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

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Road, bridge repairs underway after weekend flooding



Floodwaters damaged the Rabbit Ridge Road bridge over the Ararat River. This photo was taken from the North Carolina side following flooding that began Aug. 1 and continued into Aug. 2. (Contributed by Mary Dellenback Hill)



Another view of the damaged Rabbit Ridge Road bridge over the Ararat River from the North Carolina side after flooding Aug. 1-2. (Contributed by Mary Dellenback Hill)

By Taylor Boyd

As floodwaters receded Monday, Patrick County officials and the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) assessed damage and worked to restore access to roads and bridges affected by weekend flooding in the Claudville and Ararat areas.

Patrick County Emergency Management Director Scottie Cassell said rivers and creeks had nearly returned to normal levels, but several roads remained closed because of extensive damage.

"We still have a couple of roads that are still shut down due to severe damage to bridges. VDOT is working on that right now. I went out this morning and checked on a couple of situations we left last night, but they are trying to get all the roads opened back up as quick as possible," he said.

As of early Monday, Aug. 3, Hollow Road, Rabbit Ridge Road, and Kibler Valley Road remained closed, along with several other roads.

"Anything on the Ararat River that's got a major bridge," Cassell said.

Cassell said one washed-out bridge left 12 people stranded on the opposite side of the Ararat River.

"But they decided to shelter in place. We made sure they had everything they needed; they had backup generators, food, and water, and all that

(See Road p. 12)



Disaster Relief Food Ministry Inc., its volunteers and local officials celebrated the opening of its new Patrick County office with a ribbon cutting Monday in Stuart.

Disaster Relief Food Ministry opens Stuart office

By Taylor Boyd

Disaster Relief Food Ministry Inc. celebrated the opening of its new Stuart office and storage facility with a ribbon cutting Monday, marking the organization's first permanent location in Patrick County.

Founder Jimmy Willard said the new location will allow the organization to establish a physical presence in the county while creating opportunities to expand its operations.

The office space will allow Willard's wife and organization director, Carol Willard, to complete accounting and other paperwork closer to her job at EMI. The organization also hopes to eventually use the nearby green building for food storage.

"I won't be able to store any of my food or any of my boxes until I get it to where I can get it inspected by Feeding Southwest Virginia, and that's down the road quite a ways," Willard said.

To meet Feeding Southwest Virginia's standards, Willard said food distributed in Bassett and Patrick County must be stored separately.

"It takes a lot of room, so that's why the warehouse in Bassett is important. But I believe we'll be able to move Patrick County freezers here and I'll have the frozen ones on site once we get inspected and all of that. Of course that depends on what we find when we get in there that we have to repair and that type of thing," he said.

If approved, Willard said the organization hopes to distribute food boxes directly from the Stuart location.

The organization's goal remains serving residents in need, Willard said.

"It's to help the county and not hurt anyone who's trying the county. It's to work together and be the hands of feeding Jesus to really benefit the community because this need is really growing. I mean it's grown tremendously in the

(See Disaster p. 3)

New grill, convenience store opens in Critz



Sherry Glenn opened Glenn's Grill & Go in Critz in mid-July.

By Taylor Boyd

With back-to-school season around the corner, Glenn's Grill & Go has opened in Critz, just minutes from Hardin Reynolds Memorial School. Business owner Sherry Glenn hopes it will become a one-stop shop for the community, offering made-to-order meals and everyday convenience items.

The business currently serves breakfast sandwiches, biscuits, hamburgers, hot dogs, salads and sides including hash browns, onion rings and hush puppies. Glenn plans to expand the store's offerings this month to include additional convenience items, hand-dipped ice cream, fresh produce and supplies for local farmers, including animal feed.

"This is a farming area, so that's a goal — to serve the community," Glenn said.

Glenn said she chose the former gas station because it holds fond memories for her, including family gatherings to eat watermelon there.

"So many great memories. I originally wanted a cafe, but it was a lot of upgrades, so I thought, 'Why not do a gas station so people come and grab their toilet paper, their eggs, their gas, and whatever they need after working a long day,'" she said.

Her own experience as a working mother also inspired the business.

"My daughter is 26 and my son is 4, and I've always worked hard. I wanted to make it easy for mothers like me, just busy, busy, busy on the way home from work" to quickly grab what they need, she said.

(See New Grill p. 14)

Eastbound lanes open on U.S. 58

The U.S. 58 Lovers Leap project in Patrick County reached a key milestone with the completion of the new eastbound lanes. This section was opened to traffic on July 30.

These lanes are part of the $300 million road project widening 7.4 miles of U.S. 58 and addressing safety challenges presented by the steep grade and winding curves that drivers encounter on Lovers Leap Mountain. This section of the highway currently is restricted to tractor trailers, and the restriction will be removed upon completion of this project.

"This milestone reflects years of careful planning and hard work in one of the most challenging terrain areas in our district. Completing the eastbound lanes moves us another step closer to delivering a safer and more reliable Route 58 corridor for the traveling public and shows the commitment of our construction teams and partners along this important corridor." said VDOT Salem District Engineer Ken King.

One eastbound and westbound lane will be open until the project is complete, however, drivers will still see flagging operations along this section of U.S. 58. Remaining work includes:

- Constructing sections of the westbound lanes
- Finishing the new overlook and finalizing the enhancement of Lovers Leap Overlook with improved access to Fred Clifton Park

(See Eastbound p. 4)

The Flood of 1979

By Tom Perry

Editor's note: As Patrick County begins another round of cleanup following this weekend's flooding, longtime local historian Tom Perry reflects on another devastating chapter in the region's history. While today's flood is a different event, many of the same communities along the Ararat, Mayo and Dan rivers once again faced rising waters. Perry's personal memories offer historical perspective on a disaster that remains etched in the memories of many local residents.

Genesis 8:4 "And the ark rested in the seventh month, on the seventeenth day of the month, upon the mountains of Ararat."

This morning I woke up and thought it was 1979. Sadly, I was not 18 years old, but 65. I hope everyone is safe.

If you grew up along the Ararat River, you read the story of Noah and the ark landing on the "Mountains of Ararat." On the Jefferson Fry Map of our area, Pilot Mountain, Sauratown, and Hanging Rock were listed as the Mountains of Ararat. So we have two communities in Virginia and North Carolina known as Ararat and a river of the same name that connects them.

Twenty-five years ago in September of 1979, I attended my first college class at Surry Community College in Dobson, North Carolina. Appropriately, it was a history class taught by Conrad C. Holcomb. Little did I know that a few weeks later I would experience history face to face and not very pleasantly.

Around five o'clock in the afternoon of Friday, September 21, 1979, it began to rain. Rain had fallen over a very wet summer and even on Thursday through Friday morning. By nine that evening, the heavens opened up in a horrible downpour that put 6.24 inches of rain down in twenty-four hours. When the sun came up the next morning, WHEO was still on the air, and

(See Flood p. 3)

Chamber Chat

For the month of July 2026



By Rebecca Adcock, Director of the Patrick County Chamber of Commerce

Summer continues to be a busy season for the Patrick County Chamber of Commerce as we work alongside our members, local governments, nonprofit organizations, and community partners to promote economic development, workforce initiatives, tourism, and quality of life throughout Patrick County. July was filled with opportunities to celebrate community successes, build new partnerships, and continue planning projects that will benefit our residents and visitors for years to come.

One of the month's highlights was welcoming U.S. Senator Mark Warner to Patrick Springs, where he presented a federal funding check to Connect Health + Wellness. This investment represents another important step toward expanding access to healthcare services in our community and demonstrates the value of continued partnerships between local organizations and state and federal leaders. We appreciate Senator Warner taking the time to visit Patrick County and recognize the important work being done to improve the health and well-being of our residents.

Communities across Patrick County came together during the Fourth of July holiday to celebrate our nation's independence with parades, festivals, fireworks, live music, and family-friendly activities. These annual celebrations not only strengthen community pride but also welcome visitors who experience firsthand the hospitality, natural beauty, and vibrant spirit that make Patrick County such a special place to live, work, and visit.

Keeping our business community informed continues to be a Chamber priority. Recently, the Virginia Chamber of Commerce hosted a webinar outlining several new Virginia employment laws that affect employers across the Commonwealth. To help local businesses better understand these changes, the Patrick County Chamber of Commerce has partnered with the Longwood Small Business Development Center to offer an in-person Lunch & Learn on August 18th. The session will focus on employee handbook updates and an overview of Virginia's newest workforce laws. The program is complimentary for Chamber members and available to non-members for a $20 registration fee. Light refreshments will be provided, and advance registration is required.

On July 8th, the Chamber proudly sponsored and attended the We Impact Virginia event hosted at Virginia Tech's Reynolds Homestead. This program continues to bring together community leaders from across the region to discuss leadership, community engagement, and innovative ways to strengthen rural Virginia. We also enjoyed spending time with participants in Reynolds Homestead's Career Trailblazers Camp, introducing students to local career opportunities, entrepreneurship, and the many rewarding ways they can become engaged in their communities. Investing in our future workforce begins by inspiring young people to see opportunities right here at home.

Tourism and workforce development intersected during the Southern Virginia Intern Familiarization Tour on July 15th. Chamber staff met with interns in Meadows of Dan, showcasing many of the unique experiences that Patrick County offers, from outdoor recreation and local businesses to arts, culture, and community life. These familiarization tours are designed to help interns develop a stronger connection to Southern Virginia and encourage them to consider building their careers in our region after graduation.

Progress continues on one of the Chamber's signature quality-of-life initiatives, the Mayo River Rail Trail. We are excited to announce that the beautiful new water tower mural has now been completed, creating a colorful landmark that celebrates our community while enhancing the trail experience for residents and visitors alike. Attention is now shifting toward the next phase of improvements through the Virginia Department of Forestry grant. This work will include invasive vine removal, survey work, and planning for future trail enhancements. As part of this grant, the Chamber is also receiving technical assistance from Virginia Tech's Community Design Assistance Center (CDAC). Representatives visited Patrick County on July 28th to walk the trail, discuss long-term improvements, and begin developing recommendations that will help shape the future of this important community asset.

The Chamber also participated in a regional Zoom meeting to discuss the next phase of Blue Ridge Rising Trail Initiative, where communities across Southwest Virginia continue identifying priority trail projects and opportunities to strengthen outdoor recreation throughout the region. Regional collaboration remains essential as communities work together to create interconnected trail systems that support tourism, recreation, and economic development.

Preparations are well underway for the Fall edition of the award-winning Patrick County Magazine. Advertising sales are nearing completion, and work continues on feature stories highlighting local businesses, events, attractions, and the people who make Patrick County unique. The magazine will make its debut at the Patrick County Agricultural Fair in September before being distributed throughout the region, serving as an important tourism and economic development resource.

Throughout July, I also participated in several important regional meetings. I attended the Friends of Southwest Virginia Listening Tour, where stakeholders shared ideas to help update the Destination Southwest Virginia strategic plan. I also participated in the county's FEMA meeting regarding proposed updates to Patrick County's flood maps, ensuring local businesses and residents remain informed about changes that may affect future development and property planning.

One of the month's most rewarding events was hosting the Rural Everywhere: Connecting Communities gathering. Thirty-eight participants representing businesses, nonprofits, education, healthcare, local government, and community organizations came together to discuss ways to strengthen connections throughout Patrick County. The conversations centered on identifying community connectors, breaking down organizational silos, increasing collaboration, and ensuring more voices are included in future community conversations. The event reinforced that when organizations work together and share resources, everyone benefits.

Building on this momentum, the Chamber is excited to partner with Virginia Tech's Reynolds Homestead to present the Patrick County Nonprofit Summit on November 7th. The summit will provide nonprofit leaders, board members, staff, volunteers, funders, and community partners with a full day of professional development, networking, and collaboration designed to strengthen the organizations that serve our region.

Finally, we are pleased to welcome our newest Chamber members, High Hopes Dog Training and Wallace Legal, PLLC. We appreciate their investment in the Patrick County business community and look forward to supporting their continued growth and success.

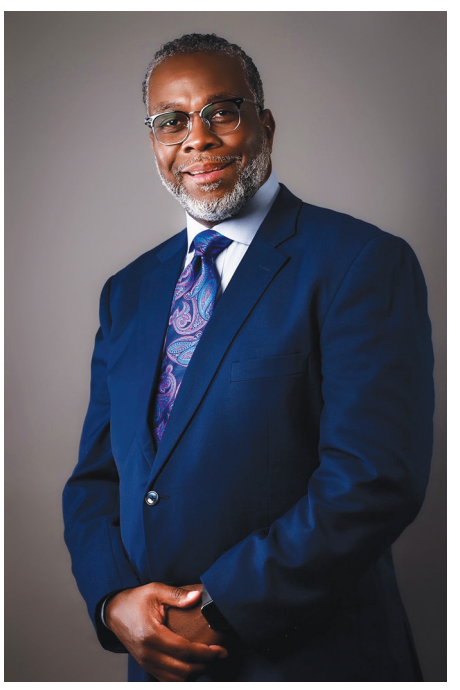
As we move into August, we invite everyone to join us on August 3rd for the ribbon cutting celebrating the Disaster Relief Food Ministry's new offices at 420 Woodland Drive. We also encourage our business community to register for the August 18th Lunch & Learn and nonprofit leaders to save the date for the November 7th Nonprofit Summit. Thank you to our members, volunteers, partners, and supporters for continuing to make Patrick County a stronger, more connected, and vibrant community. Together, we are building momentum that will benefit our county for generations to come.

Whitfield to Speak at P&HCC Workforce Commencement

The commencement address for Patrick & Henry Community College' (P&HCC's) 2026 workforce graduation ceremony will be delivered by Charles R. Whitfield.

A respected community leader and a passionate advocate for economic empowerment, Whitfield is known for his compassionate counseling and leadership. He has served on the Board of Directors for the Harvest Foundation and the Martinsville-Henry County Economic Development Corporation. He currently serves with C-PEG (Chamber Partners for Economic Growth) and continues his commitment to education and ministry as a former trustee of both Virginia Union University and Virginia University of Lynchburg of which he was bestowed an Honorary Doctorate Degree.

Whitfield is also the president of the Minority Business Consortium, a regional initiative focused on empowering underrepresented entrepreneurs and expanding equitable opportunities in the business ecosystem. He is the former president of the Virginia Baptist State Convention (2018–2021) and has received numerous accolades and commendations to include the Presidential Lifetime Achievement Award, signed by President Joseph R. Biden Jr. (2024). A sought-after leadership trainer and Christian counselor, he has been invited to preach across the country and has had the unique honor of delivering the opening prayer for three NASCAR races at the historic Martinsville Speedway. He is the author of two books, Anointed in the Moment and Embracing the Anointing.



Charles R. Whitfield

"I am a servant-leader anointed for such a time as this—called to lead with integrity and build both faith and community through love and service," said Whitfield.

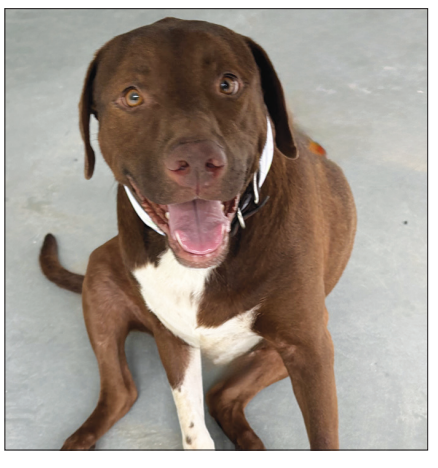
Pastor Whitfield holds a Bachelor of Arts in Christian Education, a Master of Arts in Human Services with a focus in Family & Marriage Counseling, and a Master of Divinity from the Samuel DeWitt Proctor School of Theology at Virginia Union University. He and his wife, Carmela, are the proud parents of Chas (Summer) and Charity, and proud grandparents of Monse' and Cansas.

P&HCC President Dr. Greg Hodges said, "It is our honor to welcome Mr. Whitfield to campus to share his expertise and words of wisdom with tomorrow's entrepreneurs, business leaders, and small business employees as they prepare to embark on the next step of their success journey."

P&HCC workforce graduates will be recognized in a ceremony in the Stone Hall gymnasium on Friday, August 21 at 6 p.m.

Pets of the Week





Dahlia is a 9-month-old Labrador mix. This playful female puppy would be a great family pet.

Hershey is a chocolate lab mix, neutered male approximately 3-year-old. A sweet, chunky male!

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 league's Facebook page for new videos at https://www.facebook.com/blueridgeawl/.

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


Disaster

(cont. from page 1)



The organization remains committed to serving residents in need from the new Stuart location.



The group hopes to use this building as a storage facility in the future.

last year. We sign up new clients every day," he said.

The new office will also allow Disaster Relief Food Ministry to provide assistance outside of its regular distribution schedule.

"That's my goal is I'll work out of this office here, and this will be open five days a week in the future," Willard said.

If someone has an immediate need outside of distribution days, Willard said they will be able to receive an emergency food box at the office.

"It won't be like we'll have a distribution five days a week, but if they walk in we'll have access to get them a food box then. It won't be a thing where they have to wait a month until someone's open to get it," he said.

While the organization waits to see if it can use the green building for freezer storage, Willard said its truck that's equipped to store frozen items can remain outside the office.

"It works really good for the volunteers the way we're set up out here to give out to be out of the sun or the rain. Here locally it's going to work out real good. I'm pleased to be here, it's going to be great. Once we get in here and settled in, that's the main thing," he said.

If the green building cannot be used, Willard said the organization is open to purchasing a small building for freezer space.

"Anything's possible," he said.

Willard estimates Disaster Relief Food Ministry distributes 600 to 1,000 food boxes each month in Patrick County and about 300 boxes monthly in Bassett.

The boxes typically contain enough food to last for two weeks. Carol Willard also works to plan meals recipients can make using items included in their boxes.

"Carol really gets into it. If she's got spaghetti noodles in there she'll make sure she has sauce to go with it. Now sometimes I might not have hamburger to go with that sauce, but it's spaghetti sauce and you can doctor it up to make it good. If you got a bag of pinto beans in there we'll make sure we got something to make some cornbread with or something," he said.

Willard said several trustee inmates with the Patrick County Sheriff's Office helped renovate the office space.

"They done all the painting, the floors, and everything, so it's really been a blessing to have those guys" help us, he said.

The organization also recently donated pallets of water to the Patrick County Jail and the county's maintenance department.

"It really helps out the county in so many ways. And that's what we want to do is be a presence," he said.

Disaster Relief Food Ministry distributes boxes at its Bassett location, 24A Governor Stanley Highway, on the fourth Tuesday of each month from 9 to 11:30 a.m. and again from 12:30 to 2 p.m.

The organization distributes boxes at Rotary Field on the first Thursday of each month from 2 to 4 p.m. Its mobile food pantry visits Smith Brother Trucking in Ararat from 10 to 11:30 a.m. and Meadows of Dan Baptist Church from 1 to 2 p.m. on the last Saturday of each month.

Donations can be mailed to P.O. Box 993, Stuart, VA 24171.

For more information, visit drfminc.com, Facebook.com/DisasterReliefFoodMinistryInc, or contact Willard at (276) 229-6272 or drmf.inc@gmail.com.

Flood

(cont. from page 1)

one of the worst floods of the twentieth century had come and gone in Patrick and Surry counties, totally ignoring the state line.

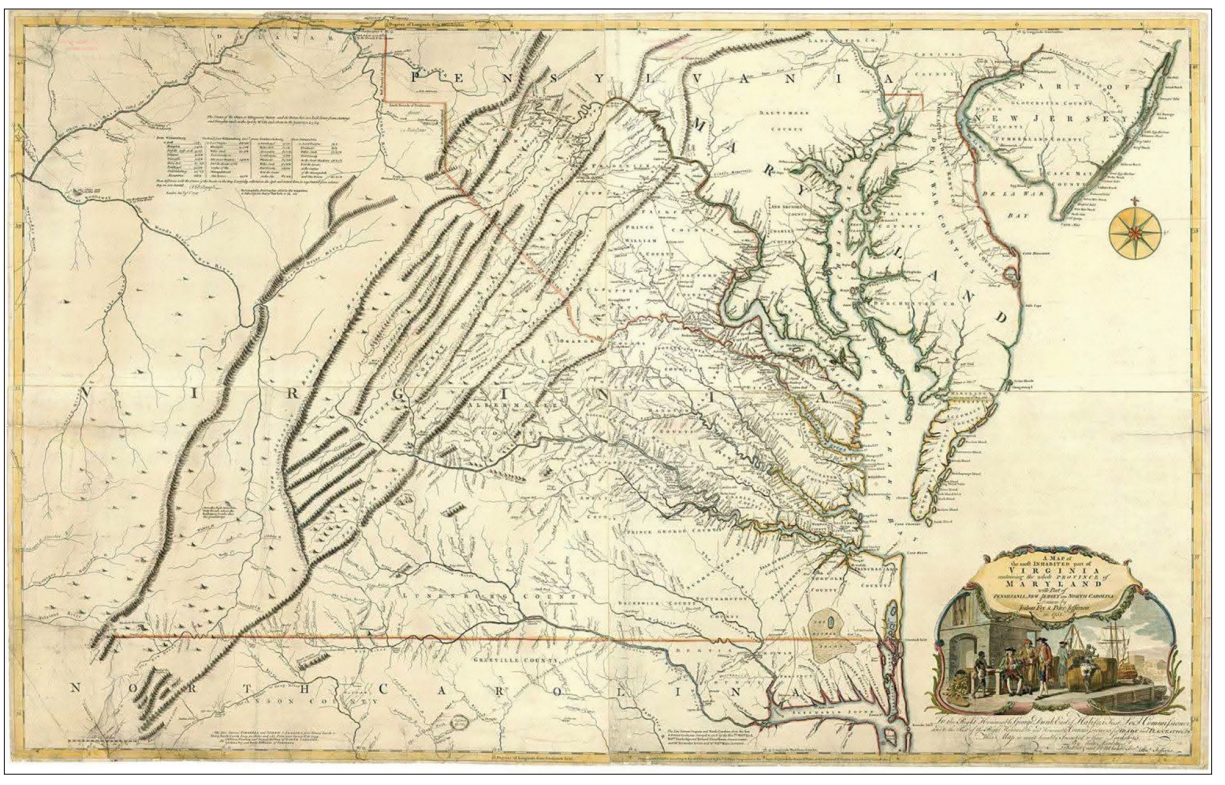
Floods occurred in Patrick in 1889, 1937, and 1940, but this was much worse. The Mayo River went from 50 feet wide to over 600 feet in places. Eight feet of water from the Mayo River came into the United Elastic Plant in Stuart. Damage estimates in Patrick County reached over $15 million in business and $1 million in private property. Governor John Dalton visited Stuart, and President Jimmy Carter declared the area a disaster area.

The same was true in Quality Mills on Riverside Drive in Mount Airy along the banks of the Ararat River. Years later, spending several third shifts in the dye house of Quality Mills, then Cross Creek Apparel, the watermarks were still visible on the white cinder block walls. Today that building makes carports.

There was a famous photo of the late Robert Merritt standing in front of his company, Renfro, with water almost up to the sign on the building. North Carolina Governor Jim Hunt visited the town where damage estimates reached over 40 million dollars, including 300,000 pounds of tobacco washed from a warehouse.

Since the flood, dikes along the Ararat and flood control dams have been built in Patrick and Surry Counties, along with widening of the streams. Lovills Creek, which feeds into the Ararat near the industrial park where I once worked as a teenager, is twice as wide, with a great walking trail alongside. That night in 1979, the creek stretched across Highway 52, enveloping Lowe's Hardware, where Parrish Tire and Pizza Hut are today, and for one of the few times, closing the road to traffic.

That Friday night, I could not get home from



Mount Airy to Ararat after working in the dye house of Oakdale Knitting Company. Water was across Highway 104. I remember at the White Sulphur Springs and Willis Gap Road intersection, water was across the road. I remember Raleigh Puckett walking through the water at the Sparger House to retrieve his daughters.

That night, many of us returned to Mount Airy and found ourselves at Ray's King Burger, where Arthur Boyd and Pert King both worked, where Coach's is today near Mayberry Mall. They made us some of those good char-broiled King Burgers for several hours.

Therefore, I turned around and spent a night at my friend Teddy Guynn's house off Riverside Drive about as close to making history as I wanted to come. Many of us spent the next day "long necking" to the tragedy of a house washed away along the Little Dan River and odd sights such as a bridge sitting alone in midstream with no road on either side near Rabbit Ridge near where Wolf Creek emptied into the Ararat River.

Genesis 9:11 "And I will establish my covenant with you, neither shall all flesh be cut off any more by the waters of a flood; neither shall there any more be a flood to destroy the earth."

Is "Bed Rot" Changing Your Brain?

Part 1

Let's set the scene. It's 9 p.m. You've earned this. You burrow into the blankets, phone in hand, and promise yourself "just five minutes." Ninety minutes later, you've watched a raccoon do laundry, learned three facts about the Roman Empire, and re-watched the same dance clip four times. You are, in the parlance of the internet, bed rotting, and honestly? It feels amazing.

Here's the plot twist: while it feels like recovery, a growing pile of brain research suggests that when bed rot becomes a daily ritual, it may quietly rewire how you focus, feel pleasure, and resist temptation. The good news, and there is good news, is that once you see the loop, you can hack your way out of it.

Rest vs. "rest" (the air-quotes kind)

Real rest lets your nervous system hit the brakes. Scrolling does the opposite: it keeps your brain revving in neutral, flooring the gas at a red light. Every swipe hands you a tiny, unpredictable reward, and "unpredictable" is the magic ingredient. It's the same mechanism that keeps a slot machine glowing at 2 a.m. Your brain never knows if the next post is a dud or a jackpot, so it keeps pulling the lever.

The real villain isn't screens alone. It's the combo meal: barely moving + nonstop stimulation, served in the same spot, at the same time, every night. That pairing is how a lazy Sunday quietly graduates into a hard-wired habit.

What the brain scans actually caught red-handed

Scientists have started pointing brain-imaging tools, fMRI and fNIRS, the fancy machines that watch your brain light up in real time, at heavy short-video users. Three things keep showing up, and none of them are great news for your "just five minutes."

Your brain's brakes get squishy.

In a preregistered study of 56 young adults, watching short videos was linked to reduced activity in the brain's self-control headquarters, regions like the prefrontal cortex that normally whisper "maybe don't" (Hong et al., 2026). When those brakes soften, reaching for your phone again becomes the path of least resistance. Willpower never even gets the memo.

Your reward system gets a taste for fast food.

An fNIRS study of 45 college students found that people showing signs of short-video addiction lit up harder in reward-related brain regions the moment they saw video cues, and then took more risks and made snappier, more impulsive choices than everyone else (Zhang, S., & Li, S., 2025). Their brains were basically pre-ordering the next dopamine hit.

Your "bad idea" detector gets quieter.

Using fMRI and a gambling game, researchers found that heavier short-video users showed less loss aversion, meaning they shrugged off potential losses and gambled faster. Loss aversion is normally the responsible friend who says "are you sure about this?" Turn that friend down, and impulsive choices sneak through.

This all rhymes with a bigger body of research on internet overuse, where scans keep flagging changes in the brain's control and reward centers (Darnai et al., 2019). Two fair-and-square caveats, because good science deserves them: most of this work is correlational (it spots patterns, it doesn't prove scrolling caused them), and it mostly studies heavy users, not your average Tuesday-night scroller. But the arrows all point the same direction, enough to raise an eyebrow.

(Part 2 will continue in a future edition of The Enterprise for the solution to this issue.)

Note: For references, see the article posted at www.LifeandHealth.org.

(Submitted by Betty Dean. Written by Ezra Otieno, MPH. Used by permission from www.LifeandHealth.org. Courtesy of LifeSpring - Resources for Hope and Healing Stuart, VA)

More Legislative Momentum on Health Care



Morgan Griffith

Representative

In July 2025, I received an appointment to be Chairman of the Health Subcommittee for the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.

In the first week following my appointment, I toured various hospitals in Virginia's Ninth District. My visits included Lee County Community Hospital in Pennington Gap, Clinch Valley Medical Center in Richlands, Carilion Giles Community Hospital in Pearisburg, and Lewis Gale Hospital Montgomery in Blacksburg.

My discussions with hospital leadership and staff touched on topics of hospital solvency, health care access challenges and the rural health care landscape.

Additionally, I consult with our Community Health Centers (CHCs). During my first week as Health Subcommittee Chairman, I visited the Connect Health + Wellness location in Martinsville.

I support federal engagement with health care providers and patients to improve health care outcomes in rural America.

This engagement has continued in 2026.

I am in close contact with rural hospitals in Virginia's Ninth District. These vital health care providers serve the medical needs of our rural communities with care, dignity and professionalism.

One hospital is Twin County Regional Healthcare in Galax. In May, I met with Twin County hospital leadership and local officials. Together, we are committed to serving the medical needs of our rural communities.

Another hospital with this mission is Clinch Valley Health Medical Center. This summer, I toured its facility. Clinch Valley Health President and CEO Peter Mulkey emphasized that these meetings help us "work together" to "provide top quality care to those that call our region home."

For more of my summer meetings, I visited Abingdon and toured the Appalachian Highlands Community Dental Center. The clinic strives to be a source of care in Southwest Virginia.

Additionally, in Wise County, I had the privilege to visit a weekend-long expo, the Move Mountains Medical Mission.

This expo featured volunteer actions from numerous health care providers, including Radford University's nursing program, UVA-Wise personnel and the Health Wagon.

There was even a free veterinary clinic!

Further, I will have additional opportunities to meet providers, medical staff and patients. I will continue to promote voices in our region to help advance rural health care solutions.

My Health Subcommittee has taken advantage of some opportunities to advance health care solutions. I was proud to push forward many bills for full House consideration.

These include H.R. 2821, the FDA Modernization Act 3.0.

This bill promotes modern alternative testing methods to minimize animal testing.

The horrors of federal testing on animals hit Capitol Hill when Dr. Anthony Fauci came under fire for his agency, NIAID, and its taxpayer-funded experiments on beagles. This unnecessary dog testing included cutting out vocal cords, infesting them with ticks and placing them in cages with infectious sandflies.

House passage of the FDA Modernization Act 3.0 is a win for animal rights without sacrificing scientific breakthroughs.

Further, the bill improves development of clinical drugs by encourages use of alternative methods, such as computational AI models. As our agencies test scientific advances and potential treatments, new clinical drugs can hit the market for patients.

A second bill to win House support is H.R. 6238, the National Institutes of Health (NIH) IMPROVE Maternal Care Act.

This legislation delivers research funding for maternal care. With more than one million women of childbearing age in Virginia, this kind of funding will help our expectant mothers.

We also passed other bills that support research funding.

In the case of H.R. 3491, the DeOndra Dixon INCLUDE Project Act of 2025, we provide federal funding for research into down syndrome.

We must continue to work to better understand this condition.

Additionally, the House passed the EARLY Act Reauthorization of 2025.

This bill delivers funding for breast cancer awareness campaigns to promote early detection.

Breast cancer is one of the most common forms of cancer. According to the National Cancer Institute, a 2026 study found 15% of new cancer cases are breast cancer.

By educating our communities and patients on breast cancer, this legislation will help with diagnosis efforts.

These bills are a pillar of my Health Subcommittee's efforts to improve health care outcomes across the United States.

We will have to wait for the Senate to pass them as well, but when it comes to maternal care, down syndrome, and breast cancer I cannot imagine the Senate will not concur.

I will continue to make the most of my appointment to the Health Subcommittee to advance policies, create health care opportunities and strengthen options for patients.

Letter to the Editor

To the citizens of the Critz community

Within a week of my being appointed to the Board of Supervisors I was a approached by a member of the school Board to discuss the situation involving the closure of Dogwood Dr. in front of Harden Reynolds School. Why did this happen? It appears that the unsettled issue was still active and if it came before the Board for discussion I would have to vote, yes or no on the issue. At the time of that meeting I was unaware of the conditions at the school itself that led to such requested actions by the school board. To understand the situation I undertook on-site observations, talked with citizens in the Critz area and got assistance from the VSP to check vehicle speed through the school zone during a typical school day. Before I could form an opinion I wanted to see for myself what the "unsafe" conditions were at the school and I did this in anticipation of the possibility that I would be required to take a position should the matter come up before the BOS in the near future.

Now the matter will be considered by the Commonwealth Transportation Board.

I urge the citizens of Critz, whether opposed to or in support of the road closure, to carefully follow the actions of the CTB to learn the dates of any public hearing in the future. The citizens still have an opportunity to present their positions before a Board that has final decisions. It is up to you, the citizen, to determine the impact the CBT determination it will have on your community!

Now the question will surely arise, Why did I get involved with this situation since the subject in question does not directly affect the Smith River District? !) Because I was contacted by a member of the school board to discuss this because I would probably have to vote yes or no on this issue in the future. 2) Because the actions in Critz would also impact Patrick County as a whole.

My responsibility to the citizens of the Smith River District is my primary area of importance, however, as a member of the BOS I must also consider actions that affect not just one particular district but all of the other citizens who reside in Patrick County. Therein lies the many challenges I will approach as a member of the BOS and I did not accept this position with a blind eye and I intend to confront those challenges such as the Dogwood issue with facts and not just opinions. I walk a tight rope in my decisions but rest assured I have the intention to do my best to represent my constituents and all citizens of Patrick County.

Kindest regards,
Richard Cox- Smith River District
Board of Supervisors

Eastbound

(cont. from page 1)

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Photo Courtesy of VDOT

- Completing the new brake check area for commercial vehicles
- Installing all signage

This project, beginning a quarter mile west of the Poor Farmers Farm store in Vesta and ending at the existing four-lane section of the U.S. 58 Stuart Bypass, entails widening the road to four lanes, improving alignments and grades, expanding the shoulders, adding turn lanes at secondary road connections and new truck escape ramps.

The U.S. 58 Lovers Leap project is a part of the U.S. Route 58 Corridor Development Program that was enacted by the Virginia General Assembly in 1989 to enhance economic growth potential and provide an adequate, modern, safe and efficient highway system along Virginia's southern boundary.

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Patrick Pioneers

William Buck Stowe and Josephine "Josy" Bowles Stowe



Mintoria Bowles Nichols and unidentified child



Josy Bowles Stowe and descendants



Buck Stowe with two of his daughters. Photos courtesy of Jason Martin.

By Beverly Belcher Woody

The Stowe family has deep roots in Patrick County, with generations of hardworking men and women who built homes, raised families, and contributed to the community they loved. Among them were William Buck Stowe and his wife, Josephine Parthenia "Josy" Bowles Stowe, whose descendants carried the Stowe name for generations.

William Buck Stowe was born on January 17, 1857, in Patrick County, Virginia, the son of Jarratt Stowe and Mary Elizabeth Goode.

Jarratt Stowe was born in Virginia in 1829. On December 24, 1854, in neighboring Franklin County, he married Mary Elizabeth Goode, who was born there in June 1835. Their years together were brief. Jarratt passed away in 1862, leaving Mary Elizabeth to raise their four young children during one of the most difficult periods in American history.

Jarratt and Mary Elizabeth Goode Stowe were the parents of:

George Thomas Stowe, born 1855; died 1929.

William Buck Stowe, born January 17, 1857; died October 31, 1903.

Jonathan F. Stowe, born 1860; died 1927.

Betty Jarod Stowe, born 1862; died 1944.

Growing up in Patrick County during the years following the Civil War, Buck Stowe established a home and family of his own. On April 3, 1884, he married Josephine Parthenia "Josy" Bowles in neighboring Henry County.

Josy was born on January 17, 1868, in Henry County, the daughter of William Bowles and Lydia Leach Bowles. She would spend the remainder of her life in Patrick County, passing away on April 19, 1962, at the age of ninety-four.

Together, Buck and Josy were blessed with seven children.

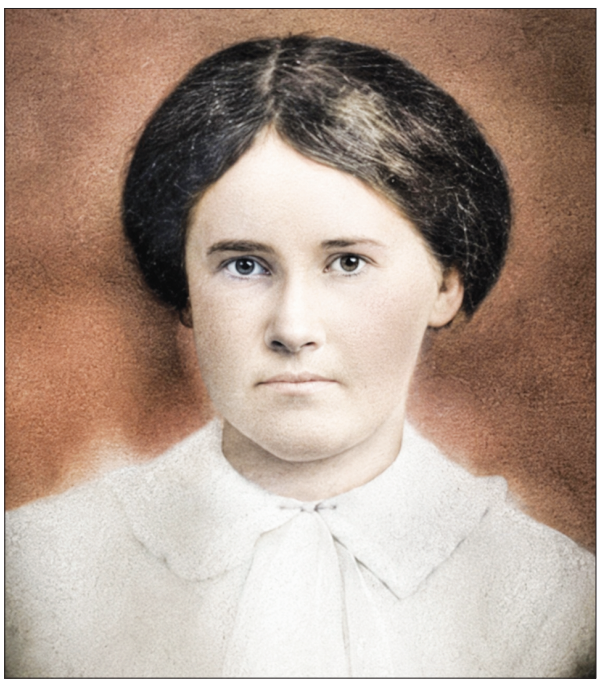
Their first child, Sam Stowe, was born in 1886 but sadly died on July 20, 1887, before reaching his second birthday.

Their daughter, Liddia L. Stowe, was born on December 20, 1887. On January 15, 1908, she married Ernest Cabell Tudor of Critz, Patrick County. Ernest was born on March 25, 1881, and died on June 24, 1951. Many Patrick County residents will recognize his name as the longtime owner of Tudor Orchards in Patrick Springs.

Another daughter, Mary E. Stowe, was born in 1890 and died in 1969. She first married John E. Freeman. Following his death, she married Jefferson Davis Biggs.



Josy Bowles Stowe



Anna Josy Bowles Anglin

Mintoria Stowe, born May 4, 1892, married James Monroe Nichols, who was born on September 12, 1878, in Pulaski County. Like many Patrick County families during the early twentieth century, they eventually made their way to Lorain, Ohio, where employment opportunities attracted many Virginians. Tragedy struck the family in 1930 when Mintoria died on February 6. Just eight days later, James also passed away on February 14, both in Lorain.

Another daughter, Anna Josephine "Josy" Stowe, was born in January 1895. She married Jenttie Hughes Anglin of Patrick County. The young couple also relocated to Lorain, Ohio, where Jenttie briefly worked in the steel mills before returning to Roanoke. Sadly, Josy died from a severe infection at only twenty-three years of age, a heartbreaking loss for the family.

Lucy Magdaline Stowe, born in 1897, married James Lester Reynolds of Patrick Springs. Together they raised a large family in Patrick County, where they remained well known for many years. Lucy passed away in 1977.

The youngest child, William Davis Stowe Sr., was born on March 24, 1901. Like several of his siblings, he also traveled to Lorain, Ohio, where he found work in the steel mills. William remained in Lorain County for the rest of his life and died in Avon, Ohio, on April 19, 1987.

Although Buck Stowe passed away in 1903, the close-knit family he and Josy established continued gathering for decades. An article published in The Enterprise in August 1954 reported that a reunion of Mrs. Josie Stowe's family was held at the home of Mrs. Stowe, noting that "a large number of people were present." Like so many Patrick County families, the Stowes treasured opportunities to reunite, strengthen family ties, and preserve the memories of those who came before them.

Today, more than a century after Buck and Josy established their home, their descendants continue to reflect the enduring legacy of one Patrick County family. Through marriages, migrations, and generations of children and grandchildren, the Stowe name remains woven into the rich history of Patrick County and beyond.

Thank you to my former classmate, Jason Martin, for providing all these wonderful photographs and information on his Stowe ancestors. For questions, comments, or story ideas, you may contact Woody 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 – When Should My Wife File for Spouse Benefits?

Dear Rusty: My wife is 66 (born February 1960) and started taking Social Security retirement benefits just over one year ago at age 65. She was a stay-at-home Mom for most of her adult life. I turned 62 this past March and received my first SS payment recently for a May 2026 start. We are scheduled to meet with SSA in late July to initiate spousal benefits because my wife's current benefits are less than 50% of mine. We also have an adult disabled son who receives Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and Social Security benefits (this split in benefit sources happened after my wife filed - that whole process was confusing and we don't understand it). My question relates to spousal benefits (I was a career finance person but don't completely understand these rules). We were going to file in July but is there any benefit to waiting until she turns 67? And will her 50% benefit be 50% of my lower benefit due to my filing at 62 or is that based on another amount? *Signed: Confused Finance Guy*

Dear Confused: First, be aware that your wife's spousal benefit will be based on her age when she claims it, and half of your full retirement age, or "FRA," amount (although you claimed at 62, her benefit as your spouse will still be based on your FRA entitlement).

Because she claimed her SS retirement at 65, your wife will not get 50% of your FRA entitlement; rather she will get her own reduced SS retirement benefit (which was reduced by about 13% from her FRA entitlement) plus a "spousal boost." The amount of that "boost" will be the difference between her own FRA entitlement and half of your FRA entitlement, but that boost amount will also be reduced because she will be claiming in July before her FRA.

Your wife will reach her FRA in February 2027, so by claiming her spousal boost in July her boost amount will be reduced by about 5%, and the "boost" will be added to her already reduced SS retirement about. The result will be your wife's benefit as your spouse will be less than 50% of your FRA entitlement. And, FYI, your wife will be automatically deemed to be filing for her spousal benefit (she will not be able to defer claiming it).

As your son is now collecting SS benefits based on your wife's personal SS record, you should ask Social Security to switch him over to payments based on your record (because you have the higher SS benefit). FYI, because your son is now receiving SSI (Supplemental Security Income), the SSDI (SS disability) benefit he receives will offset by his SSI benefit, and the payment amount will consist of two sources - SSI and SSDI. Nevertheless, he cannot get more than 50% of your SS retirement amount and will likely be affected by the Family Maximum which may further reduce his SSDI entitlement.

Your wife's benefit as your spouse will also be affected by the "Family Maximum," which limits how much can be paid on any one person's SS record (on your SS record). That also means that your wife will not get a full 50% of your FRA entitlement; rather she will get less because the family maximum limits how much all your dependents can receive to somewhere between 50% and 88% of your FRA benefit amount (after subtracting your own SS entitlement). That also means that your son's SS payment, as well as your wife's SS payment as your spouse, will be reduced to less than 50% of your FRA entitlement. SSA will be able to guide you through the Family Maximum calculations for both your son and your wife when you meet.

To recap all of this: a) your wife will be automatically deemed to be filing for her spousal benefit; she cannot delay until her FRA. b) her amount as your spouse will be less than 50% of your SS FRA entitlement. And c) both your wife's and your son's SS benefit will likely be also affected by the Family Maximum and, thus, be less than half of your FRA entitlement. Nevertheless, it was likely the right decision to claim as you have, considering that your son and wife have been receiving SS benefits for some time now, and both will continue to receive more as your dependents.

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).

First Patrick County Junior Team Qualifies for Bassmaster Nationals



Trenton Miller, Kipton Vipperman and Joe Hylton wave to spectators during the first day of competition on Friday, July 24.



Kipton Vipperman and Trenton Miller display their catch from the first day of the 2026 National Bassmaster Junior Championship on Friday, July 24.



Kipton Vipperman and Trenton Miller, along with volunteer boat captain Joe Hylton, on Friday, July 24.



Trenton Miller and Kipton Vipperman display their catch on Saturday, July 25.



The Patrick Springs team and volunteer boat captain Joe Hylton brave heavy rain during the final day of the 2026 National Bassmaster Junior Championship on Saturday, July 25.



Kipton Vipperman and Trenton Miller, both 11, pose with volunteer boat captain Joe Hylton on the final day of the 2026 National Bassmaster Junior Championship.

Patrick Springs residents Kipton Vipperman and Trenton Miller, both 11, competed in the 2026 National Bassmaster Junior Championship held July 24-25 on Kentucky Lake in Paris, Tennessee.

With a three-fish limit and a minimum length of 15 inches, the team weighed a three-fish limit totaling 8 pounds, 4 ounces on the first day to stand 28th. Despite heavy rain on the second day, they brought in two fish weighing 4 pounds, finishing with a two-day total of 12 pounds, 4 ounces.

Vipperman and Miller, along with volunteer boat captain Joe Hylton, are the first junior team from Patrick County to qualify for the national championship. They placed 43rd out of 115 teams.

Local 4-H Marksmen Excel at Central District Match

The Patrick County 4-H Marksmen recently traveled to Holiday Lake 4-H Educational Center in Appomattox, Virginia on Saturday, July 11 to take part in the 2026 Central District Shooting Education Competition. Fourteen 4-H shooting clubs from around the state attended, with more than 100 youth competing in six different events.

Competing for the Patrick County 4-H Marksmen were Kennedy Adkins, Alexa Diaz, Brantley Fortner, Evelyn Hayes, Ella Dollarhite, Reagan Underwood, Cole Nelson, and Novie Rutledge.

Individual and team results include:

Air Pistol Basic Supported Individual: Ella Dollarhite, 3rd place, Kennedy Adkins, 4th place

Air Rifle Sporter Individual: Alexa Diaz, 1st place, Reagan Underwood, 3rd place, Cole Nelson, 5th place, Novie Rutledge, 8th place

Air Rifle Sporter Team – 1st place: Alexa Diaz, Reagan Underwood, Cole Nelson

Archery Genesis Junior Individual: Ella Dollarhite, 9th place, Kennedy Adkins, 10th place

Archery Genesis Senior Individual: Evelyn Hayes, 6th place

BB 10 and Under Individual: Kennedy Akins, 1st place

BB 11 and Over Individual: Reagan Underwood, 1st place, Alexa Diaz, 2nd place, Cole Nelson, 3rd place, Ella Dollarhite, 4th place, Novie Rutledge, 9th place

Smallbore 3P Scope Senior Individual: Reagan Underwood, 1st place, Alexa Diaz, 3rd place, Cole Nelson, 7th place, Brantley Fortner, 12th place

Smallbore 3P Scope Senior Team – 1st place: Reagan Underwood, Alexa Diaz, Cole Nelson

Silhouettes Smallbore Rifle Senior Individual: Reagan Underwood, 2nd place, Cole Nelson, 7th place, Alexa Diaz, 10th place, Brantley Fortner, 22nd place

Silhouettes Smallbore Rifle Senior Team – 1st place: Reagan Underwood, Cole Nelson, Alexa Diaz

For more information on the 2026 Central District Shooting Education Competition results, visit http://www. https://rezults.scopos.tech/ and choose Central District 2026 under the recent results section.

The Patrick County 4-H Marksmen use shooting as a vehicle to teach youth ages 9-19 life skills such as responsibility, self-discipline, and teamwork through skills learned in archery, muzzle loading, pistol, rifle, and shotgun. Through these disciplines, youth also learn firearm safety and marksmanship. Thanks to our generous supporters American Legion Post 105 and Meadows of Dan Veterans of Foreign Wars.



Marksmen Club

The Patrick County 4-H Marksmen Club practices in Stuart and new members are welcome starting in October 2026. For more information, please contact the Patrick County Extension Office at 276-694-3341.

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 Florence Paul Bell and Ann Robertson McConnell

There were three primary military branches during the American Revolution: the Continental Army, local state militia and the navy. Individual states managed the militia. Service was a mandatory civic duty for all "able-bodied" men ages 16 to 45. They were rallied to repel immediate threats, protect local regions and to supplement the Continental forces. Florence "Flo" Paul Bell's and Sherry Jean Bell's patriot ancestor was a member of the Vermont militia, the Green Mountain Boys.

Elishama Tozer was born on July 3, 1741, in Lyme New Hampshire. In 1758 he married Mary Miller. They were the parents of at least four sons and five daughters. They lived in what is now Whitehall, New York.

Tozer registered for military service in 1775 and took part in the surprise capture of Fort Ticonderoga that same year and the subsequent march on Quebec. He served as a lieutenant in the Green Mountain Boys under Major John Brown and later as a captain in the Charlotte County New York Militia. In 1777 he was attached to a company that fought at the Battle of Bennington. He eventually went on to serve as the first assemblyman (1778-79) and state senator (1779-80) for Whitehall, New York.

Around 1801 Tozer moved to Waverly, New York. In1828, as a local preacher, he, along with his Wife Mary and two other couples organized the Factoryville class in Waverly. The Factoryville Class was a religious class that later evolved to form the Waverly Community Methodist Church. He died in 1833, in Waverly, Barton, Tioga, New York at the age of 92, and was buried in Rest Cemetery in Sayre, Bradford, Pennsylvania.

The Vermont militia called the Green Mountain Boys was organized in 1770 in what is now southwestern Vermont. Settlers and land speculators comprised the area then known as the New Hampshire Grants. The Green Mountain Boys had several hundred members who controlled the area where New Hampshire grants had been issued. They were led by Ethan Allen, his brother Ira Allen, and their cousins Seth Warner and Remember Baker. They had become a de facto government, which was also an unauthorized, vigilante-militia. They resisted New York's attempts to govern the region by intimidating surveyors, evicting New York-backed settlers and blocking sheriffs from enforcing New York laws. This resistance eventually led to the area declaring its independence from both New Hampshire and New York, thus establishing the independent Vermont Republic in 1777.

When the American Revolutionary War started in 1775, Ethan Allen and a troop of his men, along with Connecticut Colonel Benedict Arnold, marched up to Lake Champlain and captured the British military posts at Fort Ticonderoga, Crown Point and Fort George, all in New York.

(Information for this article is from Wikipedia, Find A Grave, Wikitree, The Evening Star Times, Sayre, PA, Family, the Encyclopedia Britannica, the Daughters of the American Revolution and the authors' records.)

Everyone has a story. Let us help you find 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 in 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.





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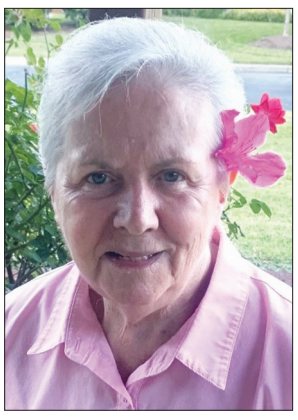
OBITUARIES

Mary Avagene Stanley Terry



Mrs. Mary Avagene Stanley Terry, 89 of Meadows of Dan, VA, passed away at her home on Thursday morning, July 30, 2026, with her loved ones by her side. She was born March 11, 1937, in Carroll County, to the late Everett Lee Stanley and Irena Agnes Turman Stanley. She was of the Christian faith and loved to farm and garden. Left to cherish her memory are her husband of 71½ years, Melvin Ray Terry; two sons and a daughter-in-law, Wendell and Cindy Terry, and Wayne Terry; one granddaughter and spouse, Shannon and Jamie Marshburn; several nieces and nephews; her extended family, Mark Wood and his two sons, Jonathan and Marcus; and many more family and friends. In addition to her parents, Avagene was preceded in death by her daughter, Mary Lynn Terry; and her siblings, Helen Irene Stanley Burnette, Sherman Lee Stanley, Mabel Isabel Stanley Barber, and Dorothy Marie Stanley Culler. A private graveside service will be held in the Lynch Family Cemetery. The family would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to Mountain Valley Hospice and Palliative Care. Moody Funeral Services in Mount Airy is serving the family. Online condolences may be made at www.moodyfuneralservices.com.

Lynn Parker Ayers



Lynn Parker Ayers entered her heavenly home on July 30, 2026.

Known for her steadfast faith, servant's heart, and deep devotion to family, Lynn spent her life caring for others and encouraging all who knew her.

Lynn, 78, is survived by her devoted husband of 57 years, Walter C. Ayers; her sons, Walter C. Ayers Jr. and his wife, Leah, and their children, Ellery, Walter III, Shepherd, and Grayson; and Parker Ayers and his wife, Karlei, and their children, Lula and Novi. She is also survived by her sisters, Ellen Cherrix and Cree Giesel. She was preceded in death by her parents, Ray and Frances Parker, and her sister, Radean Hawkins.

A woman of deep Christian faith, Lynn was a longtime member of Derbyshire Baptist Church, where she faithfully nurtured her sons in the Christian faith through Sunday School, worship, and youth activities. Throughout the years, she actively served through Women on Mission, Vacation Bible School, Sunday School ministries, and numerous other church ministries at Derbyshire Baptist Church, as well as Bon Air Baptist Church and Peters Creek Baptist Church.

Beyond her church service, Lynn quietly ministered to others through a personal card ministry. For many years, she faithfully sent handwritten cards to friends, family members, and acquaintances experiencing illness, loss, or difficult circumstances. Through these simple acts of kindness, she offered encouragement, comfort, and the love of Christ to countless people.

After graduating from Smithdeal-Massey Business College, Lynn worked in the claims department of Virginia Farm Bureau, where she met her future husband, Walter. Following the birth of her first son, she devoted herself full-time to her family. As a homemaker, she lovingly managed the household and family finances while faithfully supporting Walter throughout his many business endeavors.

Above all, Lynn's greatest joy and highest calling were loving her family as a devoted wife, mother, and grandmother. She invested herself wholeheartedly in the lives of her children, rarely missing a swim meet, soccer game, basketball game, school program, church activity, or youth event. Her presence was constant, her encouragement unwavering, and her love immeasurable.

When grandchildren arrived, they became her pride and joy, once again proving that Lynn was happiest when caring for others. Before dementia gradually took away her memories and abilities, she especially loved hosting her grandchildren for week-long visits at the Ayers family home in rural Patrick County.

The family extends its heartfelt gratitude to the caregivers and staff of the Lakewood Manor Memory Care and Healthcare Units for their compassionate and dedicated care. Special thanks are extended to her dear friends, Suzanne Elmore and Marilyn Kersey, who faithfully continued to regularly visit Lynn throughout her illness, and to Judy Hoye and Arzu Mohaby for their exceptional kindness and care.

Lynn's life was a beautiful testimony to steadfast faith, humble service, and deep devotion to family. She leaves behind a legacy not only in the family she cherished, but also in the countless lives she touched through her kindness, encouragement, and quiet acts of compassion. The handwritten cards she faithfully sent, the prayers she quietly offered, and the love she so freely shared will continue to bear fruit in the lives of others for years to come. Though she will be deeply missed, her family rejoices in the promise that she is now healed, restored, and forever at home with her Savior, Jesus Christ.

A graveside service for Lynn will be held on Saturday, August 8, at 11:00 a.m. at Patrick County Memorial Gardens, 20937 Jeb Stuart Highway, Stuart, VA 24171.

A Celebration of Life service will be held on Monday, August 10th at 2pm at Derbyshire Baptist Church, 8800 Derbyshire Rd Richmond Virginia.

In lieu of flowers, those wishing to honor Lynn's legacy may make a contribution to the memory care facility that lovingly cared for her during the last three years of her life.

Checks should be made payable to VBH Foundation. Please write "The Tuckahoe" in the memo line and mail to:

VBH Foundation
3961 Stillman Parkway
Glen Allen, VA 23060

Contributions may also be made online by visiting: https://bit.ly/LAyers

Norris Funeral Services in Stuart is serving the Ayers family

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

Kenneth Donnell Joyce



A Memorial service celebrating the life of Kenneth Donnell Joyce will be held August 7, 2026, 3pm at the Hylton Thessalonia Primitive Baptist Church, 229 Black Jack Road, Stuart, VA 24171.

Kenneth was born March 12, 1953 in Stuart, Virginia, and transitioned May 9, 2026, at a hospital

in Bad Neustadt a.d.Saale, Germany. After his honorable discharge from the U.S. Army in 1976,

Kenneth made his home in Nuremberg, Germany.

Louise Atkins Simmons



Mrs. Louise Atkins Simmons, age 95 of Stuart, VA passed away peacefully on Friday, July 31, 2026 at her home. She was born on January 21, 1931 to the late Rueben Atkins and Ollie Baliles Atkins. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband of 65 years, Wayne Robert Simmons; son-in-law, Harry Lee Dunn, Jr.; one sister, Frances Atkins Sheppard and her husband Issac; one brother, Edwin Atkins; and one brother-in-law, Thomas R. Inman.

She was a member of Smith River Church of the Brethren, the ladies auxiliary of American Legion, and the ladies auxiliary with the Woolwine Fire Department. She retired as the Woolwine branch manager of First National Bank of Stuart. She was an avid golfer and also enjoyed quilting and making draperies.

She is survived by two daughters, Brenda S. Dunn and Rita S. Morris (Steve); two granddaughters, Tami D. Martin (Ryan) and Carey D. Brinks (Adam); two grandsons, Brad Morris (Sara) and Jason Morris (Taylor); 14 great-grandchildren and three great-great grandchildren; one sister, Donella Atkins Inman; three sisters-in-law, Edna Mae Atkins, Betty Lou Simmons Clark, and Carolyn Simmons.

Funeral service for Mrs. Simmons will be held on Tuesday, August 4, 2026 at 12:00 P.M. at Moody Funeral Home Chapel with Pastor Logan Boyd and Donald Boothe officiating. Burial will follow at Patrick Memorial Gardens. The family will receive friends from 10:30 until time of the service on Tuesday and other times at the home. Memorial donations may be made to Smith River Church of the Brethren, 2282 Bob White Road, Stuart, VA 24171, or Woolwine Volunteer Fire Department, P.O. Box 38, Woolwine, VA 24185. The family would like to thank the staff of Amedisys Hospice, and Beverly Morrison, Nancy Griffith, and Joyce DeHart for the love and care they have shown Mrs. Simmons and the family during this difficult time. Online condolences may be made by visiting www.moodyfuneralservices.com.

PATRICK COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

COMMUNITY ELIGIBILITY PROVISION (CEP) FOR SCHOOL YEAR 2026-2027

We are pleased to let you know that all schools in Patrick County Public Schools will be implementing the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) for school year 2026-2027. CEP allows eligible schools participating in the USDA National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program to provide meals at no cost to all students without meal applications.

What does this mean for you and your student(s) attending the school(s) identified above?

Great news!
All students attending any school in Patrick County Public Schools are eligible to receive a nutritious breakfast and lunch at school at **no charge** to your household each school day.

NO
- APPLICATIONS
- INCOME CHECKS
- HIDDEN FEES

You do not have to take any action. The student(s) in your household who attend a participating CEP school will receive a complete breakfast and lunch meal at no cost without you paying a fee or submitting a meal application.

If you have questions or need help, please contact us at 276-694-3836.

Director of Food Service
Patrick County Public Schools

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To file a program discrimination complaint, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, AD-3027, found online at How to File a Program Discrimination Complaint and at any USDA office or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by: (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Mail Stop 9410, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.

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Patrick Pulpits

Total Surrender

By Alan Dean, retired Seventh-day Adventist pastor

"By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to the place which he would receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going." Heb 11:8, NKJ.

Barbara Nelson, in telling the story of her son Dwight's close brush with death, shares what it means to surrender. Dwight, water-skiing as a child, smacked into the dock and smashed his skull. He lay motionless before his parents. Soon a helicopter whisked him away. It had room for only the pilot, physician, and the unconscious patient.

This was a terrible disappointment for Barbara, since she was hoping that she, as his mother, could accompany her son to the hospital. But in order for her child to get medical attention immediately, she had to total surrender Dwight to God and place him in the care of people she did not know. God rewarded her trust, and today Dwight is a successful minister.

Likewise, in our daily Christian walk it is of utmost importance to surrender totally to God if we are to experience His healing power in our lives. Andrew Murray tells us that a life of absolute surrender is one that genuinely and sincerely obeys God day by day and has a fellowship with Him through His Word and prayer.

Surrendering is the most difficult action in life. We want the last word. We want things to go our way. We demand our rights! Webster defines surrendering as giving up possession of, or power over, or yielding to another. Today we hear much about being our own person and maintaining our rights. Seminars teach us how to win and how to get ahead. We need seminars that teach us how to surrender.

Total surrender is not a normal part of our vocabulary. In the morning we may pray, "Lord, I give myself to You today. Work out Your life in me." But how often we get up from our knees and take control instead of waiting for God to lead. For a peaceful life in Christ, there must be a complete, total surrender on our part, a giving up of ourselves completely to His will. We must be willing to allow Him to do with us what He sees is best. Although this is not easy, remember that God does not expect us to surrender in our own strength or sheer willpower. He is more than willing to help us. Pray for trust in Him and believe in His power to help. "For it is God who is at work in you, both to will and to work for His good pleasure" (Phil. 2:13, NASB).

Abraham lived a life of surrender. It was not easy to leave the familiar home territory and move away from relatives and friends, not knowing where he would go. But his unquestioning obedience showed his faith and trust in God. Because Abraham knew the secret of surrendering, he blessed many with the fragrance of his life. All knew that he was connected with God. The zenith of his surrender came when God asked him to sacrifice his son of promise on Mount Moriah.

Thankfully it was a test from God of his faith. God provided a sacrifice at the last moment. Abraham understood this to be an example of the Father sacrificing His Son for the world in the future.

We receive God's full blessing only through total surrender. Thank God today for the Holy Spirit, who enables us to yield our lives to Christ in total surrender to Him.

BIBLE TRIVIA

BY WILSON CASEY

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

2. From John 3, who came to Jesus under the cover of night? *Elijah, Amos, Nicodemus, Mesha*

3. What do the seven stars represent in Revelation 1:20? *Continents, Angels, Seas, Fruits*

4. From Psalms 68, with what are the dove's feathers covered? *Manna, Gold, Leaves, Blood*

5. How many people did Jesus Himself baptize? *0, 1, Dozens, Hundreds*

6. Who wrote the book of Galatians? *Paul, Peter, Isaac, Luke*



ANSWERS: 1) Neither, 2) Nicodemus, 3) Angels, 4) Gold, 5) Zero, 6) Paul

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.

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Sunday School for all ages 9:45 am
Wednesdays
Community Meal & Service 6:00 pm
Food Distribution Ministry:
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Bringing the World to Christ
108 W. Blue Ridge St.
276-694-3440
www.stuartbaptist.org
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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:
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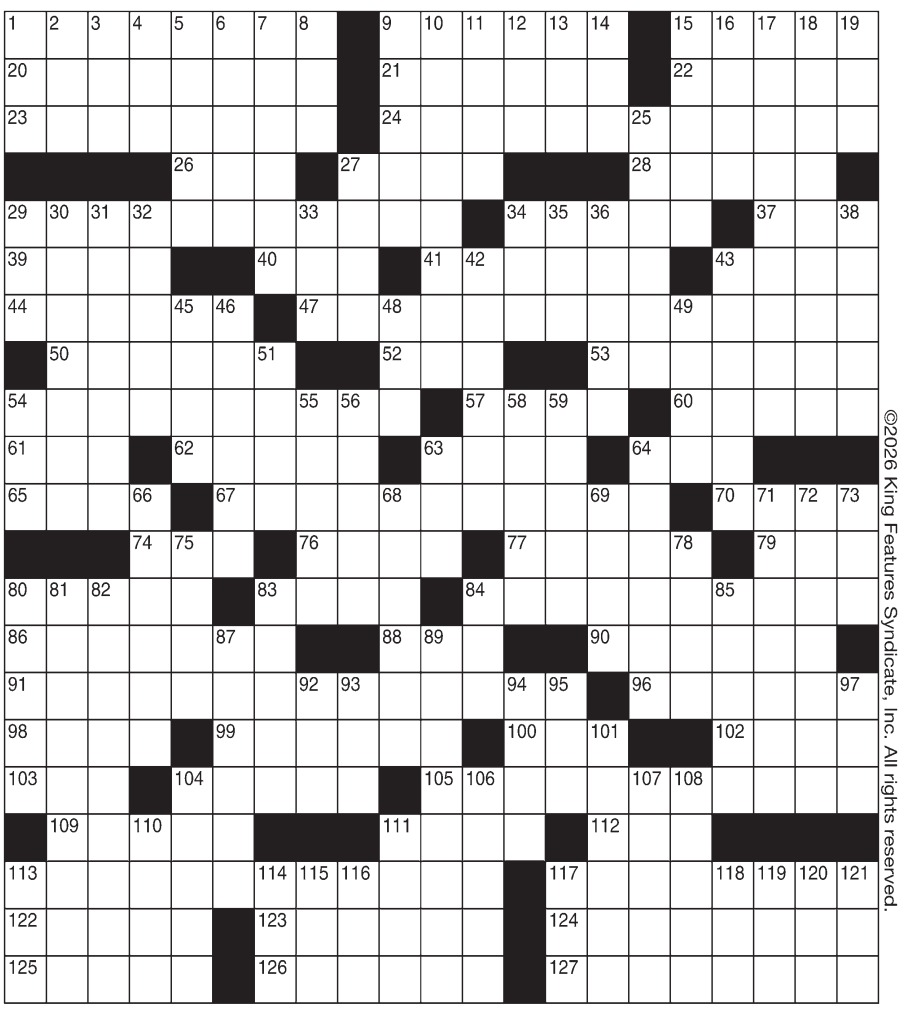
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Super Crossword

ODD DUCKS

ACROSS
1 Arctic footwear item
9 Triaging concern
15 "Rope- —" (Ali ring tactic)
20 Study of forces acting on mechanisms
21 Twinkled
22 Adversary
23 Brief seconds
24 Diane plays her role flawlessly?
26 See 61-Across
27 Dandy dudes
28 On guard
29 Foxx amuses his audience?
34 Flock babies
37 Droop
39 Phone button abbr.
40 Special span
41 Granola snack option
43 Flood preventer
44 Muscles called "guns"
47 Paul acts in a serious film?
50 Military pupils
52 One of a pair of sense organs
53 Expiators
54 Elmer greatly anticipates catching Bugs Bunny?
57 Favored ones
60 "Hence ..."
61 With 26-Across, maker of Tater Tots
62 Philadelphia's La — University
63 WWII battle city in France
64 Adaptable truck, in brief
65 Christ, in Cremona
67 Oldham fashions clothes?
70 Cheer shouts
74 Court org.
76 "Look at Me" novelist Jennifer
77 Bunk
79 Gunk
80 "ATM" rapper
83 Small warbler
84 Wynonna puts out her first album?
86 Orchestrate
88 Miracle- —
90 Brown ermines
91 Roger describes a news event?
96 "C'mon, quit it!"
98 "It's all clear"
99 Lightning source, informally
100 TV "Science Guy" Bill
102 Put in a juicer
103 One of a pair of sense organs
104 Cultural spirit
105 Billy steps off his ship?
109 Plow inventor John
111 Swiss mounts
112 "— had it!"
113 Jason bounces the basketball?
117 Kitchen tools
122 Architect Jones
123 — d' (head-waiter)
124 Cubic — (fake diamond)
125 De Mille the dancer
126 Less than retail
127 How this puzzle's nine longest answers are viewed?

DOWN
1 Do the slopes
2 Writer Anaïs
3 Carry- — (flight totes)
4 Sweaty, say
5 Straitlaced
6 Indian tongue
7 Scale's span
8 Road curve
9 Certain opening for a bolt
10 Elated bliss
11 Gives help
12 German link
13 Rx request
14 Suffix with lime or Gator
15 Seed casings
16 Belly flop, say
17 Unusually big
18 People eating meals, e.g.
19 High trains
25 Maze-running rodent
27 Mrs., in Berlin
29 Burglarize
30 Gourmet
31 Tenths of centuries
32 "Judge —" (Stallone film)
33 Slip up
34 Piece of mail: Abbr.
35 Court org.
36 Mothers, informally
38 Undercoat for an oil painting
42 Skilled sorts
43 Evening eats
45 People who are hoofing it
46 Rock layers
48 — Moines
49 Perfectly
51 Song for one
54 Hazy stuff
55 Not as young
56 Pigeon perch, maybe
58 Yale for whom Yale is named
59 "I swear —!"
63 Capitol fig.
64 No longer bothered by
66 Remove the cargo from
68 Hazard
69 Motions "yes"
71 "Equus" actress Jenny
72 Time in a Jacuzzi, e.g.
73 "Rescue us!"
75 Road curve
78 "The Lady" star Michelle
80 Farr or Foxx
81 Fighting for change
82 Called for a pizza, say
83 Like Cardiff natives
84 Write hastily
85 City in Iraq
87 Go- — (no idler)
89 Climbing roses
92 "Am — blame?"
93 Refusals
94 Cuts off
95 Pink Floyd's Barrett
97 Evening hrs.
101 Add while proofing
104 Paul who published many math papers
106 Surprise win
107 Tennis legend Chris
108 Park seat
110 Threshold
111 Counter-tenor
113 Rio carmaker
114 "— bad boy!"
115 Slugging club
116 Razor brand
117 Israeli weapon
118 College org. of sisters
119 Suffix with opal
120 Tell fibs
121 Mournful



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Puzzle answers page 11

THANK YOU FOR READING THE ENTERPRISE

Weekly SUDOKU

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

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆◆

◆ Moderate ◆◆ Challenging
◆◆◆ HOO BOY!

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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.

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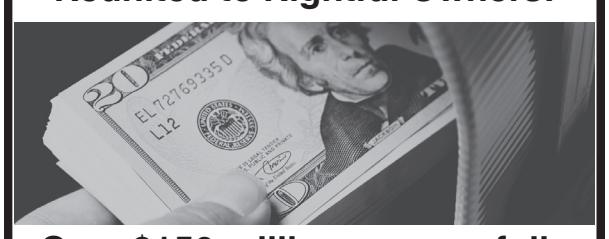
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"With God All Things Are Possible." Matthew 19:26

Boyd Family Reunion
Sunday, August the 9th at
Vesta Community Center
from 12 pm until.
All descendants of Pryor G Boyd, friends, family and anyone interested are invited to attend.
Bring a covered dish and a musical instrument if you play.
A picking and a grinning will ensue.

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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

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.

Tuesday, Aug. 18
The Patrick County Planning Commission meets at 6 p.m. in the Patrick & Henry Community College (Stuart Site), Community Room.

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

Events

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

Friday Morning Market is open 8 a.m. to 12 p.m., with a great selection of local grown crops and hand made items. The Patrick County Master Gardeners will be on site sharing great gardening tips and a Knife & Blade sharpener will be on site to sharpen all your dull blades.

The First Friday Jam Series starts at 6 p.m. at the Stuart Farmers Market. This month the band will be Striking Copper. Pickle & Ash food truck will be serving fresh farm to table favorites. Blue Ridge Beverage will offer a selection of beer. Daring Wine & Cider Company will be serving up deliciously crafted cider & wine.

Sunday, Aug. 9
The family of Thomas and Susella Collins Goard will hold their annual reunion at the Peters Creek Community Building, 2130 Dry Pond Highway, Stuart, VA 24171. Lunch will be at 1 p.m. All are welcome.

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 Colonel Abram Penn Chapter NSDAR will provide assistance in genealogy research on Thursdays in August, from 4 to 5 p.m., at the Patrick County Library. "If you are just getting started in your search, or stuck in your search, we can help."

American Legion Post 105 meets the 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 6 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.

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Nonprofit Summit Planned for November

Patrick County Chamber of Commerce and Virginia Tech's Reynolds Homestead are bringing together resources, training, and networking opportunities for local and regional nonprofit organizations. The Patrick County Nonprofit Organization Summit, scheduled for Nov. 7 at Patrick & Henry Community College's Patrick County site, will launch ticket sales on Aug. 3.

Nonprofit organizations are the backbone of many public services, events, and community enrichment efforts throughout Patrick County and the surrounding region. From grant writing and fundraising to board governance and program management, nonprofit staff and volunteers must wear many hats. This summit will provide practical tools, professional development opportunities, and connections that strengthen organizations and their impact. Attendees will learn about recruitment and retention strategies, event planning, and other best practices that support organizations at every stage. Whether launching a new nonprofit, managing growth, or leading an established organization, participants will find valuable takeaways and resources.

"Nonprofit organizations are essential to the strength and vitality of our county," says Chamber of Commerce director Rebecca Adcock. "They fill critical needs, bring people together, and improve quality of life. When nonprofits succeed, our entire county benefits. This summit is an investment in the people who dedicate their time and talents to serving others, providing opportunities to learn, build meaningful connections, and share best practices. We hope every attendee leaves with new ideas, valuable partnerships, and renewed inspiration to strengthen their organizations and create an even greater collective impact throughout our county and region."

Join fellow nonprofit leaders, staff, board members, volunteers, funders, and community partners for a day of professional development, networking, and collaboration.

The summit will be held on Nov. 7 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. with support from the Patrick County Economic Development Authority at P&HCC - Patrick County site, 212 Wood Brothers Drive, Stuart. Find more details at https://bit.ly/pc-nonprofitsummit.

If you are a person with a disability who wishes to request an accommodation, please contact Kristin Hylton at krhylton@vt.edu or 276-694-7181 ext. 26.

Super Crossword

Answers

S	N	O	W	S	H	O	E	■	T	R	A	U	M	A	■	A	D	O	P	E
K	I	N	E	T	I	C	S	■	S	H	I	N	E	D	■	R	I	V	A	L
I	N	S	T	A	N	T	S	■	L	A	D	D	D	E	L	I	V	E	R	S
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I	N	I	G	O	■	M	A	I	T	R	E	■	Z	I	R	C	O	N	I	A
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Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

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OBITUARY SUBMISSION DEADLINE MONDAY AT NOON

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

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE BY SPECIAL COMMISSIONER
Pursuant to a Decree and Order of the Circuit Court for Patrick County, Virginia, entered on June 24, 2026, in case No. CL26000428-00, the appointed Special Commissioner, John R. Griffin, will offer for sale at public auction on August 14, 2026, at 10:00 a.m., at the main entrance to the Circuit Court for Patrick County, 101 West Blue Ridge Street, Stuart, Virginia 24171, the following described real property:
Lying and being in the Dan River Magisterial District of Patrick County, Virginia, and more particularly described as follows, to-wit: Containing 5-1/2 acres, more or less, and being in all respects the same tract or parcel of land that is described in that certain deed of trust of record in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of Patrick County, Virginia, in Deed Book 190, at page 101, to which deed of trust and any deed or deeds therein mentioned, express reference is made for a further and more accurate description of the tract or parcel of land, and known as 976 Wards Gap Road, Cana, Virginia 24317.
The property will be sold "AS IS, WHERE IS," with no warranties, express or implied. The successful bidder shall be required to deposit $4,500.00 or ten percent (10%) of the bid price, whichever is lower, in cash or certified funds on the day of sale, with the balance due within fifteen (15) days of the Court's confirmation of the sale, or as otherwise directed by the Court. In the event the successful bidder fails to complete the purchase in accordance with the terms of sale, the deposit shall be forfeited and the property will be re-offered for sale at the risk and expense of the defaulting bidder.
The Special Commissioner reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to continue or postpone the sale without further notice. The sale is subject to confirmation by the Circuit Court for Patrick County, Virginia.
John R. Griffin, Esq.
Special Commissioner
John R. Griffin, PLLC
(571) 308-5820 P.O. Box 1295
Culpeper, VA 22701

LEGAL

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
TOWN OF STUART, VIRGINIA
The Town Council of the Town of Stuart, Virginia, will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, August 19, 2026, at 6:00 p.m., at the Stuart Town Office, 100 Patrick Avenue, Stuart, Virginia, to receive public comment on proposed amendments to two Town ordinances:
1. Business, Professional and Occupational License (BPOL) Tax Ordinance. The proposed amendments would (a) provide for the licensing of mobile food vendors (food trucks), including a short-term option of $25.00 per operating day, not to exceed $300.00 per license year; (b) authorize electronic filing and payment and one-stop business registration; and (c) make housekeeping revisions to conform the ordinance to current provisions of the Code of Virginia.
2. Meals Tax Ordinance (Ordinance No. 08-02). The proposed amendments would (a) provide for the collection and remittance of the Town's 5% meals tax by mobile food vendors; (b) add the meals tax exemptions currently required by Va. Code Section 58.1-3840; (c) add an explicit interest provision under Va. Code Section 58.1-3916; and (d) authorize electronic filing and payment.
The full text of each proposed ordinance is on file and available for public inspection at the Town Office, 100 Patrick Avenue, Stuart, Virginia, during regular business hours, and on the Town's website at: https://stuartva.org/proposed-bpol-meals-tax-ordinance-amendments-public-review/. Copies will be furnished upon request.
Written comments may be submitted before the hearing to the Town of Stuart, P.O. Box 422, Stuart, VA 24171; by email to information@stuartva.org; or by telephone at (276) 694-3811. All interested persons are invited to attend and be heard.
Persons requiring special accommodation to attend or participate in the public hearing should contact the Town Office at (276) 694-3811 at least three business days in advance.
By order of the Town Council of the Town of Stuart, Virginia.

To advertise in The Enterprise
Call 276-340-2445

LEGAL

NOTICE OF SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE SALE
28 Buck Run Drive, Critz, VA 24082
By virtue of the power and authority contained in a Deed of Trust dated July 27, 2022 and recorded at July 28, 2022 in Instrument Number 220001353 in the Clerk's Office for the Patrick County Virginia Circuit Court, Virginia, securing a loan which was originally $109,122.00. The appointed SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE, Commonwealth Trustees, LLC will offer for sale at public auction at the front steps of the Circuit Court for Patrick County located at 101 W Blue Ridge Street, Stuart, VA 24171.
August 28, 2026 at 1:00 PM
improved real property, with an abbreviated legal description of the following described property, to wit:
All that certain tract or parcel of land with improvements thereon and appurtenances thereunto belonging, lying and being in the Mayo River Magisterial District of Patrick County, Virginia, and being more particularly described as follows, to-wit:
"Lot 2," Containing 2.006 acres, in Log Cabin Estates Subdivision, as shown on Plat of Survey entitled "ROBERT L. DEAL," prepared by Larry G. Rakes, LLS, dated August 13, 2001, and recorded in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of Patrick County, Virginia, in Plat Cabinet I, Slide 207-J; and
BEING that same tract or parcel of land conveyed to Grantor herein by Deed from James Matthew Dalton, dated July 27, 2022, and recorded immediately prior hereto in the aforesaid Clerk's Office, to which deed and map reference is here made for a more particular description of the property herein conveyed.
AND as more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust.
TERMS OF SALE: The property will be sold "AS IS," WITHOUT REPRESENTATION OR WARRANTY OF ANY KIND AND SUBJECT TO conditions, restrictions, reservations, easements, rights of way, and all other matters of record taking priority over the Deed of Trust to be announced at the time of sale. A deposit of $20,000 or 10% of the sale price, whichever is lower, will be required at the time of sale, in the form of certified check, cashier's check or money order by the purchaser. The balance of the purchase price, with interest at the rate contained in the Deed of Trust Note from the date of sale to the date said funds are received in the office of the SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE, will be due within fifteen (15) days of sale. In the event of default by the successful bidder, the entire deposit shall be forfeited and applied to the costs and expenses of sale and Substitute Trustee's fee. All other public charges or assessments, including water/sewer charges, whether incurred prior to or after the sale, and all other costs incident to settlement to be paid by the purchaser. In the event taxes, any other public charges have been advanced, a credit will be due to the seller, to be adjusted from the date of sale at the time of settlement. Purchaser agrees to pay the seller's attorneys at settlement, a fee of $470.00 for review of the settlement documents.
Additional terms will be announced at the time of sale and the successful bidder will be required to execute and deliver to the Substitute Trustees a memorandum or contract of the sale at the conclusion of bidding.
FOR INFORMATION CONTACT Rosenberg & Associates, LLC
(Attorney for the Secured Party)
4340 East West Highway, Suite 600
Bethesda, MD 20814
301-907-8000 www.rosenberg-assoc.com

email us
DHALL@THEENTERPRISE.NET

Road

(cont. from page 1)

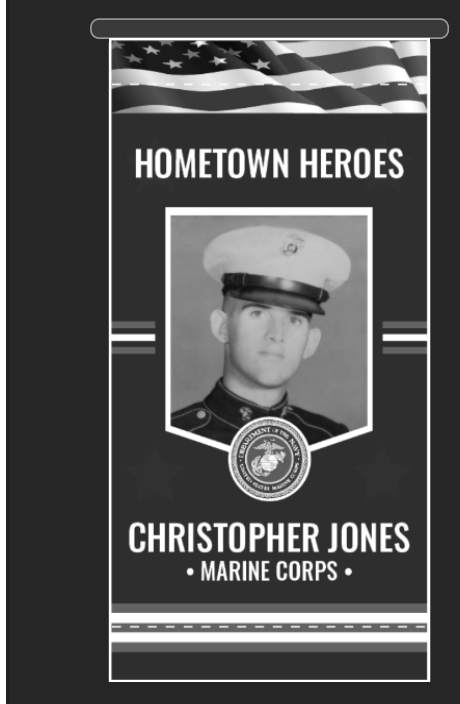


The Owens Branch bridge on The Hollow Road shows the effects of flooding that began Aug. 1 and continued into Aug. 2. (Contributed by Mary Dellenback Hill)



Flood damage is visible on The Hollow Road east of the bridge over the Ararat River, where part of the roadway washed away during flooding Aug. 1-2. (Contributed by Mary Dellenback Hill)

there. So, we'll be figuring out today how to get those individuals out safely now that the water's gone down and it's safe to do so," he said.
Cassell said no deaths or injuries were reported.
"We did lose at least one house due to a landslide," he said.
The county did not open an emergency shelter because displaced residents were able to stay with family members.
"Luckily a lot of those homes on Kibler Valley were summer homes and they were not occupied at the time. But everybody who stayed there has backup power. I don't know if they've got all of the power restored or not, but AEP (Appalachian Power) has been working around the clock too," Cassell said.
Although repairs will take time, Cassell praised the efforts of road crews.
"I know it doesn't seem like it, but they are doing a great job. They were out well past 10 p.m. last night still working on roads. When I went in at 10, they were still hauling rocks and trying to get some more roads opened last night," he said.
Cassell also said all of the county's dams have returned to Stage 1, their normal operating level.
"We up the stage when it goes over the spillways, it's just normal routine. There was never any damage to any of them or any potential failing, we just raised the stage due to the amount of water. They all look great now as far as water levels are. All of them are doing good," he said.



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Patrick July 2026 Branch Report







Henry David Thoreau asked, "It's not enough to be busy, so are the ants. The question is, what are we busy about?" Well Mr. Thoreau, we are busy with summer reading and all the things. How did we blink and July be over? Summer reading was in full force here at the Patrick County Library and I will let Lisa tell you all about it. But I will say, the staff here at the Patrick County Library rally together and make things work like no other I have ever witnessed before and I am so proud of each member of our team. I am truly blessed.

Book Bingo brought laughs and new reads to all who came and participated. The library quilting club had another successful month. Whether its eight quilters or just three—their two-hour block of time in the meeting room is much appreciated by all who participate.

Mahjong 101 finally happened! Due to schedule conflicts and miscommunication on my part, we had to reschedule twice but as the saying goes, "the third time is a charm', and indeed it was. Twelve people met in the meeting room and Betsy LeGallais led the group in a basic introductory lesson on the 19th century Chinese game of Mahjong. So simple, but collaborating with essentially your neighbors, is so enjoyable and rewarding for all those involved. This has also been the case with three of our teen summer reading programs. Patrons who come to the library, willing to donate their time and resources, to give back to the community. It's a beautiful thing to witness.

Sports Trivia was not as well attended as I would have expected, considering the topic, but we had two teams and memories were built. The Legion of Doom were defeated by the Pride of Prestonville and the P of P won a sports theme bag filled with athletic gear. August's theme is "Are You Smarter Than a 5th Grader?" and we are hoping that we have several teams come for out for general knowledge questions. I love these trivia nights, not only for the fellowship but for the educational nuggets. Kaye does an amazing job and I am so thankful for all the effort she puts into this monthly event.

On Saturday, July 18th, we had three events. Two crochet classes, led by Stephanie Keith, one of my Leadership Patrick County cohorts, took place in the meeting room. The first 90 minutes meeting was a very basic intro into crochet class. The second class was for those who had some prior experience crocheting. They learned how to make a soap saver bag. Participants left with their yarn and a new hook (not a needle!). At the same time in the reference section of the library, we set up Book Bedazzling. I have it now as a "floating" program so people can get there at 11 and work on their project and leave when they want. We had 13 people bedazzle. Some were not even at the library for Book Bedazzling but saw what we were doing and happened to have their planners and joined in the fun. They reassured me they would start adding this event to their planner and join the Crafty Chapters Club.

We ended July programming with the Christmas in July Senior Social. Six ladies came by and painted beautiful and festive artwork on canvas tote bags. They also painted ornaments that will adorn their Christmas tree this holiday season. Four of the six ladies were new to our library and raved about all the fun activities that are provided by our system of libraries. As we all know there is always something going on at any one of our branches for all ages.

I will end this report with this. We handed out 46 pool passes for punch card completion, as well as giving 54 additional ones away for the finale. The Patrick County Library had amazing summer reading numbers and it could not have happened without all the support that has come from all over this wonderful county. Parents and grandparents have loved the motivation they see in their children and I know so many memories were created during these seven weeks. Pinky the Dinosaur visited often and scared only a couple of kids and that in and of itself is incredible. I cannot thank our sponsors and the organizations that rallied behind me to create this Splash and Read incentive program enough. Thank you to Patrick County Parks and Recreation, The Town of Stuart, Stuart Rotary, One Family Productions, and the Stuart Ruritan Club, along with all the individual members who took the time to help me create such an amazing program.

Until next month….Happy Reading!

Somer Ojodeagua

Patrick County Children Programming with Miss Lisa

Great library memories were made in the month of July. In the beginning of July, the preschool Storytime had a great time reading about the beach. The next week we read about the zoo animals and they all left as zebras with their zebra masks. As they were leaving the library, Pinky the Dinosaur showed up to take pictures with all the zebras and they received their free book for the summer reading. The last and final Storytime of summer reading was held at the Stuart Farmers Market. We talked about farming and farm animals. After reading a book about bunnies, there was a surprise. Jack, the rabbit, came to be a part of our story time! The children loved petting him and he seemed to enjoy their company as well.

The school age summer reading program was enjoyed by many. The first week they had a program with Mrs. Norma Bozenmayer entitled, "Navigating with Norma" to learn about fairy stones. She was joined by Ben, a Fairy Stone State Park Ranger. Together they taught about the different shapes of fairy stones and they did a search for fairy stones on the patio with dirt collected from the Fairy Stone State Park. The second week Miss Lisa did a program on Fossil impressions and discussed the many different fossils found years ago. Afterwards, they made their own fossil impressions with seashells and tiny dinosaurs using air clay. The third week of summer reading they had a program with the Blue Ridge Animal Welfare League, designing bandanas for shelter animals, as well as their own pets if they wanted to. They created some really pretty bandanas that I know some fur babies are going to really enjoy.

The teen summer reading program was a great as well. The teens enjoyed teen game day the first week of July. They got into groups and had several games going at one time. There was Scrabble, Guess Who and of course, Monopoly. The second week program was hosted by Miss Kaye Moorefield, who challenged their minds in dinosaur trivia and several other topics. They had an old fashion book fair where they each receive their free book for summer reading. They ended their summer reading with teen crafting. Several teens bedazzled books and trinkets; others made beautiful pieces of jewelry. A couple of teenagers painted mini-canvas', and the teenage guys-built Lego creations.

The summer reading finale was detoured from the Dehart Park pool to the library due to rain but it still turned out great with 54 in attendance. Miss Lisa handed out prizes for all levels and gave everyone in attendance a pool passes due to the fact they couldn't swim that day. Several children received their swim pass as well for the Splash and Read program that was a part of this year's summer reading program at the Patrick County branch for Somer's Leadership program. Miss Lisa read a story "How Do Dinosaurs Go to School", and then they all went to the patio area for ice pops. The summer reading program was a great success and lots of wonderful library memories were made.

The Lego Club met twice this month and many cool creations were made. One week they made their favorite book character, which led to fun discussion on why they enjoy that book so much. The Youth Art Program had a program this month with Karen Sigmon. She introduced them to Maria Martinez's art and they made cool creations with air clay. Movie day was held twice the month of July. The featured movies were "The Good Dinosaur "and "Ice Age: Dawn of Dinosaurs". Delicious popcorn and water were served. Summer Reading has come to a close and it's time to think about another school year and planning great programs for the wonderful children in our county.

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J. E. B. Stuart's Grandfather: Judge Alexander Stuart (1770-1832)





Grave of Judge Alexander Stuart in Staunton, Virginia.

By Tom Perry

Born on May 11, 1770, in Augusta County, Virginia, Alexander Stuart was the son of Mary Moore Paxton Stuart and Major Alexander Stuart. The oldest son from the second marriage did not inherit his father's estate. It went to Archibald Stuart, the eldest son of Major Stuart and father of Alexander H. H. Stuart. Alexander Stuart studied the law under his half-brother, Archibald, which began a long career that led him across the Mississippi River to Missouri.

Alexander Stuart married first, Anne Dabney, the daughter of Captain George Dabney and Elizabeth Price of Hanover County. Elizabeth descended from the prominent Randolph family of Virginia, which connected the Stuarts to Thomas Jefferson, John Marshall, and Robert E. Lee. The marriage resulted in two children: Archibald Stuart, the father of J. E. B. Stuart, and Anne Dabney Stuart, who married William McDowell and then James Ewell Brown, the uncle for whom General J. E. B. Stuart received his name.

After Anne's death, Stuart married Mary "Polly" Gassaway of Maryland on June 26, 1800. The third wife, Jane Johnson, was the sister of Chapman Johnson and mother of Doctor Chapman Johnson Stuart. Alexander Stuart lived in Campbell and Cumberland counties in Virginia and later in Richmond, serving in the Executive Council of Virginia.

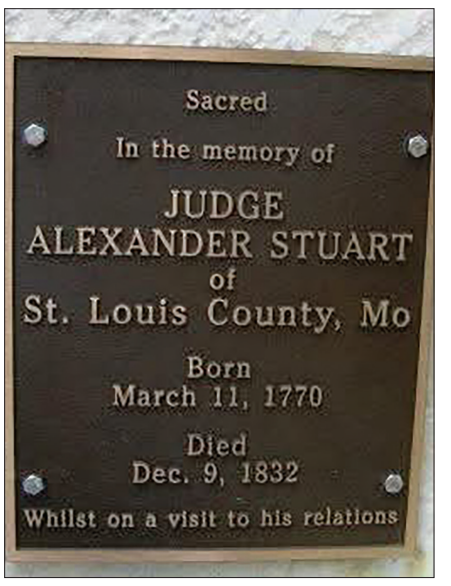
Records show Alexander Stuart practicing law in Kaskaskia, in present day Illinois, by 1806. In 1807, Stuart owned a slave in the Indiana Territory. A law passed in the Indiana Territory required those enslaved people over the age of 40 to become indentured servants. On February 25, 1812, in Randolph County, Stuart assigned title to an indentured Negro, Adam, for twenty years of service.

On February 3, 1809, the United States Congress organized the Illinois Territory with Alexander Stuart serving as one of three territorial judges. Stuart began a career serving on the state and federal levels of the judiciary in the Illinois and Missouri territories and later in the states. On July 17, 1809, Governor Edwards of Illinois took the oath of office before Judge Stuart. On July 9, 1813, Alexander Stuart resigned as judge, but returned on February 9, 1814. President James Madison and Secretary of State James Monroe commissioned Stuart as a United States Judge. Territorial records listed Judge Stuart as being double paid in Illinois and Missouri on April 27, 1814. On April 3, 1816, Governor William Clark (of Lewis and Clark) of Missouri granted a pardon on the advice of Alexander Stuart.

On May 22, 1816, Stuart purchased an entire city block in downtown Saint Louis bordered by Walnut, Market, 5th and 6th Streets, the present site of the Marriott Hotel near Busch Stadium, where my father's favorite baseball team, the St. Louis Cardinals, play ball. In 1820, the diary of Stephen Hempstead, who lived near the present location of Bellefontaine Cemetery in Saint Louis, reported twice that Judge Stuart "stopped the night at my house."

Judge Alexander Stuart is in many Missouri records. On December 12, 1817, Judge Stuart was serving as a Judge of the General Court in St. Clair County, Illinois. On February 2, 1818, Secretary of State John Quincy Adams recommended the renewal of the commission of Stuart as United States Judge. The following month, Stuart received his commission, signed by President James Monroe, at an annual salary of $1,500. A few weeks later, on February 24, 1818, the inhabitants, including Alexander Stuart of St. Ferdinand in St. Louis





Judge Alexander Stuart.

County, Missouri, requested a post office.

On August 10, 1820, Stuart resigned his U. S. Judgeship to seek a seat in the Missouri legislature. The Lucas family reported in 1822 that they had successfully campaigned against Stuart. Among their comments is this quote from William to John B. C. Lucas, "Stuart will have a majority in three or four of the counties on the western extremity of the state that he has lost all he had gained in Howard County during his electioneering expedition." In 1821, the United States admitted Missouri as a slave state after Congress reached a compromise admitting Maine as a free state. Judge Alexander Stuart witnessed the birth of a granddaughter on July 20, 1821, when Mary Tucker Stuart, the daughter of Archibald and Elizabeth Letcher Pannill Stuart and sister of General Stuart, was born during a visit to Missouri.

In 1823, Governor McNair of Missouri appointed Stuart Circuit Court Judge in St. Louis. Stuart succeeded Nathaniel B. Tucker, who returned to Virginia and became a law professor at Washington College. Stuart served until 1826. On November 22, 1826, 150 miles up the Missouri River, Stuart roomed with William C. Carr and four others. A few days later, Carr, after meeting someone from the Bluegrass state, wrote, "no Kentuckian will willingly be less than a Major."

Alexander Stuart began representing St. Louis County in the Missouri Legislature during 1826. William Carr succeeded him to the judgeship. William Lucas reported on November 27, 1826, "Judge Stuart is speaker of the lower house." In 1830, Stuart was living on a farm in Bellefontaine, St. Ferdinand, in St. Louis County.

Judge Alexander Stuart returned to the Shenandoah Valley of his youth after crossing the continent from the waters of the wide Missouri River. He died on December 9, 1832, in Staunton, Virginia, during a visit home. Two months later, his grandson, James Ewell Brown Stuart, was born in Patrick County to Archibald and Elizabeth Letcher Pannill Stuart on the Laurel Hill Farm.

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

New Grill

(cont. from page 1)

While Glenn's Grill & Go currently offers made-to-order food and a limited selection of convenience items, Glenn said she expects additional services to become available in August.

Firewater Transport LLC "is coming to try and work on the pumps to try and get them back in working order. As far as beer and cigarettes, they'll be a little down the road. I wanted to start out slow so I don't fail. It's so good for the community and everybody needs this. I need this, they need this, and I wanted to be able to fill the shelves that were needed, so start off slow so we don't have to worry about ending," she said.

Among the menu items is the Patrick County Burger, a double bacon cheeseburger topped with a fried egg, lettuce, tomato, mayonnaise, onions, pickles and jalapeños.

"I wanted something to represent who I am because I've always lived here, I was born and raised here. I know a lot of men in the area love big burgers, so I thought of a way to celebrate them. They work all the time, they come by here and eat, give them something that will fill them," Glenn said.

Glenn launched her catering business, Glenn's Way, in 2023 before opening Glenn's Grill & Go.

"But I just wanted more. This is full time to the point where I don't ever leave here," she said with a laugh. "I got a small blow-up mattress in the back that if I can't get home I can get a couple hours of rest."

Glenn said the community has been supportive of the new business, especially Clay & Twig owner Jonathan Witt.

"He has the best produce, and I'm actually going to get his bread and butter pickles so I can do some fried pickles here. Then he has some green tomatoes, and I'm going to get those so I can do some fried green tomatoes here," she said, adding Witt could become her produce supplier and she also sells some of his produce outside the building.

Glenn's Grill & Go is open from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Saturday. Glenn hopes to extend the closing time to 8 p.m. soon.



Employees prepare made-to-order meals during the lunch rush at Glenn's Grill & Go.



Glenn's Grill & Go offers made-to-order meals alongside everyday convenience items in Critz.

For more information, visit Facebook.com/GlennsGrill&Go.

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