

Warren/Frederick County Report

Volume XX, Issue 10 • Late May, 2025

Recipe: Barbecue Spare Ribs



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INDICTMENTS



INDICTMENTS

April Indictments April Term, 2025

Douglas Allen Greenwalt

The Warren County Va. Circuit Court Grand Jury charges that: on or about December 22, 2024, in the County of Warren, Douglas Allen Greenwalt, 54, of the 100 block of Beeden Ln., Front Royal, VA 22630, did unlawfully and feloniously cause bodily injury to Michael Cunningham, with the intent to maim disfigure, disable, or kill.

Nena Jean Kisner

The Warren County Va. Circuit Court Grand Jury charges that: on or about November

19, 2024, in the County of Warren, Nena Jean Kisner, 61, of the 100 block of Paw Paw Dr., Front Royal, VA 22630, did unlawfully and feloniously, knowingly and intentionally possess a controlled substance listed in Schedule I or Schedule II of the Drug Control Act.

Anthony Ellington

The Warren County Va. Circuit Court Grand Jury charges that: on or about March 6, 2025, in the County of Warren, Anthony Ellington, 36, of the 700 block of Youngs Dr., Front Royal, VA 22630, did unlawfully and feloniously commit an assault or an assault

and battery against, Deputy John Gregory knowing or having reason to know that such person was a law enforcement officer engaged in the performance of his public duties, as defined.

Dominique Chardai Nickens

The Warren County Va. Circuit Court Grand Jury charges that: on or about November 17, 2024, in the County of Warren, Dominique Chardai Nickens, 37, of the 100 block of W. 18th St., Front Royal, VA 22630, did unlawfully and feloniously, knowingly and intentionally possess a controlled substance listed in Schedule I or Schedule II of the Drug Control Act.

court Court Grand Jury charges that: on or about November 17, 2024, in the County of Warren, William Thomas Montley Jr., 28, of the 4000 block of Canary Woods, Bridgewater, VA 22812, did unlawfully and feloniously, knowingly and intentionally possess a controlled substance listed in Schedule I or Schedule II of the Drug

Control Act.

Ryan Anthony Stephen

The Warren County Va. Circuit Court Grand Jury charges that: on or about November 17, 2024, in the County of Warren, Ryan Anthony Stephen, 40, of the 4900 block of Tangerine Dr., Fayetteville, NC 28304, did unlawfully and feloniously, knowingly and intentionally possess a controlled substance listed in Schedule I or Schedule II of the Drug Control Act.

Phoenix Andrew

David Ashby

The Warren County Va. Circuit Court Grand Jury charges Phoenix Andrew David Ashby, 20, of the 300 block of Bentonville Rd., Bentonville, VA 22610, with two counts. COUNT ONE: In the County of Warren, Phoenix Andrew David Ashby did unlawfully and feloniously enter in the nighttime, 208 A Cloud Street, Front Royal, Virginia, 22630 or did break and enter or enter and conceal himself in a building belonging to Gilbert Marcus Smith with the intent to commit larceny, assault and battery, or a felony other



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than murder, rape, robbery or arson. COUNT TWO: did unlawfully and feloniously conspire with another to commit larceny of property, belonging to Gilbert Marcus Smith, with a value of \$1,000 or more with the intent to sell or distribute such property. Date of the offenses was on or about June 13,

2024.

Gregory Scott Williams

The Warren County Va. Circuit Court Grand Jury charges that: on or about January 15, 2025, in the County of Warren, Gregory Scott Williams, 65, address unknown, did unlawfully and feloniously, know-

ingly and intentionally possess a controlled substance listed in Schedule I or Schedule II of the Drug Control Act.

Kaitlyn Destiny Crawford

The Warren County Va. Circuit Court Grand Jury charges that: on or about September

25, 2024, in the County of Warren, Kaitlyn Destiny Crawford, 23, of the 100 block of Shenandoah Valley Dr., Front Royal, VA 22630, did unlawfully and feloniously, knowingly and intentionally possess a controlled substance listed in Schedule I or Schedule II of the Drug Control Act.

Amber Michelle Cooke

The Warren County Va. Circuit Court Grand Jury charges that: on or about November 20, 2024, in the County of Warren, Amber Michelle Cooke, 40, of the 400 block of E. Criser Rd., Front Royal, VA 22630, did unlawfully and feloniously, knowingly, and intentionally possess a controlled substance listed in Schedule I or Schedule II of the Drug Control Act.

Elijah Tremaine Cabness

The Warren County Va. Circuit Court Grand Jury charges that: on or about October 14, 2024, in the County of Warren, Elijah Tremaine Cabness, 19, of the 100 block of Crescent St., Front Royal, VA 22630, did unlawfully and feloniously destroy, deface, damage, or re-

move the property of Mahalia Griffith, with the value of or damage to such property being \$1,000 or more.

Addison James Deal

The Warren County Va. Circuit Court Grand Jury charges that: on or about July 18, 2024, in the County of Warren, Addison James Deal, 42, of the 800 block of Fairview Village Ct., Culpeper VA 22701, did unlawfully and feloniously obtain from Arthur Summers an advance of money, merchandise, or other thing having a value of \$1,000 or more, with fraudulent intent, upon a promise to perform construction, removal, repair or improvement of any building or structure permanently annexed to real property, and failed or refused to perform such promise, and also failed to substantially make good such advance.

A Grand Jury Indictment is only a charge and not evidence of guilt. The defendants are entitled to a fair trial with the burden on the government to prove guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

- news@warrencountyreport.com

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weather forecast

Friday, May 16, 2025: A chance of showers and thunderstorms before 8am, then a chance of showers between 8am and 11am, then a chance of showers and thunderstorms after 11am. Partly sunny, with a high near 88. Calm wind becoming west 5 to 7 mph in the afternoon. Chance of precipitation is 50%.

Friday Night: A chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 64. Calm wind. Chance of precipitation is 50%.

Saturday: Showers likely and possibly a thunderstorm, mainly before 2pm, then a chance of showers and thunderstorms after 2pm. Partly sunny, with a high near 84. Chance of precipitation is 60%.

Saturday Night: A chance of showers before 8pm. Partly cloudy, with a low around 59. Chance of precipitation is 30%.

Sunday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 75.

Sunday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 53.

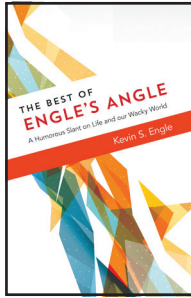
Monday: Sunny, with a high near 74.

Monday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 47.

Tuesday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 75.

Tuesday Night: A chance of showers. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 51. Chance of precipitation is 30%.

Wednesday: Showers likely. Partly sunny, with a high near 72. Chance of precipitation is 60%.



ENGLE'S ANGLE: "Near Capacity"

by Kevin S. Engle

According to a friend, if you want to remember something, you have to forget something else. His theory is the brain can only retain so much information. When it's full, something has to go.

I must be at that point.

We watched a movie the other night.

I thought we'd seen it once before, but wasn't certain. It seemed familiar.

My wife didn't remember it at all.

I checked my movie list the next morning.

Yeah, I keep a list.

Several actually. One for Netflix, one for DVDs from the local library, and separate lists for the various streaming services like Apple+, Paramount, etc.

For years I've been wanting to convert those handwritten pages into a searchable computer document. But that would require time and effort.

I have the time, but I don't want to make the effort.

And probably never will.

But this is exactly why I want it.

We've watched lots of movies since we started dating back in the '80s.

Too many to remember them all.

If I had my handy dandy computerized list, I could simply search by the title.

But since I don't have a handy dandy searchable computer file, I have to do it the hard way.

Seek and find.

This particular movie debuted in 2016.

If we'd seen it, it was either on Netflix or a library DVD.

Since I got it from the library, maybe that's how we would have watched it?

My list is in chronological order. Of course. I found 2016 and started scanning up and down the pages.

It wasn't there.

Netflix?

I did the same thing. Find the first movie we watched in 2016 and go from there.

I was running out of movies and then, voila!

March 31, 2017.

More than eight years ago.

The dictionary defines the word

capacity as "the maximum amount something can contain".

The water bottle I carry in my backpack has a capacity of 24 ounces.

I can't get any more in it than that.

Stadiums have a defined capacity. If a game or concert is a sellout, they may offer some standing room only tickets as well.

I can't do that with my brain.

Once it's full, it's full. Nothing more gets in.

We watched another movie last night.

It just came out last year.

The 2016 movie was excellent.

Last night's was horrible.

I'd like to forget it ASAP.

If there's one thing I do remember about it, I hope it's this.

NEVER watch it again.

The author thought of something funny to write here but can't remember what it was.

— kevinengle456@comcast.net

The Best of Engle's Angle is available online or pick up a signed copy at a lo-

cal bookstore.



Ask Stewart

Hi Stewart!

Have you read any good tree books lately?

— Richard

I sure have! Every week I visit Samuel's Public Library and branch out to find something interesting to read. The library staff are TREE-mendous. If they don't have the book I want they can order it for me. If I get stumped trying to find a book, the reference librarian is right there to point me in the right direction. If a book is already

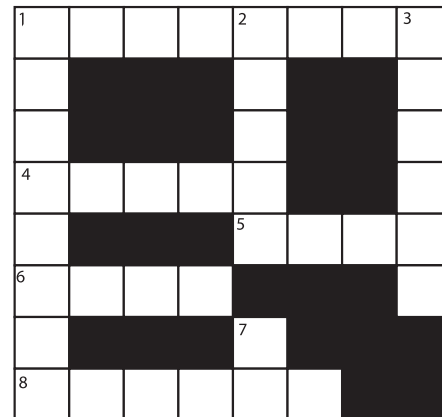


Food FACT:

The USDA advises cooking this beloved grilled food to an internal temperature of 160 F.

Answer: Hamburger

Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

- Rear of a home
- Sandy area
- Rising and falling of the sea
- Place to pitch a tent
- Has a good time

DOWN

- Style of slow-cooked food
- Luxury ship
- Evening meal
- The Empire State (abbr.)

Answers: Across 1. Backyard 2. Beach 3. Dinner 4. Yacht 5. Tide 6. Camp 7. N.Y. 8. Enjoy's Down 1. Barbecue 2. Yacht 3. Dinner 7. NY



1609: William Shakespeare's sonnets are first published in London.

1862: Abraham Lincoln signs the Homestead Act into law.

2012: An earthquake with a magnitude of 6.0 strikes northern Italy.

NEW WORD SEAR

to burn or scorch the surface of something with high heat

Answer: Hamburger

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How they say that in...

English: Smoke
Spanish: Humo
Italian: Fumo
French: Fumée
German: Rauch

Did You Know?

Propane and charcoal grills should only ever be used outdoors. A grill should be located away from the home or other structures.

Get the PICTURE?

Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

Answer: Hamburger

checked out it is so easy to put it on hold and get notified for pick it up. I never get board!

My latest book is Tree Story: The History of the World Written in Rings by Valerie Trouet

The author reveals how the seemingly simple and familiar concept of counting tree rings has inspired far-reaching scientific breakthroughs that illuminate the complex interactions between nature and people. Trouet, a leading tree-ring scientist, takes us

out into the field, from remote African villages to radioactive Russian forests, offering readers an insider's look at tree-ring research, a discipline known as dendrochronology.

Blending popular science, travelogue, and cultural history, Tree Story highlights exciting findings of tree-ring research, including the fate of lost pirate treasure, successful strategies for surviving California wildfire, the secret to Genghis Khan's victories, the connection between Egyptian pharaohs and volcanoes, and even the role

of olives in the fall of Rome. What a book – I went nuts reading it!

And now a question for you: Q: How do lumberjacks know how many trees they have cut down?

A: They keep a log. Your Pal in the Trees,

– Stewart

The Front Royal/Warren County Tree Steward program began in 1997 with volunteers dedicated to improving the health of trees by providing educational programs, tree planting and care demonstrations, and tree

maintenance throughout the community. The group now consists of over 30 active members with several interns working toward becoming certified tree stewards from our annual "All About Trees Class". Each month Stewart will answer a question from our readers. Please forward it to "Stewart" in care of:

frwctreestewards@comcast.net and we may publish it in a future issue. Please visit our website at: www.treesfrontroyal.org

HOROSCOPES

ARIES – Mar 21/Apr 20

Telling the truth has always come naturally to you, Aries. But tact isn't always your specialty and sometimes your candor is now well-received. Keep that in mind this week.

TAURUS – Apr 21/May 21

It is time to make peace with someone even if it is the last thing you want to do this week, Taurus. There is no better option than to talk it out, so schedule that chat as soon as possible.

GEMINI – May 22/June 21

Sometimes there is nothing you like more than being silly with other kindred spirits who get you, Gemini. But you're in a different mood this week and it might feel unfamiliar to you.

CANCER – June 22/July 22

It is fair to say this week that you desire some time alone and maybe need it as well, Cancer. Take some time for yourself and let others know you're going off the grid.

LEO – July 23/Aug 23

Leo, although your first inclination might be to get into a war of words with someone with whom you disagree, this week you might want to try a different approach. Remain open to others' views.

VIRGO – Aug 24/Sept 22

You might be tired of recent drama in your life, Virgo. But if you dig deeper, you might find that you have contributed to the noise. Make some meaningful changes this week.

LIBRA – Sept 23/Oct 23

Your negotiation skills are well-known, Libra, and you're usually the first person anyone thinks of when they need a third party to help them smooth over a situation. Enjoy the attention.

SCORPIO – Oct 24/Nov 22

Scorpio, even if someone is pushing your buttons this week, you won't let that get in the way of doing something for this person because they are dear to you.

SAGITTARIUS – Nov 23/Dec 21

You are no stranger to good luck, Sagittarius. This week that luck will be shared with people who cross your path. They will appreciate the fortune.

CAPRICORN – Dec 22/Jan 20

Expect to experience a strong feeling of wanderlust this week, Capricorn. You may find it challenging to pass up a trip or a new experience of any kind.

AQUARIUS – Jan 21/Feb 18

Aquarius, right now the old adage that if you ignore it, it will go away might not hold true. Failing to face something right now may not be the best approach.

PISCES – Feb 19/Mar 20

You are ready to share secrets with a soulmate, Pisces. The challenge lies in trying to find the time when you are alone to have this important conversation.

FAMOUS BIRTHDAYS

MAY 18

Tina Fey, Actress (55)

MAY 19

Sam Smith, Singer (33)

MAY 20

Cher, Singer (79)

MAY 21

Cody Johnson, Singer (38)

MAY 22

Naomi Campbell, Model (55)

MAY 23

Melissa McBride, Actress (60)

MAY 24

Brianne Howey, Actress (36)

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WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to sun protection.

V C P E U O R

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Answer: Cover-up

GUESS WHO ?

I am a comedian born in Ohio on May 23, 1958. I was expelled from my university twice for poor academics and then served in the U.S. Marine Corps. After doing stand-up, I landed my own TV show and a spin-off improv show. I then went on to be a game show host.

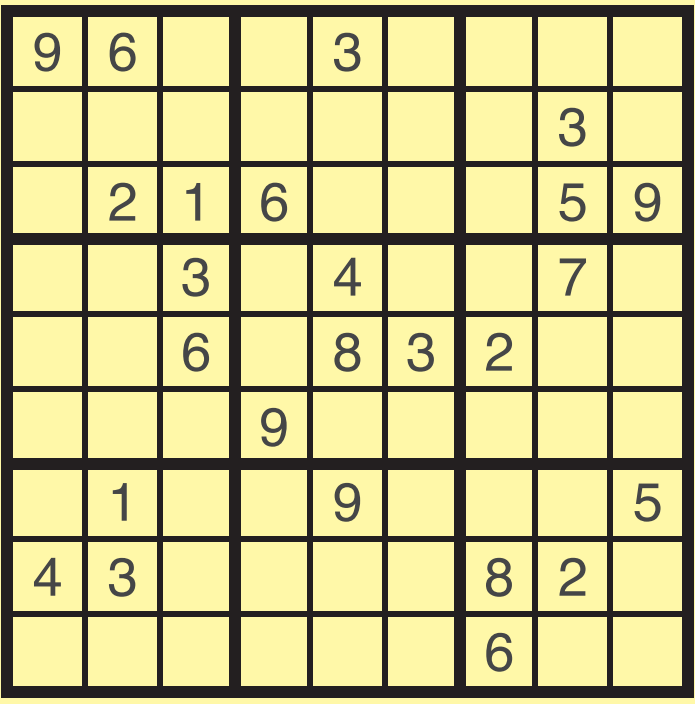
Answer: Drew Carey

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Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle! (Answer in back.)



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

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37th annual Virginia Wine & Craft Festival set for May 17 in Front Royal

FRONT ROYAL, VA — The Front Royal-Warren County Chamber of Commerce will host the 37th annual

Virginia Wine & Craft Festival on Saturday, May 17, bringing wine tasting, artisan shopping, and live music to downtown Front Royal.

Running from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., the festival will feature a variety of Virginia wines, meads, and ciders, along with handcrafted jewelry, ceramics, and other unique items from artists and crafters across the East Coast.

G & M Auto Sales, celebrating its 70th anniversary this year, is the presenting sponsor of the event. Additional sponsors include Lindsay Chevrolet, Discover Front Royal, and On Cue Sports Bar & Grill.

Festivalgoers can enjoy live music from bands such as 2fer 2sday, Beard-

ed Harmony, and headliners Strutman Lane, performing on the Main Stage at the Gazebo.

For families, the Kids Zone on Cloud Street will provide activities and entertainment, sponsored by Main Street Geek and Play Favorites.

Food vendors will serve a variety of festival fare, including crab cake sandwiches and shish kabobs.

Admission is free, but wine tasting tickets are \$30 in advance or \$35 at the gate.

For more information, contact the Front Royal-Warren County Chamber of Commerce at 540-635-3185.

Chamber member news

Able Forces Foundation and Chester Street Tavern invite you to participate in the "Salute to Service" event on Saturday, May 24th, 1-7 p.m. at the Gazebo. Festivities include food trucks, exhibitors, vendors, veteran and agriculture support organization exhibits, beer and wine. Sponsorships are available. Contact Skip Rogers at 703-220-1822 to sign up.

Calling All Golfers & Local Businesses! It's that time of year again. The

Rotary Club of Front Royal will be holding its 26th Annual Scholarship Golf Tournament on Thursday, May 29, 1 p.m. at the Shenandoah Valley Golf Club. This annual fundraising event allows us to give out \$24,000 in scholarships each year to local high school seniors. We are looking for golf teams and sponsors for beverage carts, kegs, putting contest, longest drive, closest to the pin, & hole sponsors. If you would like to sponsor or play in this tournament, please call with any questions (540) 683-9680.

Downtown Front Royal, Inc. cordially invites you to an evening under the stars at the enchanted Warren Heritage Society for the Garden of Dreams Gala on June 21st, 5-10 p.m. With guest Tom Eshelman behind the mic for the live auction, to silent auction items, door prizes, music, delicious food and more, it's sure to be a magical evening supporting your downtown community.

Hike Kidz Foundation invites you to the 1st Annual Dueling Disco Event - a benefit for their Clothe the Kidz Initiative on June 27th, 5:30-10 p.m.

Community events

Front Royal's Virginia Wine and Craft Festival is scheduled for May 17

from 11 a.m. – 6 p.m. at the historic downtown Front Royal Gazebo

Join us at the Front Royal Gazebo as we celebrate Juneteenth on June 19th from 12-7p.m. as a community. There will be plenty of Food Trucks, music and guest speakers. Let's celebrate love, kindness and friendship (as a community), on this beautiful day for all!! <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Juneteenth>



Fort Loudoun Day to highlight Hessian prisoner's story

WINCHESTER, VA — Fort Loudoun Day will be held on Saturday, May 17, from noon to 3 p.m. at 419 N. Loudoun Street in Winchester, commemorating the construction of Fort Loudoun in 1756 under the direction of Colonel George Washington.

This year's event will feature guest speaker Nikolai Lukianoff, who will

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Virginia Wine & Craft FESTIVAL

- SAT. MAY 17, 2025 (KARAOKE NOON-4PM)
- VIRGINIA WINE AND CRAFT FESTIVAL 11-6PM
- E MAIN AND CHESTER ST, FRONT ROYAL, VA 22630
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SAT. MAY 17, 2025 (KARAOKE NOON-4PM)

Pics/Videos/Calendar at route11dj.com

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portray Andreas Wiederholdt, a Hessian prisoner who was held at Fort Loudoun following the Battle of Trenton in 1776. Lukianoff will share the prisoner's story at 2 p.m., detailing Wiederholdt's experiences and the maps he created of Winchester during his imprisonment.

Wiederholdt, a member of the Hesse-Kassel Regiment von Knyphausen, was captured during Washington's surprise attack on Trenton and later brought to Fort Loudoun in September 1777. Despite the harsh conditions, he produced a detailed map of Winchester that has been noted for its accuracy and historical significance.

Wiederholdt's map has been compared to a modern overlay created by local historian Wilbur S. Johnson, illustrating the accuracy of the Hessian's work.

In addition to the presentation, visitors can learn more about the history of Fort Loudoun and its role during the French and Indian War and the American Revolution.



REC lineworkers to showcase skills at Gaff-n-Go Rodeo

DOSWELL, VA — Rappahannock Electric Cooperative (REC) lineworkers will step into the spotlight this weekend at the annual Gaff-n-Go Rodeo, a two-day competition highlighting the skills and safety practices essential to keeping the power on in Virginia.

The event, held at Meadow Event Park in Doswell on Friday, May 16, and Saturday, May 17, is free and open to the public. Lineworkers from across the East Coast will compete in various events, demonstrating the challenging and often dangerous work they perform daily.

Hunter Jost, an apprentice lineman, said the event offers a rare glimpse into the demanding work lineworkers do to maintain power lines.

"You've got people climbing poles wicked fast," he said. "It's mind-blowing."

Austin Lambert, another apprentice lineman, emphasized the importance of showing the public what happens behind the scenes during power outages.

"It kind of just shows people what we do on a daily basis," Lambert said.

The rodeo also serves as an opportunity for the community to gather and celebrate the vital work performed by linemen.

"Come and check out what it takes to keep your lights on," said apprentice lineman Zach Carlisle.

For more information about the event, visit gaff-n-go.com.

REC Recognized as Top Employer for Interns

Fredericksburg, Va. — Rappahannock Electric Cooperative (REC) was recently recognized as a top employer

for interns by the Virginia Talent + Opportunity Partnership, which is administered by the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia.

The annual award celebrates Virginia employers who provide high-quality internships to students. Some of the noteworthy efforts of employers include exposing interns to senior leaders, structured mentorship programs, housing allowances, paid time off, security clearances and training for industry certifications.

Since 2020, REC has hosted 26 interns and has made internships available in Human Resources, Cybersecurity, Economic Development, Clean Energy and Energy Solutions, Data Analytics, Risk Management, Communications and Public Relations, Regulatory Affairs and Compliance,

Operations and Construction and others.

"We take great pride in providing an enriched environment for our interns through our InternConnect Program, and the 2025 Virginia Top Employer for Interns award validates the efforts of our entire team to foster growth, learning, and professional development for the next generation of talent," said Fafa L. Baker, Organizational Development Specialist.

Serving more than 182,000 connections across 22 Virginia counties, REC is a pillar in its communities, with over 18,000 miles of power lines extending from the Blue Ridge Mountains to the Chesapeake Bay. For more information on REC's initiatives, visit www.rec.com.

See NEWS, 8

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The aroma of barbecue is hard to resist and the flavor is even better.

Barbecue is an art form, as that enticing aroma and undeniable flavor is truly a labor of love. But even novices can try their hands at barbecue and end up with delicious results. For those who want to craft their own barbecue concoctions, this recipe for "Barbecue Spare Ribs" from Lines+Angles is easily followed, and the finished product is undeniably flavorful.

Barbecue Spare Ribs

Makes 6 servings

- 2 tablespoons paprika
- 1/2 teaspoon cayenne pepper
- 2 tablespoons garlic powder
- 1 tablespoon salt
- 1 teaspoon freshly ground black peppercorns
- 6 lbs. spare ribs, racks cleaned and trimmed
- 13 ounces barbecue sauce, low sugar, if possible
- 1 ounce flat-leaf parsley, torn

1. Stir together the paprika, cayenne, garlic powder, salt, and pepper in a mixing bowl.
2. Thoroughly rub the spice mix into the rib racks. Place in a shallow dish, cover and chill for at least 8 hours.
3. After chilling, remove the ribs from the fridge. Preheat a gas or charcoal grill to about 300 F.
4. Cook the ribs on the grill, covered with a lid, until the meat is tender and pulls away from the bone, about 2 hours.
5. As the ribs cook, periodically brush them with some barbecue sauce, reserving any unused sauce.
6. When ready, remove the ribs from the grill and let them rest under aluminum foil for at least 10 minutes.
7. After resting, brush the ribs with any reserved barbecue sauce before cutting and serving with a garnish of parsley.

– wfcreport.com

NEWS, from 7

myrec.coop and follow REC on Facebook, X, Instagram, LinkedIn, and YouTube



American Military Heritage Museum to host 12th annual military appreciation and living history event

STEPHENS CITY, VA — The American Military Heritage Museum will host its 12th annual open house military appreciation and living history event on Saturday, June 7, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at 811 Fairfax Pike (Rt. 277), 1.5 miles east of Stephens City. The event will be held rain or shine.

This year's program will commemorate the 80th anniversary of the end of World War II, featuring a wide range of exhibits and reenactments that span from the Civil War to the Vietnam War. Museum displays will include World War I memorabilia, Civilian

Conservation Corps artifacts, and various World War II exhibits showcasing the American home front, D-Day, the Battle of the Bulge, and U.S. Army Air Force gear.

Visitors will also see a collection of historic military vehicles, including an operational WWII Stuart tank, and have the opportunity to take free rides in a WWII Jeep.

Throughout the day, military reenactors will bring history to life with living history displays and interactive exhibits, offering attendees a chance to learn about military life and equipment from various eras.

Veterans are invited to gather for reunions beginning at 10:30 a.m., fol-

lowed by a group photograph at 11:30 a.m. Veterans who register upon arriv-

al will receive a complimentary BBQ luncheon at noon.

The museum is encouraging local veterans to spread the word and attend the event. For more information, visit the American Military Heritage Museum's Facebook page or look for the large American flag marking the event location.

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* See current benefits at careers.walmart.com

Riverton Church to host breakfast fundraiser

Riverton Church will host a breakfast fundraiser on Saturday, May 17, from 7:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. at the church's Fellowship Hall, located at 55 E. Strasburg Rd. Front Royal.

The menu includes pancakes, sausage, scrambled eggs, biscuits, sausage gravy, juice, and coffee. Offerings will

VDOT seeks input on Route 7 safety study in Frederick County

STAUNTON, VA — The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT), in partnership with Frederick County, is requesting public feedback for a transportation study focused on Route 7 (Berryville Pike) from Greenwood Road to the eastern county limits.

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with Dan McDermott

Virginia Beer Museum

Karaoke Playoffs

Qualify to enter our contest to compete in the Warren County Fair Karaoke Playoffs!

Fri. May 30, 2025 6-10pm - KARAOKE (Qualify)

Fri. June 20, 2025 6-10pm - KARAOKE (Qualify)

Thurs. July 10, 2025 6-10pm - KARAOKE (Contest)

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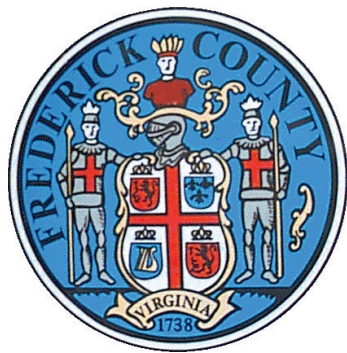
The study aims to identify safety improvements along the corridor, which has been noted for high-speed crashes and other safety concerns.

Residents and travelers are encouraged to participate in an online survey available from May 5 to May 19, 2025. Input collected through the survey will help VDOT assess existing issues and develop potential solutions, which will be presented for further public review in the next phase of the study.

The study is part of VDOT's Project Pipeline program, a performance-based planning initiative managed by Virginia's Office of Intermodal Planning and Investment (OIPI), in collaboration with VDOT and the Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT).

Completion of the study is expected by summer 2026, with recommendations potentially eligible for funding through programs such as SMART SCALE, Revenue Sharing, and the Virginia Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP).

For more information or to provide comments, contact Brad Reed at the VDOT Staunton District Office, 811 Commerce Road, Staunton, VA 24401, or email brad.reed@vdot.virginia.gov.



Arrest Made in College Park Arson Investigation

WINCHESTER, VA — An individual has been arrested and charged with multiple counts of arson following a series of fires in the College Park subdivision late Sunday night, according to the Frederick County Fire Marshal's Office.

At approximately 11:35 p.m. on May 4, Frederick County Fire and Rescue responded to a structure fire at 106 Purdue Drive. While en route, a second call was received regarding a large

vehicle fire at 121 Princeton Drive. Both fires were quickly extinguished, and the scenes were secured for investigation.

The Fire Marshal's Office ruled both fires as arson, determining that accidental and natural causes had been ruled out. A Sheriff's Deputy, the first to arrive at 106 Purdue Drive, received a suspect description and direction of travel from residents.

A unit from the Fire Marshal's Office later located a suspect matching the description, partially concealed in a wooded area behind 1095 Millwood Pike. With assistance from the Frederick County Sheriff's Office, the suspect was taken into custody and charged with two counts of arson. Additional charges are expected.

Anyone with information regarding these fires is urged to contact the Frederick County Fire Marshal's Office at 540-665-6350 (Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.) or after hours at 540-662-6162 to speak with the on-duty Assistant Fire Marshal. Tips can also be emailed to FMO@fcva.us.



VDOT seeks public input for Route 522 planning study in Frederick County

STAUNTON, VA — The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT), in collaboration with Frederick County, is seeking public feedback for a transportation study on Route 522 (North Frederick Pike) from Red Oak Road to Echo Lane.

The study aims to address safety and capacity issues along this rural corridor, which has been identified as having multiple crash hot spots related to high speeds and vehicles running off the road.

Residents and travelers are encouraged to participate in an online survey available from May 5 to May 19, 2025. Survey responses will help VDOT identify existing problems and devel-

op potential improvements, which will be presented for further public comment in the next phase of the study.

The study is part of VDOT's Project Pipeline program, a performance-based planning initiative focused on identifying cost-effective transportation solutions. Project Pipeline is led by Virginia's Office of Intermodal Planning and Investment (OIPI), in coordination with VDOT and the De-

partment of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT).

This study, expected to be completed by summer 2026, will recommend projects and strategies for potential funding through programs such as SMART SCALE, Revenue Sharing, and the Virginia Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP).

For more information or to submit comments, contact Brad Reed at the

VDOT Staunton District Office, 811 Commerce Road, Staunton, VA 24401, or email brad.reed@vdot.virginia.gov.

VDOT seeks public input for Route 522 study near Winchester

STAUNTON, VA — The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT), in partnership with Frederick County, is seeking public feedback for a transportation study on Route 522 (North Frederick Pike) from Echo Lane to the Winchester city limits.

The study focuses on safety and improving multimodal access along this urbanized corridor, which has been identified as having crash hot spots and barriers for pedestrians accessing nearby activity centers.

Residents and travelers are invited to participate in an online survey available from May 5 to May 19, 2025. The survey responses will assist VDOT in identifying existing issues and developing potential improvements that will be presented for further public input in the next phase of the study.

See NEWS, 10

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NEWS, from 9

This study is part of VDOT's Project Pipeline program, a performance-based planning initiative led by Virginia's Office of Intermodal Planning

and Investment (OIPI), in collaboration with VDOT and the Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT).

The study is expected to be completed by summer 2026, with recom-

mendations potentially eligible for funding through programs such as SMART SCALE, Revenue Sharing, and the Virginia Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP).

For more information or to submit comments, contact Brad Reed at the VDOT Staunton District Office, 811 Commerce Road, Staunton, VA 24401, or email brad.reed@vdot.virginia.gov.

operations and camper services, fuel sales, and stable operations within the park opened on July 30, 2024, and closed on November 7, 2024.

The NPS will revise and issue a new solicitation for these services. This is not expected to impact continuity of visitor services.

It is anticipated that the new contract will begin January 1, 2027. In the meantime, the NPS is exploring options to provide concession services for visitors until a new contract is awarded. The current operator, Delaware North Parks and Resorts, will continue providing services under a one-year extension of its current contract, originally awarded in 2013.

The contract solicitation was canceled because a revised financial analysis revealed a change to the value of the overall concession contract opportunity. The NPS determined that canceling and re-soliciting the contract best serves the public's interest by ensuring the franchise fee aligns with the probable value of the contract, thus



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Skyland Resort-Shenandoah National Park NPS Photo

National Park Service cancels concession contract opportunity in Shenandoah National Park

LURAY, VA – The National Park Service (NPS) has canceled a previously announced 15-year concessions contract opportunity in Shenandoah National Park. The contract solicitation to provide overnight guest lodging, food and beverage sales, retail and grocery operations, campground



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Upcoming events with Dan McDermott

Thurs. May 15, 2025 (6:30-8:30pm) Music Bingo at Winchester, Va. Elks*

Sat. May 17, 2025 (12 noon-4pm) Karaoke and DJ at Virginia Wine and Craft Festival - E Main and Chester St, Front Royal, VA 22630 **Free Admission:** Wine Tasting and VIP Tickets Available

Fri. May 23, 2025 (7:30-11:30pm) Music Bingo/Karaoke New Market Eagles*

Sat. May 24 2025 (6-10pm) Music Bingo & Karaoke at Shenandoah Valley Axe Throwing Company - Qualify for Warren County Fair Contest Entry **OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:** 20 South St. Front Royal, VA 22630

Fri. May 30, 2025 (6-10pm) Karaoke at Va. Beer Museum, 16 Chester St. Front Royal - **Free Admission/Open to Public:** Qualify tonight for our July 4, 2025 contest to enter Warren County Fair Karaoke Playoff

Sat. May 31, 2025 (7:00-10:30pm) Karaoke/Music Bingo-Woodstock Moose*

Sat. June 7, 2025 (6-10pm) Music Bingo & Karaoke at Shenandoah Valley Axe Throwing Company - Qualify for Warren County Fair Contest Entry **OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:** 20 South St. Front Royal, VA 22630

Thurs. June 19, 2025 (7-10pm) Music Bingo, DJ & Karaoke at New Market, Va. Eagles Convention*

Fri. June 20, 2025 (6-10pm) Karaoke at Va. Beer Museum, 16 Chester St. Front Royal - **Free Admission/Open to Public:** Qualify for July 4 contest to enter Warren County Fair Karaoke Playoff

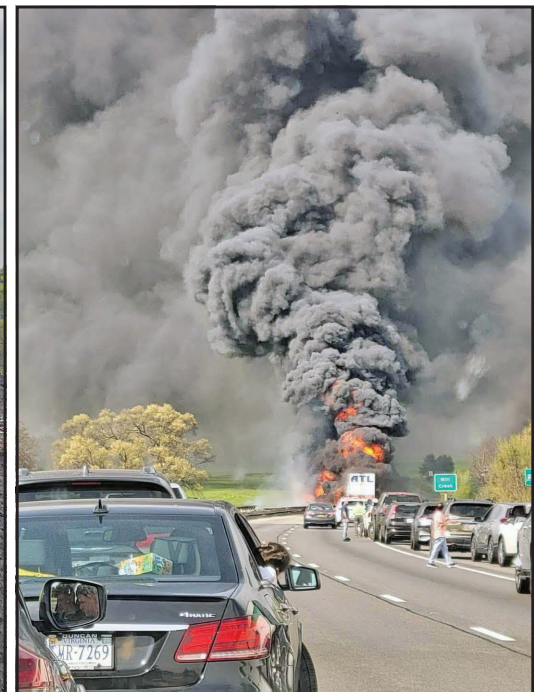
Sat. June 21, 2025 (6-10pm) Music Bingo & Karaoke at Shenandoah Valley Axe Throwing Company Qualify for Warren County Fair Contest Entry **OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:** 20 South St. Front Royal, VA 22630

*Private clubs open to members and properly invited guests

route11dj.com

Limited dates remain. Book your event now: dan@route11dj.com

Truck crash shuts down I-81 northbound in Shenandoah County



Emergency crews responded April 19, 2025, after a tractor-trailer caught fire following a crash on northbound Interstate 81 in Shenandoah County. The truck jackknifed and burned after a tire blowout, shutting down the highway for approximately two hours. Photos courtesy of Virginia State Police.

SHENANDOAH COUNTY, Va. — A tractor-trailer crash shut down northbound Interstate 81 for about two hours Saturday afternoon following a tire blowout and vehicle fire.

According to Virginia State Police, the crash occurred at 3:49 p.m. near the 272-mile marker when a north-

bound 2025 Peterbilt tractor-trailer suffered a tire failure, struck a guardrail, jackknifed, and caught fire.

The driver, Giorgi Khutsishvili, 42, of Lake Hopatcong, New Jersey, sustained serious but non-life-threatening injuries and was transported to Winchester Medical Center. Police

said he was wearing a seatbelt at the time of the crash.

VDOT assisted with traffic control and detours during the closure. The incident remains under investigation.

– route11news.com

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Chronic wasting disease detected in 109 Virginia deer during 2024-2025 hunting season

RICHMOND, VA — The Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources (DWR) has reported 109 cases of chronic wasting disease (CWD) detected in white-tailed deer during the 2024-2025 hunting season, according to surveillance conducted in the state's four Disease Management Areas (DMAs).

DMA1, which includes Clarke, Frederick, Shenandoah, and Warren counties, recorded 79 positive cases. Frederick County had the highest number with 53 cases, followed by Shenandoah with 12, Clarke with nine, and Warren with five. No boundary

changes are planned for DMA1 in the upcoming hunting season.

In DMA2, which covers Arlington, Culpeper, Fairfax, Fauquier, Loudoun, Madison, Orange, Page, Prince William, and Rappahannock counties, 17 deer tested positive for CWD. Seven of those cases were reported in Loudoun County, while Prince William and Rappahannock counties each reported their first confirmed cases. As a result of CWD detections in nearby West Virginia, Rockingham County will be added to DMA2 for the 2025-2026 hunting season. New regulations will restrict the transport of deer carcasses from Rockingham County to other areas within DMA1 and DMA2.

In DMA3, which includes Carroll, Floyd, Franklin, Montgomery, Patrick, Pulaski, Roanoke, and Wythe counties, 13 positive CWD cases were reported. Montgomery County accounted for seven cases, Floyd for five, and Roanoke for one. The Roanoke case was the county's first and involved a deer exhibiting symptoms consistent with late-stage CWD.

DMA4, encompassing Bland, Smyth, and Tazewell counties, had no positive CWD cases detected during the past season.

Across the rest of Virginia, DWR tested 2,262 deer for CWD and did not detect any additional cases.

Since 2009, 362 deer in 17 Virginia counties have tested positive for CWD. The disease, which affects deer, elk, and moose, is caused by a prion and is spread through urine, feces, and saliva of infected animals. CWD is fatal to infected animals and currently has no cure or treatment.

Hunters in CWD-positive areas are

urged to have their deer tested and to avoid consuming meat from infected animals. Symptoms of CWD include staggering, drooling, abnormal posture, and severe weight loss.

For more information, including maps of DMAs and surveillance data, visit the Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources website.



Warren County Fire & Rescue handles three complex incidents over Easter weekend

WARREN COUNTY, VA — Warren County Fire and Rescue responded to three major emergency incidents this past Easter weekend, including two mountain rescues and one water-related fatality.

Saturday, 4:30 p.m. – Crews assisted with a challenging mountain rescue of an injured hiker off Veach Gap Trail in Fort Valley. The extraction involved a 5-mile hike, overnight operations, and support from specialized rescue teams. The patient was brought out around 5 a.m. Sunday.

Sunday, 10:50 a.m. – A man fell while free-climbing near Buzzard Rock Trail. Emergency crews reached him on foot and coordinated with Maryland State Police Aviation Command to airlift him to Winchester Medical Center with leg injuries.

Sunday, 12:26 p.m. – A woman fell from a kayak near Karo Boat Landing in Limeton and became trapped underwater by rocks. Despite efforts by bystanders and first responders, she was pronounced deceased at the scene.

Due to back-to-back emergencies, the county was briefly placed on a "no/limited units available" status, prompting an all-call for volunteer responders. Operations returned to normal around 3 p.m. Sunday.



WV man arrested after abduction and high-speed chase into Frederick County

FREDERICK COUNTY, VA —

A West Virginia man was arrested March 21 after allegedly abducting a woman at knife-point and leading deputies on a high-speed chase into Virginia. Nicholas Hess of Inwood, W.Va., fled a traffic stop at the state line and was pursued through Frederick County before being forced off Route 37 and taken into custody. The victim escaped safely with minor injuries. Hess was being held without bond and charged with abduction, felony eluding, assault on law enforcement, hit and run, and reckless driving. The case remains under investigation.

Two charged after handgun found in child's backpack at school

FREDERICK COUNTY, VA — Two adults were charged after an 8-year-old was found with a handgun in his backpack at Jordan Springs Elementary on March 20. Mark Richardson, 54, was charged with possession of a firearm by a felon and allowing access to firearms by children. Camille

Richardson, 51, was also charged with allowing access. No one was injured. Additional charges are pending.



Winchester Hot Wheels Club to host meeting and swap event

WINCHESTER, VA — The Winchester Hot Wheels Club will hold its next meeting on Sunday, May 18, from 1 to 3 p.m. in the Lord Fairfax Room of the War Memorial Building at Jim Barnett Park, 1001 E. Cork St.

The event will feature opportunities to buy, sell, and trade diecast cars, along with door prizes. Admission is \$5, and children under 12 are free.

For more information, contact Dan Hammond at hwdan2@earthlink.net or visit the club's Facebook page.

Humane Society of Warren County

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 <p>Brownie is a 10 year old mellow hound looking for his forever family! He is extremely sweet and docile. He is good with other dogs and kids. He is neutered, up to date on vaccinations and microchipped.</p> <p>Brownie's ad sponsored by: Hillbilly's Junkyard Hillbilly has what you NEED! 4381 Stonewall Jackson Hwy Bentonville, VA • 636-2671 hillbillysjunkyard.com</p>	 <p>Ally is a collie mix around 8 yrs old. She is super sweet, laid back and just wants to be with her people. She has lived with dogs but no cats for her please. Low energy and a calm dog would work best. We require a dog test to see if everyone gets along ok. She's a known escape artist so don't leave her alone outside. She loves kids and will do GREAT as a family dog with kiddos of all ages. She's housebroken, loves car rides and baths!! She's spayed, chipped and UTD on vaccines.</p> <p>Ally's ad sponsored by: SAGER REAL ESTATE Tana Hoffman Realtor, SFR, CMRS, CRS Licensed in Virginia 540-671-1994 111 East King St. • Strasburg, VA 22657 www.sagerrealestate.com</p>
 <p>Dante is a happy go lucky 2 yr old male Husky looking for his forever home! He is high energy and FULL OF LOVE! He would do great with an active family. He's dog friendly and would do better with high energy play mates his size! No kitty cats please! He is kid friendly but may be too much for little ones. He's neutered, UTD on vacc., chipped and ready to find his forever family!!</p> <p>Dante's ad sponsored by: TONY'S TIRES NEW Tires and Complete Auto Maintenance! 11 E. 7th Street, Front Royal 540-551-0922</p>	 <p>Oreo is a 3 year old male border collie mix who is full of energy and love! He is good with kids but may do better with older ones. He has lived with small dogs but not dogs his size. We do require a dog test before adoption. We are unsure of him and cats. He loves to swim and ride in the car!</p> <p>Oreo's ad sponsored by: Music Bingo at YOUR Business Event/Party! route11dj.com ROUTE 11 DJ 540-305-3000</p>

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Samuels Public Library launches donor emergency fund

Front Royal, VA — May 14, 2025 — As a result of the Warren County Board of Supervisors decision not to renew its Memorandum of Agreement with Samuels Public Library, the community has responded with overwhelming generosity—contributing over \$550,000 in donations to date, with more expected in the coming

weeks.

To manage these contributions responsibly and transparently, Samuels has created a Donor Emergency Fund, designed to sustain library services and operations while a path forward is negotiated.

“This fund gives us the ability to keep serving the community in the short term, but it’s not a permanent fix,” said Melody Hotek, President of the Samuels Public Library Board of Trustees. “Continued support is crucial to keep Samuels public, local, and open to all. We’re incredibly grateful to everyone who has shown up for Samuels in this moment.”

About the fund:

Invested in tiered CDs for very low risk

Funds accessible within 24 hours

Expected earnings of 4%

If or when a resolution is made, any remaining balance will be transferred to the Samuels Library Endowment account, supporting the long-term future of programs like summer reading and the new Studio 330, a hub for creativity, personal archiving, and lifelong learning. In 2024 alone, Samuels held 542 programs serving 19,194 attendees.

To contribute to Samuels’ Donor Emergency Fund, please visit our Donor Emergency Fund page or contact development@samuelslibrary.net.

About Samuels Public Library:

Originally founded in 1799 and renamed Samuels Public Library in 1952, it became the second library in the state to receive a charter and has served the citizens of Front Royal and Warren County for more than two centuries. In the past fiscal year, the library has added 2,204 new cardholders and held 542 in-person and virtual programs hosting 19,194 attendees. Attracting more than 127,000 visitors annually, the library logged 401,859 total checkouts last year. For more information on Samuels Public Library, go to: www.samuelslibrary.net.

nor’s office after clearing the General Assembly. Youngkin had sent the bills back with the request to have a 2026 reenactment clause, which meant it would have faced the same legislative process next year. All 100 seats in the House of Delegates face an upcoming election, which could have changed the current Democratic-majority and possibly swayed the bill’s outcome.

Youngkin also asked for health clubs to be included in the list of businesses exempt from mandatory fee disclosure.

sure.

There was some bipartisan support among lawmakers, who rejected his changes and sent the bills back to the governor. Youngkin had until May 2 to take any counter action, such as a veto.

An average U.S. household spends around \$650 in junk fees a year on the 10 most dominant industries that use junk fees. In addition to credit card and banking fees, some of the fees are from industries that include airlines, hotels and food delivery, according to

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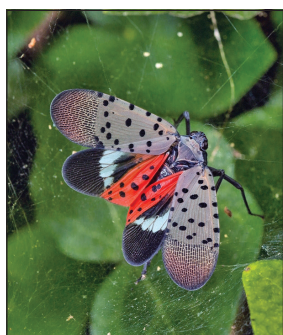
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For more information, visit the Virginia DWR website and help keep bears wild.



USDA/Stephen Ausmus

Virginia repeals spotted lanternfly quarantine

RICHMOND, VA — Effective March 27, 2025, Virginia has officially repealed its spotted lanternfly quarantine, ending all intrastate regulatory restrictions on the movement of the invasive pest or related articles. The quarantine, first enacted in 2019, had expanded to cover 12 counties and 10 cities but is no longer considered effective due to the pest’s widespread presence in 67 localities.

Businesses shipping to states or countries with lanternfly restrictions must still follow interstate regulations, including permits or phytosanitary certificates.

VDACS will continue monitoring the pest and encourages reporting via its Invasive Species Reporting Tool.

Reminder – Spring Brings Increased Bear Activity in Virginia

RICHMOND, VA — As black bears emerge from winter dens, the Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources urges residents to secure food sources and reduce bear encounters this spring.

Bears are attracted to unsecured trash, birdfeeders, pet food, compost piles, grills, and chicken feed. In 2024, 2,200 bear conflict calls were reported — with trash (30%), birdfeeders (10%), and chicken feed (5%) as top causes.

To help prevent bear conflicts:

- Store trash in secure or bear-resistant containers.
- Remove birdfeeders.
- Keep pet/livestock feed indoors or in bear-proof containers.
- Clean grills and decks.
- Never leave food or trash in vehicles.
- Mother bears with cubs may leave cubs treed to avoid threats. If you see cubs alone, leave the area — the mother is likely nearby and will return when it’s safe.
- Only intervene if a cub appears injured, weak, or remains alone for over 24 hours. In those cases, call the Wildlife Conflict Helpline at

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Airline Junk Fees: An additional 260 plus dollars added on at the end of the ticket buying process. Marlin Adams

Virginia consumers will soon see less of costly ‘junk’ fees after governor approves bills

By Marlin Adams
VCU Capital News Service

RICHMOND, Va. -- Virginia consumers should see less hidden fees on the purchase price of certain items, starting in July.

Gov. Glenn Youngkin on May 2 approved twin bills from the Virginia House and Senate that update the Virginia Consumer Protection Act and will force certain businesses to disclose the total price of services and products before a purchase.

Hidden fees and surcharges often tacked on near the end of a purchase will become a more clear part of the advertised price, according to the legislation.

The bills were stalled at the gover-



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a 2024 White House report.

Sen. Stella Pekarsky, D-Fairfax County, introduced Senate Bill 1212 and Del. Adele McClure, D-Arlington, sponsored House Bill 2515. Pekarsky first introduced the mandatory fee disclosure bill during the 2024 session, but it was shot down in the House after passing the Senate.

Pekarsky told the Senate General Laws and Technology Committee that they worked on the legislation in the past year to ensure it was clear and understandable.

"This new version of the bill is modeled after legislation that was successfully passed in other states," Pekarsky said.

The amount paid in hidden or "junk" fees is likely in the thousands of dollars for a household, according to Ryan O'Toole, the co-executive director of Freedom Virginia, a nonpartisan organization focused on economic security and affordability. These fees only help the industries make extra profit; customers don't receive any additional benefits for paying these mandatory add-ons, he said.

"Especially in today's economy, we feel like the General Assembly, state government, should be doing anything it possibly can to lower the cost of living for the working people," O'Toole said.

Rhena Hicks, the other executive director, said transparency is important for consumers making online purchases.

"Virginians deserve honesty and truth in pricing," Hicks said. "We deserve to know the full cost upfront. Hidden fees undermine trust."

Capital News Service is a program of Virginia Commonwealth University's Robertson School of Media and Culture. Students in the program provide state government coverage for a variety of media outlets in Virginia.



Winchester Host Lions Club golf outing set for June 23

WINCHESTER, VA — The Winchester Host Lions Club will hold its Annual Golf Outing on Monday, June 23, 2025, at Winchester Country Club. Proceeds will benefit the club's sight and hearing care programs, youth services, and local community projects.

The event includes lunch, dinner, contests, raffles, and on-course games. Golfers, sponsors, and donors are invited to participate. Registration and sponsor info is available at birdcase.com/WHLGolfOuting. For questions, email whlionsclub@gmail.com.

Virginia Cooperative Extension

Virginia Tech • Virginia State University

Amanda Johnson Joins Virginia Cooperative Extension to Lead Family & Consumer Sciences Programs

April 3, 2025 – Virginia Cooperative Extension has announced the appointment of Amanda Johnson as Associate Extension Agent for Family & Consumer Sciences: Food, Nutrition, and Health. She will serve Frederick, Clarke, Shenandoah, Page, and Warren Counties, bringing 15 years of experience from West Virginia University Extension.

Amanda specializes in hands-on learning and community-focused program development. She plans to use focus groups and local data to shape impactful, evidence-based programming that supports families and promotes healthier living.

"My mission is to empower indi-

viduals and families with the tools and knowledge they need to lead healthier, more fulfilling lives," Amanda said.

Amanda holds a Master's in Agriculture with an emphasis on Child Development and Extension Education from West Virginia University, and a Bachelor's in Psychology and Family Studies from Alderson-Broadus University. She has received numerous national awards for her work in Extension education.

Residents will soon have the opportunity to help shape upcoming programs by participating in local focus groups hosted by Amanda across the region.

Remaining Focus Group Schedule – All start at 6:30 p.m.:

- May 15 – Shenandoah County
- May 27 – Clarke County
- May 29 – Warren County

These sessions will help identify community priorities in food, nutrition, and health programming.

For more information or to RSVP, contact Amanda Johnson at amandaj@vt.edu or call 540-665-5699.



Virginia launches 'Verified Meat' branding to spotlight local products

RICHMOND, VA — A new "Virginia Verified Meat" branding program was unveiled April 16 at the Virginia Beef Expo to help consumers identify meat products bred, born, raised, and processed entirely in Virginia.

The first logo released under the initiative is "Virginia Verified Beef." The program, established by 2024 leg-

islation, will be administered by the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services in partnership with groups like the Virginia Cattleman's Association.

Qualifying products include beef, pork, goat, and lamb raised within the Commonwealth.



Sherando Band to host charity golf tournament May 23

STEPHENS CITY, VA — The Sherando High School Band will hold its 2nd Annual Charity Golf Tournament on Friday, May 23, 2025, at the Shenandoah Valley Golf Club's Titus Course. The event raises funds for in-

See NEWS, 14

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en to the National Cemetery Administration Culpeper, AmVets Post 18 Ladies Auxiliary, Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 2123, Vietnam Veterans Association Chapter 2019 and the Fort Loudoun Daughters of the American Revolution for their contributions.

The second event was held at Veterans Park, Middletown, Virginia in cooperation with the town of Middletown. Jerry Headley, a Vietnam Veteran and Col James Wood II compatriot gave a presentation on service in Vietnam. The chapter color guard presented colors and fired a musket salute to honor all veterans of the Vietnam era. Virginia State SAR President Dr Michael Weyler presented greetings and led the wreath presenters. Wreaths were presented by Randy Atkins, Virginia 3rd Vice President for the Fort Harrison Chapter; Paul Christensen, Col James Wood II; Ken Morris, George Mason; Paul Parish General Daniel Morgan; Bill Tugman, Col Fielding Lewis; Susan Lauer, Fort Loudoun DAR; Leslie Caliva & George Donovan, American Red Cross and Charles Harbaugh, Middletown. The SAR color guard was commanded by Allan Phillips and included Brian

Bayliss, Bryan Buck, Sean Carrigan, Paul Christensen, Dale Corey, Chip Daniel, Doug Hall, Phil Hunter, Will Reynolds, Clay Robinson, Marc Robinson, and Jim Simmons representing Col James Wood II Chapter with Ken Morris, George Mason; Bill Tugman, Col Fielding Lewis; Paul Parish, General Daniel Morgan and Ray Hawkins, Col William Grayson Chapters.



National Park Service

Med-Flight 1 Rescues Injured Hiker in Madison County

On March 31, 2025, at approximately 4:15 p.m., the crew of Med-Flight 1 executed a successful hoist rescue of a hiker who became injured while on Old Rag Mountain in Shenandoah National Park in Madison County.

Med-Flight 1 was initially notified by the National Park Service of the need for service and left their base in Chesterfield County at approximately 3:40 p.m. to fly the approximately 80 nautical miles to the rescue site. The flight was staffed by Virginia State Police Aircraft Pilot Curt Conlin and Chesterfield County Fire and EMS crew members Anja Hamilton and Lt. Greg Jones.

The rescue was time sensitive as thunderstorms were expected in the area after 5:00 p.m.

Once the injured hiker was lifted off the mountain, she was flown to a nearby parking area below the rescue site where she was transferred to an ambulance to be taken to an area

hospital. The 67-year-old woman suffered non-life-threatening injuries.

Following the transfer, the helicopter then picked up the crew member that had secured the patient and returned to Chesterfield County.

April 1, 2025 was the 41st anniversary of the start of the Med-Flight-1 program.



Middletown plants new 20-foot Christmas tree at Veterans Memorial, thanks to Wawa donation

MIDDLETOWN, VA — A new 20-foot Norway Spruce was planted March 24 at the Middletown Veterans Memorial on Main Street, replacing the town's long-standing Christmas cedar tree. The planting was made possible by a \$7,500 donation from Wawa, part of a cooperative effort between the company and town officials after the cedar's removal became nec-

essary due to upcoming road improvements.

The spruce, expected to grow up to 60 feet tall over its lifespan, was sourced from Jeffers Farms in Pennsylvania. Shine Trucking donated transportation services, Boyer Landscaping led the planting, and H&W Construction assisted with crane support.

All contributors will be honored at this year's Middletown Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony, scheduled for Friday, Nov. 28 at 4:45 p.m. Mayor Charles Harbaugh IV expressed gratitude, calling the tree "a symbol of unity, hope, and holiday spirit."



Equine Infectious Anemia detected in Chesterfield horse

RICHMOND, VA — The Virginia Department of Agriculture and Con-

sumer Services (VDACS) has confirmed a case of Equine Infectious Anemia (EIA) in a horse stabled at a private residence in Chesterfield, VA. The horse is currently quarantined and poses no risk to other horses in the area.

The infection was identified through routine Coggins testing, a mandatory annual test for horses, ponies, mules, and donkeys in Virginia. A negative Coggins test certificate is required for all equines participating in events where horses from different owners are present, such as shows, fairs, and races. Certificates are valid for 12 months from the date of testing and can be carried as either a digital or paper copy.

EIA is a potentially fatal viral disease with no vaccine or cure. Infected horses may be euthanized or placed under lifetime quarantine. Symptoms can include fever, anemia, swollen limbs, jaundice, and depression, though some horses may show no signs.

To prevent the spread of EIA, VDACS recommends:

Controlling biting flies to reduce transmission risk.

Never reusing needles, syringes, or IV sets.

Using only licensed and approved blood products.

Ensuring blood transfusions are conducted by licensed veterinarians with tested donor horses.

Performing annual Coggins tests on all equines.

For more information, contact VDACS or visit their website.

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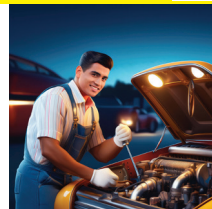


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