Calendar

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



More than 40 dogs were removed from a Kibler Valley residence last week. Animal rights activists allege conditions were deplorable, and that many dogs were confined in spaces

### Dozens of dogs removed in Patrick County case

By Taylor Boyd

More than 40 dogs were removed from a Kibler Valley area property on Thursday, June 12, by the Patrick County Sheriff's Office, Animal Shelter, and several nonprofit animal organizations.

After receiving a citizen complaint and calls about the animals. Patrick County Sheriff's Capt. Eric O'Connell said patrol officers were sent to the location on Squirrel Creek Road and conducted an initial assessment.

"That's what kind of stirred the social media response, and that's where some of the organizations

started vocalizing concerns based on some pictures and videos that this citizen obtained, I must say illegally, because they did trespass on the property," he said.

While working on the situation, Animal Control Deputy Christian Gilbert said he first reached out to some organizations that had contacted the sheriff's office about the issue, including People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA).

"I talked to someone from PETA before going out there. When I went out to the house Monday, I did not make contact with the owner, but I

(See Dogs p. 3)

### Dog owner says she was overwhelmed, not abusive

**By Taylor Boyd** 

Betty Haynes, whose dogs were recently removed from her Patrick County property, said she was overwhelmed—not abusive—and claims a trespasser saw the animals confined only because she had briefly stepped out to run an errand.

"All the dogs, all the puppies... they're loose when I'm home, so instead of putting everybody up, I just stuck everybody in some crates that I had in the back because I was thinking I was just going to be gone for a little bit, so I didn't think it hurt anything," she said.

While she was gone, Haynes said her neighbor called to tell her there was somebody at her house.

She said she checked her security cameras, "and I saw the lady that was on my property. She was acting frantic. My first instinct was maybe one of my dogs had gotten out and she had hit it, so I told my neighbor I was coming home."

When she arrived, all the animals were accounted for. Later that day, Haynes said some deputies arrived, stating they had reports of animals in distress and wanted to know if she'd let them look at the animals.

"I told them no problem, so I took everybody around and showed them all the dogs. They was satisfied that nobody was in immediate danger, so they left," she said.

About 10 minutes later, Haynes said she saw car lights in her driveway. She noted the car was pulled off to the side of her driveway and parked behind an inoperable vehi-

"There was this gentleman standing up on the driver's side and he

had his phone in his hand, and I asked him, 'can I help you?' He said, 'yes ma'am. We got some reports of some dogs dying.' He said, 'we want to know if you need any help," she

Haynes said she replied she did not need help and that all her dogs were accounted for and okay.

"Before he got back in the car he told me, 'well, tomorrow the cops will be here.' I said, 'the cops have already been here, and they left.' When I said that, the lady that had been on my property earlier without permission jumped out of the passenger side of the vehicle and got in my face and told me 'b\*\*\*\*. I'm the one that reported you.' I said, 'I know. I got you on camera. You was on my camera.' She said, 'I should kick your a\*\* and put you in a crate," Haynes said of the exchange.

At that point, Haynes alleged two people in the car started to surround her. The man she initially spoke to physically restrained them, she alleged.

Having missed a visit from Animal Control Officer Christian Gilbert on Monday, Haynes said she later talked to him and voluntarily told him she needed help.

"I sincerely needed help because I had been asking for help for almost a year from other rescues and nobody could physically take anything. I knew I was at the point I wasn't physically able to do anything. At that point I knew I couldn't do it, so I started asking for help and all the rescues were full, the shelters were full, so the only thing moving

(See Owner p. 3)



The Patrick County Board of Supervisors scheduled a public hearing for the Monday, July 14 meeting to create an ordinance that would allow Department of Social Services (DSS) employees to receive a bonus.

# County to consider ordinance for social services bonus

By Taylor Boyd

The Patrick County Board of Supervisors scheduled a public hearing for Monday, July 14, to consider creating an ordinance that would allow Department of Social Services (DSS) employees to receive a bonus.

As outlined in the fiscal year 2026 (FY26) budget approved by the General Assembly, County Attorney John Fitzgerald said full-time DSS employees are eligible to receive a one-time, state-supported bonus of 1.5 percent of their

This will take effect on July 21.

"In order to receive these funds, the county must have a local ordinance in place authorizing the payment bonuses as per section 15.2-1508 of the Code of Virginia," Fitzgerald said.

He noted the ordinance would simply fulfill that requirement and does not authorize any new or unbudgeted expenditures.

"The recommended action is to schedule a public hearing" for an ordinance authorizing the payment bonuses, he said.

Chairman Jonathan Wood, of the Peters Creek District, clarified that the funds are state pass-

through money. "That's no new increases for Patrick County, correct?" Wood asked.

Fitzgerald confirmed that was correct. In other matters, the board:

\*Approved allocating \$2,800 in unspent FY25 Extension Agency funds to carry over into FY26 for the purchase of well testing kits.

\*Approved a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for the polling place facility. \*Reappointed Rebecca Adcock to the Blue

Ridge Library Board. \*Nominated Hannah Vinova to the Blue Ridge

Library Board. \*Renominated Mary Dellenback Hill to the

Tourism Advisory Council (TAC) for the Dan River District. \*Reappointed Brian Alley as the TAC At-

Large member. \*Renominated Rodney Boyd to the Economic Development Authority (EDA) for the Dan River

\*Heard an introduction from Patrick County Library Branch Manager Somer Luna-Ojo-

deagua and an overview of library services. \*Approved the May 12 and May 27 meeting

\*Approved bills, claims, and appropriations.

\*Heard reports from board members.

### Wrestling showdown to benefit PCHS Girls' **Basketball**

By Taylor Boyd

National Independent Championship Wrestling (NICW) will hold its third annual Summer Showdown on Saturday, June 21, and Sunday, June 22.

The two-day event will be held at the Stuart Rotary Memorial Building, with the bell for the first match ringing at 7 p.m. on Saturday and at 4 p.m. on Sunday.

In addition to local wrestlers, Scott Rutter of Rutter's Martial Arts said wrestlers from West Virginia, Tennessee, and other localities are coming together to host the family-friendly show for the community.

"We are offering to give all the concessions and the proceeds that's coming in to benefit the Patrick County High School (PCHS) Girls' Basketball Team," he said.

Between the two days, Rutter said there are 12 matches scheduled.

'There's so much stuff we weren't able to put it all on one poster," he joked.

Saturday's main event will be Raging Rebel Robert Stanley challenging Bobby Yela for the Mid-Atlantic Heritage Championship.

"Recently in Grundy, Virginia, at one of our shows, Tony Ray had an amazing, awesome match with the American Pro Wrestling League champion Jeff Paul. He came very close to winning the" heavyweight "championship and so the committee has decided to give him another opportunity for the championship, so he gets to challenge for the championship at the main event on Sunday," he said.

Rutter estimates about 150 people attended the last show NICW held in Stuart.

(See Wrestling p. 11)

### Annual Bushels & Barrels Festival set for June 20–21

#### By Taylor Boyd

The 11th annual Bushels & Barrels Local Food, Wine & Beer Festival will take place Friday, June 20, and Saturday, June 21, at the Reynolds Homestead.

The event is a partnership between the Homestead and One Family Productions.

Kristin Hylton, Homestead communications and community programming specialist, said the weekend kicks off Friday evening with a farm-to-table dinner catered by Pickle & Ash and sponsored by Clark Gas & Oil.

"We usually have about 75 people that attend that. It sells out almost every year. It's just a really beautiful evening," she said.

Live music for the three-course meal will be provided by Jamie Woodall & Friends. Beer and wine will be available for purchase.

On Saturday, the main event runs from 4 to 10 p.m. and will feature four bands: Jon Tyler Wiley & His Virginia Choir, TC Carter Band, City

Dirt Band, and Griffin. 'We will have our beer trucks set up. Usually, we have about 14 to 20 beers on tap at any one

given time," Hylton said.

Daring Wine Company, Childress Vineyards, and several local breweries will also be on site. Food trucks from Pickle & Ash, Bootleg BBQ,

and Sweet Surrender Ice Cream Co. will offer a variety of food options. "It's just a one-day, couple-of-hour event, but it's very family-friendly and it's here at the Reynolds Homestead, so it's a beautiful proper-

ty," she said. For more information, visit www.onefamilyproductions.org.

### Landmark Center to host Men's Heart Health Luncheon June 19

June is National Men's Health Month, and to call attention to the need for men (and women) to focus more awareness on heart health through diet, The Landmark Center in Stuart is pleased to host Registered Dietitian Nutritionist (RDN) Samantha Turner for a heart healthy Lunch and Learn. Make plans to attend on Thursday, June 19 at 12:30 p.m.

Nutrition Habits for Heart Health is the subject of Turner's presentation, and the public is invited to attend this free workshop and heart healthy luncheon.

Samantha is the owner of Oaka native of southwest Virginia special diets for residents daily.



who grew up on Southern cuisine.

"I personally believe that no one should have to give up the foods they love eating to improve their health," said Turner. With ten years' experience in the field, she brings a passion for translating complex nutrition science into practical, actionable advice for the public.

To register for the free event, call The Landmark Center at 276-694-3050. Though the program celebrates Men's Health Month, all are welcome to attend and enjoy a heart-healthy luncheon. Tours of The Landmark will be available to anyone interested after the program.

### Patrick County Public Schools named National Beta District of Distinction

12). Patrick County throughout Public Schools is one County's schools." of only 78 districts to tionwide.

lies, Patrick County recognition, Public Schools has flourished since the district's initial Beta charter. This national award speaks highly of Patrick County Public Schools' commitment to academic excellence, leadership development, and service involvement, and illustrates its dedication to preparing students for college, and career readiness. The students in the district understand the importance of these qualities and exemplify the Beta motto, Let Us Lead by Serving Others.

recipients Award received a National Beta District of Distinction award to display proudly at their district office. In addition, National Beta District of Distinction principals received a plaque to display at their school.

"Our selection as a National Beta District of Distinction is a reflection of the outstanding collaboration between our students, educators, club sponsors, principals, and families,' said Jason Wood, Superintendent of Patrick County Public

This award is given hand in hand. Na- Each

The ceptional efforts of dents who live out the meaningful service." deserving Beta stu- Beta motto: Let Us dents, sponsors, ed- Lead by Serving Oth- tion about National ucators, and fami- ers. As part of this Beta, visit betaclub.

National Beta is Schools. "It is a tes- County Public Schools proud to announce tament to the culture will receive a Nation-Patrick County Pub- of excellence we strive al Beta District of lic Schools as a 2024- to foster, where lead- Distinction award to 2025 National Dis- ership, service, and be displayed proudly trict of Distinction. academic success go at the district office. participating to those deserving tional Beta's mission school principal will districts that offer to promote the ideals also receive a com-National Beta in all of academic achieve- memorative plaque. schools in their dis- ment, character, ser- "We are incredibly trict, and that induct vice, and leadership proud of our students qualifying students in aligns deeply with and staff for earning all eligible grades (4- the values upheld this national honor, Patrick Wood added. award affirms our recognition commitment to prereceive this award na- highlights the efforts paring students for of dedicated staff and the future—college, Through the ex- the exceptional stu- careers, and lives of

For more informa-

### Portion of roads to be closed to through traffic on June 23

Portions of roads to be closed to be closed to traffic 1.00 mile from through traffic on June 23

Beginning Monday, June 23, Virginia 777 (American Legion Road) will be closed to through traffic from 0.01 mile south of U.S.58 (Jeb Stuart Highway) to 0.35 mile north of (Cedar View Lane) to perform a pipe replacement.

Virginia 694 (Dogwood Road) will signs.

Virginia 868 (Scenic Road) and 1.45 miles from Virginia 653 (Santa Claus Lane) for a bridge repair over Spoon Creek.

Weather permitting, both closures are expected to remain in place for about four weeks.

Drivers can detour around the Also on June 23, a portion of closure by following directional

FOR MORE, VISIT THE ENTERPRISE AT WWW.THEENTERPRISE.NET



### Pets of the Week



This sweet tan boy, a Bassett type mix, was found on Lackey Road in Woolwine. It looks like he has had a rough life and would love to be a cherished pet. We hope he will be rescued by a

compassionate person. Nala is a white Shepwith children and other dogs. She would be a wonderful pet for a lov-

ing family. Free spay/neuter and rabies vaccinations. Call the Patrick County Public Animal Shelter at



(276) 694-6259, visit the shelter or their Facebook page, to find information about these and other available pets in need of a forever home. Adoption fees are \$10 and include spay/neuter and rabies vaccination.

The Blue Ridge Anherd mix. She is about 1 imal Welfare League year old. She gets along provides pet food assistance. Visit its website www.blueridgeawl. org and fill out the spay/ neuter assistance form. It is always in need of pet food donations. Contact blueridgeawl@ gmail.com for details.



### 1500 Kings Mtn Rd. OPPIS Memorial Services Martinsville, VA, 276-638-2778 Visit our website for pricing: www.norrismemorialservices.com JOHNSON

### Local Eagle Scout, Hunter Heath builds Flag and Veterans Memorial

Hunter Heath of Boy and Honor of All Amergraduate of Patrick County High School and Veterans Memorial. Along with the concrete pad adorned with flags and landscaped, is the words "In Memory

Scout Troop 69 in Pat- ican Veterans" at the rick Springs and recent top and "God, Duty, Honor, Country" below.

Hunter has several our veterans get hon-

A special thank you goes out to numerous businesses, Troop 69 leaders and scouts; family and friends for Class of 2025, took the family members and their generous assislead and completed his friends' families who tance to the project. Eagle Scout Project by have served in the mil- Hunter is the son of constructing a Flag itary. "I don't think Randy and Sandra Heath. Hunter recentored enough for their ly had his Eagle Scout sacrifice and for what Court of Honor on June they have done for our 1, recognizing and cela stone engraved with country overall," Heath ebrating his achieve-

### Dogs

(cont. from page 1)





Five non-profit animal rescue organizations, the Patrick County Sheriff's Office, and Animal Shelter officials, worked to remove the dogs on June 12. (Photos from Dogs Deserve Better Blue Ridge on Facebook)

did talk to a neighbor who told me that the" owner wasn't at home, he said.

Gilbert said he observed as much of the property as he could without the property owner being

"I saw that there were some dogs that were in small spaces. Generally, as far as the health of the dogs, the ones I observed looked healthy, but the conditions that some of them were in looked to be too small for their sizes," he said.

Because of the total number of dogs, Gilbert spent the next few days contacting rescue and other organizations.

"At first, I did not receive much help from these organizations until Wednesday, when they started telling me they were going to come here and were willing to help recover these dogs and take them off the property," he said.

Because the animal shelter couldn't handle the influx of 45 to 50 dogs in addition to the other animals it receives routinely, O'Connell said getting other organizations involved was essential.

"We couldn't have done it without their assistance. I think it was five in all, and they came from Virginia Beach, Lexington, Richmond, Charlottesville, and Fredericksburg. The majority of them stayed in Floyd at Hotel Floyd, and then the one from Richmond drove in Thursday morning and they met up here at the sheriff's office," he said.

O'Connell added the animal shelter was shut down for the first half of Thursday so its workers could assist in obtaining the dogs.

An estimated 45 to 50 dogs were removed from the property.

"The majority of these went to various parts in Virginia with the intention of rehoming them. That was the intention," he said. SFC Virginia took in 15 dogs, Old Dominion Humane Society took in 13, Augusta Dog Adoptions took in six, Dogs Deserve Blue Ridge took in four, Sanctuary Rescue took in three, and the local animal shelter took in five.

O'Connell estimated two or three feral dogs are still running loose, with one captured Monday, June 16. The animal shelter will take in the dogs that are still at large.

After a review with the commonwealth's attorney, Sheriff Dan Smith said charges are anticipated.

Blue Ridge Animal Rescue League (BRAWL) President Dana Jones said it's an unfortunate situation, as the photos shared by the rescue organizations involved showed the animals in deplorable conditions.

"Their (rescue) videos certainly corroborated what we've seen from the individual. I think 'we're disappointed' is to put it mildly because" of a similar situation in 2011. "So this is something



Several rescue agencies traveled to Patrick County to help. Many spent the night in adjacent Floyd County.





Rescuers were tired, but pleased to have removed the dogs from their housing conditions.

that is a repeat offense," she said.

With animal shelters and rescues at capacity and stretched thin, Jones said having the five rescue agencies travel to the county and coordinate to get the animals out of the situation speaks volumes about them and how much they

Jones also encouraged anyone who encounters similar situations to report it.

"We need to keep reporting" similar or suspected cases, she said. "We may feel like nothing's being done, but we still need to stay on it and keep making those calls to the sheriff's office and keep it on their radar."

### Owner

(cont. from page 1)

adopted out myself, so I had been working on that," she said.

pulled from shelters, while others were likely dropped off on Squirrel Creek Road and then made their way to her house. Once, she said, a crate with a puppy was left on her front porch.

"A lot of those were small puppies though. The younger dogs ... they didn't take up quite as much space. Everybody, they get outside time and loose. They're not up all the time," she said.

The dogs were up when the rescues arrived "because we didn't need everybody under our feet" to make the process go faster, Haynes said, adding that she was allowed to keep three dogs.

She said she started the dog rescue, Save A and looked bad.

was the animals that I actually got placed and Mutt Kennel, because she wanted to do something to help.

"It was nothing with bad intentions at all. Haynes said some of her 45 dogs were I mean my heart's always been in the right place, it's just been a little bit overwhelming since I got sick and the issue with my health and stuff," she said, adding that she has been diagnosed with cancer.

Haynes has been reported for animal issues before, she said.

"That's normally because somebody had maybe reported something that they didn't understand, and they always came out and checked and everything. But that wasn't very much as far as the checking in, but I undershe said.

stand if somebody called, they had to check," Haynes added this incident was ill-timed

"I mean my grass is grown up and junk everywhere, but as far as I know high grass and junk stored on your property is not against the law, but I'll own up to whatever. But my heart's always been in the right place, I was just overwhelmed," she said.

Haynes expects to face charges due to the incident, and said she doesn't plan to rescue more animals in the future.

"Everybody got what they wanted. My intentions was never in a bad spot, I mean it was always to help. I was overwhelmed and nobody helped me," she said. "I mean dealing with this with the animals and stuff was bad enough, but having to deal with the other issues that these people have caused and harassing me and wishing me dead and stuff like thatthat's tough. I don't ever want to have to deal with anything like that again."

Thank You for reading The Enterprise

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### **VIEWPOINTS**

### Juneteenth

Thursday, June 19th marks America's celebration of Juneteenth.

The national holiday is meant to commemorate the end of slavery in the United States.

Interestingly, this date does not signify the official nationwide end to slavery.

Slavery was a fairly from the Union. common practice, even in the North, as the Virginia, nial period to its independence.

Pennsylvania.

Equal Justice Initiative (website), even af-Trade in 1807, traders Massachusetts ficking Africans.

ment which advocat- Virginia as a state. ed for the freedom of North, prominent ab-William Lloyd Garrison, gained many supporters, mostly in the North.

Debate over slavery mitted new states. The admission of "free" "slave" states and states complicated legtional unity.

President Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation.

sons held as slaves" in states that were in United States. "rebellion against the

The nize Lincoln's order.

In addition, Proclamation did not veston. apply to border states which had not seceded tion era continued, the



# Griffith

Representative

Kentucky, West Maryland, United States transi- Delaware and Washtioned from its colo- ington, D.C., were all slaveholding areas, but they did not secede In fact, full eman- from the Union. Accipation would not be cordingly, the slaves granted until 1827 in in those areas were New York and 1847 in not freed as a result of the Emancipation According to the Proclamation.

Therefore, slavery was still practiced tional holiday, Juneter Congress abolished in both the Union the Atlantic Slave and the Confederacy during the Civil War.

West Virginia sepand other states con- arated from the Comtinued activities traf- monwealth of Virginia during the Civil War. In the first half of On June 20, 1863, the the nineteenth centu- U.S. Congress formalry, the abolition move- ly recognized West

After General Robslaves spread. In the ert E. Lee's surrender at Appomattox Courtolitionists, like Fred- house in April 1865, erick Douglass and others in the South followed suit in laying down their arms.

Accordingly, path to freedom could commence and/or conintensified in the halls tinue for many slaves. of Congress as the Juneteenth focuses on country grew and ad- those in Galveston, Texas.

Galveston's slave community was un-Lincoln's aware of islative efforts and na- Emancipation Proclamation. On June 19, During the Ameri- 1865, Union troops can Civil War on New arrived in Galveston, Year's Day of 1863, Texas, where they no-Abraham tified the local slave population that they were free.

Proclamation ress had to be made to ognize the importance declared "all per- fully destroy the insti- of this day. tution of slavery in the I appreciate

The U.S. Constitu-United States" were tion amendment that abolished slavery, the Proclamation Thirteenth Amendcould not be enforced ment, was ratified by at that time, as the the States in 1865, South did not recog- but not until December, well after Union the Troops arrived in Gal-

As the Reconstruc-

## Morgan

Fourteenth and Fifteenth amendments soon followed to expand rights to slaves. Despite these sig-

nificant milestones, Juneteenth always resonated within the American African community as the major date to celebrate their freedom.

For many years even before its birth as a nateenth celebrations were commonplace in many African American communities.

Of those to launch such celebrations in Southwest Virginia, I remember my friend and former colleague in the Virginia House of Delegates, Onzlee Ware.

The two of us were often on opposite sides of legislative efforts. We differed in policy ideas and beliefs.

As a result of knowthe ing each other while practicing law in the Roanoke Valley, Delegate Ware and I became friends. We were not afraid to work across the aisle to get things done for the people we represented in the Roanoke Valley.

Accordingly, Delegate Ware, the first Black legislator from the Western part of Virginia, invited me to a Juneteenth celebration that he organized.

Because of his invi-However, more prog-tation, I began to rec-

gate Ware for the invitation and the opportunity to spend time with the community that spread awareness about Juneteenth.

While Delegate Ware has since passed away, my memories of him and his leadership in making me and many others in Southwest Virginia aware of the importance of Juneteenth will always remain.

Folks in the Ninth District commemorating Juneteenth include the Fayette Area Historical Initiative in Martinsville. I visited them last year during their Juneteenth celebration.

There will be many other such celebrations in Southwest Virginia this year.

To everyone in the Ninth District, matter your heritage, I hope on this Juneteenth you will reflect on the value of freedom.

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 comments.

### Letters to the Editor

#### We're Out Of Time

An old maxim states that the first step in solving a problem is to admit there is a problem. The conservative wing of the Republican Party has done that. The rest of that party and the Democrats either deny there is a problem, care only about their own prosperity, or don't want to do the hard work required to solve the problem. There are some legislators whose Marxist philosophy demands that they impede solutions.

A trillion dollars is one million million dollars. The national debt is at least \$37 trillion. Only \$150 billion has been targeted for elimination. The problem is equivalent to finding \$15,000 while taking on a debt of \$3.7 million. It would normally take a long time to pay off the debt. But because our spending is about 125% of our GDP, even more time cannot decrease the national debt. The common solution of raising taxes won't work because that hidden tax known as inflation has raised the official tax rates by at least 20% in the last four years. Over several decades, both major political parties have simply spent more money than taxes have been received. Presidents have signed off on bills that they knew would increase the national debt. The Big. Beautiful Bill will not solve this

We the people have been complicit. We've appealed to government to deliver benefits that are beyond the scope of government. We go to

government to solve problems we should handle ourselves. We allow politicians to promise benefits without asking how money for the benefits will be raised. We have passed the debt onto our children and grandchildren. We have not admitted that our country is broke. We have ignored economic history.

Absent appropriate, timely action, what will probably happen is hyperinflation followed by a currency collapse, and then a deep recession. The world's middle classes will be wiped out. Crime and poverty will be on a scale never seen before. The only way left to avoid this massive catastrophe is to make small sacrifices now.

Members of the House and Senate should review the national budget line-by-line, prioritize expenditures, and slash expenditures until the budget is less than the projected GDP. We are past the point of not having to slash Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid benefits. Courage and real debate will be required. Sacrifices are unavoidable. The sale of federal assets, including federal lands, should also be considered. Finally, the President should not sign off on any bills which require spending in total that exceeds projected GDP. He and the Congress should not approve Continuing Resolutions that do not decrease the national debt limit. We're out of time.

Joe Cadrin,

### Congressional staff to visit in June

Stuart on June 25.

\*Martinsville: 10 - 11:30 a.m., City Hall, Room 208, 55 W. Church St., Martinsville.

\*Patrick County: 12:30 - 2 questions.

Congressman Morgan Grif- p.m., Patrick County Adminfith's Ninth District staff will istration Building, Conference be available in Martinsville and Room, 106 Rucker Street, Stu-

> Call the Christiansburg Office at 540-381-5671 or the Abingdon Office at 276-525-1405 with any

### Woody to be featured speaker at historical museum

Patrick County Historical Society & Museum will host a talk by local author Beverly Belcher Woody at 2:30 p.m. on Sunday, June 22, at the museum in Stuart. Woody writes a popular weekly column on local history and genealogy in the Enterprise in Stuart, and last summer, she published her first book based on those columns. It was a "best seller" locally, and she continues to write and work on "Part Two," which will follow "Patrick County Pioneers: Part One."

Woody was born and raised in the Big A community of Patrick County. She grew up with a passion for history, conducting her first interview with someone when she was only ten years old. Upon graduation from Patrick County High School, Woody spent the next seventeen years working in local textile mills. When the factories closed, she earned an associate's degree in paralegal studies from Patrick Henry Community College and worked for local district and circuit courts as a deputy clerk for

the next fifteen years. While working full-time for the court system, Woody earned her bachelor's degree from Old Dominion University, took master's courses from Averett and Liberty University, and completed her master's in education at Regent University. Thus, at the age of 50, she made a dramatic career change, leaving the court system to become a teacher. Now, Woody teaches United States History to sixth graders at Martinsville Middle School and continues writing her local history column, "Patrick Pioneers," for Patrick



Beverly Belcher Woody will be the Patrick County Historical Society & Museum's featured speaker at 2:30 p.m. on Sunday, June 22, in the museum in Stuart.

County's oldest newspaper, The Enterprise.

In addition to her research and writing, Woody serves as Regent of the Patrick Henry National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution and is on the Board of Directors of both the Patrick County Historical Society & Museum and the Martinsville-Henry County

Heritage Museum. She was named "Teacher of the Year" in 2023 by the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW).

Beverly and her husband Mark live in the Snow Creek section of Franklin County, Virginia.

The program featuring Woody is free and open to the public. Light refreshments will follow her talk. Books should also be available for anyone who would like one. Call the museum at (276) 694-

2840 or email pcvahistory@gmail. com for more information.

#### 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 style. Postmaster: send address changes to The Enterprise, P.O. Box 348, Stuart, VA 24171-0348. Subscription Rates: \$32

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FIND US ON FACEBOOK

### **Patrick Pioneers**

Helen and Elva Boyd

By Beverly Belcher Woody

This week marks the 89th anniver-Elva Boyd, two beloved sisters from Patrick County who were also dedicated schoolteachers. Both girls had furthered their education as teenagers by attending Central Academy School at the foot of Lover's Leap Mountain. Helen taught at Rye Cove School, while Elva taught at Free Union.

Helen Myrtis Boyd, the eldest child of Daniel Thomas "Tom" Boyd and Nancy Avie Boyd, was born in 1909. Tom Boyd was the son of Pleasant Green Boyd and Sarah Jane Knowles, and his wife Nancy was the daughter of James Andrew "Jim" Boyd and Sarah Susan Jones, all of Meadows of

The couple's second daughter, Amy Elva Boyd, was born the following year, and they would later have a total of ten children: Ruby Marie in 1912, Edith Jane in 1913, Larry Saul in 1915, Jeannette Evelyn in 1917, Murry Lee in 1919, Alfred Nelson in 1921, Major Walter in 1924, and Eula Ethylene in 1926.

On May 30, 1936, the Martinsville Bulletin reported the heartbreaking news of Helen's death at the age of 27. She was killed instantly when the Ford Roadster in which she was riding with her father and younger sister overturned on the J.E.B. Stuart Highway near Lover's Leap. Dr. W.C. Akers, who attended to the victims, confirmed that Helen died from a fractured skull and a broken neck.

State patrolmen P.C. Nowlin of Martinsville and Jake Aaron of Galax were in the area directing traffic for the second annual Dickey Wood Reunion at Lover's Leap when they investigated the accident. They reported that Mr. Boyd had veered off the

road on a curve about a mile beyond Lover's Leap. In attempting to correct his course, he overcompensated, which sary of the tragic deaths of Helen and led to a blowout and caused the car to flip over completely. The car, which was badly damaged, came to a stop on its wheels. Helen and Elva's nephew, Gary Lankford, confirmed that the accident occurred in the sharp curve near the entrance to the old Circle M

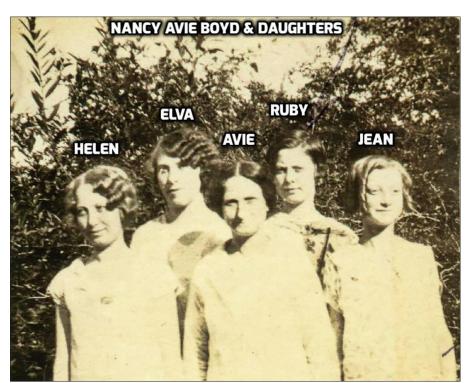
> Helen and her sister Elva were on their way to Stuart to attend an extension course as part of their continued teacher training when the accident oc-

> Helen's funeral was held on Sunday, May 31, 1936, with Rev. J.M. McNair, Rev. A.S. Estall, and Rev. Arthur Harris conducting the services. She was laid to rest in the Leatha Moore Boyd Cemetery on Bent Road in Meadows of

> On June 1, 1936, the Martinsville Bulletin reported that Elva had passed away early that morning. Initially, it had been thought that her injuries were minor, but further examination revealed that she had suffered a broken back and was paralyzed from the waist down. Dr. Akers believed the spinal cord had been severed, with a bone pressing against her lower neck or upper shoulder.

> Elva's funeral was held on Tuesday, June 2, 1936, with Rev. McNair, Rev. Estall, and Rev. Gibbs officiating. Sadly, Mr. Boyd was unable to attend the services for either of his daughters as he was hospitalized, suffering from shock, numerous cuts, and bruises.

> Thank you so much to Gary Lankford for sharing photographs and information for the story. For any questions, comments, or story ideas, please feel free to reach out to Woody at rockcastlecreek1@gmail.com or (276) 692-









### **Social Security Matters**

visor at the AMAC Foundation, the non-profit arm of the Association of Mature American Citizens

Ask Rusty - Can My Husband Work Part Time and Collect Social Security?

Dear Rusty: I am writing to you on behalf of my husband. His intentions are to go part time as of January 1, 2026, working 30 hours a week and take Social Security benefits as supplemental income. How can we determine what his Social Security benefit would be with him still working part time? He will be 63 and 7 months old next January and has not yet applied for benefits. We look forward to hearing from someone very soon. Signed: Anxious for Information

Dear Anxious: If he claims Social Security at age 63 and 7 months, your husband's benefit will be about 78% of what it would be if he waited until age 67 to claim. And, since your husband will not yet have reached his SS full retirement age (FRA), he will be subject to Social Security's Annual Earning Test (AET), which limits how much he can earn while working and collecting early Social Security retirement benefits. The amount he can earn without paying a penalty changes yearly but, for reference, the earnings limit for 2025 is \$23,400 per year. If his work earnings exceed the annual limit, Social Security will take away some of his benefits. Using the 2025 limit as an example, if your husband's annual 2025 earnings were \$40,000, then he would

monthly benefits for enough months to recover what he owes for exceeding the earnings limit (how many months they withhold would be determined by his monthly SS benefit amount).

FYI, the earnings test lasts until your husband reaches his full retirement age (his FRA is age 67), but in the year he attains his FRA the penalty for exceeding the limit is less - \$1 for every \$3 over the limit - and the limit is much higher. The annual earnings test no longer applies once your husband reaches his FRA.

When your husband applies for his SS retirement benefit, Social Security will ask about his work plans and how much he expects to earn each year. Based upon that information, if he expects to exceed the annual limit they will pay his benefits for some months of the year (depending on his projected earnings) and withhold his benefits for the remaining months. They will also monitor his annual earnings as reported to the IRS and make any appropriate benefit adjustment afterwards.

If SS benefits are withheld because your husband exceeded the annual earnings limit, when he reaches his full retirement age (67), Social Security will give him time-credit for all months that benefits were withheld. Essentially, they will advance his actual claim date by the number of months benefits were withheld, which will make his monthly benefit higher at his FRA. The higher amount he receives owe about \$8,300 (half of the amount he exceeded after reaching his FRA will help him recover some

By Russell Gloor, National Social Security Ad- the limit by). Social Security would withhold his of the money withheld as a result of exceeding the

earnings limit before his FRA. Please note that it is always best to inform Social Security up front if your husband plans to work and earn (even part time) prior to reaching his FRA. The IRS will provide the SSA with your husband's earnings information, and SSA will (if his projected earnings weren't disclosed when he applied) issue an Overpayment Notice if he earns more than allowed. He will then be required to repay SS everything owed, or have his benefits withheld until So-

cial Security recovers what he owes. One final point: by claiming his benefits in January 2026, your husband's monthly amount will be reduced by about 22% (from the amount he would get at his FRA of 67). Claiming early (before FRA) always results in a benefit reduction, whereas waiting longer than FRA to claim always results in a higher monthly amount (maximum benefit is reached at age 70).

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

### Activated charcoal in the 21st Century: How it works and how it's used

Once you realize the benefits of activated charcoal, you will want to keep a 50-pound supply in your home (like me). As early as 1800 AD, scientists were demonstrating the effectiveness of charcoal in the prevention of poisoning in humans and animals.

The following instance may seem like a special case, but it's a personal one to me and reminds us all that charcoal can actually save a life. It was a relaxing Sunday evening: the sun had set and our family had been planning the following day's activities. Our dog had been playing outside for a while, and we didn't notice anything irregular until I decided to step outside later that evening and I saw her lying on the grass in extreme pain. Her paw was swollen to twice its size. I looked at her paw to find the cause and recognized a puncture that was oozing fluid. It was a rattlesnake bite. Unless treated immediately, these types of venomous bites lead to death. There was no way to reach a vet in time so we had to improvise and move fast. Charcoal intervention

We gave our dog a dose of pain meds and applied activated charcoal directly to the wound, and also along with her paw and leg leading up to her shoulder. Once having applied powder charcoal, we then gave her charcoal mixed with water to drink. At that point, the rattlesnake poison was traveling rapidly up her leg and to her neck. We thought we were too flushed the venom from her body.

late, but we continued the charcoal treatment anyway. To our amazement, the charcoal drew the powerful poison out of her body and the liquid charcoal Our little dog a week later was jumping and play-

ing like she'd never been bitten. I believe it was be-

cause of the charcoal treatment. Usually, only an-

ti-venom can reverse the result of a rattlesnake bite,

but this situation proved otherwise. Research has shown the effectiveness of charcoal for home-use. After realizing just how powerful charcoal is, I went out and got myself the aforementioned 50-pounder of charcoal powder, just in case.

#### Activated charcoal - what is it?

Activated charcoal is a natural substance that can help remove toxins and chemicals from the skin and can prevent the body from absorbing unwanted chemicals. It's a fine, black powder typically made from coconut husks, bamboo, wood, willow peat, and many other naturally occurring substances. These carbon-rich materials are burned at high temperatures to obtain charcoal, which is a pure form of carbon. This pure form of carbon is passed through chemical processes, which activate the charcoal, and then treated with oxygen, steam, and carbon dioxide, which removes any impurities.

The final product is a fine black porous grain. The granules have many holes and crevices, which increase the surface area and creates ample space for surface binding and adsorption. The adsorbent nature of charcoal traps toxins and chemical molecules. The charcoal granules have a negative electrical charge that pulls the positively charged toxins and gases into the molecules of activated charcoal. This prevents the toxins from being absorbed into the bloodstream.

Another important fact is that the activated charcoal is not absorbed by the body. Instead, it is excret-

ed from the body along with the adsorbed toxins on its surface, just like the rattlesnake venom that left my dog's body Today's uses

wider recognition in the past fifty years. Now, activated charcoal is commonly used to prevent toxins from entering the systemic circulation.

The most frequent use is to treat drug overdose. The time of charcoal ingestion after overdosing can mean life or death. In poisoning cases, it has to be applied speedily from about one to two hours after exposure to the poisonous substance. Charcoal also promotes kidney function by absorbing a large number of impurities. Another major benefit of charcoal is its ability to bind to cholesterol and bile acids. This is beneficial in the adsorption of cholesterol.

Finally, the common everyday uses are teeth whitening, reduction of gas and bloating, and skin treatment. Now, there is even a ready-made hydrogel charcoal patch on the market that eliminates the mess and time it takes to make a charcoal poultice and works to naturally relieve inflammation, chronic pain, and soreness. Activated charcoal truly seems to be reaching its fullest potential in the modern world. The health benefits are important to know so that we can know when and how to utilize this tool.

How to use activated charcoal for an insect bite, sting, or rash Mix 3 tablespoons of ground flaxseed (or corn-

- starch) with 3 tablespoons of charcoal powder.
- Slowly add 2/3 cup of water to the mixture and mix
  - Apply the mixture to the affected area.
- Repeat every half an hour at least 1-3 times

until the itching or rash is completely gone. (Submitted by Betty Dean. Written by Raeann Leal, MPH. Used by permission from www.lifeand-

health.org. Courtesy of LifeSpring – Resources for

Hope and Healing Stuart, VA)

Even though the adsorptive qualities of charcoal

**6** - Wednesday, June 18, 2025

### DAR Youth Leadership Awards presented

The Colonel Abram Penn Chapter (NSDAR) recognized youngsters at various schools with leadership awards. Recipients included:



Patrick County High School proudly recognized senior Daryl Lynn Combs as the recipient of the prestigious Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) Citizenship Award during the Senior Scholarship Awards Ceremony on May 8. Presented by the Colonel Abram Penn Chapter NSDAR, this honor recognizes students who demonstrate outstanding honor, service, courage, leadership, and patriotism. Daryl Lynn received a DAR medal, certificate, engraved Jefferson Cup, and a \$100 check in recognition of her achievements. She has maintained a GPA above 4.0 and earned accolades including the William and Mary Leadership Award and selection as a Junior Marshall. She has served as class president, Senior Beta Club officer, and is an accomplished public speaker. Her commitment to service includes extensive community involvement and an internship with the Patrick County Commonwealth Attorney's Office, reinforcing her plans to pursue a career in law. Patrick County High School congratulates Daryl Lynn on this well-deserved honor and thanks her for her inspiring contributions to the school and community.



Allysa Jordan is a rising 8th grader from Meadows of Dan Elementary. Allysa displays great moral character in her relationships with her teachers, staff, and peers. Allysa demonstrates responsibility by her willingness to help others. Allysa's energy and light are contagious. She has not always had the easiest path in life, but shows up every day with a smile on her face. She is a leader among her peers and a phenomenal role model to younger students. Allysa is a talented volleyball player who plays for the Patrick County Middle School team and Southside travel. She is an honor roll student and is the president of the Junior Beta Club. She is the daughter of Charisse Hall and Wesley Jordan.



Chloe Belle Lawson received the DAR (Daughters of the American Revolution) Youth Leadership Award on May 20. Teachers and staff select recipients that they feel exemplify the qualities of honor, service, courage, leadership, and patriotism. Chloe is from Claudville, and the daughter of DJ & Miranda Lawson. Chloe enjoys these activities which include competition dance as well as cheerleading.



During Woolwine Elementary School's promotion celebration, Nathan Riley Shuff was presented with the Colonel Abram Penn Chapter NSDAR Good Citizenship Award. Nathan shows the qualities of leadership, trustworthiness, service, and patriotism. He also received the Academic Award and the President's Education Award. He was a member of the PCHS Outdoor Track Team and is looking forward to running cross country next year. He also plans to try out for the eighth grade basketball team. Nathan's hobbies include riding bikes, hunting, fishing, and archery. He enjoys participating in 5k races. He plays the piano and organ at Buffalo Ridge Pentecostal Holiness Church each week. Nathan's future plans are to join the United States Air Force and become a Pararescue Jumper. Nathan is the son of Doug and Emily Shuff.



This year's Hardin Reynolds Memorial School recipient of the DAR (Daughters of the American Revolution) Youth Citizen Award is Novie Rutledge. This award recognizes and rewards individuals who possess the qualities of dependability, service, leadership, and patriotism in their homes, schools, and communities. Born in North Carolina. She enjoys playing soccer and reading. She would like to pursue something in Science when she attends college. Novie is an extraordinary student who works diligently and puts forth her best effort in all she does, reflecting dependability and leading by example.



Adilynn Sidney Jones is the DAR Youth Citizenship Award winner for Stuart Elementary School. Adilynn is the daughter of Candice Ingle and Tony and Brandy Jones. Adilynn enjoys painting and being outdoors surrounded by nature. She plays basketball, is a member of Junior Beta, and was 4-H Vice-President for her class. When she graduates from high school, Adilynn wants to attend a four-year university and pursue a career in mental health counseling and therapy. She is pictured with Stuart Elementary School Principal Katie



### ---Red Bank club welcomes new members

The Red Bank Ruritans met Tuesday night and President Roger welcomed two new members, Melissa and Jonathan Grumbine.

Red Bank will be celebrating its 70th anniversary on June 14 from 12-4 pm. Come out and join the fun.

### **Author of Humble Roots** to lead worship in the Blue Ridge on June 22

Hannah Anderson, an author and Bible teacher who lives in the mountains near Roanoke, will preach at Mayberry and Bluemont Presbyterian Churches on Sunday, June 22.

Anderson's books include Humble Roots: How Humility Grounds and Nourishes Your Soul, Turning of Days: Lessons from Nature, Season, and Spirit, and the recently released, Heaven and Nature Sing. Her books blend her strong personal faith, her knowledge of nature, her love of family, and experiences in life as a homesteader along the Blue Ridge. Anderson is currently pursuing a Master of Divinity degree at Duke Divinity School with a concentration in art and theology. You can find more of her writing at https://sometimesalight.com.

Mayberry Presbyterian Church is three miles south of Meadows of Dan, just off the Blue Ridge Parkway (and just south of mile mark-1/4 mile north of Mayberry Trading Sunday.



Hannah Anderson

Post. The Mayberry congregation gathers for worship at 9 a.m., followed by a fellowship in the Community Building across the street.

Bluemont Presbyterian Church is located just north of mile post #192 (and just north of Willis Gap Road), and eight miles north of Fancy Gap. The Bluemont congregation worships at 10:30 a.m.

Each congregation welcomes er #180). The church backs up to guests and would love to have you the Parkway and faces Mayberry come and hear Hannah Anderson Church Road. The church is also a or to worship with them on any

Thank You for reading The Enterprise

## Crossing the Lines

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

#### Court rules in favor of Martinsville in sewer contract dispute with PSA

has ruled in favor of the City of Mardispute with the Henry County Public Service Authority (PSA), awarding the city more than \$7.4 million in damages and declaring the PSA liable for additional future costs.

The ruling, issued June 6 by Judge G. Carter Greer, states that the city is entitled to \$7,403,434 in compensatory damages — representing 47 percent of the cost to rehabilitate the Smith River Interceptor (SRI), a major sewer line. The court also found that the PSA will be responsible for its share of the cost to rehabilitate the Jones Creek Interceptor (JCI), based on the volume of its sewage that flows through that line. Work on the JCI has not yet been completed.

In addition to awarding damages, the court terminated the sewer seron whether the city is also entitled to to shared facilities.

A Martinsville Circuit Court judge prejudgment interest — additional

tory for the city, which argued that the PSA had breached the contract by refusing to pay its proportional share of capital improvement costs for the two interceptors, which carry wastewater from the PSA to Mar-

the city sought damages and a court declaration that the contract should be terminated. The PSA denied liability, arguing that the city had breached the agreement first and that it should not be held responsible for capital improvement expenses.

At the center of the dispute was language in the decades-old contract vice contract between the city and requiring both parties to share in the the PSA. However, it deferred ruling cost of future capital improvements

#### Rainey's latest horror novel draws inspiration from local areas

Horror author Stephen Mark Rainey signed copies of his latest book, "The House at Black Tooth Pond," during a recent event at Magnolia & Main Books in Ridgeway. The novel, released earlier this year, draws inspiration from locations in Henry County and Martinsville.

"It is set in an area that is loosely based on Martinsville, Henry County," Rainey said.

Two key settings in the book were directly influenced by local landmarks. One is a crumbling house the author and his brother discovered in the woods around 1990, near Everson

The pair were walking a dog in the evening when they stumbled upon an overgrown structure.

"That's an old house. It's just completely overgrown with a tree growing out of it," Rainey said. "I went And I thought that I've got to use this in a book."

The title's pond is also based on a real place—behind Martinsville High School.

compensation for the time that has tinsville in its long-running contract passed since the costs were incurred — until a hearing scheduled for July The ruling marks a significant vic-

tinsville's treatment plant. In a second amended complaint,



Stephen Mark Rainey signed copies of "The House at Black Tooth Pond" during an event at Magnolia & Main Books in Ridgeway. He is pictured with his wife, Kimberly Brugger.

our biology teacher said, 'We're gonna go down and take some water samples," he said. The pond had old stumps sticking out of the water, inspiring the name "Black Tooth Pond."

"I would call it sort of a combination back later and went exploring inside. haunted house, cosmic horror kind of tale-if you're at all familiar with things like H.P. Lovecraft."

The fictional town in the book is called Aiken Mill, located in a madeup Sylvan County, and follows two "I think when I was in 10th grade, brothers caught in a strange mystery.

#### Hall to step down as Martinsville prosecutor, endorses Flinn



Martinsville's Commonwealth's Attorney Andy Hall does not plan to seek reelection in the November election.

Martinsville Commonwealth's Attorney Andy Hall does not plan to seek reelection in the upcoming November election. Instead, Deputy Commonwealth's Attorney Patrick Flinn plans to seek the position.

Hall, who has served two terms in the role, said eight years is enough.

"I'm a big believer that an executive shouldn't stay in office but for so long. I think two terms is enough, and the fact that I had Patrick in the office and waiting in the wings I felt it was an ideal time to step down," he said.

When Hall first took the job, he served as former Commonwealth's Attorney Clay Gravely's chief deputy for four years and worked as an assistant deputy for about two years.

Gravely "was a politician, I wasn't," Hall said. "He of course resigned, and I took the position. I was worried because I didn't know anything about politics — I was a prosecutor, I was a trial attorney."

As an elected official, Hall said one must meet people and get to know them, and he believes that was the best part of the job.

"I think any leadership position must be predicated to dedication to service. And I'm going to say that because I think we lose sight of that. Any leadership position must be predicated on a desire to serve. If you don't have that you have no business being in elected office, none whatsoever," he said.

While Hall doesn't yet know what his next step will be, he said that as a Christian, he believes God will lead

"I believe the Holy Spirit will lead me exactly where I'm supposed to go. That's where my faith is," he said.

Hall said he plans to continue serving Martinsville in other ways, including on the Charter Review Committee.

"That's been outstanding. I've been blessed in that I've been able to do a couple of things other than the law in the past 10 years. I served briefly with the school board, and I'm serving now with the Carter Review Committee. It's been so refreshing learning things that I did not know before, just trying new things," he said.

#### Council extends YMCA property option as city weighs purchase



After proclaiming June as National Safety Month, first responders in attendance.

The Martinsville City Council has approved a 90-day extension on its option to purchase the current YMCA property on Starling Avenue, giving the city more time to consider acquiring the five-acre site as the organization prepares to relocate.

The extension, approved during the June 10 council meeting, cost the city an additional \$500. The property, formally listed as the Family YMCA Incorporated of Martinsville & Henry County, is located at 3 Starling Ave. in the city's historic Uptown District. It is listed for \$925,000.

The YMCA is in the process of building a new facility on the west end of Martinsville, with construction expected to be completed in 2027. Once the move is complete, the current building will be vacated. The city's option allows exclusive negotiation

rights during the extension period, and officials say the property's location presents an opportunity for future economic development.

The Virginia Museum of Natural History and other potential buyers have expressed interest in the site. According to city documents, Martinsville officials are seeking to determine "the most advantageous use for this facility" before making a final decision on a purchase.

The original 90-day option agreement cost the city \$1,000 and can be extended one more time.

Also, during the meeting, the council reviewed an overview of the city's Compensation Study. One key finding was that Martinsville lags behind peer localities in employee health benefits. The study is part of a broader effort to improve employee retention.

#### School survey includes staff feedback on safety, support, and improvements



The Henry County School Board held its first meeting of the summer.

Henry County Public Schools presented the results of its 2025 employee climate survey, offering a look at how instructional staff feel about safety, support, communication, and school culture. The survey, conducted from May 12 to May 16, revealed both positive takeaways and key areas of concern.

Of the 722 instructional employees invited to participate, 709 responded — a 98.2% response rate. Teachers and counselors made up 69% of respondents, with the remainder consisting of other instructional staff.

Overall, the responses showed staff generally feel safe and supported. Most said they feel a sense of belonging at their school, and 99.3% expressed confidence in their school's ability to handle emergencies.

About 48.4 percent agreed they feel comfortable speaking with their principal, while 30% strongly agreed.

"We've got some strong takeaways," said Superintendent Amy Blake-Lewis, highlighting that most staff believe employees work well together to create a safe, supportive environment. Additionally, 83.3 percent said staff actively encourage students to succeed.

In terms of resources, 64 percent strongly agreed they have adequate instructional space, and 86.9% said they have the supplies they need to do their job.

Concerns: decision-making, discipline, and cleanliness

Despite positive feedback, the survey also revealed concerns.

One key issue was decision-making. Just 55.1 percent of staff agreed they feel involved in decisions at the school level, while 27.1 percent either disagreed or strongly disagreed.

"That's something we're going to have to look at more seriously moving forward," Blake-Lewis said.

Cleanliness was another area of concern. Combining those who disagreed and strongly disagreed, 28.5 percent of staff said their school is not clean.







Hollywood Cinema beside Walmart

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# Rural Pathways Project enters new phase with continued P&HCC participation

Patrick & Henry Community College (P&HCC) is participating in Phase 2 of the Rural Guided Pathways Project, continuing the work it began in Phase 1. Colleges that are part of Rural Pathways work with each other — and with community partners in their regions — to implement evidence-based, institution-wide reforms grounded in the guided pathways framework. The project's rural focus and in-depth participation of community partners set it apart from other guided pathways efforts.

"Rural Guided Pathways has assisted our team in taking the next big step as we work to support our students," said P&HCC President Dr. Greg Hodges, adding, "We have embraced the Caring Campus model, putting language to some things we already do and working together as employee groups to add to those methods of student support to ensure that our students truly feel like PHamily on our campus."

Phase 2 of Rural Pathways builds on the incredible progress colleges made during Phase 1 of the project. Phase 1 included 16 colleges and ran from 2022 through 2024. Phase 2 includes 28 colleges, many of which are continuing the work they started in Phase 1, and will run from 2025 through 2027.

Participating colleges commit to: \*Designing and implementing a better student experience at their colleges.



Dr. Greg Hodges meets with community business leaders to discuss curricular needs as P&HCC plans for the coming academic year.

four-year institution with junior

\*Collaborating with key stakeholders to increase economic opportunity in their region and be partners in the implementation of a cross-sector approach to guided pathways.

Implementing evidence-based reforms that will address inequity and lead to improved educational and workforce outcomes.

Rural Pathways provides a deliberate venue for rural college practitioners to collaborate while they work to improve student outcomes. Historically, rural community college leaders have not had many

\*Ensuring that more students opportunities to problem-solve earn credentials and move on to around the student success and living-wage jobs or transfer to a completion issues that are particular to their culture, context, and capacity. They often struggle to apply strategies — even those that work well at urban and suburban institutions — in their rural con-

Rural Pathways gives rural colleges opportunities to work through challenging issues and collaborate with peer institutions, all in the context of a learning community that provides a broad range of supports.

also sets Rural Pathways apart. colleges. Throughout the three-year projtegral part of each college's team pathways.org.

and deeply embedded in pathways implementation. The value of involving external stakeholders in pathways work — and giving them specific roles and responsibilities is amplified in rural settings, where students' education, residents' economic mobility, and the regional economy are so closely intertwined.

"We are excited to have Patrick & Henry Community College continue its participation in Rural Pathways," says Gretchen Schmidt, senior fellow, National Center for Inquiry & Improvement (NCII). "Rural institutions have not had many opportunities to problem-solve around the student success and completion issues that are particular to their culture, context, and capacity. By being part of Rural Pathways, Patrick & Henry is demonstrating its commitment to making lasting changes that will improve student outcomes."

NCII provides the project leadership for Rural Pathways. A team of implementation coaches, leadership coaches, and subject matter experts join NCII in working with participating colleges and developing the project's curriculum. NCII also builds on longstanding partnerships with the Community College Research Center and the Aspen Institute College Excellence The role of community partners Program to support participating

For more information about Ruect, regional partners are an in- ral Pathways, visit ruralguided-

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### Student Briefs

Several local students were named to Dean's lists for the Spring 2025 semester.

#### James Madison University:

Heather Edwards of Stuart, who is majoring in Dietetics - BS.

Freedom Collins of Ararat, who is majoring in Health Sciences - BS.

#### **Radford University:**

Haley Gilley of Stuart, VA Anthony Jones of Stuart, VA Remi Miller of Stuart, VA Gabriela Henriquez of Stuart, VA Jasmine Hiatt of Fieldale, VA Whitley Manns of Spencer, VA Taylor Strothers of Meadows Dan, VA MaKayla Fix of Stuart, VA Samantha Harris of Woolwine, Cecilia Leon Cisneros of Stuart, VA Quentin Perkins of Stuart, VA Tobias Perkins of Stuart, VA Brianna Puckett of Stuart, VA Wesley Alexander of Stuart, VA Katherine Beckett of Stuart, VA Jessica Handy of Meadows Dan, VA Hailey Hazelwood of Stuart, VA Lorraine Melendez of Ararat, VA Audrey Young of Stuart, VA

Contessa Haas of Meadows Dan, VA Katherine Lindamood of Ararat, VA Caleb Morris of Stuart, VA Sadie Vernon of Stuart, VA

#### College of William & Mary

Kali Craig and Caroline Vernon, both of Stuart, were recently named to the Dean's List at the College of William & Mary.

#### Ararat resident graduates from JMU

Freedom Collins of Ararat graduated with a degree(s) in Health Sciences - BS from James Madison University during commencement exercises in May 2025.

Collins was among 4,575 students who received undergraduate and graduate degrees.

#### SCC announces Dean's List

Surry Community College announced Leam Bolt Cooper, of Ararat, was named to the Spring Semester 2025 Dean's List.

The Dean's List honors those students who achieve significant academic status in their classes. Students qualifying for the Dean's List must be enrolled for a minimum of 12 credit hours of college level coursework and maintain a  $3.5\,\mathrm{grade}$ point average for the semester with no final grade lower than a "C." Students on the Dean's List will also receive a congratulatory letter.

#### **Estate Auction** Saturday June 21, 2025-10 A.M. 147 Lee St., Collinsville, VA 24078



Directions: From US 220 Business in Collinsville, VA turn onto North Daniels Creek Rd., go to Lee Street on the left. Auction sign in yard at #147.

Real Estate: 3 Bedroom Home, 2 Bay Garage, Eat-in Kitchen, Laundry Room, Living Room, Central Air, Oil Heat, Partial Basement, Large Back Yard, Large Room Over Garage

Partial Listing: \* 24 foot Ladder \* 6 foot Ladder \* 4 foot Ladder \* 8 foot Pool Table / Ques / Balls \* Sentry Floor Safe \* Lea Bedroom Suite \* Disney Collector Pins \* Hepa Air Cleaner \* Electronic Games \* Pay Master \* Wet/Dry Vac \* Double Diesel Electric Set \* Jewelry Chest \* Massager \* Wing Back Chair \* Antique Record Player \* Old Radio \* 8 Drawer Dresser \* Reclining Couch \* 33 RPM Records \* Paper Shredder \* Type Writers \* DVD/VCR Player \* Computer Desk \* Gibson Washer \* GE Dryer \* County Music CDs \* Asst Kitchen Wares \* Frigidaire 3 door \* Tappan Range \* Eureka Vac \* Table Lamps \* Bar Stools \* 10 Standup Zipper Wardrobes of Women's Clothes \* Shelf & Hanger Rack \* Old Golf Clubs/Bag/Balls/Tees \* Bowling Ball / Bag \* Schwinn/Magna Bicycles \* Yard & Garden tools \* Flat Screen TVs \* Hoover Carpet Sweeper \* Guitar \* Radio Control Train \* Homelite Chain Saw \* Designer Wall Phone \* Child School Desk \* Quartz Heater \* Sleeping bags \* Yamaha Key Board \* Infrared Heater \* Vintage Lawn Mower \* and many more items.

Terms/Conditions: Everything sold "As Is". No Guarantees, No Warrantees. Personal Property Sold Absolute, Highest price gets it. 10% Buyers Premium – Real Estate sold subject to Confirmation. 5% Buyers Premium. 10% Earnest Money Deposit. Inspections as requirement of sale to be done prior to Auction. Call Office for details. Selling for estate of E.T. Hudson. Announcements day of Action

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### PATRICK PULPITS

### A Word of Encouragement

By Luke Moore,

High Point Baptist Church

The Book of Jude is a tough nut to crack. If you read this book without any context, you'll be utterly confused. If you read this book having studied the Bible your entire life, you'll likely still be confused. There are scholarly disagreements, textual variants, deep theological statements crammed into 25 verses, and even references to apocryphal texts - some of which we don't have access to anymore. Despite the potential for confusion and the enormous depth of this little book, there are some simple words of encouragement we can take away from it without getting too far in the weeds.

Jude addresses the book "to those who are called, beloved in God the Father and kept for Jesus Christ" (v. 1). If you are a follower of Jesus, the first encouragement Jude has for you is that you are called. The word "called" can be translated as "invited." Jesus Himself says in John 6:44. "No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him." The Father draws us, He selects us, appoints us, elects us, chooses us, and sets us apart for a relationship with Him through Jesus Christ. Be encouraged! You have been invited into the presence of the Holy God.

The second word of encouragement Jude gives is that followers of Jesus are "beloved in God the Father." How much does God love you? So much that "He sent His only begotten Son, that whosever believeth in Him shall not perish, but have everlasting life" (John 3:16). And what's more, Paul says in Romans 8:35-37 that nothing can separate us from that love once we have experienced it! So be encouraged! You have been invited into the presence of the Holy God where you will experience unconditional, eternal love.

God, you are "kept for Jesus Christ." The word "kept" here can mean preserved, guarded, or held close. Whatever synonym you insert, there is en-

wear hearing instruments themselves.

Cynthia M. Jones, AA, AS

couragement. You are preserved for Jesus Christ as a bride is preserved for her groom. You are guarded for Jesus Christ as a kingdom awaiting the king. You are held close for Jesus Christ as a child is protected, nurtured, and loved until they're ready to experience the world. So be encouraged! You have been invited into the presence of the Holy God where you will experience unconditional, eternal love and where you will be protected until the coming day when our King and Bridegroom returns.

Now, we've covered the first verse of this book. I certainly hope that you're already feeling a bit more encouraged. But Jude's address here isn't the only encouragement he has to offer. In verse 2, he offers a blessing upon his audience: "May mercy, peace, and love be multiplied to you." I pray this blessing over you, the reader. Being reminded of your calling, the love that the Father has for you, and His work in holding you close until heaven meets earth again - I pray that His mercy, His peace, and His love will be multiplied to you.

This encouragement is not just to make you feel better about yourself. Don't get a big head from Jude's words. There is a two-fold purpose for this encouragement. First, it is so that you will be able to "contend for the faith" against false teachers (v4-23). So as you read these words and receive the encouragement I offer through God's Word, let it do its work in preparing you for battle against the lies that are so pervasive in today's society. The lie that you're not enough. The lie that you are enough. The lie that you can live however you want because of God's grace. The lie that you cannot receive His forgiveness for the things you've done. Be encouraged and stand against these

Finally, this encouragement should Jude goes on to say that as a child of lead us to praise. Do me a favor and read the closing of Jude's letter in verses 24-25. Turn these verses into praise to your Heavenly Father who called you, loves you, and keeps you.

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#### BIBLE TRIVIA

 Is the book of Ezekiel (KJV) in the Old or New Testament or neither?

2. Who/what does "their eyes stand out with fatness" refer to in Psalms 73? Demons, Wicked rich, Serpents, Unholy

3. From 1 Kings 17, what widow's was the miraculously kept full of? Milk, Water, Oil, Light

4. Who reaped a crop a

hundred times the grain he sowed? Gideon, Isaac, Samson, Hanun

Whose daughter referred to 'Talitha' as by Jesus? Zeresh, Jairus, Jeremiah, Shelomith

6. From Acts 16, who sold purple cloth? Lydia, Zimri, Sisera, Hannah

ANSWERS: 1) Old, 2) Wicked rich, 3) Oil, 4) Isaac, 5) Jairus, 6) Lydia

#### **Skyline Pentecostal Holiness Church**

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"YOU'RE FREE TO GO"

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with extermi nation 23 Start of a

riddle 27 Difficult duty 28 Syrup source 29 "Is it —?"

("Are we on?") 30 Karmann

Volkswagen) 31 Riddle, part 2

35 Antipollution 36 Looks keenly

37 Preceding night 38 Ended a fast

39 Flower part 41 Hepburn of "Sabrina"

42 Town crier's

44 Exits quickly, informally 46 Seniors' gp.

48 Riddle, part 3 105 Neither Rep. 55 Process unit 58 Android rival 106 B&B, e.g. 59 On the briny

107 Computer printer brand 60 Tiny amount 108 Citi Field stat **61** Riddle, part 4 **67** Certain male 109 End of the riddle physique, informally 113 Kin of Kong

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118 Riddle's 72 Former Swedish car 74 Shiba -(dog breed) 75 Clever

77 Riddle, part 5 126 Two squared 80 Actress and singer Falana

128 Unearth. 81 Formerly 129 Sabers old-style 84 "Candyman"

director DaCosta 131 IRS digits 85 "Ah. OK" 86 Riddle, part 6 DOWN

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127 Shapiro of 24 Habited NPR sister 25 Rival of with "up FedEx

26 Sheep's call relatives 31 Ho-hum 130 Cries noisily 32 "Up and

33 "Puh-leeze!" 34 Not sick

36 Insect stage 40 "Gangnam Style" rapper 41 Naval fleets

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45 To boot 47 The "13" of PG-13, e.g.

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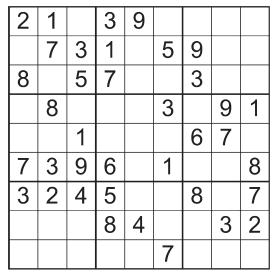
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#### **DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK:** ◆◆

♦ Moderate ♦ ♦ Challenging ♦ ♦ ♦ HOO BOY!

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The County of Patrick is accepting applications from qualified applicants for the position of



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tenance standards. A high school diploma or GED is required plus 3-5 years' experience in construction work and/or inspections, or any equivalent combination of training and experience which provides the required skills, knowledge and abilities. Experience in framing, plumbing and mechanical is preferred

Electrical experience,

preferably certified, is

required.

This is a full-time position with benefits exceeding \$20,000 annually, which include vacation and sick leave, life and health insurance, and retirement. Annual salary range is \$40,000 - \$60,000. Hours will be 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Over-

time may be required. Applicants must submit a Patrick County employment application to be considered for the position. A complete job description and link to the application are available on the Pat-

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rick County website at https://www.co.patrick. va.us/Jobs.aspx. Applicants must be willing to submit to a background check and drug screen. 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.

#### **ESTATE SALE**

**Estate Sale Part 2** June 20-21, 7am-2pm

36 Squirrel Spur Rd Ararat Va. Consisting of: farm and

ranch equipment, plumbing equipment, electrical equipment, table saw, antique tools, horse drawn planter, large fuel storage tank, galvanized pipe, self-propelled push mower, garden tillers, metal barrels, tools of all kinds and tires and tools of all kinds. We will have just about anything a working man/farming man would use and much, much more.

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### 647-5563 or 276-806-4433 **Request for Proposal**

Patrick County Public Schools Food Service Department is in the process of receiving sealed proposals for providing Ice Cream for our cafeterias. Patrick County is located in South/Central Virginia, West of Martinsville. The district has an enrollment of approximately 2,300 students.

Smart Snack Ice Cream

You may view the RFP for Smart Snack Ice Cream at www.patrick.k12.va.us —Main Page. Or email to ask for it to be sent you at darlene.rogers@patrick.k12.va.us.

If your company is interested, please submit a detailed proposal as per specifications. Sealed bids must be returned with the following information clearly marked on the outside of the envelope: "Smart Snack Ice Cream".

All bids must be mailed or delivered to:

MAILED:

**Patrick County Public Schools ATTN: Darlene Rogers School Nutrition Program** P.O. Box 346 Stuart, VA 24171

**DELIVERED:** 

**Patrick County Public Schools ATTN: Darlene Rogers School Nutrition Program** 132 N. Main Street Stuart, VA 24171

Proposals will be accepted until June 25, 2025, @ 2:00 p.m. There will not be a pre-bid meeting. The proposals will be opened publicly and read at the School Nutrition Office, 132 N. Main Street, Stuart, Va. on June 26, at 9:00 a.m.

In the event that a successful bidder to whom this bid has been awarded should fail to supply the requirements promptly and according to the specifications and prices of the bid item or items, Patrick County Public Schools reserves the right to cancel the award and purchase elsewhere.

Consideration shall be given to such matters as contractor integrity, compliance with public policy, cost, financial and technical resources. All responsible vendors, small, local, faith-based, women-owned and minority-owned (SWAM) are encouraged to submit a proposal.

Any and all comments are sincerely encouraged prior to proposal submission. Please contact Darlene Rogers, 276-694-3836 or darlene.rogers@patrick.k12.va.us.

Thank you, **Darlene Rogers Director of Food Service** 

maxkendalllumber.com 8261 Mountain Valley Rd

Wednesday, June 18, 2025 - **11** 

eenterprise.net.)

#### Meetings

#### Wednesday, June 18

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

#### Monday, July 14

The Patrick County Board of Su-County Administration Building.

#### **Events**

#### Monday, June 16 - Thursday, columns. Admission is free. June 19

Middle Cross Missionary Baptist Church will hold Vacation Bible School nightly, 6-8:30 p.m., 59 Wayside Road, Stuart.

#### Tuesday, June 17 - Friday, June 20

Stuart Baptist Church will hold Magnify Vacation Bible School, 6-8 p.m. each night, and concluding with a pool party/hotdog dinner after the final night's program. Dinner will be served nightly.

#### Thursday, June 19

The DMV Select office in Stuart will be closed for Juneteenth Holi-

#### Friday, June 20

The community food truck will be at Fairystone VFD from 3-4 p.m.

The Stuart Farmers' Market will be open 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. with a selection of produce, metals, baked items, crafts, and more, including the Rise & Shine Youth Marker & Pressure Canner Gauge checks.

#### Saturday, June 21

Providence United Methodist Church, 1021 Providence Drive in Patrick Springs, hosts Vacation Bible School from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Lunch will be provided.

Fairy Stone State Park - Little Mountain Fall Hike, 9 a.m., Amphitheater Trailhead; Turtle Time, 10 a.m., Visitor Center; Native Plants and Pollinators, 1 p.m., Shelter 4; Magic Trees, 2 p.m., Shelter 4; Moonshine Murders, 3 p.m., Shelter 4; Fairy Stone Hunt, 4 p.m., Shelter 4; Town Under the Lake Paddle, 6 p.m., Beach Breezeway.

#### Sunday, June 22 - Wednesday, June 25

(Please Note: Meeting/event infor- from 6-8:15 p.m. Dinner will be mation must be received no later than served nightly for children. Call and 5 p.m. on Friday before the desired leave a voicemail at (276) 930-2121 publication date. Email to dhall@th- if you need a ride on the church van.

#### Sunday, June 22

175th Homecoming Service at Sycamore Baptist Church, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., with lunch to follow. Members will share history and memories; the Sycamore Sisters and The Revelators will perform.

The Patrick County Historical Society will host local author, Beverly pervisors will meet at 6 p.m. in the Belcher Woody, at 2:30 p.m. at the third-floor courtroom of the Patrick Patrick County Historical Museum, 116 W. Blue Ridge St., Stuart. Woody will talk about her popular "Patrick County Pioneers: Volume I" book and her weekly newspaper

> Homecoming service at Meadows of Dan Baptist Church, 11 a.m. Special music by Tara Hollinsworth, covered dish lunch to follow.

> Fairy Stone State Park - Moonshine Hollow Hike, 10 a.m., Visitors Center; Fairy Stone Hunt, noon, Shelter 4; Moonshine Murders, 2:30 p.m., Shelter 4; C.S.I. - Creek Scene Investigation, 4 p.m., Shelter 4.

#### Monday, June 23

Fairy Stone State Park - Fairy Stone Hunt, noon, Shelter 4; Monday Market, 5-7 p.m., Shelter 4.

#### Tuesday, June 24

Fairy Stone State Park - Fairy Stone Hunt, noon, Shelter 4; Turtle Time, 2 p.m., Visitor Center.

#### Wednesday, June 25

Fairy Stone State Park - Native Plants and Pollinators, 11 a.m., Shelter 4; Fairy Stone Hunt, noon, Shelter 4; Turtle Time, 1 p.m., Visitor Center; Blobs in Your Backyard, 2 p.m., Beach Breezeway.

Delayed opening, DMV Select in Stuart, opens at 10 a.m.

#### Thursday, June 26

Fairy Stone State Park - Fairy Stone Hunt, noon, Shelter 4; Turtle Time, 2 p.m., Visitor Center.

#### Friday, June 27

Stuart Farmers' Market will be open 8 a.m. to 12 p.m., selection of produce, metals, baked items, crafts, and more. The Patrick County Master Gardeners will be on site to answer any questions.

Fairy Stone State Park - Woodland Mindfulness, 10 a.m., Shelter 4; Fairy Stone Hunt, 1 p.m., Shelter 4; Turtle Time, 2 p.m., Visitor Cen-New Hope Church of the Brethren ter; Roosting in the Rafters, 3 p.m., will hold a Vacation Bible School Beach Breezeway; Welcome Camp-

FIND US ON

fire, 7 p.m., Amphitheater.

#### Saturday, June 28

High Point Baptist Church will hold Vacation Bible School for students in K-6, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. with lunch provided. For more information, contact Pastor Wayne Moore at 226-793-7991.

Movies in the Park, "Sonic 3," will be shown at the Dan River Park in Ararat. Showtime is dusk. Concessions available. Call (276) 694-3917 for information.

Christian Bowhunters of the Blue Ridge will be hosting a 3D archery target shoot for both Youth, starting at 6 yrs old, and Adults. Located at Sycamore Baptist Church, 179 Sycamore Church Road, Stuart, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Bows and arrows provided or bring your own recurve or compound bow.

#### Sunday, June 29

Stuart Church of Living Water will hold a Worship on the Hill at proposed building site. Prayer and worship start at 10 a.m. Lunch will be provided. Better By Far will give a special performance. RSVP to (276) 694-3322 or office@stuartlivingwater.com.

#### Tuesday, July 1

Basic Wood Carving Class, begins at Stella Christian Church,

7:30 p.m., no charge. Meets on the following Tuesdays for 2-3 months. For registration or additional information, call Jim Stanley, (252) 410-

#### Friday, July 4

4th of July Bluegrass and Old Time Music Competition from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Vesta Community Center. Banjo, fiddle, guitar, mandolin, bands, vocals, and flat footling competitions with three levels each: children, teens, and adult, and cash prizes for the top three competitors. The opening ceremony will be held by Patrick County VFW Post 8467, and the quilts of valor will be presented at 10 a.m. Hotdogs, BBQ, lemonade, soft drinks, and desserts will be for sale. The quilt show will be by Mountain Top Quilters. The event also includes a tractor show and games for children. Bring your own lawn chairs.

#### Thursday, July 10

Patrick County Senior Citizens Group meets at 11 a.m., Hooker Building at Rotary Field, Stuart. Entertainment by Philip Adams. Beverages provided. Attendees are asked to bring salads and/or desserts to share.

#### Ongoing

eenterprise.net.

### $\overline{Wrestling}$

(cont. from page 1)

"We average anywhere from 120 to close to 200 at times, so it just varies. But we definitely want to encourage the fans to come and support it because it is a family-friendly show and all the fans usually seem to have fun and enjoy it when they come out," he said.

The show is sponsored by Rutter's Mar-Arts, Lawless Welding & Fabrication, Inc., and Impressive Prints & Designs. Advance tickets are

\$10 for children ages 6-13 and \$12 for adults 13 and up. Tickets at the door are \$12 for children and \$15 for adults.

Advance tickets can be purchased at Little Caesar's and Stagecoach on Main in Stuart.

For more information, go to Facebook. com/NationalIndepen-

For a list of ongoing events, check our Facebook page or visit www.th-



National Independent Championship Wrestling (NICW) will hold its third annual Summer Showdown on Saturday, June 21, and Sunday, June 22.

dentChampionship- Wrestling.

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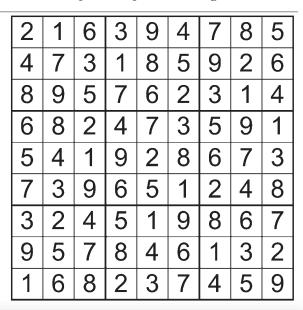
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\$5.75/lb. Whole Beef Hamburger HAMBURGER PATTIES \$6.00 LB. We buy Corn, Oats, Wheat & Barley. Call for price.



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#### **LEGAL NOTICE**

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC OF A PETITION BY APPALACHIAN POWER COMPANY FOR APPROVAL OF ITS 2025 RENEWABLE PORTFOLIO STANDARD (RPS) PLAN UNDER § 56-585.5 OF THE CODE OF VIRGINIA AND RELATED REQUESTS CASE NO. PUR-2025-00049

During its 2020 Session, the Virginia General Assembly enacted Chapters 1193 (HB 1526) and 1194 (SB 851) of the 2020 Virginia Acts of Assembly. These duplicate Acts of Assembly, known as the Virginia Clean Economy Act ("VCEA"), became effective on July 1, 2020. The VCEA, *inter alia*, establishes a mandatory renewable energy portfolio standard ("RPS") for Appalachian Power Company ("APCo" or "Company") in § 56-585.5 of the Code of Virginia ("Code"). Subdivision D 4 of Code § 56-585.5 requires APCo to submit annually to the State Corporation Commission ("Commission") plans and petitions for approval of new solar and onshore wind generation capacity ("RPS Filing"). The RPS Filing must also include the Company's plan to meet the energy storage project targets of Code § 56-585.5 E. The Commission must determine whether the RPS Filing is reasonable and prudent, giving due consideration to the following factors: (i) the RPS and carbon dioxide reduction requirements in Code § 56-585.5; (ii) the promotion of new renewable generation and energy storage resources within the Commonwealth, and associated economic development; and (iii) fuel savings projected to be achieved by the plan. The Commission's final order regarding any RPS Filing is required by Code § 56-585.5 D 4 to be entered by the Commission not more than six months after the date of such filing.

On May 21, 2025, APCo completed the filing of its annual RPS Filing to the Commission ("2025 RPS Filing" or "Petition"). In its 2025 RPS Filing, APCo requests that the Commission:

- Approve the Company's annual plan for the development of new solar, wind, and energy storage resources pursuant to Code § 56-585.5 D 4 ("2025 RPS Plan");
- Approve a revenue requirement of \$68,933,091 for the rate year of March 2026 through February 2027 ("Rate Year") to be recovered through the mechanisms and methodology previously approved by the Commission in the Final Order in Case No. PUR-2022-00166 ("RPS Cost Allocation Order"), as modified in Case No. PUR-2024-00020;
- · Determine that a new Virginia-based solar power purchase agreement ("PPA") is prudent and can be added to the Company's RPS compliance portfolio;
- · Approve future cost recovery related to the acquisition by APCo, pursuant to a Purchase and Sale Agreement, of one other renewable facility, which is not located in Virginia and will not be online during the Rate Year; and
- Grant the Company a certificate of public convenience and necessity ("CPCN") to acquire and operate a utility-scale battery storage project totaling approximately 52.2 megawatts ("MW") of energy storage and associated facilities (together, "Wythe BESS") pursuant to Code § 56-585.5 E 1, 20 VAC 5-335-30 A of the Commission's Regulations Governing the Deployment of Energy Storage, and the Utility Facilities Act, Code § 56-265.1 et seq.

The Company states that to meet the requirements of the VCEA, its 2025 RPS Plan includes multiple scenarios to help inform future requests for proposals for renewable and storage resources, and that all scenarios meet the RPS goals (Subsection C), Virginia-domiciled renewable generator requirements (Subsection D), and the energy storage requirements (Subsection E). APCo states that the 2025 RPS Plan continues to support a balanced and diverse portfolio of resources consisting of solar, wind, small modular reactor, and market renewable energy certificate ("REC") purchases

APCo states that in developing the 2025 RPS Plan, the Company ran multiple portfolio optimizations with different resources available. The Company further states that each of the portfolios modeled for this RPS analysis was least cost, in compliance with applicable U.S. Environmental Protection Agency 2024 rules, and included owned and PPA resources to meet annual VCEA renewable and energy storage targets through an optimal selection of diverse resources over the planning horizon. According to APCo, its action plan under the 2025 RPS Plan is to:

- Issue requests for proposals for onshore wind, solar, and energy storage, co-located resources, and RECs;
- · Pursue lowest cost compliance options consistent with the allocation percentages for construction or purchase described in Subsection D of Code § 56-585.5;
- · Continue to monitor changes to environmental rules for further evaluation related to compliance of the Company's Amos and Mountaineer coal plants; and
- Make market REC purchases when advantageous

Non-Virginia-Domiciled Wind Facility to be Owned by APCo

APCo proposes to own a wind facility outside of Virginia, the Livingston Wind project, which is being developed as a 261 MW facility located in Livingston County, Ohio. APCo asserts that the Livingston Wind project qualifies as an "RPS eligible source," as it is "physically located within the PJM region."

The Company asserts that Livingston Wind will not be in commercial operation during the Rate Year. Therefore, the Company states that it is not requesting recovery of specific costs in this proceeding. APCo requests that the Commission authorize the Company to implement "zero rates" to be kept in place until Livingston Wind enters commercial operation.

Solar Power Purchase Agreement

The Company sets forth a solar PPA as part of its 2025 RPS Plan for which it seeks a prudency determination. The HCE Collier Solar project is a 7.5 MW solar facility located in Wise County.

Utility-Scale Battery Storage Project

APCo states that the Wythe BESS project is being developed with a nameplate rating of 52.2 MW (capacity) and 208.8 megawatt hours (energy), and will be sited in Wythe County, Virginia. APCo states that the Wythe BESS project qualifies as an "RPS eligible source," pursuant to Code § 56-585.5 C, as it is "physically located within the PJM region." The Company states that it seeks Commission approval to acquire and operate the Wythe BESS project, and the granting of a CPCN for the utility-scale battery storage project and associated facilities

#### Revenue Requirement and Rate Impact

APCo seeks approval to recover the Rate Year revenue requirement, through the RPS rate adjustment clauses ("RACs"), of \$68,933,091. The Company states that this revenue requirement consists of: (1) the under-recovery of costs through January 2025 in the amount of \$7,938,940; (2) the revenue requirement of \$6,127,330 for the period February 2025 through February 2026 ("Bridge Period"); and (3) the VCEA Rate Year revenue requirement of \$54,866,821

APCo states that the cost allocation methodologies and mechanisms used in this Petition are those approved by the Commission in the RPS Cost Allocation Order, which are as follows:

- A.5 RPS RAC to recover \$44,002,960, which includes A.5 RPS RAC surcharge revenues, REC-related costs for APCo's renewable facilities, and the Rider Wind, Water, Sunlight (Rider WWS) premium for the Bridge Period;
- A.5 RPS-PCAP RAC to recover \$4,969,660, which includes the capacity-related costs of the Company's PPAs; and
- · A.6 RPS RAC to recover \$19,960,471 which includes costs associated with the owned solar and wind facilities (Amherst, Top Hat, and Grover Hill).

APCo states that the bill impact of the 2025 RPS Filing on a residential customer using 1,000 kilowatt-hours per month would be an increase of \$4.36.

The foregoing is not an exhaustive list of all the proposals contained in the Company's Petition. Interested persons are encouraged to review the Company's Petition and supporting documents for the details of these and other proposals.

TAKE NOTICE that the Commission may apportion revenues among customer classes and/or design rates in a manner differing from that shown in the Petition and supporting documents and thus may adopt rates that differ from those appearing in the Company's Petition and supporting documents.

The Commission entered an Order for Notice and Hearing in this proceeding that, among other things, scheduled public hearings on APCo's 2025 RPS Filing. On August 12, 2025, at 10 a.m., a Hearing Examiner appointed by the Commission will hold a telephonic hearing for the purpose of receiving the testimony of public witnesses. On or before August 6, 2025, any person desiring to offer testimony as a public witness shall provide to the Commission: (a) your name, and (b) the telephone number that you wish the Commission to call during the hearing to receive your testimony. This information may be provided to the Commission: (i) by filling out a form on the Commission's website at scc.virginia.gov/case-information/webcasting, or (ii) by calling (804) 371-9141. This public witness hearing will be webcast at scc.virginia.gov/case-information/webcasting.

Beginning at 10 a.m. on August 12, 2025, the Hearing Examiner will telephone sequentially each person who has signed up to testify as provided above.

On August 12, 2025, at 10 a.m., or at the conclusion of the public witness portion of the hearing, whichever is later, in the Commission's second floor courtroom located in the Tyler Building, 1300 East Main Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219, the Hearing Examiner will convene a hearing to receive testimony and evidence related to the Company's 2025 RPS Filing from the Company, any respondents, and the Staff of the Commission ("Staff").

To promote administrative efficiency and timely service of filings upon participants, the Commission has directed the electronic filing of testimony and pleadings unless they contain confidential information and requires electronic service on parties to this

An electronic copy of the public version of the Company's 2025 RPS Filing may be obtained by submitting a written request to counsel for the Company: Noelle J. Coates, Esquire, American Electric Power Service Corporation, 3 James Center, 1051 East Cary Street, Suite 1100, Richmond, Virginia 23219, or nicoates@aep.com. Interested persons also may download unofficial copies from the Commission's website:  $\underline{\mathsf{scc.virginia.gov/case-information}}.$ 

On or before July 16, 2025, any interested person or entity wishing to participate as a respondent in this proceeding may do so by filing a notice of participation at <a href="scc.virginia.gov/clk/efiling">scc.virginia.gov/clk/efiling</a>. Those unable, as a practical matter, to file a notice of participation electronically may file such notice by U.S. mail to the Clerk of the State Corporation Commission, c/o Document Control Center, P.O. Box 2118, Richmond, Virginia 23218-2118. Such notice of participation shall include the email addresses of such parties or their counsel, if available. The respondent shall send a copy of the notice of participation electronically to counsel to the Company, Staff, and all other respondents. Pursuant to 5 VAC 5-20-80 B, Participation as a respondent, of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, 5 VAC 5-20-10 et seq. ("Rules of Practice"), any notice of participation shall set forth: (i) a precise statement of the interest of the respondent; (ii) a statement of the specific action sought to the extent then known; and (iii) the factual and legal basis for the action. Any organization, corporation, or government body participating as a respondent must be represented by counsel as required by 5 VAC 5-20-30, Counsel, of the Rules of Practice. All filings shall refer to Case No. PUR-2025-00049.

On or before July 16, 2025, each respondent may file with the Clerk of the Commission at <a href="scc.virginia.gov/clk/efiling">scc.virginia.gov/clk/efiling</a> any testimony and exhibits by which the respondent expects to establish its case. Any respondent unable, as a practical matter, to file testimony and exhibits electronically may file such by U.S. mail to the Clerk of the Commission at the address listed above. Each witness's testimony shall include a summary not to exceed one page. All testimony and exhibits shall be sent electronically to Staff, the Company, and all other respondents. In all filings, respondents shall comply with the Rules of Practice, as modified by the Commission's Order for Notice and Hearing, including 5 VAC 5-20-140, Filing and service, and 5 VAC 5-20-240, Prepared testimony and exhibits. All filings shall refer to Case No. PUR-2025-00049.

On or before August 6, 2025, any interested person or entity may submit comments on the 2025 RPS Filing by following the instructions found on the Commission's website: scc.virginia.gov/case-information/submit-public-comments. Those unable, as a practical matter, to submit comments electronically may file such comments with the Clerk of the Commission at the address listed above. All such comments shall refer to Case No. PUR-2025-00049.

Any documents filed in paper form with the Office of the Clerk of the Commission in this docket may use both sides of the paper. In all other respects, except as modified by the Commission's Order for Notice and Hearing, all filings shall comply fully with the requirements of 5 VAC 5-20-150, Copies and format, of the Rules of Practice.

The Company's 2025 RPS Filing, the Commission's Rules of Practice, the Commission's Order for Notice and Hearing, and other documents filed in the case may be viewed at: scc.virginia.gov/case-information.

#### APPALACHIAN POWER COMPANY

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#### **10% DISCOUNT FOR VETERANS**

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Patrick County Planning Commission will have a regular business meeting on Tuesday, June 24, 2025, at 6 p.m. The meeting will be at the Patrick & Henry Community College (Stuart site) in the Community Room.



### **LEGAI**

ORDER OF PUBLICATION COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA Case No. CL25000167-00

VA. CODE §§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316, -317, 20-104 Patrick Circuit Court, 101 West Blue Ridge Street, Stuart, VA 24171 ESTATE OF KATHLEEN WILSON SCHIFF

JASON MORRIS SCHIFF, TRAVIS COMPTON JR. AND PARTIES UNKNOWN

The object of this suit is to: TO OBTAIN PROPER SERVICE UPON UNKNOWN PARTIES It is ORDERED that ANY PARTIES UNKNOWN WHO HAVE IN-TEREST IN THE ABOVE CASE appear at the above-named court and protect his/her interests on or before July 17, 2025. JUNE 9, 2025

#### LEGAL

ORDER OF PUBLICATION

Case No. CL25000155-00

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA VA. CODE §§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316, -317, 20-104

Martinsville Circuit Court, 55 W Church Street, Martinsville, VA 24112 VALLIE W. HYLTON v. JOHN DOE, JANE DOE, UNKNOWN HEIRS

The object of this suit is to: FOR THE COURT TO DETERMINE WHO IS THE OWNER OF REAL PROPERTY LOCATED AT 411 FAYETTE ST., CITY OF MARTINS-

VILLE, VIRGINIA. THE DESCENDANTS OF JAMES WILLIAM HODGE, JR., DECEASED, AND JAMES CHRISTOPHER HODGE MAY OWN AN INTEREST IN THIS PROPERTY. TO DETERMINE WHO OWNS THIS PROPERTY THE PLAINTIFF IN THIS CASE IS ASKING THE COURT TO RENDER AN INTERPRETATION OF THE WILL OF LUCILLE HODGE, DECEASED. IN ORDER TO ASSERT AND PROTECT THEIR POTENTIAL RIGHTS OF INHERITANCE, ANY PERSON WHO BELIEVES HE IS SHE IS AN HEIR OF JAMES WILLIAM HODGE, JR. AND/OR JAMES CHRISTOPHER HODGE. It is ORDERED that JOHN DOE, JANE DOE & UNKNOWN HEIRS OF JAMES W HODGE appear at the above-named court and protect his/ her interests on or before August 5, 2025.

June 5, 2025

Geau P. Music

## Welcoming butterflies to Patrick County







Two new habitats for butterflies are now in Patrick County. Butterflies can visit the newly planted Monarch Waystation and butterfly habitat on the Mayo River Trail, where more than 100 pollinator plants were recently planted. They can also visit the Patrick County Library where young summer readers planted a habitat by the library sign.

In addition to many flowering pollinator from Mexico. For more information on what you were planted that are native to Virginia, common milkweed, swamp milkweed and butterfly

weed and rely on it as a host plant for their cat- Master Naturalists and the Patrick County Lierpillars during their yearly migration to and brary.

friendly plants, three varieties of milkweed can do to help the endangered monarchs, visit Monarch Watch at https://www.monarchwatch.

The projects are a collaboration of Dan Riv-Monarch butterflies lay their eggs on milk- er Basin Association, Southwestern Piedmont

### Why choose native plants for your garden?

Deciding to refresh your flowour climate and our wildlife. They web. They thrive without fertilizers or constant watering. The plants and insects or wildlife have learned to create a symbiosis to co-exist with one another. Our nagather pollen, lay eggs, and it allows their young to have the proper nutrition to grow into an adult. In return our natives receive pollican produce seed and reproduce.

ed equal. Some natives are what we call keystone species which provide a larger benefit to the ecosystem. For example, the oak tree is a larval host plant for 513 species of Lepidoptera (winged insects such as butterflies and moths). Birds, deer, bear and other mammals eat the acorns. They also sourwood, another native tree is the larval host plant for only 14 species of Lepidoptera. Sourwood do eat the seeds. But not everyone so trying to mix smaller varieties or the Extension Office. to provide the maximum benefit to our pollinators and wildlife.

we can use to create this maxi- Educational program on "Feeding mum benefit to local pollinators Your Soil...backyard composting and wildlife when constructing techniques."

By Barbara Reichard PC EMG our flower beds? We can start with some medium size trees that also er beds or your pots on your pa- provide beauty such as the eastern tio, why not choose natives. Our redbud (25 species of Lepidoptera) native plants have evolved with and/or the flowering dogwood (110 species of Lepidoptera). Songbirds form the foundation of the food and small mammals are attracted to both. Then we can add a few shrubs to support our environment while providing cover for our songbirds. Mountain laurel provides beautiful rose to white coltives are chosen by pollinators to or flowers in the spring that also a larval host plant to 26 species. It is also a hummingbird attractor. Other great choices for shrubs are the black-haw viburnum or nation of their flowers so that they the possum-haw viburnum. Both are larval hosts for 102 species of Not all native species are creat- winged insects. Birds and mammals eat the fruit. Then we establish our perennial beds which can include plantings of common yarrow, common milkweed, swamp milkweed, butterfly weed, green and gold, yellow wild indigo, golden aster, blue mistflower, Joe Pye weed, and many more.

By drawing in the pollinators to provide browse for deer. Whereas lay their eggs so that it provides the caterpillars necessary to feed baby birds creates the complete food web right in our own yard. does attract native bees and birds If you want more information on selecting or growing natives conhas the room for a large oak tree tact your local Master Gardeners

Join PCMG at PUMC Community Fellowship Learning Garden on So, what are some ideas that Saturday June 28 from 10-11 a.m.

OBITUARY SUBMISSION DEADLINE MONDAY AT NOON



Anne Pilson, a Patrick County Farm Bureau volunteer, reads Virginia's Ag in the Classroom's Book of the Year "Outdoor Farm, Indoor Farm" to a Woolwine Elementary School 2nd grade class. Patrick County Farm Bureau donated the book of the year to area schools.

### Ag Literacy Week celebrated with Farm Bureau book donation

For the 15th year, Virginia dents and educators gain a great-Agriculture in the Classroom er awareness and understanding celebrated Agriculture Literacy of agriculture. Week. AITC's 2025 Book of the Farm," by Lindsay Metcalf.

to all Patrick County elementary schools, Trinity Christian School and the Patrick County Public Library.

"Our wonderful volunteers traveled county wide to promote the importance of agriculture," said Sandra Heath, Patrick County Farm Bureau Volunteer Board

Member.

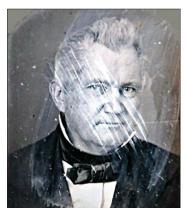
22,000 agriculture-related books

If you are not already a Patrick Year, "Outdoor Farm, Indoor County Farm Bureau member, we encourage you to join the growing Patrick County Farm Bureau membership. Being a member is donated the 2025 Book of the Year a simple yet powerful way to put your support squarely behind agriculture. It also gives you access to discounts on things like shopping, restaurants and even your prescription medication. And, as always, you support farming, agriculture and the Virginia way of life. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Madalyn Oliver at the Patrick County Agriculture Literacy Week is Farm Bureau office, (276) 694-Virginia AITC's largest educa- 7108 or stop by the office located tional event, with more than across from Hardee's in Stuart.

To learn more about Agriculplaced in classrooms. The event is ture Literacy Week and how to one of numerous initiatives Vir- support Virginia AITC, visit virginia AITC utilizes to help stu- ginia.agclassroom.org.

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### Before J.E.B. and Robert E.: Archibald Stuart's Ties to the Lee Family

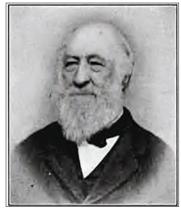


Archibald Stuart

#### By Tom Perry

chibald Stuart, the father the States. of J. E. B. Stuart and the New York.

The Lee Brothers



Charles Carter Lee

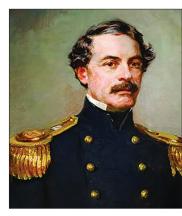
name for himself as R. E.

the United States Military service in the Revolution- Stuart's son, James Ewell Brown in peace, and first in the very handsome, his broth- #12 page 425) for \$5,000. so much land, none should



Robert E. Lee

Robert Edward For Father's Day, we be- Lee's cavalry commander (1809-1870), known to in Stafford County, Virgingin a few stories about Ar- during the War Between history as the "Gray Fox," commanded the Army of in July 1869. The story of Lee Land in Northern Virginia during owner of the Laurel Hill Patrick County is interest- the War Between the born in 1798 and received Farm in Ararat, Virgin- ing. After the Revolution- States, but his brothers a degree from Harvard in ia, where the latter was ary War, Buffalo Mountain are lesser known. Sydney 1819. He lived a disjointborn on February 6, 1833. was a part of a 16,000-acre Smith Lee (1802-1869) ed life as a New York City J. E. B. Stuart may have tract of land known as married the granddaugh- lawyer, land speculator, seen Robert E. Lee as a Lee's Order. This tract was ter of "Founding Father" and plantation owner in father figure as well. He a grant made to General George Mason, the "Fa- Mississippi until his marfirst met him in 1852 when Henry Lee (1756-1818) by ther of the Bill of Rights." riage at age 49 to Lucy Lee was Superintendent at the United States for his He was the father of "Jeb" Penn Taylor. He lived on subordinate, his Academy at West Point, ary War. Henry Lee at- Fitzhugh Lee. Sydney Windsor Forest, in Powtended Princeton with the Lee served in the United hatan County, Virginia, Archibald Stuart And future president, James States and the Confederate prospering as a husband, Madison, and served as a States of America navies. father, farmer, and writer, On November 24, 1836, cavalry commander under Beginning in 1820 with a especially of poetry. Archibald Stuart received George Washington during midshipman's commission a letter from Robert E. the American Revolution. in the United States Navy, mother, Ann Hill Carter Lee, an officer in the Unit- Known for his swift move- he rose in rank, serving as Lee, in 1829, the three ed States Army, with a ments and lightning at- Commandant of the Naval Lee brothers inherited deed that Lee's brother tacks, he earned the moni- Academy, commanding the the property. There were Charles Carter Lee wished ker of "Light Horse Harry." Philadelphia Naval Yard, unpaid taxes and bills to pass on to Stuart, who After the War, Lee served and accompanying Mathew against the property, but acted as the Lee's attor- as Governor of Virginia, Perry on his expedition to the brothers kept the land. ney in Patrick County. but land speculation led to Japan. During the War, he In 1846, the brothers sold This is the first time the a term in debtors' prison commanded the Norfolk 16,300 acres in the three names of Stuart and Lee and a wretched end for the Navy Yard and the Con- counties to Nathaniel Burcome together that I have man who said Washington federate Naval Academy at well of Roanoke County found. Archibald Stuart's was "First in War, first Drewry's Bluff. Considered (Patrick County Deed Book



Sydney Smith Lee

Lee After the War, he farmed ia, before dying suddenly

> Charles Carter Lee was wife's inheritance,

After the death of their lived on the Buffalo Moun-



Anne Hill Carter, mother of the Lee Brothers.

20,000 acres, the Patrick portion was 6,268 near Hog Mountain, crossing branches of the south fork of Rock Castle Creek, the Conner Spur Road, and a fork of the Dan River. The Floyd portion was 7,143, and Carroll was 5,797

Of the three Lee brothers, only Carter lived on the land in Floyd County. Papers from the courthouse indicate that Carter tried to establish a gristmill on the property and was involved in legal dealings with Archibald Stuart. Tradition states he tain property in a home called Spring Camp and that he had a law office. Carter was the last of Henry and Ann Lee's children to die, but Robert E. Lee may have summed up the ownership of the land in southwest Virginia and the plight of the three brothers after the War when he said, "It's a hard case that out of Stuart, would make a hearts of his countrymen." ers nicknamed him "Rose." Surveyed initially as over be good for anything."



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Dr. Mark Crabtree, Dr. Charles Jenkins, Dr. David Stafford and Dr. Blake Brockbank

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