



THE ENTERPRISE

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Vol. 146 No. 33 Website: www.theenterprise.net STUART, VIRGINIA WEDNESDAY, JULY 13, 2022 USPS 523-500 \$1.00

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



Quilts of Valor, made by the Mountain Top Quilters Guild of Vesta, were displayed at the Vesta Community Center on July 4. (See page 15 for more photos.)

Quilts of Valor presented to veterans on Independence Day

By Taylor Boyd
The Mountain Top Quilters Guild of Vesta held its first ever Quilts of Valor presentation at the Vesta Community Center Fourth of July celebration.

The group made 20 quilts to be distributed to local veterans and service members who were touched by conflict and war.

Guild member Suze Bailey said she got the idea for the project last year after noticing a variety of veterans wearing clothing symbolizing where and when they served.

"It just made me realize how fortunate we were that there were guys willing to go and preserve this," she said, gesturing to the land and community around her.

Bailey, a daughter of a Vietnam War veteran, said she discovered the national Quilts of Valor Foundation and resonated with its goal of "thanking those who served and sacrificed in serving our nation."

"We have a pretty rich history of veterans here. There's a VFW (Veterans of Foreign War) Post down the way here, and it just

struck me as something really important to do," she said.

While the group officially started the project in October, the majority of work began in March as Bailey and another member caught the COVID-19 virus.

"We have six people working with us doing various parts of this. So, everyone participated and it's been a group effort," she said.

Bailey said she and another woman designed the layout of the quilt, cut the fabric, and created custom kits for the creation of each. Some members then stitched the quilt pieces together before others longarm sewed all the quilt's layers together.

"Marilyn Gearren made all the labels, except a couple, and Evelyn Boyd made the rest," she said, adding she hopes more guild members participate in the program in future years.

Bailey said the group also is looking for more veterans to give the created quilts.

"All the 20 here, we dug to find. I mean we called people. We knew

people who were vets, we found out who their buds were, and it was a network to get these" names, she said.

Those who have a

veteran in mind are encouraged to contact the group and fill out a form, including the recipient's enlist-

(See Valor p. 5)

Eight presumed cases of monkeypox in Virginia

By Taylor Boyd

Since May, the Virginia Department of Health (VDH) reported eight presumed cases of monkeypox in the state, with one case reported in the southwestern region.

The VDH website states that monkeypox is a potentially serious viral illness that belongs to the same virus group as smallpox. Originally found in laboratory monkeys in 1958, the virus has also been found in different kinds of rodents and primates in Africa.

"The monkeypox virus can spread to people when they are bitten by an animal infected with monkeypox or when they touch the blood, body fluids, or lesions on an infected animal or person," the website stated.

The virus also can be transmitted from one person to another "by large respiratory droplets from prolonged face-to-face contact." In rare occasions, monkeypox is spread from person to person through close contact or the

(See Monkeypox p. 5)

July 4th firework celebration attracts hundreds



By Taylor Boyd

The annual old-fashioned Fourth of July celebration at Dehart Park on Monday, July 4 was another safe and successful display, according to Christopher Corbett.

Corbett, who serves as the Patrick County fireworks coordinator and attorney for the Town of Stuart, said more than 1,000 firework shells were used during the 37-minute display,

as onlookers viewed the fireworks from the First Horizon Bank and the area near the bypass. Many others watched from DeHart Park and other high ground areas.

He estimated 25 people were needed to work behind the scenes and pull off the massive event for the community.

Work for the event began several days before the big show, with volunteers collecting equipment, organizing it and arranging for pop-up tents and coolers.

"Not counting that, when the crew gets on site, it takes about three to three-and-a-half hours to set it up, and it takes about an hour to take it down," Corbett said.

The contributions from team members who worked hard to present another successful event are appreciated, Corbett said, adding that the Patrick County Recreation Department is also good at providing clean-up help after the event is finished.

"Because shooting fireworks is inherently messy and leaves some debris, all of which is biodegradable, but Clyde's (Crissman, director) good at providing folks to help clean that up in the day or two following the display," Corbett said.

He also thanked the county, the town, and the Patrick County Tourism Department for financial contributions towards purchasing the fireworks.

Critz property selected for TV show renovation



The Joyce family's cabin in the Critz area was chosen to be renovated by the show Renovation Hunters on the Outdoor Network.



The Renovation Hunters in which work done on a property in Critz is unveiled, is set to premiere on the Outdoor Network in March 2023.

By Taylor Boyd

A cabin in the Mayo River District was chosen to be refurbished as part of the Renovation Hunters television show, a series that sets out to make family's ex-

periences in the outdoors better by renovating cabins, hunting camps, fishing camps, and vacation homes.

The show, hosted by Hal Shaffer, a professional Huntsman, and contractor Kevin Tarkovich is set to premiere in March 2023 on the Outdoor Network. Shaffer also hosted the hunting series Drop Zone TV.

Chad Joyce, who owns the home and property with his two brothers Todd and Darrell Joyce, said his middle brother Todd applied online, put together a video and submitted it to the network.

(See Critz p. 5)

Taco truck opens in county

By Taylor Boyd

A new food truck opened July 4 at the Stuart Baptist Church during the Independence Day and firework celebration.

The business, which is housed in the former Noonies Grill building, was created by Thomas Walker for his children - daughter Evangelina, 10; and son Bailey, 11.

Walker said he bought the

business for his children, who will serve as the long-term owners and operators.

"This is for them. They have sold different things over the past and they've gotten more entrepreneurial over the years," he said.

Previously, the Walker kids have sold lemonade, operated a cleaning service, pet watching business, and

(See Taco p. 5)



Tacos and Tuesday - TNT, a taco and ice cream food truck, held its opening at the Stuart Baptist Church on July 4.

Pets of the Week



These two good looking hounds are just youngsters. The female is a pretty brindle and the male is red and white ticked. They were found traveling together on Corn Doss Road. Because there is no leash law in the county, and if people would just let them be, they would go home. Hounds are travelers and tend to follow their nose. These dogs are well cared for and, if just left alone and not fed, would go home. If they are obviously starving or in distress that is a different matter. The shelter is overflowing with dogs and cats, some turned in because of the current economy.

If your dog is missing, call the shelter immediately. If you recognize these dogs, or any on the Facebook page, or are interested in adopting a pet (cats and kittens also are available), call the Patrick County Public Animal Shelter (PCPAS) at (276) 694-6259.

PAWS offers a free spay/neuter program for dogs. For information, call (276) 694-2378.

Clover Cat Rescue offers a spay/neuter program for cats. For information, call (276) 694-3598.

Meeting Round Up

Tuesday, July 19

The Patrick County Planning Commission will have a sub-committee work session at 4 p.m. at the Patrick & Henry Community College (P&HCC) Stuart site in the Community Room.

The commission's regular scheduled meeting will be held at 6 p.m. in the same location.

Wednesday, July 20

The Stuart Town Council will meet at 7 p.m. in the Town Office.

Neighbor to Neighbor

From Ron Lawson

The former Ruth Arrington, who was born and raised in Claudeville and attended the former Red Bank High School, was selected Valedictorian of her class in 1943.

Her son, Ron Lawson, explained that Ruth Arrington later married Cecil Lawson.

The two spent 37 years together before her death in June 1984.

"She dedicated her life to her family, supporting her husband in his work as an independent truck driver, and raising me and my brother, Mike," Ron Lawson wrote.

Below is the Valedictorian Speech she wrote and delivered in 1943. Many of the similarities are astounding.

Parents, Teachers, Classmates and Friends:
As I look into your faces tonight, I realize the majority of you have attended many graduation exercises before this one. Among you are probably some who have been Valedictorians. If you have, you understand the task of saying farewell to the members of my class is a difficult one. I am sure that I share the feelings of my classmates tonight: - - feelings of both joy and sadness. Joy that we have completed one of the milestones of life, and sadness because we are leaving Red Bank School where we have spent a large part of our lives.

As the parting act of my high school career, I cannot keep from reflecting backward to the day four years ago when we were beginners in this high school. Even though faculty and students welcomed us with open arms, the job ahead of us appeared long and difficult. We knew that the opportunity for us to learn and prepare ourselves to better fill our places as citizens of a democratic nation was awaiting us, as the opportunity is always awaiting for those who are willing to work. As freshmen, the four years ahead of us seemed a long time. It is true that the task at times has been hard. Some of those who started as freshmen with us have fallen by the wayside of the journey. However, as I look backward now the time does not seem to have been long. In spite of difficulties that we have overcome, the hours spent in classrooms, and the hours of study, our high school career has been a pleasant experience. The friends we have made here will remain our most cherished possessions forever. In fact, the very walls of this building seem like old friends, now that its doors are about to close upon us. A feeling of sadness fills me as I realize that this group on the stage tonight will probably never be together again.

(See Neighbor p. 12)



DeHart Park, pool celebrates summer

By Taylor Boyd

DeHart Park is gearing up to present a fun-filled time in the sun for the remainder of the summer.

Pool Manager Julianna Overby said the pool will hold a variety of lessons and classes to get people in the water.

Group lessons will be held through July 15 each morning from 9-10 a.m. and evenings from 6-7 p.m. "The group lessons range from ages four to 12. We also have a parent and tot class for ages six months to three-years-old" on those days from 6-6:45 p.m. and "a junior lifesaving class will be held from 6-7 p.m.," she said.

Overby said private swim lessons are also available. Each lesson is \$20 for 30 minutes and are scheduled on the individual's time.

"We have a water aerobics class that is \$4 a person and that's in the mornings Monday through Friday from 10:15-11 a.m.," she said.

The DeHart pool will be open every day until August 13, when it will close until next



(Contributed photo)

summer. Its hours are Monday-Friday from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturday from 12-7 p.m., and Sundays from 1-7 p.m.

Children three and under can enter for free, with the daily rate for children ages four-six and senior citizens 55 and over being \$5. Adults aged seven to 54 cost \$7 each to use the pool.

Season passes also are available. Individual passes are \$100 and \$75 for senior citizens. A pass for a family of four costs \$200, and \$50 each additional member.

For more information, visit Facebook.com/DeHart-Park-StuartPark&Recreation-Association.

Search begins for new director as NCI reflects on Jackson's accomplishments

The New College Institute (NCI) expressed a heartfelt goodbye to Interim Executive Director Karen R. Jackson during a board meeting on June 24, and has begun the search for its fifth executive director.

State Sen. William M. Stanley, Jr. and others praised Jackson for her multiple accomplishments, leadership, and vision for the past three years, during which time she created numerous programs and initiatives; forged new partnerships that will carry NCI into the next decade; and captained NCI through the unprecedented COVID global pandemic, revising standard operating procedures along the way.

"When I asked Secretary Jackson to join NCI as our Interim Director in 2019, I knew that we were getting an experienced hand in effectively navigating a state agency like ours. Karen exceeded every expectation I had for her leadership over the course of her tenure at NCI, and she has taken this Institute to the next level in providing unique education experiences and opportunities for our students, as well as being a

leader in certification training for emerging technology industries," said Stanley, R-Moneta. He also is chairman of the NCI Board.

"Karen Jackson has also been an amazing partner in working with our state government agencies and the General Assembly in solidifying NCI's permanent position as an integral part of Virginia's delivery system of higher education to its citizens. Her hard work and dedication have left a lasting and permanent impression on the future of the New College Institute, and her tireless efforts will never be forgotten. Southside Virginia is eternally grateful for her service," he added.

Before her time at NCI, Jackson served in the McAuliffe, Kaine and McDonnell administrations; had been the leader in the Virginia advancement of Internet Technology, Cyber, broadband access in rural and underserved areas; and was an integral part of Virginia's effort to land Amazon's HQ2. Jackson, a native of Poquoson, VA, is the President of Apogee Strategic Partners, LLC, a company



Karen Jackson

focused on providing technology consulting and advisory services to companies, universities, governmental entities, and non-profits, specializing in technology and business strategy, government relations, public policy, business development, and program management. Jackson was elected board chairman of Unmanned Systems Association of Virginia in 2020.

Under Jackson's leadership, NCI underwent a marketing rebrand of its logo and related collateral, as well as the creation and implementation of a more attractive, informative, and user-friendly website. She (See Search p. 13)

Medicaid expansion aims to help Virginia mothers, newborns

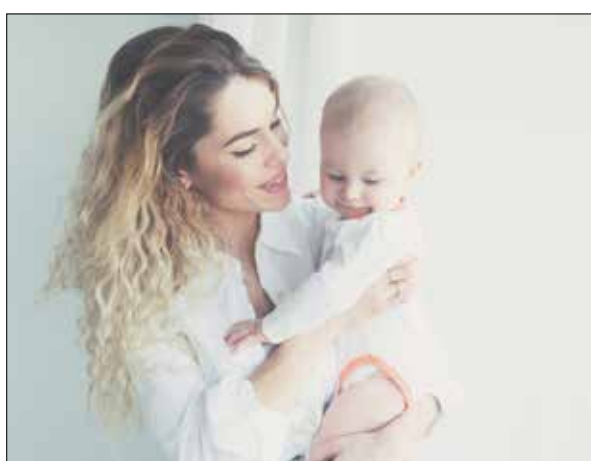
By Jonah Chester

New Virginia mothers now are eligible for up to a year of Medicaid support. It's a major expansion of the program, and advocates hope it will help reduce maternal mortality rates.

The new version of Virginia's Medicaid program has been in the works for years, and was first approved by state lawmakers in 2020.

Previously, most new mothers were only able to draw Medicaid benefits for two months after the birth of their child. But Sara Cariano, senior health policy analyst for the Virginia Poverty Law Center, said many postpartum issues take more than sixty days to appear.

"This really is going to enhance the care the mom can get, and make sure that - if she does need any kind of physical help, behavioral health, even dental health - she doesn't have interrupted care," said Cariano. "She can continue on with the same



provider she had through her pregnancy."

According to a 2020 report by Virginia's Department of Medical Assistance Services, more than 60% of maternal deaths among women with a chronic health issue happen after the 43 day mark. The maternal mortality rate for Black Virginia mothers is more than double the rate of their white counterparts.

Folks can register for Medicaid online at commonhelp.virginia.gov.

Cariano said folks who already are enrolled in Medicaid and become pregnant are automati-

cally enrolled in the 12 month pregnancy support program, and new mothers who lapsed out of the sixty day version of the program, but still fall within the one-year range, can reapply for benefits.

She said Enroll Virginia, a coalition of community organizations, can help folks navigate the process.

"If someone has applied and is having an issue with an application, we also do a lot of case help," said Cariano. "We do a lot of helping people navigate what can be a little bit of a complicated process for enrolling."

So long as they meet income restrictions, all legally residing non-citizens in Virginia also are eligible for the program. Cariano said all mothers, regardless of immigration status, are eligible for coverage during the pregnancy and for up to sixty days after the birth of their child.

AARP Virginia issues fraud alert for Social Media Scammers

One question that everyone wants to know when it comes to scams and fraud is where is the greatest risk? When people are bombarded by criminals on email, over the phone, text and online it's hard to know where to focus. And while it's important to take every scam attempt seriously, consumers should realize that they are particularly susceptible on social media.

According to the Federal Trade Commission 25% of successful scams last year originated on a social media platform. In 2017 consumers lost \$42 million to social me-

dia scams. Last year that total was \$770 million – an 18-fold increase. Here are three warning signs of social media scams.

Friend requests from people you don't know. Think of your parents when surfing the web and "don't talk to strangers."

Celebrities who want to connect with you. Scammers clone celebrity profiles and send personal messages offering investment opportunities or a chance to meet in person. This is a very successful criminal tactic so just remember, celebrities don't really want to be your online

friend.

Anyone offering investment opportunities. Cryptocurrency scams are exploding, and they typically start when an online "friend" offers up an investment opportunity. Anytime someone you met online says "investment" or "crypto" it's time to walk away.

Be a fraud fighter! If you can spot a scam, you can stop a scam.

Visit the AARP Fraud Watch Network at www.aarp.org/fraudwatch-network or call the AARP Fraud Watch Helpline at 1-877-908-3360.

Arrests reported

The Patrick County Sheriff's Office reported the following:

*Angela Marie Triplett, 45, of Fieldale, was charged July 1 with fail to comply with terms of bond conditions. Deputy J.C. Fortner made the arrest for Danville.

*Logan Matthew Waldron, 25, of Bassett, was charged July 2 with fail to appear on felony offense. Martinsville PD made the arrest for Patrick County.

*Buddy Dewayne Wade, 43, of Martinsville, was charged July 3 with one count each probation violation and assault. Deputy E. Vernon was the arresting officer and made the arrest for Martinsville.

*Ricardo David Mejia, 18, of Bassett, was charged July 3 with one count each drive while intoxicated and assault and batter. Deputy C. Gilbert and Inv. Tennille E. Jessup were the arresting officers.

*Joshua Coy Reed, 42, of Ridge-way, was charged July 3 with probation violation. Henry County made the arrest for Patrick County.

*John David Minter, 33, of Martinsville, was charged July 3 with threat. Deputy J.G. Pickerel was the arresting officer.

*Lewis William Lynch, 46, of Thaxton, was charged July 4 with violation of court order. Bedford PD made the arrest for Patrick County.

*Brandon Duane Belton, 34, of Sandy Ridge, NC, was charged July 6 with probation violation. Deputy C. Gilbert was the arresting officer.

New Victim Notification Tool debuted

The Virginia Department of Corrections' (VADOC) Victim Services Unit has debuted its new state-of-the-art notification program for crime victims.

The Notification and Assistance for Victim Inclusion (NAAVI) is a new, user-friendly, and victim-oriented system, designed to alert crime victims of any change in the status of one or more inmates. Users can register online to receive updates via email, text, phone, and/or mail as long as their perpetrator is incarcerated within the VADOC.

Once registered, crime victims can customize their online profile and specify how and when they are notified concerning VADOC inmate status changes

NAAVI provides notification in English and Spanish and includes inmates who have been sentenced to serve 12 months or more. NAAVI does not notify of status changes for probationers or parolees, or inmates housed in local or regional jails. If the inmate is currently incarcerated in a jail, victims can register for notifications through VINE.

"The new system represents a dramatic move forward for VA-

DOC's Victim Services Unit as we continue to improve the support and resources we offer to crime victims," said VADOC's Victim Services Director Amber Leake. "NAAVI will provide the victims of crime in Virginia the opportunity to access all of the essential post-sentencing services and information they may need."

More information can be found at the Victim Service page on the VADOC website. An introductory video is available on VADOC's YouTube channel in English and in Spanish.

Company voluntarily recalls 1.4 million electrical panels due to thermal burn, and fire hazards



Recalled Indoor Load Center Boxes

Schneider Electric™ has issued a recall involving indoor, outdoor and original equipment manufacturer (OEM) Square D QO Plug-On Neutral Load Centers that were installed in homes, recreational vehicles, or commercial establishments, including restaurants, manufacturing facilities and warehouses, commercial lighting and others. The circuit breaker boxes were sold in gray and come in various sizes (square and rectangular). The recalled circuit breaker boxes were manufactured between February 2020 and January 2022, with date codes between 200561 and 220233.

For installed outdoor load centers, the manufacturing date codes are printed on the inside of the cover or door of the unit or on the box itself when the cover or door is open.

For installed indoor load centers, a qualified electrician can locate the interior date codes that are not visible to the home owner.

Circuit breaker boxes with covers that were manufactured between December 2019 and March 2022 are also included in this recall. The affected catalog/part numbers can be found inside the electrical panel doors for both the U.S. and Canada.

Recalled Electrical Panel U.S. and Canada Catalog / Part Numbers

CQO116L100P-GRB	QO130M200PRB	QOC30UFWG
CQO116M-100PRB	QO140L200PGRB	QOC30UFW-GW
CQO116M60PRB	QO140M200PRB	QOC30US
CQO124L125P-GRB	QO142L225PGRB	QOC32UF
CQO124M-100PRB	QO142M200PRB	QOC32UFW
CQO140L200P-GRB	QO142M225PRB	QOC40UF
CQO140M-200PRB	QO1816M200P-FTRB	QOC40UFW
NQC20FWG	QO816L100PRB	QOC40US
NQC20FWGW	QOC12UF	QOC42UF
NQC30FWG	QOC12US	QOC42UFW
NQC30FWGW	QOC16UF	QOC42US
QO112L125PGRB	QOC16UFW	QOC54UF
QO112L200PGRB	QOC16US	QOC54UFW
QO112M100PRB	QOC20U100F	QOC60UF
QO116L125PGRB	QOC20U100FW	QOCMF30UC
QO116M100PRB	QOC20U100S	QOCM-F30UCW
QO120M100PRB	QOC20UFWG	QOCMF42UC
QO120M150PRB	QOC20UFWGW	QOCM-F42UCW
QO120M200PRB	QOC24UF	QOCMF54UC

(See Recall p. 5)

Administrative, other industries drive unemployment claims

The Virginia Employment Commission (VEC) announced that the number of continued claims decreased and remained at pre-pandemic levels during the most recent filing week.

For the filing week ending July 2, the figure for sea-

sonally unadjusted initial claims in Virginia was 827. The latest claims figure was a decrease of 727 claimants from the previous week. More than half of the initial claims that had a self-reported industry were in administrative and support and

waste management, health care and social assistance, retail trade, professional, scientific and technical services, and accommodation and food services.

Eligibility for benefits is determined on a weekly basis. (See Claims p. 6)

Reports of foreign access to U.S. data prompt bipartisan call for investigation of social media platform

Senate Select Committee on Intelligence Chairman Mark R. Warner and Vice Chairman Marco Rubio urged the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) to formally investigate TikTok and its parent company, ByteDance.

The call is in response to recent reports that the social media platform has permitted TikTok engineers and executives in the People's Republic of China (PRC) to repeatedly access private data of US users despite repeated claims to law-

makers and users that this data was protected. This includes instances where staff based in the United States had to consult with their China-based colleagues for information about U.S. user data as they did not have ac- (See Platform p. 6)

Quarantine area expanded to localities near Patrick to slow the spread

The Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (VDACS) announced that Virginia's Spotted Lanternfly Quarantine has expanded to include the counties of Albemarle, Augusta, Carroll, Page,

Prince William, Rockbridge, Rockingham, Shenandoah, and Wythe and the cities of Buena Vista, Charlottesville, Harrisonburg, Lexington, Lynchburg, Manassas, Manassas Park, Staunton, and Waynesboro. This quar-

antine expansion is based on survey data indicating that spotted lanternfly (Lycorma delicatula) has become prevalent in these cities and counties. Frederick, Clarke and Warren counties and (See Quarantine p. 6)

SNAP households to receive emergency allotments in July

Virginia's Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) will again release emergency allotments of benefits to eligible households this month. Benefits will be automatically loaded to recipients' Electronic Benefits Transfer cards on Saturday, July 16.

The emergency allotments raise existing SNAP households' monthly benefit amount to the maximum allowable based on household size as follows:

SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS TEMPORARY MAXIMUM

MONTHLY ALLOTMENTS OCTOBER 1, 2021 TO SEPTEMBER 30, 2022

Maximum SNAP Allotments for 48 States and D.C.

Household Size	48 States and DC
1	\$250
2	\$459
3	\$658
4	\$835
5	\$992

6	\$1,190
7	\$1,316
8	\$1,504
Each additional person	\$188

The enhanced SNAP benefit is made available through a public health emergency declaration that requires government agencies to request an extension of emergency allotment issuances on a month-to-month basis. Accordingly, the status of future emergency allotment benefits will be determined by this monthly approval process.

SNAP participants with questions related to their benefits are encouraged to contact their local department of social services or visit CommonHelp at commonhelp.virginia.gov to access account information. For additional information regarding SNAP, how to apply, and other assistance programs, visit dss.virginia.gov/benefit/.

For streamlined access to other critical and actionable resources from 2-1-1 Virginia, CommonHelp, and other state and federal agencies, visit COVID.Virginia.gov/app to download the COVID-19 Virginia Resources mobile app.

Biden Administration is Indifferent to the Pain of Average Americans

U.S. Rep. Morgan Griffith

Although I am a lifelong conservative, the Democrats I have known over the years were proud to consider their party the defender of working men and women. I may have thought their policies were not suited to the task, but I never thought I would see the day when Democrat officials actually bragged about blue-collar workers losing jobs.

That day has arrived. At the Aspen Ideas Festival on June 29, Gina McCarthy, President Biden's National Climate Advisor and former President Obama's head of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), touted "fossil fuels losing jobs."

I have warned that job losses would be the outcome of policies proposed by the administrations in which she has served. It is surprising, however, that she would openly talk about such things as a positive.

Our region has seen job losses thanks to those policies. For example, Obama-era EPA regulations forced the shutdown of a power plant in Glen Lyn in Giles County in 2015, which at the time employed 31 people and had employed more in the past. Closure of that plant negatively affected jobs and businesses in the surrounding community, too, and contributed to rising energy costs.

Within a month of the closure, the Supreme Court rejected the EPA's rules that had caused it, but the damage was already done.

The Supreme Court's recent decision in West Virginia v. EPA was a welcome rebuke to progressive attempts to regulate fossil fuel jobs out of existence. Unfortunately, once again much of the damage has already been done. The so-called Clean Power Plan at the heart of the case had been proposed in 2014 and finalized in 2015. Although it had been the subject of reversals by the Trump Administration and litigation before the Court finally ruled it unconstitutional, it still impacted the power sector.

The general response of Biden Administration officials to job losses and higher consumer prices thanks to its energy policies is a shrug and an attempt to distract.

John Kerry, whose job as "Special Presidential Envoy for Climate" seems to consist chiefly of flying by carbon-emitting private jets to other countries to tell them to reduce carbon emissions, infamously

suggested that laid-off oil and gas workers can just go to work making solar panels. Even the Washington Post's Fact Checker noted that Kerry exaggerated demand for jobs in solar and wind, median pay in these industries is lower than in fossil fuel sectors, and considerable job retraining would be needed.

President Biden and his Secretary of Transportation, Pete Buttigieg, continue to insist that the solution for high gas prices is for Americans to pay for electric vehicles. The average transaction price of an electric vehicle this January was \$62,876, according to a Wall Street Journal article citing Kelley Blue Book data, putting that option out of reach for most Americans.

If you choose to keep your gasoline-powered vehicle and not shell out almost the median average U.S. household income (\$64,994 in 2020 dollars, according to the U.S. Census Bureau) for an electric vehicle, the Biden Administration has little to offer you.

A recent slight fall in gas prices has been attributed largely to consumers adjusting their usage downward, not actions of President Biden, and in any event is expected to be temporary. Releases from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve have only succeeded in draining inventories in this stockpile meant for emergencies to their lowest level since 1986.

President Biden blames this mess on Vladimir Putin, a laughable claim when U.S. retail gas prices according to the Energy Information Administration had already risen from \$2.42 in January 2021, the month he was sworn in, to \$3.41 in January 2022, the month before Putin's invasion of Ukraine.

The indifferent attitude of President Biden and his staff to the pain of average Americans is reminiscent of Marie Antoinette allegedly commenting, "Let them eat cake." Then again, rising food prices may make even cake too expensive for average Americans, but the subject of food inflation is best left for another column.

If you have questions, concerns, or comments, call my Abingdon office at (276) 525-1405, my Christiansburg office at (540) 381-5671, my Washington office at (202) 225-3861, or via email at www.morgan-griffith.house.gov.

for care. This will provide people a comforting place to get treatment whether it be for mental health or an emergency. We will assist in making the community stronger by adding 200-300 more jobs. Bringing healthcare back to Patrick County will make it easier for people to live healthier lives in their neighborhoods, schools, and places of work and recreation.

Healthcare brings its own challenges, and with ever-evolving advances in modern medicine Foresight Health will always maintain its sights on the needs of the vulnerable and disenfranchised. We will work to be an integral part of that trend through education and behavioral change. This will help us to provide excellent care with dignity. To ensure that dignity and integrity are at the forefront of Foresight Health, we will have a local ethics board to maintain the highest standards.

We are looking forward to the opening of the hospital and have big plans in mind. By the end of the year, we plan to have emergency services available and will continue to grow from there. We are always looking for new ways to grow and care for the community. We welcome community feedback and want to provide health services to rural areas that have not had access to such a thing in some time. The creation of new jobs in the area will not only serve the health needs of the community but also add an economic boost to better serve Patrick County. Foresight Health is committed to providing the area with professionals who have the highest standards of practice. They will not only help with critical health issues but work with you to live a happier, healthier life.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Efforts to install signs at overlooks applauded

I'm writing this after reading the paper this past week and learning yet another bear had to be euthanized at Lovers Leap.

People are fascinated with all the wild life here in our mountains. It is so sad that people just don't realize that they are causing the death of the bears they feed. But I think most of the home town folks know better than to feed any wildlife and know the problems it will bring. I was so glad that the state will be posting signs

and I hope they will be posting them at all the overlooks along the Blue Ridge Parkway as soon as possible. It doesn't need to stall in our government red tape. I hope the signs will be informative as well as a warning, saying something like "Don't feed the bears to death."

The workers at Branch working on the Lovers Leap Project need to be educated and warned not to feed the wildlife. Wildlife always becomes a problem and can also

become dangerous and fearless of people. It is not so much the local population that need to be educated by these articles, but the summer visitors and the people just passing through. The signs are most important addition to help save the bears. Also it needs to be a law with a fine if caught feeding the bears. They may be cute now but not when they are dead.

Murphy Brown, Stuart

Volunteer crew is backbone of local celebration

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

livered. Those persons who made it happen include D.J. Lawson of Ararat Volunteer Fire Department; Ronald Terry, Doug Scott, and Michael Harrell of Meadows of Dan Volunteer Fire Department; Chris Hooker, Toby Hooker, Joey Erichetti, and Ricky Vernon of Patrick Springs Volunteer Fire Department; Scottie Cassell, Sr., and Joe Ingram of Patrick County Station 8; Buddy Dollarhite, Terri Mills, Alex Pegram, Scottie Cassell, Jr., Wesley Hudson, Jus-

tin Amos, Ivan Byers, Clint Weidhaas, Jonathan Wilson, Austin Bryant, Brad Lawless, Terry Tilley, and Ross Adams of Stuart Fire Department; and Jerry Woods, Randy West, Steve Allen, and Karen Corbett. Their safety-conscious hard work is much appreciated. Stuart Town Manager Bryce Simmons also rendered valuable assistance.

Chris Corbett, Patrick County Fireworks Coordinator

Find help in the Bible

(References: Bible)

We are in a fight to see our nation turn back to God, because we have kicked God out of our country. If we continue to ignore His commands in Scripture and pursue those things that God hates, we will reap the bitter consequences. I pray for God's mercy.

One of the greatest threats to our nation is the radical progressive agenda pushed by so many politicians who happen to be on the

Democratic side. Party affiliation aside, we need to be clear that this agenda and the people who promote it want to cast aside the traditional moral and ethical values that have been the backbone of our nation for centuries.

A society that refuses to acknowledge God is in deep trouble. A nation that calls "evil good, and good evil" (Isaiah 5:20) and openly and unashamedly rebels against His

ways is in even deeper trouble. This is why our only hope is truly in God, and in His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ.

WHEN YOU NEED:
Comfort - Psalm 23,
(See Letters p. 5)

THE ENTERPRISE

Established in 1876
P.O. Box 348 - Stuart, Va.
24171-0348
Phone (276) 694-3101
Fax (276) 694-5110
www.theenterprise.net
The oldest continuously operated business in Patrick County. Published each Wednesday except the last week in December by The Enterprise, Inc., and entered as second class matter at the post office in Stuart, Virginia 24171. Postmaster: send address changes to The Enterprise, P.O. Box 348, Stuart, VA 24171-0348.

Publisher Michael Showell
Editor Debbie Hall
Subscription Rates:
\$31 per year in Patrick County;
\$41 elsewhere.
Single copies \$1.00.

The columnists' views appearing on this page do not necessarily reflect the editorial position of *The Enterprise*.

Weekly SUDOKU Answer

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

by Linda Thistle

		9	7					5
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Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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Letters to the Editor/Viewpoints Policy

The Enterprise welcomes letters to the editor and/or reader viewpoints of 500 words or less. Submissions may be edited for clarity, length, legal ramifications or general taste at the editor's discretion. We reserve the right to refuse to publish submitted letters for the same reasons. All letters must be signed by an individual and include community. Verifiable sources for information cited must be forwarded to the editor. Letters that do not meet these guidelines will not be considered for publication.

Disclaimer: Viewpoints and opinions expressed in letters selected for publication are the opinions of the writers, and do not necessarily reflect the views of The Enterprise.

Critz

(cont. from page 1)

“They called us, it got down to the top 5, and then they wanted to do a visit to each property. I think they gave us about a 24-hour notice,” he said.

Since all of the brothers have moved out of town, their parents, Bobby and Jean Joyce, also of Critz, gave those affiliated with the show a tour of the property.

“My father, Bobby, met them over there, gave them a tour of the property, and showed them the house, and they fell in love with it,” he said.

Joyce said he and his brothers bought the 170-year-old property nearly two years ago to serve as a place for the family to get together. Since all the brothers live in different places, and his parents live near Critz, the cabin serves as a central point for them to all meet.

Joyce and his brothers previously worked on the property, installing a trail system and somewhat updating the cabin.

“But anything built in the 1800s, it took a little time and extra effort. We were spending more time working on the property than playing on it,” he said.

For the renovation, Joyce said eight to 10 contractors were brought in.

“A lot of it revolves around the hunting aspect of the property as well, so they’re kind of doing a full assessment of the land and looking at putting in a couple of deer stands, and we think they’re going to put water and electricity in to the cabin,” he said.

Joyce said the renovation team came from all over the country to work on the property. He noted the women working on the cabinets were flown in from California, the man handling the cabin’s furniture was brought in from Buffalo, New York, and the land management handler hails from Iowa.

Joyce said the team also sourced much of the project in Patrick County.

“They asked where they could buy lumber, and they got a local exterminator to do some work. I think they’ve had about 10 meals from the little grocery store and gas station in Critz,” he said.

He added that he believes the renovators also purchased fertilizer and grass seed from local sources.

“They’ve by far exceeded our expectations of what we were thinking was going to happen versus what’s really happening. They’ve really gone above and beyond on everything,” he said.

Joyce said the team also made sure the family did not try to sneak a peek of the work being done.

“We were out working on a fence and they wanted to make sure we did not go down towards the cabin,” he said, chuckling.

Joyce said he believes a lot of the show is going to be focused on the more country aspects of life, like cabins, the land, and family.

During the renovation, the team went over to Joyce’s parents’ home

for a meal of potatoes, garden vegetables, and cornbread. “These were the happiest guys in the world to have that, they loved it so much,” he said.

Joyce said it meant a lot to his family as the renovators got to sit around the table, they have Thanksgiving at and enjoy some traditional country food. “They got to sit around and have a two-hour meal and enjoy some country cooking,” he said.

The grand unveiling of the property was Thursday, June 30. Joyce said the team kept a lot of the renovations a secret and “were not totally informing us of what” they did.

Like a previous renovated property, the show did in Nebraska, pictures that show the extent of the renovations are being kept secret to encourage people to watch to show when it comes out next year.

For more information about Renovation Hunters, go to Facebook.com/RenovationHunters.

Valor

(cont. from page 1)

ed name, military branch, service dates, war service location, and current location.

If the group gets more names than it can make quilts for, Bailey said names will be put into a box and a drawing held before labeling the quilts.

“I would really love to get a bunch of names, more than we can make quilts for,” she said.

The guild is also seeking donations to buy the fabric and supplies needed to make the quilts. Bailey said she and a few other members funded this year’s round, at around \$100 per quilt.

“At 20 quilts, that’s a big number,

and that’s just materials,” she said.

Bailey said each quilt is made using the quilting standard of 100 percent cotton, and fabric bolts were purchased from Quilted Colors, a fabric store on Stuart’s Main Street, at a store price instead of wholesale price.

As per the Quilts of Valor website guidelines, all the quilts were at least 55-inch by 65-inch, and as big as 72- by 90-inch.

“All our quilts are in that range. They’re not all exactly the same because the patterns worked differently,” she said.

For more information, visit Facebook.com/MountainTopQuilters-Guild, www.mountaintopquilters-guild.com, or www.qovf.org.

Taco

(cont. from page 1)

worked other odd-end jobs.

“We’re adding this” to the list, he said. “I’m financing it, but they are the brains and the passion behind it.”

For the first several weeks, Walker said the food truck will sell only tacos and ice cream as the menu gets more developed.

“We have a couple of things that we’re trying to put on the menu that are more kind of classic Noonies type stuff” like hamburgers and hotdogs, he said.

A full selection of frozen ice cream will also be present in coolers.

“We’re trying to make sure everything gets made quick. Our hope is that we can almost do it like a drive-thru, where you can come and pick it up and keep going,” he said.

The Walker children decided to go with tacos because they enjoy Mexican food as a family and have a heritage that connects to it.

“We also like hamburgers, chicken and fries, and things like that, but we wanted to make sure we had a go-to thing first,” he said.

While the original idea was to just

be open on Tuesdays to go with the custom of Taco Tuesday, Walker said expanded hours are being considered due to the overwhelmingly positive response from the community.

“There is no place you can get coffee on Sunday mornings right now,” he said, adding a lot of food-based businesses in the county are also closed on Sundays.

Once everything is up and running the business will be mobile. Walker said he and his children have several locations in mind to move the business to, including the old Jamie’s Recycling building near the Wal-Mart in Stuart. Until then, the food truck will stay in the church’s parking lot.

Walker said the business is also thinking about partnering with local groups to do fundraisers on Sundays for local churches for their youth programs.

“The rest of the time it will just be my kids running the business,” he said.

Tacos & Tuesday – TNT will be open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

For more information, visit Facebook.com/TacosandTuesday-TNT.

Letters

(cont. from page 4)

- 2 Corinthians 1:3-4, Psalm 55:22
- Courage – 1 Chronicles 28:20, Hebrews 13:6, Psalm 27:1
- Faith – Joshua 24:15, Romans 10:8-13, Hebrews 11:1-6
- Forgiveness – 1 John 1:8-9, Matthew 6:14-15, Luke 6:37
- Grace – 1 Peter 5:5-6, 2 Corinthians 8:9, Ephesians 2:8-9
- Hope – 1 Peter 1:3-5, Hebrews 6:9-12, Lamentations 3:24-25
- Love – 1 John 4:7-21, 1 Thessalonians 3:12, Romans 8:38-39
- Patience – Colossians 1:10-12, Ecclesiastes 3:1-8, Romans 15:4-5
- Peace – John 16:33, Philippians 4:6-7, Numbers 6:24-26
- Strength – Philippians 4:13, 2 Samuel 22:32-33, Isaiah 40:29-31

WHEN YOU ARE FACING:
 Anger – Ephesians 4:31-32, James 1:19-20, Proverbs 15:1
 Anxiety – 1 Peter 5:7, Matthew 11:28-30, Proverbs 12:25
 Crisis – Jeremiah 29:11-13, Lamentations 3: 55-58, Proverbs 3:5-6
 Depression – Nehemiah 8:10. Hosea 6:1, Psalm 5:11
 Discouragement – Romans 12:11-12, John 14:27, Deuteronomy 31:8
 Fear – Isaiah 41:13, Joshua 1:9, Psalm 46:1-3
 Grief – 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18,

- John 11:25-27, Matthew 5:4
- Illness – Acts 3:16, James 5:16, Jeremiah 17:14
- Loneliness – 2 Corinthians 6:18, Deuteronomy 31:6, Isaiah 43:2
- Temptation – Ephesians 5:8-11, Hebrews 4:14-16, James 1:12-15
- If you are not a Christian, the only thing that really matters in this world is to believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and accept him as your Savior.

To be saved, you must (1) admit that you are a sinner, (2) believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God who died on the cross for your sins and was raised from the dead and (3) confess your sins and ask His forgiveness and then (4) turn away from your sins.

Then what is next? Join a Bible believing church. Read your Bible every day. Pray every day, ask the holy spirit to guide you. Develop relationships with people who can help you spiritually. Be baptized. Baptism is not what saves you. It is a step of obedience where you publicly declare your faith in Christ and your commitment to him.

Normal is not coming back. But Jesus Christ is!! Pray for our country
William Salser, Stuart

Pet Owner - You need to know

There is a sweeter substitute in human foods and candies that will kill your dog before you even know there is a problem, and you can even get to the vet. XYLITOL is in sugar free products like candies and dental products. It can also be found on the label many other foods. It also is listed as birch sugar on some labels. They claim it is safe for humans but deadly for dogs. We all love our dogs and find it very hard to ignore their begging. But unless you are prepared to read every label on products you use every day, please STOP treating your dog/dogs to human foods.

The list below includes some of the most common things that may contain XYLITOL, but it is in too many foods to list them all:

- breath mints
- cough syrup
- chew able vitamins
- mouth wash
- toothpaste
- peanut and nut butter
- dietary supplements
- sugar free desserts
- diet ice cream

There are many foods with XYLITOL and more every day.

Don’t forget chocolate and grapes are also killers.

The best prevention is NO human foods for dogs.

Be sure that your children know how serious this is.

Don’t leave anything your dog can find.

Some of the symptoms that your dog may have include vomiting, lethargy, confusion, weakness, seizures, staggering and unconsciousness.

XYLITOL causes the dogs blood sugar to plummet, which is called hypoglycemia.

Acute liver failure, Toxicoses, can occur in 15 to 30 minutes from 0.45gram = one stick of gum. So, the best thing to do is be very careful what your dog may find laying around or in your purse. When they beg, give them a dog treat - not your leftovers.

(Source of information for this article is from “Paws Off Xylitol. It’s dangerous for dogs/FDA.”)

Murphy Brown/PAWS, Stuart

Monekeypox

(cont. from page 1)

touching of body fluids of an infected individual.

The VDH noted that “objects, such as bedding or clothing, contaminated with the virus can also spread the monkeypox virus.”

In a recent release, it was reported that most, but not all, of the confirmed cases were those who identify as gay, bisexual, or men who engage in sexual intercourse with other men.

Monkeypox is characterized by a specific type of raised, blister-like rash that develops on the tongue and in the mouth and on the body. “The blisters go through several stages before they get crusty, scab over, and fall off. People with monkeypox are contagious until all lesions have scabbed over and have fallen off the person’s skin,” the website stated.

Other symptoms listed by the VDH can include fever, headache, backache, swollen lymph nodes, sore throat, and a cough. “Symptoms usually appear six to 14 days after exposure and, for the most part, clear up within two to four weeks,” a release stated.

There is currently no approved treatment for monkeypox in the

United States, but supportive care and relief of symptoms may be beneficial. Treatments can be accessed through the federal government with VDH coordination for those who have severe illness or are at a high risk of developing severe illness.

“Two vaccines are also available through the federal government as postexposure prophylaxis for people who had close contact with a person who had monkeypox and are at highest risk of exposure,” the release stated.

Monkeypox vaccination access and testing are being expanded by the federal government for patients and those who are at risk of being infected.

Those with concerns about monkeypox are encouraged to contact their local healthcare provider or local health department.

As of June 28, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has reported 4,769 cases of monkeypox in 49 countries, with 306 in the United States. Few hospitalizations and one death have been reported globally in this outbreak.

For more information, go to www.vdh.virginia.gov, www.cdc.gov, or www.who.int.

2022 Monkeypox Outbreak Global Map



According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) the majority of monkeypox cases have been reported in Western European countries like Spain, Germany, the United Kingdom, and France.

Claims

(cont. from page 3)

sis, and so not all weekly claims filed result in a benefit payment. This is because the initial claims numbers represent claim applications; claims are then reviewed for eligibility and legitimacy.

For the most recent filing week, continued weeks claimed totaled 9,834, which was a decrease of 182 claims from the previous week but was 74% lower than the 37,790 continued claims from the comparable week last year.

In the week ending July 2, the advance U.S. figure for seasonally adjusted initial claims was 235,000, an increase of 4,000 from the previous week's unrevised level of 231,000. There were 382,622 initial claims in the comparable week in

2021. The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 219,507 in the week ending July 2, an increase of 11,919 (or 5.7 percent) from the previous week. There were 382,622 initial claims in the comparable week in 2021.

Looking at preliminary data, the majority of U.S. states reported decreases on a seasonally unadjusted basis. Illinois's preliminary weekly change (-1,533) was the largest decrease. Kentucky's weekly change (-1,199) was the second largest decrease. Ohio's preliminary weekly change (-1,142) was the third largest decrease. Missouri's weekly change (-1,069) was the fourth largest decrease. Virginia's preliminary weekly change (+2) was the 22nd largest increase.

Platform

(cont. from page 3)

cess to the data on their own. These revelations undermine longstanding claims by TikTok's management that the company's operations were firewalled from demands of the Chinese Communist Party.

"We write in response to public reports that individuals in the People's Republic of China (PRC) have been accessing data on U.S. users, in contravention of several public representations, including sworn testimony in October 2021," the senators wrote in a letter to FTC Chair Lina Khan. "In light of this new report, we ask that your agency immediately initiate a Section 5 investigation on the basis of apparent deception by TikTok, and coordinate this work with any national security or counter-intelligence investigation that may be initiated by the U.S. Department of Justice."

The report also highlights TikTok's misrepresentation of the company's relationship to ByteDance and its subsidiaries, including Beijing-based ByteDance Technology,

which is partially owned by the Chinese Communist Party (CCP).

The senators noted, "TikTok's Trust and Safety department was aware of these improper access practices and governance irregularities, which - according to internal recordings of TikTok deliberations - offered PRC-based employees unfettered access to user information, including birthdates, phone numbers, and device identification information. Recent updates to TikTok's privacy policy, which indicate that TikTok may be collecting biometric data such as faceprints and voiceprints (i.e. individually-identifiable image and audio data, respectively), heighten the concern that data of U.S. users may be vulnerable to extrajudicial access by security services controlled by the CCP."

Warner, D-Alexandria, and Rubio, R-Fla., have been vocal about the cyber and national security threats posed by the CCP. In 2019, the senators introduced legislation to combat tech-specific threats to national security posed by foreign actors like China.

Mrs. Beatrice Penn, age 79 of Spencer, went home to be with her Lord and Savior on Wednesday, July 6, 2022, at her home surrounded by her loving family. She was born in Patrick County on May 16, 1943, to the late Sam Will Penn and Ida B. Penn. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Deacon Dewey Penn, Sr.; one daughter, Melissa Anne Penn; two sons, John Clifton Penn, Tracy "Beefy" Penn; a granddaughter, Shayne Marie Penn; a great grandson, Jaxson Lee Williams; and two brothers, Clarence and Sammie Penn. Beatrice was a longtime member of Trinity Church of the Living God where she was Mother of the Church, taught Sunday school, served as Treasurer, and was the Secretary of the Women's Society of Christian Service for over 50 years. She was an excellent seamstress and wonderful cook and

Beatrice Penn



decorator. Surviving are a daughter and son-in-law, Nancy and Willie Greene, Jr. (Topper); four sons and daughters-in-law, Dewey and Sandra Penn, Jr., Matthew and Carole Ann Penn, Ronald and Sandy Penn all of Spencer, Tony and

Vanessa Penn of Martinsville; nine grandchildren; five great grandchildren; four sisters, Mary Lou Hairston, Marie Slaughter, Demris Lillian Manns all of Bassett, Melva Hairston of Spencer; and numerous nieces and nephews.

A Celebration of Life will be held Sunday, July 10, 2022, at 2:00 PM at Trinity Church of the Living God with Elder Frank Tatum officiating. Burial will follow in the church cemetery. A wake will be held thirty minutes prior to the service at the church. Online condolences may be sent to www.moodyfuneralservices.com.

Recall

(cont. from page 3)

Schneider Electric is directly contacting all known retailers, distributors, homeowners, and any other individuals that purchased or installed the recalled product. All purchasers and installers should immediately contact Schneider Electric to arrange to have the recalled load centers inspected by trained electricians to determine if replacement or repair is required. This inspection and any resulting replacement or repair are free of charge.

QO124L125PGRB	QOC24UFW	QOCM-F54UCW
QO124M100PRB	QOC24US	QOCMF60UC
QO124M125PRB	QOC30U125C	QOCM-F60UCW
QO130L200PGRB	QOC30UF	
QO130M150PRB	QOC30UFW	

Consumers can find the catalog number and date code on indoor load centers inside the door of the panel. Consumers should immediately contact Schneider Electric to arrange to have the recalled load center inspected by a trained electrician to determine if repair is required. This inspection and any resulting repair are free of charge. Consumers who continue to use the load centers while awaiting the free repair should have working smoke alarms in their homes.

For uninstalled products, consumers should contact Schneider Electric for a free repair or replacement.

Incidents/Injuries: The firm has received one report of an incident of a loose wire. No injuries have been reported.

Sold At: Authorized Schneider Electric distributors and home improvement and hardware stores nationwide and online including Home Depot, Lowe's, and Menard's from February 2020 through January 2022 for between \$90 and \$1,660.

Manufacturer(s): Schneider Electric USA Inc., of Lexington, Kentucky

Manufactured In: United States
Recall number: 22-159

This recall was conducted, voluntarily by the company, under CPSC's Fast Track Recall process. Fast Track recalls are initiated by firms, who commit to work with CPSC to quickly announce the recall and remedy to protect consumers.

Quarantine

(cont. from page 3)

the city of Winchester, which were previously included in Virginia's Spotted Lanternfly Quarantine and will remain so until further notice.

The Virginia Spotted Lanternfly Quarantine was established in 2019 to slow the spread of this invasive insect pest to un-infested areas of the Commonwealth. The quarantine also helps businesses avoid additional restrictions that could be placed on the movement of products from spotted lanternfly infested areas to states and regions where the insect has not been detected.

To slow the spread of the spotted lanternfly, businesses in the quarantined area are required to obtain a permit from VDACS and inspect regulated articles to ensure that the articles do not contain any life stage of the insect. Regulated articles are those which are considered to be a risk for movement of spotted lanternfly to un-infested areas and include, but are not limited to:

- Any life stage of the spotted lanternfly;
- Live or dead trees; nursery stock; green lumber; firewood; logs; perennial plants; garden plants or produce; stumps; branches; mulch; or composted or un-composted chips, bark, or yard waste;
- Outdoor industrial or construction materials or

equipment; concrete barriers or structures; stone, quarry material, ornamental stone, or concrete; or construction, landscaping, or remodeling waste;

- Shipping containers, such as wood crates or boxes;
- Outdoor household articles, including recreational vehicles; lawn tractors or mowers; grills; grill or furniture covers; tarps; mobile homes; tile; stone; deck boards; or
- Any equipment, trucks, or vehicles not stored indoors; any means of conveyance utilized for movement of an article; any vehicle; or any trailer, wagon.

Businesses located within the identified quarantine area must follow the requirements of the spotted lanternfly quarantine. One requirement is for businesses to obtain a permit in order to move regulated articles out of the quarantined area. This permit will also allow for the shipment of regulated articles into or through states that have restrictions on the movement of regulated articles from Virginia's spotted lanternfly quarantine. The permit application is available for download at www.vdacs.virginia.gov/plant-industry-services-spotted-lanternfly.shtml. Online training is required prior to submitting the permit application. There is a fee of \$6 per person for the training, but no fee for the permit. Once

training is completed, businesses must submit the completed permit application to VDACS at SpottedLanternfly@vdacs.virginia.gov.

The quarantine also requires residents and visitors in the area to inspect regulated articles for spotted lanternfly and ensure those articles are free from the invasive insect prior to leaving the quarantined area. Residents and visitors are not required to obtain the spotted lanternfly permit, but are strongly encouraged to learn how to identify spotted lanternfly and kill the pest insect when found.

Spotted lanternfly was first found in the U.S. in Pennsylvania in 2014, with Virginia's first discovery occurring in Frederick County in January 2018. The spotted lanternfly is a native insect of Asia and prefers feeding on Tree of Heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*), but will also feed on grapes, peaches, apples, maples, walnuts, hops, cucumbers, and basil. Additionally, spotted lanternfly has the potential to be a serious nuisance pest to homeowners when it is present in high numbers.

For more information on the spotted lanternfly quarantine and the spotted lanternfly permit, please email SpottedLanternfly@vdacs.virginia.gov, call (804) 786-3515, or visit www.vdacs.virginia.gov/plant-industry-services-spotted-lanternfly.shtml.

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PATRICK PULPITS

Resolve to write it down

By Van Yandell

Jeremiah 30: 2 "This is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says: 'Write in a book all the words I have spoken to you.'"

Over the years I've found myself hurrying throughout most days and finally realized I was missing some very important parts of my life by trying to accomplish too many things. I once heard said, "A journey is not only about the destination, but also about the trip."

For many years, I've believed life is about the experiences we have. During those years, the accumulation of experiences has been first and foremost in my thoughts and actions. I still find new experiences to be satisfying and worth pursuing (Job 12: 12).

Experiences can never be taken from us. Tangible possessions can be confiscated by the government, stolen by a thief or burned or blown away by a storm. Experiences are forever.

At this point in life, I find my motorcycle rides, kayak trips and hikes to be a sustaining factor in my survival. One never gets too old to have needs and at this age, many of those needs are psychological. My mind thinks I have to accomplish something every day and satisfaction is not attained unless that happens.

Even an activity such as being in the woods with a chain saw can be a gratifying experience. I've found my quiet time with God is sometimes with the roar of a chain saw and wood chips flying around me.

My experiences, of course, include my baptism. I became a Christian on an Easter Sunday. I was eight years old. My memory of the church pastor explaining the plan of salvation to me is like it happened this morning. I was baptized the next Sunday and that also lingers in my memory (Matthew 28: 18-20).

Over the last few years, my attention has turned to writing articles. Many of those have been to record experiences over the years. My prayer is someone's life will be influenced in a positive way. There is also a certain amount of satisfaction in knowing there is a record.

I've often wished my dad and mother had written of their experiences and accumulated family knowledge. The family history would be amazing to this generation. Many times, I've wished I could call up my parents and ask questions, but, fully realize when they died, that information was lost forever.

Normally, we think of record keeping being in the form of numbers (money, dates, etc.). To keep records of one's experiences is just as or more important. My parents lived from 1907 and 1911 until 1984 and 2005. They lived through World War I and II, the Korean Conflict, Vietnam, the great depression and seeing a man walk on the moon.

Their personal trials and tribulations were monstrous compared to mine. They taught me (because of living through the great depression 1929-1940) to live frugally; save; not to buy anything unless I had

the cash; not to waste what little I had, and to take care of what I had. I actually have a fur lined leather coat I bought when I was a junior in college in 1968. It's in great shape and was made in the U.S.A. There's not much use for the coat in Florida but I have kept it (Proverbs 7: 1-2).

I really wish my parents had written a book, a few articles, or just jotted down a few notes on an old envelope or match book cover. I would treasure those to my grave. My wife studies genealogy (her family and mine). Her interest in the subject has influenced me enough to know my ancestors were quite colorful characters and that answers a lot of questions.

Here I am now approaching that elderly point in life wishing I had that family history that was never written. We can only lament concerning that which was not written, but we can change that for our children and grandchildren.

I'm fully aware most people don't like suggestions, but here I go anyway. Think back on your life. You have a personal history. The experiences you have had will be forgotten if you do not write them down. Your pain, your love, your thrills, your anguish, and hundreds of other experiences will never be remembered by anyone if you don't write them down.

Some may prefer to use a recorder and to save their experiences and family history. I personally prefer a hard drive or notebook. Audio and videos can be altered but a written text is not as likely. Don't let your history be rewritten.

One can buy a notebook at most any local store and start writing. I prefer a word processor but a hand-written document would have very special meaning. Start out by brain-storming and outlining the topics and then go back and elaborate in the form of articles (compositions).

The stories don't have to be grammatically perfect or formatted for national publication. We can do this. It's not that hard and someone in your family, long after you're gone from this earth will thank you for it.

I am glad Matthew and John wrote of their experiences with Jesus. Where would we be without the Gospels? I know my life would have been different without them. The Apostles Peter, Paul and John have changed many lives over the centuries (Revelation 1: 1). Maybe you and I can change one by what we record.

Most of us will not be remembered by anyone other than close family. Our great grand-children may not even know what we looked like, but that's not important. Our memories and experiences might possibly be a treasure to them. We have seen more changes in our lifetimes than the previous thousand years. We have been a part of those changes and they have been a part of us.

Is this all worthwhile? I believe it is. Don't be that person saying, "Maybe I'll do this next week or next year." Find a journal and start writing! If you wait, it will never happen. Today may be that "someday" you've been talking about.

Of course be sure to include the fundamental of the gospel: Christ Jesus was crucified for the remission of sin and resurrected. By believing this, we can have eternal life as promised by God (Romans 6: 23).

Who knows? Your work may be a masterpiece to a descendant that's not born yet and you may change eternity for a future great-grandchild. How great would it be to be in Heaven ten-thousand years from now and someone say to you, "Thanks, grandfather or grandmother. I'm here because I read your memories and you told me about Jesus!"

BIBLE TRIVIA

BY WILSON CASEY

1. Is the book of Amos in the Old Testament, New Testament or neither?
2. What does the shortest verse in the Bible (KJV) say Jesus did? Walked, Prayed, Preached, Wept
3. Which false prophet wore a yoke which Jeremiah broke? Bar-Jesus, Jezebel, Hananiah, Zedekiah
4. What was Bar-timaeus healed of in Mark 10? Demons, Leprosy, Blindness, Deafness

5. From Psalms 135, who was king of Bashan? Ur, Og, Tu, Za
6. Who was exiled to the land of Nod? Cain, Abel, Abraham, Aaron

ANSWERS: 1) Old; 2) Wept (John 11:35); 3) Hananiah; 4) Blindness; 5) Og (135:11); 6) Cain

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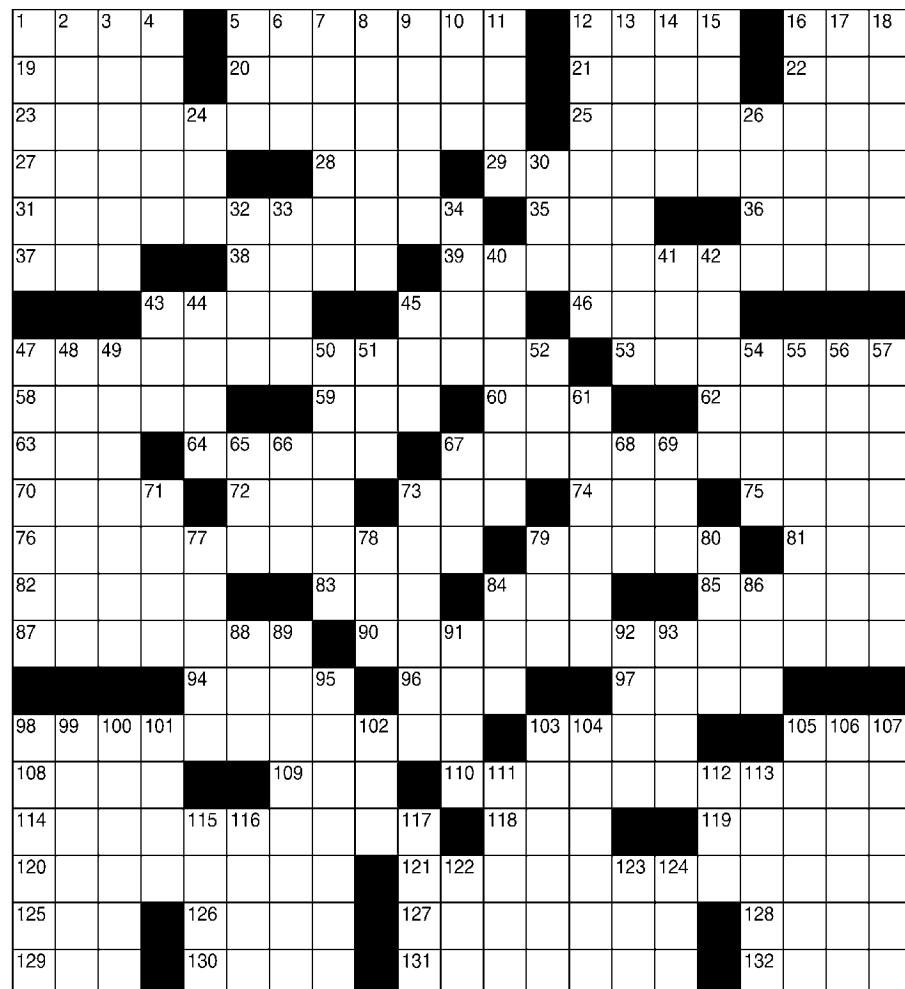
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Super Crossword

THREE-TO-FIVE FIRST NAMES

- | | | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|
| ACROSS | DOWN | DOWN | DOWN |
| 1 Jason's ship | 2 Something super-fun | 41 Glass edge | 89 Pickle or cure |
| 5 Categorized | 2 Software instruction file, often | 42 Piaf of song | 91 Acorn sources |
| 12 Schoolboys | 3 Like houses with pitched roofs | 43 Phone game, maybe | 92 Be inclined |
| 16 Actor Ayres | 4 Hoops' Shaq | 44 Another time | 93 Finished |
| 19 Coffee bit | 5 Roman 950 | 45 Phone game, maybe | 95 Levied, as a tax |
| 20 Sea cow | 6 Chou En- — | 47 Gab, informally | 98 Droopy-eared hound |
| 21 "Orinoco Flow" singer | 7 Yearly records | 48 African land | 99 Diminutive |
| 22 Yes, to Yvette | 8 Hit resulting in an out and an RBI | 49 Infatuates | 100 Channel swimmer |
| 23 Pigeonhole the 16th president? | 9 Absolut rival, for short | 50 Capital of Canada | Gertrude |
| 25 Toy-package span | 10 Sushi roll fish | 51 Moms | 101 Morales of film and TV |
| 27 1950s politico Stevenson | 11 Forest lairs | 52 Sgt., say | 102 McKellen of movies |
| 28 — CIO | 12 Do not disturb | 53 Flawlessly | 103 "On Language" columnist |
| 29 Cut all ties with the star of "Our Miss Brooks"? | 13 Resident of "la-la land" | 54 African land | William |
| 31 Sniff the singer of "Coca Cola Cowboy"? | 14 Batik worker | 55 Ballot caster | 104 Even though |
| 35 Barber's stuff | 15 Gilbert of "The Conners" | 56 Bedtime hour | 105 A lot like |
| 36 Color shade | 16 Soho setting | 61 Delights in | 106 Wood overlay |
| 37 Senator Cruz | 17 Actor Levy | 65 Relief sound | 107 Composed and ready for printing |
| 38 — bitsy | 18 Hot dog | 66 "Alice" waitress | 111 "The Alienist" novelist |
| 39 Investigate the director of "Stand by Me"? | 24 Mae West's "Diamond —" | 67 Cape — | 112 "As — care!" |
| 43 Barber's stuff | 26 Intro painting course, say | 68 Era upon era | 113 Crooner Cline |
| 45 Positive vote | 30 Self-love | 69 Capital of Canada? | 115 Women's Open org. |
| 46 Writer Blyton | 32 Be inclined | 71 Law school beginner | 116 Hurdle |
| 47 Bathe the star of "Caroline in the City"? | 33 Tingly feeling | 73 Like amatory literature | 117 "Yeah, right" |
| | 34 1974 CIA spoo-flick | 77 Marvelous | 122 Tall bird |
| | 40 Lubes again | 78 Radio spots | 123 164-nation commerce gp. |
| | | 79 Electric jolt | 124 Au courart |
| | | 80 Dimwit | |
| | | 84 "Let's see ..." | |
| | | 86 "Says You!" broadcaster | |
| | | 88 "Eat — Chikin" (Chick-Fil-A slogan) | |



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Chase Elliott wins at home, posts his third victory of the season

By Holly Cain
NASCAR Wire Service

Chase Elliott is a former NASCAR Cup Series champion and currently the 2022 title leader. But finally scoring a dramatic victory Sunday afternoon at his home track – Atlanta Motor Speedway - in front of a vocal and adoring home crowd ranks right up there as far as he's concerned.

Elliott's No. 9 Hendrick Motorsports Chevrolet led a race best 96 of the 260 laps and held off a charging field to win Sunday's Quaker State 400 Presented by Walmart, ultimately securing the trophy when the caution flag came out in the closing portion of the frenzied final lap.

Corey LaJoie, who was dueling it out with Elliott on that last lap, brought out that caution after hitting the wall on the backstretch in a final attempt to pull alongside and pass Elliott for what would have also been a popular first career NASCAR Cup Series victory for the well-liked LaJoie.

"This one's up there for sure, to win at your home track is a real big deal I think to any race car driver," said Elliott, 26, of nearby Dawsonville, Ga. "I watched a lot of guys do it over the years, Jimmie [Johnson] out in California. We haven't really had a very good run here, so I felt like today was a good opportunity for us.

"I'm just so proud. This is obviously home for me and home to a lot of great fans who made a lot of



Denny Hamlin, driver of the #11 Coca-Cola Toyota, drives during the NASCAR Cup Series Quaker State 400 at Atlanta Motor Speedway on July 10, 2022 in Hampton, Georgia. (Photo by James Gilbert/Getty Images)

noise today. Couldn't be more proud of our team."

Obviously disappointed not to earn the victory, but not disheartened, LaJoie said he was encouraged by the No. 7 Spire Motorsports Chevrolet team's work on Sunday and boosted by the confidence of being in position to win late in a race.

"Closest I've ever been, for sure that was fun" LaJoie said. "I'm proud of my guys at Spire and everyone whose helped us out.

"I made my move and it didn't work out, and the siren is ringing in Dawsonville (Ga.) unfortunately," LaJoie said referencing the famed Dawsonville (Ga.) Pool Room where the owners ring a bell to celebrate each of Elliott's victories.

With 27 lead changes among 12 drivers and 13 caution periods, it

was an eventful day on the newly reconfigured and re-paved Atlanta Motor Speedway's 1.54-mile track. And there was plenty of drama from the hometown kid winning his series-best third race of the year to several dust-ups among popular drivers.

Ross Chastain, who had a busy day on track and was part of a couple of those incidents, rallied to finish runner-up to Elliott.

"I hated that I took the best car here and I tore it up a couple times, but yeah, it's incredible," Chastain said of rebounding to score his fifth top two finish of the season.

"Hats off to Chevrolet and Trackhouse for bringing this fast of a Jockey Chevrolet to be able to come back. Our road crew and pit crew did an awesome job to rebound

through all the damage repair and we had a shot and I got inside of the 9 [Elliott] coming off [turn] 2 coming to the checkered and the caution came out."

After being collected in a nine-car accident just before the race's midpoint, Chastain worked his way forward again only to make contact with veteran Joe Gibbs Racing driver Denny Hamlin as the two were running in the top 10 late in the race. The pair have had run-ins previously this season and Hamlin, whose car was badly damaged, was not happy after the race.

"Everyone has different tolerance levels and as you all know, I've reached my peak," Hamlin said.

Team Penske rookie Austin Cindric – winner of the season opening Daytona 500 – finished third, with Petty GMS Motorsports' Erik Jones and Team Penske's Ryan Blaney rounding out the top five.

Chastain's Trackhouse Racing teammate Daniel Suarez was sixth, followed by Justin Haley, Aric Almirola, Martin Truex Jr. and Kevin Harvick rounding out the top 10.

With the victory, Elliott extended his championship lead over Blaney to 47 points. Chastain is now third, 50 points behind Elliott.

The NASCAR Cup Series returns to competition next weekend at New Hampshire Motor Speedway with the Ambetter 301 on Sunday (3 p.m. ET, USA Network, PRN, SiriusXM NASCAR Radio). Stewart-Haas Racing driver Aric Almirola is the defending race winner.

NASCAR Cup Series Race - 53rd Quaker State 400 presented by Walmart

Atlanta Motor Speedway
Hampton, Georgia
Sunday, July 10, 2022

1. (1) Chase Elliott, Chevrolet, 260.
2. (2) Ross Chastain, Chevrolet, 260.
3. (5) Austin Cindric #, Ford, 260.
4. (25) Erik Jones, Chevrolet, 260.
5. (6) Ryan Blaney, Ford, 260.
6. (7) Daniel Suarez, Chevrolet, 260.
7. (24) Justin Haley, Chevrolet, 260.
8. (22) Aric Almirola, Ford, 260.
9. (18) Cole Custer, Ford, 260.
10. (27) Harrison Burton #, Ford, 260.
11. (9) Martin Truex Jr., Toyota, 260.
12. (10) Kevin Harvick, Ford, 260.
13. (3) Kyle Larson, Chevrolet, 260.
14. (32) Bubba Wallace, Toyota, 260.
15. (12) Michael McDowell, Ford, 260.
16. (14) Chase Briscoe, Ford, 260.
17. (28) Todd Gilliland #, Ford, 260.
18. (31) Brad Keselowski, Ford, 260.
19. (15) Christopher Bell, Toyota, 260.
20. (19) Kyle Busch, Toyota, 260.
21. (30) Corey LaJoie, Chevrolet, 260.
22. (21) Kurt Busch, Toyota, Accident, 259.
23. (34) Cody Ware, Ford, 259.
24. (36) Landon Cassill(i), Chevrolet, 259.
25. (16) Denny Hamlin, Toyota, 259.
26. (17) Joey Logano, Ford, DVP, 252.
27. (33) Garrett Smithley(i), Ford, 252.
28. (23) Ty Dillon, Chevrolet, DVP,

- 174.
29. (4) Tyler Reddick, Chevrolet, Accident, 170.
30. (13) William Byron, Chevrolet, Accident, 170.
31. (20) Ricky Stenhouse Jr., Chevrolet, Engine, 162.
32. (8) Alex Bowman, Chevrolet, DVP, 160.
33. (11) Chris Buescher, Ford, Accident, 107.
34. (29) Noah Gragson(i), Chevrolet, Suspension, 91.
35. (26) Austin Dillon, Chevrolet, Accident, 90.
36. (35) BJ McLeod(i), Ford, Accident, 77.

Average Speed of Race Winner: 118.754 mph.

Time of Race: 3 Hrs, 22 Mins, 18 Secs. Margin of Victory: Under Caution Seconds.

Caution Flags: 13 for 64 laps
Lead Changes: 27 among 12 drivers.

Lap Leaders: R. Chastain 1; C. Elliott 2; R. Chastain 3-21; D. Hamlin 22-23; R. Blaney 24; C. Elliott 25-50; R. Blaney 51; C. Elliott 52-63; T. Reddick 64-69; M. Truex Jr. 70-86; C. Elliott 87-94; H. Burton # 95-98; R. Stenhouse Jr. 99-100; H. Burton # 101-105; W. Byron 106-146; T. Reddick 147-153; C. Elliott 154-162; A. Cindric # 163-169; E. Jones 170-179; R. Chastain 180-191; C. LaJoie 192-201; C.

Elliott 202; C. LaJoie 203-204; C. Elliott 205-241; M. Truex Jr. 242-251; C. LaJoie 252-258; C. Elliott 259-260.

Leaders Summary (Driver, Times Lead, Laps Led): Chase Elliott 8 times for 96 laps; William Byron 1 time for 41 laps; Ross Chastain 3 times for 32 laps; Martin Truex Jr. 2 times for 27 laps; Corey LaJoie 3 times for 19 laps; Tyler

Reddick 2 times for 13 laps; Erik Jones 1 time for 10 laps; Harrison Burton # 2 times for 9 laps; Austin Cindric # 1 time for 7 laps; Denny Hamlin 1 time for 2 laps; Ryan Blaney 2 times for 2 laps; Ricky Stenhouse Jr. 1 time for 2 laps.

Stage	#1	Top	Ten:
Stage #1	9,48,1,12,24,18,45,11,5,20		
Stage #2	9,8,6,12,45,20,21,24,1,7		

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Hubbard earns Brown Belt



Hunter Hubbard (aka The Weatherman) was promoted to the rank of 2nd KYU Brown Belt in Shotokan Karate on June 18. Hunter's instructor is Grandmaster Scott Rutter, 7th Dan. Rutter's Martial Arts has locations in Stuart, Bassett and Floyd. Hunter is the son of Billy and Candice Hubbard, of Stuart.

Can Your Diet And Lifestyle Affect Your Vision?

When it comes to nutrition, we rarely talk about eyes. We uphold our hearts, our hands, and even our feet as some of our most daily used body parts, but how often do we consider our eyes? Our eyes are used in every second that we're awake, so it is important to ensure we know the basics surrounding eye health.

Our eyes are organs that have the unique ability to collect light to carry information to our brains, which then shows us our position relative to our surroundings, as well as all the details of color, texture, and distance of everyday objects. It's a beautiful process that allows us to experience color, perceive emotion in people's faces, and so much more.

How exactly does the eye capture and send the information that we see to the brain?

A layer of neurons known as the retina lines the back of our eye and collects the light that is reflected off the objects we see. Two types of cells make up the retina: rods and cones. Both rods and cones have unique abilities because of their different shapes. Rods are mixed with cones in the retina because they provide peripheral vision and can detect the smallest amounts of light. Night vision is the responsibility of the rod cells and allows us to see in low light. All the wavelengths of visible light can be detected by our cone cells and give us the ability to see color. There are also specific cells within the eyes that detect light intensity throughout the day to help modulate the circadian rhythm or sleep cycle.

Every type of signal originating from the eyes is transported by a pair of optic nerves that follow a pathway to the extreme rear of the brain called the occipital lobe. In the occipital lobe, all the visual information is processed to help us

distinguish what we see and store necessary visual material for later use.

Did you know that our eyes begin developing during the third week of embryonic growth? The young brain has a part of the brain called the diencephalon, which is where our eyes emerge. The diencephalon has two buds that grow into the eyes and optic nerves. Technically, the retina of the eye is brain tissue, so when you see the eye you can see a part of the brain!

Eyes are very important because they are nerve tissue that can be damaged by strain. It's important to remember that eyes are to be maintained, and damage is rarely or never reversed. The eye is an organ that can be damaged by direct physical contact, or by eyestrain. Eyestrain can be a result of long reading or any other activities where we need to focus for long periods of time. Unsurprisingly, using monitors or small phone displays has now become the leading cause of eyestrain.

On average, the average screen time for a typical American is estimated at about ten hours per day. Constant phone use, along with computer-reliant jobs has made electronic screen time a problem. A noteworthy fact is that screen time is also an issue for today's children, with TV, tablets, phones, and laptops being their main source of entertainment, whether it's for educational or non-educational use. Three major issues arise from screen time:

- Increased risk of obesity, or diabetes, from lack of physical activity.
- Sleep loss from sleep cycle disruption
- Eye strain from media use fatigue
- Overuse of the eye from constantly looking at a screen can stress the nerves and muscles of the eye.

If you feel pain or soreness around the eye, or notice yourself squinting more often than normal, or experience blurred vision, you may be suffering from eye strain. Headaches can also be a symptom of eye strain so if you feel an unexplained headache, be sure to think about eye strain as a possible cause.

What are some ways to limit eyestrain?

In a busy, media-driven workplace, it can be a challenge to find relief from the proverbial "screen of death." Schools and workplaces can have our eyes jumping from reading the small print on paper documents to reading graphs and reports on our computer screens, not to mention the intermittent "breaks" we take to scroll through social media on our phones. Taking breaks from our screens or textbooks can help a great deal. Try taking a break every

45 minutes to rest your eyes by closing them and, even better, standing up at the same time for up to three minutes.

Apple implemented a new app to remind us to limit our media use. The app will show us how much time we spend on our phones, as well as how much of that time is used for social media. The idea of seeing how much time we waste can be quite the reality check and particularly worrisome when we realize how much we tax our eyes. Without something like this app, how aware would you be of your electronic use and the real damage you're having on your eyes?

(Submitted by Betty Dean. Used by permission from www.lifeandhealth.org)

Courtesy of LifeSpring - Resources for Hope and Healing Stuart, VA)

Salad gets a summery makeover

Steakhouse fans eagerly anticipate digging into the savory cuts of sizzling beef waiters serve up. The precursor to that portion of the meal is often a wedge salad, which offers a crisp complement to the richness of the steak.

Wedge salads are traditionally made with iceberg lettuce and drizzled with a flavorful dressing - often blue cheese. However, there's no set rules when it comes to wedge salads. With this recipe for "Watermelon Wedge Steakhouse Salad,"



courtesy of the National Watermelon Promotion Board and 2018 Watermelon Recipe Contest Winner Chauna Havey, diners can skip the lettuce altogether.

Watermelon Wedge Steakhouse Salad

Serves 4

For the dressing:

- 1/3 cup finely diced watermelon
- 1 cup sour cream
- 1/3 cup peeled and finely diced watermelon rind
- 1/4 cup watermelon juice
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon black pepper
- For the salad and toppings:
- 4 thick wedges of watermelon
- 4 tablespoons real bacon crumbles
- 4 tablespoons blue cheese crumbles

- 2 tablespoons pecan chips
- 1 scallion, sliced

1. Place all ingredients for the dressing into a medium bowl and mix gently to combine.
2. Place each watermelon wedge onto a serving plate and top with 1/4 of the dressing.
3. Sprinkle the bacon, blue cheese, pecans, and scallions over the top of the salads before serving.

Social Security Matters

By National Social Security Advisor at the AMAC Foundation, the non-profit arm of the Association of Mature American Citizens

Ask Rusty - About Working While Collecting Early Benefits

Dear Rusty: How much would be withheld from my social security benefits? I am 62 and can claim about \$1,900 a month now. I'm still working, making about \$75K per year. How much of my benefits would I get? What would be withheld from me and when would I get it back? And would there be any penalty? Signed: Eligible but Working

Dear Eligible: In the scenario you describe, you will not be eligible to collect Social Security retirement benefits at this time because your earnings are too high. Here's how that is determined:

• At age 62, you are subject to Social Security's "earnings test" which limits how much you can earn while collecting early benefits. The earn-

ings limit applies until you reach your full retirement age (FRA), which for you is 67.

• Your penalty for exceeding the earnings limit now would be \$1 for every \$2 you are over the limit. At your current salary of \$75K per year, you will be over the 2022 annual earnings limit of \$19,560 by \$55,440, which means you would owe Social Security \$27,720. Since your age 62 benefit amount is about \$1900 per month (\$22,800/year), your annual SS benefit would be insufficient to offset the penalty for exceeding the earnings limit, thus you would not be entitled to a Social Security benefit because of your current earnings. You will again be eligible to collect SS when your earnings are substantially less, or when you reach your full retirement age, whichever occurs first.

Social Security's earnings test affects everyone who works and earns when collecting benefits before reaching full retirement age. Each year, Social Security sets a limit for how much can be earned before benefits are affected (the 2022 limit **(See Social Security p. 11)**)

Rising temperatures pose increased heat stress risk to women, young children

With historically high temperatures, staying safe while working outdoors is increasingly vital, particularly among vulnerable groups like pregnant women, older employees and young children.

Women make up 35% of farmers in the U.S. As their roles on farms increase, it's important to address the unique safety hazards women may face, Knesha Rose-Davison, AgriSafe Network's public health program director, said in a recent webinar about women and heat stress.

During the webinar, Rose-Davison discussed the signs of heat stress, from less-severe symptoms like heat rash and heat cramps, to more severe ones, including heat syncope—fainting and dizziness, heat exhaustion and heat stroke. An individual's body and metabolic rate can impact how well they process heat, she said.

"We (women) are at increased risk of heat stress because of a higher percentage of body fat, as well as lower aerobic power," she explained.

In addition, "if you are pregnant, you are more likely to get heat exhaustion or heat stroke sooner than a nonpregnant worker," she said. "This is because your body must work harder to cool down both you and your baby."

Pregnant women are at greater risk for dehydration, and effects from heat stress can lead to higher risk for birth defects or preterm birth.

Children are another group at increased risk for heat stress and are often present in rural, agricultural settings.

"Infants and young children real-

ly rely on others to keep them cool and hydrated when it's hot outside," Rose-Davison said. "They also sweat less and quickly produce more heat than adults ... children do not adjust to environmental heat levels as quickly."

She recommended keeping children under 6 months old out of the sun—particularly between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. when ultraviolet rays are most intense. Additionally, ensure babies stay hydrated with breast milk or formula.

When working outside in hot weather, farmers and farmworkers should wear a hat and light-colored clothing, stay hydrated by drinking about four cups of water every hour, and take breaks in shade or air conditioning every 15 to 30 minutes. For those new to working outdoors, start slow, and allow your body to acclimate to the heat.

"Implement a buddy system in which workers observe each other for signs and symptoms of physiological heat strain," Rose-Davison advised.

Some symptoms of heat stress include red, blotchy skin; muscle pain and spasms; dizziness or lightheadedness; pale and cool skin; nausea; fever; and rapid breathing. If someone is experiencing heat exhaustion or heat stress, their life is in danger, and they should be taken to the hospital, she said.


For more information on the webinar, visit bit.ly/3yaQWOY.

For more information on farm safety topics, visit Virginia Farm Bureau's Farm Safety website at vafb.com/Safety.

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NOTICE

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HELP WANTED

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LEGAL

NOTICE OF PROPOSED ROAD ABANDONMENT ROUTE 809: Epperson Lane

Pursuant to §33.2-909 Code of Virginia, the Patrick County Board of Supervisors will consider abandonment of a section of Route 809, Epperson Lane, from Route 614 to dead end, a distance of 1.0 mile(s). This matter is being consider by the Board of Supervisors at the request of Caroline Beasley because the family would like to take over maintenance of the road. Additional materials related to the proposed abandonment may be obtained by contacting the Patrick County Administrator's office on of before July 29, 2022.

Patrick County Board of Supervisors
106 Rucker Street
Stuart, VA 24171
(276) 694-6094

LEGAL

PUBLIC NOTICE Certified Public Accounting Firms

STEP, Inc. is accepting proposals from certified public accounting firms to provide audit and related tax services for our 2022 fiscal year. The Request For Proposal Specifications can be found on STEP's web site at <https://www.stepincva.com>. Deadline to receive bids is close of business (4:30 p.m.) on August 5, 2022. Individuals and businesses interested in bidding should submit their written proposals to:

STEP, Inc.
ATTN: 2022 Audit RFP
200 Dent Street
Rocky Mount, VA 24151
Email: diane.jones@stepincva.com
Fax: 540-483-2506

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LEGAL

SPECIAL COMMISSIONER'S SALE OF IMPROVED REAL ESTATE

3.95 ACRES, by survey, BULLWHIP LANE
ARARAT, VIRGINIA
PATRICK COUNTY PIN 4210-4

Pursuant to that Amended Order for Default Judgment entered April 28, 2022, by the Circuit Court of Patrick County in the cause styled *Julie Ann Oakley aka Julie Ann Griffith v. Richard Wayne Griffith*, Case No. CL21-447, the undersigned Special Commissioner will offer for sale at public auction in front of the Patrick County Circuit Courthouse, 100 North Main Street, Stuart, Virginia 24171, the real property, together with all improvements, described as follows:

ALL OF THAT certain tract or parcel of land, situated in Dan River Magisterial District of Patrick County, Virginia, containing 3.95 acres, as shown and described on that plat of survey entitled "JULIE ANN OAKLEY," prepared by Patrick N. Hall, LS, dated January 26, 2012, and of record in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of Patrick County, Virginia as Plat No. 13-1383 ; AND BEING all of that same and identical tract or parcel of land conveyed to Richard Wayne Griffith and Julie Ann Griffith by deed dated December 10, 1999, and of record in the aforesaid Clerk's Office in Deed Book 345, at Page 98.

July 14, 2022

2:00 O'CLOCK P.M.

PATRICK COUNTY CIRCUIT COURTHOUSE
100 NORTH MAIN STREET
STUART, VIRGINIA

TERMS OF SALE: CASH OR GOOD CHECK

A deposit of Ten Percent (10%), cash or certified check, will be required at the time and place of sale with settlement within Thirty (30) days from the date of sale. Title will pass by deed of Special Warranty from the Special Commissioners. The Special Commissioners will be responsible for County real estate taxes through the date of the sale, the cost of the deed, and the grantor's tax upon recordation. This property will be sold "AS-IS, WHERE-IS." Additional terms may be announced at the time of sale.

For information contact: Christopher A. Corbett, Special Commissioner, 108 N. Main Street, P.O. Box 1270, Stuart, Virginia 24171, Phone (276) 276-7145.

Social Security

(cont. from page 9)

is \$19,560; it increases slightly each year). Those who exceed the limit pay a "penalty" of \$1 for every \$2 they are over the limit, which must be paid to SS either in a lump sum, or by having benefits withheld for enough months for SS to recover what is owed. If your Social Security benefit isn't enough to offset the penalty for exceeding the earnings limit, no benefits will be paid.

Those collecting early benefits who earn only slightly more than the annual earnings limit can collect some benefits each year because their penalty is small enough. For exam-

ple, someone earning \$25,000 per year would exceed the 2022 earnings limit by \$5440 and, thus, incur a penalty of \$2720. That would probably mean about 2 months of withheld benefits, enabling them to get benefits for the remaining 10 months of the year. Social Security will withhold benefits for enough months to recover whatever the beneficiary owes for exceeding the limit.

The rules surrounding Social Security's earning test are somewhat complex. For example, there is a "first year rule" which exempts salary earned prior to claiming SS from counting toward

the earnings limit. When someone first claims Social Security mid-year they are, instead, subject to a monthly limit (\$1630 for 2022) for the remaining months of the calendar year. If the monthly limit is exceeded, no benefits are payable for that month. The earnings limit no longer applies when full retirement age is reached but is still in effect in the months of that year prior to attaining FRA. The earnings limit during those months is much higher and the "penalty" for exceeding it is less.

Social Security prefers that those working and collecting early benefits contact them in advance to withhold benefits for as long as needed to offset the expected penalty. Doing so will avoid an Overpayment Notice being issued in the following year when your earnings amount is received from the IRS.

After full retirement

age, Social Security will adjust the beneficiary's payment to account for months benefits were withheld and increase the monthly amount accordingly. That will result in some, or perhaps all, of the withheld benefits being recovered over time (depending on longevity).

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.

Summer Camps to be offered at Reynolds Homestead

The Reynolds Homestead in Critz will offer two weeks of summer camp opportunities for middle grade students in July.

An Art Camp will begin Monday, July 18 and run through Thursday, July 21. Students will explore landscapes and biomes through art in this "Mythical Adventure" themed camp. Art camp is led by Grace Helms and runs from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. each day, with the final day offering a public reception for the students. Art Camp is open to students ages 7-12 and registration is \$45.

The following week, staff and volunteers of the Reynolds Homestead will host Camp Homestead, a three

day experience packed with traditional camp fun, including field games, crafts, and STEM challenges. Camp Homestead is held Monday, July 25 through Wednesday, July 27 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Camp Homestead is offered to students ages 7-13 and the cost is \$35

Snacks are offered daily for both camps. Registration details can be found by visiting the Reynolds Homestead website at <https://reynoldshomestead.vt.edu/upcoming-events/education-programming.html>. Questions may be directed to Kristin Hynton, Communication and Program Support Assistant at krhynton@vt.edu.

Legal Notice

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC OF A PETITION BY
APPALACHIAN POWER COMPANY
FOR APPROVAL OF NEW BROADBAND PROJECT AND TO
IMPLEMENT A SURCREDIT THROUGH ITS RATE ADJUSTMENT CLAUSE, BC-RAC, PURSUANT TO
§ 56-585.1 A 6 AND § 56-585.1:9 OF THE CODE OF VIRGINIA
CASE NO. PUR-2022-00020

Appalachian Power Company ("APCo") has applied for approval of a new broadband project and to implement a surcredit through its rate adjustment clause, BC-RAC, which recovers the costs of providing broadband capacity related to rural broadband projects.

APCo requests approval to implement a surcredit of approximately \$1.35 million effective February 1, 2023. According to APCo, this amount would decrease the monthly bill of a residential customer using 1,000 kilowatt hours per month by \$0.69.

The Hearing Examiner appointed to this case will hold a telephonic hearing in this case on October 5, 2022, to receive public witness testimony.

The Hearing Examiner will hold an evidentiary hearing in this case on October 6, 2022.

Further information about this case is available on the SCC website at: sec.virginia.gov/pages/Case-Information.

On June 8, 2022, Appalachian Power Company ("APCo" or "Company") filed a petition ("Petition") with the State Corporation Commission ("Commission"), pursuant to § 56-585.1 A 6 and § 56-585.1:9 of the Code of Virginia ("Code"), seeking to amend a rate adjustment clause, the BC-RAC, previously approved by the Commission and approval of a new project to make available broadband capacity to an Internet Service Provider ("ISP") in parts of Bland County and Montgomery County that are unserved by broadband ("Bland-Montgomery Broadband Project"). Specifically, APCo requests authority to implement a surcredit of approximately \$1.35 million through the BC-RAC to reflect the actual costs of providing broadband capacity under the Company's existing broadband project in Grayson County, as well as projected costs related to the Bland-Montgomery Broadband Project.

According to the Petition, under the proposed Bland-Montgomery Broadband Project, APCo seeks to expand middle-mile broadband capacity in the unserved areas of Bland and Montgomery counties, both in the southwestern part of Virginia. The Company states that the areas targeted by the Bland-Montgomery Broadband Project are unserved by broadband pursuant to Code § 56-585.1:9 D as the Virginia Telecommunication Initiative of the Department of Housing and Community Development has issued a grant or loan to construct a broadband service project within the last 18 months, and the grant or loan recipient is the ISP to which the APCo proposes to lease capacity.

The Company states that the Bland-Montgomery Broadband Project entails the installation of approximately 233 miles of 96-strand fiber optic cable on the Company's distribution system, which will also provide a communications platform for APCo's own distribution grid network backhaul requirements. The Company states that it will lease a portion of the middle-mile broadband infrastructure to GigaBeam Networks LLC, the ISP selected by the counties to provide service to unserved areas in Bland and Montgomery counties. APCo states that the estimated capital investment for Bland-Montgomery Broadband Project is approximately \$37.1 million.

According to the Petition, the approximately \$1.35 million surcredit that the Company proposes to return to customers through the BC-RAC pursuant to Code § 56-585.1 A 6 will result in a decrease of \$0.69 on the monthly bill of a residential customer using 1,000 kilowatt hours per month. APCo proposes to implement the surcredit beginning February 1, 2023, and ending January 31, 2024.

Interested persons are encouraged to review the Petition and supporting documents for the details of these and other proposals.

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

The Commission entered an Order for Notice and Hearing in this proceeding that, among other things, scheduled public hearings on APCo's Petition. On October 5, 2022, at 10 a.m., the Hearing Examiner assigned to this case will hold a telephonic hearing, with no witness present in the Commission's courtroom, for the purpose of receiving the testimony of public witnesses. On or before September 26, 2022, any person desiring to offer testimony as a public witness shall provide to the Commission (a) your name, and (b) the telephone number that you wish the Commission to call during the hearing to receive your testimony. This information may be provided to the Commission in three ways: (i) by filling out a form on the Commission's website at sec.virginia.gov/pages/Webcasting; (ii) by completing and emailing the PDF version of this form to SCCInfo@sec.virginia.gov; or (iii) by calling (804) 371-9141. This public witness hearing will be webcast at sec.virginia.gov/pages/Webcasting.

On October 6, 2022, at 10 a.m., in the Commission's second floor courtroom located in the Tyler Building, 1300 East Main Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219, the Hearing Examiner will convene a hearing to receive testimony and evidence related to the Petition from the Company, any respondents, and the Commission's Staff ("Staff").

The Commission has taken judicial notice of the ongoing public health issues related to the spread of the coronavirus, or COVID 19. In accordance therewith, all pleadings, briefs, or other documents required to be served in this matter shall be submitted electronically to the extent authorized by 5 VAC 5-20-150, *Copies and format*, of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure ("Rules of Practice"). Confidential and Extraordinarily Sensitive information shall not be submitted electronically and should comply with 5 VAC 5-20-170, *Confidential information*, of the Rules of Practice. Any person seeking to hand deliver and physically file or submit any pleading or other document shall contact the Clerk's Office Document Control Center at (804) 371-9838 to arrange the delivery.

Pursuant to 5 VAC 5-20-140, *Filing and service*, of the Commission's Rules of Practice, the Commission has directed that service on parties and the Commission's Staff in this matter shall be accomplished by electronic means. Please refer to the Commission's Order for Notice and Hearing for further instructions concerning Confidential or Extraordinarily Sensitive Information.

An electronic copy of the public version of the Company's Petition may be obtained by submitting a written request to counsel for the Company, Noelle J. Coates, Esquire, American Electric Power Service Corporation, 3 James Center, 1051 East Cary Street, Suite 1100, Richmond, Virginia 23219, or njcoates@aep.com.

On or before September 28, 2022, any interested person may file comments on the Petition by following the instructions found on the Commission's website: sec.virginia.gov/casecomments/Submit-Public-Comments. Those unable, as a practical matter, to submit comments electronically may file such comments with the Clerk of the Commission, c/o Document Control Center, P.O. Box 2118, Richmond, Virginia 23218-2118. All comments shall refer to Case No. PUR-2022-00020.

On or before August 3, 2022, any person or entity wishing to participate as a respondent in this proceeding may do so by filing a notice of participation at sec.virginia.gov/clk/cfiling. Those unable, as a practical matter, to file a notice of participation electronically may file such notice by U.S. mail with the Clerk of the Commission at the address listed above. Such notice of participation shall include the email addresses of such parties or their counsel. The respondent simultaneously shall serve a copy of the notice of participation on counsel to the Company. Pursuant to 5 VAC 5-20-80 B, *Participation as a respondent*, of the Commission's Rules of Practice, any notice of participation shall set forth: (i) a precise statement of the interest of the respondent; (ii) a statement of the specific action sought to the extent then known; and (iii) the factual and legal basis for the action. Any organization, corporation, or government body participating as a respondent must be represented by counsel as required by Rule 5 VAC 5-20-30, *Counsel*, of the Rules of Practice. All filings shall refer to Case No. PUR-2022-00020.

On or before August 17, 2022, each respondent may file with the Clerk of the Commission, at sec.virginia.gov/clk/cfiling, any testimony and exhibits by which the respondent expects to establish its case. Any respondent unable, as a practical matter, to file testimony and exhibits electronically may file such by U.S. mail with the Clerk of the Commission at the address listed above. Each witness's testimony shall include a summary not to exceed one page. All testimony and exhibits shall be served on the Staff, the Company, and all other respondents simultaneously with its filing. In all filings, respondents shall comply with the Commission's Rules of Practice, including 5 VAC 5-20-140, *Filing and service*; and 5 VAC 5-20-240, *Prepared testimony and exhibits*. All filings shall refer to Case No. PUR-2022-00020.

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

The public version of the Company's Petition, the Commission's Rules of Practice and the Commission's Order for Notice and Hearing may be viewed on the Commission's website at: sec.virginia.gov/pages/Case-Information.

APPALACHIAN POWER COMPANY

PTK Honor Society at SCC receives International Recognition



Co-advisor of Surry Community College's Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society, Dr. Kathleen Fowler (middle), is recognized on stage at PTK Catalyst. The annual PTK convention was held in Denver, Colorado. Fowler received the Paragon Award for New Advisors.

Co-advisor of Surry Community College's Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society, Dr. Kathleen Fowler, attended the organization's annual convention this spring, where she was recognized for her and her chapter's accomplishments. The convention, PTK Catalyst, was held in Denver, Colorado.

Fowler won the Paragon Award for New Advisors and the Phi Theta Kappa Carolinas Region Horizon Award. Advisors who receive

the Paragon Award are recognized for significant contributions to the growth of individual members, serve as the chapter's advocate on campus and encourage the chapter to be involved on the local, regional and international level of the organization. The Horizon Award is given to advisors who participate in regional and international programs, as well as attain new levels of achievement in PTK programs.

The additional award recogni-

tions include: three International Hallmark Trophies for 2020, four International Hallmark Trophies for 2022, six Regional Trophies including the 2022 Most Distinguished Chapter, Distinguished Theme Award for Honors in Action, Distinguished Honors in Action Project, Distinguished Chapter and seventh finalist for Most Distinguished Chapter of 1,300 Chapters.

SCC College President Dr. David Shockley said, "I am so elated that Dr. Kathleen Fowler was chosen as a recipient of the 2022 Phi Theta Kappa Paragon Award for New Advisors. She continually leverages superior leadership qualities, advising, knowledge, and work-ethic to transform our Alpha Xi Tau Chapter of Phi Theta Kap-

pa while always seeking to improve the lives of students."

Phi Theta Kappa is the premier honor society recognizing the academic achievement of students at associate degree granting colleges and helping them to grow as scholars and leaders. The society is made up of more than 3.5 million members and nearly 1,300 chapters in 11 nations.

For more information about Phi Theta Kappa and their projects, contact PTK's faculty co-advisors Dr. Kathleen Fowler at (336) 386-3560 or fowlerk@surry.edu or Kayla Forrest at (336) 386-3315 or forrestkm@surry.edu or go to www.ptk.org. You can also follow the local chapter on Facebook @surryPhiThetaKappa.

Neighbor

(cont. from page 2)

Now that we have received diplomas signifying the completion of the course of study offered by this school, it is entirely fitting and proper that we express our appreciation to those who have made this possible. First, we owe a debt of gratitude to our parents who have unselfishly sacrificed to enable us to stay in school. We can repay them only by giving a lifetime of devotion. We also want to express our appreciation to teachers who have guided our pathways through the various fields of knowledge. More and more we realize what they have meant to us. To all of our many student friends who have preceded us in graduation and those whom we leave behind, we wish to tell you that your friendship has meant, and will continue to mean to us more than we can ever tell you. Last, but not by no means least, we are grateful to our country, the greatest country in the world and the only one who permits its citizens unlimited freedom to acquire all the education and training they want. Our country is now going through one of the most difficult periods in its history. The aid of every one of its citizens is sorely needed. We, the members of the class of '43 of Red Bank High School are going to do our part toward winning this war. We would not be true to our school or to our-

selves if we did not do this. Some of our members will go into the armed forces, the rest of us will do our work on the home front. Wherever we are, we shall do our best.

Then, after the war is ended and the Axis nations are no longer Military Powers, we shall settle down to the task of helping to make a New World based on the Four Freedoms of President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Churchill: - - Namely: Freedom of Speech, Freedom of Worship, Freedom from Fear and Freedom from Want. Whatever our parts in the world of the future may be will depend upon the conditions which I cannot now predict. We may be separated by the width and breadth of our land; but wherever we may be, let us not forget the days we have spent Dear Old Red Bank and let us so live that our school may be proud of us. Furthermore, let us live in such a manner that the world will be a better place because we lived in it.

And now, with kindest regards for all, and on behalf of the class of 1943 of Red Bank High School, I bid you -----Farewell.

(The Enterprise considers submissions from readers for publication in our Neighbor to Neighbor column. To submit a story, photo, or other original work, email dhall@theenterprise.net.)

Shanta tapped as NCI's new coordinator of K12 Programs & Institutional Data

The New College Institute has hired Dr. Susheela Shanta as the new Coordinator of K12 Programs & Institutional Data, beginning June 27. This position at NCI will work with the current team and network of partners in offering unmatched student support services, industry partnerships, community outreach, and pipeline development services. NCI is committed to supporting and serving the youth and student population in the southwest region of Virginia.

Dr. Shanta comes to NCI with more than 33 years of experience in community service, including numerous awards for community development projects and as a STEM educator. Shanta was previously engaged for 20 years in community planning and development in cities in Pennsylvania, and later in Virginia towns engaging in community development through

designing, financing and managing construction of adaptive re-use of historic and/or underutilized properties to create affordable housing for families and seniors.

For the last 13 years Dr. Shanta has directed and taught in the engineering program at the Governor's STEM Academy of Roanoke County. Also appointed by Governor Northam in 2021 to the VA Governor's STEM Education Advisory Board, Shanta is committed to helping provide access to high-quality STEM educational resources to students from diverse geographic, socio-economic, and cultural backgrounds in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Dr. Shanta says she is "looking forward to learning and contributing my expertise to efforts through NCI that provide more STEM focused education, training, and career opportunities to youth in the region."



Shanta earned her bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering from India (1984), a master's degree in Urban Planning (1989) from the SUNY Buffalo, NY, and more recently, a doctoral degree (2017) in Integrative STEM Education from Virginia Tech. In her free time, Dr. Shanta enjoys her time with her family, traveling, cooking, and riding her motorcycle.




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Remember when..... we couldn't wait to graduate!

Virtual 2022 4-H Area Speech/Presentation/Share the Fun Contest Results

Fifteen students competed in the 2022 4-H Area Speech/Presentation/Share the Fun Contest which was held virtually during April. Students qualified to participate in the Area Contest through competing in local 4-H county contests held this Spring.

Students participating in the speech category included Adilynn Jones from Stuart Elementary winning a red ribbon. Reagan Underwood from Hardin Reynolds winning a blue ribbon and 1st place in the 5th grade speech category.

Students participating in the pre-

sentation category, included Leah Kendrick from Woolwine Elementary winning a blue ribbon and 1st place in the Food, Nutrition, and Health category. Elyjah Jenkins from Blue Ridge Elementary winning a blue ribbon in the Food, Nutrition, and Health category. Owen Jenkins from Blue Ridge Elementary winning a blue ribbon and 1st place in the Communications and Expressive Arts category. Sheyan Lester from Hardin Reynolds Memorial winning a blue ribbon in the Communications and Expressive Arts category. Sierra Helms from

Hardin Reynolds Memorial winning a blue ribbon in the Animal Science category.

Students participating in the Share the Fun contest included Sheyan Lester from Hardin Reynolds Memorial winning 1st place for her combination performance to "Cups" by Anna Kendrick. Rain Davis, Meredith Wood, Kayleen Wood, Presley Combs from Meadows of Dan Elementary winning 1st place for their dance performance to "Italian Mambo" by Dean Martin. Camdon Fain from Blue Ridge Elementary winning 1st place for his

instrumental performance of "Alabama Jubilee" by Tauren Wells. Kinsleigh Harris from Stuart Elementary winning a 1st place for her variety performance to "In the Name of Love" by Bebe Rexha & Martin Garrix. Emma Purdy from Hardin Reynolds School winning 1st place for her vocal performance of "Coat of Many Colors" by Dolly Parton.

The Patrick County Extension Office thanks our wonderful volunteers and congratulates all our student participants for a job well done at the 2022 4-H Area Speech/Presentation/Share the Fun Contest!

Search

(cont. from page 2)

made staff additions that have produced long term employees dedicated to NCI's mission to serve the southwestern region. Additionally, Jackson developed public relations strategies, as well as created and renewed relationships with technology and

community organizations to further promote NCI's vision and mission.

The partnerships with Siemens Gamesa, Dominion Energy, and the Global Wind Organisation (GWO) brought GWO-certified trainings to NCI's ultramodern innovation center in Martinsville, making NCI the first in Virginia to invest in and earn certification from GWO. NCI is also one of the few training facilities across North America to offer both GWO Basic Safety and Basic Technical Training. Through Jackson's vision and determination, Virginia is a leader in wind industry training, and NCI is one of Virginia's leading wind energy training facilities. Other training opportunities include OSHA, Certified Production Technician, Metrology, and CNC Operator Training.

Jackson was instru-

mental in coordinating a way for the community to take advantage of NCI's first-class training equipment through the creation of an OpenLAB experience, making much of the innovation center training equipment now available to the public.

Jackson created and reinforced valuable partnerships with Virginia colleges and universities, such as Old Dominion University's Institute for Innovation & Entrepreneurship; The University of Virginia's School of Continuing and Professional Studies; Bluefield College's Counselor Education Degree program; and Radford University Master of Science in Strategic Communication - bringing more programs to NCI, which provide more higher education opportunities for Southwest VA.

Additionally, during Jackson's leadership,

Amazon Web Services Training (AWS) launched in the fall of 2020, offering cloud computing skills development and job training. AWS Re/start at NCI received 950 applications from across the country and graduated 98 students from the intense program. Domain-U was launched to deliver online trainings in math and basic measuring tools. NCI also became an FAA-approved Test Administrator for The Recreational UAS Safety Test (TRUST), which provides an online course and completion certificate for owners of recreational drones.

Jackson secured nearly \$3 million in grants and additional funds to fuel multiple training and educational initiatives. One of which was from the Claude Moore Charitable Foundation to research the development of healthcare

programs that will educate and train individuals to fill in-demand positions while simultaneously strengthening the healthcare workforce in southern Virginia and across the Commonwealth.

With Jackson at the helm, NCI's Southside Telehealth Training Academy and Resource Center (STAR) registrations increased more than 100% and trained 9,322 participants from more than 40 states and countries.

Much of NCI's current K12 programming began with Karen Jackson, including CyberPatriot CyberCamp, Health Camps, Summer STEM handouts through Pop-Up Summer Camps. She also enthusiastically supported NCI's winning FIRST Robotics team, the "STAGS."

Jackson's dedication to COVID recovery allowed for quick and successful re-opening of The Baldwin Building for community events hosted by NCI, NCI partners and private facility rentals. Since reopening, NCI has welcomed more than 10,000 visitors to the building.

During the pandemic Jackson shared COVID resources by relaying pertinent information to the community via the NCI website; and partnered with Piedmont Community services and Canon Virginia, Inc. to create and donate face shields to essential workers in the community. In the absence of live motorsports, Karen initiated an eSports program that brought Martinsville native and iRacing driver Josh Williams as an eSports program coordinator, engaging students of all ages in eSports competition and related careers in the STEM disciplines.

Rotating Smithsonian SITES exhibits are now on display at The Baldwin Building. Vytal Studios will be creating several virtual and augmented reality experiences to

NCI. Patrick & Henry Community College and NCI will partner to develop computer science training made possible by a Google Investment.

While the search for a new Executive Director is underway, the board has appointed NCI Assistant Director of Finance & Operations, Christina Reed, to serve as acting Interim Executive Director.

"I am honored that the Board would appoint me during this transition. I thank Karen Jackson for all of the 'out of the box' programming through COVID and the mentor and leadership that she provided me during her tenure at NCI. As a first-generation college graduate myself, I believe in higher education and the need for accessibility and affordability for the citizens in our region. I am excited to assist the Board in their search for a permanent Executive Director and the continued future progression of NCI," Reed said.

Reed joined NCI in 2011 after working for The Harvest Foundation for seven years. Reed's role with NCI started with a focus on needs surrounding accounting and finances, but she also brings experience in various areas of operations and strong relationships with NCI partners. Reed earned her Associates degree from Patrick Henry Community College and a BS in Accounting from Averett University. In addition, she has completed several continuing education courses and various other trainings and leadership programs. Her long-term relationship with the New College Foundation, more than a decade of state service, and existing relationships with NCI partners are among the list of the traits that make Reed a strong leader who is committed to continuing NCI's mission and service to our community.

Belton selected as Landmark Center's Employee of the Month



For residents of The Landmark Center, Tuesdays and Thursdays are exciting. That's when Peggy Belton, TLC's Cosmetologist, has her salon open. For more than 30 years Peggy has brought joy, perms and manicures to residents and staff, and to honor her service, she was chosen as Employee of the Month for June.



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Ghammashi named to Chancellor's List

Grace Ghammashi, of Stuart, was named to the Spring 2022 Chancellor's List at Western Carolina University. Ghammashi was among more than 1,900 students to achieve this honor. To qualify for the Chancellor's List, students must earn a GPA of 3.8 or higher while completing a minimum of 12 credit hours.

As the westernmost institution in the University of North Carolina System, WCU attracts students from around the globe for its nationally ranked programs, affordability through

NC Promise and exceptional student support. Recognized as a top adventure college and surrounded by the Blue Ridge and Great Smoky Mountains, students can explore the region's vast natural diversity through unrivaled experiential learning and recreational activities. Offering residential, hybrid and online programs for undergraduate and graduate degrees at our main campus in Cullowhee, WCU in Asheville located at Biltmore Park, and wherever students are through distance learning.

Monday, July 11-Wednesday, July 13
Patrick County Volleyball will hold an Elementary Volleyball Camp from 5-7 p.m. each day at the Patrick County High School. The cost is \$30. For more information contact Heidi Moore at Heidi.moore@patrick.k12.va.us.

Monday, July 11-Friday, July 15
Peters Creek Baptist Church in Lawsonville invites children to Spark Studios- Created in Christ: Designed for God's Purpose from 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Saturday, July 16
The Rock Castle Descendants' Reunion will start at 12 p.m. at the Woolwine United Methodist Church. For any questions, email Beverly Woody at rockcastlecreek1@gmail.com.

Patrick & Henry Community College (P&HCC) will hold a Basic Contractor Licensing Class from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The cost of the course is \$189. Pre-registration is required by going to ph.augusoft.net or calling (276) 656-0260.

Monday, July 11-Friday, July 29
Patrick & Henry Community College (P&HCC) and Verizon will hold a free Verizon Innovative Learning STEM Achievers program to enrich learning through design thinking, 3D printing, augmented reality, social entrepreneurship, and mentoring from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. every day for rising 6-8th graders. Lunch and transportation will be provided. Students can take the program at P&HCC Patrick County site and the P&HCC Dalton IDEA Center. To register, visit https://bit.ly/STEMAchievers. For more information, call (276) 656-5461 or email areed@patrickhenry.edu.

Wednesday, July 13
The Patrick County Community Food Bank will hold a food distribution day at the Stuart site from 8:30-11 a.m. and from 5-6:30 p.m. There will be a morning distribution in Ararat from 8:30-11 a.m., and an evening distribution in Meadows of Dan from 5-6:30 p.m.

Friday, July 15
The Stuart Farmers' Market will have the regular vendors with plenty of zucchini, squash, cucumbers, eggs, meats, coffee, baked items and more. Market open 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. Some vendors accept the FARM Fresh for Senior vouchers.

Saturday, July 16
The Elgin Reunion will be held at Fairy Stone Fire Station with a potluck lunch at 12 p.m.

Monday, July 18- Thursday, July 21
The Reynolds Homestead will hold an Art Camp from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. for children ages 7-12. The cost is \$45 and registration is not complete until payment is received. Registration is available at https://bit.ly/RHARTCAMP22. Payment should be made payable to Treasurer of Virginia Tech and mailed to 463 Homestead Lane, Critz, VA 24082.

Monday, July 18 - Friday, July 22
The Patrick Springs Pentecostal Holiness Church will hold a Food Truck Party from 6:30-

8:60 p.m. every day.

Tuesday, July 19
The Patrick County Chamber of Commerce will hold a Business After Hours at the Landmark Center from 5:30-7 p.m.

The Patrick County Quilters will meet the third Tuesday of each month at Quilted Colors from 6-8 p.m. For more information, call 276-694-3020 or email patrickcountyquilters@gmail.com.

The Critz/Patrick Springs Community Crime Watch meeting will be held at 7 p.m. at the Critz Baptist Church. Guest Speakers will be Diana Foley and Emergency management Coordinator Scottie Cassell speaking on the new Community Health Program and Emergency Services.

Thursday, July 21
Longwood Small Business Development Center will hold a Government Contracting Assistance course from 10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. via Zoom. People can register by going to https://clients.virginiasbdc.org/workshop.aspx?key=93420001.

The Carroll County Genealogy Club will hold its regular scheduled meeting at 6 p.m. at the front entrance of the new Carroll County Government Center.

Friday, July 22
The Woolwine United Methodist food truck will be at the Fairy Stone Fire Department from 3-5 p.m.

The Stuart Farmer's Market will have the regular vendors with plenty of zucchini, squash, cucumbers, eggs, meats, coffee, baked items and more. Market open 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. We have vendors that do accept the FARM Fresh for Senior vouchers.

Saturday, July 23
The Patrick Springs Ruritan Club will hold a fish fry dinner from 4-7 p.m. at the Patrick Springs Park. The fundraiser will help the club to sponsor community service projects including scholarships for high school graduates.

Sunday, July 24 - Friday, July 29
New Hope Church of the Brethren will hold Vacation Bible School each day from 6-8:15 p.m. Registration will be at 5:45 p.m.

Skyview Baptist Church will hold an Appreciation and Celebration Service from 2-4 p.m.

Monday, July 25-Wednesday, July 27
The Reynolds Homestead will hold a Camp Homestead Summer Camp from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. for children ages 7-13. The cost is \$35, and registration is not complete until payment is received. Registration is available at HTTPS://BIT.LY/RHCAMPHOMEESTEAD22, and payment should be made payable to Treasurer of Virginia Tech and mailed to 463 Homestead Lane Critz, VA 24082.

Ongoing

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

The Patrick County Library's Story Time with Ms. Sam begins at 10:30 a.m. on Tuesdays, with books, songs, finger plays, and more. For more information, call the library at (276) 694-3352.

The Patrick County Library will hold the LEGO Club with Ms. Sam on Mondays from 4:30-5:30 p.m. This program is mainly intended for school age children. For more information, call the library at (276) 694-3352.

Stuart United Methodist Church offers The Circle of Hands from 1:30-3:30 p.m. the first and third Sunday of every month. If it is a holiday weekend, the meeting will be cancelled. Men and women are invited to attend the new group, which offers an opportunity to fellowship, and bring a project to work on or learn a new craft.

The Patrick County Parks & Recreation Office is accepting soccer registration for the 2022-2023 school year. Students who are 3-14 years of age (7th grade or under) are eligible to participate in the department's soccer program. Those interested should call the office at 276-694-3917. The deadline for registration is July 30.

The Patrick County Quilters will hold a Sit-N-Sew on Saturdays, from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at Quilted Colors. For more information, call 276-694-3020 or email patrickcountyquilters@gmail.com.

Bookmobile

The Patrick County Branch's Library Bookmobile will be at the locations, dates, and times listed below:

Monday, July 18:
Truist Bank of Meadows of Dan, 10 a.m. to 1:15 p.m.
Meadows of Dan Community Center, 1:30 to 3 p.m.

Tuesday, July 19:
Woolwine - Appletree Development Center, 1:30 to 2 p.m.
Woolwine - Rose Window 40 Charity, 2:15 to 2:45 p.m.

Charity- Charity Primitive Baptist Church, 3 to 3:45 p.m.

Wednesday, July 20:
Ararat Fellowship Church, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Trinity Christian School, 1:30 to 3 p.m.

Thursday, July 21:
Circle K on 58, 10:45 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
Patrick Henry Volunteer Fire Station, 2 to 3 p.m.

Salem United Methodist Church, 3:15 to 3:45 p.m.

For questions or comments, email gwagoner@brrl.lib.va.us.

NOTICE

All announcements to be included in the Community Calendar must be received by 5 p.m. on Friday the week before publish date. Items are published as space permits. Email to: dhall@theenterprise.net

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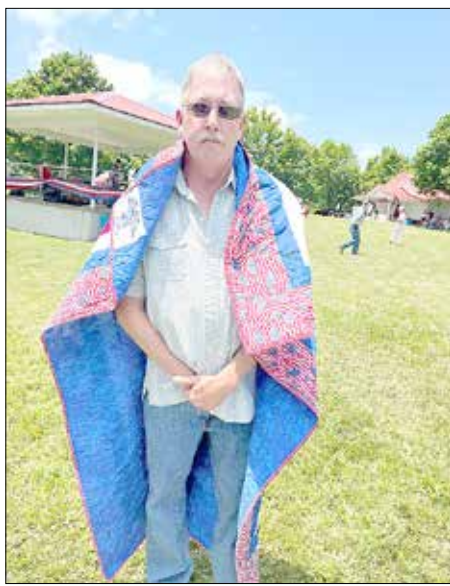
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Veterans honored with quilts

In its first ever Quilts of Valor presentation, the Mountain Top Quilters Guild of Vesta distributed handmade quilts to local veterans and service members.



Evelyn Turman accepted a quilt in place of her husband, Rayford Turman.



Ronnie Handy



Euron "Pete" Knowles



Michael Harrell accepted a quilt in place of Roy McAlexander.



Don Worley



Emerald Blankenship



Hampton J. McPherson



Hampton McPherson



Roger Conner



The Mountain Top Quilters Guild of Vesta made 20 quilts that were given to local veterans and service members.



The Mountain Top Quilters Guild of Vesta made a patriotic quilt to be raffled off. From left to right: Evelyn Boyd, Evelyn Turman, Marilyn Gearren, Suze Bailey, and Peggy Agee.



Ian Hewlett



Maj. James W. Belcher



Gregory Locke



Harvie Spangler received a quilt from Peggy Agee.



Ronald Weiss accepted his Quilt of Valor from Suze Bailey.

Winners of Vesta competition announced



The following were selected as winners in the Vesta Community Center Old Time and Bluegrass Music Competition on Monday.

FIDDLE
Adults
1st Jason Phillips
2nd Dwayne Shelor

3rd Cassidy Quillen
Children
1st Katy Kirwan

BLUEGRASS BANDS
1st Mountain Melodies Band

GUITAR
Adults
1st Rex Smith
2nd Stanley Widner
3rd Jerry Foust

OLD TIME BANDS
1st Robert Stowe and the Twin County Ramblers
2nd Squirrel Spur Hill-toppers

MANDOLIN
Adults
1st David Helms
2nd Jim Purcell

VOCALS
Adults
1st Lisa Robertson
2nd Evadall Lyon
3rd Dan Smith

BANJO
Adults
1st Jason Phillips
2nd Stanley Widner
3rd Robert Stowe

TEENS
1st Carly Cockram

FLAT FOOTING
Adults
1st Susan Blankenship
2nd Leon Fralin
3rd Connie Woods

QUILT RAFFLE
Lou Biggs won the quilt made by the Mountain Top Quilters for the Community Center.

Children
1st Olivia Boyd
2nd Annie Wilson

The organizers offered a special thanks to Don Worley and the Color Guard, Jimmy Handy and Sue Nester, and all the Quilters who made this year extra special.

Bill and the Belles and ShadowGrass to perform July 16 at Blue Ridge Music Center

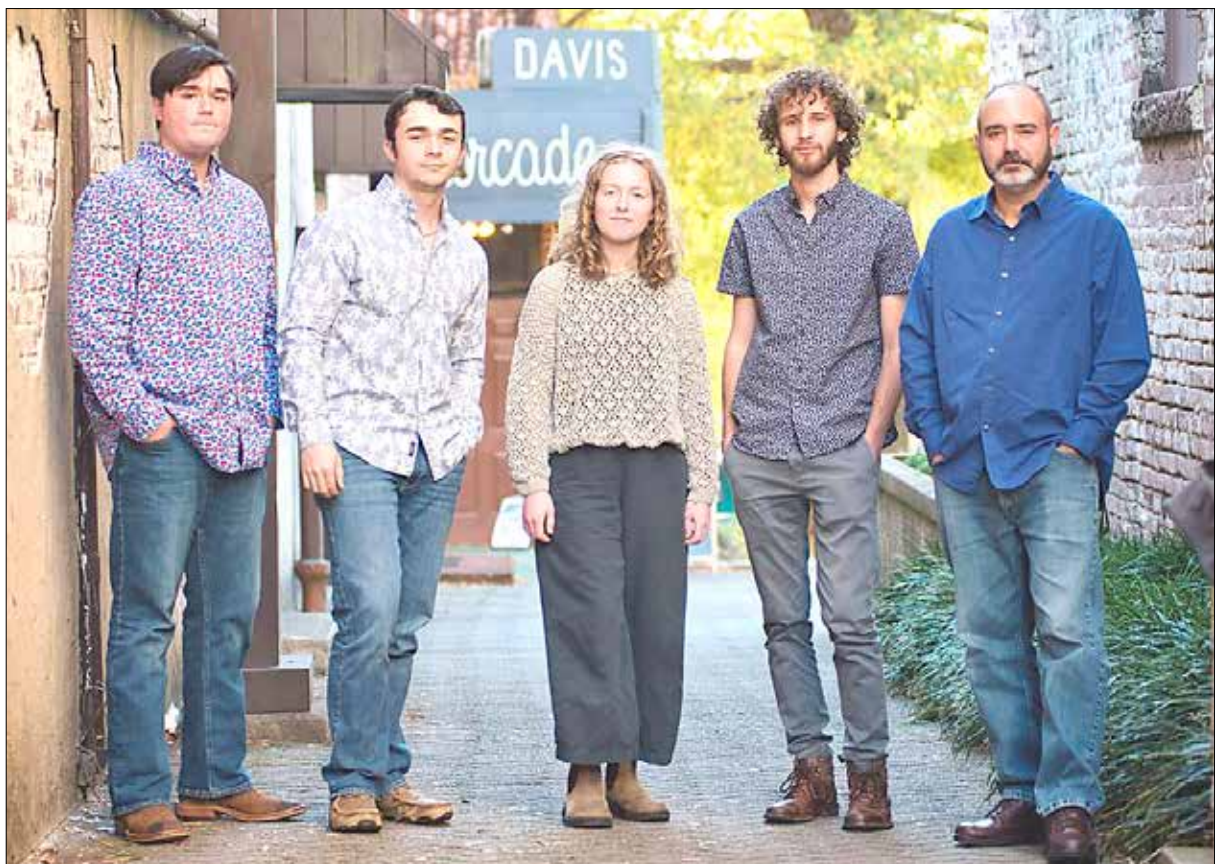
The Blue Ridge Music Center is presenting Bill and the Belles and ShadowGrass for an evening of music at 7 p.m., Saturday, July 16, in the outdoor amphitheater. The Music Center is located at milepost 213 on the Blue Ridge Parkway, just south of Galax and 30 minutes from Sparta and Mount Airy, N.C.

Bill and the Belles began as a project to explore the sounds between rural and urban music, between vaudeville and down-home roots, but they've arrived somewhere wholly their own. They revel in the in-between: deeply engaged with the string band tradition and eager to stretch those influences to contemporary settings. Bill and the Belles is Kris Truelsen on guitar, fiddler Kalia Yeagle, bassist Andrew Small, and banjo/banjo-uke player Aidan VanSuetendael.

The group's 2021 release, Happy Again, isn't exactly happy. However, the delightfully deadpan album is full of life, humor, and tongue-in-cheek explorations of love and loss and showcases

what happens when a string band from East Tennessee lays down a session at Motown. It marks a new chapter for the group by featuring 11 original songs penned by founding member Truelsen. Early fans of the band were hooked by their singing, and Happy Again continues to deliver stellar vocal trio arrangements, honed by fiddler Yeagle, that nod toward groups like The Ronettes and The Shangri-Las.

ShadowGrass will open the show. The group started in the summer of 2014, initially getting together to compete at fiddlers' conventions in Southwest Virginia and Western North Carolina. Over the years, they've becoming one of the most exciting young bands in bluegrass, winning awards and traveling across the country. While fully embracing the bluegrass traditions of the past, ShadowGrass is moving forward in the genre by incorporating each member's varied influences. The band includes Kyser George on guitar, Luke Morris on mandolin, Clay Russell on banjo, David George on bass,



ShadowGrass and Madison Morris on fiddle.

Tickets are \$20 for adults. Children 12 and younger are admitted free of charge. Advance tickets are available at BlueRidgeMusicCenter.org. Tickets can be purchased on the evening of the show at the admission gates.

Parking opens at 5:15 p.m. and is free. Admission to the amphitheater begins at 5:45 p.m.



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