

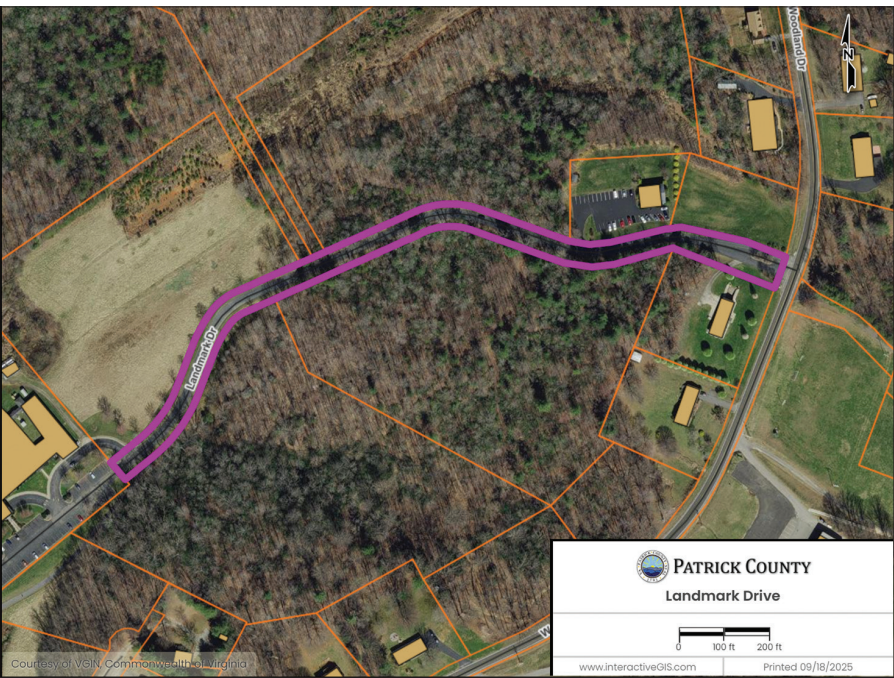


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Discussions of assuming ownership of approximately 0.3 miles of Landmark Drive were tabled.

Council tables Landmark Drive ownership discussion

By Taylor Boyd
The Stuart Town Council tabled discussions on potentially taking ownership of a section of Landmark Drive at its Wednesday, Sept. 17, meeting, pending consultations with legal counsel.
The section under consideration runs from Woodland Drive to the Landmark Center parking lot, approximately 1,600 feet, or 0.3 miles. It is listed on the county tax map as parcel 48-11-10-32B. Landmark Drive is a private entrance developed and owned by the Landmark Center.
Town Manager Bryce Simmons said the town learned the request via a proposal from Wren Williams' law office.
"My understanding is that it is part of a real estate negotiation," Simmons said, and he believes it (See Council p. 2)

PCHS teacher arrested in alleged misuse of communications system involving student

By Staff Reports
A Patrick County High School teacher was arrested Wednesday and charged with three counts of using a communications system to facilitate certain offenses involving a minor, according to Patrick County Sheriff's Lt. Steve Austin.
Harold Bradley Dalton, 57, of Ararat, was taken into custody around 1:30 p.m. in connection with the alleged incident. He is being held without bond at the Patrick County Jail. Authorities said the victim is a Patrick County High School student.
The sheriff's office investigations division received a cyber tip from the Southern Virginia Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) task force on the evening of Sept. 16, alleging inappropriate Facebook Messenger communications between an adult and a minor. Investigator Jason Kruse, assigned to the ICAC task force, determined that the suspect was a PCHS teacher.
"Facebook Messenger conversation" (See PCHS p. 3)



Harold Bradley Dalton

Lord's Acre sale Saturday will benefit Penny House



The Penny House in Patrick Springs provides temporary housing for people who have experienced a natural disaster while they work to get back on their feet.

By Taylor Boyd
The annual Lord's Acre sale is set for Saturday, Sept. 27, with a portion of the proceeds to benefit the Penny House, which provides temporary housing for people recovering from natural disasters.
The sale will be held in the large building at Rotary Field from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.
More than a dozen churches and organizations will sell baked goods, crafts, quilts, vegetables, flowers, food, and other items. An auction of special boxes, everyday items, furniture, and more will begin at 11 a.m.
Lord's Acre President Jane Cardwell said the event was started in 1970 by the Rev. Richard E. Dublin.
"Lord's Acre is a nondenominational" (See Lord's p. 12)

Attempted murder charge lodged after alleged standoff with deputies

By Staff Reports
A Patrick Springs man has been arrested following a Monday morning incident, according to Patrick County Sheriff Dan Smith.
James Daniel Biggs, 34, of 2355 Dogwood Road, was charged with attempted murder of a law enforcement officer, abduction, possession of a firearm by a convicted felon, violation of a protective order, and reckless handling of a firearm in connection with the incident.
The alleged disturbance began at 4:04 a.m., when the Patrick County 911 Center received a call that a man with a gun was holding people against their will at the home.
As Senior Deputy Matt Hodges arrived on the scene, a single shot was allegedly fired by a man standing outside the home. Hodges exited his patrol vehicle with his issued patrol rifle, took cover, and identified the suspect from approximately 60 yards away as Biggs.
A standoff ensued, with Biggs allegedly holding the weapon at his side. Members of the sheriff's tactical response team arrived at the scene and began negotiations with Biggs, who was taken into custody after about 30 minutes of negotiations. Biggs sustained minor injuries during the arrest.
James Daniel Biggs
"We are fortunate that this incident did not end with loss of life, and I am grateful for our specially trained tactical members who were able to resolve this incident without an escalation of violence," Smith said in a Monday news release.
"Our tactical team exists for one reason, and that is to save lives; but let me be crystal clear, we will eliminate any threat of serious harm to our citizens and our deputies, without hesitation, if that threat becomes imminent," Smith added.
A firearm and suspected methamphetamine were recovered from the scene. Biggs is being held without bail at the Patrick County Jail.



James Daniel Biggs



Wade's Orchard will celebrate 50 years of business on Saturday, Sept. 27.

Wade's Orchard to hold 50th-anniversary celebration Saturday

By Taylor Boyd
Wade's Orchard, a Woolwine-based family-owned farm, will celebrate 50 years of operation Saturday, Sept. 27, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
The orchard was opened in 1975 by Coy Wade and is now co-owned by him and his two sons, Doug and Dale Wade.
Doug Wade said the family typically holds a celebration every five years.
"We planned one a little bit bigger for the 50th," he said.
The celebration will include live music by Travis Frye & Blue Mountain, Twin Creeks String Band, and Slate Mountain Ramblers.
The Woolwine Ruritan Club will sell hot dogs, chicken barbecue, nachos with cheese and chili, and other food. The club will keep all of its sale proceeds for future projects and donations.
Apple butter, donuts, apple cider, fried apple pies, and other treats will also be available. A bouncy house will be set up for children.
Wade said the celebrations usually attract large crowds, and over 1,000 people are expected to attend this one.
"We normally have a really good turnout. I had problems with getting" (See Wade's p. 14)

Songwriter Circle to showcase eight performers Sept. 27

By Taylor Boyd
The Patrick County Music Association's (PCMA) fourth installment of the Songwriter Circle Series is set for Saturday, Sept. 27, at the Star Theatre.
Doors will open at 5 p.m.
Performers include Starlett Boswell, Wendy Dearmin, Johnny Dearmin, Miller Hopkins, Josh Hudson, Olivia Jo, Barry Hutchens, and Will Hutchens.
PCMA President Denny Alley said Hudson has written songs that have received national recognition.
"Wounded Warriors — I think he wrote a song they use as their national anthem-type thing. You'll find him all over the internet," he said.
During the show, Alley said the four women will take turns performing until they've each performed a few songs, followed by the men performing in the same manner.
Alley estimates the show will end at about 9:30 p.m.
"It'll be about three hours or more," he said.
He said the last Songwriter Circle show was well attended, with every seat filled.
"We sold out all of them. One hundred and fifty tickets, that's the maximum crowd we can have there" because of the limited number of chairs, he said.
Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased at the Coffee Break and Patrick County Tourism.

Council

(cont. from page 1)



One Family Productions Executive Director Chris Prutting discussed his \$2,000 request for the upcoming Spooktacular. Town council members approved the request in a unanimous vote. From left, Vice Mayor Dave Hoback, Jeffrey Houchins, Rebecca Adcock, Mayor Terry Dalton, Erica Wade, and Bob Pittis.

could be in the town’s best interest to assume ownership of the road. He noted the property is ideal for development, with an existing sewer line in place and interest in expanding the nearby Mayo River Rail Trail.

Town ownership “would put it in the public hands, would allow for public access to those properties in the event that somebody wants to develop those parcels. That would be the main sort of access to some of those larger parcels of property that are contiguous in the town,” Simmons said.

He added that taking over the road would also give the town an avenue to extend utility services into an area with development potential.

Council member Jeff Houchins said he supported the idea but questioned how much maintenance the road might require, especially in winter.

Simmons replied that the town has not spent any money on Slusher Street, one of the roads it already owns, since he began working for the town.

“Based on what I’ve seen, Landmark Drive is in pretty daggone

good condition at this point. So, I take that at face value of the road maintenance that we currently have is minimal,” he said.

Houchins said his main concern was the need to salt the road during snow. Council member Rebecca Adcock noted the upper section does not receive sunlight.

Council member Erica Wade said the survey showed Landmark Drive is not contiguous throughout.

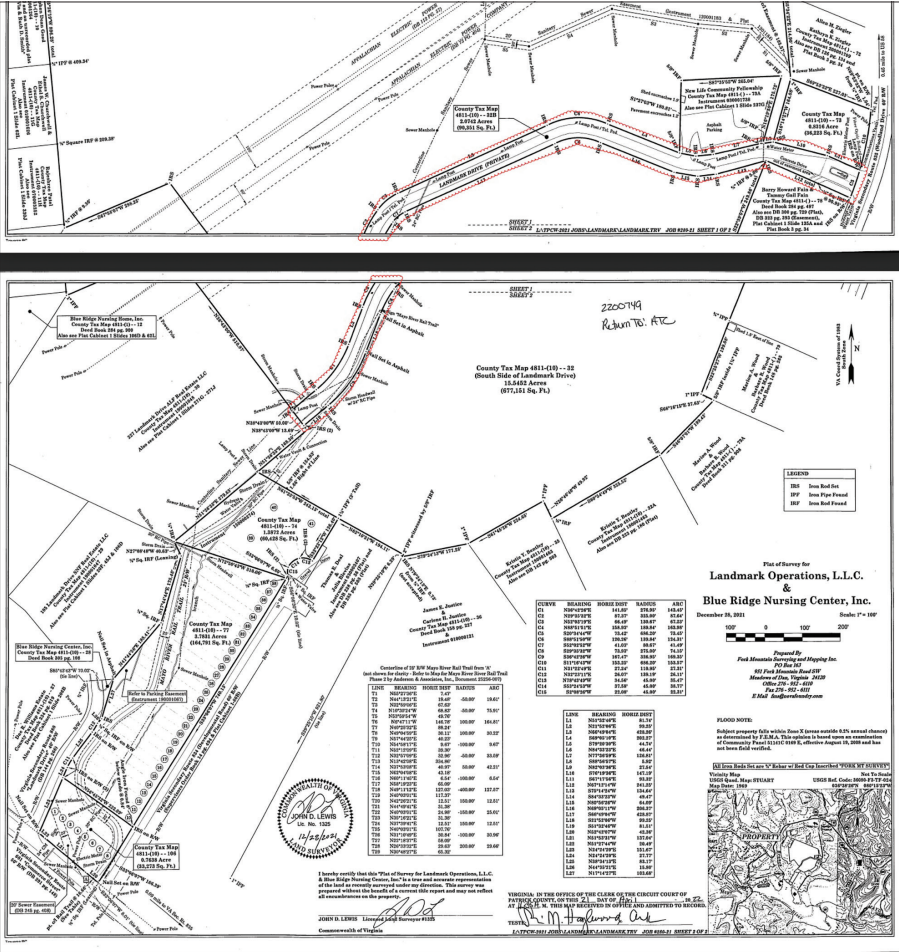
“It’s just what we would actually be purchasing stops at the top of Landmark,” she said.

“It basically stops at the parking lot. There’s a gap between the parking lot and the road that we would be taking over,” Simmons explained.

Because Landmark Drive is a private road and not a thoroughfare, Adcock said she is concerned about how many people might use it as a cut-through.

“They do it anyway,” Houchins said, of the road that can be accessed from Woodland Drive or Commerce Street.

“I know they do it anyway, but now legally they can,” Adcock replied.



The section of Landmark Drive under consideration is approximately 1,600 feet, or 0.3 miles. It runs from Woodland Drive to the Landmark Center’s parking lot.

The council also discussed taking over only part of the road, possible trail development, and other issues related to assuming responsibility for the road.

Because Town Attorney Christopher Corbett did not attend the meeting, Simmons recommended waiting for his legal opinion before voting.

“I would recommend that we put together questions about how this process would proceed” for Corbett to answer, Simmons said.

In other matters, the council:
*Approved giving \$2,000 to One Family Production for the 10th an-

nual Spooktacular, to be held Friday, Oct. 31, on Main Street. One Family Executive Director Chris Prutting spoke about the event.

*Approved sending a letter of notice to the owner of 411 Dobyns Road to clean up the unsafe structure.

*Discussed the upcoming Apple Dumping Festival.

*Heard updates on public works projects and town policy.

*Discussed town employees obtaining their Commercial Driver’s Licenses (CDLs).

*Approved meeting minutes and paid bills.

Changes expected at US 58, Virginia 8 this week

Weather permitting, drivers can expect a new traffic pattern at the intersection of U.S. 58 and Virginia 8 as part of the ongoing road widening project in Patrick County.

Starting September 24, traffic will be shifted onto a new junction between U.S. 58 and Virginia 8 that is located just east of the current connection.

Motorists are asked to pay attention to signs and watch for new traffic patterns. Electronic message boards will be posted to alert drivers to the upcoming change.

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Pets of the Week

Adorable little Pittie boy, who came in with his brother, who got adopted, is now all alone wondering who will love him.

Check out the videos of many of these dogs on the Blue Ridge Animal Welfare League Facebook page. The group also provides pet food assistance and always needs pet food donations, especially cat food. Contact blueridgeawl@gmail.com for details. Visit the Blue Ridge Animal Welfare League website at www.blueridgeawl.org.

Handsome stray found on Creasey Chapel Road in Stuart. Anyone recognize this gorgeous boy?

All dogs and cats deserve a permanent loving home. 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.

First Frost and Pumpkin Spice

By Kristine Adel
Patrick County Master Gardeners

“Come, little leaves,” said the Wind one day, “Come to the meadows with me and play. Put on your dresses of red and gold; For Summer is past, and the days grow cold.” ~George Cooper~

It’s true. The days are growing colder to the great relief of many. The first frost will likely come before mid-October, and suddenly, everything, everywhere is pumpkin spice.

Don’t get too cozy by the fire just yet though. We’ve got a lot to do!

Did you set your house plants out on the porch this summer? Yep, it’s time to think about bringing them in.

Now is also the time to think about digging and storing non-hardy bulbs and perennials - and maybe putting out a few hardy, early blooming spring bulbs like tulips, daffodils, and crocuses.

While we’re out there digging, it’s also a good idea to divide hostas, lilies, phlox, yarrow, and anything else that has grown too dense over the summer. Dividing now will give the plants some time to grow new roots before the ground freezes.

Cover anything newly planted or tender with a

cozy blanket of mulch at least three to five inches thick, and then go grab your pruning shears.

Just after the first frost is the best time to prune your trees and shrubs.

Don’t forget to dispose of any diseased plant debris in the trash to prevent disease spread. The rest can go into the compost or be used in a dead hedge.

Speaking of compost, you can rake and shred the leaves that fall on the lawn for compost or as mulch for your gardens. Alternatively, you could just mow them instead, instantly shredding them and mulching your lawn.

Last but not least, be sure to clean, dry and store your tools so they will be ready for next year.

When you finally sit down by the fire with a hot pumpkin spiced drink, you can truly relax knowing your yard and gardens are looking their best, ready for spring and whatever winter brings.

Mark your calendar now for the Native Plant Sale sponsored by Patrick County Master Gardeners on Saturday, October 11, noon – 2 p.m. at Stuart Farmer’s Market.

Find us on Facebook: Patrick County Master Gardeners, or contact us at pcmgassn@gmail.com for general questions and information.

Norris Memorial Services

Visit our website for pricing:
www.norrismemorialservices.com

1500 Kings Mtn Rd.
Martinsville, VA,
276-638-2778

email us

DHALL@THEENTERPRISE.NET

PCHS

(cont. from page 1)

tions with evidentiary value between” a suspect “and the minor were collected by investigators,” Austin said in a Wednesday release. He added that “the conversations were not solicited in any way by the minor.”

The investigation remains active. Anyone with information is asked to contact Austin at 276-692-5950 or Kruse at 276-692-5123.

The Patrick County Public Schools division fully cooperated with law enforcement during the investigation, according to the sheriff’s office.

In a social media post after the arrest, the school division said it is aware a staff member was taken into custody on Sept. 17. “The division is fully cooperating with law enforcement officials in their investigation,” the post said.

According to the post, the staff member was suspended without pay and measures were put in place to ensure continuity of learning for students.

Since the alleged incident is “both a personnel matter and part of an investigation, we are unable to provide additional details at this time. We remain focused on supporting

our students, staff and families as the legal process moves forward,” the post stated.

In a later interview, Superintendent Jason Wood said school officials were notified of the charges and worked with the sheriff’s office. “At the point of arrest, we were able to place the staff member on suspension without pay. We’re thankful for the coordination with the sheriff’s office,” he said.

Wood noted that all applicants undergo a Virginia State Police criminal background check before being hired. “We get that information back prior to offering employment,” he said. State law also requires schools to be notified if an employee is charged with certain crimes, such as felonies or “barrier crimes” that would prevent continued employment.

Barrier crimes are offenses that disqualify individuals from employment in certain fields, particularly those involving abuse or neglect. Examples include violation of protective orders, felonies committed by prisoners, and certain drug charges, according to online information.

While he declined to discuss spe-

cifics, Wood said in hypothetical cases, once charges are filed, the division also launches its own internal personnel investigation, which runs independently of the law enforcement probe.

“We are moving through those steps quickly to do our due process. We take all reports like this seriously,” Wood said. Employees in those cases are guaranteed appeal rights.

“There’s a process or steps to ensure protections” for employees, he said.

Internal investigations are thorough, Wood explained, and once completed, officials determine

whether the matter is “unfounded or founded.” If founded, disciplinary steps — up to termination and license revocation — are possible.

“When the investigation is concluded, we move to the next steps of the personnel matter,” Wood said. “We have moved quickly through this situation, and again we’re thankful for the cooperation of law enforcement and everyone involved.”

He declined further comment, citing personnel restrictions and the need to protect the integrity of both the school system’s investigation and the sheriff’s investigation.

Fatal crashes reported in September and August

The Virginia State Police are investigating a single-vehicle crash, which resulted in a fatality. The crash occurred Tuesday, Sept. 16, at 5:29 a.m. on Pleasant View Drive, at the intersection of Spring Road in Patrick County.

A 2007 Chevrolet Colorado was traveling north on Spring Road and attempted to turn left on Pleasant View Road, when the vehicle ran off the right side of the roadway and struck the ditch, according to a release from the state police.

The driver of the vehicle was identified as Jessie Lea Plasters, 53, of Patrick Springs.

Plasters was wearing her seat-belt and is believed to have had a medical emergency while driving. She died at the scene.

In a separate report, the state police also reported a crash that occurred on August 28, at 9:05 a.m. on Jeb Stuart Highway, just east of South Fork Loop.

A 2005 Harley Davidson was pulling out of the crossover when it was struck by a 2017 Ford Fusion which was traveling westbound in the eastbound travel lanes.

The driver of the motorcycle, Robin Lee Hiatt, 55, of Stuart. Hiatt was wearing his helmet and died at the scene.

Patrick County Native Graduates from VBA School

Veronica Bocock, a Patrick County High School graduate and Vice President, Corporate Project Manager at Carter Bank, recently completed the Virginia Bankers Association’s School of Bank Management at the University of Virginia. Carter Bank Vice President, Senior Financial Analyst Steve Miller also completed the program.

Bocock, who has been with Carter Bank for 21 years and graduated in the top four of her class of 79 students, said the program gave her a deeper understanding of the many moving parts of banking and the strategic decision-making process required at the executive level.

“This program challenged us to step outside of our comfort zones and placed us in the seats of executives to experience what our leaders handle on a daily basis,” Bocock said. “It opened my eyes to the importance of considering every possible impact—financially, economically, and from the relationship view involving the associate, customer, and community—before making a decision.”

Carter Bank CEO Litz Van Dyke said Bocock’s accomplishment reflects her commitment to growth and leadership.

“Veronica’s success at the VBA School of Bank Management exemplifies the dedication, perseverance, and strategic thinking we value at Carter Bank,” Van Dyke said. “She has taken what she’s learned and is applying it



Veronica Bocock

to help position the bank for continued success in our communities.”

Bocock, who also attended Patrick Henry Community College and Liberty University, says she plans to use her broadened perspective to prioritize projects that keep Carter Bank strong, competitive, and ready to serve customers for years to come.

About Carter Bank
Headquartered in Martinsville, Va., Carter Bank is a \$4.8 billion, state-chartered community bank with branches in Virginia and North Carolina. Since 1974, Carter Bank has strived to create opportunities for more people and businesses to prosper. Additional information about Carter Bank is available at carterbank.com. Member FDIC. Equal Housing Lender.

Arrests Reported

The Patrick County Sheriff’s Office reported the following:

*Jessica Renee Bailey, 38, of Martinsville, was charged Sept. 12 with violation condition of release/pretrial. Sgt. E.J. Litz made the arrest for Henry County.

*Charles Ellison Floyd, 62, of Stuart, was charged Sept. 13 with assault. Master Deputy M.T. Rorer was the arresting officer.

*Kendal Marie Jones, 33, Stuart, was charged Sept. 13 with trespass. Lt. D.L. Foley was the arrest-

ing officer.

*Jimmy Roosevelt Jones, 46, of Stuart, was charged Sept. 13 with trespass. Lt. D.L. Foley was the arresting officer.

*Zachary Edward Dewberry, 34, of Pelman, N.C., was charged Sept. 17 with two counts shoplift. Franklin County made the arrest for Patrick County.

*Jessica Renee Bailey, 38, of Stuart, was charged Sept. 17 with two counts probation violation. Sgt. E.J. Litz was the arresting officer.



Winner of gift basket announced

Rhonda Marshall won the Patrick County Master Gardeners Association Gift Basket.

The gift basket, displayed during the Patrick County Agricultural Fair, was chock full of gifts for the gardener, her produce and blossoms.

The Patrick County Master Gardeners Association wishes to thank everyone who stopped by their booth to ask questions, inquire about our training program and to discuss the various methods of preserving their harvest.

Indian Knob School named to Virginia’s ‘Most Endangered’ list



James Hines (left to right), Iris Hines, Willie Mae Ware, William Hines, and Kenneth Turner, who are all involved in the preservation efforts of the school.

Willie Mae Ware and William Hines attended Indian Knob School before it closed in 1952. It is thought to be the only elementary school for Black children in Pat-

rick County that has any likelihood of being preserved for posterity. The Patrick County Historical Society is working with the current owner and alumni of the school to pre-

serve and restore the historic structure that was recently designated as one of Virginia’s “Most Endangered Historic Places” by Preservation Virginia.



Mrs. Ware and William Hines are former students.

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Homecoming Shutout: Cougars top Chatham 47-0



Jayden Corns on his way to an 85-yard pick-six.



Avone Kidd finds room for a 7-yard touchdown run.



The Cougars run onto the field for their Homecoming game with Chatham.

By Pat Delaney

The Cougar football faithful had plenty to cheer on homecoming night against the Chatham Cavaliers on September 19. With dominant play on both sides of the ball, the Cougars took the early lead and never looked back for the 47-0 shutout win.

On their opening drive, penalties helped stall the Cougars, who would turn the ball over on downs. Zach Holt intercepted a Chatham pass, instantly swinging momentum back to the Cougars, giving them great field position. Avone Kidd opened up the scoring with a 7-yard touchdown run with 6:32 to go in the first quarter.

The Cougar defense picked up another turnover on the next Chatham drive, forcing a fumble on a big hit, again, giving the offense a short field. The Cougars found the end zone on a Calvin Lancaster run, increasing their lead to 14-0 with 2:58 to go in the first.

The lead would grow to 21-0 when

Lancaster broke a tackle inside the 10-yard line and lunged into the end zone early in the second quarter.

Late in the second quarter, the defense again came up big, this time with a Jackson Callahan interception, which would turn into points on a Jayden Corns 5-yard touchdown run, giving the Cougars the 28-0 lead they would take into halftime.

In the second half, Avone Kidd and Jayden Corns would each add a rushing touchdown, while the defense continued to give little to the Chatham offense.

One of the few bright spots for Chatham was a long pass play to get deep into Cougar territory. Their drive would end with a spectacular, one-handed interception by Jayden Corns on the Cougar 15-yard line. After bringing the ball down, he dashed 85-yards for the pick-six.

Chatham would make one more drive into Cougar territory late in the fourth quarter, getting inside the 10-yard line.



The Cougar defense brings down the Chatham runner for a loss.



Jayden Corns holds for an Erik Martinez-Tejada extra point kick.



Calvin Lancaster with one of his two touchdowns.

The Cougar defense stood its ground, forcing a turnover on downs, and keeping the shutout alive.

The defense played tough all night, creating turnovers, picking up tackles for loss, and allowing almost no big plays.

"I can't say enough about our defense play tonight," said Cougar head coach David Morrison. "Coach Mosley and our defensive staff have these guys lined up and ready to go. We're not making big mistakes like we were seeing earlier in the year. They did a great job. Hats off to our defense. It's great when you can see the big plays going your way and your defense standing firm and shutting teams out."

Leading the way for the defense was Jackson Callahan with 16 tackles, 4 for a loss, and an interception. Wheeler Helms had 12 tackles, 2 for a loss, and Adin Geiger, Andrew Miller and Antwain Mitchell each chipped in 5 tackles.

Offensively, the Cougars' two-quar-

terback system continues to pay off with Avone Kidd and Jayden Corns each having big nights. The offensive line had a fantastic game, creating the room Cougar runners needed to gain yards.

"We're getting there," said Morrison of his offense. "We know going in, this offense takes a little time to gel, but once it does, it is very tough to stop."

Jayden Corns picked up 145 yards on 14 carries, with two touchdown runs on the night. Calvin Lancaster carried the ball 11 times for 116 yards and two touchdowns, and Avone Kidd added 81 yards on 11 carries and two touchdowns.

Looking ahead, Coach Morrison likes the progress his team continues to show, adding, "the sky's the limit for these kids if they just believe."

With a dominant homecoming win behind them, the Cougars now set their sights on their game at Carroll County on September 26.

PCHS Sports Schedule

The Patrick County High School Cougars Sports Schedule for the week of September 9 - October 4:

9/29	TBD	Golf	at Floyd County (Great Oaks CC)
	7pm	Volleyball	at Galax
9/30	7pm	Volleyball	at North Stokes
10/2	7pm	Volleyball	vs Carroll County
10/3	7pm	Football	vs Floyd County
10/4	TBD	Cross Country	at Glenvar



Berry Battles to Runner-Up Finish at New Hampshire

Josh Berry and the No. 21 Motorcraft/Quick Lane Ford Mustang Dark Horse turned in a resilient performance at New Hampshire Motor Speedway on Sunday, finishing second in the Mobil 1 301 after leading laps and showcasing race-winning speed throughout the day and rallying back from an early spin.

Berry rolled off from the third position and quickly moved into second, challenging Ford Racing teammate Joey Logano for the lead early. He remained near the front until a caution late in Stage 1 shuffled the order, and Berry finished fourth. Stage 2 brought adversity when contact from the No. 88 car sent Berry spinning on Lap 82, but he avoided damage and steadily worked his way back from outside the top 30 to finish the stage in 10th.

The final stage highlighted the team's long-run strength as Berry charged back into the top five and moved into third by Lap 231. A timely caution with 60 laps to go allowed the No. 21 to restart as the race leader with 42 laps remaining, and Berry fought hard to the finish before coming home second behind Ryan Blaney, delivering a strong finish after a string of unfortunate luck in recent weeks.

"I don't know. We lacked a little bit of fire off, but, honestly, ever since the start of the race we were just mired in so much traffic," Berry said about what more he needed to catch Blaney. "Our long run seemed really strong, so I think it could have gone a couple different ways. Still, it's just a great day. We had a great car. Everybody did a great job. The pit stops were awesome and we have a lot to look forward to."

Berry credited the car's speed and the team's persistence in bouncing back from the early spin.

"It was a grind for sure, but we had a really good car and we just chipped away at it," he said. "We just kept putting four on it and kept moving forward and did it the old fashioned way. It was a lot of fun."

The runner-up finish gave Berry and the No. 21 Motorcraft/Quick Lane team a much-needed rebound and sets the stage to finish the season on a high note.



Parker Roop tees off for the Cougars.

Golf Competes at Floyd

By Ashlee Mullis

The PCHS Varsity Golf Team traveled to Great Oaks Country Club, Tuesday, September 16. The Cougars shot 348, putting them in 3rd place behind Blacksburg who shot 293, and Floyd with a score of 298.

Parker Roop led the Cougars with a

score of 82. Ben Joyce shot 87, Laine Errichetti shot 88, and Carter Gregory shot 91.

"We played well today," said Coach Philip Steagall. "We just need to get our short game stronger as we get ready for the sub-region tournament."

Crossing the Lines

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

Supervisor, school board hopefuls discuss funding, student issues



Del. Wren Williams, R-Stuart, participated in the event.

Seven candidates seeking county and/or state offices outlined their priorities and took questions Tuesday, Sept. 16, at the Martinsville-Henry County Chamber of Commerce's candidate forum at Patrick & Henry Community College.

The forum, moderated by Phil Gardner, drew candidates for both the Board of Supervisors and the School

Board, along with an incumbent member of the Virginia House of Delegates. Candidates introduced themselves, explained their reasons for running, and fielded questions from moderator Phillip Gardner on issues ranging from school funding to community investment.

Those participating in the event at Patrick & Henry Community College included incumbent Jim Adams and challenger Ray Reynolds for the Board of Supervisors' Blackberry District; incumbent Joe Bryant and challenger Chris Lawless for the Board of Supervisors' Collinsville District; Sherry Vestal and Jonathan Martin for the School Board's Blackberry District; and Del. Wren Williams, R-Stuart, who represents the 47th District in the House of Delegates.

Bikers for Babies raises more than \$9,000 for pregnancy center



Bikers for Babies held its annual ride to raise funds for the Pregnancy Care Center. The fundraiser generated \$9,300 for the center, and there are plans for an outreach event next year.

The Bikers for Babies event experienced another strong turnout this year, with more than 100 riders and volunteers, and raised a total of \$9,300 for the Pregnancy Care Center Martinsville-Henry County. The annual ride helps ensure that mothers have free access to sonograms, support services, and baby supplies through the center.

The event drew 128 riders and about 30 volunteers. Coordinator Patrick Rusmisl said he was encouraged by the result, even though the ride fell just short of his personal goal.

"We raised \$9,300. I was hoping to hit \$10,000 this year, but we didn't," Rusmisl said. "I think it was one of the years we went over \$9,000, maybe two years ago,

so it's up there."

While the majority of participants rode motorcycles, a few cars also joined in. The riders returned after about an hour and gathered for a barbecue dinner, where they shared fellowship and conversation. A raffle of 13 donated items added to the fundraising total.

Rusmisl noted that the proceeds will go into the center's general fund rather than a designated project.

"It's just for the general fund of the pregnancy care center," he said. "According to Paula Wood, the executive director, \$17,000 a month is what it costs them to run that center, you know, that's what few salaries they have."

He said the money helps cover expenses such as salaries, rent, and utilities.

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Music, midway and more highlight fifth annual Henry County Fair

The Henry County Fair will return Sept. 24-26 at Martinsville Speedway, offering three days of concerts, rides, food and family fun. The fifth annual fair will feature national recording artists, tribute performances, midway attractions, livestock shows and more.

Since its debut, the fair has grown into one of the region's most popular fall traditions. The event blends a classic county fair atmosphere with big-name musical acts, drawing visitors from across the region.

This year's concert schedule begins Wednesday, Sept. 24, with Cree-



dence Clearwater Recital, a tribute to the legendary rock band. Thursday, Sept. 25, is B99.9 Night, featuring Love Story – The Unofficial Taylor Swift Tribute Band. On Friday, Sept. 26, Spirit FM Night will close the series with

Grammy-nominated Christian artist Rhett Walker. All concerts will take place on the Bassett Furniture Stage inside the Martinsville Speedway fairgrounds.

Beyond the stage, the fair will include a full midway with

classic rides, carnival games and food vendors. Families can enjoy staples like funnel cakes and candy apples while exploring animal exhibits and a petting zoo.

Live entertainment will include the Pompeyo Amazing Dog and

Magic Show and the Jurassic Kingdom Show. Fireworks are scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 27, to close out the fair.

Competitive exhibits will once again be part of the festivities, with ribbons and prizes awarded in catego-

ries such as fresh fruits and vegetables, canned goods, baked items, flowers, plants, quilts, crocheting, knitting and other textiles.

Gate admission is \$5 and includes all concerts, ground shows, the petting zoo, agricultural exhibits and fireworks.

The fair is presented by Visit-Martinsville and supported by Bassett Furniture, Sarver Properties, The Phillips Group, Southwestern Virginia Gas, Hooker Furniture, Bryant Radio Supply, The Campbell Family Foundation, Jones and DeShon Orthodontics, and Roanoke Valley Orthodontics.



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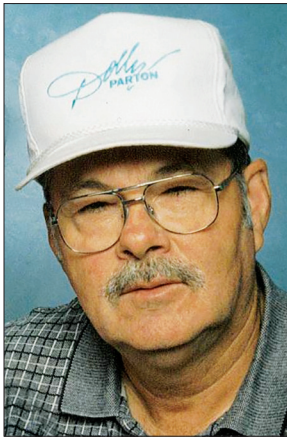
Fredrick Nash Lovell

Fredrick Nash Lovell of Woolwine, Virginia was born May 13, 1942, to the late Frederick Isham Lovell and Dade Martha Jane Rorrer Lovell. He met the love of his life, Linda Lou Boyd Lovell, on the school bus when he was in the seventh grade where he professed that he was going to marry the girl with Marilyn Monroe legs.

Nash and Linda were married on October 25, 1963, and spent the next sixty-one years together building a beautiful family and creating a warm and loving home. He loved Linda faithfully and fiercely, always focused on her happiness and safety.

Nash was an avid sports fan who taught his children the team values of fair-play, loyalty, and perseverance. He spent countless hours sharing his love of golf, baseball, fishing, camping, and the great outdoors with both his children and grandchildren alike.

Nash leaves behind



two children, three grandchildren and a legacy of love. Janice Dawn Lovell Largen credits her daddy for her strength and independence; Jerry Lee Lovell inherited his dad's ingenuity and love for the game of golf. Kayla Nicole Lovell is strong-willed and determined. Jessica Renea Lovell demonstrates an encouraging demeanor and is as dependable as the day is long. Samuel Jacob Lovell is the epitome of resilience and is quick to share his gratitude to others in his life.

In addition, Mr. Lovell is survived by his two sisters Helena Lovell Belcher (Albert) of Woolwine, Mildred Lovell Scott

(Bobby) of Bassett, and his brother Charlie Maynard Lovell, also of Woolwine. He has two nieces, four nephews, and was preceded in death by a fifth nephew.

Fredrick Nash Lovell passed away September 20, 2025 with his immediate family by his side and his extended family and closest friends supporting him through prayer and an outpouring of love.

Mr. Lovell's family will receive friends for visitation at Sycamore Baptist Church in Stuart on Thursday, September 25th from 12:00-2:00 with a short memorial service to follow. Burial will be private. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Smith River Rescue Squad, P.O. Box 122, Woolwine, VA 24185 or Sycamore Baptist Church, c/o Nancy Midkiff, Treasurer, 171 Sycamore Church Lane, Stuart, VA 24171. Online condolences may be made by visiting www.moodyfuneralservices.com.

Jessie Lea Plasters

Jessie Lea Plasters, age 53, of Patrick Springs, VA, passed away on September 16, 2025. She was born September 20, 1971, to the late Burrell McCoy "Coy" Plasters and Barbara Ann Wright Plasters.

Jessie is survived by numerous cousins.



James Edward Walker

Mr. James Edward Walker, age 92 of Stuart, Virginia passed away on September 14, 2025. He was born on April 21, 1933, to the late Sparrell Lynn Walker and Ethel Jefferson Walker. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his beloved wife, Ethelene Robertson Walker; a son at heart, Alex Nunez; and three siblings. Mr. Walker was a farmer, orchardist, and served his community in many ways. He served on the Patrick County Board of Supervisors for 11 years, R. J. R. Memorial Hospital for 6 years; President of the Patrick County Farm



Bureau (1976-2014), Soil & Water Conservation from 1986-1987; He also served on the Moorefield Store Volunteer Fire Department for over 25 years, plus many other devoted services. He faithfully served in the United States Navy from 1951-

ins.

A graveside service will be held on Friday, September 26, 2025 at 11:00 A.M. at County Line Church of God of Prophecy Cemetery. Online condolences may be made by visiting www.moodyfuneralservices.com.

1956 during the Korean War.

Mr. Walker is survived by one sister, two nephews, two nieces, one sister-in-law, cousins, friends, and his special friends, the Olivares family.

All services for Mr. Walker will be private. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Pleasant Grove Primitive Baptist Church Cemetery Fund, C/o LaRay Smith, 154 Dominion Valley Road, Stuart, VA 24171. Moody Funeral Home in Stuart has been entrusted with the services and online condolences may be sent by visiting www.moodyfuneralservices.com.

SPORTS

Lady Cougars Battle Back After Slow Start, Fall Just Short



Brooklyn Barner with a big hit past the defender.



Sydney Tatum with one of her 6 kills.



Journey Moore hits it over the block.



Camille Gonzalez (13) and Brooklyn Barner (15) block the Franklin County kill.



Sydney Turner and Camille Gonzalez go up for the block.

Varsity Volleyball Falls to Radford

By Ashlee Mullis

The Varsity Volleyball Team started the week with a 3-0 win against Martinsville, on Monday, September 15.

Set scores were 25-4, 25-6, and 25-14. Jayden Callahan had 7 kills. Camille Gonzalez had 8 assists and 4 aces. Journey Moore had 4 kills and

4 aces.

The Lady Cougars were dealt their first loss Tuesday, September 16, when they hosted a very talented Radford team. PC lost in three sets, 16-35, 18-25, 17-25.

Moore had 8 kills and 15 digs. Gonzalez had 16 assists and 21 digs. Callahan had 5 kills and 14 digs.

JV Volleyball Suffers First Loss

By Ashlee Mullis

The JV Volleyball Team took on Martinsville, Monday, September 15, Martinsville, winning 2-0, with set scores of 25-21 and 25-19. Bailey Thompson had 6 kills, 4 digs, and 2 aces. Reese Horton had 4 kills and 4 digs. Madi Martin had 4 aces. Leia Cobbler had 5 digs, and Meredith Wood had 8 assists.

The Lady Cougars continued the winning streak with a 2-1 win over Radford, Tuesday, September 16. Set scores were 23-25, 26-24, and 15-12. Horton led the way with 9 kills and 5 digs. Thompson had 5 kills and 9 digs. Kaylene Garcia had 5 digs. Wood had 17 assists and 4 digs.

On Thursday, September 18, PC fell to Franklin County, losing 2-0, with scores

of 19-25 and 17-25. Horton had 7 kills, Thompson had 2 kills, 10 digs, and 3 aces, and Wood had 9 assists.

Coach Olivia Hazelwood said, "It was a

tough loss, but they played an amazing game against a very large school. I am super proud of them!"

The JV Lady Cougars are 6-1 in the season.

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Terri S. Wood, Manager

By Pat Delaney

Despite a slow start, the Patrick County Lady Cougars nearly clawed their way back into their September 18 match against Franklin County, falling in straight sets but showing grit and determination in the tightly contested final two sets.

Franklin County got off to a fast start in the first set, using a 7-0 run to take the early six point lead. The Lady Cougars would get within four points, 6-10, but four and five point runs by Franklin County proved too much, as they would fall 12-25.

"I think we came out flat," said Lady Cougar head coach Heidi Moore.

In the second set, the Lady Cougars made adjustments and played solid volleyball. The set stayed close until a late Franklin County run gave them a 17-22 lead. Fol-

lowing a timeout, the Lady Cougars rallied to tie the set at 23, before falling 23-25.

The third set was a nail-biter, with the teams swapping the lead throughout. Tied at 14, the teams traded points until tying again at 23-23. Franklin County took the final two points of the set, winning 23-25, and the match.

Coach Heidi Moore was happy with the Lady Cougars' effort following the disappointing first set.

"We changed some things that seemed to help out a lot. I like how we played at the end. A few points either way and we pull out those last two sets. We're still working and hopefully, keep getting better."

Jayden Callahan had 6 kills, 9 digs and 2 aces on the night. Camille Gonzalez had 13 assists and 12 digs, Journey Moore had 10 digs, 2 kills and an ace, and Sydney Tatum finished with 6 kills.



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Study shows consumers are prioritizing fresh produce, meat and dairy

With higher grocery prices and tighter budgets, consumers are homing in on wholesome products, according to a recent SensaPay study published in The Packer.

Analyzing current spending behavior, inflation data and consumer sentiment, the study outlines what Americans are valuing most and why. Fresh produce ranked No. 1 in the list of categories consumers won't give up, with meat and dairy tied for a close second.

Fresh produce tops SensaPay's 2025 "spending-resilience" ranking with a score of 34.7—driven by strong purchase intent, frequency of shopping trips, its perceived essentiality in everyday meals and modest inflation at less than 1% year-over-year. Households are purchasing fruit and vegetables roughly four times a month, and far more shoppers plan to maintain or raise produce spending than to cut it.

Meanwhile, retailers and meal kit delivery services are offering consumers convenient ways to up fruit and vegetable intake, noted Tony Banks, senior assistant director of agriculture, development and innovation for Virginia Farm Bureau Federation.

"More and more of these meal kits are featuring fresh produce, and retailers have come up with a lot more convenience items than ever before," Banks noted. "You can buy living lettuce that'll stay fresh for 10 days and all kinds of salad kits and pre-cut salad mixes, fruits and vegetables."

He added that COVID drove many consumers back into the kitchen—

driving up demand for fresh ingredients in lieu of heat-and-eat meals.

Study findings reflect a cultural shift in what U.S. consumers now consider worth preserving, regardless of cost. As shoppers increasingly prioritize health and wellness, many also are prioritizing purchasing dairy and meat—capturing a score of 27.6.

Dairy is a natural star in the growing nationwide protein craze—serving as a delicious, versatile and convenient source of high-quality protein and nutrition and a staple in many consumers' favorite meals.

Despite higher inflation at roughly 7% year-over-year, consumers are still purchasing protein about four times a month. The intent to purchase remains high, with many shoppers navigating higher prices by switching cuts and brands.

"Right now, prices aren't driving people away from choosing to purchase fresh produce and meat over other food items," Banks remarked. "And freshness and wholesomeness are two factors that are very attractive about buying locally-produced foods—whether at the farmers market or retail grocery stores."

Home to nearly 39,000 farms spanning 7.3 million acres, the commonwealth boasts a wide variety of produce, proteins and dairy products. Many Virginia-grown products rank in the top 10 nationally, including seafood, apples, turkeys and broiler chickens, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Find locally-grown ingredients nearest you by visiting the Virginia Grown website.

RISE Summit returns to Danville in November

After a successful debut year in 2024, the RISE Regional Innovation Summit for Entrepreneurs (RISE Summit) will return to Danville this year on Saturday, November 1. This regional conference promises another dynamic day of insights, learning, and networking designed to help both aspiring and established entrepreneurs and business owners thrive.

Hosted at the Institute for Advanced Learning & Research, the RISE Summit 2025 will feature a variety of inspirational speakers, interactive breakout sessions, and networking opportunities. Sessions will cover topics such as securing funding through loans, grants, and contracts, digital marketing, financial management, and technology adoption. Conference tracks are available for early-stage startups and existing businesses aiming to grow or scale.

Early bird registration is now open, with discounted tickets available for \$55 per person through September 25. Beginning September 26, the ticket price will increase

to \$65 per person. Registration closes on October 25.

"The insight from the speakers was so encouraging and applicable," said Cissy Martin, a Southern Virginia entrepreneur who attended the 2024 RISE Summit. "The people I met while in the classes and at the tables in between classes were so interesting and inspiring. Great location, layout, easy to find classes, food was great, time was perfect!"

The RISE Summit is presented by RISE Collaborative, a regional entrepreneurship initiative hosted by the SOVA Innovation Hub in partnership with the Longwood Small Business Development Center. The event is made possible through the generous support of partners and sponsors across the region, including GO Virginia, Community Investment Collaborative, the Controlled Environment Agriculture Innovation Center at IALR, and RetirePath.

To learn more and purchase a ticket, visit www.sovarise.com/summit.

BIBLE TRIVIA

BY WILSON CASEY

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

2. From Judges 7, who had the vision of a barley cake tumbling into an army camp overturning a tent? *Shepherd, Soldier, Peasant, Steward*

3. Which book could be summarized, "Pay attention, God has a master plan in the works we need to be a part of"? *Isaiah, Jeremiah, Lamentations, Ezekiel*

4. After an angel delivered them from a Jerusalem prison, where did the apostles go? *Temple, Fields, Mountaintop, River*

5. Who had his servants set barley crops on fire because he refused to meet with Absalom? *Job, Joab, Jethro, Jehoshabeath*

6. From Acts 12, where did Peter encounter an angel? *Tent door, Prison, City gate, By a stream*

ANSWERS: 1) New, 2) Soldier, 3) Isaiah, 4) Temple, 5) Joab, 6) Prison



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DROP OUT

ACROSS

- 1 Dish list
5 Attorney —
10 Tidies up with a broom
16 Even score
19 Salt Lake City team
20 Stock market disaster
21 Audrey of "Amélie"
22 Hostelry
23 Arrive like rain
25 Goof-ups
26 Many a pro bono TV ad
27 Enclose, as a yard
28 Fail to complete a task
31 Brand of candy wafers
34 Lose power
35 Considering everything
36 Become a responsibility for
44 Grove growth
45 1965-69 veep Humphrey
46 Simile center
47 "Veni," in English
49 Home of the Dolphins

- 50 Blow it when success is very close
57 Bitter conflicts
59 Totally wreck
60 Navy leader
61 "Ararat" actor
64 Indian queen
66 Escargot
67 Poking tools
71 Stop being noticed
75 Spyro — (jazz group)
76 Pipeline problems
78 Boat deck wood
79 Suddenly bright stars
81 Stray
84 Say a Hail Mary, say
86 Considered comparable
91 Collapse
95 Fierce look
96 Holy city of Islam
97 — Z (totally)
98 — Mae (loan offerer)
99 "Superfood" berry
102 Be overlooked
107 Flag sewer Ross

- 109 La.-to-Mich. dir.
110 Seize forcibly
111 Fizzle out, as an endeavor
116 New word
121 Bullfight cry
122 View with astonishment
123 Autumn foliage ... or what happens at the starts of eight answers in this puzzle?
126 Set- (sharp fights)
127 Car radiator protector
128 Baseball great Buck
129 Bubble maker
130 Rubble maker
131 Made tamperproof
132 Surprise attacks
133 Out of killer

DOWN

- 1 Bungle
2 Reason d—
3 Vegas light
4 Gomer Pyle's org.
5 Most sore, as muscles

- 6 With 32-Down, Dick Tracy's cover-up
7 — Vegas
8 Query
9 — you do it?"
10 Baby on "Family Guy"
11 Time merged with it in 1990
12 Currency of Austria
13 Princely prep school
14 Left, at sea
15 Raw fish dish
16 Gratuity holder
17 Shoe part
18 Empower
24 Largest of the Canary Islands
29 Strange
30 Going into
32 See 6-Down
33 Kick out
36 Units of resistance
37 Opposite of day, in Dijon
38 Ski lift variety
39 Hot-rod engine
40 Oz lion portrayer Bert
41 Family gal vodka
42 Bi- cubed

- 43 1982-2005 Saudi king
48 "— the word"
50 "Likely story!"
51 Cries of discovery
52 Perjurer, e.g.
53 Former U.N. head Kofi
54 Hauling cart on a farm
55 Jungle den
56 "— Enchanted"
58 "Xanadu" band, in brief
62 Astern
63 Curry of the NBA
65 Oath reply
67 Alan who played Pierce
68 Have a bawl
69 Soft rock?
70 Minor battle
72 Long-eared hopper
73 Rd. crossers
74 "Chi- —" (2015 Spike Lee film)
77 Fill up fully
80 Sweetums
82 Savoir faire
83 Engrave
85 "Awright!"
87 Penne — vodka
88 Bath powder

- 89 Actor Estrada
90 Poor grades
92 Road goo
93 An Aleutian island
94 — scale (mineral hardness gauge)
98 Executes a "Page Up," e.g.
99 — and Costello
100 Sri Lanka, formerly
101 Certify (to)
103 Red-tagged
104 Part of USA
105 H.S. proficiency exam
106 "The Father of Geometry"
108 Safe robbers, in slang
112 Suffix with silver or table
113 Capital of Samoa
114 Give a whoop
115 Get an — effort
117 Apollo's org.
118 State bluntny
119 Apparatus
120 Glimpse
124 Comedian Gasteyer
125 Luau handout

OBITUARY SUBMISSION DEADLINE
MONDAY AT NOON

Weekly SUDOKU

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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(Meeting/event information must be received no later than 5 p.m. on Friday before the desired publication date. Email to dhall@theenterprise.net.)

Meetings

Thursday, Oct. 9
The Patrick County School Board will meet at 5:30 p.m. at the Patrick County School Board Office.

Wednesday, Oct. 15
The Stuart Town Council will meet at 6 p.m. in the town office.

Monday, Oct. 20
The Patrick County Board of Supervisors will meet at 6 p.m. in the third-floor courtroom of the Patrick County Administration Building.

Events

Wednesday, Sept. 24
The Patrick County Chamber of Commerce in partnership with Patrick & Henry Community College will hold a Smartphone Video Advertisement workshop from 12-2 p.m. at the Patrick County site. The cost is \$30.

Final night of Fall Revival at Middle Cross Missionary Church, with Sammy Frye at 7 p.m. and music by Patrick County High School Praise and Worship, Too Young Too Old, and The Bishops.

Thursday, Sept. 25
Patrick County Democratic Committee will meet from 6 - 7 p.m. at the Patrick County Branch Library in Stuart.

Friday, Sept. 26
A spaghetti supper will be held at the Dobyns Community Building from 4-7 p.m.

The Patrick County Library will hold a Patrick County Library Senior Social starting at 11 a.m. Seniors are encouraged to come visit for an hour and enjoy coffee and pastries. Optional autumn craft is available. Free and no registration required.

Wayside Community Church, 3520 Wayside Road, Stuart, will hold a Friday Night Music and Fellowship starting at 6:30 p.m. Music will

be by Michael Fain with message by Pastor Teddy Hiatt. A light meal and refreshments will be served after the service.

Saturday, September 27
The Patrick County Library will hold a Book Bedazzle Class starting at 11 a.m. This is a free event for people ages 12+ to bring their personal book from home and bedazzle it. Free class. Supplies provided other than the book. Registration is required as seats are limited. Call 276-694-3352 to register.

New Hope Community Church will hold a night of music and fellowship featuring Billy C. Smith & Friends starting at 7 p.m., with refreshments following the music.

The Christian Bowhunters of the Blue Ridge will host a 3D archery target shoot for all ages, both youth and adults, at Sycamore Baptist Church, 179 Sycamore Church Road, Stuart, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Bows and arrows are provided, or bring your own recurve or compound bow.

Sunday, Sept. 28
Blue Ridge Animal Welfare League (BRAWL) will hold a Paint for Paws: Create Art for Animals fundraiser at 2 p.m. at Calliope in Stuart. Space is limited and registration is required. All supplies are included for \$30. Register by contacting BRAWL. For more information, go to www.blueridgeawl.org.

Friday, Oct. 3
The community food truck will be at Woolwine SSRS from 3-4 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 4
Woolwine Methodist Church will make apple butter, and hold a yard sale in the social hall of the church beginning at 9 a.m.

Wednesday, Oct. 8
Volunteers for the Woolwine October Festival Community Apple Peeling starts at 8 a.m. at the Woolwine Fire Department. Lunch is provided.

Thursday, Oct. 9
Volunteers for the Woolwine October Festival are needed at 4 a.m. to start making apple butter at the old Woolwine Fire Department; Fried Apple Pie Making in the cottage at 8:30 a.m. Lunch is provided.

The Patrick County Chamber of Commerce and Patrick & Henry Community College will hold a workshop, Taking Your Social Media to the Next Level, 12-1 p.m. at the Patrick County

site. The cost is \$15.

The Patrick County Senior Citizens group will meet at 11 a.m. in the Hooker Building at Rotary Field in Stuart. Entertainment will be provided by Johnny Joyce and friends. The menu is potluck, and attendees are requested to bring their favorite foods and desserts to share. Beverages will be provided.

Ongoing

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

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

Inside yard sale to benefit Patrick County Alzheimer's Group LLC. Monday, Wednesday & Friday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Members meet on the first Monday of every month at 6 p.m. in the Alzheimer's office. New members are welcome. For more information, call (276) 693-6018.

Vesta Alzheimer's Group LLC meets at the Vesta Community Center on the third Tuesday each month at noon. Both groups welcome new members and invite caregivers to attend. Literature is also available.

Ararat Ruritan Club holds Rook games every Monday night from 6:30-8 p.m.

Patrick County Veterans Memorial Honor Guard meets the first Tuesday of every month at the American Legion Post 105, at 7 p.m. Interested veterans are welcome to attend.

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

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

Willis Gap Community Center: Members Meeting, the first Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m.; Appalachian Acoustic Open Jam, every Friday. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. for food, with music and dancing, 6:30-9 p.m.; Golden Oldies Open Jam is on the last Tuesday of the month. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. for food, music and dancing from 6:30-9 p.m.

SNHU released Summer — 2025 Dean's List —

Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU) congratulated Kimberly Stegall of Stuart, and Kimberly Stegall of Patrick Springs, on being named to the Summer 2025 Dean's List. The summer terms run from May to August.

Full-time undergraduate students who

have earned a minimum grade-point average of 3.500 to 3.699 for the reporting term are named to the Dean's List. Full-time status is achieved by earning 12 credits over each 16-week term or paired 8-week terms grouped in fall, winter/spring, and summer.

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Virginia Department of Transportation

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Contractors must submit their application on the electronic M7B bidding site at <https://plow4va.vdot.virginia.gov>. All new and returning Contractors must be active in the Virginia eProcurement Portal (eVA) in order to do business with the Commonwealth of Virginia (<https://eva.virginia.gov>). Applications received by 7:00 PM on Thursday October 2, 2025 may be eligible for a bonus payment. See the EVA posting for additional information, including contract requirements.

Questions can be directed to the Martinsville Residency from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Monday - Friday.
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EEO/AA Employer

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REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
RFP 2026-002-43200
Card Reader Entry System

The County of Patrick is seeking proposals from qualified professional firms for the purchase and installation of a Card Reader Entry System for the Patrick County Administration Building. Proposals packets may be downloaded at <https://www.co.patrick.va.us/Bids.aspx> or picked up in person at the Office of the County Administrator, 106 Rucker Street, Suite 218, Stuart, VA 24171. Proposals are due no later than Wednesday, October 15, 2025 at 3:00 p.m.

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REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
RFP 2026-003-43200
Purchase/Installation of Fire Proof Shutters

The County of Patrick is seeking proposals from qualified professional firms for the purchase and installation of Fire Proof Shutters for the DMV office at the Patrick County Administration Building. Proposals packets may be downloaded at <https://www.co.patrick.va.us/Bids.aspx> or picked up in person at the Office of the County Administrator, 106 Rucker Street, Suite 218, Stuart, VA 24171. Proposals are due no later than Wednesday, October 15, 2025 at 3:00 p.m.

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NOTICE ABANDONED WATERCRAFT

Notice is hereby given that the following watercraft has been abandoned for more than 60 DAYS on the property of: Jamie Vipperman, 829 Taylor View Drive, Patrick Springs, VA 24133. Description of watercraft: Make: Lowe. Year: 1994. Material: Aluminum. Length: 14 feet, 0 inches. Type: Gas-powered open motorboat. HIN: OMCL0647D494. Application for Watercraft Registration/Title will be made in accordance with Section 29.1-733.25 of the Code of Virginia if this watercraft is not claimed and removed within 30 days of first publication of this notice. Please contact the Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources with any questions.

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TOWN OF STUART PUBLIC NOTICE OF INTENT TO
REMOVE AN UNSAFE STRUCTURE
RECORD OWNER:
Lorraine M. Scheuerlein

Pursuant to Ordinance No. 11-03 of the Town of Stuart, and §15.2-906 of the 1950 *Code of Virginia*, as amended, NOTICE is hereby given that the owner shall remove the structure which might endanger the public health or safety of other residents of the Town, on or before thirty (30) days following two consecutive weeks of this publication, and failure to comply will result in the Town having to remove the structure and the cost or expense shall be charged to and paid by the owner and collected as taxes are collected. PROPERTY IDENTIFICATION - Unsafe structure OWNER - Lorraine M. Scheuerlein PROPERTY LOCATION AND TAX IDENTIFICATION - Parcel ID 4711-12-220 Property Description - PT of Tract 6 - 8 Staples Hgts I#010003231 411 Dobyns Road, Stuart, VA 24171 Town of Stuart Bryce M. Simmons, PE Town Manager (276) 694-3811

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Lord’s

(cont. from page 1)

tional, national organization, so every church in Patrick County ... they are actually supposed to be part of the Lord’s Acre sale. The problem was because it was a minister for two different Methodist churches, a lot of churches assumed it was for Methodists only,” she said.

However, Cardwell said the purpose of Lord’s Acre is to promote Christian stewardship among members, churches, and friends of Patrick County. She is working to expand the number of churches involved, and three have joined in recent months.

“We have made Disaster Relief Food Ministry part of the Lord’s Acre sale because all they do is mission work, and now we have made the Operation Shoebox Ministry, they are a separate entity in that Lord’s Acre sale for people to come and drop off donations in the boxes like toys or a T-shirt, or they can make a monetary donation that day,” she said.

Patrick County Christmas Cheer has also become a large part of the program. Cardwell said anyone who wants to adopt a child but cannot afford to do so fully can bring a toy or make a monetary donation during the sale.

“Once we do distribution, we will be able to go in and shop from various toys that were given,” Cardwell said.

She is also working to get Gideons International, an evangelical association, to participate and set up a booth at the event.

After the sale, individual churches keep the money they raised, but it must be used for mission work.

“Like we can’t pay a power bill with it. We can’t put it towards something like that in the church. It has to be used for mission projects. It cannot go towards a church budget,” she said.

However, if a church is struggling to stay open, Cardwell said another church may donate its proceeds to help that congrega-

tion. In that way, the proceeds are not being used by an individual church for its own budget.

“Then we tithe a tenth of the total amount that we make to the Penny House. The Lord’s Acre sale actually promotes our Patrick County Penny House to help pay power bills, keep it stocked,” she said.

The Penny House, located in Patrick Springs, opened in 1996.

“It began with a dream of Larry Vernon’s, who was a member of Lord’s Acre. His dream was for Patrick County to have a place of shelter and safety for either a person or a family of the county who had lost their home or personal possessions because of fire, flood, or other natural disasters,” Cardwell said.

The house was initially rented for \$1 a year from Tony and Cheryl Plaster. In 2022, the Lord’s Acre Committee was able to purchase it through fundraisers and donations.

Cardwell said churches and other organizations help keep the house stocked with necessities,

“Because if you had just went through a fire and you lost everything, well you don’t have any of that,” she said.

The Penny House is fully furnished with three bedrooms, a living room, kitchen, bathroom, and laundry room.

“It doesn’t cost you to stay there. You don’t have to pay for the power or anything. That’s what the (Lord’s Acre) sale is for, to fund the Penny House for people in Patrick County to use if they have a disaster,” she said.

The Penny House has helped more than 100 families in their time of need. Local fire departments, the sheriff’s office, and social services regularly refer people there.

While primarily used for families displaced by fires, Cardwell said the home has also been used in other circumstances.

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Saturday, October 18

SET UP TIME 8am to 10am

Festival starts at 10am until 4pm

Music • Crafts • Games

Music By:

11:00 - 11:45 am Elijah Smith and Levi Head "Bluegrass"

12:00 - 12:45 pm Face 2 Face - Christian Rock Band

1:00 - 1:45 pm Marcie Horne and Company

2:00 - 3:15 pm Warren, Bodle and Allen

Sound By: August Heat

Apple Dumpling 5-K

Early registration through Oct 5 - \$25.00

Oct 6 through Day of Festival - \$30.00

Contact Patrick County Chamber of Commerce- 276-694-6012 • director@patrickchamber.com

Registration at 7:00 am Race at 8:00 am

Outdoor Entertainment

For additional info, contact: Billy Gammons or Misty Disharoon @ 276-694-3811 or billygammons@stuartva.org or misty@stuartva.org

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Frogs celebrated at Library's Storytime



The library was full of young readers and future herpetologists at Storytime, with participants learning all about frogs' life and their behavior. Librarian Emee Tilly read, "Leaps and Bounce," by Susan Hood and "Fabulous Frogs," by Martin

Jenkins. Southwest Piedmont Master Naturalist Norma Bozenmayer and Jess Hines led a program on frogs using a model to demonstrate a frog's life, including metamorphosis (developing from an egg to a tadpole and finally

getting legs and arms and becoming a frog).

Frogs can eat thousands of mosquitoes using their long sticky tongue. Frogs are a great indicator of a healthy environment and an important part of the food web. Program participants then

painting frog rocks to decorate the Books, Blooms and Bugs Garden.

Take a look among the garden plants when visiting the library to see if you spot any frogs peeking out at you. Call or visit the library to learn more about frogs or other library programs.

SMITH RIVER DISTRICT - BOARD OF SUPERVISORS ELECTION TOWN HALL MEETING

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Fairystone Church
82 Fairystone Church Lp, Stuart, VA

FRIDAY, OCT. 24 | 6:30 TO 8:00PM

Fairystone Volunteer Fire Department
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J. E. B. Stuart and Laurel Hill

By Tom Perry
James Ewell Brown Stuart was born on February 6, 1833, at his parents' home, Laurel Hill, the seventh of eleven children and the youngest son born to Archibald and Elizabeth Letcher Pannill Stuart that survived. Young James lived here until 1845, when he traveled across the mountains to Wytheville to attend school. Three years later, he entered Emory and Henry College for two years. In 1850, he was appointed to the United States Military Academy at West Point, New York. Stuart graduated in 1854, thirteenth in his class of forty-six.

While at West Point, Stuart wrote of his feelings for Laurel Hill, "Although everyone deems his own home, 'A spot supremely blest, A dearer, sweeter spot than all the rest', Yet experience has taught me that it is necessary to be deprived of it awhile in order to appreciate it properly. I might have rambled over the dear old hills of Patrick amid all the pleasures of a mountain home for a lifetime."

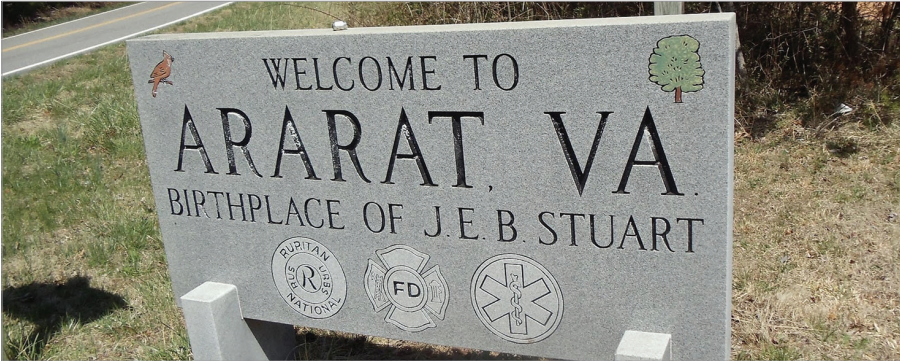
Over the next seven years, he would serve in the mounted arm of the United States Army in Texas with the Mounted Rifles and then in the First United States Cavalry in the Kansas Territory. He rose to the rank of Captain when he resigned in 1861 to join the forces of Virginia and then the Confederate States of America. Stuart married Flora Cooke in 1855, and they had three children who survived. Two of them went on to have children of their own.

While in the service of the United States Army, he wrote his mother about giving one hundred dollars, which he hoped she would match for the building of a log church near Laurel Hill. It speaks volumes that, despite being over a thousand miles away, he would be interested in a "respectable free church" in Patrick County. When she sold the property in 1859, she set aside an acre for a church as her son requested.

With the firing on Fort Sumter and President Abraham Lincoln calling for troops to put down the "rebellion," Virginia seceded from the Union. Stuart, like many other Southerners, resigned his commission to fight with his state. He served in every major battle in the eastern theater of the war from 1861 until he died in 1864.

Stuart is remembered for his reconnaissance, gathering information on the movements and dispositions of the Yankee forces. His raids were known for completely riding around the Union army three times, beginning in June 1862 around Richmond.

In the summer of 1863, Stuart's most significant moment as a soldier would be when he took command of the wounded "Stonewall" Jackson during the battle of Chancellorsville, leading the second corps of Robert E. Lee's Army of Northern Virginia to victory. A month later, Stuart commanded during the largest cavalry battle of the Civil War at Brandy Station. The most controversial time of Stuart's military career would occur immediately afterwards with the Gettysburg campaign.



Laurel Hill is located in the far southwestern part of Patrick County in Ararat. The 75-acre site, owned by the non-profit J.E.B. Stuart Birthplace Preservation Trust, is open to the public for walking tours and annual events, including a Civil War encampment in the fall during the first weekend in October. This year, it will be held on October 4.

In a letter purchased by the Virginia Historical Society, Jeb Stuart wrote his brother William Alexander in December 1863, "If I should survive this war, I desire to settle down on a farm...I am very partial to the old homestead at Patrick. I wonder if it could be bought?"

Laurel Hill is located in the far southwestern part of Patrick County in Ararat, Virginia, on the dividing line between the piedmont and the mountains and within sight of the boundary line of North Carolina and Virginia. The 75-acre site, owned by the non-profit J.E.B. Stuart Birthplace Preservation Trust, is open to the public for walking tours and annual events, including a Civil War encampment in the fall during the first weekend in October. This year, it is October 4.

In 1998, the "Old Dominion" placed Laurel Hill on the Virginia Landmark Register, followed in 1999 by its inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places. In 2000, the Virginia Historical Highway Marker replaced the 1932 marker. Both markers are now on the property.

Ironically, like "Jeb" Stuart, his great-grandfather, William Letcher, lost his life fighting for his country's independence while still in his early thirties. When the pro-British or Tories, as they were known, picked Letcher out as a target and killed him in August 1780. Letcher is buried there on the Laurel Hill property in the oldest marked grave in Patrick County. If J. E. B. Stuart came back to Laurel Hill, the only thing he would recognize would be the grave of his great-grandfather.

Confederate Major General Jeb Stuart told his brother William Alexander, "I would give anything to make a pilgrimage to the old place, and when the war is over quietly to spend the rest of my days there." Stuart's love of Laurel Hill lasted his entire life.

Wade's

(cont. from page 1)



Owner Coy Wade still works at his business 50 years after opening.

ting parking and that stuff for folks" but "everybody's tickled to death when we have one of these celebrations. I have people ask me almost every year, like next year at this time people will be saying, 'Are you going to have another celebration this year?'" he said.

While he hopes for good weather, Wade said the celebration will be held rain or shine.

"If it rains, I'm going to move it inside to my pack house," he said.

Wade said the orchard has grown over the years. When his father first started, only apples were sold, and later peaches were added.

"In 1975 when he started the orchard, he built this little store, then he started planting a few vegetables, and it's grown since then. Now, I'm planting 25 acres of vegetables along with our apples and peaches," he said, adding that 20 of those acres are dedicated to growing pumpkins for the fall season.

"It just seems like we just keep growing every year," he said.

Despite the variety of produce available, apples and peaches remain the orchard's most popular

items.

"Our apples and peaches are kind of our draw. That's what we're known for, and that's what people keep coming here forever and buying," he said.

Wade said the seven varieties of tomatoes are also popular, as is his mountain cabbage.

"People probably come from three different states to buy my tomatoes," he said. "I try to meet what the customer wants. I try a little something new every year, I try a different variety or something like that to see what the public's reaction is."

While the orchard is open from July to December, September and October are the busiest months because apples are being harvested.

"We try to grow probably 90 percent of what we sell in the store. There's a few things in the store I don't grow, but normally I sell what I grow," he said.

Wade noted his father still works at the business 50 years after opening.

"He's 87 now and he's still here every day," he said.



While known for its apples and peaches, Wade's Orchard sells a variety of fresh produce, including tomatoes, cabbage, turnips, and more.

Wades Orchard

Celebrates
50 years!

Saturday, September 27
10 am to 4 pm

Yall come and join our family in celebrating 50 years of providing some of the best local produce to be found anywhere!

LIVE MUSIC BY:

10-12: Travis Frye & Blue Mountain

12-2: Twin Creeks String Band

2-4: Slate Mountain Ramblers

-Hot Dogs

-Chicken BBQ

-Nacho w/cheese & chili

Provided by:
Woolwine Ruritan Club

Don't forget to check out our usual supply of produce, honeys, jams, pickles & more!

Apple butter made on site!

Homemade Donuts!

Apple Cider!

Fried Apple Pies!

Bring your own chair!

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