gospel, bluegrass, and various forms of mountain music, and he was featured in our Fall 2023

One of the biggest draws to our county is our rich musical traditions that have thrived in our hills and valleys. Charley played a crucial role in preserving that traditional style of music. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family and the many people who were blessed to experience his talents. While we face a significant loss, I am encouraged by the many young musicians he inspired and the various groups dedicated to keeping this heritage alive. Charley was a man of faith, and I have no doubt he will be playing in the heavenly choir! To all musicians who knew him, continue to play and let our unique styles resonate.

Stop by the Coffee Break on Main



Street, right next to Charley's place if you can. They feature live music on Tuesday mornings, and I'm sure you'll run into some of his friends there. While you're there, treat yourself to some famous pancakes served by Denny Alley.

Patrick, if you would like a copy of the magazine featuring Charley, come by and visit the Visitors Center. We still have a few copies avail-

In closing, don't forget to check out our YouTube series, "The People, The Places, and Performers of Patrick," where we interview and showcase some of our county's highlights. Remember, "Come get lost and find vourself here."

Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a wonderful holiday season!

James Houchins,

Director of Economic Development and Tourism

jhouchins@co.patrick.va.us

Chamber Chat

By Rebecca Adcock

"There is October in every November and there is November in every December. All seasons melted in each other's life." ~ Mehmet Murat

It used to seem that November was a quiet month. A month to take a breath between the chaos of homecomings, fall festivals, sports and Halloween in October and the holiday hustle of December. Nowadays the months seem to blur all into one. November is as busy as the other months. The Chamber of Commerce was hectic, running here and there as well. We participated in the Town of Stuart's Downtown Revitalization grant meeting with DHCD representatives. While this project is taking a while to see movement, work is being done behind the scenes to have things lined up so once the Town is given the green light, they can bolt out of the gate.

We attended the career fair hosted by Patrick & Henry Community College at the high school on November 6. This was well attended by businesses and the students were engaged. The Chamber, along with Sarah Wray from Reynolds Homestead traveled to Richmond to present at the Mid-Atlantic Farmers Market Conference. Our presentation focused on building community through events at the market. We had an engaging group that asked questions during and after the presentation. It is always fun and rewarding to share our community with others.

The chamber partnered again with Reynolds Homestead to present our annual Lunch with Community Leaders event, which was held on November 20th. This event is always a highlight of the year, where we have several of our local leaders share what is going on with our community. We are so appreciative of the guest speakers who gave informative presentations and to the attendees as this event was well attended.

We are also busy in the office winding down the year and getting of the Patrick County Chamber of things lined up for 2025. Chamber Commerce.)

Needed



membership drive will kick off in January, along with Patrick County magazine sales. Our board has approved an updated strategic plan, which we will be sharing with every-

Holiday events started happening in November with the Reynolds Homestead Holiday Market and Small Business Saturday on November 30, which coincided with the Meadows of Dan Christmas parade. Those events only amplify as we move into December. Kicking off the month on December 1, a new event - Handcrafted Christmas in Woolwine, 4-6 p.m. This community event will host carolers, cookies, silent auction, and tree lighting. We hope you will join us in Stuart on Friday, December 6 for the Grand Illumination, and tree lighting at the Courthouse at 6 p.m., followed the next day by several holiday events in Stuart concluding with the 52nd annual Patrick County Christmas Parade at 2 p.m.

Holiday festivities around the county all month: the Parkway Christmas in Meadows of Dan will be Saturday, December 7 & 14, 2-6 p.m. with music and events, Dehart Park's Festival of Lights will run December 13-23. Two different concerts at the Historic Star Theatre and a free movie day are on the calendar, along with several events at Reynolds Homestead. Check out the Chamber's event page for all the upto-date happenings, www.patrickchamber.com.

(Adcock is the executive director

1500 Kings Mtn Rd.

Martinsville, VA,

$\overline{N}utrient\ management$ training set for January

trient Program will offer a soft Teams. two-part agriculture for anyone interested to become a certified Midlothian, Virginia. nutrient management plan writer.

The Virginia Depart- crop production. The at ment of Conservation two-day soils and crop gov/soil-and-water/ and Recreation's Nu- lecture series will be Management hosted through Micro-

nutrient management Jan. 14-16, will cover in a farmer's training school in Jan- nutrient management uary. The school is plan writing using a case-study farm. The plication of materials in learning about the three-day plan writing development of agri- training will be in-percultural nutrient man- son at Brightpoint Nutrient management agement plans or how Community College in plans determine rates

Each day will run fertilizers,

www.dcr.virginia.

manage-

Nutrient

ment continues to be The second session, an important factor sion-making process when considering apto supply nutrients to crops and forages. for applying manure, biosolids Applicamined by a process uswhen yield records are not available.

Memorial Services 276-638-2778 from 9 a.m. until 4:30 and other soil amend-Visit our website for pricing: The first session, p.m. Registration is ments so that yields Jan. 9-10, is a lecture \$150 for each session are maximized, and www.norrismemorialservices.com series by Virginia Tech with a deadline of nutrient loss to ground professors on soil sci- Dec. 30. Registration and surface waters is ence, soil fertility and is available online minimized. JOHNSON tion rates are deter-Pets of the Week ing actual yield records or soil productivity

STEP,Inc.

Volunteers

Calling All Volunteers! STEP invites you

to join our VITA program as a volunteer.

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supporting the community and ensuring

financial stability for Patrick County

How to Apply

residents. Make a difference today by

1. Visit forms.stepincva.com/volunteer

2. For Volunteer Position Sought put

you can help local families access

essential tax benefits. Join us in

becoming a VITA volunteer!

VITA Volunteer

3. Complete Form





on Old Mill Road. She wants to go home and someone must miss her.

This little adorable cutie (right) was found on Elastic Plant Road. Help her find her people. If you recognize either of these pooches, call the

Patrick County Public Animal Shelter (PCPAS) or visit its Facebook page to view available pets. Adoption fees are \$10 and include spay/neuter and a rabies vaccination.

The Patrick Animal Welfare Society (PAWS) provides financial assistance for Patrick residents to have their dogs spayed and neutered. Contact the groups at paws@swva.net or (276) 694-2378 for more information.

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$\overline{P}atrick\ Promise$

(cont. from page 1)

a different story.

The national rate for adults aged 18 to 64 with post-secondary credentials was 53.7% in 2023, while Virginia's rate stood at 59.3%. Patrick County lagged significantly at 28.8%, ranking 105th out of Virginia's 133 municipalities.

"The Patrick County rate is, of course, about half of the Virginia average," Hodges said, adding that the gap is widening. "Of the 133 municipalities in the Commonwealth of Virginia, Patrick County ranks 105th, which is lower than all surrounding constituencies," he said.

Another fact that's troubling, Hodges said, is the fact the national and Virginia rates are growing faster than the Patrick County rates.

"We want to put that in context for you that the aim here is to see how we, Patrick & Henry Community College and the Patrick County Education Foundation, can help solve this to make sure we are educating the citizens to get the good paying jobs that keep them local," he said.

To help with this, Hodges said P&HCC has considerably spread its footprint in Patrick County with the P&HCC Stuart site, the welding lab and the powerline training program at Patrick County High School, the Baliles and Reynolds

dential attainment rates in Patrick County tell Learning Center that offers multiple programs and certifications, and the upcoming 2025 heavy equipment operator training program.

> These initiatives aim to address workforce development needs and provide local opportunities for higher education and training.

> Hodges estimated the funding needed for Patrick Promise is \$45,000 in the first year, \$90,000 for year two, and \$135,000 annually starting in

> "Currently, just over 50 percent of the students from Patrick County already attend at a cost that's free to the family," Hodges said. "What we're seeking to do is to incentivize students to remain locally by getting to that 100 percent."

> The Foundation requires three years of funding before launching the program and has raised \$160,000 so far. Efforts to secure the remaining \$110,000 include fundraising and community

> "The Patrick County Education Foundation decided that they wanted the first three years in place before they launched that program. We wanted to have the first three years of funding before we launched, and we're at the \$160,000 mark," Hodges said.

The Patrick County Education Foundation,

founded in 2001 by former Virginia Gov. Gerald Baliles, who was a Patrick County native, and other community leaders, initially focused on raising high school graduation rates in the

"They had a 10-year goal that the high school/ GED rates in Patrick County would exceed rural communities in Virginia, and they accomplished that goal well under the 10 years," Hodges said.

After achieving this milestone, the Foundation turned its attention to post-secondary credential attainment about five years ago. "The Patrick Promise was born out of that – how does Patrick County Education Foundation help accelerate post high-school graduate rates so that Patrick County citizens can take advantage of economic opportunity," he said.

Hodges noted that Baliles, a driving force behind the initiative, passed away shortly after its

He encouraged community members to support the initiative and shared testimonials from students who have benefited from similar pro-

To learn more or donate to the Patrick Promise, visit Patrick & Henry Community College Foundation's website.

$VRS\ Discrepancy$

(cont. from page 1)

Weiland acknowledged that addressing the \$560,000 backpay would be essential for fully integrating existing employees into the VRS system. "We're going to have to examine closely to see if we're going to be able to pull that off and get our employees back into VRS," he said.

The payment to VRS marks a significant step in addressing the town's long-standing retirement system obligations, with council members emphasizing the importance of financial plan-

ning as they navigate the larger \$560,000 issue. In addition to the VRS discussion, the council:

*Addressed Logo Rumors: Mayor Weiland clarified there are no plans to change the town's official logo despite some confusion over a design used for the downtown project.

*Approved Donations and Bonuses: The council granted \$400 to One Family Productions for a Christmas event, provided employees with a \$200 holiday bonus (plus tax), and added Nov.

29 as a paid holiday.

*Created a Handbook Committee to revise the town's handbook.

*Encouraged Public Participation: Town residents interested in filling a vacant council seat were encouraged to attend the Dec. 18 meeting.

The council also approved meeting minutes, paid bills, and received updates on public works projects and town policies.

Sci-Fi Adventure

(cont. from page 1)

plore the largely uncharted surface world, which has been abandoned since a war over 200 years

"Jack does not know the perils he will face as he completes his training. A mysterious murder haunts his existence, and he places his friends in constant danger. He must overcome the worst the Underlands has to offer, as well as the most terrible things from the surface," the synopsis reads.

Crafting the Story

Walker began writing the novel last year.

"I just wanted to write a book, so I sat down and started writing it one day. It was pretty difficult. After a while, I started running out of ideas," he said.

Using Google Docs, Walker initially completed the manuscript at 69 pages. When formatted for the Kindle app, the book expanded to 120 pages.

Encouraged by his first venture into publishing, Walker plans to write a sequel.

Possibly a trilogy, or just a two-fer if people quel mostly for my friends because they kind of related to the series. liked the first book. Also, they were in the first book, so I decided to continue that."



A Young Talent

Walker's talent for writing earned recognition in 2023 when he won The Enterprise's annual writing contest for his age group while he was a seventh grader.

His mother, Gabrielle Walker, said the win marked a significant milestone.

In addition to his sequel to "The Underlands, like it or not," he said. "I was going to do the se- Walker has started working on another novel un-

> "The Underlands" is available for purchase on Amazon and Kindle.



Ferrum College Revives Emmet Otter's Jug-Band Christmas

As fall semester winds down at Ferrum College, sessions of hammering and harmonious singing expand inside Schoolfield Hall, with the Blue Ridge Dinner Theatre (BRDT) and Performing Arts program preparing their second production of Emmet Otter's Jug-Band Christmas for performances December 5 to 15. Program Coordinator Emily Blankenship-Tucker, who directs the play and music in addition to playing Ma Otter, says they are honored to "introduce new folks to the magic of Emmet Otter" and "start a holiday tradition that caused nostalgic audience members to talk about their happy memories of childhood" last year, so that now it feels "like something to look forward to at this time in Ferrum."

The musical is based on a 1971 picture book by Russell and Lillian Hoban, inspired by O. Henry's short story "The Gift of the Magi." In a river town called Waterville, Mayor Fox announces a Christmas talent contest. Ma and Emmet Otter, struggling to get by since Pa died, both hope secretly that winning the \$50 prize would allow them to buy the other a special Christmas gift. With trepidation they both sacrifice essential possessions in order to prepare for the contest. Emmet's new jug band playing "Brothers" and Ma's inspiring song "Our World" compete with some hilarious acts as the contest unfolds on stage.

In 1977 Jim Henson used his Muppets and songs by Paul Williams to turn the Hobans' animal fantasy into a television special that became an annual holiday favorite for many viewers, including Blankenship-Tucker. The theatrical adaptation by Timothy Allen McDonald and Christopher Gattelli, which opened in Connecticut in 2008 with human actors and puppets, was

later revived in New York and then last

Blue FERRUM. Ridge MUSIC & THEATRE Music and Lyrics by IMOTHY ALLEN MCDONALD & ASED ON THE ILLUSTRATED BOOK EMMET OTTER'S JUG Christmas by Russell Hoban & Lillian Hoban SCAN THE CODE OR GO TO

year in Chicago-and the village of Ferrum. The Ferrum theatre faculty "took a chance," like Ma and Emmet Otter, and acquired the only license to perform this show to date outside of Timothy Allen McDonald and Music Theater International (MTI). "The show at Ferrum will be authentic," said McDonald after researching Ferrum's drama traditions. "You are where the show would take place, so it is exciting to have it on Only Ferrum is staging the show this

year. And only in Ferrum's production have the actors in the jug band played their own instruments. They all have experience performing with traditional instruments such as washtub bass, washboard, and kazoo in Ferrum's 49-year-old touring company, the Jack Tale Players. Blankenship-Tucker believes the show represents "what we

value in our community" and "peo-

ple here feel connected to it," in the

"spirit of the season and hope."

Performances are in Schoolfield Hall's Sale Theatre with meals available next door in Franklin Hall, served by the cast. The times are December 5, 6, 7, 11, 12, 13, and 14 at 7 p.m. (dinner at 5:30), and December 8, 10 and 15 at 2 p.m. (lunch at 12:30). Meals must be ordered in advance and tickets can be theatre-showings.

reserved at https://www.ferrum.edu/ A number of cast members are reprising their roles from last year, such as Burgess' son Django Burgess '27, who plays Wendell Porcupine and builds sets, while others have changed roles, and some are new to this cast. Rachel Blankenship-Tucker, returning as both co-director and Harvey Beaver, also took on a new role playing drums in the Nightmare Band. The stage manager

is Professor of English Tina Hanlon.

Assistant stage managers are Theatre

Intern TJ Baker '24, who designs make-

up and plays the mayor's vain and deceitful wife Gretchen Fox; and Aryahna Tyree '27, who can be seen around the theatre practicing the banjo every day

for her new role as Charlie Muskrat.

Continuing the traditions of the Blue Ridge Dinner Theatre started by Rex Stephenson in 1979, the cast is intergenerational, with performers from the college and community, and with evervone learning multiple roles onstage and off. Seven college students are receiving credit in applied theatre courses for their work this year, performing as well as helping with sets, puppets, lights, and costumes. Gage Shelton '25, playing the title role of Emmet this time, has the Kirk Cash Theatre Scholarship for his senior year. "I really hope Emmet Otter becomes a tradition at Ferrum during the holiday season, as a lot of the story's ideals just fit into the culture here," said Shelton. "This is certainly one of the more technically intensive shows we do, and while that is ambitious for us, it opened up new opportunities and skills to build on that we wouldn't have otherwise."

The four youngest cast members, ages eight to 10, have performed in other Ferrum College plays in the past several years. Their current roles include a skunk, a weasel, a ferret and squirrels. Sandy Delaney likes learning about props and other aspects of play production. Even though cast members can't watch the whole play, they peek at it from backstage sometimes, and Sienna Bell enjoys seeing the "theatre come to life" when the show begins.

For additional information, email theatre@ferrum.edu or call the box office at (540) 365-4355 and leave a message. Both Schoolfield Hall and Franklin Hall are handicapped accessible.

VIEWPOINTS

My Trip to Azerbaijan in **Defense of Coal and American Fossil Fuel Innovation**

As we approach the end of the year, multiple foreign summits gather and deliberate.

The Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Summit took place in Peru, where President Biden and China's President Xi Jinping were in attendance. APEC is a partnership focused on economic growth in the Pacific and regional integration of the member country's economies.

President Biden then visited Brazil for the G20 Leaders' Summit, along with the leaders of the 19 member countries, the African Union and the European Union. These forums serve as opportunities to discuss economic issues related to trade and developinternational ment finance.

Biden held no press conferences at the summits, and he was left out of a photo with G20 world leaders due to "logistical issues."

Outside of Latin America, a different summit was also taking place.

The small Caucasian country of Azerbaijan, situated on the Caspian Sea and tucked north of Iran and south of Russia, served as host to COP29, the United Nations (UN) climate change conference.

I participated in a Congressional delegation to COP29 to advocate for strengthened American energy leadership and inform the world of leading technologies we have here at home in America that an world will continue to rely on fossil fuels well into this century.

Of the seven of us who attended reprethe United senting States House, I came as the only representative from a district with heavy ties to coal.

In a featured press conference, the delegation stressed emissions



Morgan Griffith

Representative

ican innovation, economic development, or national security.

Following the press conference, a radical activist approached me at the dais and accused me of being a traveling salesman for American fossil fuels!

If she had added innovation American for making it possible to use those fuels more effectively and cleanly, she would have been right.

Many environmentalists are unsatisfied with the world's climate progress and accuse the United States of being a principal agent of greenhouse gas emissions.

I agree that we should mitigate carbon. But in the United States, we are embracing technologies that reduce our emissions.

U.S. carbon dioxide emissions from the energy sector have declined by 14.5 percent since 2007.

Meanwhile, China continues its track record of being the world's worst polluter. Their energy-related emissions increased by almost 80 percent between 2005 and 2019, according to data from the International Energy Agency, intergovernmental can be models for other organization that folcountries to use as the lows the global energy sector.

What's worse is countries like China and India are treated as developing countries thanks to outdated UN classi-Accordingly, fications. they are not obligated or expected to contribute to climate finance aid like the U.S. and European powers do.

Further, under the reduction solutions that Paris Accords, reached

do not sacrifice Amer- when COP met in Paris, China was allowed to continue increasing its carbon dioxide emissions until 2030.

America leads reduction emissions technologies, and Ninth District is the home of innovative companies dedicated to capturing and mitigating carbon.

For example, Pulaski's MOVA Technologies cultivates an accomplished team to produce innovative technologies related to advanced air emissions filtration for numerous substances.

MOVA received grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture to advance a project capturing ammonia at poultry operations.

CNX Resources of Tazewell County is removing methane directly from working coal mines, instead of flushing the methane directly into the atmosphere.

Virginia Tech's Project CARDINAL is also exploring the feasibility of carbon dioxide storage in the region.

Later, as a part of COP29, I was a panelist on a bipartisan nuclear energy panel.

Nuclear energy, when done right, enables prosperity and helps counter climate risks a community may be facing.

This Congress, I supported the bipartisan ADVANCE Act and voted to favorably report it out of the Energy and Commerce Committee. The bill has now become law and will modernize America's nuclear energy licensing policy with sweeping updates.

Such updates include establishing more efficient permitting for many types of traditional nuclear technologies and allowing for new nuclear technologies like Kairos Power's Hermes 2 Generation IV reactor in Oak Ridge, TN.

Appalachian Power Company recently announced plans to locate a small modular reactor in neighboring Campbell County.

Small modular reactors could be key nuclear pathways to provide more reliable, affordable and secure energy for major industrial development.

These solutions can help lower global emissions. I want to be sure that the United States pushes meaningful solutions, where we can lower our energy costs at home while cultivating appropriate stewardship of the environment.

Fo questions, concerns, or comments, call (276) 525-1405, (540)381-5671, or email by visiting www.morgan-

griffith.house.gov.

Letters to the Editor

A rallying call or empty words?

people." Is this phrase empty of real meaning, or is it a long overdue rallying cry expressed by the presidential election results? Having won both the electoral college majority and the popular vote majority, it is clear that the Trump Administration has a mandate. Now is the time for the House and Senate to respect the democratically expressed will of the people and go beyond doing business as usual.

President Trump needs a House and Senate willing to work at a level that is foreign to both institutions. This means having real debates, real oversight, and real analysis of proposed legislation. Laws that fund programs that don't work or are wasteful should be repealed. Most importantly, it means having a spine to act.

During the past four years, both chambers of Congress have avoided this by passing laws that give something to both sides. While this keeps the government running and gets everyone their pet projects, it raises the national debt and thus, that hidden tax called inflation. There should be no false deadlines to vote quickly. Except for real emergencies, any efforts to vote quickly should be met with automatic "no" votes. The effort required to do effective work will greatly exceed that which Representatives and Senators expended for recent re-election campaigns.

It's time for the citizens to keep

"Government of, by, and for the the pressure up on both chambers of Congress to perform. We must admit that the country is approaching insolvency while the federal government is bloated and wasteful. Voting every two or four years is not enough now.

As citizens, we need to personally match what we demand of our legislators. More citizen involvement means doing more for ourselves instead of running to government to solve so many of our problems. It also means government getting out of the way.

Plans for organized resistance have been announced by several Democratic governors and legislators. Another part of the resistance effort is for the Biden-Harris Administration's

Executive Branch to spend as much money as possible to counter Trump's efforts to reduce spending and pay down that ticking time bomb called the national debt. No doubt some cowardly RINO's will also obstruct Trump's efforts. Playing politics is apparently more important than executing the will of the people.

Let's send a clear message that we the people are serious about securing the blessings of liberty for which we voted. Phone and email your Representatives and Senators regularly. And when they do perform well, tell them "Well done."

Joe Cadrin, Stuart

Blood Drive set for Dec. 10

This month's blood drive Tuesday, can make an appointment up to the December 10, from 10 a.m.-3 p.m., time of donation through the blood at the John D. Hooker Building. Do-donor app, by calling 1-800-REDnors are reminded that RapidPass CROSS or online by going to www. allows you to start the blood do-redcrossblood.org and searching nation process from the comfort of your home or office. The donor can answer health history questions before arriving at the blood drive location. This can save as much as 15-20 minutes in the donation process. RapidPass must be completed the day of the drive and can be found at http://www.redcrossblood. org/RapidPass. The donor can bring a hard copy or a copy on your cell

The Red Cross encourages all donors to get a good night's sleep, to Cross while supplies last. eat a good breakfast or lunch, drink plenty of water, and bring a picture ID with them to the drive. Donors

24171.

Please donate and become a member of the unique "club" of only 3% of the nation's population who donate blood. This month's sponsor, Patrick County Farm Bureau, has been a long-time supporter of the blood drive.

The volunteers look forward to serving you and making your donation a pleasant experience.

All donors will receive two pairs of Christmas socks from the Red

Gene Stirewalt,

Free agricultural education kits available for Virginia classrooms

Free gifts to educators from Virginia Agriculture in the Classroom are intended to bring joy, engagement and inspiration to schoolchildren year-round.

Virginia teachers can now order a 2025 Creative Agriculture Resources for Educators, or CARE, kit. Each kit includes books, posters and curricula that use Virginia agriculture and natural resources to teach core content.

"We treat the CARE kits like a ʻrequest your own Christmas present from us' in December," said Tammy Maxey, Virginia AITC executive director. "This is our way of saying thanks to teachers across the state."

This giveaway is open exclusively to Virginia educators. Visit virginia. agclassroom.org and click "Educator Resource Kit" to place an order.

The theme of this year's CARE kit is "Explore Virginia Agriculture," said Lynn Black, Virginia AITC education coordinator.

"Boxes will feature our new Virginia Agriculture map poster, our signature curriculum booklet, the book, Right This Very Minute, with

an accompanying guide, and more,"

she explained.

Over 1,100 CARE kits were distributed to Virginia teachers in 2024.

"And throughout the year, we connected over 700,000 children to agriculture through grants, scholarships and Agriculture Literacy Week," Black continued. "Ag Literacy Week saw over 3,100 books distributed, reaching over 70,000 students. Additionally, 75 grants were awarded to teachers around the state, enabling experiential learning in classrooms."

Black encourages educators to take full advantage of everything AITC has to offer.

"In addition to the kits, AITC offers educators professional development opportunities, school grants and online resources," she said. "You'll find an extensive lesson plan library, as well as student activities, links to videos, and much more that can be used in the classroom or at various events."

The free kits can be mailed to an educator's school or home. Visit bit. ly/25CARESkits to access the registration form. Allow up to 3 weeks for processing and shipping.

THANK YOU FOR READING THE ENTERPRISE

THE ENTERPRISE

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> **Publisher** Michael Showell **EDITOR** Debbie Hall **ADVERTISING** Wendi Craig

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Wednesday, December 4, 2024 - **5**

Patrick Pioneers

Dr. Roy Oliver Yeatts and Helen Hambley Yeatts

By Beverly Belcher Woody

This week, we will learn about a little boy who was born in Kettle Hollow in the Mayberry community of Patrick County, Virginia and how he made the world a much better place. Roy Oliver Yeatts was born to Charles Tobias Yeatts and Susan Stella Barnard on the second of August 1900; Roy was the oldest child born to the couple. Next week, we will learn more about Roy's parents and siblings and how they went from Kettle Hollow, which is about one-fourth mile from Mayberry Trading Post all the way to Glasgow, Montana.

Roy attended Montana State College in Bozeman during the summers of 1918 and 1919 while also working as a custodian and at a radio company. While attending college in Montana, Roy met Miss Helen Hambley, who was teaching school in Saco. Helen grew up on a farm in Michigan, the third of eight children. She trained as a schoolteacher and taught history, math, and French for several years.

In 1924, while Roy was attending medical school, Helen embarked on a new career as a nurse, receiving her training at Loma Linda, California. Roy attended the University of Southern California at Los Angeles and spent half a year at the University of California at Berkeley. In a 1984 interview with Tootsie Cassell Pilson, Dr. Yeatts stated, "While in Los Angeles, I worked in two furniture factories to have money to eat. This was during the depression years. In 1927 I began medical school. While there we had what was called a co-op plan. This plan included going to school for two months and then working in medical work, alternating months for two years. This school was known as the College of Medical Evangelists and is now known as the Loma-Linda University School of Medicine."

On the first of August 1927 in Los Angeles, California, Roy and Helen were married and the young couple began their life together working as nurses while Roy completed his medical degree. Roy and Helen were blessed with a son, Francis Oliver, on the tenth of October 1928, followed by a daughter, Merna Lenore, on the 20th of September 1934. Upon graduation from medical school in 1934, Dr. Yeatts went into private practice in San Mateo, California. In 1936, Dr. Yeatts moved his wife and children to New Orleans, Louisiana where he set up his medical practice and worked as the medical director of a hospital. Then, everything changed on December 7th, 1941.

Dr. Yeatts enlisted in the United States Army on the 2nd of August 1942 (his 42nd birthday) and served for nearly four years as an Army doctor before being discharged on the 3rd of March 1946. After the war was over. Dr. Yeatts moved his family to the town of Hardin in Big Horn County, Montana where he set up his new medical practice. In 1955, after the Yeatts children were grown, Dr. and Mrs. Yeatts began a selfless very active members of the local Seventh-Day journey as medical missionaries. I would like to Adventist Church. share some excerpts from numerous newspaper articles about their tireless, heroic work. The first one is from the Missoulian, dated March 27th, 1960, "Word has been received that Dr. and Mrs. Roy O. Yeatts have returned from the western highlands of New Guinea and are now visiting relatives in Washington. Dr. Yeatts is medical director of the Mt. Hagen and Hatzfeld Haven Hansenide colonies and is on furlough for one year in the United States after six years of service in New Guinea. Mrs. Yeatts has been nursing and teaching in New Guinea."

7th, 1960. "Dr. and Mrs. Roy O. Yeatts now enroute to Alaska to visit their daughter will return New G uinnext March set up 100hoson frontier government-controlled territory."

The following is an update from the Ravalli Re-

public, dated May 1st, 1962, of how things were going when they returned to New Guinea, "Dr. and Mrs. Roy O. Yeatts are attending thousands patients, mostly natives but many government employees as well as many missionaries of various denominations. While the 100-bed hospital is still unfinished, the doctor treats many patients outdoors."

From the Missoulian, dated March 30th, 1963, "Superintendent of the Sabbath School of the Missoula Seventh-Day Adventist Church announced that funds were given for work in New Guinea, going toward the construction of the new Sapas Hospital in the Wabag Valley. Dr. Roy O. Yeatts, a missionary from Montana, is superintendent of the hospital. He reports that there is much leprosy (Hansen's disease) in the area and up to 150 persons with various ailments receive care each day. The mission is situated at an elevation of 7,000 feet, overlooking the valley and the area is heavily populated, the doctor states."

Dr. and Mrs. Roy O. Yeatts served as medical missionaries in New Guinea from 1955 until 1966. From 1967 to 1976, the couple served short relief terms in Africa, serving in Nigeria, Ghana, Sierra Leone, and Malawi and Zambia with their work centered at the Yuka Hospital.

In 1976, Dr. and Mrs. Yeatts retired and returned to the land of his birth in Meadows of Dan. Although Helen was born in Michigan, she fit right in and was voted Mother of the Year in 1984 by the Meadows of Dan Extension Homemakers Club. Dr. Yeatts stayed busy in the Meadows of Dan Ruritans and the Patrick County Ministerial Association. The couple were

In 1988, when Dr. Yeatts was eighty-eight years old, and Mrs. Yeatts was eighty-five, they decided it might be best to move nearer to at least one of their children. Their daughter, Merna, who was a registered nurse and licensed pilot was serving in Brazil as a missionary but their son, Francis worked for the Food and Drug Administration in Washington State. Dr. And Mrs. Yeatts moved to Walla Walla, Washington where Dr. Yeatts passed away from pneumonia at the home of his son on February 13th, 1989. Mrs. Yeatts lived for eleven more years, passing From the Phillips County News, dated July away at the age of ninety-eight years old in the



The Spokesman Review, 1933



BETHEL VISITORS-Dr. and Mrs. Roy Yeatts, Seventh-Day Adventist missionaries, gave an illustrated lecture on Africa at the Bethel Junior Academy this week. They told of their experiences in both West and East Nigeria during the Nigerian Revolution, and of a year spent in Ghana. Dr. and Mrs. Yeatts are visiting their relatives, the Albert Witzels of Bethel. They are en route to Addis Ababa for a 6-week brush-up course on the latest treatments for leprosy. Then they will go to the Masanga Leprosarium in Sierra Leone to treat lepers and to do research on this disease.

Marshfield News Herald, 1971

land of her birth in Berrien Springs, Michigan. I was not fortunate enough to know Dr. and Mrs. Yeatts personally, but I reached out to Gerry Little who spent the summer of 1980 with them in Meadows of Dan. The following memories are shared by Mr. Little, "my college buddy and I were privileged to live with Mr. and Mrs. Roy and Helen Yeatts during the summer of 1980 when I was nineteen, and my buddy, Jim, was twenty-two. They opened their home to us, free of charge, and fed us that entire summer, which included fresh fruits and vegetables from their garden that they tended to daily. They were not necessarily expected to feed us but were such loving and kind people who had retired to Meadows of Dan, Virginia, following a lifetime of providing medical missionary services to the poor overseas. Meadows of Dan was Dr. Yeatt's hometown, a very small but beautiful, mountainous community located just off the Blue Ridge Parkway in southwest Virginia. It was a bit of a culture shock for this, then, nineteen-year-old young man who was from Alexandria, Virginia, right next to Washington, DC, and a whole, different world! I quickly adjusted to the peace and tranquility of the area but couldn't let go of my habit of locking my car! Dr Yeatts and his wife were very devoted to their tiny Seventh day Adventist church and were looked up to as leaders even at their advanced age of about eighty years old at the time. My buddy and I spent the summer selling Christian literature door to door and almost always received a warm welcome even from those uninterested in our products. It was my first time living so far from home and a wonderful experience that I shall never forget! My buddy now lives in Arkansas and feels the same way. We hope to eventually return to the area

and visit. Thank you so much to Gerry Little for sharing the above comments and to Gerry Yeatts Scardo for reaching out to me to share information about her cousin, Dr. Roy Oliver Yeatts. Next week, we will look at Roy's parents and siblings and follow their journey from Mayberry to Montana. Woody may be reached at rockcastlecreek1@gmail.com or (276) 692-9626.

Social Security Matters

non-profit arm of the Association of Mature American Citizens

Ask Rusty - Am I entitled to more Social Security from my Ex-husbands?

Dear Rusty: I am 76 years old and a retired high school counselor/teacher. I was married to my first husband from 1968 until 1981. He is still living, and he remarried two more times and, I believe, he is currently divorced. He is 77 years old. His income was always much higher than mine. I was married to my second husband from May 1989 until we divorced in April 2017. My second husband died in June 2023. What I wonder is if I am entitled to receive Social Security benefits based upon the income of either of my ex-husbands? Signed: Twice Divorced Spouse

Dear Twice Divorced: Divorced spouses are entitled to the same benefits as a current spouse if their marriage lasted at least 10 years which, in both cases, yours did. The other caveat is whether your own SS retirement benefit is less than you are entitled to from either of your ex-husbands. If your own SS retirement benefit is less, then you will get an incremental amount on top of your own SS retirement to bring your total monthly benefit up to your spousal (or surviving spouse) enti-

tlement. Since your first husband is still living, it sequently file for a survivor benefit from him,

By Russell Gloor, National Social Secu- is likely that your best financial option is to if that is more than you are getting from your rity Advisor at the AMAC Foundation, the claim a surviving ex-spouse benefit from your deceased 2nd husband. The reason is that survivor benefits from husband #2 are based on his actual benefit at his death, whereas benefits from a living ex-spouse (husband #1) are based upon his full retirement amount. In other words, it is likely that 100% of deceased husband #2's benefit at his death is more than 50% of living husband #1's current benefit at his full retirement age (FRA).

It is, of course, possible that 50% of your first husband's FRA entitlement is more than 100% of your second husband's benefit at death, in which case your ex-spouse benefit from your first husband could be more. The only way to sort this out is to contact Social Security (1.800-772-1213) to make an appointment to apply for surviving ex-spouse benefits from your deceased second husband. Explain that your first ex-husband is still living, and that you are unsure of what your benefits are as your first husband's ex-spouse. Social Security will be able to determine from their records which one provides you with a higher benefit amount (provide each husband's Social Security number when you call). As I said, your best financial option will likely be to take your survivor benefit from your deceased sec-

ond ex-husband (note, however, if your first ex-husband also dies before you, you can subsecond husband's record).

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.



SPORTS

5 Tips to Shop Healthy |Lady| Cougars named and Save Money

of our money on food each month. chop it yourself. Especially for those feeding a family, the grocery bill can begin to pile up. Wouldn't you like to learn how you could save money on groceries?

It is commonly believed that healthy food is more expensive than unhealthy food. However, this is not necessarily true; it all depends on how you look at it. A report published by the USDA examined the difference in cost between healthy food and junk food. The report studied multiple factors that influence food prices including the price for food energy, edible weight, average portion, and nutrition.

The study found that high-calorie foods (generally from high fat or sugar contents) tended to be cheaper. However, foods such as fruits, vegetables, and grains were cheaper in terms of portion size and meeting the daily nutrition requirements. Factor in the benefits of good health and the little extra you may spend is worth it.

We've come up with some tips to help keep your expenses down and food quality up. If you put them into practice you'll be trimming the fat from your grocery bill in no time.

1. Save on Produce

The type of produce you buy can have a considerable impact on its price and nutrient content. It's best to buy produce that is locally grown and in season. Thankfully, it is generally cheaper than imported items or ones that are out of season.

Frozen fruits and vegetables are also a smart choice. When frozen, foods tend to retain more of their nutrients than they do being shipped hundreds/or thousands of miles to your local store. When your favorite produce is in season, stock up and freeze it. Then, you'll have some to use when it is not easily available.

2. Planning and Comparing

When shopping for a week's worth of groceries, it's always best to plan out meals ahead of time. At the supermarket, make sure you stick to your menu to avoid purchasing unnecessary food. Don't is an excellent idea. shop hungry either, you'll be much more prone to make impulse buys.

what their prices are to get the best than just your wallet will thank value for the items you commonly you. Eating a nutritious and balpurchase. Look for sales and use anced diet will help with enercoupons whenever available. Sav- gy level, mood, productivity, and ing a little here and there can add brain functioning. It will also help up significantly over time. Check fight against pesky colds and the out local farmers markets where flu. Perhaps most importantly, you can often find produce that is it will help you immensely in the cheaper and fresher.

3. Smart Buying

The many food choices we have cancer, and diabetes. can be overwhelming. Whether you packaged, or canned depends on permission the food. When purchasing beans, health.org dried ones are cheaper and healthproduce will also be more expen- art, VA)

Most of us spend a good portion sive than whole. Buy it whole and

Avoid name brands. Generic foods are often the same size and quality at a cheaper price. Furthermore, pay attention to unit sizes. If you have the funds, you can often save a good amount by buying larger sizes. Food staples (such as rice, flour, or beans) should be bought in bulk or when they go on sale.

4. Back to Basics

We often pay for convenience, but when your budget is tight, spending extra time can save you a good amount of money. Use fresh ingredients and not pre-packaged foods. Many commonly bought products can easily be made at home. For instance, making homemade salsa, spaghetti sauce, hummus, or guacamole is relatively simple and is much more affordable than storebought products. Having a garden is another great way to save money and have extra fresh and tasty pro-

Remembering to eat simple is key. Healthy eating can be more expensive when you constantly indulge in processed or gourmet style foods. Eat within your calorie requirements. Since most Americans overeat, limiting your caloric intake will likely save you money

5. Stretch Your Meals

There are a variety of meals that can be prepared and stretched out for several days. Soup, chili, stirfry, spaghetti and casseroles are all great examples. Ingredients that stretch include dry beans, lentils, oats, brown rice, and other baking essentials; these should always be kept on hand. Sweet potatoes are affordable, very high in nutrients, and can be used in a surprising variety of dishes.

Always eat whole grain rice/ breads/noodles and other foods high in fiber. You will eat less and they will sustain you longer. Refined grains may seem cheaper, but you will eat larger portions and get hungry quicker, which ultimately makes them more expensive. Also watch out for hidden sugars, which only keep you full temporarily. Learning to read a nutrition label

Successfully incorporating healthy foods into your tight bud- Martinsville, was charged Nov. 9 fail to comply with terms of pre-Get to know the local stores and get is entirely possible, and more fight against more serious diseases such as heart attack, hypertension,

(Submitted by Betty Dean. Writshould buy products fresh, frozen, ten by Jon Ewald, MD. Used by from www.lifeand-

Courtesy of LifeSpring - Reier than canned. Pre-cut or bagged sources for Hope and Healing Stu-

to All Region Team



Two Patrick County High School Hazelwood was named 2nd Team All Lady Cougar volleyball players were named to the All Region Team.

Junior Journey Moore was named 1st Team All Region and Senior Lilly



Junior Journey Moore

Region. In addition to being named to the All Region Team, Hazelwood also fished her senior season setting a school record for blocks.

Arrests Reported

The Patrick County Sheriff's one count each assault, assault Office reported the following:

art, was charged Nov. 7 with fail Master Deputy M.T. Rorrer was to appear. Sgt. W.L. Higgs was the the arresting officer. arresting officer.

Patrick County Jail, was charged Nov. 7 with violation of bond & supervision conditions. Sgt. J.D. Lewis was the arresting officer.

*Brian Maurice Green, 52, of Ararat, was charged Nov. 7 with fail to comply with pretrial services. Senior Deputy H. Hylton was the arresting officer.

*Keyona Tyshell Redd, 22, of Axton, was charged Nov. 7 with malicious wounding. Lt. D.L. Foley was the arresting officer.

*Adrian Rashad Scales, 43, of Waynesboro, was charged Nov. 7 with one count each drive while intoxicated and abuse/neglect child. Senior Trooper R.S. Lawson was the arresting officer.

*Jonathan Robert Forcier, 31, of Henry County Jail, was charged Nov. 8 with three counts of probation violation. Henry County made the arrest for Patrick County.

*Michael Paul McAdams, 29, of Stuart, was charged Nov. 8 with one count each destruction of property, interfere with property rights of another, obstruction of justice, and assault and batter on law enforcement officer. Senior Deputy Doug Perry was the arresting officer.

lation. Martinsville PD made the Kendrick was the arresting officer. arrest for Patrick County.

*Devin Dewayne 28, of Pilot Mountain, N.C., was 20 with interfere with property false identity to law enforcement arrest for Danville. officer, and drive without license. the arresting officer.

Stuart, was charged Nov. 10 with arresting officer.

and batter on law enforcement *Gage Titus Nester, 21, of Stu- officer, and obstruction of justice.

*Jonathan David Bocock, 37, of *Jordan Anthony Capps, 23, of Stuart, was charged Nov. 10 with drive while intoxicated and hit & run attended. Trooper J.A. Armes was the arresting officer.

> *Franklin Rose, 39, of Stuart, was charged Nov. 12 with dump trash. Lt. D.L. Foley was the arresting officer.

> *Megan Hollie Smith, 38, of Claudville, was charged Nov. 14 with fail to appear. Lt. D.L. Foley was the arresting officer.

> *Deshaun Hughes, 36, of Stuart, was charged Nov. 14 with fail to appear. Master Deputy E. Sain was the arresting officer.

> *Michael Lewis Quinn, 41, no address available, was charged Nov. 16 with probation violation. Martinsville PD made the arrest for Patrick County.

> *Tony Lee Epperson, 52, of Mt. Airy, N.C., was charged Nov. 17 with two counts probation violation. Sgt. I.R. Wood was the arresting officer.

> *Zachary Dalton Scales, 29, of Claudville, was charged Nov. 18 with one count each possess firearm by non-violent felon convicted within 10 years and petty larceny. Sgt. J.G. Pickerel was the arresting officer.

*Anthony Chandler Bryant, 29, *James Brandon Bennett, 45, of of Critz, was charged Nov. 18 with with four counts of probation vio- trial services. Senior Deputy J.S.

*Misty Brownwyn Cox, 35, Meadows, of Danville, was charged Nov. charged Nov. 9 with one count rights of another and probation each possess Sch. I or II drugs, violation. Sgt. C.L. Elgin made the

*Joshua Allen Hulick, 43, of Senior Deputy J.S. Kendrick was Danville, was charged Nov. 20 with interfere with property rights *Rodney Aaron Turner, 31, of of another. Sgt. C.L. Elgin was the





Crossing the Lines=

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

Two Henry County School Board Members Honored by Virginia School Boards Association



Teddy Martin, center, holds the 2024 Advocate for Education Award.

Two members of the Henry County School Board were recognized with top honors by the Virginia School Boards Association (VSBA).

Chairman Teddy Martin received the 2024 Advocate for Education Award, while Ridgeway District representative Champ Hardie was named the Henry County School Board Member of the Year and the VSBA Blue Ridge Region School Board Member of the Year.

Martin expressed gratitude to the board for nominating him, stating, "I am deeply grateful for the honor of serving Reed Creek as School Board Member," Henry County as chairman, and as past president its 5K tradition.



Champ Hardie was named Henry County School Board Member of the Year and the VSBA Blue Ridge Region School Board Member of the Year.

of the VSBA. He also thanked his family and employers, Patrick & Henry Community College and GENEDGE, for supporting his public service.

Hardie received recognition during the VSBA's Award of Distinction Luncheon and the opening session of the association's Annual Convention. Martin praised Hardie for earning the highest individual award achievable over a two-year period.

Martin also extended his thanks to Elizabeth Durden for representing Henry County as a delegate at the convention and participating in

The Henry County Food Pantry is stocked with goods to provide assistance to individuals and families in need.

Food Pantry Provides Essential Support for the Community

The Henry County Food Pantry plays a vital role in supporting the community, assisting between 2,500 and 2,700 individuals each month. Fueled by donations, the pantry supplies food, clothing, and basic necessities to families facing hardship, working to help them regain stability after crises.

"We get referrals every single day, sometimes four or five a day,' said Sharon Mills, the pantry's director. "Our purpose is to help people get back on their feet."

The pantry offers several programs tailored to meet residents' needs and takes referrals from various sources. While most of the assistance provided is income-based through USDA guidelines, the pantry also supports individuals with higher incomes who face emergency circumstanc-

"They can receive food here if they're dealing with an extenuating situation," Mills said, emphasizing that the pantry's mission is to address short-term crises and prevent further destabilization.

The pantry welcomes donations of all kinds, including used furniture, household goods, hygiene products, pet supplies, linens, and nonperishable food. Smaller items can be dropped off directly, while larger donations can be arranged by calling (276) 629-1369.

Holiday program brings hope, joy to families in need

For families across Martinsville and Henry County, the annual Christmas Cheer program has become a beacon of hope during the holiday season. The program provides toys, food, and household items to families in need, ensuring children experience the magic of Christmas and families have a meal to share.

Christmas Cheer collects toys throughout the holiday season and opens its office to process applications from families seeking assistance. Parents can apply in person, detailing their family's needs in a thorough screening process.

"We go over them thoroughly and get all the numbers right," said Wendy Prilliman, who has led the program since the passing of her husband, Roy



2024 holiday season.

small group that goes through them to make everything sure is right, and we approve as many as we can."

Those who don't qualify receive letters notifying them of the decision, but Prilliman emphasizes the effort made to help as many age," Prilliman said.

Prilliman. "We have a families as possible.

One of the cornerstones of Christmas Cheer providing isage-appropriate tovs for children. Volunteers sort through donated toys, ensuring each child receives something special.

"The toys come by



Parade goers bundled up for the crisp air to enjoy the festivities.

Christmas Parade Kicks Off Holiday Season

Holiday spirit filled the streets of munity and brings everybody to-Uptown Martinsville as the Martinsville Henry County Christmas Parade, sponsored by Crown Holdings, delighted thousands of attendees on Nov. 23. This year's parade, the largest in its history, ran for nearly two hours with over 130 entries, including several first-time participants like Bassett Furniture.

Families, children, and community members lined the streets to enjoy the festive event. "I love the parade. I think it's good for the comgether," said attendee Zoie Shough.

Martinsville's Deputy Chief Chad Rhoads agreed, adding, "It's good to see everybody come out and have a good time. The kids love it, and the adults love it too."

Kaden Lucas, who was promoting a local event, noted the parade's strong sense of community. "It's such a community type of event. You can see that it's filled out down here. It's just a beautiful type of event," he said.

Personal property tax deadline extended until February 5

The Henry County Board of Supervisors approved a motion Tuesday night to extend the county's personal property tax deadline un-

til February 5. Tiffany Hairston, the Commissioner of Revenue, requested an extension due to a delay in generating the file needed for billing this year.

According to Henry County Code, Deputy County Administrator JR Powell said all personal property levies and taxes are due by December 5 of each year.

"However, Ms. Hairston has indicated that her office faced challenges over the past year causing a delay in generating the file needed



Martinsville Henry County Chamber of Commerce President Brenell Thomas: Debra Buchanan, of the Horsepasture District; Appalachian Power (AEP) External Affairs Manager Amanda Cox; Clay Campbell, of the Campbell Foundation; Garrett Dillard, of the Iriswood District, and representatives of Martinsville Walmart celebrate the donation of over 200 new coats.

for billing," he said.

recommend the board extend the In light of this, Powell said staff payment deadline by two months.

"We are not requesting the board to change the due date for the personal property taxes. Per code, that date is still December 5. However, we are asking the board to consider extending the payment deadline date. In other words, if it's not paid by February 5 then" it's late, Powell said.

County Attorney George Lyle said there's typically a penalty for personal property taxes paid after December 5.

'What you're doing today is just waiving the penalty for personal properties to be paid after December 5. You're not changing the date, it's just no penalty," he said.



tickets

OBITUARIES

Michelle Leslie Hall

Ms. Michelle Leslie Hall, age 54 of Ararat, Virginia passed away Tuesday, November 26, 2024, at her home. She was born in Patrick County on June 6, 1970, to the late Elvin O. Hall and Learline Jewell Burnette Hall. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by Isabella Blankenship. Michelle dearly loved truly enjoyed spending time with all memories of Ms. Hall cemetery. The family her family, especially her grandchildren and great-granddaughter. (Taylor) of Ridgeway, She connected with Peyton her children through (Ashley) of many ways from at- and Nathanael Mont- in Stuart has been entending band practic- gomery of Ararat; one trusted with the seres and shows to trying grandson, Luis Blanout new restaurants to kenship of Ridgeway; lences may be sent by heartfelt conversations one great-granddaugh- visiting www.moodyfuwhile walking her be- ter, Kinsley Blankendog, Michelle's simple quiet Huffman (Robert) of



granddaughter, nature will be greatly missed by all who knew her.

Left to cherish the are her three children, Laura Beasley. ship; one sister, Sherri

Danville; three aunts, Carolyn Hall of Stuart, Hilda Underwood of Floyd, and Geraldine Williams of Bassett; several cousins; and her dog, Beasley.

A funeral service for

Ms. Hall will be held on Sunday, December 1, 2024, at 2:00 p.m. at Conner's View Primitive Baptist Church with Elder Tim Mcofficiating. Grady Burial will immediately follow in the church will receive friends Blankenship one hour prior to the service at the church Montgomery on Sunday afternoon. Ararat, Moody Funeral Home vices and online condoneralservices.com.

Peggy Lynch ley, age 87 of Stuart, Virginia passed away peacefully Tuesday, November 26, 2024, at Blue Ridge Nursing Home. She was born in Rocky Mount, Virginia on July 10, 1937, to the late Edgar Lynch and Mary Elizabeth Hodges Lynch. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband of 43 years, Paul B. Foley; one great-granddaughand four brothers, James Lynch, Alfred Lynch, Alfonso Lynch,

and Glen Lynch. reader and was a friend of the Bassett library staff. She had an with flowers, everyone every summer. Her favorite pastimes includbaseball games and making over her many dogs (mostly beagles) over the years. Anyone fortunate enough to taste her cooking was in for a real treat,

Mr. Grady Dorn Ter-

ry, age 81 of Meadows

of Dan passed away

25, 2024, at his home.

He was born on Feb-

ruary 12, 1943, to the

late Herbert O. Ter-

ry and Oma Stanley

Terry. In addition to

his parents, Mr. Terry

was preceded in death

by four sisters, Sybil

Butler, Rosalie Con-

ner, Ruth Milam and

Lorna Hurt; and two

and bluegrass music. Mr. Terry is survived

sett; two sisters, Mildred Koehler of Falls

November

Monday,

Peggy Lynch Foley



and she loved feeding ter, Julie Fay Shelton; others the delicious meals $_{
m she}$ created. She was a member of Ross Harbour Methodist Church and was Peggy was an avid actively involved with the women's fellowship

Left to cherish the incredible green thumb memories of Peggy are two daughters, Portenjoyed all the blooms land Joyce Shelton and in her flower garden husband, David and Debby Joyce Jones and husband, Ricky, all of ed watching the Cubs Bassett; three grandchildren, Amber Jones Fizzano, Sarah Martin and husband, Tommy, and Taylor Shelton and husband, Brad; six great-grandchildren, Rocky Fizzano, Joan-

na Shelton, Rhiannon Martin, Josie Shelton, Jack Shelton, and Reagan Martin; one brother, Jimmy Lynch; and special care takers, Emily Greer and Amber Blackard.

The funeral for Peggy Foley will be held on Monday, December 2, 2024, at 3:00 p.m. at Moody Funeral Home Chapel in Stuart with Reverend David Gavlor officiating. Family will receive friends one hour prior to the service at the funeral home. Burial will follow at Pleasant Grove Christian Church Cemetery. Flowers will be accepted or memorial donations may be sent to Mountain Valley Hospice of Martinsville, 240 Commonwealth Blvd. W., Martinsville, VA 24112 or to Ross Harbour Methodist Church, c/o Cathy Adams, 35 Goblintown Road, Stuart, VA 24171. Online condolences may be sent by visiting www.moo-

Charlie Eugene Chaney

Mr. Charlie Eugene Chaney, age 69 of Stuart, Virginia passed away on Tuesday, November 26, 2024. He was born in Ferrum, VA on February 14, 1955, to the late Amon Chaney and Hazel Mae Hall Chaney. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his mother-in-law Susie Beasley. Mr. Chaney loved Jesus and serving Him and wanted others to see Jesus in him. He was loved by his students and skilled at any instrument, particularly anything with strings. Mr. Chaney was a jokester who strived to make others laugh. He loved to cook, es-



excellent brother, stepwill be sorely missed.

to others. Mr. Chaney dren, Elian and Chriswill be remembered as tian Pendleton, Mada good father who loved ison and Paul Handy; his family and offered and two step grandchil-

dren, Terry Lee Stowe Kelly Humble; siblings, Shirley Wright (Rickey), Betty McGuire (Gary), Mary Hall (Ronnie), Jimmy Chaney (Randi), Beadie Foree (Charles), and David Chaney; and one brother-in-law, Beasley (Glenda).

Funeral services for Mr. Chaney will be the best hugs. He was held Saturday, Novema wonderful husband ber 30, 2024, at 2:00 of thirty-five years, an p.m. at Moody Funeral Home in Stuart with dad, and grandpa who Pastors J.R. Shelton and Richard Dodson cherish officiating. The burithe memories of Mr. al will immediately Chaney are his wife, follow in True Gospel Dorothy of the home; Cemetery. The famitwo daughters, Amy ly will receive friends Pendleton (Nick), and two hours prior to the Christy Handy (Barry), service at the funeral pecially spaghetti, and and one step son, Terry home. Online condoalways wanted to feed Stowe; four grandchil- lences may be sent by visiting www.moodyfuneralservices.com.

Grady Dorn Terry



brothers, Clovis Terry Skaggs of Roanoke; and Bernard Terry. He many nieces and nephews; special caregiver ervices.com.

Marlene Johnson of Willis; and many dear friends.

dyfuneralservices.com.

All services will be private. If desired, memorials may be made to Hunters For The Hungry. The family wishes to thank his dedicated caregiver, Marlene Johnson, for all of her tender, loving care. Moody Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements, and online condolences may be sent by visiting www.moodyfunerals-

graduated from Meadows of Dan High School and retired from U.S. نيريا Moody Air Pittsburgh with 30 years of service. He loved hunting, fishing



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A Child of God

Adventist pastor

In Romans 8: 14-16 the Apostle Paul speaks of becoming a child of God. It's an awesome thought, almost unbelievable as we contemplate the majesty of our God. In our world of suffering, violence, war, and immorality it can be difficult to hold on to such high hopes. The world can affect us and cause us to be fearful and depressed to the point that we may lose our faith.

Such a circumstance requires us to spend more time with God's Word and in prayer, and to be reminded of the goodness of God. John 3: 17 tells us that "God sent not His son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved." God is doing everything possi-

Another helpful reminder in times of spiritual darkness is that our salvation does not depend on any works of merit on our part. Rather it is entirely on Christ's righteousness and His sacrifice in our behalf. Christ came to manifest the love of God and to die the death we deserve. We need only to believe, appreciate, and accept what He has done for us. This then inspires us to love and obey God through the power of the Holy Spirit.

I was recently reading about John Wesley's faith experience. In his earlier years he felt a dependence on his own good works for his assurance of

By Alan Dean, retired Seventh-day salvation. He strove vigorously for years in self-denial, fasting, and his good works to try to achieve this assurance. But he wasn't sure when he had done enough.

The turning point in Wesley's life was when he was aboard a ship in a violent storm. He and others feared for their lives. But there were some German Moravians aboard who faced the storm with serenity. Later he asked one of the men if he had been afraid. The man said "I thank God, no." Wesley found this to be true of their women and children on board as well.

At a later date, Wesley attended a Moravian meeting and found his heart strangely warmed by their simple faith and love for God. It led him soon to trust in Christ alone for his salvation. It is a gift "without money and without price." (Isaiah 55: 1)

After his conversion Wesley continued his rigorous life of self-denial and work for Christ, but now with a different motive. It came from his love and appreciation of Jesus and being assured of salvation through His merits.

Therefore, becoming a child of God is trusting in Christ, regardless of how we may feel at the time. He knows the "feelings of our infirmities because He was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin." (Hebrews 4: 15)

So, let's put our faith in Jesus at all times. It will bring peace beyond mea-

Dellenback-Hill shares love of area during international trip

Mary Dellenback Hill is on a 42-day Grand Voyage to the Atlantic/Mediterranean Sea Cruise with Holland America, and reported that she can't resist talking to people about the Dan River District, Willis Gap Community Center Open Jams, The Crooked Road, Virginia's Heritage Music Trail (Love sign) 144 The Hollow Road, Dan River District, Ararat," and distributing business cards.

"Everybody I meet is a traveler, guest, crew member, etc. So, as you are eating, someone comes and sits with you, then it just begins to happen," she wrote. "They talk about themselves, their cruises, home, kids, etc. Then I start talking.

The conversation "always comes around to my home, Dan River District, Patrick Counand volunteering/ tourism,' Dellenback Hill said. "I bring out the brochure and business card for Every Friday Night (Appalachian Acoustic Open Jam) and the last Tuesday in the month (Golden Oldies 50s,60s,70s Rock and Roll Open Jam," she LOVEWORKS Eve Dress Up Party on December 31.



Ararat, and Patrick Captain Paul Adams came around to our table twice during County, "especially our the Thanksgiving Dinner, Mary Dellenback Hill. (Photos by ship staff.)



Wine Sommelier Bojelle and Mary Dellenback Hill talked about the wine list and the U.S. wineries that were listed. The three states represented were Washington State, Oregon and California wineries.



A daily map of current travels and destinations. Hill was aboard the ship at sea Thanksgiving Day, enjoying a wonderful turkey dinner with all the trimmings.

mention said, adding that the SIGN, and notes that ration, Patrick County next one is a New Year's the area is affiliated Chamber of Commerce, partner with the Crooked Road Virginia's Her-She also is sure to itage Music Trail. Hill

Virginia's also talks about the Vir-LOVE ginia Tourism Corpoand the Patrick County Tourism department.

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BIBLE TRIVIA

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

2. What was the innkeeper's name who turned away the pregnant Mary as there was not room? Eliada, Jesimiel, Phlegon, Bible does not say

3. According to the Gospel of Matthew, the Wise Men saw the star in the ...? North, East, South, West

4. Jesus was born in Bethle-___ in the days of Herod the king. Nazarene, Jerusalem, Judaea, Capernaum

5. In what type of clothes did Mary wrap the newborn Jesus? Admonishing, Resurrecting,

Swaddling, Castling 6. How many times is "swaddling clothes" mentioned in the

Bible? 1, 2, 3, 4

ANSWERS: 1) Neither, 2) Bible does not say, 3) East, 4) Judaea, 5) Swaddling, 6) Two (Luke 2:7, 12) Sharpen your understanding of scripture with Wilson Casey's latest book, "Test Your Bible Knowledge," available in bookstores and on-

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BREEDS ON THE DECLINE

80 Petri dish gel

81 Old JFK iet

83 Haughtiness

score after a

82 Meadow

85 Gridiron

ACROSS 1 Lagoons 6 Jaunty greeting 10 Basics

14 Aid in crime 18 Full of vitality 19 Purim's month 20 Patio cooker

22 Sage guide 23 Pope after Sergius II 24 Acting Ward 25 "Same here" 26 Arab country 27 Player hitting

to prepare for a spike 30 Energetic journalist 32 Chicago-to-

Tampa dir. 33 Suffix with leopard 34 Caroling song

35 Journalist covering a particular sector

country, for short

123

127

41 "Kung Fu Hustle'

92 Gillette brand 125 Eternally 93 Genghis Khan followers under canvas 95 Silvery gray

99 Text-

to bards

67 Andrea -(ill-fated ship) 69 Swimming sensation

Olympics 71 Nine-sided shape 75 Comic

director 90 Vandals, e.g. and star

commercials 56 High-scoring hoops shot 59 Met or La Scala frequenter

escape my notice" 62 Prior to.

65 Country singer Blake

Mlle.

46 Campers

50 Field unit

55 Having no

51 Jarred

38 To be, to Bardot

39 Lock of hair

96 Deliverer of a fine spray

61 "That didn't

63 Pooch's cry

at the 1972

84 Injury rehab professional 86 Scattering in the field 88 Baia blanket

126 Love, to Lucia 127 Place of bliss 128 Stuck-up type 129 Relaxation

DOWN

1 Give birth.

as a whale

2 Margarines

3 Forerunners

of cellos

4 Pernicious

order-wise

so to speak

8 Passageway

6 Dinosaurs.

7 Exemplar

9 Brand of

5 Like July,

scanning the Arabic

Ends Well"

org.

buffoon 78 Entertainer Zadora

81 Deli salad

130 Crowded

device, briefly 100 Revises text 103 First letter of

alphabet 104 130-to-135pound bout competitor '— Well That

109 Cavity fillers' 112 According to 113 Sheriff's star

114 Popular voga pose ... or something found seven times in this

puzzle 117 Color shade 119 Research facility

121 TV "Warrior Princess" 122 Duck with 123 Tortilla treat

toothbrushes 10 DOJ heads 11 She wrote "Jane Eyre" 12 Apple quaffs 13 Most sluggish 14 Past time 15 Lousy pieces of advice

16 Rub out soft feathers **29** See 124 One of the

ton sisters

17 Piano fixer 21 Talk like Daffy Duck 28 Past time 27-Across singing Brax-**31** See

> 10 111 12 13

30-Across

56-Across 60 Red Muppet 64 Infant's cry 66 Nabisco treat 68 Doing sentry duty **70** See

37 Snitching

41 Fill totally

44 See

47 Wildlife-

48 Lulu Hogg

49 Stitch up

52 GI address

53 "Blecch!"

poet

58 See

42 Sch. worker

41-Across

38 Sort of sword

sort

69-Across 72 H.S.-level exam 73 "... bug feature?" 74 Quarterback

great Joe 75 Relief sound **76** Mao — -tung 77 Other, to Gabriela

120 See 79 About 15

18 19 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 33 36 46 42 48 53 56 62 79 82 85 88 92 93 95 100 101 102 103 104 | 105 110 111 112

Puzzle answers page 11

120

124

28

125

129

122 126 130

43 Went wrong throw, in brief 87 Street urchin 89 Alternative to "Section 2" 45 Give a bias to 91 Steadfast tracking aids

94 Spring farm machines 97 Earthen pot player Peggy 98 Interpret wrongly 101 Starts eating,

54 "The Raven" informally 102 "- kick from champagne" 57 Spanish river (Cole Porter lyric)

104 Milk, in Italy 105 Homer epic 106 Bulb unit **107** See 104-Across 108 Two of Henry

VIII's wives 109 Append 110 Active sorts 111 Match up 115 "- Only Just

Begun' 116 Very thin coin

118 2,000 pounds

119-Across 16

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CONTAINING 36.980 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, AND 1.00 ACRE, MORE OR LESS; AND BEING THE SAME TWO TRACTS OR PARCELS OF LAND CONVEYED TO MICHAEL RAY BRIDGES AND SU-SAN CAROL RAINES BRIDGES, HUSBAND AND WIFE, BY PEED FROM MICHAEL RAY BRIDGES, DATED OCTOBER 6, 2010, AND RECORDED IN THE CLERICS OFFICE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF PATRICK COUNTY, VIRGINIA, AS INSTRUMENT NUMBER 1001737, TO WHICH DEED REF-ERENCE IS HERE MADE FOR A MORE PARTICULAR DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY HEREIN CONVEYED. TERMS OF SALE: ALL CASH. A bidder's deposit of ten percent (10%) of the sale price or ten percent (10%) of the original principal balance of the subject Deed of Trust, whichever is lower, in the form of cash or certified funds payable to the Substitute Trustee must be present at the time of the sale. The balance of the purchase price will be due within fifteen (15) days of sale, otherwise Purchaser's deposit may be forfeited to Trustee. Time is of the essence. If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled to a return of the deposit paid. The Purchaser may, if provided by the terms of the Trustee's Memorandum of Foreclosure Sale, be entitled to a \$50 cancellation fee from the Substitute Trustee, but shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee or the Mortgagee's attorney. A form copy of the Trustee's memorandum of foreclosure sale and contract to purchase real property is available for viewing at www.bwwsales.com. Additional terms, if any, to be announced at the sale and the Purchaser may be given the option to execute the contract of sale electronically. This is a communication from a debt collector and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. The sale is subject to seller confirmation. Substitute Trustee: Equity Trustees, LLC, 8100 Three Chopt Road, Suite 240, Richmond, VA 23229. For more information contact: B WW Law Group, LLC, attorneys for Equity Trustees, LLC, 6003 Executive Blvd, Suite 101, Rockville, MD 20852, 301-961-6555, website: www.bwwsales.com. VA-354662-1.

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TRUSTEE'S SALE OF

568 Laurel Ridge Estate Road, Meadows of Dan, VA 24120

In execution of a Deed of Trust in the original principal amount of \$193,325.00 dated October 17, 2022 recorded among the land records of the Circuit Court for Patrick County on October 21, 2022 as Instrument Number: 220001897, the undersigned appointed Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction, at the Main entrance of the courthouse for the Circuit Court of Patrick County, 101 W Blue Ridge St, Stuart, VA 24171 on January 14, 2025 at 4:00 PM the property described in said deed of trust, located at the above address and briefly described as: All that certain tract or parcel of land with all improvements thereon and appurtenances and rights of way thereunto belonging, and being in the Blue Ridge Magisterial District of Floyd County, Virginia, being Lot 13, containing 4.9142 acres, as shown on that certain plat of survey prepared by Larry G. Rakes, CLS, dated October 29, 1984, and recorded in Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of Patrick

County, Virginia, in Plat Cabinet 1, Slide 15-C; and Together with that right to use the roadways shown the aforesaid plat of survey, for ingress and egress to State Route #601, as set forth in Deed dated November 19, 1984, recorded in the aforesaid Clerk's Office in Deed Book 240, Page 592.

Parcel ID: 4414-111 Tax ID: 4414.00.111.

TERMS OF SALE: A bidder's deposit of \$10,000.00 or 10% of the sale price, whichever is lower, will be required in the form of a certified or cashier's check. Cash will not be accepted as a deposit. Settlement within fifteen (15) days of sale, otherwise Trustee may forfeit deposit. Additional terms to be announced at sale. This is a communication from a debt collector. This notice is an attempt to collect on a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. (Trustee # 24-007522)

Substitute Trustee: ALG Trustee, LLC C/O Orlans PC PO Box 2548, Leesburg, VA 20177 (703) 777-7101 website: www.Orlans.com The Vendor Covius Holding Services will be used in conjunction with this sale.

LEGAL

4104 Goose Point Road, Bassett, VA 24055 Patrick County

In execution of a Deed of Trust in the original principal amount of \$60,000.00, dated February 14, 2003 recorded in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of the Patrick County, Virginia, in Document No. 030000493, at the request of the holder of the Note, the undersigned Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction at the entrance to the Circuit Court of Patrick County, 101 W. Blue Ridge Street, Stuart, on January 8, 2025 at 1:00 PM the property described in said deed, located at the above address and briefly described as:

Lot No 3a, Section 1, Fairystone Farms, with any improvements thereon Subject to any and all covenants, conditions, restrictions, easements, and all other matters of record taking priority over the Deed of Trust, if any, affecting the aforesaid property.

TERMS OF SALE: CASH: A deposit of \$20,000.00 or 10% of the sales price, whichever is lower, cash or certified check will be required at the time of sale, but no more than \$10,000.00 of cash will be accepted, with settlement within fifteen (15) days from the date of sale. Sale is subject to post sale confirmation that the borrower did not file for protection under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code prior to the sale which affects the validity of the sale, as well as to post-sale confirmation of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into any repayment agreement, reinstated or paid off the loan prior to the sale. In any such event, the sale shall be null and void, and the Purchaser's sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of his deposit without interest. Additional terms may be announced at the time of sale. Pursuant to the Federal Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, we advise you that this firm is a debt collector attempting to collect the indebtedness referred to herein and any information we obtain will be used for that purpose.

SAMUEL 1. WHITE, P.c., Substitute Trustee

This is a communication from a debt collector. FOR INFORMATION CONTACT: SAMUEL 1. WHITE, P.C. (39154) 448 Viking Drive Suite 350

Virginia Beach, VA 23452 757-457-1460 - Call Between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. or visit our website at www.siwpc.net

Wednesday, December 4, 2024 - 11

Meetings

Monday, Dec. 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.

Wednesday, Dec. 11

Patrick County Economic Development Authority (EDA) meets at 6 p.m. in the 2nd-floor conference room, Patrick County Veterans Memorial Building.

Thursday, Dec. 12

The Patrick County School Board will meet at **Ongoing** 5:30 p.m. in the school board office.

Wednesday, Dec. 18

The Stuart Town Council will meet at 7 p.m. in the town office.

Events

Friday, Dec. 6

The Community Food Truck will be at the Woolwine SSRS from 3-4:30 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 7

The Church of Living Water will hold a Christmas Bazaar from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The annual Patrick County Christmas Parade starts at 2 p.m.

Jeb Stuart Volunteer Rescue Squad will hold a Community Breakfast at its building from 7:30-10 a.m. Plates are \$8 each and dine in, carry out, and curb service options are available. Orders can be placed by calling 276-694-6171.

Country Breakfast, 7:30-10 a.m., Ararat Ruritan Club, 4711 Ararat Highway, Ararat, dine in our take out plates are \$8 adult, \$5 kids, \$3 biscuit. Ham, sausage, eggs, apples, gravy, homemade biscuits, pancakes & beverage. A special guest might be checking his list.

Christmas Bazaar, 7:30 a.m. – 12 p.m. (Big Country Breakfast served until 10 a.m.), Francisco Community Building, 7100 NC 89 West, Westfield, N.C.

Wednesday, Dec. 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.

Thursday, Dec. 12

The Patrick County Senior Citizens Group will meet at 11 a.m. in the Hooker Building at Rotary Field in Stuart. Entertainment will be provided by Jimmy Handy. Attendees are requested to bring finger foods and desserts to share with the group.



Weekly **SUDOKU**

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆

♦ Moderate ♦ ♦ Challenging

♦ ♦ ♦ HOO BOY! © 2024 King Features Synd., Inc

Friday, Dec. 13 - Monday, Dec. 23

will be held from 6-8 p.m.

Sunday, Dec. 15

The Reynolds Homestead Victorian Christmas will start at 1 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 20

The Community Food Bank will be at Fairystone VFD from 3-4:30 p.m.

The Patrick County Parks and Recreation Office is now conducting sign-ups for the grades K-3 basketball season. Students in grades K-1 and students in grades 2-3 will play on co-ed teams according to the two grade-level groupings. Games are played on Saturdays during February and March. The deadline for sign-ups is Monday, December 16. Forms are available at any elementary school or the recreation department. Questions? Call or email the recreation department at 276-694-3917 or recdept@co.patrick.va.us.

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. on 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 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.



Rivers Realty 200694-5044 21521 JEB STUART HWY STUART, VA 24171 Description LINDSEYPUCKETT.COM																				
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The Willis Gap Community Center: Members The annual Festival of Lights at DeHart Park 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 on the last Tuesday of the month. Doors open at 6 p.m. for food, music and dancing from 6:30-9 p.m.

> Connect Health+ Wellness offers free confidential Medicaid/FAMIS application and renewal assistance for Virginia residents from birth to 64. No sign-up fees, no premiums, no deductibles. Medicaid renewals have resumed. Medicaid members need to keep their mailing address and contact information up to date. Connect Health + Wellness' specially trained Medicaid/FAMIS Outreach Advocate can provide more information. Call or text Ann Walker, (276) 732-0509, Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Initial unemployment claims decreased last week

The 2,244 unemployment insurance weekly initial claims were filed during the week ending November 23, 2024, is 0.9 percent lower than last week's 2,265 claims and 103.3 percent higher than the comparable week of last year (1,104), according to Virginia Works. Nearly 82 percent of claimants self-reported an associated industry; of those reported, the top five industries (61 percent) were Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services (247); Administrative and Support and Waste Management (246); Manufacturing (210); Retail Trade (176); and Health Care and Social Assistance (170).

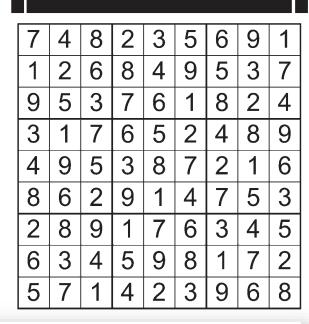
Continued weeks claims (15,554) were 0.8 percent higher than last week (15,438) and were 35.0 percent higher than the comparable week of last year (11,522). Nearly 92 percent of claimants self-reported an associated industry; of those reported, the top five industries (60 percent) were Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services (2,494); Administrative and Support and Waste Management (2,038); Health Care and Social Assistance (1,493); Manufacturing (1,321); and Retail Trade (1,235).

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.

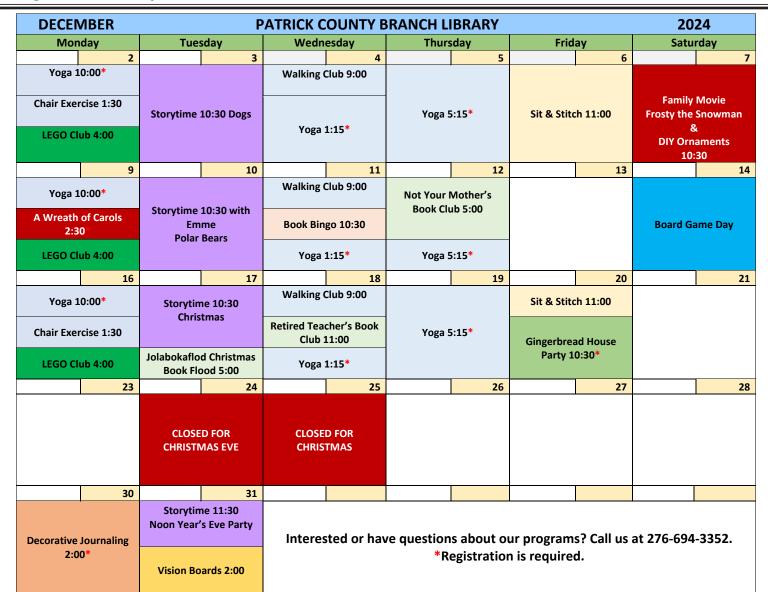
Wilderness - Stuart, Inc.

Buying Logs Standing Timber or Timberland Stuart, VA

> Contact Ronnie Bolt at (276) 694-4432







Woolwine Warrior Readers



Lexi Hubbard

nounced the names of its top read- Reading program during the first



Woolwine Elementary School an- ers who participated in the Warrior quarter. Each student who reached their grade level goal received a free snack and a free personal pan pizza from Pizza Hut. In addition, students who read the most books in each grade also received a free book. The top readers are Pre-K-Lo-

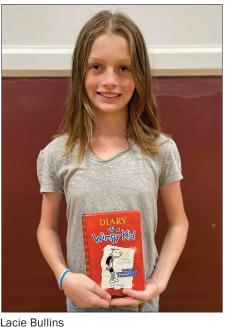
gan LeBlond, Kindergarten--Abigayle Cox, First Grade--Lexi Hubbard, Second Grade-Elly Griffin, Third Grade-Callie Tejeda, Fourth Grade–Melissa Hughes, Grade--Sophia Otero-Garcia, Sixth Grade-Blake Belcher, Seventh Grade-Lacie Bullins. Congratulations everyone! We hope you will keep reading!



Blake Belcher









Logan LeBlond



Elly Griffin





Melissa Hughes



LOVE LIGHTS AT THE COURTHOUSE

LOVE LIGHTS IN HONOR OR **MEMORY OF** LOVED ONES

A project of the Patrick County Alzheimer's Group LLC **December 20, 2024** 6:00PM PATRICK COUNTY COURTHOUSE

The Patrick County Alzheimer's Group is excited to announce they are bringing back the Love Lights Program. Purchase a Love Light in honor or in memory of a loved one. An angel ornament with the individual's name will be placed on the Christmas tree at the courthouse. Each \$5 purchase will include the individual's name on an ornament and a card sent to the family. Money raised through the program will be used for Alzheimer's patients in Patrick County and the surrounding areas.

Love Lights Registration Form

1)	Name placed on Love Light:_										
	(please circle one):	In Honor of	In Memory of								
	Name of Purchaser:		····								
	Address of Purchaser:										
	Name of Love Light Family: _										
	Address of Love Light Family:										
2)	Name placed on Love Light:_										
	(please circle one):	In Honor of	In Memory of								
	Name of Purchaser:		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·								
	Address of Purchaser:		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·								
	Name of Love Light Family:										

Address of Love Light Family: _____

Love Lights \$5 Per Light Checks payable and mail to: Patrick County Alzheimer's Group LLC PO Box 1301 **Stuart, VA 24171**

Tools for Gardening

Most of us are familiar with lawnmowers and weed eaters, leaf blowers, and leaf rakes. Flower Beyond that, the range Raised Beds and variety of equipment for gardening daunting.

Beginner hands, the first and foremost investments

by activity.

Potted Plants

By Kristine Adel, casion when I have shovel is rectangular mend the practice.

Beds,

Soil Preparation

to need safety glasses, or sulfates to alter the tight spaces. ear plugs, protective ph. For this you want clothing, perhaps even something in which the soil you will need a steel-toed boots and a to carry these mate- rake to remove remain-For most of us the a pail or bucket but is hand rake may be usenext priority is cost. hard on the back and ful for small areas, but None of us wants a tool doesn't carry much. you might want to use a that doesn't earn its Wheelbarrows, garden full-size garden rake for keep. We know what carts, muck buckets or larger spaces. Now, the falls off the trees in the a small trailer will do soil is prepared, ready autumn, and it's not the job better. If your to plant your seeds or money. Let's explore soil amendments in- seedlings with a dibble the question of which clude straw you'll need or a hoe. tools we want and need a pitchfork or manure

If you're new to gar- tion is killed by cov- etable garden. Every dening you might start ering with a tarp or morning, she was up with potted plants. cardboard for several with the sun and out to With a small invest- months, a plow or til- check her plants. Walkment in time and en- ler is the easiest way to ing each row, trowel ergy, potted plants turn over the soil. You in hand, she removed can make a big impact can rent a tiller from every tender blade of on any porch or patio. a local hardware store. grass and every weed mal, a pair of gloves, a double-digging or turn- They never stood a pot and a trowel. You ing the soil over twice. chance. No sooner did may also want a dibble Double-digging which they pop up than she or a bulb planter for works best in small or dug them out. I never digging holes to a spe- tight spaces. Which saw her chopping the cific depth if planting shovel do you want to weeds with a hoe, nor

misplaced my trowel, and slightly dished for though I don't recom- moving materials. An edging shovel is also Vegetable Gardens, rectangular but not and dished and is often used in landscaping. The elongated trench shov-The larger your project can dig deep. The and landscaping can be ect, the greater the triangular root shovel number of tools re- with its serrated edgquired. You can make- es is great for digging do with whatever you through the roots of have, but having the shrubs and trees. The are a pair of gloves and right tool for the job pointed shovel is ideal a wide brimmed hat. makes everything eas- for gravel or clay soils, Don't forget sunscreen ier. Preparing the soil but the rounded shovel and bug spray. Always is the first step of any is the most versatile. personal gardening project. Most Long handled shovprotection is your high- gardeners will want to els require less bendest priority. The more amend the soil in a new ing and provide more powerful the equip- garden. Adding com- leverage when lifting. ment you are using, posted or organic mate- A short handle may be the more likely you are rials, and possibly lime easier to maneuver in

rials. The simplest is ing vegetation. A small

Weeding

My grandmother Once the vegeta- kept a very large veg-



gadget, as sold on TV, just her constant vigilance. I once heard a visitor remark, "A weed wouldn't dare grow in her garden!". I am not that vigilant. I've spent hours and hours with a hoe and a small hand rake. All I can say is my grandmother knew best all along.

Staking

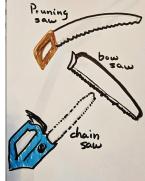
Many plants such After turning over as trees, grapes, beans reblooming or require a and tomatoes need sup- professional to remove a pole saw, manual or port when first plant- heavy limbs from a power. ed or as they grow too tree. Fortunately, most heavy to support their pruning can be done by remove a limb while own weight, staking a homeowner. Almost standing atop a ladder. keeps the fruits from all pruning requires These tools, used aptouching the ground, in-personal creases air circulation, gear. Gloves, eye-proand makes harvesting tection, and earplugs jobs. Used carelessly, easier. Staking can are a must when us- they can cause injury be as simple as twigs ing power equipment. and death. The CDC stuck in the ground for Steel-toe boots and a reports that chainsaws peas, or string tying hard-hat will be nec- are responsible annutomatoes to supports. essary if cutting heavy ally for approximately Any type of stick or pole limbs and felling trees. will do. You may need a Protect yourself by repost hole digger when searching and using installing a permanent appropriate items. trellis for grapes, brambles, and roses.

Landscaping Pruning

and pruning. a kitchen spoon on oc- ent purposes. The flat had any handy-dandy flowers to encourage er limbs might require impaired.







loppers are sized de- ment: *learn how to oppending on the diame- erate and maintain the ter of the branch to be tool safely, *always use Shrubs and trees cut. Hand saws also appropriate personal Tools needed are mini- Another method is that tried to emerge. in the landscape fre- come in a range of protective gear, *never quently need shaping types and sizes. Larger work in a potentially They saws have larger teeth dangerous may grow lopsided or for faster cutting, while alone, *never try to tangled, have dead those with smaller force a tool to perform wood, suckers or water teeth are more precise. a task for which it was sprouts. Pruning can Larger limbs require not designed, *always numerous pots. I will use? Shovels come in did she ever use a sick- help. It can be as sim- chainsaws, either gas work in good light, admit that I have used many shapes for differ- le or scythe. She never ple as pinching spent or electric, while high- *never use tools while



Never attempt to protective propriately, can make short work of large 36,000 injuries and 250 deaths.

General guidelines for using any tool, es-Pruning shears and pecially power-equip-

SPECTRUM MEDICAL

Are you suffering from constant shoulder pain?

You may qualify for a clinical research study.

The purpose of the study is to see if the investigational study drug can help reduce shoulder pain and provide more long-lasting pain relief for people with shoulder osteoarthritis.

Study entry requirements*

- Ages 50 to 80
- pain associated with shoulder osteoarthritis (OA) for 3 or more months
- Willing to stop taking current shoulder pain medications
- Have not had any shoulder surgeries to index shoulder in the last 5 years
- Do not have any other chronic pain conditions
- *Other requirements will apply

To learn more, please contact:

Savannah McNear (434)793-4711 ext. 1115 109 Bridge Street Danville, VA 24541

savannah.mcnear@spectrummed.com

Turtle time at the library

was all about turtles. The books, "Where's My Turtle" by Barbara the young attendees.

enmayer, followed by making a years old? He was born in 1832.

A recent Storytime at the library turtle bank using a recycled fruit cup as a shell.

The program was completed Bottner; "I Am Stuck," by Julia with the children planting tulips Mills and "Turtle and Tortoise and crocus bulbs in the Books, Are NOT Friends," by Mike Reiss Blooms and Bugs Children's Garwere read by Children's Librarian den. Did you know that turtles Sam Edmundson and enjoyed by can live 200 years and the oldest known living turtle in the world is Facts about turtles were shared Jonathan, a Seychelles giant torby Jessica Hines and Norma Boz- toise who is estimated to be 191













Season's Greetings & Best Wishes Don't Forget Your Local Businesses This Holiday Season

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> Joey Errichetti, **Owner**





Collinsville Farm Market 3585 Virginia Avenue | Collinsville, VA

276-647-1166



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We Wish You & Your Family, Safe & Happy Holiday!!

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Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

To Advertise Contact: Wendi Craig - 276-340-2445 or Ali Wall - 276-732-6083