Calendar Church Classified Family Album **Obituaries Sports Viewpoints**

Vol. 149 No. 12 Website: www.theenterprise.net STUART, VIRGINIA WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19, 2025

USPS 523-500 **\$1.00**

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

Board delays reassessment, discusses budget proposal, sets tax rate

By Taylor Boyd

The Patrick County Board of Supervisors approved a motion to cap the estate tax rate, delay the reassessment, and continued discussions about the proposed fiscal year 2025-26 budget at its March 10 meeting.

After voting to set the real estate tax rate at not more than 73 cents per \$100 of assessed value, which matches the current fiscal year's rate, the board also approved a motion to delay the county's next real estate reassessment until Jan. 1, 2027.

Commissioner of Revenue Glennda Morse explained that Virginia law requires a general reassessment of real estate every four years. However, counties with a population of 50,000 or fewer may, by majority vote, extend the reassessment tive Jan. 1, 2027," Morse said. cycle to five or six years.

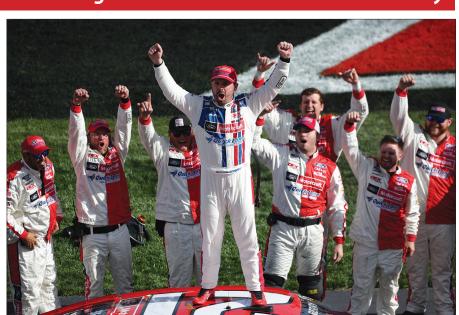
"Tonight, I'm asking for a motion to extend the next reassessment to six years, which is normally what we do, which would make it effec-



Commissioner of Revenue Glennda Morse requested the Board of Supervisors delay the real estate assessment by two years, or until January 1, 2027.

Board members also discussed several proposed capital improvements, including a generator for the county administration building,

(See Board p. 2)



Berry, Wood Brothers Racing claim victory in NASCAR Cup Series Pennzoil 400

Josh Berry, driver of the #21 Motorcraft/Quick Lane Ford, celebrates in victory lane after winning the NASCAR Cup Series Pennzoil 400 at Las Vegas Motor Speedway on March 16, 2025 in Las Vegas, Nevada. (Photo by Jonathan Bachman/Getty Images) Full Story Inside on page 12.

The Patrick County School Board approved the \$36,747,259.98 fiscal year 2025-2026 budget at its March 11 meeting.

School board approves \$36.7 million budget for next fiscal year

By Taylor Boyd

fiscal year.

the first budget in a couple of years it," he said. the division didn't have federal funds for some staffing positions.

some other assistants that we were not able to continue with their em-

ployment. Each year over the last The Patrick County School Board four years our 'Other Amendments' approved its more than \$36 million to our budget and also our ESSER/ proposed budget for the upcoming CARES funds have decreased, and those funds have been exhausted. Schools Superintendent Jason Now it's just reports we get to send Wood said this \$36,747,259.98 is to the state about how we did spend

As a result, the division is operating on a tight budget. Because of "We had some success coaches, the calculation tool and the division's lowering enrollment, Wood

(See School p. 3)

FOIA expert: Meetings with supervisors were legal

ing of the Economic Development Authority (EDA) and a West Piedmont Planning District Commission (WPPDC) meeting on Feb. 27, both of which included three county supervisors, did not violate Virginia's Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) laws, according to Alan Gernhardt, executive director of the Virginia FOIA Advisory Coun-

The quorum, or a majority, of the Patrick County Board of Supervi-

The Feb. 26 closed-session meet- meeting of the EDA included Clayton Kendrick, who is the county's appointed liaison; Andrew Overby, who had requested to attend; and Steve Marshall.

The WPPDC meeting also included three members: Kendrick, Jonathan Wood and Marshall.

Gernhardt explained that while the presence of three supervisors meets the criteria for a meeting. their attendance was not considered an official board meeting because the members did not interact sors to attend the closed session or discuss business with each other.



None of the Above will headline the Saturday, March 22 Patrick County Music Association

None of the Above to

headline PCMA show

Education leader Dr. Stewart Roberson to speak at P&HCC Commencement

Patrick & Henry Community College has announced that Stewart chairman of the Patrick County Education Foundation (PCEF) Board, will deliver the commencement address for P&HCC's 2025graduation ceremony.

Roberson is the chair of the Board of Shareholders for Moseley Architects and a professor at the University of Virginia. He previously served as superintendent of schools in both Ha-County and Falls Church, Virgineducation since 1977. cellence. He is also a He has been recognized as a Virginia a Virginia Founda- tionally, he serves on all." tion for Community the Board of Directors board member emeritus, and an honorary Foundation, CodeVA, Hall gymnasium on



ginia.

Currently, Council, and the VCU

County

ican Institute of Ar- Advisory Committee.

"It is a true joy to be invited to have a front-row seat on May 17 to witness the pride and accomplishments of the P&HCC Class of 2025! That day will be a terrific one of celebration as everyone applauds the graduates and the difference they will all make in our world," Roberson said.

P&HCC President Rober- Dr. Greg Hodges addson serves as chair ed, "We are so grateof the Board of Direc-ful to Dr. Roberson tors for Moseley Ar- for his advocacy and chitects, the Forum support of P&HCC Club of Richmond, the and for his work to UVA K-12 Advisory make Patrick Promise a reality for Patrick ia, and has worked in Autism Center for Ex- County High School graduates. His pastrustee for the Vir- sion for education and ginia Foundation of the future of students Business Virginia 500 Independent Colleges in our community is a Power List member, and AdvancED. Addi- true inspiration to us

The commencement Education for the Prince William ceremony will take Education place in the Stone there on a stool and play for three member of The Amer- and the Cognia State Saturday, May 17, at

mean, they all have the ear monitors like the Lonesome River Band, where they can hear and play, walk around through the audience," Alley said. The event will also feature a

By Taylor Boyd

None of the Above will headline

the Patrick County Music Associ-

ation (PCMA) show on Saturday,

March 22, at the Rotary Building

in Stuart. Doors open at 5 p.m.,

PCMA President Denny Alley

described None of the Above as a

Surry County-based group known

for playing a wide variety of mu-

"They're really a good band. I

with music starting at 6 p.m.

performance by Johnny & Wendy Dearmon. "They've been playing and singing all their life. Johnny can sit

days and never sing the same

song—any kind of music you

want," Alley said, adding that the duo will play "anything under the sun" during their set.

Both Johnny and Wendy Dearmon participated in PCMA's Songwriter's Circle Series last

Alley said PCMA has three more monthly shows scheduled, along with a Songwriter's Circle Series event on May 17 at the Star Theatre, before taking a summer break. The monthly shows are set to resume in October.

He estimated that 200-250 people attended the February show.

Concessions will be available for purchase from the Patrick County Shooting Education Team, with proceeds supporting firearm safety education for local youngsters.

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

Board =

(cont. from page 1)

an ambulance purchase, a scale for the Transfer Station, zero turn mower, a roof on the building that houses Adult Education, and mowing options for dams in Ararat.

Also discussed was an 'Access Control System' for court proceedings held on the third floor, as requested by General District Court Judge Joan Ziglar, according to discussion at the meeting.

County Administrator Beth Simms said that according to Ziglar's request from last year, the first phase of the access control plan was for a single point of entry. "Because right now, there are quite a few exits in this building. So, the first phase will be a single point of entry with all the other" entries and exits secured.

"We can all wish and want, but that doesn't necessarily mean that's a requirement," Andrew Overby, vice chairman and of the Dan River District, said, and added the county's current security measures were sufficient.

Simms said Ziglar may disagree with that assessment, and added the security requested is outlined in the state code.

Overby said it isn't and noted the requirements Simms referenced were for circuit courts, not for Juvenile and Domestic Relations or General District courts.

"We have this floor secured by a deputy all day long, and I believe that what we have meets the requirements and we do not need to secure the entire facility. I just spent half the day over at Carroll County looking at their facility today, they have absolutely no access control for the entire building with the exception of the court wing, and that is where the court clerk and everybody for the courts is located. Everything else in the building is completely open, they use a key for every door,'

As long as the third floor is staffed with the deputy as required to do so, Overby said he doesn't think security measures need to go any further.

"If there's a concern with people walking into county administration – lock the door," he said.

"So, just let her know that it is the Board of Supervisors' opinion that we meet the requirements,"

Doug Perry, of the Smith River District, said he believes the board may want to discuss the issue, and the specific security elements, further.

"I think it's jumping the gun to say that right now. I think we need to have more discussion before we go to Judge Ziglar and say, "hey, look the whole board says that the top floor is good enough." I think we need to hash this out," Perry said.

"I don't think we need to create a deterrent for people to come into this facility and conduct their



Dozens of residents attended the March 10 meeting.

business. They come here to pay their taxes, they come in here to go to the DMV, they should not be forced to go through a metal detector to get into the building," Overby said, adding that a single point of entry could be made right now.

Clayton Kendrick, of the Mayo River District, asked if the other doors had key card locks on

Simms replied they did not.

"Carroll County does not have key card locks, they have keys," Overby said.

Kendrick asked if all courts could be held in the other courthouse. Simms said she couldn't answer that question, and added it would be a question for the judges.

"I just believe that we meet the requirements per the state right now, and if we go any further, we're going above and beyond," Overby said.

Kendrick believes the administration office, the Treasurer's office, and the Commissioner of Revenue's office could reasonably be secured with just an electronic lock and a camera to see who's at the door.

That will secure that down there and you got security up here," Kendrick said.

"And we could save a whole lot more money just by locking the door and walking over to open it,' Overby said.

Simms said the request isn't trying to be a deterrent for people to pay their taxes or obtain a building permit.

That is not it at all. We were requested by the judge to look at key card entry for the other entrances and exits, have a single point of entry that way we can track people coming in and out better, that's phase one," Simms said.

"We can set up a single point of entry by simply locking the doors. I mean that's not that hard. We don't have to physically put card access on the doors, we can just lock the doors and say everybody has to come in the front door. It's simple and

doesn't cost us a dime," Overby said.

When a judge comes to her and asks for this, Simms said it feels like it's her job to bring it to the board.

"If you all don't want to approve it, then like I said, I execute the board's wishes. I'm just explaining to you her concern and her request," Simms

Overby said the current measures are meeting the requirement for the third floor, and asked Patrick County Sheriff Dan Smith for input.

Smith said the county is meeting the legal requirements.

"We have a deputy up here every day because the clerks of both district and juvenile domestic relations court clerks are here 40 hours a week. Just like the circuit court, we have a deputy fulltime up there. You cannot get into the court complex, which is the third floor here, without going through a metal detector and a deputy," Smith

State law requires that courthouses have specific security, he said. However, that doesn't apply to other government entities. On the third floor, where court cases are heard, Smith said the county complies with the state code.

"This entire building is not the courthouse - it's just this floor. If we're meeting that requirement then I don't think we need to spend funds any further," Overby said.

The board also discussed using part of the unassigned fund balance to fund some one-time capital requests and directed Simms to bring a summary of dues and memberships to them and ask the Patrick County Education Foundation for the sum needed to launch the Patrick Promise.

The board approved removing \$15,000 earmarked to pay an outside consultant – in this case Davenport & Company, LLC, which would have provided advice on the county's financial policies. The board also declined to provide water cooler usage for any offices that have town water.

Spring Bulbs and Summer Color

summer season, I of- summer flowers as ten see beautiful flow- much as the next perering bulbs for sale. son, but lifting? Storcent in full bloom and of complicated." if only.

spheres, Begonias in rate with containers. their seemingly in-(Buttercups),

"Wait, isn't it too cold here for those beautiful flowers?"

The answer is yes, and no. Our summers here in Patrick Country are perfect for these beautiful flowfrost in spring and lift them for storage before the first frost in fall. Most almanacs agree that the last frost will come to our area sometime in the latter part of April, and the first frost next fall will arrive sometime in the latter half of October, leaving with almost 6 months of beautiful flower

growing weather.

the be thinking, "I love like a potato or some room to spread out. look magnifi- age? That sounds kind like

have had many times bulbs. This could be a more blooms in my basement, a cellar, or garden for less cost if I even a crawlspace as had bought and plant- long as you can be cered those same bulbs tain your bulbs won't of round, but shortearlier in the spring, freeze over the winter. And now is the time to Now is the time! No start thinking about are an example. They waiting until summer what flowers you want when they are already to plant, whether you Alliums want to grow them in with their tiny flowers a garden, plant them clustered into perfect as a border, or deco-

Once the chance finite variety, and all of frost has passed the huge showy Glad- and the ground has Ranunculus warmed to 55° F, Calla maybe 60°F, you are Lilies and so many ready to plant. Most more! I want them all. bulbs will come with Are you thinking, instructions, but a general rule of thumb when planting bulbs in good workable soil is to dig the hole three times as deep as the height of your bulb.

bulb supposed to look look like this. Plant ers so long as we plant like an onion? What these stems up in a

strange creature from a Sci-fi movie?

onions. kinds you are likely to

One type of not 'true' bulb is still kind er and wider. This is a corm. Gladiolus usually have one side a bit flat, called the basal plate and possibly a point on the other side where the first shots will grow. Again, pointy side up, basal plate down.

Another type of not 'true' bulb is a tuber. Think potato, and just like potatoes, find the side with the most "eyes" and plant them eyes up. If they are already sprouting, even better! Some plants have multiple tuberous roots, all attached to the remnants of But wait, isn't a a stem. A lot of lilies

'true' bulb you may 'True' bulbs do look encounter is a rhi- ble for the next year. Easy zome. In the grocery rhizomes may have multiple segments. The trick with a rhizome is to figure out which side had roots and which side had shoots or leaves, and then, of course, plant them horizontally, root side down, shoot side up.

Not much to do at this point but wait for summer beautiful flowers! If you want to fertilize, you can use a good, slow release fertilizer once or twice during the season. Be sure to pinch the spent blooms to encourage more flowers never cut or remove healthy foliage. Al-

But now you might structure looks more give the roots a little back on its own at the a cool, dry, darkened, end of the season so place until spring. The last type of not the plant can store as Happy Gardening! much energy as possi-

pots, in spite of their long as you have a Some root structures when you purchase the bulbs can be acalready be familiar. Remove any remain-A rhizome is a thick, ing foliage at this horizontal, branching time and spread the root structure. Large bulbs in a cool place Patrick Springs. to dry. Corms should be dried upside down tact the Patrick Coun-Smaller ones may not to ensure they don't have branched at all. retain moisture. Once Association at pcmthe bulbs are dry, they can be gathered into a

Don't forget to tune in to WHEO Radio, At the end of the 92.7 FM or 1270 AM peasy, always plant store, this is the part season, before the on March 25 for Pattempting in their little Except it's not, as them pointy side up. of the plant you buy first fall frost, lifting rick County Master Gardeners' discussion huge prices. I have to cool, dry, low light look a little different raw ginger. If you complished with the with Pastor Keith remind myself, I could place to store your though, here are the plant Irises, you may aid of a garden fork. Vernon on the Community Garden project at the Providence Methodist Church in

> You can also conty Master Gardener gassn@gmail.com for general questions and net bag and stored in information.

Pets of the Week



Mecum is a Great tion about these and Pyrenees, approximately 2 1/2 years old. He is a big, incredibly handsome boy. Bestto a home without livestock. Blaze is a white male Husky, about 2 both so deserving of a loving home.

Free and rabies vaccinations. Call the Patrick County Public Animal Shelter at (276) 694-6259, visit the shelter or their Facebook page, to find informa-



other available pets in need of a forever home. Adoption fees are \$10 and include spay/neuter and rabies vaccination. The Blue Ridge An-

years old. They are imal Welfare League provides pet food assistance and informaspay/neuter tion about low-cost spay/neuter services; contact blueridgeawl@ gmail.com. It is also asking for live trap donations (have-a-heart type), even if they need some minor repairs.



(cont. from page 1)



1st place Club Trading Pin: Nathan Register. Not pictured: 1st place 9th grade Agriscience Thomas Eckman Lileann Butler and Lily Kelly.





3rd Place Quiz Bowl Team: Carson Farrar. Not pictured: Draysin Maselli, DT Tanna, Xena Wilcox.



3rd place Color Photography Division 2 Kylee Blevins



3rd place Hand Drawn Anime Tara Collins





Fedir Piatovol- 6th grade Computer Science 2nd place - Meadows of Dan Elementary 1st place Performing Arts Ginny Nations and Madison Scott School Jr. BETA state winner





1st place Campaign Skit: Callie Wood, Rylee Soliday, Ginny Nations, Kylee Leonard, David Lawson, Madison Scott, and Nathan Register.

said it's anticipated to get even tighter for upcom-

ciation (VSBA) model guidance, Wood said.

"The majority of all of our line items fall within their range other than Transportation because we're a very rural community, and our Technology because we're a one-to-one school division, and then our size makes that also difficult," he said.

According to the division's budget, \$24,020,915.49, or 65 percent, is allocated for instruction. Operation and Maintenance will receive \$3,239,911.36, or nine percent of the budget, and \$2,598,135.44, or seven percent, is for pupil transportation.

Technology Under the budget, \$2,197,886.27, or six percent, School Food Service receives five percent, or 1,751,968.48, and the Facilities line receives two percent, or \$787,263.80.

Wood said Administration, Attendance, and Health receives \$2,151,179.14, or six percent of the budget.

"That's superintendent, assistant superintendents, our special education department, nurses," administrative "assistants, financial department, all that goes under Administration. I know that conversation ..., 'Well, look what the administrators are making.' That's not just administrators," Wood said, adding that six percent is still at the bottom end of the VSBA model guidance.

The appropriation from the county has decreased by \$229,903 for next year.

"Our total loss of revenue from this current year to next year will be \$648,749. So, it will be a savings to our appropriations board, which is the board of supervisors, of \$229,903 next year, and a grand total loss of revenue for us of \$648,749," he said.

The budget includes a proposed percentage pay increase, which comes from the state. Wood said the division will receive a portion of that for Stan-

Other budget highlights include maintaining

employee contributions to health insurance, an additional reading specialist that is required, a spe-The budget follows the Virginia School Board Ascial education intervention specialist, and an additional elementary guidance counselor.

> "A small few highlights, but when you have a decrease in your total budget, we're doing the best we can with what we receive," Wood said.

> As the governor has until March 24 to approve a budget, Wood said he might have to present the budget without the finalized state budget.

"Both proposals would be a \$270,000 increase if that is the calc tool that gets corrected, so that \$630,000 may not hurt us as much if the governor does approve the presented Senate or House version. We're hopeful for that," he said.

Over the past four years, Wood noted the school division returned about \$1.3 million in School Resource Officer (SRO) reimbursements to the county "to try to be part of a solution for the economic challenges that their board and our board are facing."

If the governor signs off on a state budget, Wood said the division is able to give back an additional \$200,000 in SRO reimbursements to the county.

We still are thankful that we were able to give the old school board office to them for their use in the future. We're thankful that we have a great working relationship with the board of supervisors, and we have for the last four years and we look forward to that continued good working relationship," he said.

When he ran for the position four years ago, Rob Martin, of the Dan River District, said he was asked about his biggest concern with the budget.

"One thing I said was that the wasteful spending, because normally that's what it is. I grew up with an elementary school principal who was a principal for 40 years and a board of supervisor" member, "and I grew up in Carroll County. At the time, every locality was given the Required Local Effort (RLE), which is required by the state, Required Local Match (RLM), which is required by the state, plus \$10 million," he said.

Martin said it was a major shock to join the school board not knowing all the facts and be told the division only gets the RLE and RLM.

Over the past nine months, Martin said he contacted most of the state's 133 school divisions.

We're the only one that I found out of over 80 school divisions that I've contacted that only get RLE and RLM and nothing else," he said.

Martin said he doesn't like not planning or being prepared for the future.

"I hope this board in the future will at least request extra funds from the locality just like the agreement that we came into two years ago, so we can start building up a spare fund just in case we have to use it to protect our employees and protect our buildings," he said.

Amy Walker, chairman and of the Mayo River District, said she can't help but wonder what else the school division could do if it had more funding. "We do a very good job with what we have," she

The proposal budget will be considered by the Patrick County Board of Supervisors on March 24.

In other matters, the board: *Recognized Senior BETA Scholarship winners. *Recognized Junior and Senior BETA State win-

*Heard from Patrick & Henry Community College (P&HCC) President Dr. Greg Hodges and Dr. Stewart Robertson, who thanked the board for its donation of leasing funds from the Patrick County High School (PCHS) cell tower to the Patrick Coun-

ty Education Foundation's Patrick Promise. *Heard the superintendent's report.

*Approved the consent agenda.

*Approved changes to the PCHS handbook.

*Approved changes to the elementary schools' handbook.

*Approved policy updates.

*Approved the personnel report as amended.

Congressional staff to hold local hours

District staff will be available in Henry and Patrick counties on March 26.

dards of Quality (SOQ) positions.

- In the Henry County Administration Building, Summerlin Room - Board of Supervisors Meeting Chambers, 3300 Kings Mountain Road, Martins-
- Rep. Morgan Griffith's Ninth ville, from 10–11:30 a.m. In the Patrick County
 - Administration Building, Con-
 - ference Room, 106 Rucker Street, Stuart, from 12:30–2 p.m. In the event of inclement weather (heavy snow, sleet, icy

rain, etc.), traveling office hours

may be rescheduled to avoid put-

ting constituents at risk. If local schools are closed, then office hours will be closed as well.

Call the Christiansburg Office at (540) 381-5671 or the Abingdon Office at (276) 525-1405 with any questions or to schedule an appointment time in the event of an office hour closure.

Thank You for reading The Enterprise

VIEWPOINTS

The Brownfields Program

As the chairman of the Energy and Com-Committee's merce Subcommittee on Environment, part my responsibility is to oversee the Brownfields Program.

This is mostly a bipartisan effort, but it is specifically helpful to the Ninth District.

is a piece of property where the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of the site may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant or contaminant.

funct coal mines.

the United States.

cleanup brownfields presents Revitalization ment. The Virginia ginia). Department of Environmental Quality the Commonwealth.

gible for assessment, pose grants administered under the Brownfields Program.

Subcommittee held a hearing recently to examine improvements to the Brownsite redevelopment.

The hearing fea- the region. tured multiple wit-LENOWISCO ning District Com- like these. Executive impacts on rural, coal communities.

in deep Virginia.

brownfield One site Miller cited was



Morgan Griffith

Representative

Project Intersection A brownfield site in Norton. In that case, Miller was able to turn some Brownfields Program funding into a much larger total investment from state agencies, other federal funds, and private sources.

Thanks Some examples of Brownfields Program these properties could funding, the Norton be inactive factory industrial park could buildings, abandoned draw further funding railroads or even de- from programs like the Abandoned Mine It is estimated that Land (AML) program there are more than (also instrumental in 450,000 brownfields in developing this site was the Abandoned of Mine Land Economic (AMtremendous potential LER) fund which I mental for economic develop- helped bring to Vir-

As a result, the initial Brownfields Pro-(DEQ) says there are gram funding jumpthousands of brown- started nearly \$35 fields opportunities in million in investment to develop the Norton These sites are eli- industrial park site!

EarthLink, an incleanup or multi-pur- ternet service pro-Wrap vider, and Technologies, a technology group that creates tools for law enforcement, are two companies to nounce centers fields Program and the Norton industriassess the potential al park site. These impacts of brownfield companies will create hundreds of jobs in

My hope is that the nesses. I had the Brownfields Program privilege to welcome can continue to create Plan- more success stories

I consistently advobenefits of the Brown- Virginia to receive apfields Program and its propriate federal help.

As illustrated in the case of the Norton Miller has been ac- industrial park site, tive in LENOWISCO's assessing and redeefforts to use federal veloping brownfields dollars to clean up and can generate greater repurpose brownfields access to federal funds Southwest through programs like AMLER and AML.

> Further, in Martinsville, funds from the

Brownfields Program were used to remediate the city's vacant Maple Street substation for storage of large battery banks.

The substation's batteries now store energy and electricity for the city.

Miller and others in the hearing highlighted the endless possibilities that come from brownfield cleanup and redevelopment.

These redeveloped properties can attract emerging industries.

Data centers are in hot demand as artificial intelligence gains popularity. Environ-Protection Agency (EPA) Administrator Lee Zeldin is committed to making America the "AI capital of the world."

I look forward to working with Administrator Zeldin to improve the Brownfields Program.

One way to accomplish this feat is building more data centers and artificial intelligence infrastructure. Brownfield sites are potential locations to harbor more of these essential facilities.

A second witness at the hearing, who has experience developing data centers, verified this and explained the Brownfields Program has a role to play in facilitating the creation of more data centers.

Moreover, semicon-Director Duane Mill- cate for rural commu- ductor manufacturer. He testified on the nities in our region of ing is also picking up steam. Thanks to the Trump Administration, a Taiwan semiconductor company recently announced plans to make a \$100 billion investment in the U.S.

Such investments require additional manufacturing chip facilities and, once again, brownfield sites could play host.

Congress will need to reauthorize the Brownfields Program. The Program is set to expire by 2026.

While efforts are underway to make the government more efficient and accountable to the American people, I am committed to ensuring programs like the Brownfields Program are strengthened to adequately serve communities in Southwest Virginia.

When doing so, I will continue to advocate for the work of folks like Mr. Miller, who dedicate these programs to improve the welfare and local economies of the re-

gion. Call the Abingdon office at (276) 525-1405, the Christiansburg office at (540) 381-5671, or email by visiting www.morgangriffith.house.gov with questions or com-

ments.

Letters to the Editor

Road construction concerns

rent project to widen US 58 is a this construction exceeds the detravesty. It may have taken mil- lays on the old road--over the last lions of years to make these moun- fifty years. The cure is worse than tains. but as we have seen, it takes only a few to turn them into barren, man-made canyons. At a cost of \$500 million or more. In a community which has gone years without a hospital.

Sure, like all of us I was sometimes frustrated by getting behind a big truck when it was a two lane road. But I would gladly bet that the total delay (vehicles x minutes)

In my humble opinion, the cur- with the multiple flagmen during the disease.

Yes, the project creates jobs. Temporary jobs that will end with project completion. We can do better with job creation.

Obviously, the current project is a done deal. But that is not true of segments farther west. Let us rethink them.

Ken Vickery, Meadows of Dan

Next blood drive set for May

Patrick County! Great job units were collected with twenty-six as a goal.

Thank you, Brian Jessup and Associates for supporting this month's blood drive.

volunteers who take time out of their day to assist all donors and to make your donation a positive worked this month were Debbie Boswell, Denise Clark, Bill Hines, Betty Holt, Carol Martin, and Harriette Moore.

The Red Cross encourages do-Twenty-nine equivalent blood nors to make an appointment for donations by calling 1-800-RED-CROSS (733-2767) or online by going to www.redcrossblood.org and searching 24171.

Unfortunately, there will NOT A big thank you to the dedicated be a blood drive scheduled for April due to a scheduling issue with the John D. Hooker Building.

The next blood drive is schedexperience. The volunteers who uled on Tuesday, May 13, 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. in the John D. Hooker Building.

Gene Stirewalt, Stuart

PCHS Skills/USA Construction Students Advance to State Contest



Parker Roop (left - right), Eli Wood, Reggie Brown, Carter Gregory, Logan Brown, Elyjah Jenkins, and Jake Bryant.

By Ashlee Mullis

to the State Skills/USA Contest. a few weeks at the state finals.

In Teamworks Construction, the The District 3 Skills/USA Con- team of Parker Roop, Eli Wood, test was held at Franklin County Reggie Brown, Carter Gregory, High School, Friday, March 4th. and Logan Brown finished 1st PC Building Trades students and will also advance to the State competed in General Carpentry, Skills/USA Contest which will be Residential Electrical, and Team-held in Roanoke, VA, April 4-6. works, which consists of House Building Trades Instructor Philip Framing, Masonry, Plumbing, Steagall said, "I am very proud of and Electrical. In Carpentry, all these young men for going the Jake Bryant finished 3rd in Research a mile to compete in the conidential Electrical. Elyjah Jen- test, and we are looking forward kins finished 1st and will advance to seeing them test their skills in

Eagle Scout builds new sign for sheriff's office



Josiah Spangler of Boy Scout Troop 69 in Patrick Springs recently completed his Eagle Scout project by constructing a sign for the Patrick County Sheriff's Office. "Our old sign was weathered and in need of replacement. Josiah and his fellow scouts planned and saw the project though, and we are grateful," Sheriff Dan Smith said in a Thursday afternoon release.

Thank You for reading The Enterprise

THE ENTERPRISE

Established in 1876

USPS 523-500

P.O. Box 348 - Stuart, Va. 24171-0348 Phone (276) 694-3101 Fax (276) 694-5110 www.theenterprise.net

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

advertise@mainstreetnewspapers.com

The oldest continuously operated business in Patrick County

Published each Wednesday by Virginia Media, Inc., P.O. Box 429, Lewisburg, WV 24901.

The Enterprise encourages letters from our readers on topics of general interest to the community and responses to our articles and columns. Letters must be signed and have a telephone number where you can be reached to be considered for publication. All letters will be verified before publication. The Enterprise reserves the right to deny publication of any letter and edit letters for length, content and etyles. ter and edit letters for length, content and style.

Postermaster: send address changes to The Enterprise, P.O. Box 348, Stuart, VA 24171-0348. Subscription Rates: \$32 per year in Patrick County; \$42 per year In state, \$43 per year out of state. Single copies \$1.00.

Wednesday, March 19, 2025 - 5

Judge John Rucker 6th of June 1892. Moore and Sallie Ruck-

Woody

Last Moore and Henry Jefferson "Jeff" Moore of Ararat, Virginia. This week, we will look at their fourth child, John Rucker Moore, who was born on the 4th of November 1853 in the western part of Patrick County.

Unlike several of his brothers who moved away, John Rucker Moore spent the greatest part of his life in Patrick County. In fact, I have admired the Judge Moore home Tudor Orchard Road ever since I was

In the 1880 census, twenty-six-year-old John Rucker Moore was living in the town of Taylorsville (Stuart) and was a practicing attorney at law. On the 27th of February 1881, he married Miss Sallie Lou Rucker, the daughter of Larkin Grandison Rucker and Lavinia Ann Davis. the local county clerk.

John and Sallie's first Mill in South Boston. child, Caroline was Oldest son John Ruckborn, followed by Jes- er Moore, Jr. married sie Grandison Moore Miss Estella Ragsdale fast a few hours later, in July of 1884; son in June of 1931. Estel- he was dead. From all John Rucker Moore, la was the daughter appearance he passed July 1890; and Edwin engineer for the Dick Bruce Moore on the &

Medicare Premium?

Patrick Pioneers

John Rucker Moore served as the Com-By Beverly Belcher monwealth's Attorney for Patrick County for twelve years, after looked at twelve of which he was elected the thirteen children judge of the county of Caroline Matilda court. In 1893, when Grover Cleveland became federal land office, a position which he end of Cleveland's adand his family recounty to a circuit rick's most prominent

Dr. Leonidas Camden Dickerson of Floyd County. On the 22nd of July 1907, second daughter Jessie married William Adolphus (and later president) In December 1881, of the Halifax Cotton on the 30th of of Fitzhugh Ragsdale,

Willie

Youngest son, Edwin Bruce Moore married Danville native, Miss Susie Virginia Mitchell in 1916.

Judge John Rucker Moore, Sr. was Chairman of the Democratic Party of Patrick County for many years. president, After his retirement Claude Swanson was from public life, Judge serving his first term Moore turned to hortiin Congress. Swanson culture and like a couhad Moore appointed ple of his brothers, becommissioner of the gan working with his orchards.

would hold until the Rucker Moore passed away at the age of sevministration. Moore enty-eight years of age and was laid to rest mained in Washing- at Stuart Cemetery. ton, D.C. until 1897. Two years later, Judge Upon his return to John Rucker Moore, Patrick County, he Sr. passed away on re-appointed March 16th, 1937. Judge of the Court, a Several local papers position he held until recounted the judge's 1904, when the court last day, "Judge John was changed from a R. Moore, one of Patcitizens died at his On the 13rh of Oc- home here of a heart tober 1902, Judge attack early Tuesday Moore's oldest daugh- morning. He had been ter Caroline married in declining health for some time, but he appeared to be as well as usual Monday. At about 4 o'clock Tuesday morning he complained of feeling bad-Larkin G. Rucker was McCandless, manager ly so his son, Rucker, prepared and gave him soda water, which he said relieved him, but when the son went to awake him for break-

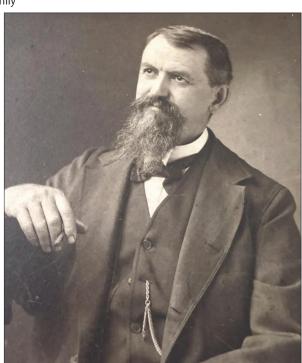
> quietly while asleep." Funeral services



Judge John Rucker Moore family

Judge Moore's home at 2:30 o'clock Wednesday by Rev. A.E. Estall and Rev. J.E. Brooks. He was laid to rest beside his wife at Stuart Cemetery. Music was furnished by the Stuart Male Quartet. Active pallbearers were: F.P. Burton, John D. Hooker, M.E. Thompson, J.G. Davis, L.C. Dickerson Jr., W. Blair Clark, W. L. Joyce, and A. Leon Powell.

I recently had the pleasure of talking with Sara Leigh Dickerson Collins, the great granddaughter of Judge John Rucker Moore, Sr. shared the above family photo with names as follows: back row, left to right: Jessie Moore McCandless; John Rucker Moore, Jr.; Sue Mitchell Moore; Edwin Bruce Moore.



Judge John Rucker Moore

right: Cora Moore Next week, we will

Gilmer; Judge John learn about Sara's Rucker Moore, Sr.; grandfather, Dr. Leo-Sallie Rucker Moore; nidas Camden Dickand Caroline Moore erson, Sr. Woody may Dickerson. Children be reached at rockcason the front row have tlecreek1@gmail.com Railroad. were conducted from middle row, left to not been identified. or (276) 692-9626.

Social Security Matters

By Russell Gloor, National Social Security Advisor at the AMAC Foundation, the non-profit arm of the Association of Mature

American Citizens Ask Rusty - Can I Avoid Paying the

out of paying the \$185 I am told will be taken working lives, and now I have to pay a monthly premium for insurance that only covers 80%. Signed: Disheartened Senior

Dear Disheartened: For clarification, the money you paid into Medicare while working during your lifetime was for Medicare Part A (inpatient hospitalization coverage). The Medicare taxes paid while working entitled you to FREE Medicare coverage for Part A inpatient hospitalization coverage, but they do not entitle you to Medicare coverage for outpatient services (coverage for doctors, medical tests, etc.). For that coverage from Medicare, you must enroll in Medicare Part B, for which there is a monthly premium (\$185/month for 2025). If you wish to have Medicare Part B at age 65 - unless you have other "creditable"

healthcare coverage from an employer.

The Medicare Part B premium will be automatically deducted from your Social Security payment when you enroll in Medicare, and "creditable" healthcare coverage from an em-Medicare Part B during your initial enroll-Period following the end of your creditable employer healthcare coverage, then you will incur a penalty for enrolling in Medicare Part B outside of the prescribed enrollment periods. That penalty is a permanent increase in your Medicare Part B premium. FYI, "creditable" is an employer group plan with at least 20 participants.

We do not advise going without outpatient healthcare coverage, so you should carefully consider enrolling in Medicare Part B when you turn 65. If you are already collecting Social Security benefits, you will be automaticalwish – it's just not advisable, unless you have foundation.org.

current creditable healthcare coverage from

an employer. So, to recap: the Medicare taxes you paid while working only entitled you to free Medithere is no way to avoid it if you wish to have care Part A inpatient hospitalization cover-Medicare healthcare coverage for outpatient age. You must enroll in Medicare Part B (for Dear Rusty: Is there any way I can get medical services. But, if you currently have which there is a monthly premium) to have Medicare healthcare coverage for outpatient out of my Social Security for Medicare Part B ployer, you can delay enrolling in Medicare healthcare services. Both Medicare Part A and when I turn 65? We pay for Medicare all our Part B (thus avoiding the premium) until your Part B have deductibles and copayments, for employer coverage ends. If you don't enroll in which you may wish to consider getting either a supplemental insurance plan or a Medicare ment period (at 65), or in a Special Enrollment Advantage plan. But, in either case, you must still have both Medicare Part A and Part B to

obtain such additional healthcare coverage.

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-secucoverage, you must enroll in Medicare Part B ly enrolled, but you can opt out of Part B if you rity-advisory) or email us at ssadvisor@amac-

Teething Baby? 5 Tips to Soothe the Pain

teeth and some good-looking gums for her 1st eral incisors and canines). Molars will someyear photos. Even at 18 months, she sported only 6 teeth. Her teeth came in slowly and relatively painlessly. The dreaded teething for her was a breeze. My son, on the other hand, was a different story. He had his first tooth sprout through around 2 months and subsequent teeth followed in rapid succession. By age one, he had 12 teeth! Teething for him was one miserable marathon! How can two developmentally normal children have such dramatically different teething patterns? It's all in the genes. Children will teeth based on their genetic code. It's impossible to speed up

or slow down the process. It is not uncommon for a child to have "teething bouts," which can include fussiness, low-grade fever (under 100.8F), drooling, and biting. A tooth may or may not erupt during the episode, but if it doesn't it will usually erupt soon afterward. Some children sprout one tooth at a time, others multiple teeth. The average age for the first tooth is 7 months but

can range from 2 months to 13 months. Teeth

tend to erupt from the center and then spread

At 12 months, my daughter Amy had two outward (central incisors first and then lat- the counter products can help BUT you need times erupt in sequence with the lateral in-

> For Amy, teething was a breeze. I never tried any sort of teething product with her. She didn't need it! Michael, on the other hand, was miserable. For those parents with kiddos like Michael, here are a few things that may

- 1) Cold 'anything' that is baby safe! This could include a cold spoon, washcloth, teething toy, cold baby food, etc. The cold helps relieve pain from inflammation the tooth causes as it erupts. My son's item of choice was a really cold washcloth. I would have to keep
- switching it out for another cold rag but it really helped soothe him. 2) Infants' Tylenol. In the peak of teething woes, I would often give my son a dose of Ty-
- lenol before putting him down at night. It really helped prevent him from waking up in pain. Given once, or twice a day, at the peak of teething woes, Tylenol can definitely help cut down on the fussiness.

contain. Avoid any product that contains benzocaine, alcohol, or dyes. 4) Breastfeeding. I found that my son

to read labels and see what ingredients they

- nursed for comfort during teething episodes rather than nutrition, breastfeeding calmed and soothed him. This physical, nurturing connection can sometimes be as powerful as other methods of pain relief. 5) Non-toxic chewable toys. Teething ba-
- bies often like to chew. Having items readily available that are safe to chew can make for a satisfied baby. There are even teething necklaces for moms to wear with non-toxic rings a baby can gnaw on.

Whether your baby is miserable or unphased, teething does eventually come to an end. And although you may always remember

the process, your baby will have no long-term

memory scars! (Submitted by Betty Dean. Written by Rachel Nelson, MD. Used by permission from www.lifeandhealth.org Courtesy of LifeSpring - Resources for Hope and Healing Stu-3) Homeopathic teething gels. These over art, VA)

THE ENTERPRISE

PCHS Sports Schedule

PCHS Sports Schedule Baseball vs Dan River The Patrick County High School Cougars Sports Softball vs Dan River Schedule for the week of March 24-29: 5:30pm Girls Soccer vs Dan River Boys Soccer vs Dan River Baseball at Bassett Girls Tennis at Martinsville Softball at Bassett 4:30pm Girls Soccer vs Bassett Boys Tennis vs Martinsville Boy Soccerat Bassett Baseball vs Martinsville Girls Tennis vs Bassett Softball at Chatham 4:30pm 5pm Boys Tennis at Bassett Track at North Stokes 4:30pm



Gracen Conner (left to right), Sadie Martin, Fisher Martin, Hunter Martin, Noah Hiatt,

Cougar Runners **Receive State Honors**

By Ashlee Mullis

tin, and Hunter Martin placed 1000 meter.

2nd in the 4X800. Gracen Conner Six Patrick County Track mem- placed 3rd in the 300 meter dash. bers received medals in the VHSL Sadie Martin placed 6th in the Region 2C State Track Meet. Noah 1000 meter and 4th in the mile. Hiatt, Greely Terry, Fisher Mar- Fisher Martin placed 5th in the

Saddle Club season kicks off in April



Piper Knott, of Martinsville, rides Flicka around a barrel in competition last year at Patrick Henry Saddle Club.

By Donald Trausneck

The Junior Division rider is one 50 Clovehill Drive in Bassett. of many talented Cowgirls and to the new season which will be- and September 27.

gin April 5 at the arena located at

Additional fun show dates are Cowboys who are looking forward scheduled for June 7, August 2,

Winter Awards Banquet Recognizes Outstanding PCHS Students

By Ashlee Mullis

Patrick County High School held the Winter Sports Banquet on Monday, March 10. The following were recognized:



iazelwood, Best Defensive Player-Journey Moore, Most Improved Player- Kendra Worley. Most Valuable Player- Kimora Wimbush, Coach Grace Helms, Coach Lindsey Spencer.



Girls Basketball: Head Coach Tony Mosley, Coach Essie Conner, Lady Cougar Award- Lilly Wrestling: Coach Scott Lawson, Most Improved Wrestler- Wheeler Helms, Head Coach Tim Lawson. Most Valuable- Logan Rakes. Coaches Award- Josh Jimrusti. Iron Man Award- Paul Pascale, Coaches Award- Caleb Lancaster, Coach Jaheim Johnson, Coach Roy Zeisloft.



Cheerleading: Coach Peyton Errichetti, Outstanding Leadership Award (Basketball)- Katie Vernon, Most Dedicated Cheerleader (Basketball)- Kya Pruitt, Most Dedicated Cheerleader (Football)- Breanna Hall, Outstanding Leadership Award (Football)- Kimora Wimbush, Coach Angela Rose



Boys Basketball: Coach Willie Greene, Most Improved - Jayden Corns, Coaches Award -Vishal Soma, MVP- Noah Jessup, Best Defensive - Easton Harris, Head Coach Brian

Taskforce hosts annual summit

Workforce Solutions Summit at the Institute for Advanced Learning and Research on March 11.

The event aimed to provide solutions to regional employers and address the challenges faced by local employers. With over 100 attendees representing various industries and sectors from around the region, the event served as a platform for meaningful discussions and brainstorming sessions.

The Workforce Solutions Summit featured 18 exhibitors who showcased their innovative solutions and strategies for addressing workforce needs. Exhibitors included

Accelerated Training in Defense Manufacturing (ATDM), AmeriStaff, Danville Community College, Danville Pittsylvania County Chamber of Commerce, Danville Public Schools, EBI, GENEDGE, Institute for Advanced Learning and Research, Martinsville-Henry County Chamber of Commerce, Pittsylvania County Community Action

Agency, Southside Virginia SHRM, Southern Vir-

ginia Higher Education Center, Southern Virgin-

The SoVa Taskforce hosted its third annual ia Regional Alliance (SVRA), The Arc Southside, Resources, Danville Public Schools, Monica Kar-Tri-County Community Action Agency, Virginia Economic Development Partnership (VEDP), Virginia Career Works - South Central and Virginia Career Works - West Piedmont.

The event offered two keynote speakers Elizabeth Veliz, Chief People Officer, Cayuga Health System and Christine Kennedy, Leadership & Life Purpose Coach. Veliz presented on "The Retention Revolution: The Blueprint for Keeping Top Talent." Her session highlighted the foundations of retention, identifying leadership competencies that drive retention, and actionable strategies to strengthen retention efforts. Kennedy presented on "Assessing Today's Leadership & Workforce: How WELL are we?" Through her presentation, she walked through key factors to assess for a thriving workplace and how to help shape organizational culture

through presence.

A panel discussion featuring organizational

leaders further added to the valuable discussions

avanic, Director, The Arc Southside, Addie Lyle, Human Resources Manager, EBI, Amelia Cheek, Human Resources Generalist, IperionX, and Angel Brim, Re-Entry Case Manager, Pittsylvania County Community Action shared their experiences and best practices in addressing the workforce challenges specific to their industries. This interactive session allowed attendees to engage directly with panelists and hear related success stories in workforce development from across the region.

The summit also included several updates from across the region. Dr. Julie Brown, Vice President of Advanced Learning, IALR, provided an update on the TPI Academy. Shirley Dodson, Regional Talent Solutions & Business Outreach Manager, VEDP, discussed the state incentives and opportunities that are available to employers within our region. Linda Green, executive director, SVRA, concluded the summit with an update on the regional wage and benefits survey that was launched at last at the summit. Angela Wimberly, Chief of Human year's summit.

Crossing the Lines=

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

Board to fill vacant seat after member resigns

Stephanie Brinegar, who represented Horsepasture District on the Henry County School Board, resigned, effective immediately, citing increasing career obligations as the reason for her departure.

"Every decision I made and every vote I cast was driven by a genuine desire to do what was best for Henry County Public Schools," Brinegar said in a release dated March 11. "Although I am stepping down from my role, I will continue to keep Henry County Public Schools and our Board of Education in my thoughts and prayers.'

Board Chairman Teddy Martin II expressed gratitude for Brinegar's service and wished her well.

"Mrs. Brinegar has a work ethic like no other. We understand this is a difficult personal decision, and we support her in continuing to improve our community's wellness through her career, which has also been a priority during her tenure Horsepasture



March 6 Henry County School Board meeting marked the final session for Stephanie Brinegar, of the Horsepasture District. She is seated beside Ben Gravely (right), vice chairman, of the Iriswood District, and Champ Hardie (left) of the Ridgeway District.

Mrs. Brinegar and wish her well," Martin said.

In accordance with the Code of Virginia, the board will appoint an interim school board member to fill the vacancv. The interim member will serve from April to November 2025, participating in all school board functions until a special election is held for the

Candidates for the

with the board. We thank interim seat will be interviewed by the school board following submission of a letter of interest and verification of registered voter status in the

A public hearing will be held on March 20 at 5:30 p.m. at the Henry County School Board Office, where candidates or other members of the public may present names for consideration.

City school officials discuss accreditation model, community gym



Members of the Martinsville School Board and staff recognized the accomplishments of the Swim Team, which competed at the state level. Sherman Dillard won the state title, Ben Puckett was awarded second place in the diving competition.

The Martinsville School Board reviewed a new state accreditation model at its March 10 meeting, a change that could impact how schools measure student performance and determine rankings for assistance.

Additionally, a long-discussed community gym project, first proposed more than 50 years ago, is now moving forward, with plans to seek architects and engineers for further devel-

The proposed accreditation model focuses on individual student growth, tracking progress in academic courses over time. Schools would be ranked based on student growth and attendance, receiving ratings of either "excellent" (90 percent or above) or "needs attention" (70 percent or lower).

Schools Superintendent Dr. Zebedee Talley Jr. expressed concerns over the program's political nature and potential impact on local schools.

"I don't know anything that's not political these days. Some want to stop the implementation of this, and they thought this was an attempt to grade all schools in Martinsville as needing assistance," Talley said.

He also questioned the necessity of a statewide overhaul, given Virginia's high education rankings.

"Virginia is rated the highest state for business, and the second most important component of that is education. So, if Virginia needed an entirely new system, then why are we ranked so high?" he said.

Talley noted that The Virginia Association of Teachers has raised concerns, advocating for at least three years of recorded data before implementation.

"Some schools love it, some think it's basically entrapment. It'll be interesting to see what the results are," he added.

Proposed solar farm project faces community opposition

A community meeting was held at the Galilean House of Worship in Axton on March 11, where Ameresco representatives discussed their plan to construct a 5 MW solar facility on Jones Ridge Road.

Many residents expressed concerns about the project's impact on noise levels, aesthetics, and property values.

The proposed solar farm would be located in fields near an old airstrip, with thick foliage surrounding the site to provide screening. The solar panels would connect to a nearby power line, and the generated

hat have property next to the location questioned the developers about acreage, and whether the Axton Solar Project negated plans to build due to the county's limit for the number of acres available for solar farm development.

"It's open, there's not a ton of trees to clear, and it's well-screened from the road," said Tom Project Manager Holt, adding that Appalachian Power's solar program was a key factor in Ameresco's decision to pursue the project.

One resident expressed worry about possible contamination of local wells.

"I wonder if things will



A map displaying the location of the proposed solar panels was presented during the meeting.

leak into our wells," the resident said.

Jonathan Mancini assured attendees that the facility would use vegetable oil, which reduces fire electricity would be sold risks and is environmenthrough the Shared Solar tally safer. He also stated that Ameresco would be Some of the residents liable for any contamination

> "We are a publicly traded company," Mancini said

Despite these assurances, residents remained opposed to the project.

"We are going to be against it," one community member said.

Many expressed concerns about their health, privacy, and peace, and did not feel they would benefit from the project. The company proposed planting trees to block their potential neighbors' view.

"It's going to be an eyesore," an adjacent landowner said.

The company commit-

ted to minimizing noise by placing inverters as Senior Vice President far from residential areas as possible and hiring local electricians and vegetation experts for ongoing site maintenance.

> "We try to pull from the local labor pool," Holt

In an attempt to ease oncerns. Ameresco proposed planting trees to block the view of the solar panels from neighboring properties.

Holt acknowledged that the project faces uncertain approval but emphasized that Ameresco is listening to public feedback.

"I have no idea what the chance of success is, but we are doing this to hear people's feedback," he said.

Even if opposition continues, the company plans to work with residents to address concerns through measures like landscaping plans and further community engagement.

Statewide law enforcement accreditation ceremony held in city



The New College Institute was the site of a recent statewide law enforcement accreditation ceremony. It marked the second time Martinsville hosted the Virginia Law Enforcement Professional Standards Commission.

reaccreditation from VLEPSC

The Virginia Law Enforcement Professional Standards Commission (VLEPSC) held its monthly meeting at New College Institute on Thursday, March 5, where several sheriff's offices awaited the verdict on their accreditation status.

Among those reviewed was the Martinsville Sheriff's Office, which successfully earned reaccreditation. The agency has now been accredited more than half a dozen times and remains one of the oldest accredited departments in the state.

"I am very fortunate. I don't know a member of my agency that is not sold on accreditation and will support anything they can for accreditation," said Martinsville Sheriff Steve Draper, who also serves as

Martinsville sheriff's office earns vice chairman of the VLEPSC com-

Accreditation is more than just a title—it ensures effective policing, enforces stringent policies, and helps build public confidence in law enforcement agencies. Departments that do not meet all standards are not eligible to apply for accredita-

"This process is so important for maintaining proper community and law enforcement relations," said Martinsville Police Chief Robert Fincher, who attended the meeting. "It allows the public to know that our officers are doing the most professional job they possibly can."

Fincher and Draper both expressed pride in hosting the meeting in Martinsville. Henry County Sheriff Wayne Davis also attended.

Scammers impersonate law enforcement in jury duty hoax

A new phone scam is targeting local residents, with fraudsters impersonating law enforcement officers and claiming individuals have missed jury duty.

The scammers use caller ID spoofing, making it appear as though the call is coming from a legitimate sheriff's office or police department. They even go so far as to use the real names of local officers found online, along with fake badge numbers, to convince

victims they are in legal trouble.

"This has actually become quite a common scam," said Henry County Sheriff Wayne Davis.

The calls typically begin with the scammer introducing themselves as an officer before claiming the recipient failed to appear for jury duty.

"If you have an actual summons for jury duty, you will be served by a deputy," Davis emphasized.

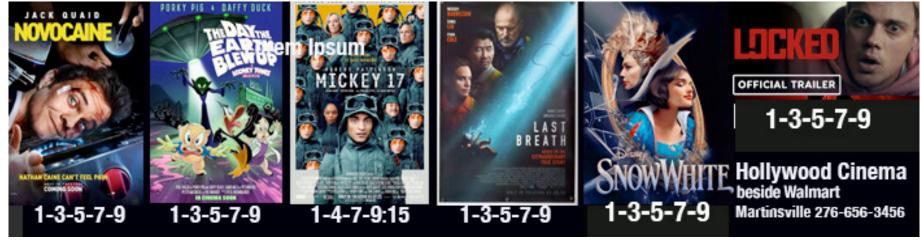
Victims are then told they must re-

port to the station to avoid arrest and that there is an active warrant for them. To seem more legitimate, the scammer may provide a badge number and even encourage the victim to research their name online, which often matches real law enforcement officers.

"They were using a retired deputy's name, saying, 'You need to come in," said Martinsville Police Chief Robert Fincher. "They've done it with ours, they've done it with the city's sheriff's office.

The scammers pressure victims into resolving the matter immediately, often by asking for money over the phone.

"No one from the Henry County Sheriff's Office will ever call your home and ask for payment of any type over the phone—whether it be from cash, credit card, or any type of payment app," Davis said.



OBITUARIES Lyle Raymond Hubbard

Joan Marie Stanley Eanes

Joan Marie Stanley Eanes, 92, of Critz, VA, passed away on Wednesday, March 12, 2025, at the home of her daughters. She was born on May 11, 1932, in Martinsville, VA to the late Theressa Verna Harris Stanley and Sam Edward Stanley. In addition to her parents, she is preceded in death by her husband of 73 years and 10 months, Thomas Henry (Pete) Eanes. Also preceded in death were siblings: Samuel Edward (Ed) Stanley, Jr., John Donald (Donnie) Stanley, and Sonja Kay Stanley Rodgers.

Joan was the wife of a career Air Force Veteran. She traveled the world with him and their four daughters. She always said she felt fortunate to have lived her life as the spouse of a military man and had been able to travel the world. After his re-Force, they settled in

Mr. Pat Knowles, age 88 of Meadows of Dan, Virginia passed away Sunday. March 16, 2025. at his home. He was born in Patrick County on January 28, 1937, to the late David Early Knowles and Luemma Puckett Knowles. In addition to his parents, Mr. Knowles was preceded in death by a daughter, Brenda K. Blake; a grandson, Jerry Knowles; a granddaughter, McKinzie Mayhew; a brother, David E. Knowles, Jr.; two sisters, Stella Harris and Kathleen Layman; two half-brothers, Roy E. Knowles and Jack Wilson. Mr. Knowles was a member of Con-Church. He served in the United States Army, and loved gardening,

hunting and fishing.



Manager at Motor Bearings & Parts. In 1997. they relocated to Critz, VA, where they enjoyed their retirement.

Joan was an accomplished seamstress. She made her daughters clothes throughout their childhood. After moving to Critz, she became a passionate quilter and spent many pleasant years with fellow quilters at the Reynolds Homestead. She made many quilts for her daughters, grandchildren, and great grandtirement from the Air children. Her family was her life. She was Greensboro, NC where always honest, fair, and she worked as an Office trustworthy. She was

the definition of integwill be missed by all who knew her.

She is survived by her daughters: Kathy Lee Eanes Giles (Davis Leroy "Pete"), Paula Kay Eanes, Melanie Hope Eanes Campbell (James Stuart), Lorie Dawn Johannessen (Raymond Ole). Grandchildren: Joshua David and Michael Sean Giles, Jeffrey Scott and Brandon Ray Blackwood, Jennifer Lee Johannessen Johnson, April Laine Peeden Nickell, Erik Nathaniel Johannessen, Kacie Rae Johannessen Thornton; and sixteen great grandchildren.

A graveside service will be held at Mountain View Cemetery in Ridgeway, VA on Monday, March 17, 2025 at 1:00 pm with Pastor Lee Ashley officiating.

Norris Funeral Services in Stuart is serving the Eanes family

Online condolences may be made at www. norrisfuneral.com.

Pat Lloyd Knowles



vived by his devoted wife of 64 years, Barbara Adkins Knowles of the home; a son, Kenneth Knowles (Darlene) of Meadows of Dan; a daughter, Judi Mayhew of Norfolk; one son-incord Primitive Baptist Collinsville; five grandchildren, David Knowles (Jessica), Andrew Bow-Mr. Knowles is sur- Bowman (fiancé, Tori) funeralservices.com.

and Kathlyn Mayhew; great-grandchildren, Dylan Knowles, Savanna Knowles, Macie Knowles and Ash-Knowles; several nieces and nephews.

The funeral service for Mr. Knowles will be held Wednesday, March 19, 2025, at 2:00 p.m. at Concord Primitive Baptist Church with Elder Tim McGrady and Elder Brian Geist officiating. The family will receive friends one hour prior to the service at the church. The burial will follow in Knowles-Eden Military Cemetery. Rites will be provided by the Patrick County Veterans Memorial law, Matthew Blake of Honor Guard. Moody Funeral Home in Stuart is in charge of the arrangements, and online man (Lindsey), Josh condolences may be sent Bowman (Sam), Nick by visiting www.moody-

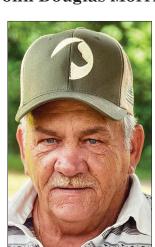
John Douglas Morris

John Douglas Morris, age 71, of Stuart, Virginia passed away at his home on Wednesday, March 12, 2025. He was born in Roanoke on November 7, 1953, to the late William McDaniel Morris and Minnie Mae Wilson Morris. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by one brother, Kelvin Morris. John was a truck driver his whole life. He liked the outdoors, gardening, and working in his yard. He enjoyed feeding his birds and his deer. He was the kind of man who was always willing to help when asked and would give you the shirt off his back. He dearly loved his family and cherished every moment with them.

Left to cherish the memories of Mr. Morris orah Hubbard and Angie are his loving wife, they were together 45 years, Carolyn Massey Morris of the home; four children, Jennifer Hylton (Gerald) of Willis, Me-

OBITUARY SUBMISSION DEADLINE

MONDAY AT NOON



Michael Morris. lissa Mitchell Morris, and Morris all of Roanoke; several grand puppies and grandchildren; two brothers, William Robert Morris of West Virginia and James Morris (Gay) of Roanoke; three sisters-in-law, Peggy Morris of Roanoke, DebCockerham (Eddie) all of Stuart; one special aunt, Patricia "Patty" McKenney of Richmond; and several nieces and neph-

A celebration of life service for Mr. Morris will be held on Saturday, March 15, 2025, at 11:00 a.m. at Moody Funeral Home in Stuart with Pastor Richard Dodson officiating. Burial will be private. The family will receive friends one hour prior to the service on Saturday morning at the funeral home. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Fairvstone Volunteer Fire Department, 6687 Fairystone Park Hwy., Stuart, VA 24171. Online condolences may be sent by visiting www. moodyfuneralservices.



shown in us for over 60 years." 202 West Blue Ridge Street, Stuart, VA

Phone 276-694-3145 www.moodyfuneralservices.com

Terri S. Wood, Manager

Mr. Lyle Raymond rity. She was loved and Hubbard, age 81 of Meadows of Dan, Virginia passed away at The Landmark Center on Wednesday, March 13, 2025. He was born in Patrick County on April 26, 1943, to the late Charlie Dan Hubbard and India Mae Wood Hubbard. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by three brothers and two sisters-in-law, Luther Wade Hubbard (Cornelia), Leonard Hampton Hubbard (Iva Jane), and Larkin Eugene Hubbard; and two nephews, David Hubbard and Danny Hubbard. Lyle was a member of the Vesta Rescue Squad. He attended and

Viola Lee Joyce, 79, of

Stuart, Va passed away

on Sunday, March 9,

2025 at Mulberry Creek

Nursing Home in Mar-

tinsville, VA. She was

born on February 16,

1946 in Patrick County

to the late John Henry

Gilley and Almarie Deal

Gilley. In addition to her

parents, she is preceded

in death by her husband,

Guy Edward Joyce, and

seven brothers and three

She was a devoted wife

Bassett Walker Knitting

and Bassett Chair Plant.

She enjoyed gardening,

planting flowers, playing

bingo and loved reading

the bible. She would tell

you her Heavenly Fa-

ther was first, then her

family came after that.

all third-floor staff at

Mulberry Creek Nursing

great care of our mother.

She is survived by Viv-

sisters



was a faithful member of the New Covenant Fellowship Church in Bassett, Virginia.

Left to cherish the memories of Lyle are two siblings, Ruby Lelia Hubbard of Rocky Mount, and Charles Howard "Pete" Hubbard

Viola Lee Joyce



Stuart, Va, Gracey Dise (Jack) of Virginia Beach, VA, Winfred Joyce and and mother, worked at Brenda Monk both of Stuart, VA, thirteen grandchildren, Pamela Foley and CL Elgin of Martinsville, VA, Joshua and Brandi Dise of Virginia Beach, VA, Cynthia Dise and Jeff Barnaby of Virginia Beach, VA, Carlee Dise of Raleigh, NC, We would like to thank Shane and Alex Joyce of NC, Lindsay Joyce of NC, Rodney Milligan of Home and Rehab in Mar- OH, Allen Milligan of tinsville, VA for taking OH, Jessica Milligan of Bassett, VA, Ryan Monk of Roanoke, VA, Jennifer ian Hundley (Terry) of and Anthony Pacella of

(Linda) of Meadows of Dan; one sister-in-law, Lala Hubbard of Meadows of Dan; and several nieces and nephews.

A graveside service for Mr. Hubbard will be held on Monday, March 17, 2025, at 4:00 p.m. in Hubbard Family Cemetery with Pastor Marcus Wood and Pastor Terry Martin officiating. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Vesta Rescue Squad, P.O. Box 911, Meadows of Dan, VA 24120. Moody Funeral Home in Stuart has been entrusted with the arrangements and online condolences may be sent by visiting www. moodyfuneralservices.

Chesapeake, VA, Violet Monk and Ben Bowman of Stuart, VA, Ashley Monk of Stuart, VA, six great-grandchildren, Lynzi Haynes of Martinsville, VA, Liliana Dise of Virginia Beach, VA, Issac Willis of Chesapeake, VA, Parker Davis of Virginia Beach, VA, Sophie Davis of Virginia Beach, VA and Sarah Davis of Virginia Beach, VA.

A memorial service will be held at 11:00 am on Thursday, March 27, 2025 at Norris Funeral Services Chapel in Stuart with Pastor John officiating. Wingfield Burial will follow at Sawyers Family Cemetery in Bassett, VA.

The family will receive friends one hours prior to the service from 10:00 am to 11:00 am at Norris Chapel in Stuart, VA.

Norris Funeral Services in Stuart is serving the Joyce family

Online condolences may be made at www. norrisfuneral.com.

Virginia "Ollie" Hopkins Martin

Virginia "Ollie" Hopkins Martin, age 97, of Bassett, Virginia passed away on Monday, March 10, 2025. She was born May 3, 1927 to Mack Daniel and Mary Lou Deal Hopkins. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, William Akers Martin, sisters; Dovie Tuggle and Mildred Hopkins, and brothers; Grover Hopkins and nie), and their families. Henry Hopkins.

Ollie made welcome many "fur children" through the years. She has a special fondness of cats, her nieces and nephews, mostly in that order and spoiled them rotten with little trips and treats through the

She is survived by her nieces; Jean Thomas (Clyde), Debra Peters Smith (Johnny), and Rhonda Mullins



She is also survived by a special cousin Russ Blevins (Hope), and a host of other special friends, her husband's nieces and nephews and many cousins.

spunk, mostly intact memory and keen sense of humor, delighting her wonderful caregivers, Bugs and Terry, and all who knew her until her final days.

She was of the Prim- bassett.com.

itive Baptist Faith and loved driving to visit various churches. And after retiring from Bassett Walker and Dominion LOF, she enjoyed eating out, reading and listening to music.

Ollie requested flowers and instead, donations could be made to Patrick Henry Volunteer Fire Department, 3125 County Line Road, Patrick Springs, VA 24133.

The family would like to thank Mountain Valley Hospice for the wonderful care during the illness of our precious loved one.

A Graveside Service Ollie maintained her will be held on Wednesday, March 12 at 2:00 PM at Henry Memorial Park in Bassett, Virginia with Reverend Daniel

Collins officiating. Online condolences at www.collinsmckeestone-

(Obituaries Continued on p.9)

Ali Wall, Advertising Executive

276-732-6083

awall@mountainmedianews.com



guide. This special section is designed to bring more customers to your doorstep, with targeted advertising to an audience of local homeowners. **Contact** Contact

Wendi Craig, Advertising Director

276-340-2445

advertise@mainstreetnewspapers.com

Joshua, David, Jacob

5. From Exodus 16, what bird served as food for

wilderness? Dove, Quail,

Duck, Robin 6. In Revelation 9, what

tails like snakes? Sheep,

Oxen, Horses, Fish ANSWERS: 1) Neither,

2) Song of Solomon, 3)
Antinas 4) Moses, 5)

subscriber site at www.

patreon.com/triviaguy.

Wilson

Āntipas, 4) Mo Quail, 6) Horses

Hardcore

276.236.7814

Visit

Israelites in the

of creatures had

trivia

PATRICK PULPITS

The Theories Of Spontaneous Generation

By Van Yandell

Genesis 1: 3 "And God said, let there be light and there was light"

It appears that in our world and in this time, humans have been left with the distinct impression that they can match wits with God. To believe someone is smarter than their Creator is foolish at best and dangerous at worst.

Another of the greatest of mankind's mistakes is the concept that theories are fact and they certainly are not; they are slightly beyond the classification of opinions, but not much. Having an opinion doesn't make it true or

An opinion is a personal feeling, attitude, value judgement or belief. It is a statement neither true or false.

Theories are defined as: "A well-substantiated explanation for an observed phenomenon. It can be based on evidence and tested through experimentation and observation."

The emerging beliefs and theories of the beginning of the universe are at times laughable and definitely illogical and unreasonable.

Many of the "new beliefs" include the existence of something before the beginning. So, where did this "something" come from? The very idea of spontaneous generation is now considered a myth and debunked as fiction by religionists and scientists.

Those that subscribe to the "big bang theory" have yet to determine where that gigantic mass of matter came from, or what created the external pressure that caused it to "bang." Once again the illogical existence of something from nothing (spontaneous generation) makes about as much sense as thinking that we've been visited by skinny little gray men from thousands of light years away.

I recently watched a video that promoted the belief (and was stated with great certainty) that in the beginning (before 13.8 billion years ago, if you can buy into that) there was a cloud of hydrogen and helium gasses that evolved into a mass that became the point of the explosion that created the universe.

In one-billionth of a second the universe became billions of light years across. Yet most scientists agree nothing can move faster than the speed of light. This is an obvious contradiction. Light speed at 186,282 miles per second cannot match that speed. If anything, creation (Genesis 1) is confirmed

To explain the existence of anything, produced or created from nothing is a supernatural, spiritual Creator is impossible. Yet, theories, speculation and opinions are rampant in the religious and secular world.

To be fair in our discussion of these unanswerable questions, we must address the first three words in Genesis and John (in the New Testament), "In the beginning." An age-old question has been, "When was that?"

Since the Bible makes such a declarative and certain statement, we must entertain the thought/belief, there indeed was a beginning, but the question remains, "The beginning of what?"

The Bible also conclusively states that God is eternal. Psalm 90:2: "Before the mountains were born or you brought forth the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you

Similar verses throughout the Bible are numerous. The idea of an eternal God existed for many of the Bible writ-

Considering our eternal God, is the statement "In the beginning" a contradiction? Certainly not! But it is/was indicating the beginning of something. So what is it referring to?

I in no way, would encourage anyone NOT to have opinions. Just be sure to base them on credible information and not something that popped into your mind or the word of a non-authorita-

Opinions and the discussions henceforth have very positive results but they're still with the individual mindset and are influenced by many fac-

In our human finite minds we normally think of eternity as being in the future. By the very definition of the word "eternal" it must mean past and future.

If God has always existed are we to think that He existed in this vast expanse of nothingness for all of (past tense) eternity? Then He had the thought, "Hey, I think I'll create a uni-

Perhaps, "In the beginning" is referring to the galaxy, the solar system, the visible night sky or more likely, the earth and the earth's atmosphere. Nonetheless, we'll never know for sure until we get to Heaven and ask God.

Since none of us were alive those billions of years ago and none of us have the mind of God, we'll not know in this life. And does it really matter? We are curious beings and of course it matters because of our curiosity factor, but to our eternal soul, it will not.

We must always teach that eternal salvation is attained by a faith based belief (Ephesians 2: 8) in Christ Jesus crucified (Matthew 27: 35) for the remission of sin (1 John 1: 9) and resurrected (Matthew 28: 6).

Eternity and the "beginning" will always create in us questions but we must accept the fact, there are some things we'll never (in this life) know. Still, opinions do not make facts.

So, what is our best and most complete source of information? Most of the information we receive from human sources are fiction, fantasy, opinincredible and without the concept of ion or speculation. Extensive research and observation at times result in evidence many consider proof of fact.

> Only God's word is reliable and spontaneous generation is impossible from human science or religious points of view without a Creator.

Can we agree that Jesus is the Savior of the world and that by our faith based belief in Him, we can have eternal life? If one can't agree with that, what if you are wrong?

Van Yandell is a retired Industrial Arts teacher, an ordained gospel evangelist and commissioned missionary. His email: vmy2121@outlook.com.

OBITUARIES

Erik Daniel Rakes

Erik Mr.Daniel Rakes, age 41, of Critz, Virginia passed away March Monday, 10. 2025, at his home. He was born in Patrick County on December 24, 1983, to John Moir Rakes and Teresa Lynn Rakes. He is preceded in death by his paternal grandparents, Roy and Carrie Rakes; magrandmother, ternal Linda Bond; and "like a grandmother"; Dot Gammons. Erik was a loving husband, father, son, brother, and friend. He was the best handyman and could fix anything; he loved life and Rakes of Stuart, VA; worked hard to provide for his family, whom he loved so much. Erik loved anything outdoors from hunting, fishing, kayaking, disc golf, and four wheeling. He was the life of the party and loved his friends and family. He will be loved

and missed forever by

all who knew him.



Left to cherish the memory of Erik Rakes are his wife, Amber Rorrer Rakes of the home; one son, Collin Daniel Rakes of the home; his parents, John Moir Rakes and Teresa Lynn one sister, Kayla Rakes (Payton Richardson) of Bassett, VA; motherin-law, Teresa Martin (Danny) of Sandy Ridge, NC; father-in-law, Steve Rorrer (Kelly) of Stuart, VA; sister-in-law, Tiffany Whorley (Dustin) of Charity, VA; brotherin-law, Shawn Rorrer

(Amy) of Indian Valley,

enzie Whorley, Rylee Whorley, Adalee Quesnberry, Paislynn Richardson; five nephews, Titus Rorrer, Asher Rorrer, Jacob Quesnberry, Jase Rakes, Isaiah Richardson; and his beloved dog and constant companion; Rona. Funeral services will

VA; four nieces, McK-

be held Friday, March 14, 2025, at Moody Funeral Services in Stuart at 3:00 pm with Pastor Wayne Moore officiating. The burial will immediately follow in High Point Baptist Church Cemetery. The family will receive friends two hours prior to the service at the funeral home on Friday afternoon. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Caring Hearts Free Clinic, 835 Woodland Drive, Suite 101, Stuart, Virginia 24171. Online condolences may be made at www.moodyfuneralservices.com.

BIBLE TRIVIA

Is the book of Lot (KJV) in the Old or New Testament or neither? From what book does a woman call on the north and south wind to blow on her garden? Proverbs, Daniel, Hebrews, Song of

Solomon 3. What What was Herod's last name who had John the Baptist beheaded? Pilate, Laban, Herod, Antipas

4. Who said in Deuteronomy 6, "Hear, 0 Israel: The Lord our God Moses. one Lord"?

Skyline Pentecostal Holiness Church

1515 Rock Church Rd. Meadows of Dan, Virginia Rev. Tommy Gosnell

CHURCH SERVICES Sunday School 10 am

Worship Services 11 am

Patrick Springs Pentecostal Holiness 60 Spring Rd., Patrick Springs, VA - 276-694-6357



runday Sichool for all ages 9:45 am Wednesdays ommunity Meal & Service 6:00 pm Food Distribution Ministry: Monday, Wednesday and Friday

(c) 2025 King Features Sýnd., Inc. Risen Jord Catholic Church

fan?

Casey's

Mass Schedule 59 Mountain View Loop Reconciliation

Sundays 7:45 - 8:15 a.m

Stuart Baptist Church Bringing the World to Christ

108 W. Blue Ridge St. ww.stuartbaptist.org /



Super Crossword **CROSS WORDS**

key words in

this puzzle

are syn-

brother

5 Male tabby

ACROSS 47 Get older 1 Swing by 50 Give off 6 Sop up 51 Shaggy's 12 Fez or beret 15 General chicken 52 Pollen lover

19 Preface 20 "Hello" singer Lionel 21 Santa winds

22 Eight, in Berlin 23 Alternative to potstickers

28 Requiring lots

of attention 29 L-P linkup 30 "- Up My Heart" (1997 *NSYNC

32 Call before the court 35 Touchy topic 37 Skit-filled NBC show

song)

in brief 38 Texas-Louisiana

border river 41 Three, in Paris 42 H.G. Wells' Doctor

Moreau, e.g.

46 Penetrating

54 "Life Is Good" rapper 55 Letter after pi 110 Chant

e.g. a soapbox being baked 116 British

75 Stalagmite site 76 Camera type. in brief 77 Acting

81 Brand of

award hard cider

download 86 Tokyo sash 87 Prefix with byte or ton 88 Suffix with Euclid

89 An ex-Trump 129 What nine 92 Fix typos, say 93 Plus more: Abbr. nickname for 94 \$5 bills in slang DOWN

96 Intense controversy 99 "That doesn't ring 101 Regressed

56 212 degrees 103 Group of Fahrenheit, warriors in "Kung Fu 61 "Yup" Panda" 63 Big Apple 106 Church part

66 Alpha Sig, 67 Speaks from

his dog

Perlman

53 Actress

68 Right after 72 Fake: Prefix

84 Google Play

liquid rocket propellants 122 Swedish

soprano Jenny 123 '50s prez 124 — Mae (HUD corp.) **125** Yo-yo part 126 Lucy's guy

127 Toon

128 Villains

looks

Flanders

Motor

Gulf War for the cleray 9 "Heavens! 10 Shred 111 Boxing great 11 — Stakes 112 Flummoxed (horse race) 115 Suffix with 12 Kayak cousin 13 "Gemini Man" director Lee prep school 14 Grazing land

117 Oxidizer in 15 "Proud Mary star — P. Henson 16 Makes the Billboard Top 40, e.g. 17 Of a resis-

tance unit 18 Artery insert 24 Like Brits 25 Pertaining to 31 Black, to Poe 33 Aide: Abbr

34 U.S. "Ltd."

35 Female sib

onyms of 40 Lettuce type 42 Option list 43 East Asian 1 Panorama nanny 2 Entomb 3 Navigate 4 A Gershwin

44 Platter 45 — Lodge (motel chain) 46 Actor Harvey 48 Heredity unit

36 Dutch artist

Jan

38 - - Cat

39 From — Z

78 Musical finale

79 Somewhat

82 Film units

trowel

85 Noodles in

90 Battle (for)

91 Additionally

92 Israel's Abba

94 Vast stretch

95 Large tuna

96 Wild rants

97 Gorilla, e.g.

Matt

101 Actress

Taylor

103 Grazing land

98 Historic time

peanut sauce

83 Uses a

80 Act of liturgy

6 Eve of old TV 49 Wolfs down 7 — one's time 52 Malaise. 8 Missile in the 53 Horse colors 100 Olympic 55 Little — (the Ocean State)

57 Proposal 58 Original NYC subway line 59 State exec. 60 Before

104 De-knot 105 Renowned 106 Asteroid surgery found in 1801 in brief 62 "Star Trek" lieutenant drink

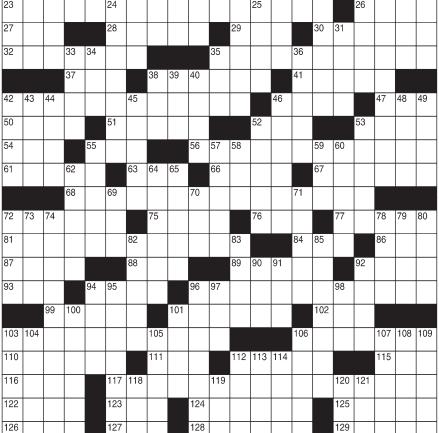
107 Chocolate 64 Agave plants 108 T-man Ness 65 Salt Lake City 109 Big dipper native **112** Comic

69 Additionally Meara 70 Fertilizable 113 Rake prong 114 Mix, as paint gametes 71 Chimp's kin 118 Luau guitar,

for short 119 Martini liquor division 73 Vexed state 74 Dairy case containers

120 Longtime **CBS** series 121 30-day mo. 17 16

26 48



Puzzle answers page 11

CLASSIFIED

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

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

SERVICES

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

CLAYTON KENDRICK PAVING

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

WOODWRX, INC.

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

THOMAS LAND SOLUTIONS LLC

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

Morris Construction

LLC Home remodeling & repairs, carpentry, roofing, siding, painting, fencing, tree work & more! Contact Nick @ 276-224-4623 or 757-621-5219.

HYDRO AIR SYTEMS

Heating, Cooling & Electrical Contractors, SALES & SERVICES, Licensed in VA & NC, 276-694-7308



REACH OVER 1 MILLION Virginia Readers Weekly

<u>AUCTIONS</u>

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

FARMS/FISH

Live Fish for stocking ponds! Many varieties available. Delivery to your pond. Call Zetts Fish Farm & Hatchery for information & free catalogue. 304-995-9202, Cell 304-820-6986.

HOME IMPROVEMENT

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

Prepare for power outages today with a Generac Home Standby Generator. Act now to receive a FREE 7-Year warranty with qualifying purchase. Call 1-844-947-1479 today to schedule a free quote. It's not just a generator. It's a power move

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

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

The bathroom of your dreams in as little as 1 day. Limited Time Offer - \$1000 off or No Payments and No Interest for 18 months for customers who qualify. BCI Bath & Shower. Many options available. Quality materials & professional installation. Senior & Military Discounts Available. Call Today! 1-844-945-1631

LIVESTOCK SALES

G&E Virginia Premium Assured Heifer/Cow Sale. March 29th, 2025, 12:00 noon. G&E Test Center Gretna, VA. Call George Winn at 434-489-4458.

SERVICES

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

DENTAL INSURANCE from Physicians Mutual

REACH VIRGINIA

Insurance Company. Coverage for 350 plus procedures. Real dental insurance - NOT just a discount plan. Do not wait! Call now! Get your **FREE Dental Information** Kit with all the details! 1-888-550-3083 www. dental50plus.com/virginia #6258

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

We Buy Houses for Cash AS IS! No repairs. No fuss. Any condition. Easy three step process: Call, get cash offer and get paid. Get your fair cash offer today by calling Liz Buys Houses: 1-844-216-5028.

Switch and save up to \$250/year on your talk, text and data. No contract and no hidden fees. Unlimited talk and text with flexible data plans. Premium nationwide coverage.

100% U.S. based customer service. For more information, call 1-855-262-5564.

We buy 8,000 cars a week. Sell your old, busted or junk car with no hoops, haggles or headaches. Sell your car to Peddle. Easy three step process. Instant offer. Free pickup. Fast payment. Call 1-844-268-4773

NOW HIRING

Fairy Stone State Park Now Hiring Multiple Seasonal Positions! Beach Maintenance Ranger Boathouse Ranger Contact Ranger Food Service Ranger Housekeeping Ranger Apply online: www.dcr. virginia.gov/jobs Positions open until filled. 967 Fairystone Lake Drive Stuart, VA 24171 276-930-2424

Home & office Cleaners Wanted - \$630/ Weekly Cleaning Position: Available Working Days: Mon-Fri Time Schedule: 11 AM - 2 PM Minimum Requirement Email: styleharry054@ gmail.com

The County of Patrick is accepting applications from qualified applicants for a part-time Solid **Waste Transfer Station** Attendant.

Duties of the position will include, but are not limited to, customer

assistance, operation of scales, loading trailers, and facility maintenance. The preferred candidate must be capable of performing manual labor, possess good interpersonal skills, and be able to communicate effectively with the public. Basic math, clerical, and computer skills to prepare customer tickets and perform record keeping are required. A high school diploma or GED is required. Applicants must be willing to submit to a

This is a part-time position with no benefits. Hourly wage is \$15. Hours will be scheduled as required between 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, with rotating Saturdays. Hours are limited to 29 or less per workweek.

background check and

drug screen.

The Patrick County employment application is available at https:// www.co.patrick.va.us/ Jobs.aspx. Applicants must submit a Patrick County employment application to be considered for the position. The position will remain open until filled.

The County of Patrick is an Equal Opportunity Employer and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, disability, or age.

LAND FOR SALE

Small parcel of land for sale @ 586 Mount Calvary Church Rd, Stuart, VA 24171. If interested, please call (276) 694-2842 between 10AM and 4PM.

FOR SALE

PSS-300 Pride electric wheelchair (may need batteries). \$200 or best offer. Folding hitch cargo carrier with ramp. 500lb capacity. \$160 firm. Call 276-694-5858 for more information and leave message.

FOR RENT

Master two-bed bedroom for rent. Fully furnished. 12 minutes from Martinsville. Will rent to 55+ female. No smoking, pets or drinking. 1 person, \$359/month + \$31 for utilities. 2nd person \$135. Call or text 276-790-5965.

Weekly **SUDOKU**

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

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!

© 2025 King Features Synd., Inc.

irewater SERVICE CENTER

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

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

Now Offering **TIRES & FRONT END ALIGNMENT**



 State Inspections Oil Changes using Amsoil, **Valvoline & Schaeffer Oil Products**

- Full Brake Service for Disc and Drum Brakes Replacement of Belts and Hoses
 - Tune Ups Tire Rotations
 - Starter and Alternator Replacement
 - Battery Replacement

10% DISCOUNT FOR VETERANS

Tired of driving to the landfill?



Household pickup once a week - \$30 month Dumpsters for residential and business use available.



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

Please call for pricing. 276-251-1303

RURAL SERVICES

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

LEGAL

RFP 2025-MNT-001

The Patrick County School Board is accepting competitive sealed proposals from licensed contractors to install Tnemec Decorative Flake Floor System at Blue Ridge Elementary School, 5135 Ararat Highway, Ararat, VA 24053. Proposal drawings and specifications are available as a PDF file from the Maintenance Office at 117 Via Avenue, Stuart, VA 24171 or e-mail Chad Haynes at chad.haynes@patrick.k12.va.us. There will be a pre-bid meeting at the site on Thursday, March 27, 2025, at 3:30 p.m. EST. Proposals are due by Friday, April 11, 2025: 10:00 a.m. EST at the above listed address

LEGAL

DBE Certified Minority and Woman Owned Businesses

White's Construction Company, Inc. is soliciting bids from disadvantaged, minority and women owned business firms as a subcontractor. trucker or material supplier for the following VDOT project located in Patrick County and is to bid on March 26, 2025.

VDOT Order No. M30 - Route 773 Project No.: 0773-070-198, N501 FHWA No.: STP-070-2(042) UPC.: C0000005462N01

Items available to be subcontracted on this project include but are not limited to Rumble Strip Cylindrical Asphalt, Concrete Class A3 Misc., Pilot Vehicle, Temporary Sign, Flexible Pavement Planning 0"-2", Temporary Seed, Regular Seed, Overseeding, Legume Seed, Hydraulic Erosion Control Product Type 3, Fertilizer Nitrogen-N, Fertilizer Potassium-K, Lime, Type A Pavement Line Marking 4' Interested firms should submit their bid no later than 12:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 25, 2025, or asap. Bids should be submitted to white-

White's Construction Co., Inc. maintains a Drug-Free Workplace. WHITE'S CONSTRUCTION CO., INC

soffice@whites-construction.com or faxed to 434-822-8808. If you

have any questions, please contact Shannon White at 434-822-7764.

IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

Wednesday, March 19, 2025 - 11

Meetings

Wednesday, March 19

The Stuart Town Council will meet at 6 p.m. in the Town Office.

Thursday, April 10

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

Monday, April 14

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, April 16

The Stuart Town Council will meet at 6 p.m. in the Town Office.

Events

Thursday, March 20

The Patrick County Republican Committee will meet at 6 p.m. in the P&HCC Motorsports Hall of Fame Auditorium.

The Carroll County Genealogy Club meets at 5 p.m. in the club's library in the old historic courthouse on Main Street in Hillsville.

Friday, March 21

Fairystone VFD from 3-4 p.m.

Saturday, March 22

Waders & Waddlers Education Station will be at the Virginia Museum of Natural History from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Highlights include Be a Science Sleuth - activity for kids, Meet a Philpott Lake Park Ranger and learn "Why we don't feed crackers to 'quackers' and more, and the first public view of waterfowl specimens from the museum vault. For more info: https://www. vmnh.net/plan-your-visit

The Patrick Springs Ruritan Club will hold a Poor Man's Supper from 4-7 p.m. at the Patrick Springs Park building in Patrick Springs. The meal includes pinto beans, potatoes, corn bread, dessert, and a drink for \$9.

Fellowship and music, featuring Two Young, Two Old, New Hope Community Church, 1863 Clark House Farm Road, Stuart, 7 p.m. Refreshments to follow singing. All are invited.

Sunday, March 23

Debbie Bennett performs at Pleasant View Baptist Church, Patrick Springs, 4 p.m. A love offering will be taken. Ice cream social to follow.

Stuart Baptist Church will host a special eve-

VISIT US ONLINE AT WWW.ENTERPRISE.NET



Fettuccine \$14.99

Chicken Alfredo

Lobster Ravioli vith grilled chicken \$16.99

Lunch Prices \$8.99 to \$12.99

Open 7 Days Week for Lunch & Dinner • Reservations Accepted www.raniasrestaurant.com

147 East Main Street Uptown Martinsville

276-638-4462

FRIDAY || || || || || || PIANO MUSIC LIVE



EVERY SATURDAY AT 1 P.M.

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

For directions to our facility, weekly updates of upcoming events and current

sale prices, please visit our website: www.springlakeauctions.com.

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

We appreciate your business! 1069 SICKLE COURT, MONETA, VA 24121

ning of uplifting music, starting at 6:30 p.m. held on Saturdays from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Enjoy a blend of bluegrass and southern gospel music performed by Whosoever, The Joyful Noise, and FourforOne. Cookies and coffee will gmail.com. be served during intermission.

Wednesday, April 2

The DMV Connect Mobile Unit will be at the Patrick Henry Community College Site, 212 Wood Brothers Dr., Stuart, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Closed for lunch 12:30 -1:30 p.m. This event is open to the public for Driver transactions, with no appointment needed.

The Patrick County Chamber of Commerce will hold a Lunch & Learn at 12 p.m. in Room 103 at the Patrick & Henry Community College (P&HCC) Stuart site. The workshop will focus on Succession Planning and it's free. Registration is available at www.patrickchamber.com.

Saturday, April 5

Creasey's Chapel will hold a BINGO! Games. Food, Prizes. Doors open at 4 p.m., bingo starts at 5 p.m. \$25 for 20 cards, 10 door prize tickets and 1 coverall.

Monday, April 7

The annual Patrick County Tourism Summit will be held at the Star Theatre. Registration is at 8: 30 a.m., and people should RSVP by March The Community Food Truck will be at the 31. Lunch will be provided.

Tuesday, May 6

The Patrick County Chamber of Commerce will hold a Lunch & Learn at 12 p.m. at the Patrick & Henry Community College (P&HCC) Stuart site. The workshop will focus on pre-venture planning for entrepreneurs and it's free.

Ongoing

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

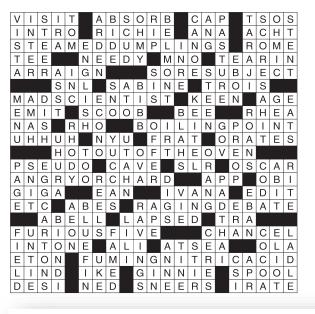
Patrick County Alzheimer's Group LLC is open Monday, Wednesday & Friday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. During opening hours an inside yard sale is open to the public. Proceeds from the yard sales are used to purchase supplies. Members meet on the first Monday of every month at 6 p.m. in the Alzheimer's office, located on Wood Brothers Drive, in the basement of Hills Tax Service. New members are welcome. For more information, call (276) 693-6018.

The Patrick County Quilters' Sit-N-Sew is

Wilderness - Stuart, Inc. Buying Logs

Standing Timber or Timberland

Contact Ronnie Bolt at (276) 694-4432



at Quilted Colors. For more information, call 276-694-3020 or email patrickcountyquilters@

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 Wednes-

day, 5 p.m., Rayen Rock Weslevan 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.

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

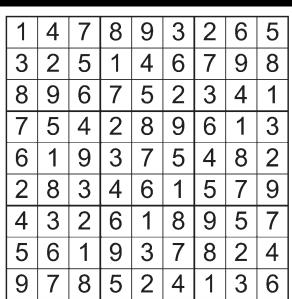
The Willis Gap Community Center: Members Meeting, the first Monday of the month at 6:30 p.m.; Appalachian Acoustic Open Jam, every Friday. Doors open at 6 p.m. for food. The music and dancing are 6:30-9 p.m.; Golden Oldies Open Jam is on the last Tuesday of the month. Doors open at 6 p.m. for food, music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

Patrick County Senior Citizens is sponsoring two upcoming trips — three-days, two-nights to Lancaster, Pa., June 18-20, and a one-day trip on August 2 is planned to NarroWay Dinner Theatre, Fort Mill, South Carolina. For more information, call (276) 694-3917.

Salem Church on Salem Road in Critz will hold a community meal on the first Sunday of every month at 12:10 p.m. Call (276) 222-1069 with questions.







Josh Berry claims victory for a Wood Brothers team that is "clicking"

By Reid Spencer

NASCAR Wire Service

It's time to take the Wood Brothers seriously.

Josh Berry's victory in Sunday's Pennzoil 400 at Las Vegas Motor Speedway wasn't a bolt from the blue like Trevor Bayne's win in the 2011 Daytona

It wasn't a parting shot like Harrison Burton's superspeedway victory in last summer's Daytona race. And it wasn't the occasional bone thrown by the racing gods to NASCAR's most venerable organiza-

tion during its 75th anniversary celebration.

Those who were paying attention could see Berry's victory coming. In his second start for the Wood Brothers on Feb. 23, Berry led 56 laps at Atlanta Motor Speedway—second only to Joey Logano's 83—before an overtime wreck on Lap 265 swept away his chance at a win.

Two weeks later at Phoenix Raceway, in the NA-SCAR Cup Series' first foray of the season onto a traditional oval, Berry finished fourth. That was no accident. NASCAR's loop data pegged him with an average running position of 9.10, sixth best among 37 starters.

In the race at Las Vegas, Berry's average running position was 7.88, behind only William Byron (7.51) and Kyle Larson (7.57). Berry achieved that number despite an unplanned trip down pit road to secure a loose wheel-a problem that was epidemic throughout the field on Sunday. And when a spate of cautions in the final stage left

Larson, Byron and Ross Chastain on the wrong side

of a pit stop cycle and took them out of the mix for the win, Berry was left to battle with Daniel Suarez and took full advantage of the opportunity.

The victory was the 101st for Wood Brothers Racing but only the fifth in the 21st century. For those who favor numerology, Las Vegas is an appropriate place for the No. 21 Ford to occupy Victory Lane. The number "21," of course, represents a winning hand in Sin City's most prolific card game.

For those who favor nicknames, "Blackjack" Josh Berry might be worth considering, if it wouldn't infringe on the moniker of "Blackjack" Brian Brown, who drove the No. 21 winged sprint car in Saturday's High Limit Racing season opener a stone's throw away from the 1.5-mile paved speedway at LVMS.

Where the Wood Brothers are concerned, however, a far more significant number is 1981, the last year the organization won more than one race in a single season, courtesy of the late Neil Bonnett, who claimed three victories that year.

Given Berry's promising start with the team—after his struggles last year with moribund Stewart-Haas Racing—there's a sense that the pieces are in place to bring that 44-year streak to an end. With Berry behind the wheel and Miles Stanley as

his crew chief—both of whom won a Cup race for the first time on Sunday-the Wood Brothers are positioned to take full advantage of their close affiliation with Team Penske and their unbroken association with Ford Motor Company. "We ran really well all year so far, early in the

season," said team CEO and co-owner Eddie Wood.

"Things felt right. They just feel right.

"I think Josh fits us. Miles fits us. Everything just fits. I used to make fun of people years ago when they would talk about chemistry. Football teams, baseball, all that. Then it kind of bled over into racing. This goes back a few years.

"When things click, they click. I've been doing this since I was a kid. I was there when (driver) David Pearson and Leonard Wood, my uncle, hooked up. That clicked instantly, like right off the bat.

"This feels like everything is clicking."

Stanley couldn't agree more, and his confidence in his 34-year-old former NASCAR Weekly Series champion driver couldn't be higher. "The potential's real high for the 21 team," he said.

"This group is really, really special. In the offseason, before we got started, there was a buzz in the shop with everyone we had put in place on this team, Josh included, and we all felt like we were going to have a really good season. "And now I think that buzz is going to be heard

outside of just our organization, and our little team. Josh is really awesome. He's only in his second year in the Cup Series, but he's a veteran racer, and he's a really big part of this team and a really big part of how we approach the race weekends and how he approaches every single run."

With a victory in hand and Playoff berth all but certain, Berry can use the win at Las Vegas as a springboard to future successes.

If you're paying attention, you won't be surprised when he wins another race or two.

Young performers dazzle at Patrick County 4-H Share the Fun

Patrick County High School in Stuart.

Abigail Disharoon won the overall award and was the dance category winner in the junior division with her dance performance. Taylor Spangler won the vocal category award in the junior division with her vocal performance. Easton Hall won the variety category award in the junior division with his Tae Kwon Do performance. Etta Owens won the drama category award in the junior division with her drama performance.

In the junior division, Abigail Disahroon from Hardin Reynolds Memorial School received a blue ribbon for her dance performance to "Roxi" from the musical Chicago. She was chosen to move to the area competition to be held on Saturday, May 3 in Floyd. Abigail will be competing in the dance category at the Area

Max Kendall

Lumber & Tin

Price Reduced

Metal Roofing

Now Made In

Axton, Va.

276-650-2825

Free call 1-888-434-2825

Lynchburg, Va.

434-821-3251

Free Call 1-833-593-3251

Reidsville, NC

336-348-1600

Free call 1-833-205-1600

20 COLORS

Classic Rib - PBR Panel

Standing Seam - 5V

Buy Direct

and Save!

American Made

Top Quality

Low Prices

Made Same Day

40 Year Warranty

METAL

Contest.

the junior division, Tay-

The Patrick County 4-H Share the lor Spangler from Stuart Elementary Fun Talent Show was held March 7 at School received a blue ribbon for her vocal performance to "Sunday Sermons" by Anne Wilson. She was chosen to move to the area competition to be held on Saturday, May 3 in Floyd. Taylor will be competing in the vocal category at the Area Contest.

> In the junior division, Easton Hall from Meadows of Dan Elementary School received a blue ribbon for his Tae Kwon Do performance. He was chosen to move to the area competition to be held on Saturday, May 3 in Floyd. Easton will be competing in the variety category at the Area Contest.

> In the junior division, Etta Owens from Hardin Reynolds Memorial School received a blue ribbon for her drama performance "Coat of Many Colors." She was chosen to move to the area competition to be held on Saturday, May 3 in Floyd. Etta will be competing in the drama category at the Area Contest.

> Also competing in the variety category, Banner Davis and Chet Perdue, from Meadows of Dan Elementary

School, were awarded a red ribbon for their comedy skit "Chicken- Foot." Competing in the dance category, Paige Ragsdale from Stuart Elementary School was awarded a blue ribbon for her dance performance to "You Say" by Lauren Daigle.

We appreciate our judges Phyllis Eastridge and Anna Lester for joining us at the talent contest. Mistress of Ceremonies included Presley Combs

Laurel Hill: A Historic Site with

and Rain Davis. This show would not be possible without our Elementary School Talent Show managers, sound engineers, judges, and emcees. We are truly thankful for the support of all the faculty, staff, and parents at each elementary school that make this show possible. Thank you to Patrick County High School for hosting the 2025 Patrick County 4-H Share the Fun County



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

CENTER

Call for prices.



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

(276) 694-5692

or 276-694-5697

Hours: Mon-Fri 8 am-5 pm, closed 12-1 pm for lunch

3609 South Mayo Dr., Stuart God Bless You

By Tom Perry

The many trails in Laurel Hill are often overlooked when considering the environmental aspects of its preserdays, the site's natural vistas of the Blue Ridge site's historical impor-

cut trails from existing logging roads down to the vation. From the early the property for hiking.

Two Boy Scouts, Matbeauty and the grand thew and Michael Miller of King, North Carolina, Mountains enhanced the cut a new trail along the eastern side of the prop-

"We Feed What We Sell"

Economically priced and more feed value for your money.

AVAILABLE IN BAG OR BULK

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

Whole Beef Hamburger \$5.75/lb.

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

HAMBURGER PATTIES \$6.00 LB



Call for prices today! 888-777-5912

Jason Pendleton

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

Cynthia M. Jones, AA, AS

WE TAKE YOUR RELATIONSHIPS SERIOUSLY! DO YOU!



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

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

1-877-610-HEAR (4327)

More to Discover tance. The organization erty down to the Ararat can provide extensive River and west alongside wildlife watching opporthe stream until con-tunities from the road (be Ararat River and the ford necting with the existing careful, drivers!). Whiteover the Mitchell-Dellen- trails and the river road, tailed deer are abundant back-Hill lands, opening earning them an Eagle throughout this area, as Scout badge. Today's vis- are woodchuck and eastlaurel from which the property gets its name, along with running cedar and varying degrees of wildlife, including deer and wild turkeys. Laurel Hill is open from dawn to dusk to hike except during the Civil War Encampment, the first weekend in October.

> Laurel Hill is on the Virginia Bird and Wildlife Trail.

"Most of the sites on this loop are in and around Carroll County in the Blue Ridge Highlands. Loop sites span from the New River along the Blue Ridge Parkway to Major J.E.B. Stuart's Birthplace and end at two wildlife management areas near the City of Galax. The drive between each site is scenic and **Guaranteed Paying**

the Most -

Buying CARS &

TRUCKS.

Running or

not, ATV's, tractors,

stamps, old coins,

jewelry & fire arms.

647-5563 or 806-4433

ern chipmunk. Some of these sites, such as Major J.E.B. Stuart's Birthplace and the Shot Tower Historical State Park, also offer a rich historical experience. Other sites, such as Devil's Den Nature Preserve, relay their ancient histories through their fascinating geologi-

cal characteristics." "Elevation: 1218 ft.

"I might have rambled the dear old hills of Patrick amid all the pleasures of a mountain home for a lifetime." - J.E.B. Stuart, 1853

The rolling fields, scattered woodlots, and bubbling stream of this 75acre property are where the Confederate Major General James Ewell Brown (J.E.B.) Stuart was born and spent his

(See Laurel p. 13)

I will clean out basements, garages, etc. and haul away anything, brush also, Free Estimates! **Call Scott** 647-5563 or 276-806-4433



WE FINANCE ROOFS ON YOUR HOME

Snow Guards Lumber

Rough - Dressed - Treated **PACKAGE BUILDINGS Contractors Welcome**

maxkendalllumber.com

8261 Mountain Valley Rd

Laurel

(cont. from page 12)

boyhood. Since 1990, the property has been controlled by the J.E.B. Stuart Birthplace Trust, Inc., which was formed to preserve and interpret the General's childhood home. The Trust has created a self-guided walking trail. This trail highlights the historical sites on the property, including the former house site, several cemeteries, and historical markers, and leading the visitor to a small waterfall and the Ararat River. This diversity of habitats provides

open fields at the center of the property are home to eastern meadowlark, eastern kingbird, indigo bunting, and chipping sparrow, while the woods hold blue jay, Carolina chickadee, tufted titmouse, and Carolina

Virginia Bird and Wildlife Trail https:// dwr.virginia.gov/vbwt/ mountain-trail/MBR/

https://dwr.virginia. gov/.../major-general-j-eb-stuart.../

While Laurel Hill has

for a variety of birds. The many hiking opportunities, the site is on several national and statewide trail systems.

Laurel Hill is part of the Virginia Civil War Trails

Stuart's Birthplace is one of 1500 sites on the Civil War Trails system. https://www.civilwar-

trails.org/ Laurel Hill is on the Civil War Discovery Trail

"The Civil War Trust's Civil War Discovery Trail is a heritage tourism program that links more than 600 U.S. Civil War

SATURDAY.

sites in more than 30 states. The program is one of the White House Millennium Council's sixteen flagship National Millennium Trails. Sites on the trail include battlefields, museums. historic sites, forts, and cemeteries." American Battlefield Trust Heritage Site

The Civil War Trust and the Association For the Preservation Of Civil War Sites merged to form the American Battlefield Trust. These organizations supported the efforts to preserve Laurel Hill, which is still part of the heritage sites.

The Civil War Trust's Civil War Discovery Trail is a heritage tourism program that links more than 600 U.S. Civil War sites in more than 30 states. The program is one of the White House Millennium Council's sixteen flagship National Millennium Trails. Sites on the trail include battlefields, museums, historic sites, forts, and cemeteries.

In May 2018, the Civil War Trust and the Revolutionary War Trust changed their operational structure to function as land preservation di-

The many trails in Laurel Hill are often overlooked when considering the environmental aspects of its preservation.

Battlefield Trust's website as heritage sites. The following is a list of these sites as of March 2014.

https://www.battlefields.org/.../laurel-hill-birthplace...

Virginia Historical **Highway Markers**

In December 1932, a Virginia Historical Highway Marker was placed at Laurel Hill. Believed to have been written by Douglas Southall Freeman, Pulitzer Prize winning biographer of Robert E. Lee wrote the original marker that was replaced in 2000.

KG-2 Stuart's Birthplace https://vcris.dhr. virginia.gov/Historic-Markers/

Laurel Hill is on the National Register of Historic Places and the Virginia Landmarks Register

https://www.dhr.vir-

learn about many histories, from Native American history through Jeb Stuart and the War Between The States to the new exhibit about the Mount Airy Eastern Railroad, "The Dinky." It is an outdoor classroom where you can learn about the history of our country from before we were a nation up through the efforts to preserve this piece of Patrick County history any day from dawn to dusk.

Directions to 1091 Ararat Highway: From Stuart, Virginia, take Route 8 (Salem Hwy) south to 103 West (Dry Pond/ Claudville Hwy). Turn right and proceed to 773 (Ararat Hwy), then turn right. Continue 10 miles. Laurel Hill will be on the right. Watch for signs on the right. Take Riverside Drive, Highway 104 north from Mount Airy to the Virginia/North Carolina state line. The Birthplace is about a mile into

ginia.gov/historic-regisvisions of the American ters/070-0060/ Battlefield Trust. The These trails and trail places of the formerly systems bring visitors to named trail are high-Laurel Hill every year. It Virginia on the left. lighted on the American is a place where you can www.norrisfuneral.com 129 Howell Lane OPPIS
FUNERAL SERVICES, INC. AND CREMATORY Stuart, VA 276-694-2012 Affordable Funerals And Cremations With Updated Facilities



Meet Our Providers

EUGENE "GENE" F. JACKSON, MPAS, PA-C



The full SPECTRUM of

Musculoskeletal services in an integrated system... offering the <u>FUTUKE</u> of Healthcare today.

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

SAME DAY X-RAYS

SPECTRUM

MEDICAL

Eugene "Gene" F. Jackson, MPAS, PA-C has been NCCPA Board Certified Physician Assistant since

1979 after having graduated from Alderson Broaddus University with a Bachelor's Degree in Physician Assistant Studies. Prior to his degree, Gene was a

Sergeant in the U.S. Air Force, completing his service in 1975. Gene then entered the U.S. Army National Guard from 1980 to 2005 as the Chief Physician

Assistant and honorably discharged as a Colonel in

in orthopedic surgery from the University

of Nebraska in 2001.

and two children.

2005. During his service, Gene also completed his Masters of Physician Assisted Studies with a specialty

Recently, Gene re-joined our practice as a seasoned provider maintaining his passion of orthopedics and

assisting our orthopedic doctors primarily in the clinic. Gene has lived locally in the Danville area for over 25 years and enjoys time outside the office with his wife

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







LOCATIONS

2 CONVENIENT

NO REFERRAL NEEDED UNLESS REQUIRED BY INSURANCE

DANVILLE

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

MARTINSVILLE 1075 Spruce Street

276-790-3233

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

Furniture Inventory Reduction Sale HUGE DISCOUNTS!

All - Furniture, Lamps, Pillows, End Tables, Coffee Tables, Bedroom Suites, Mattresses & Bedding, Recliners, Sofas, Chairs, ALL SALES and Accessories ARE FINAL for Free Give-a-way!

From Trusted Brands such as LIBERTY FURNITURE, LUKE, BARCALOUNGER, VAUGHAN BASSETT, MILES TALBOTT AND MORE!

Hurry In Now for this Huge Discounted Sale!

Larry & Alley

Serving the Community Since 1952 219-225 E. Main Street, | Uptown Martinsville, VA

276-632-6403

VOTE NOW!

Give a shout out to your favorite businesses around Martinsville & Stuart - Patrick & Henry County



Cast your votes from Feb. 21st to March 21st



More than 100 categories—from

- Steakhouse Wineries Pizzerias
- Event Centers Law firms Jewelry Stores Ice Cream Shops • and much more, You can cast your votes in each Category

mountainmedianews.com/best-of/

Our ballot is super simple! Don't know much about the accounting firm in your region? Feel free to skip it and move on Fill out the entire ballot if you're feeling ambitious, or pick and choose among our categories. Select from our drop down list, or if your favorite coffee shop or spa isn't listed, write in your own winner. And, take your time. Our voting platform saves your votes, so you don't have to feel rushed. That means you can return to the ballot to continue choosing your favorites without worrying about any of your votes being lost.

Winner's will be published in The Enterprise on April 30, 2025 & The Henry County Enterprise on May 3, 2025.







BEST AUTO GLASS

BEST AUTO/HOME/WINDOW TINTING

WE APPRECIATE YOUR VOTE & YOUR BUSINESS



VOTE NOW - MARCH 21

WHEN ONLY THE BEST WILL DO

AUTO GLASS 540-489-4013 TINT 540-493-9790 WWW.DANIELSAUTOGLASS.COM 2890 FORK MOUNTAIN RD. **BASSETT VA 24055**

