

Warren/Frederick County Report

Volume XX, Issue 20 • Early October, 2025

Recipe: Oatmeal Cranberry Cookies

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INDICTMENTS

INDICTMENTS

**2025 August Indictments
July Term**

Michael Paul Santoro

The Warren County Va. Circuit Court Grand Jury charges that: on or about March 27, 2025, in the County of Warren, Michael Paul Santoro, 59, of the 1500 block of Cold Stream Rd.,

Capon Bridge, WV 26711, did unlawfully and feloniously, knowingly, and intentionally possess a controlled substance listed in Schedule I or Schedule II of the Drug Control Act.

Christopher Allen Pitkin

The Warren County Va. Circuit Court Grand Jury charges Christopher Allen

Pitkin, 46, of the 5900 block of Stonewall Jackson Dr., Front Royal, VA 22630 with TWO counts. COUNTS ONE and TWO: In the County of Warren, Christopher Allen Pitkin did unlawfully and feloniously, knowingly, and intentionally possess a controlled substance listed in Schedule I or Schedule II of the Drug Control Act. Date of the offenses was on or about March 18, 2025.

Lance Scott Dodson

The Warren County Va. Circuit Court Grand Jury charges that: on or about September 28, 2024, in the County of Warren, Lance Scott Dodson, 18, of the 400 block of Virginia Ave., Front Royal, VA 22630, did unlawfully

and feloniously, maliciously shoot, stab, cut, wound or by any means cause bodily injury to Robert Thomas Henry with the intent to maim,

disfigure, disable or kill, and thereby caused the said victim to be severely injured and was caused to suffer permanent and significant physical impairment.

Abdulrhaman Al Duais

The Warren County Va. Circuit Court Grand Jury

See INDICTMENTS, 4



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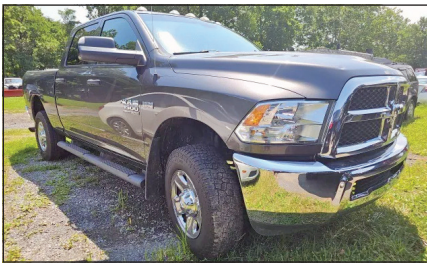
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INDICTMENTS, from 2
charges Abdulrhaman Al Duias, age and address unavailable, with FOUR counts. COUNTS ONE through FOUR: In the County of Warren, Abdulrhaman Al Duias did unlawfully and feloniously conspire with intent to sell or distribute marijuana while upon any property open to public use

within 1,000 feet of such school property in violation of the Code of Virginia. Dates of the offenses were on or about May 15, July 17, July 25 and September 6, 2024.

Jessica Elaine Smith
The Warren County Va. Circuit Court Grand Jury charges that: on or about December 23, 2024, in the

County of Warren, Jessica Elaine Smith, 37, address unavailable, did unlawfully and feloniously drive or operate a motor vehicle while having a blood alcohol concentration of 0.08 percent or more by weight by volume or 0.08 grams or more per 210 liters of breath; or while under the influence of alcohol; or while under the influence of a narcotic drug or other self-administered intoxicant or drug, or a combination of drugs, to a degree which impaired the accused's ability to drive or operate a motor vehicle safely; or while under the combined influence of alcohol and a drug or drugs to a degree which impaired the accused's ability to drive or operate a motor vehicle safely. The blood alcohol level of the accused was between 0.15 and 0.20.

John Roy Thomas
The Warren County Va. Circuit Court Grand Jury charges John Roy Thomas, 31, of Hagerstown, MD 21740, with TWO counts. COUNTS ONE and TWO: In the County of Warren, John Roy Thomas did unlawfully and feloniously, being a person 18 years of age or older, use a communications system, or other electronic means, for the purpose of soliciting, with lascivious intent, a person the accused knew or had reason to believe was a child less than 15 years of knowingly and intentionally expose his sexual or genital parts to a child to whom he was not legally married or propose that the child expose her sexual or genital parts to the accused. The accused is seven or more years older than the child the accused knew or had reason

to believe was a child less than 15 years of age who was the subject of solicitation. The accused previously has committed one or more related offenses in violation of the Code of Virginia. Dates of the offenses were on or about April 6 through April 30, 2025.

Bobbie Brooke Kidwell
The Warren County Va. Circuit Court Grand Jury charges Bobbie Brooke Kidwell, 41, of the 6600 block of Winchester Rd., Front Royal, VA 22630, with TEN counts. COUNTS ONE through TEN: In the County of Warren, Bobbie Brooke Kidwell did unlawfully and feloniously, violate a protective order by or making contact prohibited in such order with a family or household member. The accused previously had committed two or more

Douglas Harold, Jr.

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prior offenses of violating a protective order. The accused committed the instant offense within 20 years of the first conviction. Either the instant or one of the prior offenses was based on an act or threat of violence. Dates of the offenses

were on or about April 10 through May 21, 2025.

Justin William Menefee
The Warren County Va. Circuit Court Grand Jury charges Justin William Menefee, 32, address

unavailable, with FOUR counts. COUNT ONE: In the County of Warren, Justin William Menefee did unlawfully and feloniously, knowingly, and intentionally possess a controlled substance listed in Schedule I or Schedule

II of the Drug Control Act. COUNTS TWO and THREE: did unlawfully and feloniously manufacture, sell, give, distribute or possess with the intent to manufacture, sell, give, or distribute, a controlled substance classified in Schedule I or Schedule II of the Drug Control Act. COUNT FOUR: did unlawfully and feloniously, conspire to distribute a Schedule I or II controlled substance. Dates of the offenses were on or about February 10 to February 17, 2025.

Jenny Lee McCorkle

The Warren County Va. Circuit Court Grand Jury charges Jenny Lee McCorkle, 49, of the 300 block of SW Main St., Luray, VA 22835, with TWO counts. COUNT ONE: In the County of Warren, Jenny Lee McCorkle did unlawfully and feloniously, knowingly, and intentionally possess a controlled substance listed in Schedule I or Schedule II of the Drug Control Act. COUNT TWO: did unlawfully and feloniously while being a prisoner in a state, local, or community correctional facility or in the custody of an employee thereof, procure, sell secrete, or possess a chemical compound which the accused had not lawfully received. Date of the offenses was on or about June 20, 2025.

Bartholomew Fiel

The Warren County Va. Circuit Court Grand Jury charges that: on or about February 22, 2025, in the County of Warren, Cyrus Bartholomew Fiel, age and address unavailable, did unlawfully and feloniously,

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

Timothy Michael Doggett

The Warren County Va. Circuit Court Grand Jury charges that: on or about January 28, 2025, in the County of Warren, Timothy Michael Doggett, 37, of the 5200 block of Bentonville Rd., Bentonville, VA 22610, did unlawfully and feloniously, steal U.S. currency and one insurance bond check, having a value of \$1,000 or more, belonging to Roxanne Kriesler.

Sebastian Lopez

The Warren County Va. Circuit Court Grand Jury charges that: on or about November 17, 2024, in the County of Warren, Sebastian Lopez, 29, of the 4000 block of Cannery Woods Dr., 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.

Joseph John Heath

The Warren County Va. Circuit Court Grand Jury charges that: on or about June 6, 2025, in the County of Warren, Joseph John Heath, 34, of the 200 block of Windy Knoll 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

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.

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Consider Strasburg for a variety of activities



Visitors braved the low water suspension bridge above the North Fork of the Shenandoah River at the Deer Rapids Boat Landing.

By Carol Ballard
Warren/Frederick County Report

The next time you're thinking of something different, interesting, fun and entertaining, consider Strasburg. Only 12 miles south of Front Royal, either traveling on Strasburg Road or Rte. 66 and I-81, the charming town has a lot to offer.

There are so many varied and interesting things to do there that can be included in the usual familiar activities in one's hometown, especially during fall and heading into end of the year holidays.

For example, "Pumpkin time" this year, involves the Jack O' Lantern Jamboree Halloween Light Tour from October 15-31,

a Home Decorating Contest from October 16-31 with a deadline to enter on October 11.

These following seasonal



While wading in the river under the swinging bridge, friends searched for and found small shells and rocks while enjoying the cool water on a hot summer day.

activities add to the richness of autumn.

- The Strasburg Presbyterian Church Pumpkin Patch is open daily from October 12-31, featuring games, kids' activities, and a bake sale.
- At the Strasburg Farmers Market, residents can find pumpkins locally. They operate on Saturdays in September and October.
- For Halloween, Trick-or-treating takes place in the town of Strasburg on October 31 from 5 - 8 p.m.

For other wonderful things to do in Strasburg throughout the year, the Strasburg Visitor and Information Center is a good place to stop to find more of what the area has to see and do.

One fascinating place for folks to spend some time is near the Deer Rapids Boat Landing. High above the North Fork of the Shenandoah River, just outside of Strasburg is the historic Deer Rapids swinging suspension bridge. Walking across it takes an adventurous attitude, but it's worth the slight adrenaline thrill.

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The Strasburg Historical District covers roughly Third, High, and Massanutten Streets, bounded by the railroad tracks. Strawser - Own work. CC BY-SA 3.0

While maneuvering across the swaying walkway, you can gaze out across the fields and river, check out wild turkeys running in packs through the grasses, maintain your balance (holding on to the thick wire railing is a great idea!) and feel the breeze coming up from the water, especially refreshing on a hot summer afternoon.

Padlocks are scattered along the railing as couples have attached them as a romantic gesture similar to carving initials on trees.

Before the concrete bridge was replaced a few years ago, this footbridge was necessary because vehicles could not cross the old low-water bridge when the river flooded over it during heavy storms. Residents of Deer Rapids were stranded except for crossing on foot.

Even after the new highway bridge was built, it flooded after a fierce storm in 2011.

This low water bridge is three miles south of Strasburg off Rte. 644 (Funk Road), providing a

gravel boat ramp for a great launch point to float to the Strasburg Town Park a mere 5.6 miles downstream.

Then there's Strasburg Town Park with a concrete boat launch suitable for kayaks, canoes and shallow aluminum boats. The very family friendly access point is great for people with children, including a big gravel parking lot with port-a-johns next to the river.

To find out much more, visit the Visitor Center, open from 10



Scenes like these are found along the North Fork of the Shenandoah River on the River Walk.

a.m. – 4 p.m. daily. Information includes descriptions of the walking trails that take folks through thick woods along .25-, .5-, and 1-mile distances, with peeks into small caverns along the paths.

Along with wonderful restaurants, Shenandoah River access, community activities, a historic district, musical events and fun fall activities for families, there's the Strasburg Riverwalk.

Located along the Shenandoah River it begins at the Town Park. The .9 mile gravel walk offers beautiful views of the river and

the face of the Massanutten Mountain Range called Signal Knob and ends at Strasburg High School (Ram Drive).

The North Fork of the Shenandoah River is also easily accessed at Strasburg Town Park. A boat landing and gravel parking lot are available for people wanting to float the river on kayaks, tubes, canoes, and very shallow aluminum boats. This is a great area to float to from the Deer Rapids access point, approximately five miles

See STRASBURG, 8

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STRASBURG, from 7

upstream. If floating downstream, please be cautious of a dangerous dam about five miles from Strasburg Town Park.

Strasburg has a rich history in the arts, with roots in utilitarian and fancy earthenware and stoneware pottery, architecture and decorative arts. The Strasburg Museum houses a number of

pieces of local pottery from the time when the place was nicknamed "Pot Town."

Several non-profit organizations formed in recent years to create contemporary murals in the downtown area, a film collaborative, a museum of contemporary arts and a longstanding annual tour of historic homes in the downtown area.

The town is described as a location rich in beautiful views and history. Founded in 1761, It's located near Shenandoah National Park, 75 miles west of Washington DC.

Here's a schedule of 2025 Events:

- Wednesday, October 15 - Friday, October 31 - Jack O' Lantern Jamboree Halloween Light Tour
- Saturday, October 18 - Strasburg Farmers Market
- Saturday, October 25 - Downtown Scarecrow Scroll
- Saturday, November 1 - Grilled Cheese & Tomato Soup Festival
- Saturday, November 8 - Veterans Day Parade
- Saturday, November 29 - Small Business Saturday
- Saturday, December 6 - 'Tis the



This is the Front and western side of the Strasburg Museum located on the southern side of King Street west of Lemley Street. Nyttend - Own work

Season

- Tuesday, December 16 - for the Holidays Light Tour
- Wednesday, December 31 - Home – crawford0905@gmail.com



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Enjoy the beloved tradition of baking this holiday season



Cranberry Cookies" from Lines+Angles to their repertoire.

Oatmeal Cranberry Cookies

Makes 16 to 18 cookies

- 3/4 cup unsalted butter
- 3/4 cup brown sugar
- 2 small eggs
- 1 teaspoon pure vanilla extract
- 1 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 3/4 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1/2 teaspoon ground nutmeg
- 1/4 teaspoon ground ginger
- 4 cups rolled oats
- 1 cup dried cranberries

1. Preheat the oven to 350 F. Grease and line a large cookie sheet with parchment paper.
2. Melt the butter in a small saucepan set over medium heat. Once the butter has melted, pour into a large bowl and add the brown sugar.
3. Mix until well combined. Add the eggs and vanilla, and continue to mix until incorporated.
4. In a separate bowl, whisk together the flour, salt, baking soda, spices and oats. Add the dry ingredients to the wet and mix well. Add the cranberries and stir until thoroughly incorporated.
5. Drop scant tablespoons of the batter onto the cookie sheet, spaced apart. Press down slightly in the centers.
6. Bake for 10 to 12 minutes until golden and set. Remove from the oven and let them cool on the cookie sheet for a few minutes before moving to a cooling rack to finish cooling.

There's no shortage of holiday traditions, but few may rival the popularity of baking. It's hard for many people to imagine a holiday season without some baked goodies. Family baking sessions during the holiday season produce a bounty of delicious baked goods, and that time in the kitchen also presents a fun way for families to spend time together during a special time of year.

Family baking sessions are a cherished tradition in millions of households, and this holiday season do-it-yourself bakers can add this recipe for "Oatmeal

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6347-0125

weather forecast

Friday, October 3, 2025: Mostly sunny, with a high near 75. South wind 3 to 5 mph.

Friday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 48. Calm wind.

Saturday: Sunny, with a high near 80. Calm wind.

Saturday Night: Clear, with a low around 50.

Sunday: Sunny, with a high near 80. Sunday Night/Mostly clear, with a low around 54.

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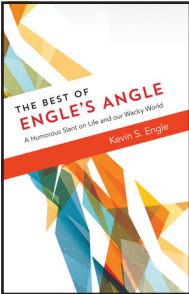
Monday: Sunny, with a high near 81.

Monday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 60.

Tuesday: A chance of showers. Partly sunny, with a high near 79. Chance of precipitation is 30%.

Tuesday Night: A chance of showers. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 61. Chance of precipitation is 50%.

Wednesday: Showers likely. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 74. Chance of precipitation is 60%.



ENGLE'S ANGLE:
"A Lousy Five Bucks"

by Kevin S. Engle

Earlier this year, I bought some breakfast biscuits for my wife. I didn't notice at first, but the manufacturer had an ongoing promotion. Buy two boxes, send them a copy of your receipt and get a \$5 gift card. I'm all about free.

Of course I wanted to do it. My wife wasn't interested. The gift card was for coffee, but not a brand she likes.

Hmm.

Somehow I discovered you didn't have to use it for coffee. You could use it for anything.

I'm in.

The first time I submitted my receipt, they rejected it. I tried again. Success. Soon after they sent me a \$5 debit reward card via email.

A piece of paper.

That nobody would accept because it was just a piece of paper.

I had to use it online.

What can you get online for five

bucks?

Not much.

Maybe I could order something from Amazon and pay for it with two different cards? My \$5 gift card and a regular credit card?

Nope.

My gift card was good through September.

I had time to figure this out and I would figure this out.

I'd already invested too much time into this to let it go.

Last Friday (September 26th), I

finished creating a photo book from a trip we took this spring. I was confident the photo book company would let me use two cards to pay for the order.


I was wrong.

Dang!

I'm running out of time. I knew what I had to do.

Order something from Walmart that would cost exactly five dollars. Including tax. I was going there

See NEWS, 10



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WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to dog adoption.

E T A C R

Answer: Crate

GUESS WHO ?

I am an actress born in Delaware on October 6, 1963. I acted in commercials before moving on to bigger roles. I was Michael J. Fox's girlfriend in the second and third installments of a movie series and a karate kid's love interest.


Answer: Elisabeth Shue

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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.)



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

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NEWS, from 9

anyway to pick up a few things.
And what was the likelihood that I could get stuff for exactly five bucks? Not very high.
Less than five bucks sure.
Maybe \$4.75 or so. At least I could get something for free and just lose the 25 cents.
I wanted some smoked almonds. They had a six ounce container. \$2.98.
I was looking for a can of pumpkin as well. The good stuff. It was on sale. A buck 97.
\$2.98 + \$1.97 = \$4.95.
Add in Virginia's 1% tax on food and what do you get?
Exactly five bucks!
I did it!
I entered the card information and

held my breath. No doubt there'd be a glitch.
It worked!
A few hours later I was parked in the waiting area. When the guy brought it out, he said it was the smallest order he'd ever delivered to someone.
And was all this really worth it?
Honestly, no, not for a lousy five bucks.
Hopefully I'll remember that next time.
I doubt it.
The author should get another E-Mastercard any day now. He filed a claim almost two and a half years ago in a class action lawsuit. He'll probably get about \$13.79. He's already doing Walmart math.
— kevinengle456@comcast.net
The Best of Engle's Angle is available

online or pick up a signed copy at a local bookstore.



Ask Stewart

Hey Stewart,

Why does an otherwise healthy tree have branches that die off?

— Sydney

There are many reasons for tree branches to dieback – and that may

indicate a bigger problem or be nothing to worry about.
• Water Stress: Insufficient water from drought or dry soil can prevent



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branches from getting enough moisture, leading to dieback.

- **Nutrient & Light Deficiencies:** A lack of sunlight or essential nutrients can limit growth and vitality, causing branches to decline.
- **Soil Issues:** Soil compaction, poor drainage, or flooding can damage tree roots, hindering their ability to absorb water and nutrients needed for branch survival.
- **Extreme Weather:** Harsh temperatures, such as from freeze damage, can harm branch health.
- **Improper Planting:** Planting a tree too deep can stress roots and lead to dieback, as can the formation of girdling roots that choke the tree.
- **Insects:** Pests like bark beetles, boring insects, and borers can infest a tree, feeding on its tissues and

vascular systems, which block water and nutrient flow.

- **Fungal Infections:** Fungi can damage a branch's ability to transport resources, leading to decay and branch death.
- **Accidental Injury:** Storms, accidents, or physical impact can cause physical damage to branches, hindering their ability to thrive.
- **Improper Pruning:** Incorrectly cut branches can become susceptible to diseases or disrupted nutrient flow, impacting the branch's health.
- **Self-Thinning:** Trees naturally shed branches that are not getting enough light or are less productive to conserve energy and improve overall health.

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



Invasive box tree moth detected in Winchester

Richmond, Va. — The Virginia

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See NEWS, 12

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Leo is approx 5 and would love a home with older kids and maybe a female dog friend. He's neutered, chipped, utd on vacc. loves a car ride and swims!! This big guy does it all...(almost.. no kitty's please)

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Willow is 3 yr GS mix who's a lovebug ready to go! She's housebroken/crate trained, utd on shots, likes kids, dogs and cats! She's waiting for her forever family...come visit today!!



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!

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Upcoming events with Dan McDermott

Sat. Oct 4, 2025 (7:00-10:30pm)
Karaoke/Music Bingo at Woodstock, Va. Moose*

Mon. Oct 6, 2025 (6-8pm)
Musical 5-in-a-Row at Front Royal, Va. Moose*

Wed. Oct 8, 2025 (6-9pm)
Trivia & Music Bingo at Shenandoah Valley Axe Throwing Company
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: 20 South St. Front Royal, VA 22630

Sat. Oct 11, 2025 (6-10pm)
Music Bingo & Karaoke at Shenandoah Valley Axe Throwing Company
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: 20 South St. Front Royal, VA 22630

Mon. Oct 13, 2025 (6-8pm)
Musical 5-in-a-Row at Front Royal, Va. Moose*

Wed. Oct 15, 2025 (6-9pm)
Trivia & Music Bingo at Shenandoah Valley Axe Throwing Company
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: 20 South St. Front Royal, VA 22630

Sat. Oct 18, 2025 (7-11pm)
Karaoke & Music Bingo at Mt Jackson Moose*

Mon. Oct 20, 2025 (6-8pm)
Musical 5-in-a-Row at Front Royal, Va. Moose*

Wed. Oct 22, 2025 (6-9pm)
Trivia & Music Bingo at Shenandoah Valley Axe Throwing Company
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Fri, Oct 24, 2025 (7-10pm)
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NEWS, from 11

Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (VDACS) has confirmed the detection of the invasive box tree moth, *Cydalima perspectalis*, in the city of Winchester.

In July and August, VDACS inspectors discovered and treated box tree moth at multiple sites in Clarke, Frederick, and Loudoun counties. Officials said surveys will continue to determine the extent of the populations in these areas.

Box tree moth is native to East Asia and has become a significant pest in Europe, where boxwood is native. The insect pest can cause extensive damage to boxwood (*Buxus* species) plants, and heavy infestations can completely defoliate host plants. Left untreated, the moth can kill boxwood. VDACS will provide treatment for boxwood plants if box tree moth is confirmed. Officials said early detection and rapid response are critical for managing newly introduced plant pests.

Property owners and members of the public are encouraged to report suspected box tree moth infestations or damage to boxwood plants using VDACS' Invasive Species Reporting Tool.

For resources on how to identify box tree moth damage or life stages, visit:

www.pubs.ext.vt.edu/content/dam/pubs_ext_vt_edu/ENTO/ENTO-445/ENTO-445.pdf.

More information is also available at www.vdacs.virginia.gov/plant-industry-services.shtml or www.aphis.usda.gov/plant-pests-diseases/box-tree-moth. The VDACS Office of Plant Industry Services can be reached at 804-786-3515.

Festival of Leaves returns to downtown Front Royal for 63rd year

Front Royal, Va. — The streets of historic downtown Front Royal will be filled with music, food, and community spirit as the 53rd Annual Festival of Leaves kicks off with a full weekend of events October 10–11.

The celebration begins on Friday, October 10 at 6 p.m. with Dancing Downtown, featuring a live concert by the band Cazmiere at the Gazebo in Front Royal. Admission to the concert is \$5.

The festival itself takes place the next day, Saturday, October 11, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. The event is free to attend and will be held rain or shine. More than 200 vendors will line the streets, offering a wide range of food, crafts, and merchandise. Main Street shops will also be open to welcome visitors.

Entertainment will be a central part of the day, with live music scheduled across three stages. Families can enjoy a dedicated kids' zone, while adults may appreciate the Oktoberfest Garden featuring seasonal beverages.

Adding to the attractions is the 2nd Annual Car and Bike Show, which will

showcase vehicles of all kinds.

The Festival of Leaves, organized by the Front Royal Independent Business Alliance, has become one of the area's most cherished traditions. Each year, thousands of visitors from across the Shenandoah Valley and beyond come

to enjoy the combination of small-town charm, community celebration, and autumn atmosphere.

For residents and visitors alike, the weekend offers an opportunity to celebrate fall in the Shenandoah Valley while supporting local businesses,

musicians, and artisans.

Va State Police make arrest in 1998 cold case

Virginia State Police is announcing a breakthrough in the cold case investigation of the 1998 murder of Sylena Jo Dalton.

On Friday, Sept. 26, 2025, agents with the Virginia State Police Bureau of Criminal Investigations Culpeper Field Office arrested Daniel E. Pompell, 56, of Culpeper, Va., charging him with one count of murder. Pompell was taken into custody without incident. The arrest marks a major step in the

27-year investigation.

The break in the case came through the hard work of agents assigned to the BCI Culpeper Field Office and analysts assigned to the Homeland Security Division's Violent Crime Analytical Support Team. Additional support for this investigation was provided by the Virginia Office of the Attorney General, who provided funding for analytical support and testing via the Virginia Sexual Assault Kit Initiative (SAKI), the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC), and the Shenandoah County Commonwealth's Attorney's Office

"We are pleased to be able to bring this case to this point and bring some

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Sun-Tue 6am-Midnight Wed-Sat 6am-2am

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overdue closure to the family of Sylena Jo Dalton,” said Virginia State Police Bureau of Criminal Investigations Culpeper Field Office Captain John Defilippi. “We are thankful for all the hard work agents and analysts put into this case to make this arrest possible. We also truly appreciate the cooperation and coordination with Shenandoah County Commonwealth’s Attorney Elizabeth Cooper and her office in moving this case forward.”

Shenandoah County Commonwealth’s Attorney Elizabeth Cooper stated, “Virginia State Police has tirelessly pursued justice for the death of Sylena Jo Dalton. My office is prepared to continue in this effort and ensure justice is served on behalf of the victim and her family.”

On July 27, 1998, a friend found

Sylena Jo Dalton, 20, of Strasburg, Va., stabbed to death inside her apartment in Strasburg. Dalton’s 10-week-old daughter, Allyson Kathleen Dalton, was also missing and has never been located.

Pompell is the father of Allyson Dalton.

The Shenandoah County Commonwealth’s Attorney’s Office will be prosecuting the case.

Man dies after arrest, transport to RSW Regional Jail

Warren County, VA – On September 25, 2025, at approximately 12:03 a.m., deputies with the Warren County Sheriff’s Office (WCSO) initiated a traffic stop at the corner

of North Royal Avenue and 1st Street in Front Royal for an expired state inspection.

During the stop, a WCSO narcotic detection K9 conducted a free air sniff of the vehicle and had a positive alert to the presence of narcotics. Deputies located suspected crack cocaine inside the vehicle and placed the driver, identified as D’Andre Christopher Lawrence, 28, of Front Royal, under arrest for possession of a Schedule I/ II controlled substance.



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 or call 304-728-8330

Mr. Lawrence was transported to the Rappahannock, Shenandoah, Warren (RSW) Regional Jail where he appeared before the magistrate and was held without bond on a felony drug charge.

While in the Intake area of RSW, jail personnel observed signs that Lawrence was experiencing a medical emergency suspected to be related to an overdose. RSW security and medical personnel responded immediately, administering lifesaving measures immediately while Warren County Fire and Rescue was dispatched.

Lawrence was transported to Warren Memorial Hospital, where he was pronounced deceased.

While the investigation is ongoing, both agencies recognize that this incident involves the loss of a young life. Mr. Lawrence had family and loved ones who are directly impacted, and officials ask the community to respect their privacy during this difficult time.

The Warren County Sheriff’s Office and RSW Regional Jail stated that

they operate under strict legal and policy frameworks. Incidents such as this are met with immediate internal and external reviews to ensure that all actions are consistent with law, professional standards, and their obligation to those in custody.

As part of this process, the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner is conducting a full examination to determine the official cause and manner of death. Those findings will guide the ongoing investigation and internal reviews.

Fatal crash in Shenandoah County

Virginia State Police is investigating a fatal single vehicle crash that occurred Friday (Sept. 19, 2025) at 2:00 p.m. on Interstate 81 northbound at Exit 291 in Shenandoah County.

A 1997 Peterbuilt tractor-trailer was travelling northbound on Interstate 81 and taking the exit ramp for Exit 291 when it went off of the left side of the

See NEWS, 14




Upcoming events with Dan McDermott

Sat. Oct 4, 2025 (7:00-10:30pm) Karaoke/Music Bingo at Woodstock, Va. Moose*

Mon. Oct 6, 2025 (6-8pm) Musical 5-in-a-Row at Front Royal, Va. Moose*

Wed. Oct 8, 2025 (6-9pm) Trivia & Music Bingo at Shenandoah Valley Axe Throwing Company **OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:** 20 South St. Front Royal, VA 22630

Sat. Oct 11, 2025 (6-10pm) Music Bingo & Karaoke at Shenandoah Valley Axe Throwing Company **OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:** 20 South St. Front Royal, VA 22630

Mon. Oct 13, 2025 (6-8pm) Musical 5-in-a-Row at Front Royal, Va. Moose*

Wed. Oct 15, 2025 (6-9pm) Trivia & Music Bingo at Shenandoah Valley Axe Throwing Company **OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:** 20 South St. Front Royal, VA 22630

Sat. Oct 18, 2025 (7-11pm) Karaoke & Music Bingo at Mt Jackson Moose*

Mon. Oct 20, 2025 (6-8pm) Musical 5-in-a-Row at Front Royal, Va. Moose*

Wed. Oct 22, 2025 (6-9pm) Trivia & Music Bingo at Shenandoah Valley Axe Throwing Company **OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:** 20 South St. Front Royal, VA 22630

Fri, Oct 24, 2025 (7-10pm) Music Bingo, Karaoke and Wine at James Charles Winery **OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:** 4063 Middle Rd, Winchester, VA 22602

Sat. Oct 25, 2025 (6-10pm) Music Bingo & Karaoke at Shenandoah Valley Axe Throwing Company **OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:** 20 South St. Front Royal, VA 22630

Mon. Oct 27, 2025 (6-8pm) Musical 5-in-a-Row at Front Royal, Va. Moose*

Wed. Oct 29, 2025 (6-9pm) Trivia & Music Bingo at Shenandoah Valley Axe Throwing Company **OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:** 20 South St. Front Royal, VA 22630

Sat. Nov 1, 2025 (6-10pm) Music Bingo & Karaoke at Shenandoah Valley Axe Throwing Company **OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:** 20 South St. Front Royal, VA 22630

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NEWS, from 13

ramp and overturned. The tractor trailer also struck a guard rail.

The driver of the tractor trailer, David C. Wright, 66, of Crossville, Ala., died at the scene. Wright was wearing a seatbelt.

The crash remains under investigation.

Samuels Public Library Adult Programming - October, 2025

You can find and register for all library events on our website, www.samuelslibrary.net.

One-Time Events

Seniors First Workshop: Navigating Medicare Part D – Prescription Drug Coverage Thursday, October 9th from 1:00 pm to 2:00 PM In person. Discover how to choose a drug plan, understand formularies, and manage out-of-pocket costs. Questions? Call VICAP at 540-

635-7141 or visit seniorsfirst.info

Registration for this event is in regard to attending the hour long informational program. One-on-one 20 minute counseling sessions can be booked beginning at 2:00 p.m. by contacting Samuels Public Library staff at 540-635-3135 ext. 105.

Studio 330: Fall Papercrafting Saturday, October 11th from 10:00 AM-12:00 PM In Person. Come craft a scrapbook layout and a bonus card using stamps, paper, and our brand new recently donated Stampin-up paper cutter/embosser. Learn how to use stamping to create one of a kind cards or simple scrapbooking embellishments. You will go home with your choice of a Fall, Halloween, or Thanksgiving themed layout perfect for your photos and a card to give someone special. No papercrafting experience is needed, beginners and experts are welcome! *No food allowed in the studio and patrons between 13-17 must be accompanied by an adult.

Blue Ball Inn- Get Your Spook On! Monday, October 13, from 6:00-7:45

PM Join us at 6:00 p.m. on Monday October 13 with special guests Tava and Robbie, who will be highlighting the history of the Blue Ball Inn! The Blue Ball Inn is a historic haunted house in Winchester that has a real archeological dig happening. The history of the Inn will be discussed during the program, as well as a presentation about the ghostly occurrences that have taken place. Get ready to be delighted by the haunted happenings taking place right in our area!

Scary Author Panel Saturday, October 25th from 10:00 AM-12:00 PM In Person. Registration encouraged. Get ready to be spooked! Join us for a local author panel focusing on the horror genre. Authors include: Natalie Naudus: audiobook narrator and author of Gay the Pray Away! LB Stimson: author of The Haunting of Noyo Bay, and more! MJ Huntsgood: author of The Truth the Dead Know, and more! Vesper Doom: author of The Binding of Bloom Mountain!

Ongoing Programs

What the Tech! Every Tuesday from

2:00 PM to 3:30 PM In person. Need help with technology? Come by the library's Meeting Room B where we will be going over computers and other technology basics. Having trouble with your phone, tablet, laptop, or other device? Bring it in, and we'll help!

Studio 330: Embroidery Club Every Thursday from 10:00 PM to 12:00 PM In person. Join us for Hand Embroidery Stitches every Thursday morning! Bring your own needlework project to work on for a morning of crafting and socializing. *No food allowed in the studio and patrons between 13-17 must be accompanied by an adult.

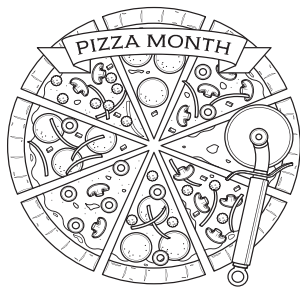
General Education Development (GED) Class Every Monday & Wednesday from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM, starting October 6th In person. Samuels Public Library is proud to host Laurel Ridge Community College's General Education Development course. This course is completely free. Let this course be the stepping stone to your success. More information on registration dates and deadlines can be found on the LRCC website - <https://laurelridge.edu/adult-education>

Studio 330 Walk-in Hours Every



Creative Coloring

Color in this picture to create your own masterpiece.



THIS DAY IN HISTORY



1829: Stephenson's Rocket wins the Rainhill Trials, a locomotive race.

1939: Germany annexes western Poland.

1956: Don Larsen of the New York Yankees pitches the only perfect game thus far thrown in the World Series.



TOSS

throwing dough up in the air when making a pizza

Food FACT:

This food is one of the most popular comfort foods around the world.

Answer: Pizza

Double Word Puzzle

Unscramble the individual words to reveal letters for the phrase.

SBEIT 1 2 3

CSAEU 4 5

RZAEG 6 7 8

HOSP 9 10

L 4 7 6 2 5 9 2 2 3 2

10 1 8 8 4

Answer: Large cheese pizza

How they say that in...

English: Dough
Spanish: Masa
Italian: Impasto
French: Pâte
German: Teig

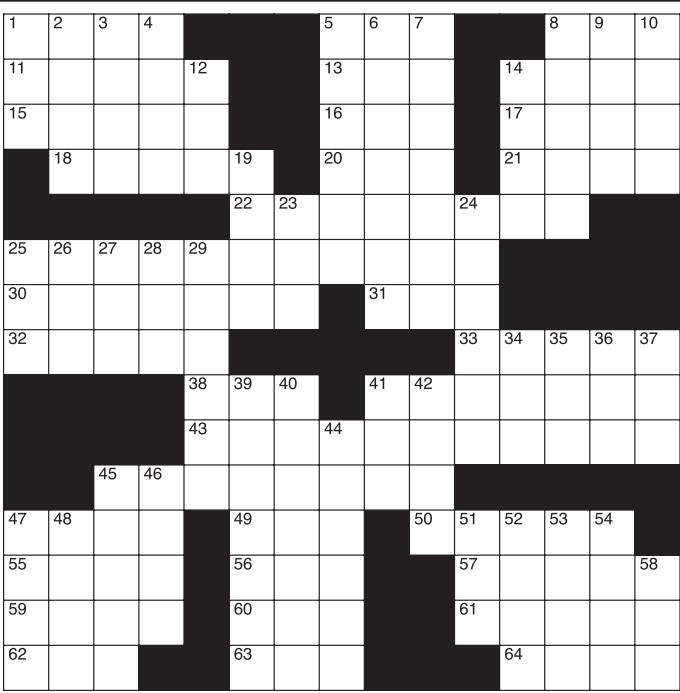
Did You Know?

The average American eats 46 slices of pizza per year. This is about 23 pounds of pizza annually.

Get the PICTURE?

Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

Answer: Putting sauce on dough



CLUES ACROSS

- Comedic actor Rogen
- Bits per inch
- Tire pressure measurement
- Angels great Mike
- Own (Scottish)
- Notable FI racing team
- Upper bract of grass
- Tax collector
- Electronic counter-countermeasures
- Informal loan clubs
- Skeletal muscle
- Popular fish type
- Salts of acetic acid
- Arriving early
- Worded
- Single Lens Reflex
- Amphibians
- Warm greeting
- Belonging to a thing
- Segmented worm
- Concerns
- Audacious
- Wings
- Type of drug
- Wind chill formula scientist Charles
- Island close to the U.S.
- "To the __ degree"
- Daniel __, French composer
- A way to march
- Where golfers begin
- Spiritual leader
- Of she
- Mental disorder concerning body odor (abbr.)
- Tall, slender-leaved plant

CLUES DOWN

- Engine additive

- Amounts of time
- Fragrant brown balsam used in perfume
- Color properties
- One who hands over
- Thieves of the sea
- Put in
- Nocturnal rodents
- Pouches
- Systems, doctrines, theories
- Greek alphabet letter
- Greek goddess of youth
- Satisfy
- Partly digested food
- Dictator
- Parts per thousand (abbr.)
- The 17th letter of the Greek alphabet
- A major division of geological time
- Angry
- St. Francis of __
- Romanian monetary unit
- Stale
- Go quickly
- Commercials
- Canadian city
- One who slices
- Perform perfectly
- Nest of pheasants
- Tactile sensations
- Sword
- Climactic
- Adrenocorticotrophin
- Fisherman's tool
- Swiss river
- Plant that makes gum
- A French abbot
- One point east of northeast
- Get free of

Thursday from 12:00 PM to 4:00 PM In person. Come tour Studio 330 or bring your project to work on. Walk-In hours are provided on a first come, first serve basis.*Glowforge is not available during walk-in hours. No food allowed in the studio and patrons between 13-17 must be accompanied by an adult.

Studio 330: String Theory- A Fiber Arts Club Every Saturday from 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM In person. Welcome to a fiber arts community for experienced, novice, or first-time artists 13 and up looking to meet other artists, relax, and/or share their expertise! Bring your own knitting, crochet, weaving, or other project to Studio 330 on Saturdays 2pm to 4pm *No food allowed in the studio and patrons between 13-17 must be accompanied by an adult.

Scary Words Book Club Saturday, October 4th from 2:30 PM to 4:30 PM First Saturday of every month. In person. A horror book club for people who should be afraid of the dark. This month's titles: What Moves the Dead by T. Kingfisher A Haunting on the Hill by Elizabeth Hand

Bad Romance Wednesday, October 1st from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM First Wednesday of every month. In person. Do you consider yourself a hopeless romantic? Are bad romances a guilty pleasure of yours? Then you should join us for Bad Romance, where Samuels Public Library will have a themed discussion for the romance genre every month. October's theme is Campy! Indulge us with your favorite romance books, movies, music or other media related to the topic, and possibly discover a new treat in this awesome informal discussion! New members are always welcome!

Studio 330: Genealogy Club Wednesday, October 8th from 5:30 to 7:30 PM Second Wednesday of every month. In person. Interested in your family's history? Already done extensive research and want to be able to share your finds? Join our genealogy club where both novices and experts alike can come together and talk about different genealogy topics. Register or drop-in.

October Join the Genealogy Club for an off-site session at the Warren Heritage Society for a hands-on research experience. We'll meet at the WHS archive, where staff will introduce participants to the resources available for tracing local family history. Come prepared with local names/dates/events of interest as we search through the Warren County archive. Registration recommended.

Books & Beyond Book Club Thursday, October 9 from 6:00 PM to 7:45 PM Second Thursday of every month. In person. Do you love books and sharing them as much as we do? Join us to delve into new worlds of conversation about new books at your community's public library! The theme this month is: Hauntings.

Phoenix Project - Hope for New Beginnings Tuesday, October 21 from 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM Third Tuesday of every month. In person. Serving all members of the Front Royal/ Warren County community who have experienced or are currently experiencing domestic violence or sexual assault, Phoenix Project Advocates are available to provide crisis intervention, supportive counseling, safety planning, information, education, and more.

Their services are free, confidential, and trauma-informed. Hope. Help. Healing.

AIDS Response Effort, Inc. (ARE) Free STI Testing Wednesday, October 22nd from 1:00-4:00 PM Winchester's AIDS Response Effort, Inc. (ARE) will be at the library October 22 of 2025 to provide free STI testing for the community. 1 in 5 people in the U.S.A. has an STI. Testing includes: HIV, Hepatitis B & C, Chlamydia, Gonorrhea, Syphilis

Studio 330: Sewing 101- The Basics Wednesday, October 15th or 22nd from 5:00-6:30 PM New to sewing? Sewing 101 is the perfect introduction for beginners to get comfortable with a sewing machine using our SINGER® Heavy Duty 4411 Sewing Machine. Learn how to thread, wind a bobbin, use an owner's manual, and identify key machine components. We will create a simple project using basic stitches that you can take home with you. *No food allowed in the studio and patrons between 13-17 must be accompanied by an adult. Registration required.

Walkabout Wednesdays Wednesday, October 29th from 10:30 to 11:30 am Last Wednesday of every month In person. Join Extension Master Gardener Volunteers on Walkabout Wednesdays where they discuss and care for the indoor plants at the library. Monthly topics for mini-lessons will vary each month. This month: learn about succulents.

Samuels Public Library Youth Programming - October, 2025

These are the events being presented by the Youth Services Department at Samuels Public Library during the month of October 2025. More information about Samuels Library and the programs and services available can be found at www.samuelslibrary.net or by calling (540) 635-3153.

Saturday, October 4

11:00 AM – Story Walk at Eastham Park with Warren County Fire Department. October is Fire Safety Month so come read the new story, Lou by Breanna Carzoo, check out a fire truck, and do a craft!

Monday, October 6

10:15 AM - Music & Movement for Babies (ages 0-23 months).

11:15 AM – Music & Movement for Toddlers (ages 2-5). Join our fun and joyful time with your little ones as we listen to music while learning some basic movements and multisensory activities designed to delight your baby or toddler. Registration is required.

Tuesday, October 7

10:30 AM – Magnetic Ghosts:

Homeschool Hub. For ages 6-11. Learn about magnetism, as we make ghosts fly. Registration is required.

Wednesday & Thursday, October 8 & 9

10:15AM - Toddler Story Time Come in for an enjoyable hour filled with turtle stories, sing-alongs, finger plays, and a nifty craft. Registration is required.

11:00AM – Preschool Story Time Come in for an enjoyable hour with local author, Danny Barron, reading his story, Turtle's Treacherous Trip. We will have sing-alongs, finger plays, and a nifty craft. Books will be available for purchase and signing. Registration is required.

Monday, October 13

10:15 AM - Music & Movement for Babies (ages 0-23 months).

11:15 AM – Music & Movement for Toddlers (ages 2-5). Join our fun and joyful time with your little ones as we listen to music while learning some basic movements and multisensory activities designed to delight your baby or toddler. Registration is required.

Tuesday, October 14

4:00 PM – Scavenger Hunt. For ages 6-11. Come hear detective stories and then go on a "hunt" to decode a message. Registration is required.

There will be no story times on Oct 15 & 16

Saturday, October 18

11:00 AM – Teen Advisory. For ages 12-18. Want to have a voice in the programs we offer to teens? Come help us plan teen activities for the year. Pizza and soda will be served. Registration is required.

2:30 PM – ARC Positive Pumpkins. For ages 5+ with guardian. Come learn positive ways to deal with stress and frustration, then create pumpkin stress balls. Registration is required.

Monday, October 20

10:15 AM - Music & Movement for Babies (ages 0-23 months).

11:15 AM – Music & Movement for Toddlers & Preschoolers (ages 2-5). Join our fun and joyful time with your little ones as we listen to music while learning some basic movements and multisensory activities designed to delight your baby or toddler. Registration is required.

Tuesday, October 21

10:30 AM – Mummy Gummies: Homeschool Hub. For ages 6-11. Come hear mummy stories and learn about mummification and chemical reactions. Registration is required.

Wednesday, October 22 & 23

10:15AM - Toddler Story Time.

11:00AM – Read with the Sheriff Preschool Story Time (Wednesday only) Come in for an enjoyable hour filled with Fall stories, exciting sing-alongs, finger plays, and a nifty craft. Registration is

required.

Monday, October 27

10:15 AM - Music & Movement for Babies (ages 0-23 months).

11:15 AM – Music & Movement for Toddlers (ages 2-5). Join our fun and joyful time with your little ones as we listen to music while learning some basic movements and multisensory activities designed to delight your baby or toddler. Registration is required.

Tuesday, October 28

4:00 PM – Button Balloon. For ages 6-11. Come hear balloon stories and make a balloon picture with buttons! Registration is required.

Wednesday, October 29 & 30

10:15AM - Toddler Story Time.

11:00AM –Preschool Story Time Come in for an enjoyable hour filled with Halloween stories, exciting sing-alongs, finger plays, and a nifty craft. Registration is required.



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Malloy

TOYOTA

Check out Jay's October Deals!!



TS737A - 2025 Jeep Grand Cherokee Limited 4x4, 2k, Local Trade - **\$40,997**



TS684A - 2015 Dodge Charger R/T Rear-Wheel Drive, 78k, Local Trade - **\$17,297**



TS349A - 2025 Mercedes-Benz GLC 300 GLC 300 All-Wheel Drive, 11k - **\$45,997**



TS916A - 2025 Lexus ES 350 350 Front-Wheel Drive, 3k, One Owner - **\$42,897**



CS371A - 2020 CADILLAC CT4-V V-Series All-Wheel Drive, 56k, Local Trade - **\$28,997**



MT4162 - Certified Pre-Owned 2025 Toyota RAV4 LE Front-Wheel Drive, 3k - **\$29,997**



TS797A - Certified 2025 Toyota RAV4 XLE Premium All-Wheel Drive, 6k - **\$36,797**



MT4120A - 2024 Honda Accord Hybrid Touring, 31k, FWD, Local Trade - **\$32,197**



TS770C - Certified 2025 Toyota Camry XSE Front-Wheel Drive, 25k - **\$32,997**



MT4144 - 2021 Ford Explorer XLT, 55k, 4x4, 4x4, Local Trade, Heated Seats - **\$26,197**



TS909A - 2010 Dodge Challenger SRT8 Rear-Wheel Drive, 47k, Local Trade - **\$22,597**



MT4142A - 2020 Chevrolet Colorado ZR2 4x4, 121k, Local Trade - **\$26,527**



TS757H - 2022 Toyota Tacoma SR5 4x4, 68k, Local Trade, Tech Package - **\$33,297**



TR1454B - 2019 Toyota Highlander XLE All-Wheel Drive, 107k, Local Trade - **\$24,297**



TS698A - 2024 Jeep Wrangler Rubicon 4x4, 26k, Local Trade, Clean CarFax - **\$45,997**



MT4178 - 2024 Toyota Tundra Limited 4x4, 49k, Clean CarFax - **\$49,597**



TS795A - 2019 Toyota 4Runner SR5 Premium 4x4, 71k, Local Trade - **\$34,897**



TS975A - 2023 Toyota Highlander LE All-Wheel Drive, 34k, Local Trade - **\$33,997**



TS931B - 2013 Toyota 4Runner SR5 4x4, 216k, Local Trade, Clean CarFax - **\$15,627**



TS988A - 2019 Chevrolet Camaro 1LS Rear-Wheel Drive, 55k, Local Trade - **\$19,577**

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