THE ENTERPRISE

Vol. 150 No. 29 Website: www.theenterprise.net STUART, VIRGINIA WEDNESDAY, JULY 22, 2026 USPS 523-500 $1.50

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

Calendar 11
Church 9
Classified 10
Family Album 5
Obituaries 8
Sports 6
Viewpoints 4

Residents continue to oppose proposed Dogwood Road closure





Dr. Richard Cole was presented the July Patrick County Partner award.

By Taylor Boyd

Nearly a year after the Patrick County Board of Supervisors voted to begin the process of closing a section of Dogwood Road in Critz, more than 20 residents urged the board to reconsider during its July 13 meeting.

The proposed closure involves the section of Dogwood Road directly in front of Hardin Reynolds Memorial School (HRMS).

The Patrick County School Board voted June 17, 2025, to ask the Board of Supervisors to begin the process of abandoning that section of the road. The supervisors approved a resolution to discontinue the roadway in a 3-1-1 vote at their Sept. 8 meeting, and the school board reaffirmed its support for the closure at its June meeting.

The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) has been working with the Patrick County Board of Supervisors and Patrick County School Board to discuss the options for Dogwood Road, according to a Salem District VDOT spokesperson.

"Last fall, the required 30-day public hearing advertisement in the newspaper for the proposed discontinuance did not appear. This error was outside of VDOT's control, but it means that further steps are required prior to any action being taken on Dogwood Road, either by the County or VDOT. We will continue to work with the county during this process and next steps," according to the spokesperson.

Tara Burgess said closing that portion of Dogwood Road would harm the Critz community by eliminating a central intersection and reducing access to local destinations.

(See Residents p. 13)

School board receives budget, after-school program updates

By Taylor Boyd

The Patrick County School Board received an update on enrollment for the Healthy Kids after-school program at its July 14 meeting and approved updates to the fiscal year 2027 budget.

The budget update followed the General Assembly's recent passage of its budget.

Superintendent Dr. Jason Wood said the additional $87,288 requested from the county represents the locality's required local effort/required local match.

"With this new calculation tool, it is an increase that the county will have to give us," he said.

The board also learned that enrollment is underway for Healthy Kids, a New York-based company that provides affordable after-school and summer child care programs.

The after-school program will be offered at every elementary school except Patrick Springs Primary and Hardin Reynolds Memorial schools, where students will be served at Patrick Springs.

Wood said Healthy Kids is working to secure

(See School p. 7)

Kitchen fire triggers sprinkler system, forces Cotton Mill evacuation

By Taylor Boyd

Nearly a year after residents of Cotton Mill Apartments were forced from their homes by a sprinkler system flood, they were displaced again after a kitchen fire triggered the building's sprinklers.

Patrick County Emergency Management Director Scottie Cassell said an apparent stove fire in a third-floor apartment caused the sprinkler system to go off on Friday, July 17.

"The sprinkler system was activated and flooded the building again," he said.

A similar incident occurred July 15, 2025.

Cassell said no one was injured in the fire or evacuation.

"One did go to the hospital on his own just to be checked out. He was having some respiratory issues, but everybody was fine," he said.

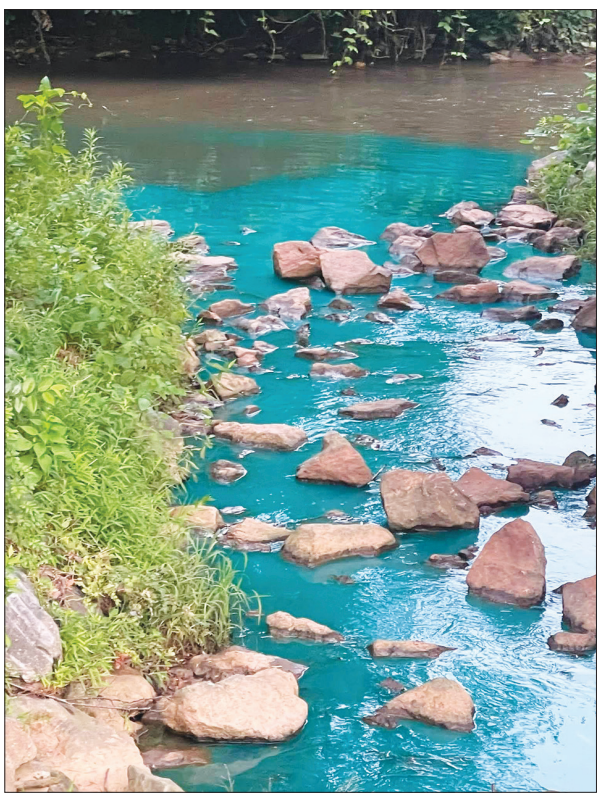


Firefighters and other first responders responded to an apparent kitchen fire at Cotton Mill Apartments on July 17. The building's sprinkler system activated, causing significant water damage.

Because of the water damage caused by the sprinkler system, residents have been unable to return to their apartments.

"The Red Cross stepped in and put 14 of them up the first night at the Dutch Inn in Collinsville, and some of the others found places on their own. Then Saturday, we had an-

(See Kitchen p. 2)



A section of Campbell Branch turned blue-green following an accidental dye spill. (Photos contributed by Carol Ragsdale.)

Dye spill turns section of Campbell Branch blue-green

By Taylor Boyd

Local officials and the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) responded Saturday, July 18, after discolored water was observed in Campbell Branch in Stuart.

Carol Ragsdale reported the discoloration after seeing the waterway while taking an early morning walk on the Mayo River Trail.

According to a DEQ social media post, a nearby business accidentally spilled blue-green dyed hydroseeding mulch and is working to recover as much of the material as possible.

"While the creek looks alarming, the dye is nontoxic. No wildlife impacts have been reported," the post states.

(See Dye Spill p. 6)

Democratic candidates discuss health care, data centers in virtual forum

By Taylor Boyd

The three Democrats seeking their party's nomination to challenge U.S. Rep. Morgan Griffith, R-Salem, in Virginia's 9th Congressional District discussed health care, data centers, climate change and gun violence during an online forum for undecided voters July 15.

Candidates Adam Murphy, Joy Powers and Douglas Crockett answered questions on issues affecting Southwest Virginia ahead of the Aug. 4 Democratic primary. The winner will face Griffith in the Nov. 4 general election.

Medicare, rural health care

Murphy said he supports Medicare for All and would consider another single-payer system if a better option were proposed.

"If someone comes up with a better single-payer universal health care system that's even better than Medicare for All, I'd be willing to listen, but in the time since the ACA (Affordable Care Act) has been passed, no one's come up with anything better than that," he said.

Murphy said improving/expanding rural health care will require greater investment in emergency medical services, updated reimbursement formulas and expanded services.

"In our areas you often have to travel much farther and get reimbursed at much worse rates than in places that are more urban and dense, and that's just due to the way that funding formula is done. We're going to have to update that to make sure our rural areas actually get better reimbursement rates so these volunteer groups are able to get to people," he said.

Crockett said he supports universal health care in principle, but questioned whether campaigning on Medicare for All is politically realistic.

"I think to endorse that at this point is to be kind of blind to the current political situation," he said. "As soon as you go to that place, you will lose a lot of people on the right. Not necessarily because they're practically opposed to it, but because there are people who will start yelling, 'You're a socialist.'"

He said Congress should expand access to critical access hospitals by

(See Democratic p. 3)

Election information

- Democratic primary: **Tuesday, Aug. 4**
- Voter registration deadline: **Friday, July 24**
- Candidates: **Douglas Crockett, Adam Murphy and Joy Powers**
- Republican nominee: **Incumbent U.S. Rep. Morgan Griffith, R-Salem**
- General election: **Tuesday, Nov. 4**

Kitchen

(cont. from page 1)



The fire marshal and building inspector are scheduled to examine the property, but it is not yet known when residents will be able to come home.



Residents of Cotton Mill Apartments were displaced over the weekend after water from the building's sprinkler system damaged the apartments.

other 18 residents that came up for assistance from the Red Cross, and the Red Cross helped them," Cassell said.

As with last year's incident, an emergency shelter was opened, although no one stayed there overnight, Cassell said.

Responding agencies included the Patrick Springs and Stuart volunteer fire departments, JEB Stuart Volunteer Rescue Squad, Smith River Rescue Squad and the Stuart Community Hospital ambulance service.

As of Monday, July 20, Cassell said he did not know when residents would be able to return to the building.

He said the fire marshal and building inspector were scheduled to examine the property July 21, after which residents could potentially be allowed to move back into their apartments.

DRBA adds interactive eagle display at Philpott Visitor Center



DRBA's Education Staff and Philpott Lake Park Ranger are seen here spreading their wings at the Philpott Visitor Center with our new eagle wingspan banner.
Stop by, snap a photo, and see just how impressive an eagle's wingspan really is!



Check out DRBA's eagle booth with handouts, stickers, and information about the eagle's conservation comeback story.

The Dan River Basin Association (DRBA) has added an interactive bald eagle wingspan display to its Soaring Together summer campaign at the Philpott Lake Visitor Center.

The exhibit, located at 1058 Philpott Dam Road in Bassett, allows visitors to take photos with an eagle wingspan backdrop while learning about bald eagles and their role in the region. The display will remain open through Aug. 10.

Visitors also can explore the center's wildlife exhibits and learn about the natural and cultural history of Philpott Lake. Purchases from the visitor center's gift kiosk support DRBA's environmental education programs.

According to the organization, those programs reach more than 10,000 youth and adults each year throughout the Dan River Basin, promoting watershed education and conservation.

More information about the Soaring Together campaign is available through DRBA.

Nania returns as P&HCC Head Baseball Coach



Brandon Nania is returning to lead the Patrick & Henry Community College (P&HCC) Patriots Baseball program as Head Coach for the 2026-2027 season.

"I'm incredibly excited to return home to Patrick & Henry. The Patriots baseball program has built a tradition of excellence both on the field and in the classroom, and I'm honored to have the opportunity to lead the next chapter. Our goal is to continue developing outstanding student-athletes, compete for championships, and build a program that our players, alumni, and community can be proud of. I look forward to continuing the pursuit of a national championship while investing in the growth of every player who wears the Patriots uniform," said Nania.

A former Patriot himself, Nania returned to P&H as an assistant coach for the 2021 Region 10 Championship team before serving as head coach for four seasons. He returns to P&HCC this year after a season coaching at Radford University. Under Nania's leadership, the Pats were 2024 Region 10 West Division Champions, were ranked as high as No. 9 nationally (NJCAA), consistently ranked among the Top 10 nationally in player transfers to NCAA Division I & II programs, and were three-time Patrick & Henry Community College Athletics Community Service Award recipient. Coach Nania led 16 All-Region selections including Co-Defensive Player of the Year (2025), Region 10 Player of the Year (2025), 2 NJCAA All-Americans, 1 Rawlings Gold Glove Award winner (2025), and JBB 2-Way Player of the Year (2025).

"Coach Nania has a proven history of strong leadership and has built a program of excellence at Patrick & Henry. I look forward to working with him and to seeing where he takes the team this year and in the future," said Brandon Johnson, Director of Athletics & Student Engagement at Patrick & Henry.

Pets of the Week





This sweet senior female named Stella, is a Catahoula mix. She is quiet and gentle. She knows how to sit for a treat and is extremely loving. Stella has been at the shelter too long, and waits for someone who will love her.

This adorable little kitty is ready to be adopted, along with many, many other kittens of every color. Like them, she is waiting for a forever home.

Please save a life! Adopt! All dogs and cats at the shelter deserve a permanent, loving home. 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 vaccinations.

The Blue Ridge Animal Welfare League provides pet food and spay/neuter assistance. Visit the Blue Ridge Animal Welfare League Facebook page to see our videos of these amazing pets.

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


email us
DHALL@THEENTERPRISE.NET

Democratic

(cont. from page 1)

changing eligibility rules and reimbursement rates.

Powers also said universal health care is necessary.

"It may be politically inconvenient to say that, but I do think the reality is people are going to die next year at a very alarming rate, and we have to be really honest with our neighbors about that," she said.

She also called for changes to the federal 340B drug pricing program, saying funding changes have contributed to rural clinic closures, and said more incentives are needed to recruit medical professionals to the district.

Data centers and climate

All three candidates voiced support for a temporary moratorium on data center construction while additional environmental and infrastructure concerns are addressed.

Powers said data centers raise concerns about water use and public trust.

"Even Morgan Griffith at one of his townhalls last night, made the comment that China is trying to scare us into not wanting data centers. China already has less data centers than the entire state of Virginia does, and honestly I feel like China is laughing at us - use our resources, waste them, all for kind of the greed of a few in our country," Powers said.

"We are in a national water crisis, and we must actually get this situation under control," she said.

She also said climate change demands immediate action.

"We're seeing these floods and these storms continuously hit our district year after year. That is from climate change. Those are results, and we absolutely must look to see what we can do."

Crockett said questions about electric demand, water consumption, diesel generators and costs to consumers should be answered before more data centers are approved.

"I have seen this happen a number of times in my life where the industry gets out ahead of the government and people make their profits, and then later on we find out, 'Hey, we were hurting people, we were killing people, we were destroying the environment,' and it's happening again," he said.

Murphy called data centers "the great bogeyman of the time. Pretty much across the board they are a bad deal," he said.

Murphy said he supports stricter federal environmental standards, including limits on water use, sound levels and backup generators.

"I think we need to put some limits around data center developments, around the environmental costs, that they need to hit certain standards, that they have to pass an environmental survey, and they cannot proceed if that environmental survey isn't passed," he said.

Murphy also called climate change "the greatest existential threat of the time."

Gun violence

Crockett said gun violence should be addressed through both policy changes and recognition of broader social issues.

He said he supports restrictions on where firearms may be carried, limits on certain firearms and magazine capacities, and prohibitions for some people with criminal records or mental health issues.

Murphy, who described himself as a firearm owner and supporter of the Second Amendment, said many firearm deaths are tied to suicide and mental health.

"I feel like a big chunk of those specific categories are due to mental health, and specifically due to mental health in an American system that has let people fall through the gaps year after year," he said.

Murphy said he supports measures such as red flag laws and gun safety laws, but is more hesitant about magazine restrictions.

Powers, who said she previously worked as a compliance manager for firearms sales and manufacturing, said her experience convinced her universal background checks are needed.

"What was so grievous about that entire situation was knowing those same individuals who would be charged criminally for trying to buy a gun from me and our store could go to a gun show or private seller and legally still buy a gun," she said. "We absolutely, absolutely have to have universal background checks in this country."

Deadline extended for local agriculture photo contest

By Patrick County Farm Bureau

The entry deadline has been extended and entries are now being accepted through July 31 for the Patrick County Farm Bureau photo contest, sponsored by the Patrick County Farm Bureau Women's and Young Farmer's Committees.

Winning entries will be published in the 2027 Patrick County Farm Bureau calendar. Everyone is encouraged to send photos of barns, equipment, farm scenes, livestock and children/adults working in agriculture throughout the seasons.

According to Sandra Heath, member of the Patrick County Farm Board of Directors, this contest is open to anyone who would like to enter. Entrants are asked to limit submissions to 10 or fewer photos. All photos must be taken by the entrant. Photos must be taken in Patrick County. A completed release form must accompany submitted photo(s).

Photos need to be submitted as 8"x10" 300 dpi images (JPEG will be accepted). Photos must not be altered in any way. Date stamps on photos will not be accepted. Photos will not be returned and become property of Patrick County Farm Bureau. Email digital entries to Amber Lawless at amber.lawless@vafb.com.

This contest is open to anyone. However, if you are not already a Patrick County Farm Bureau member, we encourage you to join the growing membership. Being a member is a simple yet powerful way to put your support squarely behind agriculture. It also gives you access to discounts on things like lodging, shopping, restaurants and even your prescription medication. And, as always, you support farming, agriculture and the Virginia way of life.

For questions or to pick up an entry form, contact Lawless or Sadie Perry Brown at the Patrick County Farm Bureau office, 276-694-7108, or stop by the office located across from Hardee's in Stuart, Virginia. Also, please visit the Patrick County Farm Bureau Facebook Page.

PCRTA installs new officers

Patrick County Retired Teachers installed officers at their regular meeting June 1, 2026. Cathy Natoli installed the following officers: Phyllis Eastridge, President; Betty Perry, Vice President; Judy Lacks, Secretary; and Stephanie Martin, Treasurer.

Aaliyah Reynolds was the recipient of the Patrick County Retired Teachers scholarship in the amount of $500 presented at the Award Assembly in May. She will be attending Radford University in the fall and studying communication and speech disorders.

A picnic was planned for June 12 to honor the 2026 Patrick County Retiring Educators and their families. It was held at the DeHart Picnic Shelter or P-HCC Community Room. Congratulations to the honorees for a job well done!

An important item of business was handled concerning the bylaws on membership. Membership will now read that Patrick County Retired Teachers, the name given the organization when it was organized in 1978, is open to any school personnel who has worked at least 5 years and lives in the area served by the Patrick County Retired Teachers Association, upon payment of the prescribed dues.

For the program, Norma Bozenmayer led the group in making Christmas bags for the Developmental Center clients.

Hostesses for the meeting were Janet and Nelson Moore, Stephanie Martin, and Sue Bleckley.

Thank you for reading
The Enterprise

FIND US ON FACEBOOK

Local agriculture sign up announced

By the PC Soil & Water Conservation District

The Patrick County Soil and Water Conservation District office announces voluntary local sign-up period for the 2026/2027 Virginia Agricultural Best Management Practice (BMP) State Cost-Share Funding Program.

Agricultural producers who farm in Patrick County can sign up now. To make an appointment for a field visit to see how the district can assist you in your farming operation, please contact the Patrick SWCD office at 276-694-2911.

With the Commonwealth of Virginia's Department of Conservation and Recreation state funding and oversight, The cost-share program supports the use of various practices in conservation planning to treat cropland, pastureland, and forested land, which often helps production while also contributing to the health of the waters in Patrick County. Some BMPs are paid for at a flat rate or straight per-acre rate while others are cost-shared on a percentage basis. These practices can also help boost farm productivity and profitability.

Soil and water conservation districts were established in the 1930s after approximately 35 million acres of formerly cultivated land were destroyed for crop production because of poor land management practices

To learn more, please feel free to contact Tony Collins or Sandra Heath at the District office at 276-694-2911 to schedule a field visit. With their combined over 50 years of service, they look forward to assisting you. The Patrick SWCD office is located at 104 Via Avenue in Stuart on the same street as the Patrick County school bus garage. Learn about all the Patrick County Soil and Water Conservation District's programs and resources at patrickswcd.org as well.

Chamber, Longwood Center to host Lunch & Learn

The Patrick County Chamber of Commerce & Longwood Small Business Center invites business owners, managers, supervisors, and human resource professionals to attend an informative Lunch & Learn focused on recent changes to Virginia employment laws and best practices for updating employee handbooks.

The program will be held on Tuesday, August 18, at 12 p.m. in Patrick & Henry Community College — Stuart site, and will be presented by attorneys from Woods Rogers Law Firm.

Employment laws continue to evolve, making it essential for employers to stay informed and ensure workplace policies remain current and compliant. During this session, attendees will receive an overview of recent Virginia employment law updates, learn key considerations for reviewing and revising employee handbooks, and have the opportunity to ask questions relevant to their organizations.

"An up-to-date employee handbook is one of the most valuable tools a business can have," said Rebecca Adcock, Executive Director of the Patrick County Chamber of Commerce. "This Lunch & Learn is an excellent opportunity for employers to gain practical guidance from experienced employment law professionals and better understand changes that may impact their workplace."

The program is complimentary for Patrick County Chamber of Commerce members. The registration fee for non-members is $20. Light refreshments will be served.

Advance registration is required, and seating is limited.

To register or learn more, contact the Patrick County Chamber of Commerce or visit www.patrickchamber.com.

Arrests Reported

The Patrick County Sheriff's Office reported the following:

*Jacob Lee Bowman, 24, of Stuart, was charged July 7 with two counts probation violation and one count obstruct justice: official victim, no threat/force. Senior Deputy N.A. Wolfe was the arresting officer.

*Randy Michael Kingsley, 40, of Patrick Springs, was charged July 9 with assault. Senior Deputy J.S. Kendrick was the arresting officer.

*Taylor Lynn Bowman, 27, of Martinsville, was charged July 12 with fail to appear. Senior Deputy N.A. Wolfe was the arresting officer.

*James Douglas Horton, 75, of Meadows of Dan, was charged July 13 with possess Sch. I or II drugs. Lt. O. Tejeda was the arresting officer.

*Eli Edward Donbullion, 61, of Meadows of Dan, was charged July 13 with possess Sch. I or II drugs. Lt. O. Tejeda was the arresting officer.

*Tyler Benjamin Dehart, 28, of Bassett, was charged July 14 with fail to appear. Henry County made the arrest for Patrick County.

*Austin A. Wolfman, 38, of Claudville, was charged July 15 with assault. Senior Deputy Mark Sowder was the arresting officer.

*Christopher Lee Harris, 43, address unavailable, was charged July 16 with probation violation. Trooper D. Bryant was the arresting officer.

End Birthright Citizenship in the Territories



Morgan Griffith

Representative

At the close of June, the Supreme Court of the United States (SCOTUS) weighed in on various issues that impact the country.

Perhaps the SCOTUS decision to receive the most media attention is Trump v. Barbara. This case concerns the Citizenship Clause in the Fourteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

The Citizenship Clause specifically states, "all persons born or naturalized in the United States and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the State wherein they reside."

The Trump Administration challenged this definition to argue the Citizenship Clause does not apply to children born in the United States to illegal immigrants. Through Executive action on birthright citizenship, automatic U.S. citizenship would not apply to these newborns.

Trump's Executive action became the subject of SCOTUS scrutiny in Trump v. Barbara.

SCOTUS ruled against the Administration. Whether we like it or not, absent a Constitutional amendment, birthright citizenship will remain in place for the U.S. States.

However, this ruling does not address the birthright citizenship process in the U.S. territories.

Citizenship in the territories is distinct from that of the States.

Currently, four of the five inhabited U.S. territories have been granted U.S. citizenship by laws passed in Congress. These are Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, the Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico.

These four territories exercise these powers because Congress extended such rights in statute through laws like the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952. The Northern Mariana Islands have acquired such rights through a different statutory mechanism.

The U.S. territory of American Samoa is the lone exception. Those born in this territory are considered American nationals but have not been granted citizenship status by Congress.

Accordingly, birthright citizenship does not apply currently in American Samoa.

The application under the Barbara case of birthright citizenship in the U.S. territories differs from what is established in the 50 U.S. States according to Supreme Court cases.

The birthright discrepancy between the territories and the States dates to legal cases beginning in the early 20th century known as the Insular Cases.

Generally, these cases governed which constitutional protections apply in U.S. territories.

Additionally, since 2010, two federal courts of appeals cases have rejected the notion that those born in the U.S. territories access the same automatic rights by virtue of the Constitution as those in the U.S. states.

Thus, the Barbara case leaves the door open for Congressional action on citizenship in the American territories. I am leading a bill to crack down on abuse of birthright citizenship in the territories. This bill should stop the so-called "birth tourism" that is taking place in the American territories.

Because of the current birthright laws in place in the territories, any child born in a U.S. territory (minus American Samoa) accesses U.S. citizenship automatically.

Accordingly, business in the "birth tourism" industry, which Justice Clarence Thomas references in his dissent of Trump v. Barbara, empowers groups to exploit U.S. citizenship laws for personal gain.

A New York Post article this year notes estimates of roughly 1,000 companies that offer "birth tourism" services.

One of the referenced China-based "birth tourism" companies advertises with the slogan "Create beautiful memories while having an American baby."

"Birth tourists" and their babies later return to the parent's country of origin. But by providing U.S. citizenship to their child, one day their child can access the benefits that U.S. citizenship has to offer.

That can come in the form of work, education, voting in federal elections and more.

This is outrageous and I am working on a legislative fix.

Just like Congress possesses the power to grant the territories Constitutional rights in statute, we have the power to take them away in statute.

Whereas under Barbara a Constitutional amendment would be needed to change birthright citizenship in the 50 U.S. states, a simple statutory reform for the U.S. territories is a realistic solution with real world implications.

Accordingly, I am leading the charge in Congress to rectify this problem, clarify U.S. citizenship laws in the territories and combat foreign nationals who are exploiting loopholes in our citizenship laws to take advantage of U.S. generosity.

My bill would stop "birth tourism" in the U.S. territories!

While this change is limited to the territories, it is the only step we can currently take to effectively protect U.S. citizenship.

Letter to the Editor

Dear Madam Editor,

Every year, a few dedicated folks take time away from their families and holiday activities to help in the hard work of setting up, shooting, and taking down the annual Patrick County Fourth of July Fireworks Display at DeHart Park in Stuart. The County of Patrick, the County's Tourism Advisory Council, and the Town of Stuart enabled us to shoot what we promised would be a show appropriately commemorating our Nation's 250th Birthday. I hope that you think we delivered.

Those persons who made it happen included Deputy Fireworks Coordinator Steve Allen; Assistant Fireworks Coordinators Ivan Byers and Alex Pegram; Patrick County Emergency Coordinator Scottie Cassell; and Jonathan Wilson, John West, David Goode, Jerry Woods, Terri Mills, Ronald Terry, Austin Errichetti, Wesley Hudson, Will Vernon, Terry Tilley, Randy West, Greg Meade, Brad Lawless, Terry Dalton, and Karen Corbett. Their safety-conscious hard work is much appreciated.

Chris Corbett,
Patrick County Fireworks Coordinator

Adams named vice president for athletics

Cleive Adams was named Vice President for Athletics at Ferrum College, recognizing his outstanding leadership and unwavering commitment to the college, its student-athletes, and the continued growth of Panther Athletics.

A Ferrum College alumnus, former student-athlete, and football coach, Adams has dedicated his career to advancing the mission of his alma mater. Since returning to Ferrum College, he has provided visionary leadership during one of the most significant periods in the history of the athletics program, guiding the institution through its successful transition from NCAA Division III to NCAA Division II membership and Conference Carolinas competition.

Under Adams' leadership, Ferrum College has strengthened its commitment to academic excellence, competitive success, student development, and compliance while positioning Panther Athletics for continued growth at the national level. His leadership has also expanded opportunities for student-athletes, enhanced the student-athlete experience, strengthened external partnerships and fundraising efforts, and fostered a culture built upon integrity, accountability, and service.

Throughout his tenure, Adams has championed the philosophy that athletics serves as an extension of the educational mission of Ferrum College, preparing students not only for competition, but for lives of leadership, service, and success beyond graduation. His leadership has reinforced the College's commitment to developing the whole student while advancing the visibility and reputation of Panther Athletics.

"Coach Cleive Adams' appointment as Vice President for Athletics is a powerful reflection of the Ferrum College story—a proud alumnus returning to serve and lead the institution that helped shape him," said Dr. Mirta M. Martin, president of Ferrum College. "Since returning to the College, Coach Adams has provided outstanding leadership and vision, guiding Panther Athletics through the historic transition to NCAA Division II while building a culture centered on excellence, integrity, academic achievement, and student development. His journey from Ferrum College student-athlete to Vice President for Athletics exemplifies our mission in action—preparing individuals to lead, serve, and make a difference."

"I am deeply honored to continue serving my alma mater and the campus community in the role of Vice President for Athletics, " said Adams. "I recognize the importance of this appointment as we continue the work of redefining and shaping the Ferrum College of the future. I am excited to continue working closely with President Martin, the Senior Leadership Team, and colleagues across campus in a collaborative effort to stay ahead of the curve as we confront the challenges facing small colleges nationally, while remaining firmly committed to the mission and values that make Ferrum special."

As Vice President for Athletics, Adams will continue to provide strategic leadership for the College's NCAA Division II athletics program, overseeing intercollegiate athletics, student-athlete success, compliance, facilities, fundraising, strategic planning, and community engagement. As a member of the President's Senior Leadership Team, he will continue helping advance the College's strategic priorities and institutional mission.

Adams added, "Athletics is an integral part of the Ferrum College experience and has a tremendous responsibility to positively impact our student-athletes, strengthen our campus culture, support institutional enrollment and retention efforts, and serve as a source of pride and connection for our alumni and surrounding community. I remain deeply committed to leading our athletic department through this important journey and ensuring that athletics continues to serve as a collaborative and impactful partner in advancing the broader mission and future of the College. At the heart of that mission is our responsibility to provide an environment where students can enter with promise, leave with purpose, and carry the torch of Ferrum into their professional and personal lives. I look forward to continuing this journey alongside our campus community as we prepare the next generation of Ferrum graduates to lead, serve, and live out our enduring motto: 'Not Self, But Others.'"

Adams' promotion reflects Ferrum College's continued commitment to developing leaders from within its own community and investing in individuals whose lives and careers embody the transformative power of a Ferrum College education.

THE ENTERPRISE
THE ENTERPRISE
Established in 1876
USPS 523-500
P.O. Box 429, Lewisburg, WV 24901
Phone (304) 647-5724 *Mountain Media*
www.theenterprise.net

PUBLISHER
Michael Showell
EDITOR
Debbie Hall
ADVERTISING
Wendi Craig
advertise@mainstreetnewspapers.com

The oldest continuously operated business in Patrick County

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

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

Postmaster: send address changes to The Enterprise, P.O. Box 348, Stuart, VA 24171-0348. Subscription Rates: $37 per year in Patrick County; $50 per year in state; $50 per year out of state. Single copies $1.50.

Conservancy offers grants to qualifying landowners

The Southern Virginia Land Conservancy is offering grant payments to landowners who wish to complete a conservation easement on their farm or forest land.

Thanks to a grant from the Virginia Tobacco Region Revitalization Commission, Southern Virginia Land Conservancy is offering qualifying landowners grants of up to $10,000 to help offset the cost of professional services (legal and appraisal fees) necessary for completing a conservation easement.

Landowners must own land that is in active agricultural use (including forestry), and must also fall under maximum income requirements. Grant awards are available to landowners in Patrick, Henry, Pittsylvania and Halifax counties. Landowners must also meet the land conservancy's requirements for accepting an easement on their property.

The first step is speaking with Southern Virginia Land Conservancy staff. For more information, contact Chris Holdren at (276) 224-6489 or choldren@svalc.org.

Patrick Pioneers

Miss Carrie Burwell and Wayside Community Church

By Beverly Belcher Woody

In the Enterprise, Volume 48, Number 15, 12 April 1928, a wonderful letter of thanks, which wound up being a great history of the Wayside Community Church, was published.

Here is the letter in its entirety, written by Wayside Church Board of Trustees, J. A. Gilbert, donator of the plot of land, W. L. Ashby, and E. L. Bryant.

"In 1872 the first church was built at Wayside and used by all denominations. In 1908, the log structure was replaced by a frame building to be used as a church and school building. For a number of years, the Methodist Conference sent a preacher to us once a month, but in recent years there has been no regular preacher, and the building has been used mostly as a schoolhouse and for funerals. In the Spring of 1926, the building was destroyed by fire and we almost despaired of ever getting another, but from time to time we would have meetings and discuss how we would build another church and there did not seem to be anything to pledge but labor. Finally, in the spring of 1927, our good friend, Miss Carrie Burwell of Pittsburgh, asked us to send her a copy of the deed to the lot to her and she would see if she could not interest some of her northern friends in our behalf. We sent the deed and when she came to Stuart for her summer vacation, she brought $600, and we immediately got busy. We wrote letters to people whom we knew to be interested in matters of this kind and received quite a nice sum from them. Then we had ice cream suppers, cake sales, etc., which we realized a nice amount, all of which brought us nearer to the new building we had planned. After getting $1000 together, we signed the contract and neighbors who could not give money, gave their time, and so we have now almost completed a neat little brick church of which any community may be proud.

We have school there this winter and everyone seems to be comfortable and happy, so every person old and young wishes to thank the people who helped make it possible. Most especially do we wish to thank Miss Burwell for her untiring efforts while here on her vacation, and her Pittsburgh friends who gave her money. We hope that someday they may come to the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia and visit the little red brick church so wonderfully built. We want to thank the people of Stuart who patronized us when we had our suppers and etc., and all the people of other communities who helped in any way. I can tell you we would get terribly discouraged when we realized that we must have more money before we could go any further. At times, then we would remember that God helps those who help themselves, so we kept right. Some days there would be only two at work, others having to attend home duties, then some good Samaritan would send us a small check and we would try again, never giving up. To anyone who helped in any way, we sincerely hope that each person that gave time, money, advice, and good wishes may visit us so we may have the opportunity of thanking them personally. So, we do again, thank you and God bless and keep you. The Wayside Community. J.A. Gilbert, - donator of plot, W. L. Ashby, and E. L. Bryant. Wayside Community Church Board of Trustees.

My next question was who in the world was Miss Carrie Burwell? The Enterprise provided some great information about Miss Burwell's comings and goings, but I still had to do a lot of searching to find out who were parents were. It was confusing because one of the clippings stated that her sister was Dinnie Gilbert. How could Dinnie's last name be Gilbert and Carrie's last name be Burwell?

I found Miss Carrie Burwell in the census records for the 1920's through the 1940's as working as a licensed practical nurse in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

I finally found the parents of Carrie's nephew, Joseph Burwell Abshire, listed as J. P. Abshire and Adina "Dinnie" Gilbert. I thought I would get some confirmation, but Dinnie did not give her parents name when they applied for a marriage license in Roanoke.

One of the most important breakthroughs in my research came through the death certificate of Adina "Dinnie" Gilbert/Burwell Abshire. Adina or "Dinnie", who was born on August 8, 1871, died in Roanoke, Virginia, on October 20, 1912, at the age of forty-one. Her death certificate, registered on October 22, 1912, identified her parents as William A. Burwell and Matilda Gilbert. That single document proved invaluable because it helped explain why some members of the family appeared in records using the surname Burwell, while others used Gilbert.

The 1880 United States Census provided another important piece of the puzzle. Living in the Mayo River District of Patrick County was Matilda Gilbert, age 30, who was listed as the head of her household. Residing with her were her children: Adina Gilbert, age 8; William A. Gilbert, age 6; Lucy A. Gilbert, age 2; and Carrie J. Gilbert, age 1. (Carrie would later go by Carrie Burwell). All of the children were born in Virginia, and young Adina was noted as attending school. The census clearly documented the family living together under the Gilbert surname, a fact that initially made tracing their genealogy somewhat confusing.

Adding another layer to the mystery, the same 1880 census recorded William A. Burwell living separately in the Mayo River District. Fifty-four years old at the time, Burwell was listed as single, living alone, and a retired lawyer. Born in Virginia, he was head of his own household with no other family members residing with him. At first glance, these census records appear to describe two unrelated families. However, when considered alongside Adina Abshire's death certificate identifying William A. Burwell and Matilda Gilbert as her parents, the relationship becomes much clearer. Together, these records reveal why some of the children were later known by the surname Burwell, while others continued to use the surname Gilbert, solving one of the most intriguing genealogical mysteries surrounding Miss Carrie Burwell and her family.

Later newspaper clippings from the Enterprise would show that Carrie Burwell had two more brothers, Charles R. Gilbert and Thomas Jefferson Burwell.

On page 370 of the History of Patrick County, Virginia William A. Burwell is mentioned; he was a member of the Patrick County Bar Association and practicing attorney in Patrick County from the 1850's to the 1880s. William A. Burwell represented Patrick County in the Virginia House of Delegates from 1856-1859.

The following clippings from the Enterprise give a wonderful snapshot of Miss Carrie Burwell, her family activities, and philanthropic causes.

During Christmas of 1920, the children of the Wayside School gathered for a holiday program and Christmas tree. Their teacher, Miss Bernice Gilbert, had worked hard to prepare an evening the children would never forget. Thanks to the generosity of Miss Carrie Burwell of Pittsburgh, every child received TWO toys along with a bag filled with Christmas treats.

June 4, 1925

Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Burwell are visiting Miss Carrie Burwell at Rose Hill Cottage.

June 25, 1925.

"T. J. Burwell, who was connected with the Pocahontas Fuel Co. for twenty-two years, as mine foreman, died suddenly of pericarditis at the home of his sister, Miss Carrie L. Burwell, June 17th. Wednesday afternoon, He was a member of Knights Pythian lodge at Pax W. Va. He is survived by his wife and daughter, Mrs. T. J. Proffit, of Kingston; two sisters, Mrs. Lucy Shaffer, of Bluefield, and Miss Carrie L. Burwell, of Pittsburgh, Pa.; and one brother, Charles, of Philadelphia. He was buried near Stuart on Friday, June 19th."

July 12, 1928-Lost: Somewhere between my home and Wayside Church June 9, a string of beads. The Finder will please return to me or the Enterprise Office and receive a $5.00 reward. (Miss) Carrie Burwell, Stuart, Virginia.

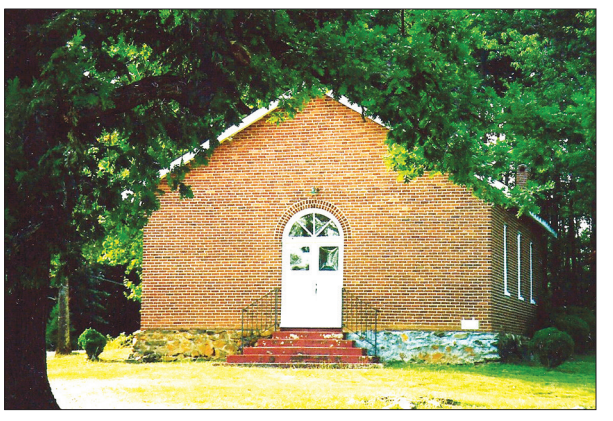
August 9, 1928-Mr. and Mrs. Vance Orander of Stoneville, N. C. spent Sunday with Miss Carrie Burwell at Rose Hill Cottage.

May 16, 1929-Miss Carrie Burwell from Pittsburgh, Pa. has arrived here and will spend the summer at her home near Stuart.

June 6, 1929-Mr. and Mrs. Negley of Pittsburgh and Paris, and Mr. and Mrs. Vance Orander of Stoneville, N. C. spent Sunday with Carrie Lee Burwell at the Rose Hill Cottage. Miss Carrie Lee Burwell will spend the weekend with Miss Lucy Carson from Pittsburgh in Roanoke.

October 10, 1929-Miss Carrie Burwell of Stuart was dismissed from Stuart Hospital last week.

December 5, 1929-Miss Carrie Burwell left Saturday for Pittsburgh, Pa. where she will spend the winter.



Wayside Church, circa 1995 photo from Shirlien Belcher

May 22, 1930-Miss Carrie Burwell returned from Pa. where she spent the winter.

June 26, 1930-Mrs. G. J. Proffit and little daughter, Dorothy Lee, are visiting their aunt, Miss Carrie Lee Burwell, at Rose Hill Cottage. Miss Burwell is taking her nieces on a motor trip to Roan Mtn., Tenn. to visit their great aunt, Mrs. Lucinda Bowers.

WAYSIDE NEWS

Stuart, Va. Route, June 1, 1931—Our school at Wayside has just closed a successful term taught by Mrs. J. L. Leach. We hope she returns to us next term.

Miss C. L. Burwell of Pittsburgh has returned to her home "Rose Hill Cottage."

Joseph Burwell Abshire of Roanoke has been the guest of Miss Carrie Burwell.

September 1, 1932

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Abshire of New York, J. B. Abshire and children, Josephine and Diana, of Roanoke spent Sunday here, guests of Miss Carrie Burwell.

October 12, 1933-Miss Carrie Burwell is leaving Sunday for Pittsburgh where she will spend the winter.

June 18, 1936-Miss Carrie Burwell, who spent the past winter in Pittsburgh, has returned to her home "Rose Hill Cottage."

October 22, 1936-Mr. Blair of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania donated through Miss Carrie Burwell, 140 books to the Stuart High School Library. Various kinds of French and English Reference books were given. We, the pupils of the school, greatly appreciate this generous donation. —Lucy Cruise

July 18, 1940- Miss Carrie Burwell of Pittsburgh arrived here last week for the summer.

January 8, 1942-Officers were called this week to investigate a robbery reported at the Carrie Burwell home, a short distance from town. The extent of the damage is not known.

May 28, 1942-Miss Carrie Burwell of Pittsburgh, Pa. spent a short while with friends here Sunday.

January 11, 1945-Miss Carrie Burwell spent several days last week in Roanoke with her nephew and family.

October 22, 1953-Recent guests of Miss Carrie Burwell were her nephew, Mr. Ralph Abshire, of New York, and her brother, Charles R. Gilbert, of Wildwood, N. J.

January 6, 1955-Mrs. Flora Boone, Misses Jean and Lula Powell and Miss Carrie Burwell were recent shoppers in Roanoke.

March 10, 1955-Wills Admitted to Probate

The last will and Testament of Miss Carrie Burwell, who died on February 26, was admitted to probate at the Patrick County clerk's office on March 1.

In reference to Rose Hill Cottage-Dr. John Noel and his wife Mary Rangeley lived where the Perkins Hotel was once located on Main Street. Dr. and Mrs. Noel sold out in town and moved to their farm near Wayside Church. Dr. Noel then sold his farm to William A. Burwell. I can't confirm but suspect that Rose Hill Cottage is the home that was once owned by Dr. Noel and then purchased by William Burwell.

Today, as worshippers gather inside Wayside Community Church, few may realize that one of its greatest benefactors spent her winters in Pittsburgh and her summers at Rose Hill Cottage near Stuart. Fewer still may know of the Christmas gifts she provided for local children or the books she helped place on the shelves of the Stuart High School Library. Yet the quiet influence of Miss Carrie Lee Burwell lives on in every life she has touched.

For questions, comments, or story ideas, Woody may be reached at rockcastlecreek1@gmail.com or 276-692-9626.

Social Security Matters

By Russell Gloor, AMAC Foundation Social Security Advisor

Association of Mature American Citizens

Ask Rusty – Can my spouse file at 63 and then get half of mine when I later claim?

Dear Rusty: My spouse is 63 and I am 65. I am planning to take my Social Security benefits at age 70. Can my lower earning spouse take his own benefits now, and then - when I take my full benefits at age 70, can he then file for 50% of mine instead of the lower benefit he is getting because he claimed at age 63? *Signed: Higher Earning Spouse*

Dear Higher Earning Spouse: Yes, your lower-earning spouse can take his benefits based on his personal lifetime earnings record at any time (i.e., age 63) and, when you later claim your own SS at 70, your spouse will be evaluated to determine whether he is eligible for a "spousal boost" based on your Social Security record. But to be sure you are clear, if you claim at age 70, your spouse will not get 50% of your age 70 benefit amount.

Spousal benefits are always determined by comparing each partners' full retirement age (FRA) entitlement and, if your spouse's FRA entitlement is less than half of your FRA entitlement, your spouse will get a "spousal boost" to bring his monthly SS retirement payment up to what he is entitled to as your spouse. The amount of the "spousal boost" would be the difference between his FRA entitlement and 50% of your FRA entitlement, which would be added to his own (age 63) SS retirement amount. And that means that his total benefit amount would be less than half of your age 70 amount (less also than 50% of your FRA amount, because he claimed at age 63).

One caution for your spouse to be aware of: if he is still working and claims at age 63, he will be subject to Social Security's Annual Earnings Test (AET), which limits how much he can earn before SS takes away some benefits. The earnings limit for 2026 is $24,480 (changes annually) and if that is exceeded, SS will take back $1 of benefits for every $2 he is over the limit. FYI, Social Security will "take back" by withholding future benefit payments, so he will not get his benefits for some months if he exceeds the annual earnings limit. And if the annual earnings limit is significantly exceeded, your spouse could even be temporarily ineligible to receive SS benefits (until he either earns less or reaches his full retirement age (the earnings limit goes away when FRA is reached)).

The only way your spouse can avoid both a reduced personal benefit and the annual earnings test limitation is to wait until his own full retirement age to claim Social Security. However, if he's not working full time and needs the Social Security money sooner, then claiming at age 63 may be a good choice. In any case, he won't get half of your age 70 amount.

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).

Patrick County fishing team competes in national championship







(Contributed)

Patrick County High School fishing team members Trenton Miller, 11, and Kipton Vipperman have qualified for a national fishing tournament after placing third at the Virginia state competition in late May.

With boat captain Joe Hylton, the team also earned the Big Fish award with a 5.14-pound bass and recorded a two-day total of 22.98 pounds at Buggs Island, N.C.

The team will represent Patrick County and Virginia at the national tournament July 19-25 in Paris, Tennessee.

Dye Spill

(cont. from page 1)

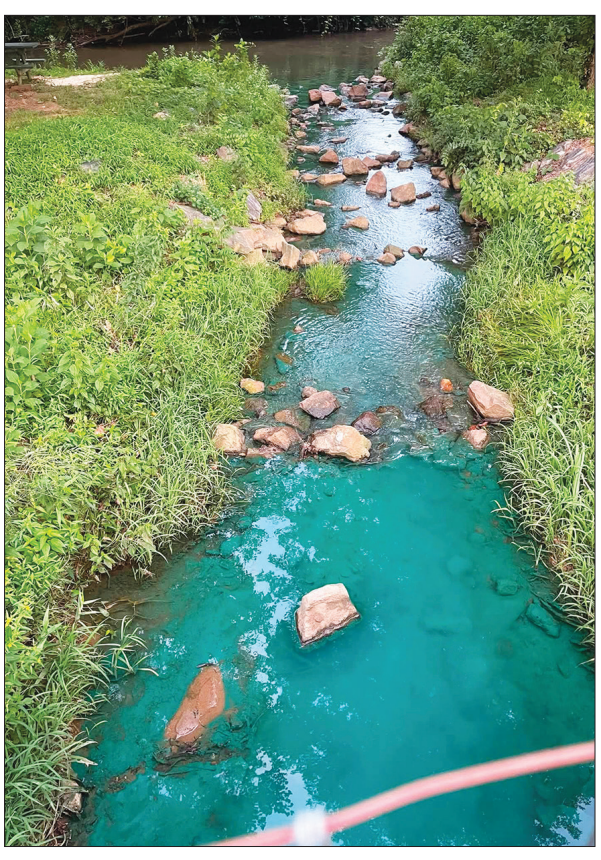
Online reports and local officials identified the company as Faith Mulch. Representatives with Faith Mulch did not respond to requests for comment.

Stuart Mayor Terry Dalton, who also volunteers with the Stuart Volunteer Fire Department, said he and the department responded to the spill July 18.

"From what I understand, it was a pipe that busted. It's that green stuff they spray on the side of the highway for grass. It's not hazardous, it's just not the best thing for a river to get that much at one time," he said.

Dalton said Stuart Fire Department personnel placed a boom, a floating barrier used to contain materials in water, where the affected water entered the creek.

"So all the chemicals stayed in that one canal and very little actually got into the main part of the river. So very little actually got into the river, the part that everybody's looking at is where we backed it up and kept it from getting in there," Dalton said.



The Virginia Department of Environmental Quality is scheduled to conduct a site visit.

Dalton said he did not see any dead wildlife while responding to the scene.

"To my knowledge it didn't affect any wildlife," he said.

Patrick County Emergency Management Director Scottie Cassell said DEQ has received multiple reports regarding pollution in the Mayo River.

"DEQ's coming down to look and do a site thing later this week. This is in DEQ's hands, and I know they've got a couple of reports on it and they are investigating it," Cassell said.

DEQ Pollution Response Team Coordinator Allen Linkenhoker is serving as the case manager. Linkenhoker did not respond to requests for comment.

Race Report: North Wilkesboro Speedway



By Wood Brothers Racing

For a portion of Sunday night's Window World 450 at North Wilkesboro Speedway, Josh Berry and the No. 21 Motorcraft/Quick Lane Ford Mustang Dark Horse were making steady progress through the field before another stroke of misfortune ended their night before the halfway point.

After qualifying was canceled due to inclement weather on Saturday, the starting lineup was set by the NASCAR performance metric, placing Berry 28th on the grid. Undeterred, Berry methodically worked his way through the field, climbing to 17th by the conclusion of Stage 1 on Lap 80.

Berry's charge continued when the green flag waved to begin Stage 2. Displaying the short-track prowess that has become one of his trademarks, he advanced to 12th before making a scheduled green-flag pit stop.

On a track the size of North Wilkesboro, green-flag pit stops typically leave drivers multiple laps down while the field cycles through. Berry's stop was clean, but a caution flag flew before the remaining frontrunners could complete their stops, trapping the No. 21 and significantly altering the team's strategy.

Despite battling to recover, Berry's night came to an abrupt end on Lap 199 when Christopher Bell's No. 20 car slid up the racetrack and made contact with the left side of the Motorcraft/Quick Lane Mustang, sending Berry into the outside wall.

The damage proved too extensive to continue, relegating Berry to a 36th-place finish.

"It looked like the 20 just got loose and chased it up into us and we wrecked," Berry told reporters at the track, adding that it was especially frustrating given that his Mustang was so fast. "We drove up to probably just outside the top 10.

"We had top-five lap times, the car was good, and then we pit and the caution of course comes out and we get trapped two laps down, wave around, just back there in the crap and just get wrecked.

"It's disappointing. I felt like tonight was the night we certainly could have gotten a good finish like it looks like our teammates are going to do, but that was tough. I'm aggravated at the 20, but he's in the same position I am. He was back there and just got loose."

Berry said this season's string of setbacks has been unlike anything he has experienced in his racing career.

"I've never lived through a season like this when it's just one thing after another," he said. "Things that people don't see that don't make it on TV. I don't go on social media every week and post about every little thing that went wrong in our race.

"We just can't catch a break, flat out. Even this week, we were eighth in practice and had a good car and, of course, qualifying gets rained out. If we get to qualify, I felt like we would have had a much better starting spot, a much better pit stall.

"It's just one thing after another and it's certainly discouraging."

Berry and the Wood Brothers Racing team will look to rebound next weekend in the Brickyard 400 Presented by PPG at Indianapolis Motor Speedway.

My Patriot Ancestor

Editor's Note: The Enterprise is pleased to partner with the Colonel Abram Penn Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution to present My Patriot Ancestor, an ongoing series highlighting Revolutionary War patriots through the stories of local DAR members and their families.

By Julie Sager Brannon and Ann Robertson McConnell

Not all soldiers in the American Revolution were traditional infantrymen carrying firearms. Because armies require logistical and operational support, troops served in a wide variety of specialized roles. Artillery men, drummers and fifers, laborers, and medical staff were among the many other positions required in non-combat roles. Also among these roles were the army chaplains. Vital to the Continental Army's endurance, chaplains provided spiritual comfort, boosted moral and fostered discipline. The clergymen conducted worship services, advised commanders and ministered to soldiers on the battlefield. Colonel Abram Penn Chapter member Julie Sager Brannon's patriot ancestor served as an army chaplain in the War for Independence.

Reverend Jedediah Chapman was born in East Haddam, Connecticut in 1741. In 1762 he graduated from Yale College and in 1766 he was ordained at the First Presbyterian Church of Orange in New Jersey. Throughout the Revolutionary War Chapman divided his time between his parish and serving as an army chaplain for Colonel Ephraim Martin's and General Nathaniel Heard's New Jersey militia regiments. He frequently preached sermons in support of the Patriot cause, making him a major threat to British forces. The British made several attempts to capture him and actively camped in the cemetery adjoining his church.

Chapman's first wife, Blanche Smith, died before the outbreak of the Revolution leaving at least three children. Chapman married his second wife, Margaretta Le Conte, after the Revolution. They had at least two children together. Of note is a son born to his first wife and named Robert Hett Chapman (1771-1833). He was a noted Presbyterian minister and the second president of the University of North Carolina.

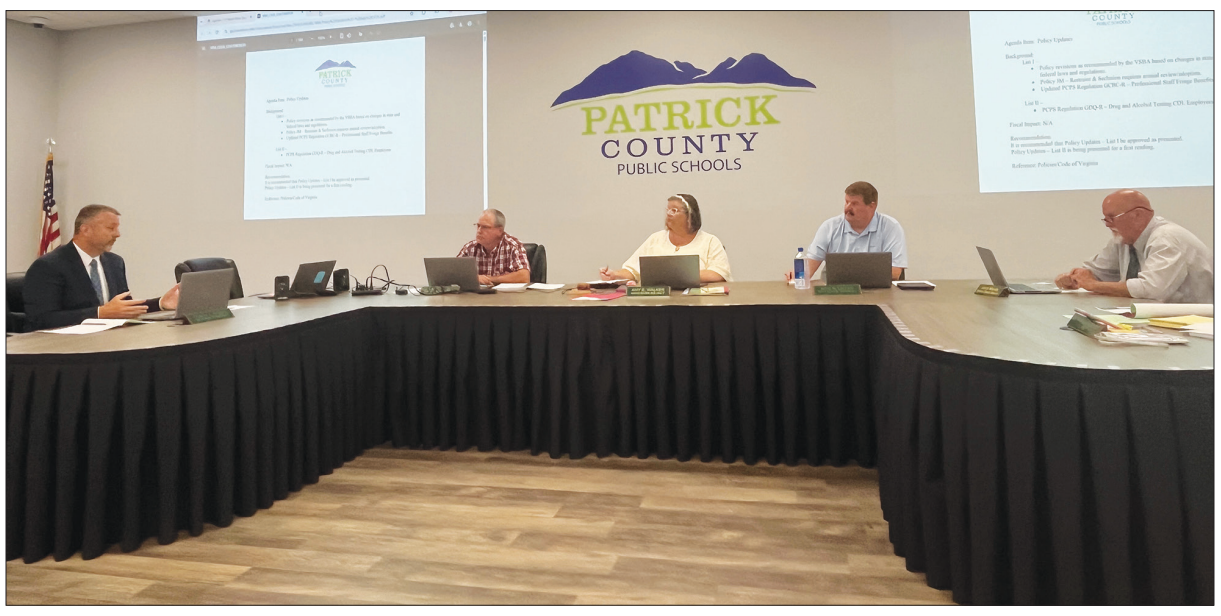
Reverend Chapman left New Jersey in 1800 to become a missionary in western New York where he planted many churches. He organized the Seneca church (now the First Presbyterian Church in Ovid, NY) and officially settled in Geneva, New York, where he remained until his death in 1813.

"From the very beginning of Mr. Chapman's pastorate, he was an uncompromising defender of Colonial rights. When war came, he espoused the patriot cause with his whole soul. He preached Rebellion in the pulpit and taught it from house to house. No portion of his large parish was forgotten. He was a marked man. More than once, he served as a volunteer chaplain in the army. His ringing voice and his eloquent appeals encouraged the soldiers to heroic deeds." History of the Oranges, U.S. Family History Book (Information for this article is from Wikipedia, Family Search, U.S. Family History Book, revolutionarywarnewjersey.com and personal notes of J.S. Brannon.)

Everyone has a story to tell. Let us help you tell yours. Any woman 18 years or older, regardless of race, religion or ethnic background, who can prove lineal descent from a patriot of the American Revolution is eligible for membership. NSDAR is a non-profit, non-political volunteer women's service organization. Help researching and proving your lineage can be provided by the Colonel Abram Penn Chapter by contacting Ann Robertson McConnell at nammcconnell@yahoo.com.

School

(cont. from page 1)



The Patrick Count School Board met July 14.



Rob Martin, of the Dan River District, was unanimously selected to serve as vice chairman of the Patrick County School Board through the end of the year.

subsidies to help families afford the program.

"We currently had six enroll already just after the first week. We are showing, and we fully expect, and so does Healthy Kids, that once school's back in August that those numbers will grow," he said.

Families will be able to choose either a 5 p.m. or 6 p.m. pickup time.

For more information, visit www.healthykidsprograms.com, call 845-330-0200 or email varegistration@healthykidsprograms.com.

In other business, the board:

*Appointed Rob Martin, of the Dan River District, as vice chairman through the end of the year.

*Approved policy updates.

*Approved updates to the fiscal year 2027 budget.

*Approved the consent agenda.

*Approved the personnel report, as amended.

Blue Ridge District representative Shannon Harrell attended the meeting virtually.

Patrick, Henry among localities under drought emergency

Gov. Abigail Spanberger is urging Virginians to increase water conservation efforts as drought conditions worsen across the commonwealth.

The Roanoke Drought Evaluation Region — which includes Patrick and Henry counties and the city of Martinsville — has reached drought emergency status, according to the Virginia Drought Monitoring Task Force. The region also includes Bedford, Campbell, Charlotte, Franklin, Halifax, Mecklenburg, Pittsylvania and Roanoke counties, along with the cities of Danville, Roanoke and Salem.

The task force recommended the emergency designation on July 7 after nearly a year of below-average rainfall. State and local officials are evaluating additional steps if conditions do not improve.

"In the midst of this historic dry period, all Virginians can help preserve our water supply," Spanberger said. "Increased water conservation measures are critical to protect access to adequate water supplies for Virginia's families, farms, and communities as the drought persists."

Wilderness - Stuart, Inc.
Buying Logs
Standing Timber or Timberland
Stuart, VA
Contact Ronnie Bolt at
(276) 694-4432

"We Feed What We Sell"
Economically priced and more feed value for your money.
AVAILABLE IN BAG OR BULK
- Horse Feed
- Chicken Feed
- Beef Grower Feeds
- Corn Gluten Pellets
- Sheep & Goat Feed
- Hay Stretcher
- Calf Feed
- Soyhull Pellets

Whole Beef Hamburger $5.75/lb.
HAMBURGER PATTIES $6.00 LB.
We buy Corn, Oats, Wheat & Barley. Call for price.
Performance Livestock & Feed Company
Call for prices today!
888-777-5912
Mark Pendleton Jason Pendleton

STEP, Inc. Accepting Sealed Bids
2004 Ford Econoline Van

Accepting sealed bids on 2004 Ford Econoline Van, White, 124,363 miles. May be viewed by appointment only. Call 276-694-2239 for more information or to schedule appointment. Sold as is/where is, and buyer must remove within agreed upon time. Bid forms are available at STEP, Inc., 4559 Wayside Rd, Stuart, VA 24171. Sealed bids due by 4:00 p.m., Friday, July 31, 2026 at STEP, Inc. ATTN: Sealed Bid, 4559 Wayside Rd., Stuart, VA 24171.

DON'T FALL BEHIND ON YOUR READING
JOIN OUR FREE DIGITAL NEWSLETTER INSTEAD
GO TO theenterprise.net
CLICK NOW TO JOIN
STAY UP TO DATE ON LOCAL NEWS

hollywoodcinema.net
1-3-5-7-9
1-3-5-7-9
1-3-5
1-3-5-7-9
7-9
1-3-5-7-9
$5 tickets
near Walmart Martinsville
276-656-3456

OBITUARIES

Barbara Jean King Houchins



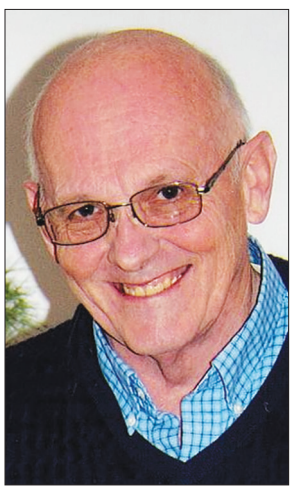
Mrs. Barbara Jean King Houchins, age 78 of Stuart, passed away Saturday, July 18, 2026, at Carilion Roanoke Memorial Hospital. She was born in Patrick County on April 3, 1948, to the late Richard King and Mary Pilson King. In addition to her parents, Mrs. Houchins was preceded in death by her husband, George Houchins, III; a son, George Houchins, IV; and a sister, Darlene Martin. She was a member of First Christian Church in Stuart. She loved to fish and watch NASCAR, especially Dale Earnhardt, Sr., with her husband, George. She adored her children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and great-great-grandchild, and was known as "Nanny" by all. She especially enjoyed going riding and going shopping at Walmart with Erica.

Mrs. Houchins is survived by a daughter, Greta H. Payne; two sons, James D. Houchins (Donita) and Jeffery D. Houchins (Tracey); eight grandchildren, Michael Houchins (Maggie), Jason Payne (Krista Lawson), Tony Helms (Grace), Britany Lester, James D. Houchins, II, Zachary G. Houchins, Jennifer Foley and Kelsey Paige Houchins; ten great-grandchildren, Bri'Anna Cannoy, Lyric Houchins, Kingston Payne, Kinsley Payne, Eli Lester, Wheeler Helms, Ethan Lester, Milayna Helms, Myles Roberts and Journey Robert s; a great-great-grandchild, Armani Lynn Turner; four brothers, Junior King (Lillian), Larry King, Benny King and Lawrence King; a sister, Shirley Hodge (Darwin); a host of nieces and nephews; and a special niece and caregiver, Erica Turner.

A homegoing service for Mrs. Houchins will be held Sunday, July 26, 2026 at 6:30 PM at Moody Funeral Home in Stuart with Rev. James Houchins officiating. A wake will be held an hour prior to the time of the service. Burial will be private. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to First Christian Church, P.O. Box 1289, Stuart, Virginia 24171. Online condolences may be sent by visiting www.moody-funeralservices.com.

A special thank you from the family to the ICU Staff of Roanoke Memorial Hospital, especially Nurse Liz, for the excellent care given.

Elbert McNeil "Neil" Fulcher



Elbert McNeil "Neil" Fulcher, 78, passed peacefully on July 13, 2026 surrounded by his family after struggling with a lengthy recuperation from surgery. He was born in Patrick Springs, VA, on December 5, 1947 to the late Elbert C. Fulcher and Christine Martin Fulcher.

He lived in the Patrick Springs community his entire life and attended Hardin Reynolds Memorial School where he graduated in 1966. He then attended Danville Community College where he earned certifications in the electronics, refrigeration and radiological monitoring programs.

He opened Home Appliance and TV in 1973 and operated it until his retirement in 2015.

He was a member of Pleasant View Baptist Church, and in recent years he had enjoyed worshiping at Patrick Springs Christian Church.

He cherished spending time with his family and spoiling his grandchildren brought him such joy. He also enjoyed gardening, fishing, hunting, and woodworking projects. He was well known by many as the walnut man as he generously gave many pounds to others each year.

Left with cherished memories are his wife of 45 years, Ann Adams Fulcher; daughters Jen Moran Pack and Tim Hunter, and Julie Moran Feaster and Craig; grandchildren, Madeline and Taylor Lynch, Emelia Pack, Isabella Pack, Sophia Pack, Camille Pack, Cody Feaster and Braden Feaster; his sister, Gayle and Bruce Dollarhite, and nephews Kevin and Julia Dollarhite and Christopher and Sara Dollarhite.

A Celebration of Life will take place on Friday, July 17,2026 at 11:00 AM at Pleasant View Baptist Church with Dr. Joey McNeil and Buck Hanks officiating. Burial will follow in the church cemetery. A visitation will be held at Moody Funeral Home in Stuart VA on Thursday, July 16, 2026 from 6:00-7:30 PM.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations be made to the Gideons International (PO Box 140800 Nashville, TN 37214-0800) or to the Patrick Springs Volunteer Fire Department. Moody Funeral Home, Stuart VA, is serving the family. Online condolences may be made by visiting www.moodyfuneralservices.com

Well done thy Good and Faithful Servant. .. enter into the Joy of thy Lord. Matthew 25:23.

Marguerite White Tatum



On July 16, 2026, our most cherished mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother, Marguerite ("Rusty") White Tatum, joined her beloved husband, Robert and son Steve, in Heaven.

Marguerite was born April 3, 1926, in Ayer, Massachusetts. After finishing her education in New England she moved with her family to Virginia where she met her future husband, Robert. After a few years in San Diego while Robert was in the Navy, they settled in Virginia.

Marguerite was predeceased by her parents Hugh and Hilda White, her loving husband of 72 years Robert, and her first-born son Steve. She will be greatly missed by her children Mark (Patricia) and Karen (Tony), grandchildren Jennifer (Marc), Megan (John), Anthony (Victoria), Andrew, and Christopher (girlfriend Mckinsley), and great-grandchildren Marlee, Emmree, Beres, Maddox, Remy, Emily, Claire, Tatum, and Monroe.

She was a member of St. Marks United Methodist Church in Petersburg, VA, and loved her time at the beach. Rusty had a gift for seeing the beauty in this world and thoroughly enjoyed the long life God blessed her with. She was thrilled to have a joyous jubilee with family and friends for her 100th birthday. Her wish was for us was not to mourn her passing but to celebrate her life!

A graveside service will be held at Nettle Ridge Cemetery in Stuart, VA on August 1, 2026, at 11:00 AM.

Terrence "Terry" Scruggs



Mr. Terrence "Terry" Scruggs passed away Friday, July 3rd at Baptist Hospital in Winston Salem, NC after a years-long battle with cancer. He was born April 28, 1943 to the late Helen Jones Scruggs and Maylon Scruggs.

Terry was a graduate of Franklin County High School. He served in the U.S. Army National Guard and was a machinist for DuPont. He loved the outdoors and could be found fishing in his boat at Philpott Lake, hunting with his dear friends at the High Standard Hunting Club, and gardening. When not outdoors, he enjoyed spending time in his shop, building and repairing, or enjoying meals and music with his close friends. Even more so, he loved his grandchildren and great grandchild fiercely and could often be found supporting them at as many events as possible.

Terry is survived by his wife of 58 years, Darnell Scruggs. They were inseparable until his final breath. He is also survived by two sons and daughters in law; Brad and Taryn Scruggs of Stuart, and Randy and Jessica Scruggs of Christiansburg, and his grandchildren; Anna Kathryn and Hunter Cummings, Sophie Scruggs and Cole Scruggs; and one great grandchild Marley Joleigh Cummings. Also surviving are his siblings Arlene Scruggs Cardwell and John of Danville, VA and Lynn Scruggs and Ellen Duffy of Orangevale, California.

A memorial visitation for Mr. Scruggs will be held on Sunday, July 26, 2026 from 1:00 P.M. until 4:00 P.M. Moody Funeral Home in Stuart, VA has been entrusted with the arrangements, and online condolences may be made by visiting www.moodyfuneralsservices.com.

The family wishes to thank the Wake Forest Baptist Cancer Center Medical Oncology ICU unit for going above and beyond, the SECU family house, and Terry's friends that have stepped in to help.

MOODY
Funeral Services, Inc.



"We appreciate the confidence you have shown in us for over 60 years."

202 West Blue Ridge Street, Stuart, VA
Phone 276-694-3145
www.moodyfuneralservices.com
Terri S. Wood, Manager

Jackson appointed to post at Ferrum College

Ferrum College appointed Penny Jackson as Senior Director of Human Resources. Jackson brings more than three decades of progressive human resources leadership and a distinguished record of building strong workplace cultures, developing talent, and supporting organizational excellence.

Jackson joins Ferrum College following her service as Director of Human Resources for Tri-County Community Action Agency, where she established and led the organization's human resources function, overseeing employee relations, talent acquisition, benefits administration, payroll, compliance, policy development, and organizational effectiveness. Throughout her career, she has held increasingly responsible human resources leadership positions with organizations including The Results Companies, Aramark at High Point University, Infinity Global, ICF International, and CIT Group.

A Society for Human Resource Management Certified Professional (SHRM-CP), Jackson is recognized for her expertise in strategic human resources leadership, employee relations, organizational development, compliance, and talent management. She earned her Bachelor of Business Administration from Averett University and has built a career distinguished by collaborative leadership, sound judgment, exceptional integrity, and a genuine commitment to supporting employees while helping organizations achieve their strategic goals.

"We are pleased to welcome Penny Jackson to Ferrum College as our new Senior Director of Human Resources," said Dr. Mirta M. Martin, president of Ferrum College. "Penny brings extensive experience, a deep commitment to supporting people, and a passion for building a culture where individuals can thrive. At Ferrum College, our greatest strength is our people, and Human Resources plays a vital role in cultivating a community where faculty and staff are empowered to serve our students and advance our mission. We are excited to welcome Ms. Jackson to the Panther family as we continue creating an environment where our people—and our students—learn, serve, and flourish."

As Senior Director of Human Resources, Jackson will provide strategic leadership for all human resources functions, including talent acquisition, employee engagement, performance management, benefits administration, policy development, compliance, and professional development initiatives. She will work closely with College leader-

(See Jackson p. 12)

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

WE TAKE YOUR RELATIONSHIPS SERIOUSLY! DO YOU!


Cynthia M. Jones, AA, AS

ASHBROOK AUDIOLOGY
WHERE RELATIONSHIPS MATTER

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

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

1-877-610-HEAR (4327)

A Season of Giving for Patrick Springs Ruritans



2026 Mother of the Year Amber Rakes and family



Club President David Clement with Kylei Blevins, Aaliyah Reynolds, and Glenn Stovall



Club President David Clement presents a check to James Bryant

By Stephen Walker

The Patrick Springs Ruritan Club has been busy celebrating and supporting members of our community who have shown that great effort will be rewarded. Each year the Patrick Springs Ruritans select a deserving mother to recognize as our Mother of the Year during our May meeting. For 2026, Amber Rakes was chosen for her efforts in our community at Caring Hearts Free Clinic.

The club also provides scholarships for deserving Patrick County students who plan to continue their education at the college level. This year's $500 scholarship recipients were Kylei Blevins, Aaliyah Reynolds, and Glenn Stovall. Also during the June meeting, the club presented a check in the amount of $500 to the Patrick Springs Fire Department to support their continuing efforts to keep our community safe.

For July, the Patrick Springs Ruritan club will hold a fish fry and dessert auction on Saturday, July 25, from 4 to 7 p.m. Join the club at Patrick Springs Park, 2 Ballpark Road, for a delicious dinner including fried fish, green beans, corn, slaw, hush puppies, dessert, and drink. Plates are just $15, and you can dine in or carry out. There will also be periodic auctions for some wonderful homemade desserts throughout the event. Proceeds from club fundraisers support local needs, such as our schools, the Backpack Program, and scholarships for Patrick County students.

If you would like to become a part of the Patrick Springs Ruritan Club, please join us on August 13, 6:30 p.m., at Patrick Springs Park for our next meeting.

Thank You For Reading The Enterprise

OBITUARY SUBMISSION DEADLINE MONDAY AT NOON

Weekly SUDOKU

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

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!

© 2026 King Features Synd., Inc.

BIBLE TRIVIA

BY WILSON CASEY

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

2. From Song of Solomon 1:15, what kind of eyes does the beloved say the Shulamite has? *Kind, Red of the demon, Doves, Blue of the sea*

3. Used as both a greeting and farewell, what's the Hebrew word for "peace"? *Shass, Simcha, Shabbat, Shalom*

4. In Matthew 6, what did Jesus say not to use when we pray? *Loud curses, Impure thoughts, Vain repetitions, Wandering shifts*

5. From Esther 1, King Ahasuerus lived in what city? *Ur, Shushan, Antioch, Tarsus*

6. Who was the first son of Moses and Zipporah? *Haggai, Gershom, Mark, Zebudah*

ANSWERS: 1) Old, 2) Doves, 3) Shalom, 4) Vain repetitions, 5) Shushan, 6) Gershom

Skyline Pentecostal Holiness Church
1515 Rock Church Rd.
Meadows of Dan, Virginia
Rev. Tommy Gosnell
CHURCH SERVICES
Sunday School 10 am
Worship Services 11 am

Risen Lord Catholic Church
59 Mountain View Loop
Stuart
(actually in Patrick Springs)
276.236.7814
Office Hours (Tue-Thu 8 am -3 pm)
Mass Schedule
Sundays at 8:30 a.m.
Reconciliation
Sundays 7:45 - 8:15 a.m.

Patrick Springs Pentecostal Holiness
260 Spring Rd., Patrick Springs, VA - 276-694-6357
Sunday Worship 10:45 am
Sunday School for all ages 9:45 am
Wednesdays
Community Meal & Service 6:00 pm
Food Distribution Ministry:
Monday, Wednesday and Friday
To Ignite a Passion to Follow Jesus Christ

Stuart Baptist Church
Bringing the World to Christ
108 W. Blue Ridge St.
276-694-3440
www.stuartbaptist.org
9:45 Sunday School
11:00 Worship Service
office@stuartbaptist.org

Stuart Seventh-Day Adventist Church
220 Patrick Avenue, PO Box 1078, Stuart, VA 24171
276-694-7677 • www.stuartva.adventistchurch.org
SATURDAY SERVICES:
Sabbath School - 9:20; Worship 11:00 a.m.
Come visit our Bible-believing church

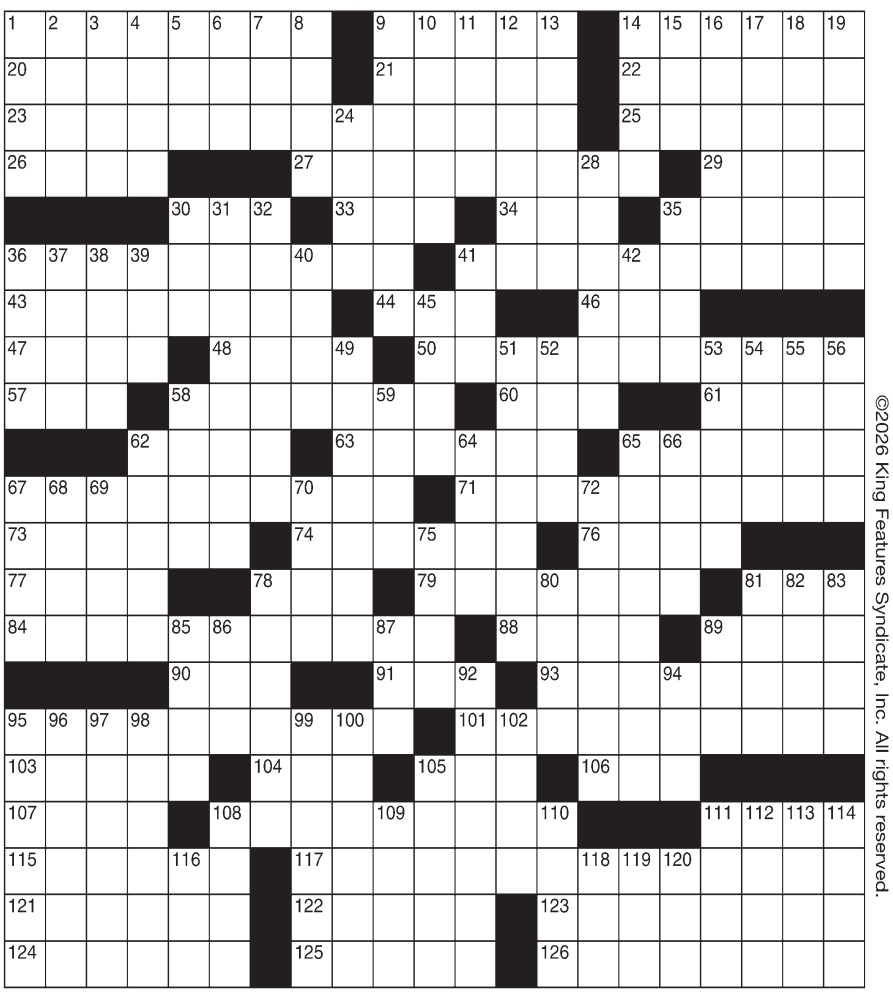
Join the Church Page
Call (276)340-2445 today!

Super Crossword

OPENING SEQUENCE

ACROSS
1 Off-guard way to be caught
9 Bread has a lot of them
14 Anchorage locale
20 Aspire to something specific
21 Love, in Lido
22 Hoped for
23 Founder of the Miracles
25 Lodged
26 Pulley part
27 With long suffering
29 Rajah's wife
30 Alternatives to Cokes or Pepsis
33 — -mo
34 Twice LI
35 Raptor's claw
36 Record player
41 Ape in an arcade game
43 1307-27 king of England
44 Prefix with natal or con
46 Comic book shriek
47 Thick deli cut
48 This, in Baja
50 Olduvai Gorge paleontologist
57 Beer cask
58 Removes (oneself)
60 Veteran
61 Europe's "Eternal City"
62 French battle site of '44
63 Doesn't skip, as an event
65 Reagan appointee Antonin
67 Speak frankly
71 Jungle gym
73 Film director May
74 1954-76 Dodgers manager Walter
76 T-man Eliot
77 Outing ruiner
78 "How was — know?"
79 Self-server
81 Some IRA contents
84 Master of the dog Pluto
88 Sundown's direction
89 Accepted
90 China's Long March leader
91 2012 Best Director Lee
93 Alternative to Match or OkCupid
95 It's pushed in an ice rink
101 Tart gin cocktail
103 Once-popular anesthetic
104 Certain pipe shape
105 Maple fluid
106 Tax return ID
107 Tiger's sound
108 Restricting freedom of thought
111 Work site welfare org.
115 Poppas' partners
117 "Arrow's Fall" novelist
121 Of high peaks
122 "Rapture" singer Baker
123 All aspects considered
124 Fitting one inside another
125 A-bomb trial
126 Index entries ... or what 10 answers in this puzzle have?

DOWN
1 KGB's land
2 Lost clown fish of film
3 Sitting on
4 Stir to life
5 Go gray, say
6 Singer Acuff
7 It may get plugged up
8 Pig food
9 Jenner of reality TV
10 Prenatal exam
11 Suitor's flower
12 Rodeo horse
13 Submitted, as an entry
14 Out of whack
15 Taoism's — -tzu
16 Inuit parka
17 Fr. resort port
18 Really into
19 Appending
24 Bottom
28 In this way
30 — Nabisco (old corp.)
31 World Champion Bull of 2009
32 Clip, as a coupon
35 Young kid
36 Study fixture
37 Not in use
38 Gala bagful
39 Hailed car
40 Thing flown in the wind
41 Scooby- —
42 Wiggling fish
45 Otherwise
49 "Still I Rise" poet Maya
51 Until this time
52 Element #26
53 Saudis, say
54 Nut with caffeine
55 Kuwaiti royal
56 Positive votes
58 Env. alert
59 Santa's bagful
62 Short-limbed lizard
64 Urban haze
65 Reel from a wallop
66 Certain skin bulge
67 Time in office
68 Jai —
69 Secular
70 Green Hornet's valet
72 Fried stuffed dumplings
75 Many a new driver
78 "Pass the ball to me!"
80 Crawl (with)
81 Diner worker
82 Concluded
83 Vodka brand
85 Part of ER: Abbr.
86 "Huzzah!"
87 Cinch — (trash bag brand)
89 Sister station of Flix, in brief
92 Give the evil eye to
94 — Tin Tin
95 Politico Cain
96 "Troy" actor Peter
97 Bites, as a horse at the bit
98 Muppet frog
99 Tracey of "Mrs. America"
100 Patron
102 Apple debut of 2010
105 Splinter groups
108 Opposite of new
109 Spreadable cheese
110 It may get plugged up
111 Eight-, in Baja
112 Alternative to Heath, candy-wise
113 Clutched
114 Positive votes
116 Netflix's "Anne With —"
118 Opposite of NNW
119 Install, as tile
120 "How cute!"



©2026 King Features Syndicate, Inc. All rights reserved.

Puzzle answers page 11

CLASSIFIED

PUBLISHER'S NOTICE

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

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

SERVICES

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

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

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

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

CUSTOM CARPENTRY,
fencing, decks, roofing, siding, gutter cleaning and guard installation, tree removal, painting, cleanouts, chimney cleaning and repair. Free local estimates 276-224-4623.

STEVE'S MOWER REPAIR
Service and repair for all makes of lawn mowers. Pick up and delivery for a reasonable charge based on your location. We offer disposal of old mowers with free pick up and sell used mowers and other power equipment. Call 276-694-3748. If no answer, leave your name and number. We'll call you back.

HOUSE PAINTING
House Painting, interior, exterior, also log cabins & metal roofs, and deck staining. Call George Scott (276) 403-1589.

MASTER CARPENTER HOME RE-MODELER
40 years' experience., repairs, decks, gutter cleaning, trim work, wooden bridge repair, power washing, tree cutting, wood splitting, demolition and anything else you need done. Call Joe at (276) 229-1029.

FOR SALE

2 Hoyer Lifts for Sale
One Brand New Hoyer Advance 346 Electric Hydraulic Best Lift. Never been used, paid $2500, asking $2000 One Like New Hoyer Electric Hydraulic Best Lift, Asking $1800 Call 276-229-9373

Foldable Wheelchair,
brand new in the box, lightweight with leg and footrest. Asking $160 call 276-229-9373

Ford Tractor
model #641, new clutch, lift overhaul, new carburetor, etc. 5 foot bush hog with new blades, new overriding clutch. 6 foot ford all position scrape blade with a new edge. Shed kept in vgc. Sell all together for one price: $6,500.00. Call 276-629-7722 (Bassett)

REACH VIRGINIA Commonwealth Media Solutions AD NETWORK
GROW YOUR BUSINESS
REACH OVER 1 MILLION Virginia Readers Weekly
Advertising Solutions starting at $330
Contact this newspaper today to get started.

AUCTIONS

ATTN. AUCTIONEERS: Promote your upcoming auctions statewide! Affordable Print and Digital Solutions reaching your target audience. Call this paper or Commonwealth Media Solutions 804-521-7570, advertising@commonwealthmediasolutions.com

HOME IMPROVEMENT

No more cleaning out gutters. Guaranteed! LeafFilter is backed by a no-clog guarantee and lifetime transferrable warranty. Call today 1-877-614-6667 to schedule a FREE inspection and no obligation estimate. Get 15% off your entire order. Plus, Military & Seniors get an additional 10% off. Limited time only. Restrictions apply, see representative for warranty and offer details.

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

Prepare for power outages today with a Generac Home Standby Generator. Act now to receive a FREE 5-Year warranty with qualifying purchase. Call 1-844-947-1479 today to schedule a free quote. It's not just a generator. It's a power move.

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

REACH VIRGINIA Commonwealth Media Solutions AD NETWORK
GROW YOUR BUSINESS
REACH OVER 1 MILLION Virginia Readers Weekly
Advertising Solutions starting at $330
Contact this newspaper today to get started.

SERVICES

DIVORCE-Uncontested, $525.00 + $89.00 court cost. WILLS-$295.00. No court appearance. Estimated completion time twenty-one days. Hilton Oliver, Attorney (Facebook). 757-490-0126. Se Habla Espanol. BBB Member. https://hiltonoliverattorneyva.com

Consumer Cellular - the same reliable, nationwide coverage as the largest carriers. No long-term contract, no hidden fees and activation is free. All plans feature unlimited talk and text, starting at just $20/month. For more information, call 1-855-262-5564

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

email us DHALL@THEENTERPRISE.NET

Like us on facebook

ADVERTISE WITH US CALL 276-340445

THANK YOU FOR READING THE ENTERPRISE

THINKING ABOUT SELLING YOUR HOME?
LET'S WORK TOGETHER!

Four Rivers Realty (276)694-5044
LINDSEY PUCKETT
LPUCKETT@FOURRIVERSVA.COM
276-732-6544
LINDSEYPUCKETT.COM
21521 JEB STUART HWY STUART, VA 24171

Jamie's Recycling Center
BUYING: CANS, COPPER, BATTERIES, ALUMINUM, AUTOMOBILES, CONVERTERS, WHEELS, STAINLESS STEEL, ELECTRONICS (NO TVS), AND MORE.
CALL 276-694-5692 FOR PRICES
We offer Roll Off Services
Home Clean Out or Construction?
Call 276-694-5692 for Pricing & Details
Jamie's Recycling Center
3609 S Mayo Dr. | Stuart, VA 24171
276-694-5692
HOURS: M-F | 8A - 4:45P | LUNCH: 11:45A - 1P
"With God All Things Are Possible." Matthew 19:26



Transform Your Bathroom and Change Your Life.
FREE TOILET + $1,500 OFF*
For your FREE information kit and our Senior Discounts, Call Today Toll-Free 1-877-591-9950
safestep
*Free toilet with purchase and installation of a walk-in tub or walk-in shower only. Offer available while supplies last. No cash value. Must present offer at time of purchase. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Market restrictions may apply. Offer available in select markets only. CSLB 1082165 NSCB 0082999 0083445 13VH11096000





Max Kendall Lumber & Tin
Price Reduced
Metal Roofing
Now Made In
Axton, Va.
276-650-2825
Free call 1-888-434-2825
Lynchburg, Va.
434-821-3251
Free Call 1-833-593-3251
Reidsville, NC
336-348-1600
Free call 1-833-205-1600
20 COLORS
Classic Rib – PBR Panel
Standing Seam – 5V
Buy Direct and Save!
American Made
Top Quality
Low Prices
Made Same Day
40 Year Warranty
WE FINANCE METAL ROOFS ON YOUR HOME
Snow Guards
Lumber
Rough - Dressed - Treated
PACKAGE BUILDINGS
Contractors Welcome
maxkendalllumber.com
8261 Mountain Valley Rd

Double YOUR IMPACT with Print & Online ADVERTISING!

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

(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

Tuesday, Aug. 4
Patrick County School Board will hold a work session starting at 4 p.m. in the Patrick County School Board Conference Room, Stuart.

Monday, Aug. 10
The Patrick County Board of Supervisors will meet at 6 p.m. in the third-floor courtroom of the Patrick County Administration Building.

Thursday, Aug. 13
The Patrick County School Board will meet at 5:30 p.m. in the school board office.

Wednesday, Aug. 19
The Stuart Town Council will meet at 6 p.m. in the town office.

Events

Friday, July 24
Friday Morning Market will be open from 8 a.m.- 12 p.m. The Landmark Center will be on site offering free blood pressure checks. The Patrick County Library is hosting a special Storytime reading at 10 a.m.

The DMV Select in Stuart will remain closed for training purposes; reopening from 2–4:30 p.m.

Saturday, July 25
Fresh Harvest Christian Church, other churches and organizations, will hold a Community Back-to-School Experience at Rotary Field from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Descendants of the Rock Castle community, as well as anyone with an interest in the history of Rock Castle, are invited to attend the annual Rock Castle Reunion beginning at noon in the Meadows of Dan Community Center, 2858 J.E.B. Stuart Highway, Meadows of Dan. Attendees are encouraged to bring family photographs, stories, historical artifacts, and a covered dish to share. For additional information, contact Beverly Belcher Woody at rockcastlecreek1@gmail.com or 276-692-9626.

Vacation Bible School, 8:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. for ages three through 5th grade at Ross Harbour Methodist Church, 6260 Elamsville Road, Stuart. Registration and breakfast is from 8:30-9 a.m.

Tuesday, July 28
The Tuesday evening market will be open from 5-7 p.m.

Thursday, July 30
Friends of the Moorefield Store Community are hosting a reorganizational meeting for the Virginia-Carolian Ruritan Club at 7 p.m. at Dominion Valley Park. Light refreshments will be served.

Saturday, Aug. 1
The Fairystone Volunteer Fire Department will hold a golf tournament fundraiser registration starts at 8:30 for 18 holes of golf at Gordon Trent Golf Course. Four person captains choice, $65 per person or $260 per team, $25,000 hole in one prize, cash prizes for the top three teams. The rain date is Aug. 8.

Friday, Aug. 7
The community food truck will be at the Woolwine SRRS from 3-4 p.m.

Wednesday, Aug. 12
The Patrick County Food Bank will distribute boxes at its Stuart location from 8:30-11 a.m., and from 5-6:30 p.m., at Fellowship Church in Ararat from 8-10 a.m., and starting at 5:30 p.m. at the community building in Meadows of Dan.

Thursday, Aug. 13
The Patrick County Senior Citizens Group will hold its August monthly meeting at 11 a.m. in the Hooker Building at Rotary Field in Stuart. Entertainment will be provided by Charles Bowman. Beverages will be provided to all attendees. Attendees are requested to bring salads and/or desserts to share. Due to the Patrick County Agricultural Fair, there will be NO monthly senior meeting in September.

Friday, Aug. 21
The community food truck will be at the Fairystone VFD from 3-4 p.m.

Ongoing

The Patrick County High School Hall of Fame Committee is accepting nominations for induction into the Hall of Fame Class of 2026 until July 31. Nominations can be made at https://docs.google.com/forms/d/147g76X_3A_Fez-M1OXKGz0BqHem1wiWnL_lV2iIxhah0/edit.

American Legion Post 105 meets every third Friday of the month at 6 p.m. at the Post building at 553 American Legion Road, Stuart. All are welcome.

VFW Post 7800 meets on the 4th Tuesday of every month. Premeeting meal starts at 6 p.m.; meeting starts at 7 p.m., 939 VFW Road, Patrick Springs. Qualified new members welcome.

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

Inside yard sale to benefit Patrick County Alzheimer's Group LLC. 109 Buena Vista, Stuart, 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.

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.

The Patrick Springs Ruritan Club meets at 6:30 p.m. on the 2nd Thursday of each month in the community room at Patrick Springs Park, 2 Ballpark Road, Patrick Springs.

Vesta Alzheimer's Group LLC meets at the Vesta Community Center on the third Tuesday of 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.

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.

Firewater
SERVICE CENTER
1329 Scenic Drive, Stuart, VA 24171
(276) 694-7417 or (276) 358-1580
Hours: Mon - Fri 8:00 to 5:30, Sat 8:00 to 2:00
VALVOLINE AND SCHAEFFER OIL PRODUCTS
Now Offering
TIRES & FRONT END ALIGNMENT

• State Inspections
• Oil Changes using Amsoil, Valvoline & Schaeffer Oil Products
• Full Brake Service for Disc and Drum Brakes
• Replacement of Belts and Hoses
• Tune Ups
• Tire Rotations
• Starter and Alternator Replacement
• Battery Replacement
10% DISCOUNT FOR VETERANS

SPRINGLAKE STOCKYARD
LIVESTOCK AUCTIONS
EVERY SATURDAY AT 1 P.M.
• We sell cattle, goats, sheep & pigs.
• State Graded Feeder Sale every Saturday
For directions to our facility, weekly updates of upcoming events and current sale prices, please visit our website: www.springlakeauctions.com.
Please feel free to call us at
(540) 297-1707.
We appreciate your business!
1069 SICKLE COURT, MONETA, VA 24121

Tired of driving to the landfill?

We'll pick it up at your curb!
Household pickup once a week - $36 month
Dumpsters for residential and business use available.

WE ARE NOW OFFERING ROLL-OFF CONTAINERS.
Please call for pricing. 276-251-1303
RURAL SERVICES
Residential & Commercial Garbage Collection in P.C.
ruralservicesinc.@swva.net

Super Crossword

Answers

U	N	A	W	A	R	E	S	■	C	A	R	B	S	■	A	L	A	S	K	A
S	E	T	A	G	O	A	L	■	A	M	O	R	E	■	W	A	N	T	E	D
S	M	O	K	E	Y	R	O	B	I	N	S	O	N	■	R	O	O	M	E	D
R	O	P	E	■	■	■	P	A	T	I	E	N	T	L	Y	■	R	A	N	I
■	■	■	■	R	C	S	■	S	L	O	■	C	I	I	■	T	A	L	O	N
D	I	S	C	J	O	C	K	E	Y	■	D	O	N	K	E	Y	K	O	N	G
E	D	W	A	R	D	I	I	■	N	E	O	■	■	E	E	K	■	■	■	■
S	L	A	B	■	E	S	T	A	■	L	O	U	I	S	L	E	A	K	E	Y
K	E	G	■	A	B	S	E	N	T	S	■	P	R	O	■	■	R	O	M	E
■	■	■	S	T	L	O	■	G	O	E	S	T	O	■	S	C	A	L	I	A
T	A	L	K	T	U	R	K	E	Y	■	M	O	N	K	E	Y	B	A	R	S
E	L	A	I	N	E	■	A	L	S	T	O	N	■	N	E	S	S	■	■	■
R	A	I	N	■	■	I	T	O	■	E	G	O	T	I	S	T	■	C	D	S
M	I	C	K	E	Y	M	O	U	S	E	■	W	E	S	T	■	T	O	O	K
■	■	■	■	M	A	O	■	■	A	N	G	■	E	H	A	R	M	O	N	Y
H	O	C	K	E	Y	P	U	C	K	■	L	I	M	E	R	I	C	K	E	Y
E	T	H	E	R	■	E	L	L	■	S	A	P	■	S	S	N	■	■	■	■
R	O	A	R	■	U	N	L	I	B	E	R	A	L	■	■	■	O	S	H	A
M	O	M	M	A	S	■	M	E	R	C	E	D	E	S	L	A	C	K	E	Y
A	L	P	I	N	E	■	A	N	I	T	A	■	A	S	A	W	H	O	L	E
N	E	S	T	E	D	■	N	T	E	S	T	■	K	E	Y	W	O	R	D	S

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

WHEO

92.7 FM
Classic Hits
wheoradio.com
"Small Town Station with a BIG Town Sound"

LEGAL

TRUSTEE'S SALE
171 Russell Gunter Drive, Stuart, VA 24171

In execution of a Deed of Trust in the original principal amount of $180,606.00 dated August 16, 2017 recorded among the land records of the Circuit Court for Patrick County on August 24, 2017 as Instrument Number: 170001526, the undersigned appointed Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction, at the Main entrance of the courthouse for the Circuit Court of Patrick County, 101 W Blue Ridge St, Stuart, VA 24171 on September 3, 2026 at 11:30 AM the property described in said deed of trust, located at the above address and briefly described as: All that certain tract of land, together with the improvements thereon and appurtenances thereunto belonging, lying and being in Peters Creek Magisterial District of Patrick County, Virginia, containing 1.000 acre. Tax ID: 4609-112-A.

TERMS OF SALE: A bidder's deposit of $10,000.00 or 10% of the sale price, whichever is lower, will be required in the form of a certified or cashier's check. Cash will not be accepted as a deposit. Settlement within fifteen (15) days of sale, otherwise Trustee may forfeit deposit. FinCEN reporting will be required of all successful purchasers, absent a lawful exemption. Additional terms to be announced at sale. This is a communication from a debt collector. This notice is an attempt to collect on a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. (Trustee # 26-006245)

Substitute Trustee: ALG Trustee, LLC C/O Orlans Law Group PLLC PO Box 2548, Leesburg, VA 20177 (703) 777-7101
website: www.Orlans.com

LEGAL

Meeting Notice
Patrick County Public Service Authority
Organizational Business Meeting

The Patrick County Public Service Authority Board of Directors will hold an Organizational and Quarterly Business Meeting on Tuesday, July 28, 2026 at 6:00 PM in the 3rd Floor Court Room of the Patrick County Veterans Memorial Building.

Petitions and requests from the public to address the Board shall be submitted in writing to the PSA located in the Patrick County Administration Building at 106 Rucker Street, Suite 218, Stuart, VA. Petitions and requests to address the Board shall be submitted no less than five (5) days prior to the scheduled meeting and placed on the official meeting agenda in order to be considered. Persons wanting to address the Authority's Board not having submitted a pre-request to do so may only be heard after a majority of Directors agree. The Directors encourage public attendance at all meetings.

Jackson

(cont. from page 1)

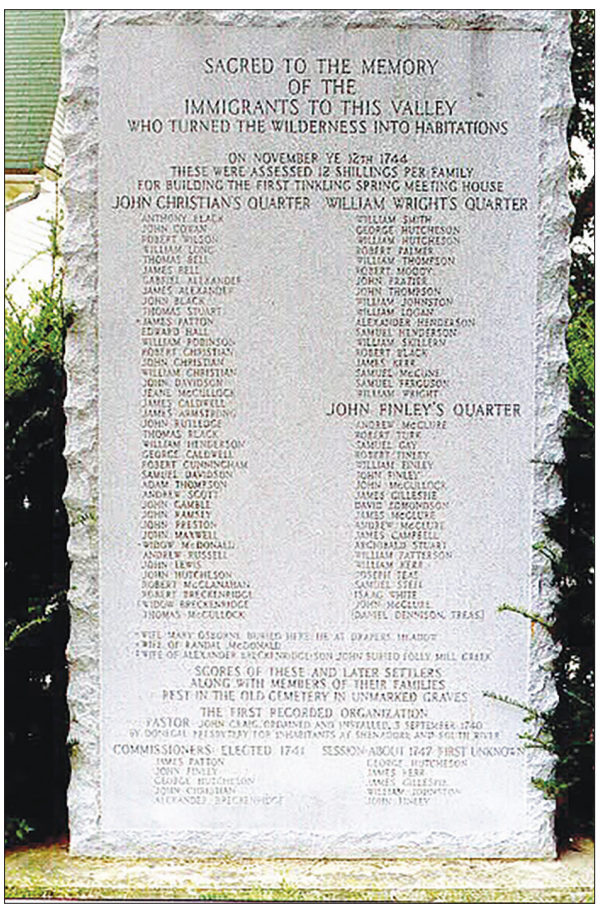


ship to foster an inclusive, supportive workplace that reflects Ferrum College's mission and values while positioning the institution to attract, develop, and retain exceptional faculty and staff.

Jackson said, "I am excited to begin this new chapter at Ferrum College and grateful for the opportunity to serve as Director of Human Resources. After more than thirty years in human resources across a variety of industries, I am eager to bring my experience to higher education and support the talented faculty and staff who make the College's mission possible. I believe that strong organizations are built by investing in people, cultivating trust, and creating opportunities for growth. I look forward to working alongside the Ferrum College community to strengthen an inclusive, supportive, and engaging workplace where employees can thrive."

Jackson's appointment reflects Ferrum College's continued investment in strengthening its people, enhancing organizational effectiveness, and supporting the success of every member of the Panther Nation.

Like us on Facebook







Photos courtesy Tinkling Springs Presbyterian Church, Augusta County, Virginia.

Archibald Stuart "The Immigrant"

J. E. B. Stuart's great-great-grandfather

By Tom Perry

In 1610, families from the western counties of lowland Scotland crossed the Irish Sea to the northern and eastern counties of Ulster, or Northern Ireland as we call it today, forming a group known as the Scots-Irish. These Scots were not the kilt-and-tartan-wearing members of the Highland clans, but people more like their northern English neighbors. They left a land about the size of South Carolina, full of poverty, few trees, and lawlessness, for a new beginning, endorsed by their monarch, another James Stuart, to quell the Catholic Irish, with the Protestant spirit embraced by Henry VIII and by Martin Luther's Reformation during the preceding century. Upon arriving in the counties of Antrim, Down, Londonderry, Tyrone, and Armagh, they became tenant farmers, agreeing to twenty-one-year leases of lands.

A young man not yet thirty years of age stood on the deck of a sailing ship making its way up the Delaware River. The wind tossed his red hair, but his blue eyes fixed upon the port of Philadelphia in the distance. This Scots-Irish man paid about nine pounds to cross the 3,000 miles of the North Atlantic in eight to ten weeks on a crowded ship with more than a hundred passengers. He slept below deck in a hammock or on a straw mattress. The threat of disease, starvation, or even pirates was a distinct possibility. He had few possessions as he stepped onto a pier near Market Street in the "City of Brotherly Love." That street was the northern terminus of the Great Wagon Road, which ran through our region before ending in my mother's hometown of Augusta, Georgia. Archibald Stuart, J. E. B. Stuart's great-great-grandfather, was in North America.

Another young man, three years earlier, arrived in Philadelphia and made a similar walk, describing his "awkward ridiculous appearance." Benjamin Franklin, of Boston, returned to Pennsylvania that same year and stayed to make his mark. The year was 1726, and Archibald Stuart was in America.

Archibald Stuart was born circa 1697 in Omagh in Tyrone County of Northern Ireland. He married Janet Brown and fathered two children, Thomas and Eleanor, before emigrating to America in 1726. Family tradition holds that he left Northern Ireland because of his role in the rebellion on behalf of the persecuted Presbyterians.

By 1732, Archibald's brother, Andrew, brought Archibald Stuart's wife, Janet Brown Stuart, and her two children to Pennsylvania. Family tradition states that Archibald hid in Pennsylvania until the king granted amnesty to dissenters, but he may have indentured himself for 7 years to pay for his crossing and to start a new life for his family. He purchased 250 acres in Lancaster County in November 1737. Janet gave birth to two more children, Benjamin and Alexander, while in Pennsylvania. Archibald's brothers, John and David, along with Andrew, made the trip to America.

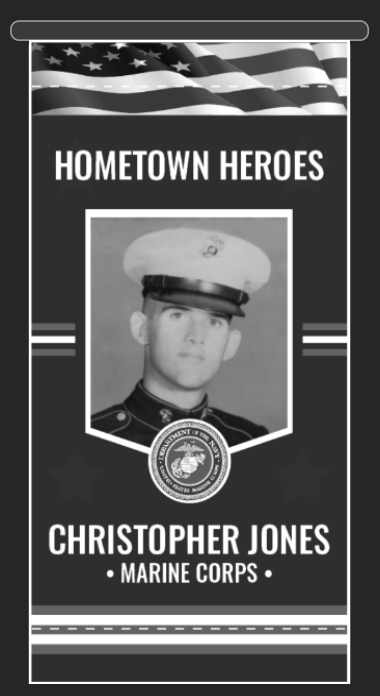
Lancaster County, bordered on the west by the Susquehanna River, was the frontier. The immigrant Scots-Irish lived on the western edge, acting as a buffer between the German peoples on the east side of the county and the Indians. Archibald Stuart and others looked for a new place to live. They chose a valley in Virginia that the Algonquian Indians called "Daughter of the stars," or Shenandoah.

In 1738, encouraged by cheaper land prices and religious toleration, the Stuarts moved to Augusta County, Virginia. The county formed that same year became a magnet for the Scots-Irish seeking new land not inhabited by others. Among those joining them was the brother of Mrs. Stuart, with the ironic name of the Reverend John Brown, who preached at Providence Presbyterian Church in Rockbridge County. He became the second Rector of Liberty Hall Academy, the predecessor of Washington and Lee University.

Archibald Stuart settled in "John Finley's Quarter" on the southern branch of the Shenandoah River. County records mark his presence in 1748. Three years later, he bought 1000 acres in Augusta County. Archibald Stuart, "The Immigrant," died in 1761. His will, probated on November 17 of that year, left his estate to his oldest son, Thomas. This land, known as the Pratt Farm, is two miles southwest of Waynesboro. In 1751, Stuart paid 12 shillings to have his family join Tinkling Springs Presbyterian Church.

The church marks the contributions of those first people with a marker dedicated which stands outside the Fellowship Hall that reads, "Sacred to the Memory of the Immigrants to this valley who turned the wilderness into habitations." It lists the names of the original members who were assessed twelve shillings each to build the first meeting house. Administratively, the membership was divided into three Quarters headed by John Christian, William Wright, and John Finley. Christian's quarter included families named Black, Cowin, Wilson, Long, Bell, Alexander, Stewart, Patton, Hall, Robison, Cristian, Davison, McCollock, Caldwell, Armstrong, Rutledge, Henderson, Thomson,

(See Archibald p. 14)



A TRIBUTE ACROSS OUR TOWN
TOWN OF STUART, VIRGINIA

Hometown
Hero Banners

Honor a veteran from your family with a personalized banner flown along the streets of Stuart. **First displayed Veterans Day 2026**, then every Memorial Day through Labor Day for up to five years.

$135 PER BANNER — Checks payable to the Town of Stuart
Aug 28, 2026 DEADLINE — Firm — please plan accordingly
5 Yrs ON DISPLAY — Banner remains Town property

To apply, pick up a form at the Stuart Town Office, 100 Patrick Avenue. A high-resolution photo of your hero is required.

APPLY OR LEARN MORE
daniel.trail@stuartva.org
276.694.3811 · 100 Patrick Ave., Stuart

email us
DHALL@THEENTERPRISE.NET

Residents

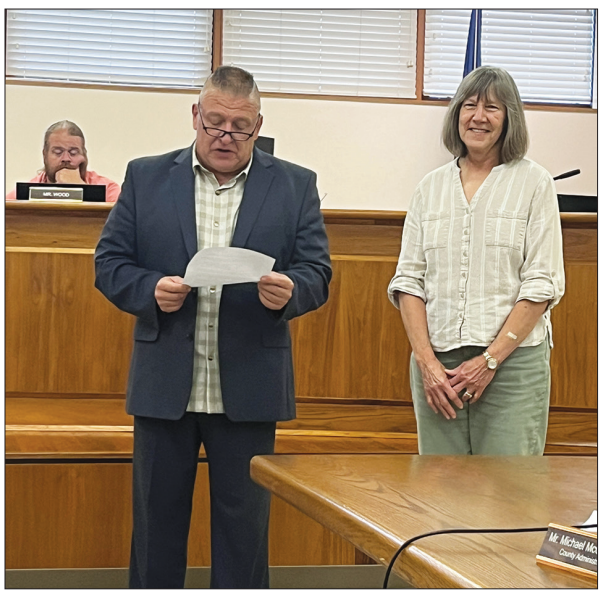
(cont. from page 1)



Standing residents oppose the proposed closure of a portion of Dogwood Road.



County Administrator Michael McGuinness and the board, recognized Ruth Russell for her service to the county.





Tara Burgess



Rhonda Pruitt



Ed Anthony

"It would remove the center feeling at that intersection and impede access to the Envision Critz Community Center and Park. I feel that closing Dogwood Road does active harm to new businesses in the area, notably Clay & Twig and Glenn's Grill (& Go)," she said.

Burgess said the proposal stems from concerns about students crossing the road to reach the school gymnasium, but noted students would also cross the road to access the community center and park.

"Is the school board going to close Abram Penn (Road) next? It also has safety issues with students and communities, such as that blind hill. Where would we be voting? Would we move that voting area because we can't get to that gymnasium anymore? Where would our recycling bins go?" Burgess asked.

She added that residents and the (VDOT) have suggested several alternatives to closing the road.

Rhonda Pruitt said she, her father and her four children all attended HRMS and she is unaware of any accidents involving students crossing the road.

"You know why? Because of the staff. We have an excellent staff at that school," she said.

Pruitt said HRMS students are taught to cross safely and later must navigate more challenging traffic situations at Patrick County High School.

"We're preparing them to go on. We're not treating them like children; we want them to succeed. That's what we're here for. They know the words 'stop' and 'go,' and they tell you when you come on your third-grade trip you don't go across that road without somebody with you," she said.

Pruitt said she's also the Poll Chief for the Critz/Stella Precinct, located at the HRMS gym. It is the largest precinct in the county, with more than 1,700 assigned registered voters.

"Have any of you thought of where you're going to put us? Where will we go to vote? You can't tell us they're not going to vote. You've got to find somewhere for them to go, and that is where they're all used to," she said.

Ed Anthony said the board approved the closure without adequately considering local businesses, residents and property owners.

"We the people presented a petition of 466 signatures to keep the road open, with several safety precautions noted to be installed such as stop signs, flashing caution lights, drop bars at the crosswalk and others to keep the children safe," he said.

Anthony also argued the board's action should be invalid because, he said, it was not properly advertised and the resolution cited a different reason for the closure than originally presented.

"It stated that the road no longer provides sufficient public convenience to warrant maintenance, instead of the safety reasons that were proposed by the school board at the meeting for the reason to close that section of the road," he said.

Anthony said that if the road is closed, reopening it would require significant expense to meet VDOT standards.

"Once that road is closed, it will never return," he said.

Leroy Trent said he has never seen or heard of an accident on that section of Dogwood Road.

"I don't think the road needs closing because it's going to create a big hazard. I've got tractor-trailers, and we cut through there sometimes, and if we go through that road (Crossover Drive), it's going to be a disaster," Trent said.

Vance Agee also argued the vote to close the road is invalid.

"Therefore, start all over again. VDOT offered up many alternatives. You have 25 percent of that community, even a petition, against closing that road," he said.

Agee said the county should continue discussing alternatives.

"If that road is not worthy of being maintained for what few dollars it is to put a little asphalt, tar, and gravel of it, then I would also challenge the question of the legitimacy of the enrollment and the headcount for the current and the next 10 years for Hardin Reynolds School.

"It's a business. You've got a balance sheet, and the revenues that come in as a result of a legitimate enrollment and headcount need to be considered because the spending for the payroll, maintenance and operation of that facility is part of the expenditures," Agee said.

Galen Gilbert said he recently drove Crossover Drive, the detour motorists would use if the road is closed.

"You have to pull halfway out into Abram Penn just to see down toward the post office. Now how safe is that? And where are they going to put the people who pick up their kids that line up from the school all the way past Critz Baptist Church?" Gilbert asked.

Gilbert said a nearby building recently was moved to improve visibility and suggested Appalachian Power clear trees near utility poles to further improve sight distance.

In other business

- Heard from Stanley Fain, who said some Patrick Springs residents are being billed for Public Service Authority water service despite not being connected.
- Heard from Steve Ferring regarding the county budget and operations at the Patrick County Jail.
- Heard from Dan Wood about Appalachian Power's herbicide spraying.
- Heard from Galen Gilbert regarding the need for a traffic signal at the intersection of U.S. 58, South Mayo Drive and Spring Road.
- Presented the July Patrick County Partner Award to Dr. Richard Cole.
- Recognized Administrative Assistant/Finance Officer Ruth Russell for her service to the county.
- Approved a resolution documenting changes to a 0.75-mile section of U.S. 58 that was widened during a 2016 construction project.
- Denied Appalachian Power's Mayo River Station easement request.
- Received an update from Department of Social Services Director Carol Craig.
- Reappointed Ron Haley to a four-year term on the Economic Development Authority.
- Approved the June 8 meeting minutes.
- Approved bills, claims and appropriations.
- Received the county administrator's report.
- Received supervisors' reports.

VISIT US ONLINE AT WWW.THEENTERPRISE.NET

Archibald

(cont. from page 12)

Scott, Gamel, Ramsey, Preston, Maxwell, McDonald, Russell, Lewis, Hutchison, McClanahan, Brackenridge, and McCollock. Wright's quarter included families named Smith, Hutchison, Palmer, Thomson, Frazer, Johnston, Logan, Henderson, Scileran, Black, Cear, McCune, Fergeson, and Wright. Finley's quarter included families named McClure, Turk, Gay, Finley, McCollock, Edmiston, Campbell, Stewart, Peterson, Cear, Tays, Steel, and White."

Archibald Stuart's son, Alexander, fought at Guilford Courthouse during the American Revolution. Alexander's son, another Alexander, was a Judge who went all the way to Missouri. His son, Archibald, lived at Laurel Hill in Ararat, Patrick County, Virginia, and his son was James Ewell Brown "Jeb" Stuart, a Major General in the War Between the States.

Follow Tom Perry on Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/tom.perry.12532 or email at freestateofpatrick@yahoo.com.

Like us on facebook

DON'T FALL BEHIND ON YOUR READING

JOIN OUR FREE DIGITAL NEWSLETTER INSTEAD



GO TO theenterprise.net AND CLICK NOW TO JOIN
STAY UP TO DATE ON LOCAL NEWS

Norris
Funeral Services, Inc. and Crematory
www.norrisfuneral.com
129 Howell Lane
Stuart, VA
276-694-2012
Affordable Funerals And Cremations With Updated Facilities



LAND AUCTION



25.29± Acres — Moorefield Store Community

Online Only | Patrick County, VA

A rare opportunity to own a quiet, private tract in the heart of Patrick County. Mostly open land with some wooded areas, this versatile property is well-suited as a private country estate or continued in agricultural production for grain or livestock. Accessed via a 60-foot easement and currently in agricultural use.

Bidding Starts July 20 and Ends July 28 at 11:00 AM

Property Inspection: July 26 from 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM

Visit our website for details.

ROGERS REALTY & AUCTION CO., INC.

SCAN FOR DETAILS



Keith Gunter, Auctioneer/Sale Manager
Real Estate Brokers & Auctioneers Since 1964 | VAAL #2
(276) 694-2459
1310 EMS Dr. Mount Airy, NC 27030
www.rogersauctiongroup.com

TNNC2320902-1

NAA Auctioneer

REALTOR®

proudly announcing the opening of

Wallace Legal PLLC

Anna Wallace, Attorney at Law • Stuart, Virginia

Anna, a native of Woolwine, Virginia, is pleased to announce the opening of her civil law practice, now serving the citizens of Patrick County.



Practice Areas:

- Wills & Estates
- Property & Real Estate
- Divorce & Family
- misc. civil matters

Contact: (276) 693-0803 or **info@wallacelegalva.com**

WE'RE HIRING! Wallace Legal is seeking to hire a professional, detail-oriented legal secretary to join the team. To apply, e-mail your resume and cover letter to info@wallacelegalva.com

Our permanent physical office is currently under renovation at **120 Slusher Street** in Stuart. However, the practice is fully operational and actively accepting new clients!