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

Subdivision ordinance passes despite concerns

By Taylor Boyd
The Patrick County Board of Supervisors approved an updated subdivision ordinance in a 4-1 vote at its Oct. 19 meeting, following discussions about property rights, development and protections for land buyers.
The ordinance increases the minimum lot size for subdivision from two acres to five acres but does not prohibit smaller parcels. Supervisors said tracts of less than five acres may still be approved through the county's review process. The ordinance also can be amended by the board in the future.
Chairman Andrew Overby, of the Dan River District; Vice Chairman Clayton Kendrick, of the Mayo River District; Jonathon Wood, of the Peters Creek District; and Richard Cox, of the Smith River District, voted in favor of the ordinance.
Steve Marshall, of the Blue Ridge District, cast the lone dissenting vote.
Overby said he doesn't want to live on top of his neighbor or tell people what to do on their
(See Subdivision p. 8)

Supervisors oppose suspension of imported beef tariffs

By Taylor Boyd
The Patrick County Board of Supervisors unanimously approved a resolution opposing the suspension of tariffs on imported beef during its Oct. 19 meeting.
Board Chairman Andrew Overby, of the Dan River District, said copies of the resolution will be sent to President Donald Trump, congressional leaders and relevant federal agency administrators "to clearly communicate this body's position."
In late August, President Donald Trump announced a 90-day suspension of certain tariffs on imported beef, allowing up to 300,000 metric tons of lean beef trimmings, primarily used in ground beef, to enter the country duty-free. The move was intended to lower retail beef prices
(See Supervisors p. 2)



A costumed stilt walker entertains children and families during the 2025 Stuart Spooktacular on Main Street. The 11th annual event returns Saturday, Oct. 31, from 5:30 to 8 p.m., with trick-or-treating, live entertainment and family activities.

Stuart Spooktacular returns Saturday

By Taylor Boyd
The 11th annual Stuart Spooktacular is scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 31, on Main Street in Stuart.
Organized by One Family Productions, the free community event will be held from 5:30 to 8 p.m.
Visitors can trick-or-treat at booths hosted by local businesses, organizations and churches, according to information shared by event organizers.

Imagine Circus is scheduled to provide entertainment throughout the evening, including roving jugglers, Disco Head dancers, fire performances and a stilt-walking LED robot.
Food vendors are expected to include Pickle & Ash, Tammy's Grill and Bootleg BBQ.
A family fun zone also is planned, featuring bounce houses and other inflatables for children.
For more information, visit facebook.com/11thAnnualStuartSpooktacular.

Patrick County voters head to polls Nov. 3

Patrick County voters will go to the polls Tuesday, Nov. 3, for the 2026 general and special election.
All precincts will be open from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. Any voter in line at 7 p.m. will be permitted to vote.
On Election Day, voters must cast their ballots at their assigned precincts.
A sample ballot published inside of this newspaper includes the names of the candidates and the three proposed constitutional amendment questions that will appear on the ballot.
Voters are reminded to bring an acceptable

form of identification, as required by Virginia law. Voters who do not have an acceptable form of identification may sign an ID Confirmation Statement.
Registered voters who wish to vote early may do so in person at the Patrick County Office of Elections, located in the Patrick County Veterans Memorial Building, 106 Rucker St., Room 216C, Stuart.
Regular office hours are Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. The final day for early voting is Saturday, Oct. 31, with voting available
(See Voters p. 3)

Crowds fill downtown Stuart for Apple Dumpling Festival



Festivalgoers browse vendor booths and gather along the streets of downtown Stuart during the Apple Dumpling Festival. Photo contributed by Terry Dalton.



Crowds fill downtown Stuart during the annual Apple Dumpling Festival, enjoying food, vendors and other activities during the community celebration. Photo contributed by Terry Dalton.

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Supervisors

(cont. from page 1)



Clyde Crissman, October’s Patrick County Partner Award recipient, accepts a resolution from Board of Supervisors Chairman Andrew Overby, surrounded by fellow board members.

but drew opposition from U.S. cattle producers. Jonathan Wood, of the Peters Creek District, said cattle production is a key player and industry in a lot of communities in the state, including Patrick County. “I think cow/calf production- it’s in the top 10, maybe in the top five across the state of Virginia. As you know a couple of months ago, our President decided to not charge the tariffs on foreign imported beef to bring in a large amount, and if I remember right, it’s like 660 million pounds of beef from foreign countries to try and reduce the prices at the grocery store,” Wood said. Wood said consumers likely haven’t seen much of a reduction on their grocery bills. “Maybe a few cents, but not a lot,” he said.

Wood said the decision had negatively affected cattle producers, pointing to a decline in live cattle futures prices and the value of cattle sold by farmers. Wood said this decision has hurt the people who are raising cattle. He noted the Live Cattle Futures Market dropped way off and the value of their animals when sold went down. “Now that’s not just hurting the farmers obviously, that’s hurting the equipment sales, that’s hurting the people who apply fertilizer, the fertilizer companies, it’s hurting Rockydale Quarries (Corporation) in Roanoke because we’re not applying as much lime as we want to because prices have gone down,” he said. Wood said removing the tariffs on imported

beef “wasn’t even a Band-Aid on a broken leg. Let’s be honest, it was a feel-good measure. It’s not going to have any long-term lasting effects other than hurting American agriculture which I don’t think anyone in this room wants to do,” he said. Wood added that China won’t even import beef from some of the countries that are importing to the United States. “That’s a scary thought when you think about it like that,” he said. In other matters, the board:

- Heard from Galen Gilbert about the intersection of U.S. 58, Spring Road and South Mayo Drive.
- Heard from George Gianacakos about paving the remaining section of Green Spring Road.
- Presented the October Patrick County Partner Award to Clyde Crissman.
- Appointed Josh Martin as the at-large member of the Planning Commission.
- Reappointed Patrick Hall, Roger Beasley, Joe Clark and Sherry Rorrer to the Stormwater Board of Appeals.
- Approved an amendment to the fiscal year 2026-27 budget.
- Approved new Patrick County stormwater fees as drafted.
- Rejected a proposal to purchase laptops in a 2-3 vote due to questions about the type of laptops, etc. The board requested additional information and will reconsider the purchase later.
- Approved a \$56,000 emergency management funding request to purchase a 2012 Hale pump.
- Heard an update on county grants from Dr. Kirsten Beasley.
- Heard supervisors’ reports.
- Approved bills, claims and appropriations.

Tourism Talks

Greetings Patrick, I hope all is well; it has been a while since I last wrote. As you can see, we are in the midst of the leaf-peeping season. The weather has been great for a morning or evening cruise throughout our lovely county. Be sure to get out and take in all the colors fall has brought us. This will be another big weekend with a major influx of traffic. The NASCAR race will be happening in Martinsville this weekend, so Highway 58 will be busy with fans heading to the event. The Arcadian Cafe & Ice Cream Parlor on Main Street will be having a “Tiny Fall Festival.” Come out and support them. Enjoy live music at Villa Appalaccia Winery! Located just off the Blue Ridge Parkway, 752 Rock Castle Gorge Road, Villa Appalaccia serves a variety of Italian-style wines. The winery is kid-and pet-friendly, so everyone can enjoy a relaxing afternoon. We will be having our Spooktacular Event

in the Town of Stuart. Main Street in Stuart will be filled with ghosts, goblins, and all things scary on Saturday. The Town of Stuart, One Family Productions, and the Chamber of Commerce are hosting this family-friendly event. Also, Monsters Unleashed will be at The Sunset Market in Meadow of Dan, 2135 Jeb Stuart Hwy. The event will be from 2 pm-10 pm. The Sunflower Maze at Doe Run Farm is a perfect place to go and get lost and find yourself. This weekend we set our clocks back. Days will get shorter, and nights will come quicker. So, grab one of our Fall Magazines, check out our stories, plan your adventure, and get ready for more exciting Holiday traditions. There is more to do all over the county; this time of year, we see the charm and splendor that make this a place to live, love, and enjoy! Come on, get lost in Patrick County and find yourself here!!! Check out <https://visit-patrickcounty.org/> for up-to-date events and information to make your visit memorable.



All my best, James Houchins jhouchins@co.patrick.va.us Director of Economic Development and Tourism

Apple Dumpling Festival 5K draws record turnout

More than 150 participants registered for the Apple Dumpling Festival 5K, setting a record for the annual race held Saturday, Oct. 17, on the Mayo River Rail Trail in Stuart. Presented by the Patrick County Chamber of Commerce and the Dan River Basin Association (DRBA), the event drew runners and walkers of all ages despite chilly, damp conditions. Brad Shelton finished first overall with a time of 19:33, followed by Zana Graham at 19:35 and Wesley Gurley at 19:47. Shelby Gurley led the female division with a time of 21:06. Heather Jackson finished second

at 21:13, followed by Rain Davis at 22:04. Chad Stevens earned overall Masters Male honors with a time of 22:29, while Holly Stevens claimed overall Masters Female honors at 25:53. Participants ranged in age from younger than 10 to older than 70. Among those taking part were members of the Stuart Elementary Run Club, who spent six weeks training for the race. Lindsay Alley organized and supported the club’s participation. Members of the Patrick County High School cross-country team also participated.

The annual race supports DRBA’s efforts to develop and improve trails in Patrick County, including opportunities for outdoor recreation along the Mayo River Rail Trail. Sponsors included Adcock Veterinary Orthopedic Solutions, Patrick County Chamber of Commerce, Jones & DeShon Orthodontics, Clark Gas & Oil, The Landmark Center, Blue Ridge Therapy Connection, Patrick County Tourism, Clark Brothers Construction, Liz Wariner, John Hopkins and Lynn Regan. Complete race results are available at www.runroanoke.com.

Going Native

Native plants provide benefits that introduced species can’t match



A young Black Tupelo Tree (Nyssa sylvatica) that will sport beautiful purple-black fruits when it matures, benefitting wildlife and lighting up the woods with its stunning foliage in the fall. Photos by Kristine Adel

By Kristine Adel Native plants are such a familiar part of our daily surroundings, we often forget they are there, but there are many reasons to increase our focus on native plants, especially in places where introduced



Black and Red Chokeberry Shrubs (Aronia melanocarpa and Aronia arbutifolia) with bright berries that birds and other wildlife love.

species are crowding them out and replacing them. Many of our native plants are stunningly beautiful. Some are fragrant. Some provide abundant, tasty food for both people and wildlife. Others just seem to blend into the background. Regardless, they are all important to the health and wellbeing of our natural surroundings, and by extension, to ourselves. Native ecosystems tend to be adaptable, resilient, and sustainable. (See Native p. 6)



Hearts-a-Burstin’ or Strawberry Bush, (Euonymus americana) a shade loving shrub that attracts birds and other wildlife in the fall with its unique clusters of bright berries.

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Voters

(cont. from page 1)

Commonwealth of Virginia

Sample Ballot

County of Patrick

Pct. 101 - Ararat

General and Special Elections

Tuesday, November 3, 2026

Instructions to voters

To vote for a candidate, use a black pen to fill in the oval next to the name, like this:

To vote on an issue, fill in the oval next to Yes or No.

To write in a qualified candidate who is not already on the ballot, fill in the oval and write the name of the person on the line.

If you want to change a vote or have made a mistake, ask an election worker for another ballot.

If you make marks on the ballot besides filling in the oval, your votes may not be counted.

Member United States Senate

Vote for only one

Mark R. Warner - D

Bert Mizusawa - R

Write-in

Member House of Representatives

9th District

Vote for only one

Joy A. Powers - D

H. Morgan Griffith - R

Write-in

Proposed Constitutional Amendment Question 1

Question: Should the Constitution of Virginia be amended to (i) protect the freedom to make personal decisions about prenatal care, childbirth, postpartum care, birth control, abortion, miscarriage management, and fertility care; (ii) protect doctors, nurses, and patients from being punished for these decisions; and (iii) allow for restrictions on access to abortion during the third trimester of pregnancy except when the patient's health is at risk or the pregnancy cannot survive?

Yes

No

Proposed Constitutional Amendment Question 2

Question: Should the Constitution of Virginia be amended to (i) remove the ban on same-sex marriage; (ii) affirm that two adults may marry regardless of sex, gender, or race; and (iii) require all legally valid marriages to be treated equally under the law?

Yes

No

Ballot Style # 001

Typ:01 Seq:0001 Spl:01

101 - Ararat

Proposed Constitutional Amendment Question 3

Question: Should the Constitution of Virginia be amended (i) to provide for the fundamental right to vote in the Commonwealth, (ii) to revise the qualifications of voters so that a person convicted of a felony is not entitled to vote during his period of incarceration but is automatically invested with the right to vote upon release from incarceration, and (iii) to update the existing prohibition on voting by persons found to be mentally incompetent to instead apply to persons who have been found to lack the capacity to understand the act of voting?

Yes

No

END OF BALLOT

Authorized by the Electoral Board of the County of Patrick, Patrick County Office Bldg, 106 Rucker St., Room 216C, Stuart, VA 24171

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Ararat

Commonwealth of Virginia

Sample Ballot

County of Patrick

Pct. 502 - Elamsville

General and Special Elections

Tuesday, November 3, 2026

Instructions to voters

To vote for a candidate, use a black pen to fill in the oval next to the name, like this:

To vote on an issue, fill in the oval next to Yes or No.

To write in a qualified candidate who is not already on the ballot, fill in the oval and write the name of the person on the line.

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If you make marks on the ballot besides filling in the oval, your votes may not be counted.

Member United States Senate

Vote for only one

Mark R. Warner - D

Bert Mizusawa - R

Write-in

Member House of Representatives

9th District

Vote for only one

Joy A. Powers - D

H. Morgan Griffith - R

Write-in

Member Board of Supervisors

Smith River District

For unexpired term to end December 31, 2029

Vote for only one

Crystal P. Harris

Richard D. Cox

Write-in

Proposed Constitutional Amendment Question 1

Question: Should the Constitution of Virginia be amended to (i) protect the freedom to make personal decisions about prenatal care, childbirth, postpartum care, birth control, abortion, miscarriage management, and fertility care; (ii) protect doctors, nurses, and patients from being punished for these decisions; and (iii) allow for restrictions on access to abortion during the third trimester of pregnancy except when the patient's health is at risk or the pregnancy cannot survive?

Yes

No

Ballot Style # 012

Typ:01 Seq:0012 Spl:01

502 - Elamsville

Proposed Constitutional Amendment Question 2

Question: Should the Constitution of Virginia be amended to (i) remove the ban on same-sex marriage; (ii) affirm that two adults may marry regardless of sex, gender, or race; and (iii) require all legally valid marriages to be treated equally under the law?

Yes

No

Proposed Constitutional Amendment Question 3

Question: Should the Constitution of Virginia be amended (i) to provide for the fundamental right to vote in the Commonwealth, (ii) to revise the qualifications of voters so that a person convicted of a felony is not entitled to vote during his period of incarceration but is automatically invested with the right to vote upon release from incarceration, and (iii) to update the existing prohibition on voting by persons found to be mentally incompetent to instead apply to persons who have been found to lack the capacity to understand the act of voting?

Yes

No

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Elamsville

until 5 p.m.

For additional information, contact the Patrick County Office of Elections at (276) 694-7206.

Patrick County polling places and their locations are:

Dan River District

Ararat - Ararat Ruritan Bldg. 4711 Ararat Hwy.
Claudville - Claudville Community Bldg. 1828 Red Bank School Road
Willis Gap - Willis Gap Community Center 144 The Hollow Road

Peters Creek District

Dry Pond - Peters Creek Community Bldg. 2130 Dry Pond Hwy.
Patrick Springs - Patrick Springs Fire Station 181 Spring Road
Russell Creek – New Hope Community Church, 1863 Clark House Farm Road

Mayo River District

Critz/Stella - Hardin Reynolds Elementary School 3597 Dogwood Road
Liberty - Patrick Henry Volunteer Fire Department 3125 County Line Road

Commonwealth of Virginia

Sample Ballot

County of Patrick

Pct. 201 - Dry Pond

General and Special Elections

Tuesday, November 3, 2026

Instructions to voters

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To vote on an issue, fill in the oval next to Yes or No.

To write in a qualified candidate who is not already on the ballot, fill in the oval and write the name of the person on the line.

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If you make marks on the ballot besides filling in the oval, your votes may not be counted.

Member United States Senate

Vote for only one

Mark R. Warner - D

Bert Mizusawa - R

Write-in

Member House of Representatives

9th District

Vote for only one

Joy A. Powers - D

H. Morgan Griffith - R

Write-in

Member School Board

Peters Creek District

For unexpired term to end December 31, 2027

Vote for only one

Jerry W. Woods

Write-in

Proposed Constitutional Amendment Question 1

Question: Should the Constitution of Virginia be amended to (i) protect the freedom to make personal decisions about prenatal care, childbirth, postpartum care, birth control, abortion, miscarriage management, and fertility care; (ii) protect doctors, nurses, and patients from being punished for these decisions; and (iii) allow for restrictions on access to abortion during the third trimester of pregnancy except when the patient's health is at risk or the pregnancy cannot survive?

Yes

No

Ballot Style # 004

Typ:01 Seq:0004 Spl:01

201 - Dry Pond

Proposed Constitutional Amendment Question 2

Question: Should the Constitution of Virginia be amended to (i) remove the ban on same-sex marriage; (ii) affirm that two adults may marry regardless of sex, gender, or race; and (iii) require all legally valid marriages to be treated equally under the law?

Yes

No

Proposed Constitutional Amendment Question 3

Question: Should the Constitution of Virginia be amended (i) to provide for the fundamental right to vote in the Commonwealth, (ii) to revise the qualifications of voters so that a person convicted of a felony is not entitled to vote during his period of incarceration but is automatically invested with the right to vote upon release from incarceration, and (iii) to update the existing prohibition on voting by persons found to be mentally incompetent to instead apply to persons who have been found to lack the capacity to understand the act of voting?

Yes

No

END OF BALLOT

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Dry Pond

Commonwealth of Virginia

Sample Ballot

County of Patrick

Pct. 402 - Stuart Fairgrounds

General and Special Elections

Tuesday, November 3, 2026

Instructions to voters

To vote for a candidate, use a black pen to fill in the oval next to the name, like this:

To vote on an issue, fill in the oval next to Yes or No.

To write in a qualified candidate who is not already on the ballot, fill in the oval and write the name of the person on the line.

If you want to change a vote or have made a mistake, ask an election worker for another ballot.

If you make marks on the ballot besides filling in the oval, your votes may not be counted.

Member United States Senate

Vote for only one

Mark R. Warner - D

Bert Mizusawa - R

Write-in

Member House of Representatives

9th District

Vote for only one

Joy A. Powers - D

H. Morgan Griffith - R

Write-in

Member Town Council

Town of Stuart

Vote for not more than three

Rebecca J. Adcock

Jeffery D. Houchins

Robert D. Pittis

Write-in

Write-in

Write-in

Ballot Style # 010

Typ:01 Seq:0010 Spl:01

402 - Stuart Fairgrounds

Proposed Constitutional Amendment Question 1

Question: Should the Constitution of Virginia be amended to (i) protect the freedom to make personal decisions about prenatal care, childbirth, postpartum care, birth control, abortion, miscarriage management, and fertility care; (ii) protect doctors, nurses, and patients from being punished for these decisions; and (iii) allow for restrictions on access to abortion during the third trimester of pregnancy except when the patient's health is at risk or the pregnancy cannot survive?

Yes

No

Proposed Constitutional Amendment Question 2

Question: Should the Constitution of Virginia be amended to (i) remove the ban on same-sex marriage; (ii) affirm that two adults may marry regardless of sex, gender, or race; and (iii) require all legally valid marriages to be treated equally under the law?

Yes

No

Proposed Constitutional Amendment Question 3

Question: Should the Constitution of Virginia be amended (i) to provide for the fundamental right to vote in the Commonwealth, (ii) to revise the qualifications of voters so that a person convicted of a felony is not entitled to vote during his period of incarceration but is automatically invested with the right to vote upon release from incarceration, and (iii) to update the existing prohibition on voting by persons found to be mentally incompetent to instead apply to persons who have been found to lack the capacity to understand the act of voting?

Yes

No

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Stuart Fairgrounds

Blue Ridge District

Meadows of Dan - Meadows of Dan Community Bldg. 2858 Jeb Stuart Hwy.
Stuart Fairgrounds - Hooker Building, Rotary Field, 420 Woodland Dr.
Stuart Community - Stuart Community Center (Patrick Henry Community College, Patrick Site) 212 Wood Brothers Dr.

Smith River District

Elamsville - Fairystone Fire Station 6687 Fairystone Park Hwy.
Woolwine - Smith River Rescue Squad Bldg. 9962 Woolwine Hwy.

WWW.THEENTERPRISE.NET

Morgan Griffith



Wagner raised his four kids alongside his wife, Sarah, who is also a standout athlete from Ferrum.

After opening by thanking God, Wagner's emo-

That is what Southwest Virginia is all about.

Letter supports Cox for Smith River seat

I suggest Richard Cox be that person. He and I

Charlie Bowman,
Stuart

Does the vast majority of Virginia's citizenry revere same-sex marriage and terminating the life of an unborn child as fundamental, sacred rights that must be constitutionally preserved and pro-

David Robinette Jr.,
Patrick Springs

In addition to the positive impact of whole grains on the prevention of many chronic diseases, in countries where grain products are fortified with vitamin B1, B2, niacin and folic acid, grains are also essential in the prevention of other health problems including Beri Beri, pellagra, or neural tube defects. Unfortunately, today in most developed and developing countries the vast majority of consumed grains are refined grains. Until recently, in the United States, on average only about 2 percent of the approximate

(Submitted by Betty Dean. Written by Roman Pawlak, PH.D, RD. Used by permission from www.LifeandHealth.org. Courtesy of LifeSpring - Resources for Hope and Healing Stuart, VA)

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

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Patrick Pioneers

Hazel Conner Beamish

By Beverly Belcher Woody

When we think about the young people who grew up in the mountains of Patrick County during the 1930s and 1940s, we often picture a simpler time when families worked hard, neighbors depended upon one another, and opportunities to travel beyond the familiar mountains were limited. For many, a trip to another state was a rare occasion, and traveling halfway around the world was something they could only dream about.

But every now and then, a young person comes along whose determination, ambition, and adventurous spirit carry them far beyond the place where their story began.

Such was the case with Hazel Roberta Conner, a hardworking mountain girl who grew up along Rock Castle Creek and went on to lead a life filled with remarkable adventures, fascinating people, and travels to some of the most distant corners of the world.

Hazel Roberta Conner was born on the 13th of September 1931, in a little house along Rock Castle Creek in Patrick County, Virginia. She was the youngest child of Luther Blaine Conner and Bertie O'Bryan Conner.

Luther and Bertie had welcomed two children before Hazel's arrival. Their first child, a little boy, was born and died in 1923, a heartbreaking loss for the young couple. Their daughter, Verona Estelle Conner, was born in 1925, six years before Hazel.

Hazel came from families whose roots ran deep in the mountains of southwestern Virginia.

Her father, Luther Blaine Conner, was the son of George William "Mac" Conner and Annie Laura Belcher, who owned a large orchard in Rock Castle Gorge. Her mother, Bertie O'Bryan Conner, was the daughter of Walter Emmett O'Bryan and Cynthia Frances Della McAlexander of Floyd County, Virginia.

Growing up in the Rock Castle Creek community, Hazel would have been surrounded by the beautiful mountains, winding creeks, and orchards that made this part of Patrick County such a special place.

Life in those mountains was not always easy. Families worked hard to provide for themselves, and children learned early that determination and a willingness to work were important qualities.

Young Hazel certainly possessed both.

By the time she was a teenager, she was already demonstrating the ambition, talent, and leadership abilities that would characterize her remarkable life.

On December 11, 1947, The Enterprise carried an announcement that must have filled the Conner family and the entire Woolwine community with pride.

Sixteen-year-old Hazel Conner had been named the 1947 state winner in the National 4-H Clothing Achievement activity! Hazel had

been a member of 4-H for six years, and her accomplishments were impressive by any standard.

According to the newspaper, she had earned the state's highest ranking for her sewing record, having sewn, altered, or mended an astonishing eighty-eight garments for herself and other members of her family. As if that were not enough, she had also made a slipcover and two rugs!

Hazel had completed eight 4-H projects, four of which involved clothing. But her accomplishments extended far beyond her skill with a needle and thread. She had served as vice president, secretary, treasurer, and junior leader of her local 4-H club, as well as secretary of the county 4-H organization.

She had also competed successfully in both county and state clothing achievement contests. Her outstanding work earned her a trip to Chicago, provided by the Educational Bureau of the Spool Cotton Company. For a young girl growing up along Rock Castle Creek in the 1940s, a trip to Chicago must have been an exciting opportunity!

I cannot help but wonder whether that journey helped awaken Hazel's desire to see more of the world. Perhaps she had already dreamed of traveling far beyond Patrick County, or perhaps that first taste of adventure only strengthened a spirit that had been there all along.

Whatever the case, Chicago would be just one of many destinations in Hazel's future.

The following summer, Hazel's name appeared in The Enterprise once again, this time for an entirely different accomplishment.

On Thursday, June 17, 1948, the newspaper reported the results of a beauty pageant held at Woolwine High School on Saturday night, June 12. Miss Eunice Via, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jessie Via of near Fairy Stone Park, had been chosen "Miss Woolwine High School of 1948." The runner-up was Miss Hazel Conner, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Luther Conner of Woolwine.

So, by the age of sixteen, Hazel had already distinguished herself as an accomplished seamstress, a respected 4-H leader, a statewide award winner, and a beauty pageant runner-up! But Hazel's story was only beginning.

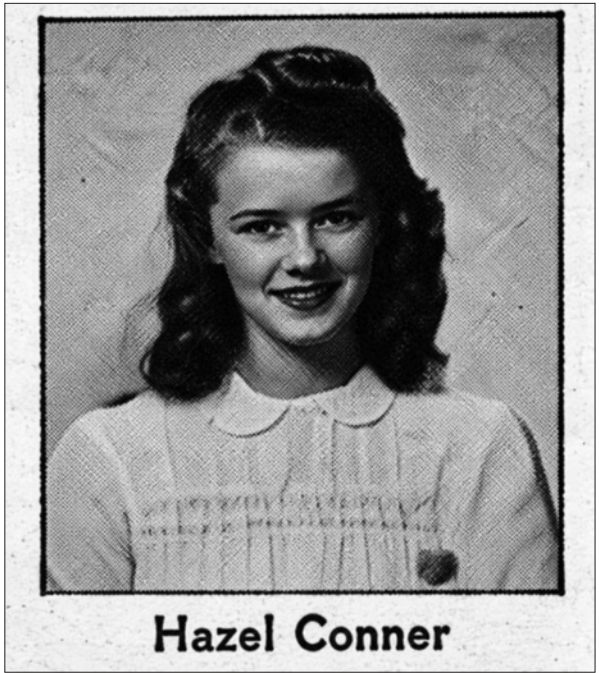
Following her years at Woolwine High School, Hazel left her childhood home in the mountains to attend Virginia Tech.

For a young woman who had grown up in rural Patrick County, pursuing a college education was another important step toward a future filled with possibilities.

From Virginia Tech, her adventures eventually carried her to New York City, where she became a flight attendant during the Korean War.

According to her obituary, Hazel's duties included transporting troops and other cargo, including, of all things, live lobsters!

Just imagine the contrast between the young girl who had spent countless hours sewing gar-



Hazel Conner, from The Enterprise. Dec. 11, 1947

ments for her family in Patrick County and the young woman now flying through the skies, transporting military personnel and cargo during wartime.

At some point during her remarkable life, Hazel participated in an expedition to the North Pole.

Another memorable experience found Hazel in Havana, Cuba, where she reportedly enjoyed drinks with the famous Hollywood actor Spencer Tracy.

In September 1956, Hazel married Arthur Patrick Beamish in Dade County, Florida.

The couple eventually moved to Norfolk, Virginia, where Arthur worked as an engineer for Rockwell Manufacturing.

Hazel and Arthur became the parents of three children: Cynthia, Sharon, and Arthur, Jr.

Over the years, the family lived in several different places, including Miami, Florida; Norfolk, Virginia; and Atlanta, Georgia. Eventually, Hazel and Arthur settled near the beautiful beaches of Destin, Florida, a place that became especially dear to Hazel's heart.

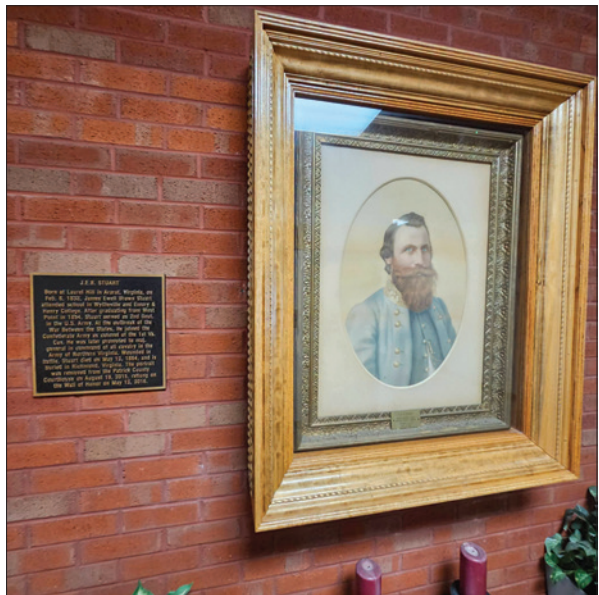
Her family and friends visited often, and Destin became a gathering place where they could enjoy time together and create memories that would last a lifetime. But even after settling near the beach, Hazel had not lost her desire to explore.

She and Arthur traveled extensively, visiting Hawaii, Paris, Whistler, Alaska, and the Caribbean, among many other destinations. What a remarkable collection of places for a girl whose story began in a little house along Rock Castle Creek!

Thank you to Shirlien Belcher for suggesting Hazel's story and providing information.

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

Stuart, Virginia, and J. E. B. Stuart



By Tom Perry

On June 29, 2026, at the kickoff for the America 250 celebration of our history in Patrick County, Virginia, at the grave of William Letcher, J. E. B. Stuart's great-grandfather, who was killed in August 1780 during the American Revolution, I was asked a question. "Did J. E. B. Stuart ever visit the town that today bears his name, Stuart, Virginia?"

When I was a young man, the county seat had references to James Ewell Brown "Jeb" Stuart that are no longer present. The First National Bank of Stuart had a logo of a silhouetted J. E. B. Stuart holding his plumed hat out in front of him. A mural of Stuart was a copy based on the four-panel artwork painted by French artist Charles Hoffbauer between 1913 and 1920. The Virginia Museum of History & Culture (formerly known as the Virginia Historical Society) in Richmond, Virginia, permanently holds the original and preserves it. Autumn depicts Stuart leading a cavalry charge. The mural is no longer in the Truist Bank lobby.

Twenty years after James Ewell Brown "Jeb" Stuart lost his life on May 12, 1864, near the end of the War Between the States, the town of Taylorsville, or Patrick Court House as I more often see it used, changed its name to Stuart. In 1884,



the Stuarts were long gone from Patrick County. Jeb's brother owned land here until 1876, but he was in Russell County, Virginia, running the Stuart Land and Cattle Company near Lebanon, Virginia, when the name change occurred.

J. E. B. Stuart's mother, Elizabeth Letcher Pannill Stuart, died in 1884. She sold Laurel Hill, her 1,500-acre farm in Ararat, Virginia, in



1859, four years after her husband, Archibald Stuart, died and was buried on the farm. In 1952, they moved him to Saltville, Virginia, to lie beside his wife.

Highway 58, which passes by the county seat, is still named for J. E. B. Stuart in Patrick County. It was once named that all the way across

(See Stuart on p. 7)

Patrick County JV volleyball defeats James River

The Patrick County High School junior varsity volleyball team defeated James River in three sets Tuesday, Oct. 20, at home. After dropping the opening set 26-28, the Cougars rallied to win the next two sets 25-20 and 15-7. Addy Foley recorded 17 assists, eight digs and two aces. Trinitee Penn contributed six kills and five digs, while Avery Hubbard added six kills and two aces.

Glenvar tops Patrick County in home finale

By David Morrison
Patrick County hosted the Glenvar Highlanders on Friday night and lost by a score of 42-14. The loss moves the Cougars to 3-6 on the season with their final regular season game slated for next Friday night at James River High School. Defensively the Cougars were led by Josiah Shelor with 15 tackles and 2 tackles for loss. Wheeler helms finished the night with 11 tackles and Jacob Sencer added 9 tackles on the night, a season high for him. Jaxon Handy and Logan Brown added 5 tackles a piece and Briar Branch, Jayden Corns, and Aedan Frazier each added 4 tackles each. Andrew Miller, Brayden Hylton, Wesley Kruse, and Ethan Gibson all recorded tackles for the Cougars as well. Offensively, Jayden Corns led the Cougars in rushing with 152 yards on 17 carries and two touchdowns and went 7 for 9 passing for 45 yards. Senior Noah Cain added 41 yards on 3 carries, Josiah Shelor had 4 carries for 22 yards, Jaxon handy added 12 yards on 5 carries and Brayden Hylton had 1 carry for 2 yards. Hylton added 1 catch on the night for -1 yard, Josiah Shelor had 3 receptions for 10 yards on the night, Charlie Tabor added 1 catch for 16 yards, and Ethan Errichetti recorded 2 catches for 19 yards. Ivan Joaquin Ortega went 2 for 2 in PAT's on the night.

Native

(cont. from page 2)



Mountain Mint, (Pycnanthemum virginianum) a fragrant perennial wildflower favored by dozens of native pollinators.

able. They support a wide variety of living things that are all linked together and interdependent, from microbes and insects at the bottom of the chain, to reptiles and songbirds, all the way up to our most awesome apex predators - all of which have evolved alongside one another for hundreds and thousands of years.

Native species may compete, or cooperate, or just hang out in the same spaces. Regardless, they are accustomed to each other, living in a fairly stable balance. A native oak tree, for instance, might support hundreds of native insects and caterpillars while an introduced tree species may support only a few.

This is incredibly important when we consider that single Chickadee hatchling will need its parents to bring it as many as 500+ caterpillars each and every day, for weeks, before it even leaves the nest.

Other reasons native plants are important stem from the fact that they are already suited to the area and the climate, requiring little or no human intervention, unlike introduced species which often require insecticides, pesticides, herbicides, soil amendments, irrigation and other efforts to establish and maintain them.

This ability to thrive in their natural environments without expensive regular tending makes native plants ideal for large projects involving erosion control and re-naturalization as well as landscaping for the home and garden.

It's getting easier to learn which plants are native to our area.

Lately, it seems like everyone is talking about (and marketing) native plants. It can get very con-



Goldenrod, (Solidago spp.) a fall blooming perennial that attracts dozens of native pollinators and is often, mistakenly, blamed for allergies and hay fever. (Common Ragweed, Ambrosia artemisiifolia, is the more likely culprit for autumn sneezing and itchy, watery eyes)

fusing, very quickly because every plant is native to some place, somewhere. The question we need answered is what is native where we live. Fortunately, we have some great resources.

When choosing native plants for our gardens and other projects, we want to narrow it down to our specific area, Patrick County in Southwestern Virginia. A good resource for learning about specific plants for our area can be found here: <https://www.dcr.virginia.gov/natural-heritage/native-plants-finder>.

The difference between native, introduced, naturalized, and invasive doesn't have to be confusing.

Many species we might think of as native are actually introduced and have become naturalized over the years (able to maintain self-sustaining populations).

New plant species can be introduced by people, or animals, or even carried on the winds and tides. An introduced plant doesn't need to come from far away, though. It may have only come from the other side of the state. Sometimes we know when, why, and how plants were introduced to our area. Sometimes we don't.

To understand why one plant is considered native and another is not, we focus only on when it arrived. If it was here before European exploration and settlement, it's considered native. If not, it was introduced.

If a plant can reproduce and thrive without deliberate cultivation, it has become naturalized regardless of when our how it was introduced. Species that have been



Girl Scout Troop 1302 enjoys fall day camp at Reynolds Homestead

Girl Scout Troop 1302 recently held its annual fall camp at Reynolds Homestead, trading its traditional overnight camping experience for a day of activities, hiking and badge work.

The scouts gathered in the morning and participated in activities throughout the day, wrapping up in the late afternoon.

Daisies and Brownies worked on their Outdoor Art and Movement badges and completed their Safety pins. Juniors worked on their Art Apprentice badges,

while Cadettes worked toward their Art Explorer badges.

The scouts also enjoyed lunch together, spent time with fellow troop members and took hikes around Reynolds Homestead.

The troop expressed appreciation to Reynolds Homestead and the scout leaders for helping make the day a success.

Troop 1302 recently completed its fall nut and candy sales and is looking forward to the start of Girl Scout cookie sales in December.



Sweet Everlasting, (Pseudognaphalium obtusifolium) a fragrant perennial wildflower that attracts many native pollinators and hosts American Lady butterflies (Vanessa virginienensis).

introduced and naturalized can sometimes, also be invasive, but not always.

Invasive plants are introduced species that cause ecological or economic harm in the places they have become naturalized. They typically spread aggressively, outcompeting native plants, and disrupting ecosystems.

Examples of harmful invasive species are Autumn Olive (Elaeagnus umbellata) and Burning Bush (Euonymus alatus) that frequently escape cultivation to form dense thickets in the fields and the woods.

Autumn Olive was deliberately imported from Asia in the 1830s to provide erosion control and wildlife habitats in wasteland reclamation projects. Burning Bush was also brought from Asia in the 1800s, but primarily, as an ornamental because of its stunning fall foliage.

People often ask why these plants are considered a problem when they produce so much fruit, which the birds and other wildlife obviously enjoy. Autumn Olive is delicious and nutritious for people, birds, and other wild life. Birds and some other wildlife species also eat the fruits of Burning Bush, although every part of Euonymus alatus is poisonous to people and pets.

Sadly, even though these two invasives do produce copious amounts of fruit, they have negative characteristics that far outweigh the positives. These small-ish trees / big-ish shrubs are among the earli-



Narrow Leaved Sunflower, (Helianthus angustifolius) a cheerful perennial wildflower commonly seen along roadsides that produces numerous seeds and attracts a wide variety of songbirds.

est plants to leaf in the spring and nearly the last to drop leaves in the fall. They over grow and shade the ground around them, depriving our native trees and wildflowers of the light they need to emerge and thrive. Autumn Olive is also allelopathic, literally toxic to other plants sprouting or growing near it.

Despite the positive traits that made them attractive enough to import in the 1800s, we understand now, that they cause a great deal of harm. They are generally considered invasive in most parts of the Eastern United States.

Fortunately, checking before you purchase is getting easier.

You can check the Virginia state invasive list here: <https://www.dcr.virginia.gov/natural-heritage/invspdflist>. Additionally, retailers will soon be required to post signage notifying customers when the plants they are selling are on the state's invasive list. (§ 3.2-3801.1. Effective January 1, 2027)

Don't forget to tune into WHEO 8:30a to 9:00a on the 4th Tuesday each month for more from Patrick County Master Gardeners. Find us on Facebook or Contact us at <https://patrickmastergardeners.org/>.

A few of our native plants that are especially pretty this time of year are shown in the accompanying photos.



Stuart

(cont. from page 5)

Virginia, from Cumberland Gap to Virginia Beach. It runs for 508 miles from U.S. Route 25E just northwest of Harrogate, Tennessee, to U.S. Route 60 in Virginia Beach, Virginia. Democrat politicians began attempts to erase anything Confederate from the Virginia landscape, including renaming anything with J. E. B. Stuart on it. They recently revoked the property tax exemption that had been in place since 1991 for the J. E. B. Stuart Preservation Trust, the 501 (c) (3) non-profit that owns Laurel Hill Farm in Ararat, Virginia.

Jeb Stuart's father, Archibald Stuart, held nearly every representative post one could from Patrick County except maybe dog catcher. He was Commonwealth's At-



torney, Virginia Delegate, Virginia Senator, and a one term member in the United States House of Representatives from our area. He certainly visited the town that bears his name many times over the years.

The Patrick County Order Books still in the courthouse are full of references to Archibald Stuart. We are very lucky that we

have never had a fire that destroyed the records, and the Library of Virginia has begun to digitize some of them. If you visit the website or visit in person the wonderful library on Broad Street in downtown Richmond, Virginia, and type in Patrick County, you will find a treasure trove of information about the county and the Stu-



arts. A portrait of J. E. B. Stuart hangs along the Wall of Honor in the Patrick County Administration building in Stuart, Virginia, as one of the men from Patrick County who lost his life in the War fighting for the county. He is on a plaque on the Wall of Honor. Finally, Stuart is on the base of the monument in front of

the courthouse that honors men from the county who fought in the War Between the States. The statue on top is not Stuart but represents the 2,500 Confederate soldiers who fought from The Free State of Patrick. Back to the question asked of me. I have read every letter that J. E. B. Stuart ever wrote, and there is not one reference

to the town that today bears his name. While he surely accompanied his father to the county seat, he never wrote about it in any letter I have ever seen. A historian can only go by the resources available to him, so on June 29 I said, "No, I can't say that James Ewell Brown 'Jeb' Stuart ever visited Stuart, Virginia."

Paint a Pumpkin Storytime at the Patrick County Library



As Halloween quickly approaches, staff at the Patrick County Library are preparing with all kinds of programs. Storytime programs with Mrs. Lucia Perez Gullatt, assistant branch manager, are themed to celebrate the holiday all month.

For instance, on Tuesday October 20th, Mrs. Lucia read some not-so-scary BOO-ks. A ghost even

made a special appearance. The library received a generous donation of pumpkins from Doe Run Farm Virginia, and each participating youngster had a pumpkin for everyone to decorate — just in time for Halloween festivities. It was a great turnout, and participants enjoyed a Spooktacular time. The staff at the library look forward to seeing you soon.

New Virginia Energy Plan targets costs, growing demand

Gov. Abigail Spanberger released Virginia's 2026 Energy Plan on Thursday, outlining several potential paths for meeting growing electricity demand while maintaining reliability, controlling costs and moving toward a net-zero power system. The plan does not prescribe a single fuel source, technology or forecast for future demand. Instead, the administration said energy-system modeling was used to evaluate different levels of growth and policy approaches and their potential costs and tradeoffs. The plan calls for accelerating lower-cost and faster-to-deploy energy resources, addressing the effects of data center growth, aligning utility incentives with energy affordability and developing resources capable of providing power

when intermittent sources are unavailable. It also calls for reducing emissions associated with natural gas infrastructure, expanding clean transportation and developing Virginia's energy workforce and supply chain. "Virginians have been clear about what they need from their energy system," Spanberger said. "Energy should be reliable, with enough power to support Virginia's growth. It should be clean and built in a way that protects the health of our communities and the natural resources around us. It should be local, so the jobs and benefits of our energy growth stay here in Virginia. And it must be affordable." The administration said development of the plan included more than 3,000 public survey responses, six regional meetings, a public town

hall and 20 industry-specific listening sessions. For the first time in development of a Virginia Energy Plan, according to the administration, that public input was paired with energy-system modeling and analysis designed to examine different demand scenarios and policy choices. The modeling found multiple potential pathways for Virginia to reach a net-zero power system by 2050 while maintaining reliable and affordable electricity, according to the administration. Chief Energy Officer Josephus Allmond described the approach as "Clean-First, Least-Cost." "As we build the energy system to support the growth we are anticipating, cleaner air and (See Energy p. 11)

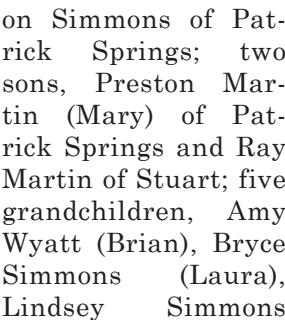
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HORROR WEEK \$5

Beside Walmart 276-656-3456

Elva Dillon Fulcher

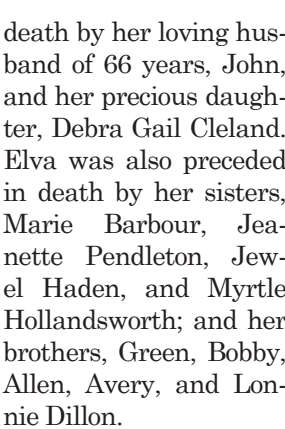
She is survived by one daughter, Dev-



on Simmons of Patrick Springs; two sons, Preston Martin (Mary) of Patrick Springs and Ray Martin of Stuart; five grandchildren, Amy Wyatt (Brian), Bryce Simmons (Laura), Lindsey Simmons

A funeral service will be held on Thursday, October 22, 2026 at 11:00 AM at Moody Funeral Services. Burial will follow in Big A Church of Christ Cemetery. The family will receive friends one hour prior to the service. Online condolences may be made by visiting www.moodyfuneralservices.com.

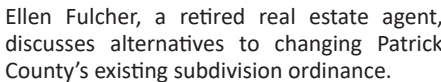
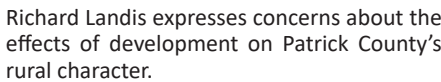
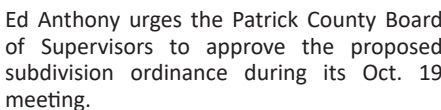
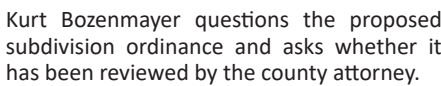
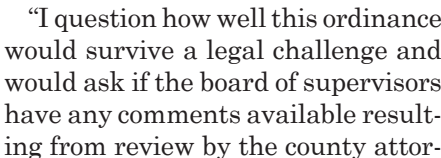
Elva was a devoted Christian and a longtime member of Ortega Methodist Church. Elva was a loving wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, sister, and friend. Elva's faith, devotion to family, and loving spirit will be remembered by all who knew Elva.



Elva's love, faith, and devotion to family created a beautiful legacy that will live on through each person whose life Elva touched.

(cont. from page 1)

Cox said he didn't know if designating two acres or five acres gives the county any insurance against scrupulous development.



perk test if building is the intent for when people purchase. I would keep in mind that subdivision of land and selling of land does not necessarily mean the buyer intends to build, so putting a perk permit requirement on it, I don't think would benefit everybody," he said.

In an email to supervisors, Planning Commission member Janet Rorrer said changing minimum lot sizes would not necessarily address concerns about development practices.

“Changing the acreage from two to five will not change that,” Rorrer wrote, and cited several technical issues she had with the ordinance.

PATRICK PULPITS

From Paradise Removed

By Van Yandell
Genesis 3: 24 “So he drove out the man; and he placed at the east of the garden of Eden Cherubims and a flaming sword which turned every way, to keep the way of the tree of life.”

Genesis chapter three is known as “The Fall of Man” Biblical account of mankind’s fall from the grace of God. The blessings God gave to Adam and Eve were to experience a paradise and live without encumbrance forever.

Genesis 3: 3 “But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die.” Many interpret “lest ye die” as meaning that before Eve partook of the forbidden fruit of the tree of knowledge of good and evil, she and Adam were created eternal.

Thus, with the fall of man, Eve determined a future in which we would exist. Would they have reproduced had the serpent and the fruit not happened? That question is of course, up for grabs and opinions flourish.

Genesis provides us with a lot of information. But it leaves me with a few questions for which there are no definite answers. We often confuse opinions with facts.

How long had Adam lived before God made Eve from his rib? How long did they live in Eden before the serpent showed up? Why does Genesis 1: 27 indicate God created man by His spoken word (verse 3) and then Genesis 2: 7 says He made Adam from a material; the dust of the earth?

Handed down generational information teaches these things all happened in a few twenty-four hour days, but read word for word, that is likely not the case. Similar non-Biblical sustained information promote that Adam was the first and only man God created; but was he? The easy answer is sometimes wrong!

The word day in Hebrew is “yom” which can be a twenty-four day, a generation or an indefinite period of time. Some astronomers claim the universe is 13.7 billion years old which is also nonsense. Perhaps we should admit, we do not know!

Nonetheless, Adam and Eve were removed from the Garden of Eden. Genesis 3: 23 “Therefore the Lord God sent him forth from the garden of Eden, to till the ground (dust) from whence he was taken.”

To be removed from “my paradise” is not just disturbing; it is terrifying! But that fear could also be rationalized by understanding.

America, to many, is a paradise. To live here is to have opportunities many in our world do not have. We have freedoms few have. Many of those freedoms we take for granted but when (if) we realize millions in our world do not have those freedoms, an awakening is experienced.

The freedoms of speech, the press, religion and assembly are a few many assume are basic human rights had everywhere by everyone: not so!

This paradise allows us to work, earn, develop an expertise, save for our future and provide for our families. To capitalize is to use one’s ingenuity, inventiveness, creativity, intelligence and imagination to earn capital to spend and invest in our futures. The American dream must not die!

To capitalize however, can be a two-edged sword. If it leads to greed, selfishness and love of money, it can be dangerous and destroy humanity.

America is also a beautiful land with which we are blessed. The first verse of “America the Beautiful” says volumes. “O beautiful for spacious skies, For amber waves of grain, For purple mountain majesties Above the fruited plain! America! America! God shed His grace on thee, And crown thy good with brotherhood from sea to shining sea.”

Can this paradise be lost forever? Are the ideals of our founding fathers being circumvented and disintegrated by those not understanding how precious this paradise really is?

What is your vision of paradise? Is it witnessing a beautiful sunset or sunrise on a beach along one of America’s many miles of coastline? Is it a mountain trail or walk in the woods?

For some their paradise is sitting on the porch listening to the rain.

Jesus said to the believing thief on the cross (Luke 23: 43) “Verily I say unto thee, Today shalt thou be with me in paradise.”

Not all of the world’s religions teach an afterlife. The Bible teaches we are spiritual beings, becoming indwelt with God’s spirit the moment we believe that Jesus Christ was crucified for the remission of sin and resurrected. Many choose not to believe. What if they are wrong?

Emblazoned above the gate to hell in Dante Alighieri’s Inferno are the words, “Abandon all hope, ye who enter here”

From paradise, Adam and Eve were removed, but from the place Dante is referring, there is no removal and it certainly is no paradise..

From John Milton’s “Paradise Lost,” the first verse reads “Of Mans First Disobedience, and the Fruit, Of that Forbidden Tree, whose mortal taste Brought Death into the World, and all our woe, With loss of Eden, till one greater Man, Restore us, and regain the blissful Seat.”

The one and only one “Greater Man that restores and regains that blissful seat” was and is Christ Jesus. He is past, present and future tense (John 1: 1-3). He is alive, ascended into Heaven to be until He returns to take up His church (1 Thessalonians 4: 13-18).

The true believer-followers of Jesus will never be removed from paradise. No man can take you from Him (John 10: 29).

Van Yandell is a retired Industrial Arts teacher, an ordained gospel evangelist and missionary. His email is vmy3451@gmail.com.

BIBLE TRIVIA

BY WILSON CASEY

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

2. From Matthew 12, when an evil spirit returns to a person, how many companions does it bring? 2, 3, 7, 16

3. Who called the city of Nineveh the mistress of witchcraft? Ahab, Nahum, Lucifer, Peter

4. In which book’s 22:18 does it state, “Thou shalt not suffer a witch to live”? Exodus, Numbers, Isaiah, Hebrews

5. From 1 Samuel 16, which king of Israel was tormented by an evil spirit? Solomon, David, Elah, Saul

6. What number of the beast comes from Revelation 13? 7, 333, 490, 666

ANSWERS: 1) Neither, 2) Seven, 3) Nahum, 4) Exodus, 5) Saul, 6) 666

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

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

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

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

**Stuart Seventh-Day Adventist Church**
220 Patrick Avenue, PO Box 1078, Stuart, VA 24171
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Super Crossword GIVE P'S A CHANCE

ACROSS
1 "It's — cause!"
6 Square mile, say
14 Puccini's "— Butterfly"
20 Roping event
21 Broken ceramic bit
22 Trapped after a blizzard
23 Stumbled and really got hurt?
25 Starting a golf game, with "off"
26 As yet unborn
27 Don't fully believe
29 Rind
30 Winged seed of a maple or elm tree
31 Stress felt after eating jalapeños?
36 Arranged like a ladder
38 Organic compound
39 Gymnast?
47 Banquet
51 One giving paid money back
52 U.S. territory since 1898
53 Noonday nap
54 Sight-related
55 Flooring square
58 Person walking with a limp?
60 Actor Mineo
62 Lac liquid
64 Pro vote
65 OR hookups
66 Bribed a judge in order to win?
74 Body part with three bones
75 Wiggly fish
76 Tram cargo
77 Actor Linden
78 Battles between Thelionius Monk and Dizzy Gillespie?
83 Ex-U.N. leader Annan
86 Martini & — (vermouth)
90 DeGeneres and Burstin
91 Get really wet
93 Exchanges favors, in politics
95 More guileful
96 Mailed in the opposite direction of?
99 Hoops great Bryant
101 Last Greek letters
102 Bounding along merrily on a Swiss mountain?
108 Himalayan guide
114 Johnson who directed "Knives Out"
115 Electric fan's sound
116 Dissolves out via percolation
117 Riddle
119 Sluggish mammal wearing a pair of hats?
124 Golden ager
125 Fearful
126 San Diego ballplayer
127 Third-largest Danish city
128 Cold carnival treat
129 Tarnish
DOWN
1 "— a jealous mistress"
2 — Doone (cookie brand)
3 Strong dislike
4 Train system in Philly
5 Heavy drinker
6 Raised coif
7 Negating word
8 "What was — do?"
9 General —'s chicken
10 Sound made during a physical
11 Novelist Charles
12 Mistake
13 Do a tally of
14 Glove alter-native
15 High card
16 Heavy slumber
17 "Sayonara!"
18 76-Across digger
19 A right one is 90 degrees
24 Wiped clean
28 Male sibling, in dialect
31 Father: Prefix
32 Pixieish sort
33 Good bud
34 Prudish sort
35 Opera singer Anne — von Otter
37 Tech news website
39 To and —
40 Sales agt.
41 Small newt
42 Old cereal with an alien mascot
43 Open, as a drink bottle
44 British tavern
45 Gasol of the NBA
46 TV prizes
48 Meat jelly
49 Actor Carell of "Vice"
50 Sailors, colloquially
53 Spherical bacterium, informally
56 Zodiac feline
57 Body part with three bones
59 Establish
61 Gazes creepily
63 ET's craft
66 Cave dwarf
67 Insinuate
70 Rankle
71 Olds oldie
72 Basketball great Bird
73 Socially cold
74 \$5 bills, informally
79 Looking through a keyhole, say
80 2002 scandal company
81 King, in Nice
82 Devitalize
84 Writer Fannie
85 Ames' state
87 35mm camera type
88 — mo replay
89 Doctrine
92 Psy and BTS' music genre
94 Very excited, slangily
96 Meeting, informally
97 U.K. record label
98 Lion lair
100 Watch out for
102 Playground rejoinder
103 Like ruled paper
104 Pamphleteer Thomas
105 Saint — and Nevis
106 Writer Shaw
107 Teaser ad
109 Lock holders
110 Dazzling success
111 1970s sitcom
112 — dish (bio lab item)
113 Ghostly while
116 — majesty (high treason)
118 Year divs.
120 AAA service
121 Tolkien fiend
122 Multi- — (hybrid dog)
123 Play on words

Weekly SUDOKU

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

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!

CLASSIFIED

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LEGAL

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING AND OF INTENTION TO ADOPT AN ORDINANCE TOWN OF STUART, VIRGINIA

The Town Council of the Town of Stuart, Virginia, will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, November 18, 2026, at 6:00 p.m., at the Stuart Town Office, 100 Patrick Avenue, Stuart, Virginia, and declares its intention to consider for adoption at that meeting, following the hearing, a **WATER CONSERVATION AND DROUGHT RESPONSE ORDINANCE** (Va. Code §§ 15.2-107, 15.2-924 and 15.2-2119). The proposed ordinance would establish a staged water conservation and drought response program for the Town waterworks, with voluntary and then mandatory restrictions on the use of water supplied by the Town as the raw water supply at the Town's intake declines. For violations it would impose water conservation surcharges of \$50.00 and \$100.00 added to the customer's water bill, discontinuance of water service, and, for specified violations, a Class 4 misdemeanor. It would apply to every customer of the Town waterworks, within and without the corporate limits. The full text of the proposed ordinance, together with documentation of the surcharges it would impose, may be examined at the Stuart Town Office, 100 Patrick Avenue, Stuart, Virginia, during regular business hours, and at stuartva.org/drought-ordinance. All interested persons may appear and be heard. Persons requiring special accommodation should contact the Town Office at (276) 694-3811 at least three business days in advance. Misty Raines, Clerk/Treasurer
Town of Stuart, Virginia

Senate passes Warner health care cybersecurity bill

The U.S. Senate has passed bipartisan legislation co-sponsored by Sen. Mark Warner, D-Va., aimed at strengthening cybersecurity protections for health care providers and patients' medical information.

The Health Care Cybersecurity and Resilience Act passed by unanimous consent and now heads to the House of Representatives.

The legislation would authorize grants to health care organizations to improve their ability to prevent and respond to cyberattacks and provide cybersecurity training and best-practice guidance.

The measure includes provisions specifically intended to help rural health clinics and other providers prevent security breaches, improve their ability to respond to attacks and coordinate with federal agencies.

"Cyberattacks on our health care systems can have life-or-death con-

sequences for patients and put the sensitive information of millions of Americans at risk," Warner said. "I'm proud to have helped pass this critical legislation through the Senate, and I urge the House to act quickly."

The legislation also would increase coordination between the Department of Health and Human Services and the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency in responding to cyberattacks involving the health care sector.

It would require the HHS secretary to develop and implement a cybersecurity incident response plan and would update regulations affecting organizations covered by the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act, or HIPAA.

The bipartisan measure also was sponsored by Sens. Bill Cassidy, R-La.; Maggie Hassan, D-N.H.; and John Cornyn, R-Texas.

LEGAL

TRUSTEE'S SALE 3336 MOOREFIELD STORE RD STUART, VA 24171

In execution of the Deed of Trust in the original principal amount of \$87,500.00, dated September 28, 2016, and recorded as Instrument Number 160001574 in Patrick County land records, the appointed Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction **at the entrance to the Circuit Court of Patrick County, 101 Blue Ridge Street, Stuart, Virginia 24171-0148 on November 25, 2026 at 11:30 AM**, the property described in said deed of trust, located at the above address and more particularly described as follows:

ALL THAT CERTAIN TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND LYING AND BEING ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF STATE ROUTE #631, IN THE MAYO RIVER MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT OF PATRICK COUNTY, VIRGINIA, CONTAINING ONE (1) ACRE, MORE OR LESS, AND BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS, TO-WIT: BEGINNING AT A STAKE 20 FEET FROM THE CENTER OF STATE HIGHWAY NO. 631 AND RUNNING NORTH 54 DEG. 30 MIN. E. 229.3 FEET TO A STAKE, 20 FEET FROM CENTER OF HIGHWAY, THENCE SOUTH 41 DEG. EAST 190 FEET TO A STAKE; THENCE SOUTH 54 DEG. 30 MIN. WEST 229.3 FEET TO A STAKE; THENCE NORTH 41 DEG. WEST 190 FEET TO A STAKE 20 FEET FROM CENTER OF HIGHWAY AT THE POINT OF BEGINNING, CONTAINING ONE ACRE, MORE OR LESS; AND BEING THAT SAME TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND CONVEYED TO JOHN DAVID HOPKINS BY DEED FROM CONSTANCE MARIE H. HAWKINS, ET ALS, DATED SEPTEMBER 28TH, 2016, 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.

The property and improvements will be sold in "as is" physical condition without warranty of any kind. TERMS OF SALE: A non-refundable bidder's deposit of 10% of the sale price or 10% of the original principal amount of the subject Deed of Trust, whichever is lower, by cashier's or certified check required at time of sale except for the party secured by the Deed of Trust. Risk of loss on purchaser from date and time of auction. Balance of the purchase price must be paid by cashier's check within 15 days from sale date. Except for Virginia Grantor tax, all settlement costs and expenses are purchaser's responsibility. Taxes are pro-rated to the date of sale. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining possession of the property. If purchaser defaults, deposit may be forfeited and property resold at the risk and cost of the defaulting purchaser who shall be liable for any deficiency in the purchase price and all costs, expenses and attorney's fees of both sales. If Trustee does not convey title for any reason, purchaser's sole remedy is return of deposit without interest. This sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan secured by the

Deed of Trust including but not limited to determining whether prior to sale a bankruptcy was filed, a forbearance, repayment or other agreement was entered into or the loan was reinstated or paid off; in any such event this sale shall be null and void and purchaser's sole remedy shall be return of deposit without interest. This communication is from a debt collector and is an attempt to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.

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FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:

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PUBLIC NOTICE

PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT – QUESTION 1



To Be Voted On at the November 3, 2026, Election

BALLOT QUESTION

Should the Constitution of Virginia be amended to (i) protect the freedom to make personal decisions about prenatal care, childbirth, postpartum care, birth control, abortion, miscarriage management, and fertility care; (ii) protect doctors, nurses, and patients from being punished for these decisions; and (iii) allow for restrictions on access to abortion during the third trimester of pregnancy except when the patient's health is at risk or the pregnancy cannot survive?

EXPLANATION FOR VOTERS QUESTION 1

Present Law

Currently, the Virginia Constitution does not explicitly provide to its citizens a right to reproductive freedom nor does it explicitly protect or prohibit certain kinds of health care procedures or decisions.

Proposed Amendment

The proposed amendment would add to the Virginia Constitution's Bill of Rights the fundamental right to make and carry out decisions about a person's own reproductive care with only certain, specific exceptions. The proposed amendment specifically allows the state government to pass laws to regulate abortion care in the third trimester of pregnancy, but requires any such law to allow for abortion care when it is medically needed to protect the life and health of the pregnant person or because the fetus is not viable.

FULL TEXT OF AMENDMENT

[Proposed new language is underlined. Deleted old language is ~~stricken~~.]

ARTICLE I

BILL OF RIGHTS

Section 11-A. Fundamental right to reproductive freedom.

That every individual has the fundamental right to reproductive freedom, including the ability to make and carry out decisions relating to one's own prenatal care, childbirth, postpartum care, contraception, abortion care, miscarriage management, and fertility care.

An individual's right to reproductive freedom shall not be, directly or indirectly, denied, burdened, or infringed upon unless justified by a compelling state interest achieved by the least restrictive means.

Notwithstanding the above, the Commonwealth may regulate the provision of abortion care in the third trimester, provided that in no circumstance shall the Commonwealth prohibit an abortion (i) that in the professional judgment of a physician is medically indicated to protect the life or physical or mental health of the pregnant individual or (ii) when in the professional judgment of a physician the fetus is not viable.

The Commonwealth shall not discriminate in the protection or enforcement of this fundamental right.

The Commonwealth shall not penalize, prosecute, or otherwise take adverse action against an individual based on such individual's own exercise of this fundamental right or such individual's own actual, potential, perceived, or alleged pregnancy outcomes, including miscarriage, stillbirth, or abortion. The Commonwealth shall not penalize, prosecute, or otherwise take adverse action against any individual for aiding or assisting another individual in exercising such other individual's right to reproductive freedom with such other individual's voluntary consent.

For the purposes of this section, a state interest is compelling only if it is for the limited purpose of maintaining or improving the health of an individual seeking care, consistent with accepted clinical standards of care and evidence-based medicine and does not infringe on that individual's autonomous decision making.

This section shall be self-executing. Any provision of this section held invalid shall be severable from the remaining portions of the section.

PUBLIC NOTICE

PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT – QUESTION 2

To Be Voted On at the November 3, 2026, Election



BALLOT QUESTION

Should the Constitution of Virginia be amended to (i) remove the ban on same-sex marriage; (ii) affirm that two adults may marry regardless of sex, gender, or race; and (iii) require all legally valid marriages to be treated equally under the law?

EXPLANATION FOR VOTERS QUESTION 2

Present Law

Marriages, civil unions, and other legal relationships with the same rights, benefits, and effects of marriage between persons of the same sex or gender are prohibited under Virginia's Constitution. This prohibition is no longer enforceable as a result of the United States Supreme Court decision in *Obergefell v. Hodges* in 2015, but the prohibition on marriages between persons of the same sex or gender remains in the state's Constitution. If the Supreme Court were to overturn its previous decision, that prohibition would be enforceable again.

Proposed Amendment

The proposed amendment removes the prohibition on marriages between persons of the same sex or gender from the Virginia Constitution's Bill of Rights. It is replaced with the fundamental right to marry, requiring the state to recognize and treat equally under the law any lawful marriage between two adult persons, regardless of the sex, gender, or race of either person. The proposed amendment prohibits the state from denying a marriage license to two adult persons because of their sex, gender, or race.

FULL TEXT OF AMENDMENT

[Proposed new language is underlined. Deleted old language is ~~stricken~~.]

ARTICLE I

BILL OF RIGHTS

Section 15-A. Marriage.

~~That only a union between one man and one woman may be a marriage valid in or recognized by this Commonwealth and its political subdivisions~~ marriage is one of the vital personal rights essential to the orderly pursuit of happiness.

~~This Commonwealth and its political subdivisions shall not create or recognize a legal status for relationships of unmarried individuals that intends to approximate the design, qualities, significance, or effects of marriage deny the issuance of a marriage license to two adult persons seeking a lawful marriage on the basis of the sex, gender, or race of such persons. Nor shall this Commonwealth or its political subdivisions create or recognize another union, partnership, or other legal status to which is assigned the rights, benefits, obligations, qualities, or effects of marriage~~ This Commonwealth and its political subdivisions shall recognize any lawful marriage between two adult persons and treat such marriages equally under the law, regardless of the sex, gender, or race of such persons.



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PUBLIC NOTICE

PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT – QUESTION 3
To Be Voted On at the November 3, 2026, Election

BALLOT QUESTION

Should the Constitution of Virginia be amended (i) to provide for the fundamental right to vote in the Commonwealth, (ii) to revise the qualifications of voters so that a person convicted of a felony is not entitled to vote during his period of incarceration but is automatically invested with the right to vote upon release from incarceration, and (iii) to update the existing prohibition on voting by persons found to be mentally incompetent to instead apply to persons who have been found to lack the capacity to understand the act of voting?

EXPLANATION FOR VOTERS
QUESTION 3

Present Law

Virginia's Constitution currently provides that a person who is convicted of any felony loses the right to vote for the rest of their life unless the Governor of Virginia takes administrative action to restore that specific person's right to vote. This is the only means of getting back the right to vote after a felony conviction.

The current constitutional provision also imposes a broad restriction, while using outdated terminology, on voting by persons found to be incapacitated. A person who is determined by a court to be incapacitated, regardless of the kind of incapacity, loses the right to vote, and only a court can restore the person's right to vote later.

Proposed Amendment

The proposed amendment enshrines in the Constitution the fundamental right of all qualified persons in the Commonwealth to vote. Two exceptions to this right are for persons who are serving a sentence of incarceration for a felony conviction and persons who are determined by a court to not understand the act of voting. Such right cannot otherwise be restricted by laws.

Under the proposed amendment, a person who is convicted of a felony loses the right to vote during their period of incarceration. Once released from incarceration, the person gets back the right to vote without needing to apply for restoration by the Governor.

The proposed amendment also requires a specific finding by a court that a person does not understand the act of voting in order for that person's right to vote to be taken away.

With the right to vote, a person also has the right to be a juror, the right to be elected to an office, and the right to be a notary public.

FULL TEXT OF AMENDMENT

[Proposed new language is underlined. Deleted old language is ~~stricken~~.]

ARTICLE II.
FRANCHISE AND OFFICERS.

Section 1. Qualifications of voters.

(a) In elections by the people, the qualifications of voters shall be as follows: Each voter shall be a citizen of the United States, shall be eighteen years of age, shall fulfill the residence requirements set forth in ~~this section~~ subsection (b), and shall be registered to vote pursuant to this article. Every person who meets these qualifications shall have the fundamental right to vote in the Commonwealth, and such right shall not be abridged by law, except that:

(1) No person who has been convicted of a felony shall be qualified entitled to vote ~~unless his civil rights have been restored by the Governor or other appropriate authority, during any period of incarceration for such felony conviction, but every such person, upon release from incarceration for that felony conviction and without further action required of him, shall be invested with all political rights, including the right to vote; and~~

~~As prescribed by law, no~~ (2) No person who has been adjudicated to be ~~mentally incompetent by a court of competent jurisdiction to lack the capacity to understand the act of voting~~ shall be qualified entitled to vote during such period of incapacity until his ~~competency~~ capacity has been reestablished as prescribed by law.

(b) The residence requirements shall be that each voter shall be a resident of the Commonwealth and of the precinct where he votes. Residence, for all purposes of qualification to vote, requires both domicile and a place of abode. The General Assembly may provide for persons who are employed overseas, and their spouses and dependents residing with them, and who are qualified to vote except for relinquishing their place of abode in the Commonwealth while overseas, to vote in the Commonwealth subject to conditions and time limits defined by law. The General Assembly may provide for persons who are qualified to vote except for having moved their residence from one precinct to another within the Commonwealth to continue to vote in a former precinct subject to conditions and time limits defined by law. The General Assembly may also provide, in elections for President and Vice President of the United States, alternatives to registration for new residents of the Commonwealth.

(c) Any person who will be qualified with respect to age to vote at the next general election shall be permitted to register in advance and also to vote in any intervening primary or special election.



Daylight Saving Time

Ends

November 1

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