

# Warren/Frederick County Report

Volume XX, Issue 21 • Late October, 2025

**Recipe: Hearty Sweet Potato Soup**

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**INDICTMENTS**



# Front Royal dedicates John Marlow Plaza in honor of former mayor's lasting legacy



## John Marlow Plaza

### John K. Marlow: A Legacy of Leadership and Community Revitalization in Front Royal

In the late 1980s, Mayor John K. Marlow spearheaded a vital revitalization project for Front Royal's historic downtown. Serving from 1982 to 1990, Marlow's deep love for his town and clear vision drove initiatives to breathe new life into Main Street, recognizing a vibrant downtown as crucial for the town's spirit and economic health. Key achievements under his leadership included transforming the old train station into a welcoming visitor's center, preserving history while creating a central hub. However, the most iconic symbol of this success was the installation of the downtown gazebo. This elegant structure quickly became a focal point for community events, enhancing the area's aesthetic appeal and functionality. Marlow's leadership and the town's collective efforts earned him and Front Royal the Virginia Municipal League's Achievement Award in September 1990. Even after his mayoral tenure, John Marlow remained deeply involved in the community as a Rotarian, community leader, and business owner. His legacy is etched into the very fabric of downtown Front Royal, particularly in the enduring presence of the gazebo area. After his passing in 2024, the Town Council honored his contributions by renaming the area John Marlow Plaza.

### A Glimpse into John K. Marlow's Life

Born on March 28, 1939, in Washington, D.C., John Kenner Marlow spent his early years in Silver Spring, MD, before his family moved to Front Royal, Virginia. An accomplished athlete, he excelled in football, basketball, and discus at Warren County High School. He continued his education at the University of Virginia on a football scholarship, graduating from the McIntyre School of Commerce. After serving two years as a lieutenant in the U.S. Army in Germany, John returned to Front Royal in 1964. He built a successful career in real estate development and took over Marlow Motor Company from his father, expanding it to include Tri-State Nissan in Winchester and Marlow Ford in Luray. Beyond his business ventures and mayoral duties, John was deeply committed to public service. He served 14 years on the Warren County Board of Supervisors, 8 years on Front Royal Town Council, and was a founding director of the Lord Fairfax Planning District Commission. He also played a pivotal role in establishing the Warren County Educational Endowment and served on the boards of various banks, the Museum of the Shenandoah Valley, and as chair of the Board of Trustees at Shenandoah University. He was a longtime Rotarian and lifetime member of the First Baptist Church of Front Royal. John and his wife Joyce Allison Marlow were together for 58 years. In all that he did in the community of Front Royal, he was guided by the simple question: "Is it good for Front Royal?"



Mayor John Marlow addresses the crowd at the unveiling



Creating the sidewalks around the Train Station/Visitor Center



Hoisting the Dome atop the Gazebo



Councilman Jim Eastham & Vice Mayor Michael Kitts



Brick work around the Gazebo



Final Stages of the Plaza



Mayor John K. Marlow (1982-1990)

*"Is It Good for Front Royal?"*

Town leaders, family members, friends and residents gathered Friday evening, Oct. 10, to dedicate the downtown gazebo area as John Marlow Plaza, honoring the late John K. Marlow, whose leadership and vision helped revitalize Front Royal's historic Main Street in the 1980s.

The ceremony, held just before

the Dancing Downtown event and the 53rd annual Festival of Leaves, featured the unveiling of a new marker highlighting Marlow's life and achievements. Members of the Marlow family joined Mayor Lori Cockrell and Town Council members in revealing the plaque, which now stands prominently at the plaza.

"It is an honor to dedicate

the gazebo area to the late John Marlow," said Mayor Cockrell.

"His passion and vision for the revitalization of the Town of Front Royal's Main Street and gazebo area has been and will continue to be enjoyed for generations to come."

erations to come."

**A lasting imprint on downtown**

Serving as mayor from 1982 to 1990, Marlow led a major downtown revitalization project that reshaped Front Royal's Main Street into the vibrant hub it is today.

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Under his direction, the old train station was transformed into the town's Visitor Center, sidewalks and brickwork were redone, and the iconic gazebo—now central to countless community gatherings and concerts—was constructed.

Marlow's work earned Front Royal the Virginia Municipal League's Achievement Award in 1990 for community improvement. Even after leaving office, he remained deeply engaged in civic life, continuing to serve on boards, support local initiatives,

and mentor future leaders.

The new historical marker at John Marlow Plaza summarizes his many contributions and includes photos of the plaza's construction, Marlow addressing crowds, and the familiar gazebo that symbolizes the town's spirit.

**A life of service**

Born March 28, 1939, in Washington, D.C., Marlow moved with his family to Front Royal as a child and quickly

became a standout athlete at Warren County High School. He attended the University of Virginia on a football scholarship, serving as co-captain of the team and earning a degree from the McIntire School of Commerce.

After serving two years in the U.S. Army in Germany, Marlow returned home and took over the family business, Marlow Motor Company, later expanding to include Tri-State Nissan in Winchester and Marlow Ford in Luray.

He went on to serve 14 years on the Warren County Board of Supervisors, eight years on Front Royal Town Council, and was a founding director of the Lord Fairfax Planning District Commission. He helped establish the Warren County Educational Endowment, served as chair of Shenandoah University's Board of Trustees, and held leadership roles at several banks and civic organizations, including the Museum of the Shenan-



**Family members of late Front Royal mayor and businessman John K. Marlow join town mayor Lori A. Cockrell to unveil a plaque marking John Marlow Plaza Oct. 10, 2025.**

doah Valley and the Front Royal Rotary Club.

Throughout his career, Marlow was guided by the question: "Is it good for Front Royal?"

**Family and remembrance**

Marlow passed away Feb.

4, 2024, at the age of 84. He is survived by his wife of 58 years, Joyce Allison Marlow, their children, and grandchildren.

The new plaza marker stands as both a tribute and a teaching moment — a reminder of what vision, optimism, and community leadership can achieve.

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# “Daughter of the Stars” exhibit features 70 Shenandoah Valley women artists

By Carol Ballard  
Warren/Frederick County Report

Anyone looking for interesting and exciting experiences for the next two months may not have to look any further than Melissa Ichuji’s Studio and Gallery in Front Royal. The exhibition and events that are scheduled from October to December are enough to keep everyone busy.

On Saturday, October 18, an Opening Reception, from 6 – 9 p.m. at the gallery at 223 E. Main Street, will be filled with the art works of 70 women artists working in the Washington DC, Maryland, Virginia (DMV) and Shenandoah Valley region.

Visitors are invited to participate in the beginning event of an excellent line-up of special events until December 17, designed to celebrate regional artists, and highlight extraordinary women, historical and contemporary, working in the creative arts, science, literature and more.

The “Daughter of the Stars” (which is translated from the



On October 18, an Opening Reception, from 6 p.m. – 9 p.m. at Melissa Ichuji’s Studio and Gallery at 223 E. Main Street Front Royal, will be filled with the art works of 70 women artists working in the Washington DC, Maryland, Virginia (DMV) and Shenandoah Valley region.

word Shenandoah) events will include Sunday Artist Talks with the women who are included in a series of eight documentary films about prominent creative women that will be screened at our local movie theater, (Royal Cinemas, also on Main Street), author talks, workshops, art classes and children’s story hours featuring books about more extraordinary women

in art, science and beyond in partnership with Samuels Public Library.

“Daughter of the Stars” is part of a regional collaboration titled Women Artists of the DMV Survey Show conceived by Lenny Campello and the American University Museum at the Katzen Arts Center, showcasing the work of approximately 400 women artists across 17 venues in DC, Maryland, and Virginia. Over 3,000 women submitted to be considered.

The largest curated exhibition of female artists in the U.S.

Melissa Ichuji’s Studio and Gallery is honored to have been selected as the location representing artists in the Shenandoah Valley region for what is the largest curated exhibition of female artists in the U.S.

“I wanted to focus the lens on women artists... my real ultimate goal was to show that there is no such thing as women’s art...it is art, period,” said Campello.

Melissa spoke about her inclusion in the exhibition.

“I’m an artist that was included with my video installation at the Katzen Center and I was also invited to be the host here at the gallery for the Shenandoah Valley women,” she explained.

She added more information about the film series and her vision of evenings filled with camaraderie, culture and relaxation.

“What’s really significant,” she began, is that the gallery in collaboration with Royal Cinema is doing the film series, with tickets available for \$15 apiece-each one night only.

“So we’re trying to encourage the idea of a community that



Melissa Ichuji highlights one of the paintings that is included in the art works of the 70 women artists in her gallery that opens to the public on October 18.

could meet every week to see the films, and to discuss them. People could come here first to the gallery at 5:00, then go to the movie at six.

This would give participants a chance to explore the gallery’s “Daughter of the Stars” collection.

“We can talk about it afterwards with a visit to Vinicoli, the chic wine bar that just opened up on Main Street. They are offering a complimentary glass of Prosecco as well as a gathering place for everyone to come afterwards to talk about the film. It’s a full experience. The bar is right next to the Thai restaurant. All is happening in the span of a block!”

This is what to expect in the film series

## 8 FILMS, 8 WOMEN, 8 WEDNESDAYS

The schedule for the film series on Wednesdays at 6 p.m. at Royal Cinemas, 117 E. Main St. Front Royal, is:

- October 22, What Remains: The Life and work of photographer Sally Mann
- October 29, Bombshell: The

Hedy Lamarr Story-documentary about the multi-talented and brilliant screen star

- November 5, Faces Places-film by Agnes Varda and artist JR
- November 12, Pina Bausch-German dancer and choreographer
- November 19, Finding Vivian Maier-American Street photographer
- December 3, Infinity- Yayoi Kusama-documentary of Japanese contemporary artist
- December 10 Beyond the Visible: Hilda af Klint-pioneer abstract painter
- December 17, Amazing Grace: Aretha Franklin-concert film at New Temple Missionary Baptist Church in Watts, Los Angeles, California

Along with these films, workshops and artist talks are scheduled.

“From October 18th until December 17th, we’re going to have maybe four events every week,” said Melissa. “One of them is the film on Wednesdays, then there are the art talks every Sunday at 1:00 with the female artists included in the show. We’ll have

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- SPIDER
- SPOOKY
- TRICK OR TREAT
- VAMPIRE
- WEREWOLF
- WITCH
- ZOMBIE



Melissa Ichiuji's Studio and Gallery is filled with a variety of exquisite art forms that include jewelry, sculpture, ceramics, paintings and more.

maybe an informal panel of 10 artists each Sunday to talk about their work and their inspiration and experiences as artists. Then it

will be open for questions." The Wellness and Creative workshop series has something for everyone.



Past Art Talks at the gallery have been a success, allowing people to hear artists share information about their work while inviting discussion and questions. The upcoming art talks will be held every Sunday at 1:00 with appearances by an informal panel of some of the 10 female artists included in the show.

- Their schedule includes:
- October 24, Create a SoulCollage with Art Therapist Lilla Ohmstrom, 6-8 p.m.
  - Mixology Magic-making mock-

- tails with Julieta Hernandez, 6-8 p.m.
- November 1, Drawing the Divine-all levels with artist Vivian Adder, 6-9 p.m. live model, mate-

- rials included
- November 14, Tea and Tarot with Eliza Graney, 7-9 p.m.
- November 15, Galactic Sound

See ART, 6

## Soup is a favorite on chilly days



**Hearty Sweet Potato Soup**  
Serves 2 to 4

- 1 red onion, roughly chopped
- 1 teaspoon olive oil, plus extra for drizzling
- 1 teaspoon ground cumin
- 1 teaspoon berbere spice mix
- 3 medium sweet potatoes, peeled and chopped into small cubes
- 5 cups vegetable stock
- 3 tablespoons sun-dried tomato purée
- Pinch of chili flakes (optional)
- Sea salt and black pepper

**Toppings:**

- Handful of canned (drained) chickpeas, butter beans or red kidney beans
- Toasted seeds or dukkah
- 2 to 3 tablespoons coconut cream

Cooler temperatures are on the horizon, which means soups will be back on the menu in full force. A filling soup can be the ideal meal when the mercury drops, particularly when it incorporates fall flavors and ingredients.

This "Hearty Sweet Potato Soup" was inspired by Ethiopian spices and it incorporates layers of flavor with a base of earthy sweet potatoes. It's thick enough to be a meal, and pairs well with fresh, crunchy bread. Try it, courtesy of "Rainbow Bowls" (Sourcebooks) by Niki Webster.

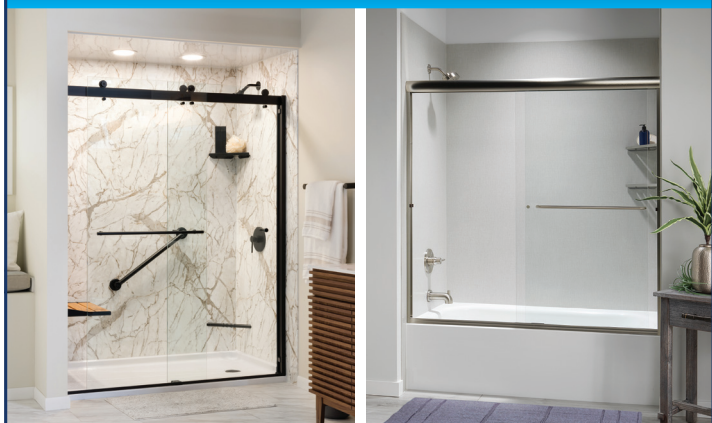
Add the onion to a large pan with the olive oil and sauté for 10 minutes on a low heat. Add the spices and garlic and fry for a further few minutes.

Next, add the sweet potato cubes, vegetable stock, sun-dried tomato purée and chili flakes (if using), cover and simmer for 20 minutes on a low heat until the sweet potato is tender. Season well.

Turn off the heat and blitz until smooth using an immersion blender. Ladle into serving bowls and top with the chickpeas, seeds, coconut cream, and a drizzle of olive oil.

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**ART, from 5**

Journey with Cheryl Janssen and Patti Hawse, 7-9 p.m.

• Fall fresh Flower arranging with Floral Designer Lynn Stillwell, 6-8:30 p.m. In time for Thanksgiving, it includes flowers, and a vessel for a centerpiece arrangement.

Reservations and fees are required for these workshops, visit [www.melissaichuiji.com](http://www.melissaichuiji.com).

Also for fall, two authors are scheduled to speak about their books with free admission at the Gallery.

• On Friday, November 7, Bhavna Bhatia Roszel will give her talk on The "I" in Indian at 7 p.m.

• On Saturday, November 8, Ann Crittenden's talk is "The price of motherhood at 7 p.m.

For more information and to purchase tickets for film and workshops, visit [www.melissaichuiji.com](http://www.melissaichuiji.com).

During a pre-show interview, Melissa, her husband Doug and Melissa's gallery assistant Sally Price, met in the gallery to talk a bit more about everything from October 18th until December 17.

"I think the most important thing is that the women's exhibition is really extraordinary - - not only because it's including so many female artists from the Shenandoah Valley but because it's going to draw people here from DC," said Melissa. "One of

the things that we're doing here at the gallery is making a place where visitors want to come and experience art from the region and realize that there's a lot happening here in Front Royal."

Doug and Sally commented on the upcoming exhibition as well.

"Is there anything you'd like to add about what's happening here with the gallery and this effort with the nonprofit?" Melissa asked them.

"It's life changing!" Sally said. "Really, you know, I've spent my life with sad causes in the nonprofit world-- animal welfare, protecting the oceans, protecting the forests and this is just joyous! I mean seriously, and you know to talk to people about the art only, with no politics...and to be in the moment. Isn't that something we're always all kind of searching for- those times when you're just really focused and being in the moment? That's what art does."

"I think what's done has been amazing and brings culture to this town," Doug said. The word is out that Front Royal is an art destination. Melissa has established herself and people know her. Also, it's a benefit to all who are running businesses in town as well as artists who work in this show. It's a feather in their caps and I don't think it has ever been done before."



The gallery was packed at last year's "Landscape of Desire" exhibit.

He added that people who come in here are flabbergasted that this place exists, even people who have homes here or who are just passing through.

Addressing Melissa, he said, "Remember those people that

came in who were dressed in their hiking clothes and said 'Oh, we were on the Appalachian Trail and we ran into a couple and they said we need to come to the gallery!'"

And they came in because of the chance encounter and how

impressed the other two hikers had been by everything they had experienced during their visit to the gallery.

**Art Talks**

Sally and Doug continued with sharing their enthusiasm about past Art Talks at the gallery.

"The Art Talks have inspired others to do more creative work and reawakened their passion as artists," Doug noted. "It's a great opportunity for aspiring artists to come and ask questions from other artists who are doing it, like how they do it, how they manage

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things in their lives while doing their work."

Sally mentioned her feelings about one big event she attended composed of about 10 artists.

"I thought it was because there were so many and they were all so different, that I found myself thinking that no one could sit here and listen to this and not kind of

grasp how we're all different and how valid too, and how differently we process life and get through it and handle it," she observed. "I mean it just blew my mind, and I thought, you know, bring together a bunch of people with diverse political views and put them in front of a group of people like that and you would walk away hugging

each other, I mean it just was kind of that level to just bring people together."

"For sure, art is a common thread and the film series-that's big." Doug concluded.

**Front Royal Project for the Arts**

The 24 events running in conjunction with "Daughter of the Stars" are being produced by a

new Non-Profit organization called Front Royal Project for the Arts (FRPA), founded by Melissa. The mission statement is, "to provide support for diverse cultural and community events that will enrich the lives of residents and visitors of all ages in Front Royal."

For information on reservations, pricing of workshops and to buy tickets, visit [www.melissaichiuji.com](http://www.melissaichiuji.com).

For information about the non-profit Front Royal Project for the Arts: <https://www.melissaichiuji.com/non-profit-support-front-royal-project-for-the-arts>

Women of the DMV Survey exhibition was recently featured in the Washington Post: <https://www.washingtonpost.com/.../women-artists-dmv.../>

- [crawford0905@gmail.com](mailto:crawford0905@gmail.com)

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**WORD SCRAMBLE**

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to Halloween.

**SWIETHC**

--	--	--	--	--	--

Answer: Witches

**GUESS WHO ?**

I am an actor born in Canada on October 23, 1976. I debuted in a Canadian-produced teen soap opera. I've appeared in many roles since then, including a green-clad superhero and a disfigured, foul-mouthed antihero. Today, I'm a married father of four and close friends with a wolverine.

Answer: Ryan Reynolds

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

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# INDICTMENTS

## 2025 September Indictments July Term

### Mandi-Jo Lynn Miller

The Warren County Va. Circuit Court Grand Jury charges

that: on or about April 1, 2025, in the County of Warren, Mandi-Jo Lynn Miller, 33, of the 400 block of Prospect St., Front Royal, VA 22630, did unlawfully and feloniously, knowingly or intentionally possess a controlled substance listed in Schedule I or Schedule II of the Drug Control Act.

### Dustin Lee Clontz

The Warren County Va. Circuit Court Grand Jury charges that: on or about March 15, 2025, in the County of Warren, Dustin Lee Clontz, 32, of the 200 block of Marcias Circle, Shenandoah, VA 22849, did un-

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

### Jordan Ali Stump

The Warren County Va. Circuit Court Grand Jury charges Jordan Ali Stump, 28, of the 600 block of Hillman Dr. Winchester, VA 22601, with two counts. COUNTS ONE and TWO: In the County of Warren, Jordan Ali Stump did unlawfully and feloniously, knowingly or 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 August 14, 2024.

### Jayon Sosa

The Warren County Va. Circuit Court Grand Jury charges Jayon Sosa, 40, of the 200 block of Fletcher St., Front Royal, VA 22630 with three counts. COUNTS ONE and TWO: In the County of Warren, Jayon Sosa did unlawfully and feloniously possess with the intent to distribute, a controlled substance listed in Schedule I or

Schedule II of the Drug Control Act. COUNT THREE: did unlawfully and feloniously, knowingly or 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 February 22, 2025.

### Summer Rain Moore

The Warren County Va. Circuit Court Grand Jury charges that: on or about April 2, 2025, in the County of Warren, Summer Rain Moore, 21, of the

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100 block of Clarendon Ave., Pikesville, MD 21208, did unlawfully and feloniously, while having been the driver of a vehicle involved in an accident in which a person was injured or an attended vehicle or other attended property was damaged, did unlawfully and feloniously fail to immediately stop as close to the scene of the accident as possible without obstructing traffic and fail to report the accused's name, address, driver's license number, and vehicle

registration number forthwith to the State Police or local law-enforcement agency, to the person struck and injured or to the driver or some other occupant of the vehicle collided with or to the custodian of the other damaged property. The accident resulted in damage to property valued at \$1,000 or more.

**Eric Gallimore**

The Warren County Va. Circuit Court Grand Jury charges that: on or about June 20,

2025, in the County of Warren, Eric Gallimore, 39, of the 1400 block of Shenandoah Ave., Front Royal, VA 22630 did unlawfully and feloniously, knowingly or intentionally possess a controlled substance listed in Schedule I or Schedule II of the Drug Control Act.

**Jorell Jory Smith**

The Warren County Va. Circuit Court Grand Jury charges that: on or about July 17, 2025, in the County of Warren, Jorell Jory Smith, 41, of the 3200 block of Railstop Rd., Markham, VA 22643, did unlawfully and felo-

niously, being over the age of eighteen years, make and communicate to another a threat to bomb, burn, destroy, or damage any place of assembly, building, other structure, or any means of transportation.

**Joshua Lewis Thornton**

The Warren County Va. Circuit Court Grand Jury charges that: on or about October 4, 2024, in the County of Warren, Joshua Lewis Thornton, 42, of the 11900 block of Airlea Dr., Nokesville, VA 20181, did un-

See INDICTMENTS, 10



**Upcoming events with Dan McDermott**

**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

**Fri. Oct 31, 2025 (7-11pm)**  
Halloween Karaoke & Music Bingo at Stephens City, Va Moose\*

**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

\*Private clubs open to members and properly invited guests

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**INDICTMENTS, from 9**

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

**Howard Douglas Banjoman**

The Warren County Va. Circuit Court Grand Jury charges that: on or about August 5, 2025, in the County of Warren, Howard Douglas Banjoman, 37, of the 1600 block of Edgemont Ave., Front Royal, VA 22630, did unlawfully and feloniously, point, hold or brandish any firearm or object similar in appearance to a firearm, upon any public, private or parochial elementary, middle or high school, including buildings and

grounds or upon public property within 1,000 feet of such school property, in such manner as to reasonably induce fear, in the mind of another.

**Sean Michael Ballowe**

The Warren County Va. Circuit Court Grand Jury charges

that: on or about December 8, 2024, in the County of Warren, Sean Michael Ballowe, 22, of the 100 block of Breckenridge Ct., Strasburg, VA 22657, 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 age to knowingly and intentionally expose his ...[...] to a child to whom he was not legally married or propose that the child expose her ...[...] 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.

**Stephanie Leigh Whetzel**

The Warren County Va. Circuit Court Grand Jury charges that: on or about April 2, 2025, through April 30, 2025, in the County of Warren, Stephanie Leigh Whetzel, age and address unavailable, did unlawfully and feloniously, being a person 18 years of age or older, use a communications system,

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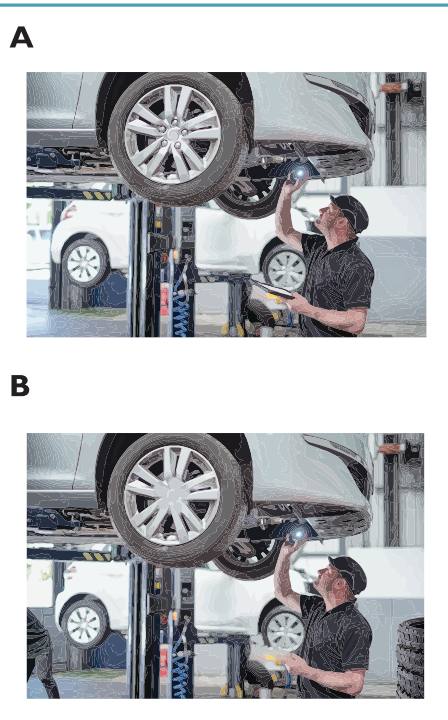
**kids' corner**

**World FACT:**

This country is the largest auto manufacturer in the world.

Answer: China

**What's the Difference?**  
Find the four differences between the two pictures.



Answers: Missing lug nuts 2. Tires stacked on right 3. Man on left 4. Missing clipboard/tablet

**THIS DAY IN HISTORY**

OCT 20

**1803:** The United States Senate ratifies the Louisiana Purchase.

**1910:** The British ocean liner RMS Olympic is launched.

**1995:** The Space Shuttle Columbia launches on STS-73.

**NEW WORD**

**IDLE**

an engine runs slowly but the vehicle isn't moving

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	11			
12				13		14				15					
16					17		18			19					
20						21				22					
					23		24			25					
26	27	28	29					30							
31								32							
33										34	35	36	37	38	
					39	40	41		42	43					
						44	45			46					
						47									
49							50			51		52	53	54	55
56							57			58					
59							60				61				
62							63					64			

- CLUES ACROSS**
- Remark
  - Upper body part
  - Expression of dismissiveness
  - Alternate name
  - Popular beverage
  - Swiss river
  - Step-shaped recess
  - Rocker Stewart
  - Bright shade of color
  - Popular "street"
  - Wrath
  - Heat units
  - Nocturnal omnivorous mammals
  - Fall back into
  - Remove from the record
  - Sound a splash made
  - Popular Dodge pickup model
  - Jamaican river
  - Notable event in Texas history
  - Cool!
  - Subset of Judaism
  - Newly entered cadet
  - Duct in urinary system
  - Exterminator
  - Snatch quickly
  - Have already done
  - Less healthy
  - Therefore
  - What couples say on the altar
  - Mysteriously
  - Look angry or sullen
  - Bird's beak
  - Taco ingredient
  - Square measures
  - Google certification (abbr.)
  - Singer Hansard
- CLUES DOWN**
- Pubs
  - Wings
  - Popular BBQ dish
  - Small sponge cake
  - Open-roofed entrance halls
  - Organize anew
  - Type of wine
  - Forums
  - North Atlantic islands (alt. sp.)
  - Pond dwellers
  - Large integers
  - Signaled
  - Brief
  - Type of student
  - Tibetan monasteries
  - Revolutions per minute
  - NY Giants great Manning
  - Local area network
  - Residue from burning
  - Illuminated
  - Vasopressin
  - Notable space station
  - Wood sorrel
  - Adhering to laws
  - Chose
  - Hovel
  - Stood up
  - European city
  - Works ceaselessly
  - Mistake
  - Sun-dried brick
  - Sicilian city
  - A steep rugged rock or cliff
  - Murder
  - Other
  - "Deadpool" actor Reynolds

**How they say that in...**

**English:** Steer  
**Spanish:** Conducir  
**Italian:** Guidare  
**French:** Conduire  
**German:** Etwas lenken

**Did You Know?**

Every car comes with recommendations for proper tire pressure. The number (PSI) can be found on the inside of the driver's side door.

**Get the PICTURE?**

Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

Answer: Car battery

or another 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 age to knowingly and intentionally expose her... [...] The accused is seven (7) 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 the solicitation.

**William Anthony Sanchez**  
The Warren County Va. Circuit Court Grand Jury charges that: on or about March 10,

2025, in the County of Warren, William Anthony Sanchez, 34, of the 7200 block of Taney Rd., Manassas, VA 20110, did unlawfully and feloniously knowingly or intentionally possess a controlled substance listed in Schedule I or Schedule II of

the Drug Control Act.

**Tevin Edwin White**  
The Warren County Va. Circuit Court Grand Jury charges that: on or about July 19, 2025, in the County of Warren, Tevin Edwin White, 30, of the 1400

block of Mt. Clinton Pike, Harrisonburg, VA 22802, did unlawfully and feloniously take, drive a green BMW SUV or use the vehicle, having a value of \$1,000 or more and belonging to Blanca Cruz, without the consent of the owner, and in his/her absence, and with the intent to temporarily deprive the owner of possession thereof.

**Devin Cenard Samuel**  
The Warren County Va. Circuit Court Grand Jury charges that: on or about June 16, 2025, in the County of Warren, Devin Cenard Samuel, 44, of the 700 block of Warren Ave., Front Royal, VA 22630, did unlawfully and feloniously, knowingly or 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.*

- [news@warrencountyreport.com](mailto:news@warrencountyreport.com)



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**WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?**

There are four differences between Picture A and Picture B.

Answers:  
1. Middle leaf image is rotated 2. There's a lamp on the table 3. There is an extra framed image 4. A pillow is on the chair

# weather forecast

**Friday, October 17, 2025:** Areas of frost before 9am. Otherwise, sunny, with a high near 66. Light and variable wind becoming north around 5 mph in the afternoon.

**Friday Night:** Increasing clouds, with a low around 44. Calm wind.

**Saturday:** Mostly cloudy, then gradually becoming sunny, with a high near 74. Calm wind becoming south around 5 mph in the afternoon.

**Saturday Night:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 51. Calm wind becoming

south around 5 mph after midnight.

**Sunday:** A slight chance of showers, then showers likely and possibly a thunderstorm after 2pm. Partly sunny, with a high near 75. Chance of precipitation is 60%.

**Sunday Night:** Showers likely, mainly before 8pm. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 47. Chance of precipitation is 60%.

**Monday:** Mostly sunny, with a high near 66.

**Monday Night:** Mostly clear, with a low around 42.

**Tuesday:** Mostly sunny, with a high near 71.

**Tuesday Night:** A chance of showers. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 44. Chance of precipitation is 30%.

**Wednesday:** Mostly sunny, with a high near 61.

**Wednesday Night:** Mostly clear, with a low around 39.

**Thursday:** Mostly sunny, with a high near 62.



## Ask Stewart

Hi Stewart!

My mom thinks I'm nuts for wanting to grow a Nutmeg Tree in Virginia. Is it possible?

— Megan

Myristica fragrans, commonly known as the nutmeg tree, is an evergreen species indigenous to the Maluku Islands of Indonesia. This aromatic tree is economically significant as the primary source of two distinct spices: nutmeg, derived from its seed, and mace, obtained from the seed's aril (seed covering).

You can grow nutmeg trees in parts

of the United States, specifically in USDA Hardiness Zones 10 and 11, which includes parts of South Florida and Hawaii, as the tree requires a hot, humid, tropical climate with high rainfall and does not tolerate cold or frost. In cooler U.S. climates like Virginia, you can grow a nutmeg tree in a pot and protect it indoors during winter in a greenhouse or conservatory.

That warm, fragrant spice we now sprinkle on pumpkin pie and eggnog was once so valuable that it was literally worth more than gold. In fact, in 1667, the Dutch traded away the island of Manhattan to the British in exchange for Run Island, a small Indonesian island rich in nutmeg trees. At the time, it seemed like a smart trade.

In medieval Europe, people believed nutmeg could cure the plague, preserve meat, and even act as a perfume. Doctors, cooks, and kings all wanted it. Its sweet, spicy scent was linked with health and luxury.

You are not a nut Meg. Send me a picture of your nutmeg tree!

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](mailto:frwctreestewards@comcast.net)

*and we may publish it in a future issue. Please visit our website at:*

[www.treesfrontroyal.org](http://www.treesfrontroyal.org)

## TIME And Ally Financial Honor Front Royal Dealer

*Emily Marlow Beck Wins National Recognition for Community Service and Industry Accomplishments*

(New York, NY, October 16, 2025)

— The nomination of Emily Marlow Beck, president of Marlow Motor Company, for the 2026 TIME Dealer of the Year award was announced today by TIME.

Beck is one of a select group of 47 dealer nominees from across the country who will be honored at the 109th annual National Automobile Dealers Association (NADA) Show in Las Vegas, NV, on February 5, 2026.

The TIME Dealer of the Year award is one of the automobile industry's most prestigious and highly coveted honors. The award recognizes the nation's most successful auto dealers who also demonstrate a long-standing commitment to community service. Beck was chosen to represent the Virginia Automobile Dealers Association in the national competition — one of only 47 auto dealers nominated for the 57th annual award from more than 20,000 nationwide.

Beck leads Marlow Motor Company, a family business founded in 1947 and representing Chrysler, Dodge, Jeep and Ram in Virginia's Shenandoah Valley. After earning a B.A. from the University of Virginia (1999) and a J.D. at American University Washington College of Law (2002), she built a legal career focused on automotive compliance at Hudson Cook LLP before returning home in 2010 to join—and soon lead—the dealership. Just months into her return, her father suffered a heart attack and quintuple bypass, accelerating a leadership transition that she navigated with transparency, resilience, and a focus on culture.

"I grew up learning about the car business from my father, who passed away last year," Beck said. "My first dealership job was in the parts department when I was in middle school," and after an unexpected setback upon law school graduation, "my father... simply said, 'you can always sell cars for me. Welcome to the corporate world. If you can get yourself out of this, you can get yourself out of anything.'" Beck then relied on her dealership experience to begin practicing law in the automotive space.

"Looking back, I believe that my fa-



## Upcoming events with Dan McDermott

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

Fri. Oct 31, 2025 (7-11pm) Halloween Karaoke & Music Bingo at Stephens City, Va Moose\*

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

Mon. Nov 3, 2025 (6-8pm) Musical 5-in-a-Row at Front Royal, Va. Moose\*

Wed. Nov 5, 2025 (6-9pm) Trivia & Music Bingo at Shenandoah Valley Axe Throwing Company - **OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:** 20 South St. Front Royal, VA 22630

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

Sat. Nov 8, 2025 (8:30-11) Private Event (USMC Ball) at James Charles Winery

Mon. Nov 10, 2025 (6-8pm) Musical 5-in-a-Row at Front Royal, Va. Moose\*

Wed. Nov 12, 2025 (6-9pm) Trivia & Music Bingo at Shenandoah Valley Axe Throwing Company - **OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:** 20 South St. Front Royal, VA 22630

Fri. Nov 14, 2025 (7:30-11:30pm) Music Bingo & Karaoke at New Market, Va. Eagles\*

\*Private clubs open to members and properly invited guests

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ther gave me the greatest gift by not rescuing me when I lost my 'big firm' job," she said.

Under her direction, Marlow Motor Company has invested in future-ready operations, including EV infrastructure upgrades and expanding heavy-duty/service capacity to better support business and fleet customers.

"Our store is a more rural store," she noted. "Because we do a lot of fleet services with business, we have added lifts to increase our capacity to service business customers."

She also created a Cares Committee that engages team members across departments to strengthen culture and community ties—coordinating adoption events with the local animal shelter, United Way baby-supply drives, food-truck appreciation days, and employee recognition programs.

"One of the best things we implemented in our dealership in the last 18 months is the establishment of our Cares Committee," Beck said. "When we invite our team to take leadership roles in building and establishing our culture, we have better 'buy in' and morale."

Committed to workforce development and opportunity, Beck provides Degrees@Work — a no-cost, no-debt college degree program through Strayer University to help employees and their families advance their careers while working full-time. The dealership has provided employees and their family members over \$400,000 in tuition through the program. The store also partners with local high school vocational centers on apprenticeships and mentored technician pathways, as well as an annual automotive scholarship.

Customer care at Marlow Motor Company is personal and practical. "One of our core values is to be innovative problem solvers," Beck said, pointing to a recent example: "A woman and her two dogs arrived at our dealership when her car broke down. There was a delay in getting the part she needed. The employees used their personal funds to purchase her meals, care for her dogs, and our service manager used his own funds to get a hotel room for the woman so she would have a safe place to sleep."

Beck's leadership extends statewide through the Virginia Automobile Dealers Association, where she has served as chairman (2021–2022), vice chair, treasurer, secretary, and long-time board member (2011–2024). That role brought a distinctive attorney's perspective to complex issues including direct sales, warranty reimbursement, EV transition, and pandemic response. Reflecting on a pivotal leadership moment, she added, "Team members will overlook inexperience, but they will not overlook lack of character or commitment."

In 2022, to mark the company's 75th anniversary, she launched "75 Acts of Kindness," mobilizing employees to complete at least 75 community acts in 25 workdays ranging from book drives and food pantry stocking to e-recycling events, shelter support, and neighborhood cleanup. It spurred

copycat kindness campaigns by local organizations and drawing broad media recognition.

"When we began the campaign, I was concerned that we would not be able to successfully execute it," she recalled. "At one point, I realized that the campaign was exactly what my team needed during that time." The lasting lesson: "The best part of the 75 Acts of Kindness was how effective it was in modeling culture for our team. We continue to work with many of these non-profits to this day."

Dealers are nominated by the executives of state and metro dealer associations around the country. A panel of faculty members from the Tauber Institute for Global Operations at the University of Michigan will select one finalist from each of the four NADA regions and one national Dealer of the Year. Three finalists will receive \$5,000 for their favorite charities and the winner will receive \$10,000 to give to charity, donated by Ally.

In its 15th year as exclusive sponsor, Ally also will recognize dealer nominees and their community efforts by contributing \$1,000 to each nominee's 501(c)3 charity of choice. Nominees will be recognized on AllyDealerHeroes.com, which highlights the philanthropic contributions and achievements of TIME Dealer of the Year nominees.

"The TIME Dealer of the Year award honors automotive dealers who set the standard for excellence and community impact," said Jessica Sibley, CEO of TIME. "Each year, we spotlight those whose dedication uplifts and inspires their communities. At TIME, we are proud to continue celebrating these extraordinary contributions in partnership with Ally."

"The TIME Dealer of the Year award honors those exceptional dealers who not only excel in their business endeavors but also demonstrate a profound commitment to uplifting their communities," said Doug Timmerman, President of Dealer Financial Services at Ally. "These nominees embody the spirit of leadership and service, making a lasting impact both in their dealerships and beyond."

Beck was nominated for the TIME Dealer of the Year award by Don Hall, president and CEO of the Virginia Automobile Dealers Association. Emily and her husband, Andrew Beck, have three children: Olin, Marshall, and Margaret.

**Breakfast fundraiser to benefit Warren County Thermal Shelter**

BENTONVILLE, Va. — Limeton Community Church will host a breakfast fundraiser for the Warren County Thermal Shelter on Saturday, Oct. 18, from 7 to 11 a.m. at 9 Limeton Main Street, Bentonville.

The meal will be offered for a free-will donation, with proceeds supporting the shelter's work to provide safe, warm lodging during the winter months. The event will be held downstairs in the Fellowship Hall.

Organizers invite the public to "come join us in a great cause and enjoy some fellowship."

**Grilled Cheese & Tomato Soup Fest**

The Winchester Area Temporary Transitional Shelter (WATTS) will

host a grilled cheese & tomato soup extravaganza "Cheesin' for a Reason" in Old Town Winchester on Saturday, November 8, 2025. Enjoy tastings at 10+ downtown restaurants & food trucks, voting for your faves, live music, kids activities, shopping & craft vendors, and more all while raising funds for WATTS and their mission to end homelessness in our community. Tickets must be purchased in advance - go to [www.watts-homelessshelter.org](http://www.watts-homelessshelter.org). \$20 for adults and \$10 for children 12 & under. Entry times at 11 AM, 1 PM, or 3 PM.

**\$75,000 Preservation Easement Helps Fund Middletown Train Station Rebuild Project**

*Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Foundation and Town of Middletown Partner to Preserve 23 Acres of Cedar Creek Battlefield and Support Local Heritage*

MIDDLETOWN, Va. — The Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Foundation (SVBF) has officially paid the Town of Middletown \$75,000 for a preservation easement that permanently protects 23 acres of the Cedar Creek Battlefield. The agreement ensures the land will remain open and preserved for future generations, safeguarding a key parcel in the center of one of the most significant battlefields of the Civil War.

The preserved property—just steps off Main Street and adjacent to the historic Wayside Inn—had once been eyed for potential residential or commercial development. Instead, the

Town of Middletown and the Battlefields Foundation partnered to protect this vital piece of national history. The 23-acre tract, consisting of 20 acres purchased by the Town and 3 acres donated by a local developer, will remain open space with public access and interpretive opportunities for visitors.

Battlefields Foundation CEO Keven Walker praised the collaboration, noting that the Middletown partnership exemplifies how battlefield preservation can have a tangible, positive impact on local communities.

"Preserving this land honors the sacrifices made here 161 years ago," Walker said. "And now, thanks to Middletown's vision, that preservation will also help build something new—a destination that connects history, community, and education."

"This is a win for both history and the future," said Middletown Mayor Charles Harbaugh IV. "We're proud to work with the Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Foundation to preserve this important land. Not only does it protect our heritage, but it also creates new opportunities to reinvest in our town's future."

The \$75,000 from the easement will directly support the rebuilding of Middletown's historic B&O Train Station, the future home of the Winchester & Middletown Model Railroad Association. The project marks a major milestone in Middletown's effort to restore the town's railroad heritage while creating an attraction that will educate and entertain residents and visitors alike.

See NEWS, 14

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**NEWS, from 13**

Thanks to a \$50,000 donation from former Valley Proteins President and CEO J.J. Smith, along with over \$100,000 in contributions from Dave Holliday Construction and Project Manager Patrick Sowers, the project is now nearing its goal. The new train station will feature meeting space for the club, a museum, and a large-scale model train display.

“Every dollar from this easement is being used twice—once to preserve hallowed ground and again to bring life back to a beloved landmark,” Harbaugh added. “This partnership shows how historic preservation can fuel community revitalization.”

The Winchester & Middletown Model Railroad Association broke ground on the new station this month, with completion expected in spring 2026. The group signed a 25-year renewable lease with the Town, ensuring the building will be open to the public and serve as an educational resource for years to come.

For more information about the battlefield preservation in the Shenandoah Valley, including Cedar Creek Battlefield, visit [www.ShenandoahAtWar.org](http://www.ShenandoahAtWar.org)

To learn more about the Winchester & Middletown Model Railroad Association, visit their Facebook page at [facebook.com/WinchesterModelRailroad](https://facebook.com/WinchesterModelRailroad)

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**Winchester Hot Wheels Club:**

The next meeting is Sunday Oct. 19, 2025 from 1 to 3 PM in the War Memorial Building, Jim Barnett Park, 1001 E. Cork St. Winchester, VA 22601. Lord Fairfax room. Buy, sell and trade diecast cars. We will have

door prizes too! \$5 admission (under 12 is free). For more information: Dan Hammond at [hwdan2@earthlink.net](mailto:hwdan2@earthlink.net) or Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/WinchestershendoahValley-HotWheelsclub>



**Shenandoah University honors late President Emeritus James A. Davis**

WINCHESTER, Va. — Shenandoah University is mourning the loss of President Emeritus James A. “Jim” Davis, Ph.D., who led the university from 1982 to 2008 and passed away Oct. 7 at age 80.

During his 26-year tenure, Davis guided Shenandoah through a period of extraordinary growth — expanding enrollment from under 900 to more than 3,000 students, increasing the endowment from \$500,000 to over \$50 million, and transforming the college

into a comprehensive university in 1991. He oversaw major campus expansion, new academic programs, and the return of intercollegiate football in 2000.

“Jim was an extraordinary and transformative leader whose vision and dedication changed countless student lives and lifted up Winchester,” said current SU President Tracy Fitzsimmons, Ph.D. “His legacy will live on in the generations of alumni, friends, and family who benefited from his wisdom, generosity, and unwavering commitment.”

Davis and his wife, Janet Copple Davis, were honored in 2018 with a bronze hornet statue dedicated in their name outside the James R. Wilkins, Jr. Athletics & Events Center.

A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 16, on Shenandoah University’s main campus in Winchester.

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**VDOT to host Interstate 81 public meeting in Winchester Oct. 30**

The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) will hold a public meeting Thursday, Oct. 30, from 5–7 p.m. at Shenandoah University’s Brandt Student Center, 1460 University Drive, Winchester, to gather feedback on potential improvements along Interstate 81.

The Winchester event is part of Round 3 (Refined Solutions) of the I-81 Corridor Improvement Plan (CIP) 2025 study, the final round of public engagement. This round focuses on refining proposed safety and congestion improvements and developing a prioritized list of projects for the 325-mile corridor.

The meeting will begin with a brief

presentation followed by an open-house session, during which attendees can view display boards and discuss plans directly with members of the I-81 CIP study team.

An online survey will also be available from Oct. 27 through Nov. 9 on the Improve81 Study Page and includes a translation tool for multiple languages.

Comments may also be submitted by email to [va81corridorplan@vdot.virginia.gov](mailto:va81corridorplan@vdot.virginia.gov) or by mail to:

Robert J. Williams  
Virginia Department of Transportation  
1221 East Broad Street  
Richmond, VA 23219

The full I-81 Corridor Improvement Plan is expected to be completed by the end of 2025.

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**Rappahannock Electric Cooperative Donates \$3,000 to Blue Ridge Area Food Bank**

Rappahannock Electric Cooperative (REC) donated \$3,000 to the Blue Ridge Area Food Bank during the 4th Annual Mad Jazz & Wine Festival held Sept. 6 at Prince Michel Vineyard and Winery in Culpeper.

At the event, REC Public Relations Specialist Tracy Woods and REC Director - Member Services and Community Relations Jeff Henry presented the check to Blue Ridge Area Food

Bank CEO Kari Jorgensen Diener. REC’s donation highlights its efforts to give back to the communities and people in its service area. This donation brings the total that REC has donated to area food banks up to \$5,000 in 2025.

“We were excited to join the Mad Jazz & Wine Festival this year as a sponsor and major donor to the Blue Ridge Area Food Bank,” Woods said. “Their efforts to combat food insecurity across Central Virginia is a vital, worthy cause and makes a difference in so many communities.”

The Blue Ridge Area Food Bank is a nonprofit started in 1981 as a “rural experiment in food banking.” Now it helps more than 100,000 people each month and its service area covers about a third of the state.

“As a community food bank, we simply couldn’t do what we do without the generosity of partners like Rappahannock Electric Cooperative. Their donation is a powerful example of what’s possible when local organizations come together. It reflects the best of what it means to be part of a caring, connected community. Thanks to this support, we’re able to help provide fresh, nourishing food to neighbors who need it most. Together, we are solving hunger every day,” said Kari Diener, CEO of the Blue Ridge Area Food Bank.

REC provides electric service to more than 183,000 connections in portions of 22 Virginia counties. REC

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is also a pillar in its communities with more than 18,000 miles of power lines extending from the Blue Ridge Mountains to Chesapeake Bay. For more information on REC's initiatives, please visit [www.myrec.coop](http://www.myrec.coop) and follow REC on Facebook, X, Instagram, LinkedIn and YouTube.



Join the Humane Society of Warren County for another year of friends, food, and fun at Tails & Ales on October 18th!! Adult friendly games and door prizes, dinner, drinks, a souvenir from the evening to remember all of

our shenanigans and a grand prize of \$1,500 CASH!

Mark your calendars for WC Dept. of Social Services 5th Annual Jack-O-Lantern Jubilee, October 23rd at 6 p.m. If you are interested in setting up a booth, please reach out to Nichole at [Nichole.johns@dss.Virginia.gov](mailto:Nichole.johns@dss.Virginia.gov).

The Front Royal Warren County Airport invites you to the The Great Pumpkin Drop, a family friendly fly-in event for everyone on Saturday, October 25, 9 a.m. -2 p.m.

You're invited to the Northern Virginia 4-H Education Center's Enchanted Forest Gala on October 25th, 6-10 p.m. Tickets are available now.

Murder is on the menu at On Cue Sports Bar & Grill for Halloween. Dress to kill for their Murder Mystery Dinner on October 31st, where the plot twists are wild, the suspects are shady, and the dinner is downright deadly (in a good way). Once the culprit is caught, stick around for our DJ Night & Costume Contest — because

nothing says "Halloween" like dancing in a vampire cape while holding a plastic knife.

Mark your calendars for the exciting Car Show benefiting Cars Changing Lives at Warren County Fairgrounds on November 1st, 9 a.m. -2 p.m. The event include awards, door prizes, 50/50, kids Halloween costume contest, adult and kids games, bake sale and music.

Join the Doubletree by Hilton Front Royal Blue Ridge Shadows for an unforgettable evening where dinner comes with a side of scandal, secrets, and shocking surprises at their Murder Mystery Dinner on November 1st,

The Warren Heritage Society is delighted to announce its Annual Dinner, A Swinging Affair, on Thursday, November 13, 2025, at the DoubleTree Hilton in Front Royal. This lively evening will feature a live swing band and dancing, a delicious dinner and drinks, and a joyful celebration of community and history. Tickets and sponsorship opportunities are available now.

Gary Benedict with his vehicle, triggering a multijurisdictional pursuit and carjacking that crossed into West Virginia before ending in the suspect's arrest.

According to police, the Frederick County Communications Center received a call around 9 a.m. from a man who said he was using a lost-phone app to track his missing cellphone, which appeared to be at the 7-Eleven convenience store in Middletown.

Chief Benedict arrived on the scene at 9:36 a.m. and soon encountered the suspect, later identified as 41-year-old Juan Vashaun Payne of Martinsburg, West Virginia. At 9:41 a.m., Benedict radioed for assistance, reporting that he had been struck by the suspect's vehicle and was requesting backup.

As officers converged on the area, Payne allegedly fled north on Interstate 81, where he abandoned his 2017 Toyota RAV4 in the travel lane of northbound I-81. As traffic slowed to avoid the disabled vehicle, Payne opened the passenger door of a white work van and asked the driver for a ride to the next exit.

Upon reaching the exit, Payne reportedly carjacked the van at knife-point and fled east on Route 277 toward Clarke County.

At 10:25 a.m., the carjacked van was spotted in Clarke County, where Virginia State Police and local authorities initiated a pursuit. The chase con-

tinued across the state line into West Virginia, during which Payne struck several law enforcement vehicles and at least one civilian vehicle before crashing. The crash disabled the van, and Payne was taken into custody at 10:38 a.m., just over one hour after his initial encounter with Chief Benedict.

Authorities said Chief Benedict was transported to Winchester Medical Center, where he was treated for non-life-threatening injuries and released.

Payne, who was already wanted on a capias warrant out of Winchester, now faces Frederick County charges of felony assault on a law enforcement officer, felony hit and run, felony carjacking, and grand larceny. Additional charges are expected from Clarke County and West Virginia for his actions during the pursuit and crashes that followed.

Payne was in custody in West Virginia.

**Pedestrian struck by vehicle on North Shenandoah Avenue**

FRONT ROYAL, Va. — A woman was seriously injured Friday evening, Oct. 3, after being struck by a vehicle while crossing North Shenandoah Avenue near Sheetz, according to the Front Royal Police Department.

At approximately 5:40 p.m., officers responded to the 1600 block of North Shenandoah Avenue following a report of a pedestrian struck by a vehicle.

Investigators determined that the driver of a 2017 silver Ford F-150 was exiting the Sheetz parking lot and attempting to turn onto North Shenandoah Avenue when a female operating a mobility scooter crossed in front of the truck. The driver struck the woman, briefly pinning her beneath the front bumper.

Warren County Fire and Rescue personnel responded to the scene, extricated the victim, and provided immediate medical care. The 70-year-old Front Royal resident was transported to Warren Memorial Hospital and later flown to INOVA Fairfax Hospital for treatment of serious but non-life-threatening injuries.

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Disclaimer: The fun show, Warren County Fairground, or any volunteers, will not be responsible for any accidents that may happen to riders, horse, or any spectators.  
\*PLEASE NO DOGS, insurance says so

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**Assault On Police Leads To Carjacking, Pursuit, And Arrest**

MIDDLETOWN — A routine call about a missing cellphone turned violent Friday morning when a suspect struck Middletown Police Chief

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# Marlow Motors New & Used Cars

**DISCOVER THE MARLOW DIFFERENCE | OUR COMMITMENT TO TRANSPARENT PRICING | NO HIDDEN FEES & NO SURPRISES**



**2020 Chevrolet Sonic**  
C8178PB **\$11,900**



**2018 Jeep Compass**  
8J2087PA **\$18,900**



**2019 Jeep Cherokee**  
9J1767PA **\$19,500**



**2018 Ford F-150**  
8F7625PA **\$23,900**



**2021 Nissan Titan**  
5R9008A **\$30,900**



**2018 Subaru WRX STI**  
5N9399B **\$24,900**



**2021 Chrysler Pacifica**  
1C5939PA **\$29,900**



**'21 Chrysler Pacifica Hybrid**  
1C3085PA **\$24,900**

All Used Vehicle Sale Prices are plus tax, tags & \$889 processing fee. Not valid with any other offer & does not apply to prior purchase. Any accessories added by the dealer are additional. All vehicles are subject to prior sale & while supplies last. Subject to change without notice. Other restrictions may apply. Please call to verify your applicable pricing.

Weekdays until 10pm • No appointment needed  
FREE pick up & delivery service • All makes & all models



## TIRE & ALIGNMENT PACKAGE

**\$199**



Rotate, balance & align for a smoother fall ride.

\*Plus any applicable tax, shop supplies, and fees. Maximum discount \$100. Coupons must be presented prior to the write-up. Cannot combine with other offers or specials and does not apply to already discounted services. One coupon per customer per visit. Not valid on previous charges or invoices. Most vehicles. No cash value. Other Restrictions may apply. See dealer for details. While supplies last. Expires 10/31/25.

Weekdays until 10pm • No appointment needed  
FREE pick up & delivery service • All makes & all models



## BATTERY CHECK & SAVE

**FREE Test  
+ \$10 OFF  
Replacement**



Stay charged as temps drop.

\*Plus any applicable tax, shop supplies, and fees. Maximum discount \$100. Coupons must be presented prior to the write-up. Cannot combine with other offers or specials and does not apply to already discounted services. One coupon per customer per visit. Not valid on previous charges or invoices. Most vehicles. No cash value. Other Restrictions may apply. See dealer for details. While supplies last. Expires 10/31/25.

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FREE pick up & delivery service • All makes & all models



**BUY 1, FREE  
GET 3**

Oil Change & Tire Rotation Bundle

**\$230** Most vehicles.  
Four services.  
Big fall savings.

\*Plus any applicable tax, shop supplies, and fees. Maximum discount \$100. Coupons must be presented prior to the write-up. Cannot combine with other offers or specials and does not apply to already discounted services. One coupon per customer per visit. Not valid on previous charges or invoices. Most vehicles. No cash value. Other Restrictions may apply. See dealer for details. While supplies last. Expires 10/31/25.

Weekdays until 10pm • No appointment needed  
FREE pick up & delivery service • All makes & all models



## ROAD-READY FALL PACKAGE

**\$269.<sup>99</sup>**

Coolant flush, blades, washer fluid, tire pressure, battery check & alignment check.

\*Plus any applicable tax, shop supplies, and fees. Maximum discount \$100. Coupons must be presented prior to the write-up. Cannot combine with other offers or specials and does not apply to already discounted services. One coupon per customer per visit. Not valid on previous charges or invoices. Most vehicles. No cash value. Other Restrictions may apply. See dealer for details. While supplies last. Expires 10/31/25.

Weekdays until 10pm • No appointment needed  
FREE pick up & delivery service • All makes & all models



## FLUID & FUEL SERVICE DEAL

**\$25 Off**

Includes brake, transmission, coolant, power steering & more.

\*Plus any applicable tax, shop supplies, and fees. Maximum discount \$100. Coupons must be presented prior to the write-up. Cannot combine with other offers or specials and does not apply to already discounted services. One coupon per customer per visit. Not valid on previous charges or invoices. Most vehicles. No cash value. Other Restrictions may apply. See dealer for details. While supplies last. Expires 10/31/25.

Weekdays until 10pm • No appointment needed  
FREE pick up & delivery service • All makes & all models



## TIRE SPECIAL

Buy 3 Tires, **FREE\***  
Get the 4th

**GREAT VALUE FOR  
WINTER-READY  
TRACTION.**



\*Plus any applicable tax, shop supplies, and fees. Maximum discount \$100. Coupons must be presented prior to the write-up. Cannot combine with other offers or specials and does not apply to already discounted services. One coupon per customer per visit. Not valid on previous charges or invoices. Most vehicles. No cash value. Other Restrictions may apply. See dealer for details. While supplies last. Expires 10/31/25.



# Marlow Motors

707 N Commerce Ave., Front Royal, VA 22630

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