

Warren/Frederick County Report

Volume XX, Issue 23 • Late November, 2025

Recipe: Toffee Cheesecake Bars



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INDICTMENTS



INDICTMENTS

2025 October Indictments October Term

Susan Kathryn Hansen

The Warren County Va. Circuit Court Grand Jury charges that: on or about May 23, 2025, in the County of Warren, Susan Kathryn Hansen, 37, of the 37000 block of Grovers Hill Ln., Purcellville, VA 20132, did unlawfully and feloniously, knowingly or intentionally possess a controlled substance listed in Schedule I or Schedule II of the Drug Control Act.

Emily Andre Wright

The Warren County Va. Circuit Court Grand Jury charges Emily Andre Wright, 44, address unavailable, with two counts. COUNT ONE: In the

County of Warren, Emily Andre Wright 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. COUNT TWO: did unlawfully and fe-

loniously, 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 May 23, 2025.

Alexis Marie Yeadon

The Warren County Va. Circuit Court Grand Jury charges

that: on or about April 25, 2025, in the County of Warren, Alexis Marie Yeadon, 34, of the 100 block of Mohawk Rd., 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.

Jesse Daniel Peglar

The Warren County Va. Circuit Court Grand Jury charges that: on or about January 30, 2025, in the County of Warren, Jesse Daniel Peglar, 53, of the 100 block of S. Shenandoah Ave., Front Royal, VA 22630, did unlawfully and feloniously, drive or operate a motor vehicle while having a blood alcohol concentra-

tion 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 accused committed this offense after having committed two prior violations within the ten-year period ending on the date of the

See INDICTMENTS, 4

Warren/Frederick County Report

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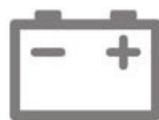
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**INDICTMENTS, from 2**

current offense. The prior violations and the current offense were not all committed within the five-year period ending on the date of the current offense, the blood alcohol level of the accused was at least 0.15 but not more than 0.20.

Troy Allen Henry

The Warren County Va. Circuit Court Grand Jury charges

Troy Allen Henry, 53, of the 300 block of Ritenour St., Front Royal, VA 22630, with two counts. COUNT ONE: In the County of Warren, Troy Allen Henry did unlawfully and feloniously, intentionally, destroy, deface, damage or remove a motor vehicle belonging to Noah S. Mahoney III, with the value of or damage to such property being \$1,000 or more. COUNT TWO: did unlawfully and feloniously

and knowingly communicate in writing, including an electronically transmitted communication producing a visual or electronic message, a threat to kill or do bodily injury to Noah S. Mahoney III, regarding that person or any member of his family, thereby placing such person in reasonable apprehension of death or bodily injury to himself or his family member. Dates of the offenses were on or about March 7,

2025, through March 12, 2025.

Kady Sylla

The Warren County Va. Circuit Court Grand Jury charges Kady Sylla, 34, of the 3800 block of Ploute Rd. NE, Roanoke VA 24012, with two

counts. COUNTS ONE and TWO: In the County of Warren, Kady Sylla did unlawfully and feloniously utter, or attempt to employ as true a false, forged, or base coin, note or bill, knowing it to be false, forged or base, current by law

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or usage in this Commonwealth. Date of the offenses was on or about November 21, 2024.

Larry Allen Forbes II

A/K/A Larry Allen Forbus II

The Warren County Va. Circuit Court Grand Jury charges that: on or about November 1, 2024, in the County of Warren, Larry Allen Forbes, II, A/K/A Larry Allen Forbus, II, 38, of the 500 block of N. Royal 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.

Richard Lane Hassler

The Warren County Va. Circuit Court Grand Jury charges that: on or about January 3, 2025, in the County of Warren, Richard Lane Hassler, 59, of the 100 block of Madison Ln., Luray, VA 22835, did unlawfully and feloniously, forge a public record, or a certificate, return, or attestation of a public officer or public employee, in relation to any matter in which such certificate, return or attestation may be received

as legal proof, or utter, or attempt to employ as true, such forged record, certificate, return, or attestation, knowing the same to be forged.

Donovan Eugene Porter

The Warren County Va. Circuit Court Grand Jury charges Donovan Eugene Porter, 29, of the 300 block of Cherrydale Ave., Front Royal, VA 22630, with two counts. COUNT ONE: In the County of Warren, Donovan Eugene Porter did unlawfully and feloniously, while having been the driver of a vehicle involved 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, 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. COUNT TWO: did unlawfully and feloniously steal a motor vehicle, having a value of one thousand dollars \$1,000 or more, belonging to Frank Barrett Jr. Dates of the offenses were on or about May 23, and August 25, 2025.

Antoine Darnell Nicholson

The Warren County Va. Circuit Court Grand Jury charges that: on or about April 29, 2025, in the County of Warren, Antoine Darnell Nicholson, 35, of the 700 block of Upsal St. SE, Washington DC 20032, did unlawfully and feloniously, having received a visible or audible signal from a law-enforcement officer to bring his motor vehicle to a stop, drive such motor vehicle in a willful or wanton disregard of such signal so as to interfere with or endanger the operation of the law-enforcement vehicle, or endanger a person, and

the speed of the accused exceeded the maximum allowed by twenty miles per hour.

Zabar Anghel

The Warren County Va. Circuit Court Grand Jury charges Zabar Anghel, 41, address unavailable, with two counts. COUNT ONE: In the County of Warren, Zabar Anghel did unlawfully and feloniously conspire with another to steal jewelry, having a value of \$1,000 or more belonging to Nicolle's Jewelry Designs. COUNT TWO: did unlawfully and feloniously, steal jewelry having a value of \$1,000 or more, belonging to Nicolle's Jewelry Designs. Date of the offenses was on or about March 27, 2025.

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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A dessert to satisfy your holiday season sweet tooth



Baking is a popular activity come the holiday season. Families may designate entire weekend afternoons to baking holiday goodies, and those efforts are much appreciated by the beneficiaries of all that time spent in the kitchen elbows deep in flour and confectioners' sugar.

Cookies tend to be a go-to holiday treat, particularly in households with young children who want to leave out something homemade for the jolly old elf on Christmas Eve. But there's also plenty of room to expand your horizons during holiday baking sessions with the family. A finished product like these "Toffee Cheesecake Bars" from "Taste of Home Healthy Cooking Cookbook" (RDA Enthusiast Brands) by the Taste of Home/Reader's Digest Kitchens can delight

guests and might even compel the man in the red suit to smile even wider come the night before Christmas.

Toffee Cheesecake Bars

Makes 2 1/2 dozen

- 1 cup all-purpose flour
- 3/4 cup confectioners' sugar
- 1/3 cup baking cocoa
- 1/2 cup cold butter
- 1 8-ounce package reduced-fat cream cheese
- 1 14-ounce can sweetened condensed milk
- 2 eggs, lightly beaten
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1 1/4 cups milk chocolate English toffee bits, divided

1. In a small bowl, combine the flour, confectioners' sugar, cocoa, and baking soda. Cut in butter until mixture resembles coarse crumbs. Press in the bottom of an ungreased 13-inch x 9-inch baking dish. Bake at 350 F for 12 to 15 minutes or until set.
2. In a large bowl, beat cream cheese until fluffy. Add the milk, eggs and vanilla; beat until smooth. Stir in 3/4 cup toffee bits. Pour over crust. Bake 18 to 22 minutes longer or until center is almost set.
3. Cool on a wire rack for 15 minutes. Sprinkle with remaining toffee bits; cool completely. Cover and refrigerate for 8 hours overnight.

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weather forecast

Friday, November 14, 2025: Increasing clouds, with a high near 60. West wind around 6 mph.

Friday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 43. Calm wind.

Saturday: Mostly cloudy, with a high near 68. Calm wind becoming southwest around 6 mph in the afternoon.

Saturday Night: A chance of rain. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 53. Southwest wind 6 to 10 mph, with gusts as high as 24 mph. Chance of precipitation is 40%.

Sunday: Sunny, with a high near 63.

Sunday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 36.

Monday: Sunny, with a high near 54.

Monday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 31.

Tuesday: A chance of rain after 1pm. Partly sunny, with a high near 51. Chance of precipitation is 30%.

Tuesday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 35.

Wednesday: Partly sunny, with a high near 56.

Wednesday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 37.

Thursday: Mostly cloudy, with a

high near 59.

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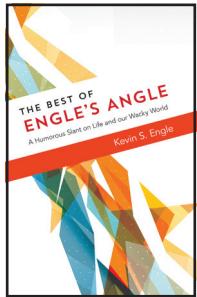
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My wife and I like to eat eggs for

breakfast every now and then.

But there's a problem.

For some unknown reason, or maybe one I can't remember, I'm the designated egg maker. I'm not sure why. If you're gonna make eggs, you gotta break eggs and I'm the world's worst egg breaker.

I'm not a good egg maker either. So there's that too.

Before I begin my feeble attempts at making eggs, I assemble my must haves. The garbage can and some paper towels.

Egg breaking is messy and I always make a mess.

I'm quite timid when it comes time to break an egg.

I'm never quite sure just how hard I have to smack it. If I do it too hard, I'll have egg all over me and the kitch-

HOROSCOPES

ARIES – Mar 21/Apr 20

Aries, you understand that when you're working hard toward a goal, the process isn't always straightforward. You may tolerate a fair amount of challenges along the path this week.

TAURUS – Apr 21/May 21

Taurus, it may seem like others around you do not get your sense of humor. While you're confident at telling stories, it takes others a bit of time to appreciate your funny side.

GEMINI – May 22/Jun 21

Gemini, you may be tempted to look past a recent challenge. But reflecting on that adversity and your ability to overcome it will soon pay dividends.

CANCER – Jun 22/Jul 22

Keeping an open mind is one of your strong suits, Cancer. Your willingness to see all sides has benefitted your in numerous ways, and that outlook will continue to bear fruit.

LEO – Jul 23/Aug 23

Dramatic occasions and grand gestures draw your attention this week, Leo. But don't forget to focus on some of the little things that make up most of your days.

VIRGO – Aug 24/Sept 22

Virgo, you notice everything that goes on around you, and you're aware of your own moods, too. That self-awareness serves you well in your relationships.

LIBRA – Sept 23/Oct 23

Libra, even though you generally do not like dealing with uncertainty, this week you're stuck operating without a lot of advanced information. Trust your instincts.

SCORPIO – Oct 24/Nov 22

Sometimes you are hesitant to share your opinions until you feel certain that they are correct, Scorpio. But this week you may miss out if you're being too cautious.

SAGITTARIUS – Nov 23/Dec 21

You're impressed when others carry themselves with confidence, Sagittarius. Learn from their behavior and emulate what you see. You will like the results.

CAPRICORN – Dec 22/Jan 20

Real life requires compromise, Capricorn. Lately it's been your way or the highway, and those around you are taking notice. Don't risk alienating them for good.

AQUARIUS – Jan 21/Feb 18

Aquarius, try not to linger on others' innocent mistakes. People make little missteps all the time. Be gracious in letting those close to you get another shot at your good graces.

PISCES – Feb 19/Mar 20

Pisces, when you've already made up your mind about something, it can be hard to dissuade you. Do not overlook other people's concerns. There is value in seeing things through others' eyes.

FAMOUS BIRTHDAYS

NOVEMBER 16

Missi Pyle, Actress (53)

NOVEMBER 17

RuPaul, TV Host (65)

NOVEMBER 18

Owen Wilson, Actor (57)

NOVEMBER 19

Allison Janney, Actress (66)

NOVEMBER 20

Ming-Na Wen, Actress (62)

NOVEMBER 21

Brie Bella, Media personality (42)

NOVEMBER 22

Jamie Campbell Bower, Actor (37)

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en. And because I don't tap it hard enough, that usually leads to several cracks and smacks before said egg actually escapes from its shell.

My current approach is to break each egg into a bowl, one at a time, so that I can fish out any little pieces of egg shells before pouring it into the skillet. Of course there's always raw egg running down the bowl and the side of the cup I use to break the eggs.

Once I finally do get all the eggs in the skillet, without any shells, I still have my challenges.

There are two essential skills in this phase of making eggs.

Scooping and flipping.

I don't do either well.

We both like "dippy eggs" as my wife calls them. If I don't scoop them with the spatula just right, the dippy part comes out and won't be dippy anymore. I usually push the eggs around the skillet for a while until luck intervenes and I capture it.

But then it's time to flip.

Flip too hard and you break the yolk.

Flip not hard enough and I'm back to chasing eggs around the skillet again.

By the time I do flip the last egg, I've probably overcooked the first one.

An overcooked egg is not dippy. I eat those.

Why should my wife have to suffer the consequences of my poor egg making skills?

The final step, getting the eggs out of the skillet and on to the plate can also be tricky. I can scoop, which is another opportunity to break the yolk, or I can slide them out. I'm so close to the finish line at this point. If I mess it up now, that really makes me mad. Cue the cursing.

What I need is a crash course in making eggs.

Does Cracker Barrel or IHOP offer unpaid internships?

My poor wife. Besides only getting dippy eggs half the time, she's also on cleanup duty. And cleaning up raw egg on the counter and stovetop is no fun.

I'm lucky she hasn't scooped and

flipped me.

The author's scooping and flipping shortcomings also haunt him when he grills.

— kevinengle456@comcast.net

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Ask Stewart

Hi Stewart,

What are you thankful for this year?

— John

I am thankful for Samuels Public Library and for everyone who planted a tree this year. Planting a tree is a very hopeful and community-oriented action. Some people plant legacy trees which honor the loss of a loved one or the joy of a new beginning.

This year, our family will be making a Thanksgiving tree.

DIY branch tree: Gather branches or sticks and place them in a vase with sand or rocks for stability. Have family members write things they are thankful for on paper leaves and tie them onto the branches, creating a visual display of gratitude.

Chalkboard tree: Draw a tree on a chalkboard or use a chalkboard-style printable poster. Write messages of gratitude on it or have guests do so with chalk.

Printable thankful tree: Use a printable tree outline and cut out leaf shapes. Provide markers or pens for

family members to write what they are thankful for and then hang the leaves on the branches.

Happy Thanksgiving!

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:

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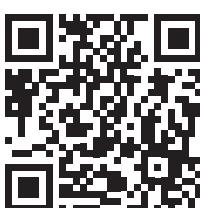
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SENIOR SAFETY WORD SEARCH

S	V	E	G	D	M	C	O	G	N	I	T	I	V	E	S	I	R
P	A	C	I	S	S	F	A	L	L	P	R	E	V	E	N	I	N
S	U	F	D	R	L	F	P	E	N	L	G	M	H	O	H	A	P
C	S	L	E	E	S	N	H	C	A	I	C	S	V	A	B	P	C
Y	A	N	B	D	O	P	O	B	H	S	E	R	R	O	G	P	T
M	S	R	A	A	R	C	Y	C	C	P	C	Y	H	O	C	Y	S
Y	P	M	E	R	L	I	L	T	M	P	U	N	O	R	T	N	I
E	E	U	A	G	Y	A	V	I	D	D	R	A	A	M	H	E	L
S	R	P	N	C	I	Y	N	I	O	O	I	P	H	O	E	G	L
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B	O	E	G	B	P	G	E	V	E	G	Y	H	A	I	M	E	P
A	N	P	N	V	I	R	N	R	F	O	S	D	R	L	I	M	V
R	A	A	I	T	L	A	O	R	S	L	Y	L	I	I	A	E	S
E	L	R	T	S	S	B	I	I	Y	C	S	F	N	T	Y	B	A
D	A	E	H	D	N	B	S	M	P	R	T	G	Y	P	B	N	R
L	L	D	G	L	O	A	I	F	I	R	E	S	A	A	D	D	F
E	E	A	N	I	N	R	V	E	P	C	M	B	I	I	G	V	R
A	R	E	L	I	R	S	G	G	M	F	T	D	D	T	P	G	A
E	E	S	T	H	O	M	E	S	A	F	E	T	Y	H	G	N	C

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

WORDS

BALANCE
BATHROOM
CAREGIVERS
COGNITIVE
ELDER ABUSE
EMERGENCY
FALL PREVENTION
FIRE
GRAB BARS
HEARING AIDS
HOME SAFETY
HYPOTHERMIA
LIGHTS
MEDICATION
MOBILITY AIDS
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PREPARATION
SAFE DRIVING
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SECURITY SYSTEM
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**In Loving Memory of
Gary Paul Malin**
July 26, 1966 – October 18, 2025

It is with heavy hearts and endless love that we share the passing of Gary

Malin, who left this world peacefully on October 18, 2025 at Sentara RMH Medical Center in Virginia.

Gary was born on July 26, 1966 in Takoma Park, Maryland. He graduated from Shenandoah Valley Academy, New Market, Virginia and moved to California shortly after to continue his education. Gary cherished his life, and at the heart of it all was his love for family. He was a devoted father, son, brother, and friend whose heart was as big as his smile. Gary dedicated his life to supporting and caring for the people he loved most, especially his daughters, Kayla and Brittany, and his stepsons, Rod and the late Chris.

Gary was the kind of father who showed up — for every game, every milestone, and every moment in be-

tween. Whether he was cheering from the sidelines, encouraging his children's dreams, or taking his girls away to theme parks for the day which was filled with laughter and adventure, Gary made sure his kids knew how deeply they were loved. Some of his happiest memories were those joyful days spent with his daughters at theme parks, reliving those moments fondly as he reminisced about the beautiful times they shared together.

He worked hard throughout his life, spending many years in the life insurance industry, always striving to provide for and protect his family. But Gary's greatest work was not in an office — it was in the lessons he taught and the love he gave. He instilled strong morals and values in his girls early on, showing them what it meant

to be compassionate, driven, resilient, and kind.

About three years ago, Gary moved back to New Market, Virginia. His health had been declining and he faced tremendous health challenges, yet he met every battle with courage, determination, and unwavering strength. Surrounded by the care and devotion of his mother, sister, brother, former wife and good friends, Gary was never alone. Their visits, their love, and their presence reminded him — and everyone around him — of the powerful bonds that family creates.

Gary will always be remembered for his warm personality, his humor, and his ability to make anyone feel like a friend. He loved a good joke, enjoyed spirited conversations about politics, and had a natural gift for connecting

with people. To know Gary was to love him — and to laugh with him.

He is survived by his loving mother, Elizabeth Malin; his sister, Cheryl Malin Thrall; his brother and sister-in-law, Glenn and Edie Malin; and his former wife, Debbie Malin. He will be forever cherished by his daughters, Kayla Malin Hernandez and her husband Julio, along with their children Andrew and Maverick Hernandez; and Brittany Malin, and her children Enzo and Alyssa Valdeverona. He is also survived by his stepson Rod Dzandzara and daughter-in-law Deidre Dzandzara. Gary was the son of the late Dr. Wendell E. Malin Jr., MD and was also preceded in death by his stepson Chris Dzandzara, who remains lovingly remembered by his family.

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Gary will be missed. His strength, compassion, and laughter will live forever in the hearts of those who loved him. Though his absence leaves a deep ache, there is peace in knowing that he is not suffering — and that his spirit lives on in all of us.

Dad, you gave us everything you had — your time, your love, and your heart. There isn't a day that goes by that we don't think of you or miss you. A little piece of all of us went with you, but your love will always remain.

— Kayla Hernandez



Rappahannock Electric Cooperative's John Hewa Urges Virginia Chamber of Commerce Leaders to Change the Business of Energy in the Commonwealth

Rappahannock Electric Cooperative (REC) President and CEO John Hewa gave the keynote address at the Virgin-

ia Chamber of Commerce Infrastructure Forum on Oct. 28, 2025.

"Infrastructure is the backbone of Virginia's economic competitiveness," said Keith Martin, Interim President and CEO of the Virginia Chamber of Commerce. "From reliable energy and efficient transportation to broadband and water systems, these investments make it possible for businesses of all sizes to thrive."

Rapidly escalating energy demand fueled largely by the Commonwealth's success in its economic development efforts was a key theme of Hewa's comments. It is also a strategic con-

sideration in Virginia, where data center development has boomed and is a key driver of large future investments in the state. Hewa emphasized

See NEWS, 10

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**NEWS, from 9**

Virginia's role in meeting the needs of the world's growing use of artificial intelligence. He shared several key metrics illustrating how much the Commonwealth's energy landscape has changed, including a more than tenfold projected increase in the cost of generation capacity between early 2024 and summer of 2026, and the co-op's 99 percent increase in the transmission service rate over the last decade. These rapidly rising power needs and the corresponding costs that challenge affordability for all Virginians require changing how the business of energy is conducted.

Hewa's philosophy at REC embraces the cooperative model, yet he recognizes "when the business changes, change the business." This is why REC leaders are effectively optimizing the capabilities of the cooperative model to manage risk and recognize opportunities.

"In Virginia, we need to accelerate regulatory reviews and permitting for new energy capacity generation. Additionally, we need to act today to prepare for operating during periods of scarcity by invoking energy storage and standby generation and authorizing emergency base load generation." Hewa called for the immediate emergency authorization of 10,000MW of baseload generation in the Virginia load zone.

Hewa also emphasized the need to consider all available options to address energy capacity generation, and to factor the wide variance in capital costs associated with different types of infrastructure investments. He concluded that for every \$10 billion in data center investment, Virginia needs \$3.5–\$10.5 billion in generation investment.

REC provides electric service to over 183,000 connections in parts of 22 Virginia counties. With its general office in Fredericksburg, Va., the Cooperative operates and maintains more than 18,000 miles of power lines through its service area, which ranges from the Blue Ridge Mountains to the tidal waters of the Chesapeake Bay. For more information about REC, please visit www.myrec.coop. Follow REC on Facebook, X, Instagram, LinkedIn and YouTube.

**Chamber and Community Events**

For their 15th year, Able Forces

Foundation is once again supporting military and veteran families with financial assistance during the holiday season. Please consider the Adopt A Warrior Family For Christmas program in your Holiday giving. Contact Skip Rogers at (703) 220-1822 for information or with questions.

The Fourth Annual Front Royal Light Fight is now open for all Warren County residents to join! Sign up by December 10 at <https://loriloveshomes.com/front-royal-light-fight>

Anyone can join...and win

1st place-\$1,000, 2nd place-\$500, 3rd place-\$300, Fan Favorite-\$500, Best Business-\$500. For more information, Call Lori Oaks at (540) 305-1610.

Winchester Little Theatre presents A Christmas Carol based on the novel by Charles Dickens:

From November 7 - December 6, we are thrilled to once again present this musical adaptation of the beloved Christmas classic with its new twist in storytelling – and an original score you'll want to hear again and again! From "Bah, humbug!" to "God bless us everyone!", if anyone knows how to keep Christmas...we do!

Tickets: Adults: \$25.00, Seniors: \$23.00, Students: \$18.00 * All fees included

Tickets are going fast and this event sells out. Don't delay!

For performance times and tickets: <https://winchesterlittletheatre.org/>

production/a-christmas-carol-2/ Christmas on Main - Downtown Front Royal-December 6, 2025

Step right into your own Hallmark movie at Christmas on Main! Experience a charming merry market, festive live music, unique vendors, and the grand finale: a heartwarming 100-unit small-town Christmas parade!

**Middletown Unveils Sensory Garden in Honor of Former Mayor and Navy Veteran Ray Steele**

MIDDLETOWN, VA – The Town of Middletown proudly unveiled a new Sensory Garden today at the Middletown Town Park, a vibrant and inclusive space designed to engage the senses and welcome individuals of all abilities. The project was dedicated by

his daughters, Mendy LeVan and Pamela Steele, in honor of Former Mayor and U.S. Navy Veteran Ray Steele for his years of service, advocacy, and compassion toward the disability community.

The garden's design reflects Middletown's long-standing commitment to inclusion and accessibility, a core value that Ray Steele championed throughout his time as Mayor and beyond. The colorful, hand-painted rocks that bring the garden to life were created by local Frederick County students, symbolizing the creativity and connection of the next generation to their community.

During the unveiling, Ray Steele was surprised by the dedication and expressed his gratitude, saying:

"I was very surprised and found myself at a loss for words. My family, Masonic brothers, and Middletown mean the world to me, and I am truly blessed to have received all these kind words and praise. Very humbling!"

— Ray Steele, Former Mayor and U.S. Navy Veteran

Current Mayor Charles Harbaugh IV shared his appreciation for Steele's contributions, adding:



GUESS WHO ?

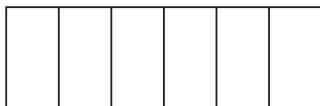
I am a country singer born in South Carolina on November 20, 1977. I went to the Vanderbilt voice clinic to treat a lesion on my vocal cords. I performed at the Grand Ole Opry in 2001 and have had several top ten hits.

Answer: Josh Turner

WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to senior safety.

M M E O Y R



Answer: Memory

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Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test! **Here's How It Works:** 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.)

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

Level: Beginner

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

Level: Intermediate

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

Level: Advanced

"Ray Steele has long been an advocate and a beacon for the disability community. He has been a life-long mentor to me and a tremendous example to look up to. We are truly thankful for his efforts and are pleased to see him recognized today."

— Charles Harbaugh IV, Mayor of Middletown and CEO of Access Independence, Inc.

The Sensory Garden represents a continuation of Middletown's inclusive vision, a place where residents of all abilities can gather, explore, and thrive.

Visitors are invited to experience the garden firsthand and see why so many proudly say, "I Love Middletown!"

Photo from Creative Justice Photography

Front Royal Women's Resource Center accepting applications for 2026 Dare to Dream grants

The Front Royal Women's Resource

Center (FRWRC) is now accepting applications for its 2026 Dare to Dream Enrichment Grants. These annual grants provide financial support to women seeking to advance their education, start or expand a business, learn a new skill, purchase essential equipment, launch a nonprofit, or pursue any project that helps them move forward in their lives.

Applicants may request up to \$1,000, with funds paid directly to the school, training program, or vendor. FRWRC is once again partnering with the Warren Memorial Hospital Foundation to offer additional grants of up to \$1,000 each to as many as five women pursuing education or training in healthcare or related fields, including non-traditional roles.

The grants are open to women 18 and older who live and/or work in Warren County and are not currently enrolled in high school. The application deadline is Dec. 30, 2025. All applications are reviewed by a committee, and finalists are interviewed. Decisions are based on the merit of the project, the applicant's preparation

and effort toward achieving the goal, and financial need.

Grant recipients will be announced in March 2026 and recognized at a luncheon on Saturday, March 28.

The Dare to Dream program was created in 1999 by FRWRC founder JoEllen McNeal to help women in Warren County pursue education, develop new skills, start or expand businesses, buy technology, or create services that benefit the community. Since its founding, the program has awarded more than 200 grants totaling \$150,000, helping local women build confidence, strengthen their families, and contribute to the community.

Women with a dream — or those who know a woman who could benefit from support — are encouraged to apply. Applications are available at www.frwrc.org/dare-to-dream

The FRWRC will share more information about the grant program at its Annual Meeting on Nov. 30, held at the Calvary Episcopal Church Hall from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Membership dues and donations directly support

the Dare to Dream program. Donations can be made at www.frwrc.org/donate

The Front Royal Women's Resource Center is a 30-year-old nonprofit dedicated to providing support, education, and networking opportunities for women in the Warren County area. Over its history, the organization has awarded more than \$150,000 in grants and scholarships to over 200 local women and girls, supporting educational, professional, and personal enrichment.

Learn more at frwrc.org or follow FRWRC on social media.



Locate Your Hometown Hero Banner

The Town of Front Royal is pleased to announce that residents can now easily locate their Hometown Hero Banners using our online tool. These banners, displayed throughout the town, honor the brave men and women from our community who have served in the military.

To find your banner visit <https://bit.ly/FindYourHeroBanner>

Stephens City

Sunday, December 7, 3:00 p.m. Emmanuel Episcopal Church, 300 W. Frederick Street, Staunton

Winchester Hot Wheels Club meeting set for Nov. 23

The Winchester Hot Wheels Club will hold its next meeting on Sunday, Nov. 23, 2025, from 1 to 3 p.m. in the Lord Fairfax Room at the War Memorial Building, Jim Barnett Park, 1001 E. Cork St., Winchester, VA 22601.

This month, the club will also be accepting Toys for Tots donations. Contributions are appreciated and will help brighten the holidays for local children.

Attendees may buy, sell, and trade die-cast cars, and door prizes will be offered. Admission is \$5, with free entry for children under 12.

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

VDOT Seeking Input on Route 7 (Berryville Pike) Planning Study in Frederick County

Online survey live now through Nov. 26; more at vaprojectpipeline.virginia.gov

STAUNTON — The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT), in partnership with Frederick County, is seeking feedback on a transportation study assessing potential solutions on Route 7 (Berryville Pike) from the Greenwood Road/First Woods Drive intersection to the Frederick eastern county line.

This study will focus on developing recommendations to address numerous needs identified in the statewide transportation plan, including traffic safety, roadway capacity, Transportation Demand Management (TDM), transit access, and enhancing pedestrian and bicycle facilities where appropriate. Most notably, the corridor has several crash hot spots with issues related to high speeds.

VDOT invites residents and travelers to learn more and take an online survey, which is available through Nov. 26, 2025. The survey, which has a translation tool for multiple languages, is available at <https://publicinput.com/st-25-05alts>. Comments can also be sent to brad.reed@vdot.virginia.gov or to Brad Reed, Virginia Department of Transportation Staunton District, 811 Commerce Road, Staunton, VA 24401-9029.

Community input received through this survey will help the study team understand perspectives on proposed solutions and develop final recommendations to address issues along the study corridor.

This study is being conducted as part of the Project Pipeline program, which was created by the Common-

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The Valley Chorale kicks off Christmas 2025 theme "Making Spirits Bright"

The Valley Chorale presents "Making Spirits Bright" a jubilant, choral Christmas concert filled with new takes on timeless Christmas classics, sacred hymns, and a few holiday surprises. Accompanied by piano, percussion, fiddle and a string quartet, The Valley Chorale invites the whole family to come join us in kicking off the Christmas season.

The concert is 80 minutes long, with a brief intermission. No need for a babysitter, we love tots and kids!

The concert is free for ages 25 and under. For ages 26 and up, tickets are \$18 and can be purchased in advance on TheValleyChorale.org.

Tickets at the door are \$20.

Call for further information at (540) 635-4842 or email at TheValleyChorale@gmail.com

Concert schedules are:

Friday, December 5 – 7:30 p.m.
First Presbyterian Church, 116 S. Loudoun Street, Winchester

Saturday, December 6 – 2:00 p.m.
First Baptist Church, 14 W. 1st St., Front Royal

Saturday, December 6 – 7:30 p.m.
Unitarian Universalist Church of the Shenandoah Valley, 6380 Valley Pike,

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NEWS, from 11

wealth Transportation Board (CTB). Project Pipeline is a performance-based planning program to identify cost-effective solutions to multimodal transportation needs in Virginia. Project Pipeline is led by Virginia's Office of Intermodal Planning and Investment (OAPI), in collaboration with VDOT and the Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT).

This study is expected to be completed in summer 2026; it does not set construction dates for any improvements. The study will recommend projects, solutions, and investment strategies that may be considered for statewide funding programs such as SMART SCALE, Revenue Sharing, and Virginia Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP), as well as regional and local funding sources.

Free Thanksgiving Community Dinner on Nov. 15

The Woman's Hair Empire & Beauty Academy, in partnership with the Lord and Holiness Worship Center, will host a free Thanksgiving community dinner on Saturday, Nov. 15, 2025.

The event will take place at 480 S. Commerce Ave., Front Royal, VA 22630.



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A free breakfast pickup will be available from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., followed by a dinner pickup from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Organizers emphasize that everyone is welcome to enjoy the meals, which are provided as an outreach to the community.

For more information, readers may contact the hosting organizations.

For Success

RICHMOND, VA — Virginia's general firearms deer season begins Saturday, Nov. 15. Hunters hoping to fill their freezers are reminded to be safe, courteous, and have a detailed hunt plan. Planning for a successful hunt includes taking a hunter safety course and having a valid license. We hope all hunters enjoy a beautiful fall day afield!

Rewarding hunts involve conscientious preseason preparation, scouting, and good communications. This includes knowing the current hunting regulations. You should also inspect all gear including tree stands, safety harnesses, and firearms to ensure they are safe and operational. There are close to 250,000 acres of public land to hunt within DWR's Wildlife Management Areas. If hunting on private property, make sure you communicate with the landowner and have permission to hunt there.

Once that perfect morning arrives, there are a few more day-of things that will help make your hunt a success. First, make sure you communicate your plan with someone. Let them know where you plan to hunt and what time to expect you back home. Make sure to pack plenty of water, snacks, a first aid kit, and a cell phone or other means of communication. Check the weather, dress appropriately, and always wear the required blaze orange for safety. Know the property you plan to hunt including terrain and boundary lines and don't forget to bring a map or mapping app and a compass. If you're hunting from a tree stand, remember to wear a safety harness and use a fall arrest system. Finally, don't wait until you harvest that trophy buck to figure out a plan on how to get your deer out of the woods and processed.

If you plan to hunt in one of the chronic wasting disease (CWD) management areas, make sure you know the regulations including where carcasses can and can't be transported. Deer harvested on Nov. 15 in Patrick, Roanoke, Shenandoah, Smyth, Tazewell and Wythe counties are required to be tested for CWD. Staffed check stations will be open from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Staffed locations as well as refrigerated drop-off locations can be found on the CWD testing map. Deer harvested in other counties are not required to be submitted, but free testing is available to all hunters who wish to have a deer tested.

If your deer hunt includes the use of hounds, there are a few more items to check off on your hunt plan. Know the property you plan to hunt including terrain and boundary lines and ensure that you are casting and hunting on property where you have permission to do so. Make sure all your dogs wear a substantial collar with a tag displaying the owner's name and phone number. Make a plan to keep dogs on the property where you have permission to hunt. It is always a good idea to proactively reach out to landowners near the property you plan to hunt in case a hound becomes lost in the hunt. For additional best practices for hunters

that use hounds, visit the DWR webpage.

Once you fill your freezer this year, consider donating additional deer to Hunters for the Hungry. A list of participating deer processors can be found on their webpage. Deer populations on private lands in many areas of the state are higher than desired. Balancing herds through doe harvest keeps deer healthy, reduces property damage, and ensures healthy habitats for all wildlife. If you're in an Earn-A-Buck county, take another doe or two and help feed those in need.

Spending long days afield in the Commonwealth's wild places, sharing hunting stories with friends, and having a full freezer to feed their families is what makes fall the best time of year for many Virginians. If this includes you, DWR wishes you a safe and successful season! For more information on hunting in Virginia, including the science behind deer management, how to scout land and other tips for success, check out the department's YouTube page.

Warren Coalition Receives GDU Community Award

FRONT ROYAL, VA—In the midst of preparing for Celebrate Kids Day, Warren Coalition's Community Outreach Coordinator, Celeste Brooks, received some fun news: she and the Warren Coalition had been selected to receive the Global Day of Unplugging's "Community Award" in honor of their work on "Warren County Unplugged" this past March!

"In 2025, in Front Royal, you helped create something rare: space for people to step away from screens, look each other in the eye, and feel the power of real connection," the letter accom-

panying the award reads. "That's no small thing. This certificate isn't just paper. It's a testament to your part in a growing movement to reclaim our time, attention, and presence — and to the difference that simple, human moments can make."

With over 40 businesses, agencies, and nonprofit organizations participating in some way, the Coalition's second year of encouraging Warren County residents was considered a resounding success by Brooks and the rest of the committee. But they didn't expect national recognition for their efforts.

"We were just focused on creating the awareness," Brooks said. "And obviously the more organizations we have engaged, the greater the awareness."

This isn't the first time that the work of Brooks and the Coalition was noticed by the Global Day of Unplugging (GDU) staff. The GDU staff were so impressed with the social media work on the first event held in 2024, called "Warren County IRL (In Real Life)," that they named Warren County an honorary "Unplugged Village." That first event had mixed attendance at events, but signed up over 100 people to forego screens for at least a few hours during the 24-hour challenge, thanks to Brooks and Michael Whitlow of Over 50 Media. This year, the Coalition teamed up with Warren County Parks & Recreation and Warren County Public Schools to provide a stronger emphasis on youth, sending out educational materials through the schools and online, and organizing a "Youth Unplugged Party." It is estimated that over 800 people participated in events throughout the weekend, and nearly 250 signed up to "unplug" for at least a few hours.

"If we can get folks to think about their phone use, even for just one day,

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New Website!
Find great local businesses in Front Royal and Warren County!
WarrenCountyVA.com

it can help them recognize unhealthy dependencies," Brooks pointed out. "In many of the post-event surveys, people say they didn't realize how much time they spend on their phones. Those who participate enjoy the break, even if they find it challenging."

The committee has already begun to plan for the 2026 event, which will be held March 6th-7th. If you would like to learn how your business or organization can participate, contact Celeste Brooks at celeste@warrencoalition.org or 540-660-3367.

Warren Coalition, celebrating 30 years of service to Warren County, is a nonprofit agency established in 1994 to help fill the gaps in health care

and substance abuse awareness to the community. The Coalition began under the guidance of Warren Memorial Hospital as an outreach project, but it has since grown and was incorporated in 2001. The office is currently located in the Warren County Community Center. Their mission is to make Warren County a safe, healthy, and drug free community through many programs and in collaboration with 15+ member agencies.

Warren County Burn Ban

All open air burning throughout Front Royal/Warren County is pro-

hibited by order of the Fire Marshal effective November 6, 2025 at 11:00 AM. This order shall remain in effect until rescinded.

This action is being instituted in accordance with the Virginia Statewide Fire Prevention Code due to the extreme atmospheric conditions and dry ground/surface fuels impacting Front Royal / Warren County.. No person shall kindle or maintain or authorize to be kindled or maintained any open burning during this time. This prohibition includes all bonfires, ceremonial fires, camping fires, barrel fires, land clearing fires, etc. This regulation does not include barbecue grills, smokers, or any device that emits smoke through a chimney or stack.

The Department of Fire and Rescue Services, Office of Emergency Man-

agement and the County of Warren continue to monitor these adverse conditions. Violations of the Open-Air Burn Ban may be punishable as a class 1 misdemeanor, confinement in jail for not more than 12 months and/or a possible fine of not more than \$2,500.

Safety tips during this dry period to reduce the chances of fire include:

Do not discard cigarettes from moving vehicles; use ashtrays. With the conditions we have now, lit cigarettes do cause fires and can be disastrous in times of drought and high fire risk.

When pulling off the side of the road, stay off of dry grass areas. Park vehicles so that the exhaust does not come in contact with dry grass, leaves

See NEWS, 14

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Upcoming events with Dan McDermott

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

Sat. Nov 15, 2025 (6-10pm)
Music Bingo & Karaoke at Shenandoah
Valley Axe Throwing Company
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: 20 South St.
Front Royal, VA 22630

Sun. Nov 16, 2025 (2-8pm)
Wedding in Frederick County

Mon. Nov 17, 2025 (6-8pm)
Musical 5-in-a-Row at Front Royal, Va.
Moose*

Wed. Nov 19, 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 22, 2025 (7:00-10:30pm)
Karaoke/Music Bingo at Woodstock, Va.
Moose*

Mon. Nov 24, 2025 (6-8pm)
Musical 5-in-a-Row at Front Royal, Va.
Moose*

Wed. Nov 26, 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 29, 2025 (6-10pm)
Music Bingo & Karaoke at Shenandoah
Valley Axe Throwing Company
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: 20 South St.
Front Royal, VA 22630

Mon. Dec 1, 2025 (6-8pm)
Musical 5-in-a-Row at FR Moose*

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NEWS, from 13

or weeds.

Adjust the safety chains on your trailers to ensure they don't drag and create sparks that can cause roadside fires.

Avoid cooking outdoors during this drought season. If you do cook, never leave barbecue grills unattended. Place your grill on concrete or your driveway away from your home or any structures. If using charcoal or wood, make sure that the fire has been extinguished by soaking it with a garden hose before disposing of the coals.

Check lawnmowers and farm equipment for properly working spark arresters.

Mow your lawn at least 30-50 feet away from your house and water to create defensible space.

Cut back or remove any dry and dead landscaping plants or bushes around your home. Clear leaves from your roof and gutters; rake them away from the sides of your home.

Move anything that will burn far away from structures, items like firewood, compost piles, brush piles, etc.

Notify the electric company when dead trees or overhanging limbs endanger the electric wires.

Route 761 at Clarke-Frederick County Line Reopens after Bridge Replacement

STAUNTON – Route 761 (Old Charles Town Road) at the Clarke-Frederick county line reopened this afternoon (Wednesday, Nov. 5) following the replacement of the bridge over Opequon Creek.

Since early February, Route 761 had been closed to through traffic between the intersections of Route 666 (Gun Club Road) and Route 661 (Wadesville Road), requiring motorists to take detours around the construction.

The new bridge replaces one that was nearly a century old and had

reached the end of its service life. It was a low-water, single-lane structure that frequently flooded. The new bridge is roughly five feet higher and can carry two lanes of traffic. The new bridge will enhance safety and improve traffic flow on Route 761.

The Virginia Department of Transportation in November 2024 awarded a \$3.4 million construction contract to Fairfield-Echols, LLC of Fishersville. Although the new bridge is open to traffic, Route 761 motorists should be alert for shoulder closures or occasional flagger traffic control through the project's final completion in spring 2026.

All work is weather permitting.

Fatal Crash in Shenandoah County

Virginia State Police is investigating a two-vehicle crash that occurred at approximately 6:02 p.m. yesterday (Nov. 4, 2025) on Interstate 81

northbound at the 279-mile marker in Shenandoah County.

A 2024 Ford Explorer was traveling northbound in the left lane on Interstate 81 when it ran into a 2017 Freightliner tractor trailer that had stopped for traffic on the interstate. Traffic had stopped for a vehicle fire that occurred at the 283-mile marker. After impact, the Explorer spun across the right lane and ended up in the area between the interstate and the nearby on ramp.

The driver of the Explorer was ejected from the vehicle. The driver was flown to an area hospital where the driver was later pronounced deceased.

Two juvenile passengers in the Ex-

plorer were transported to area hospitals to be checked out.

The crash remains under investigation.

Double Fatal Crash on Interstate 95 in Spotsylvania County

Virginia State Police is investigating a double fatal crash that occurred this morning at approximately 1:06 a.m. on Interstate 95 southbound near the 126-mile marker in Spotsylvania County.

A 2013 Dodge Ram pulling a utility trailer went off of the right side of the

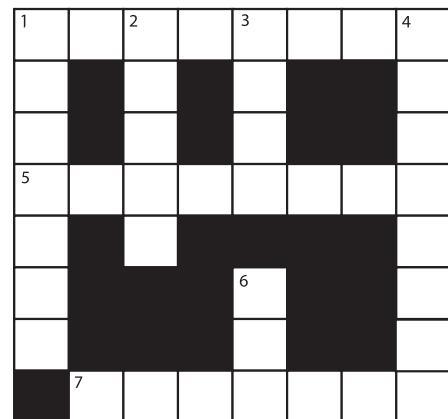


Food FACT:

Despite the word "nut" in the name of this food, they are actually legumes, which is a family of plants that includes peas and lentils.

ANSWER: Peanuts

Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

- 1. Parcels
- 5. Tidy a space
- 7. Liquid turning into a gas

DOWN

- 1. Nuts that are not a nut
- 2. Transparent
- 3. Pain
- 4. Trying things out
- 6. Liquid fat

1. Peanuts 2. Clear 3. Ache 4. Sampling 6. Oil
Down
1. Peanuts 2. Clear 3. Neaten up 7. Boiling
Across
1. Peanuts 2. Clear 3. Ache 4. Sampling 6. Oil



1777: The Articles of Confederation are submitted to the states for ratification.

1820: Captain Nathaniel Palmer becomes the first American to see Antarctica.

2019: The first known case of COVID-19 is traced to a man in China.

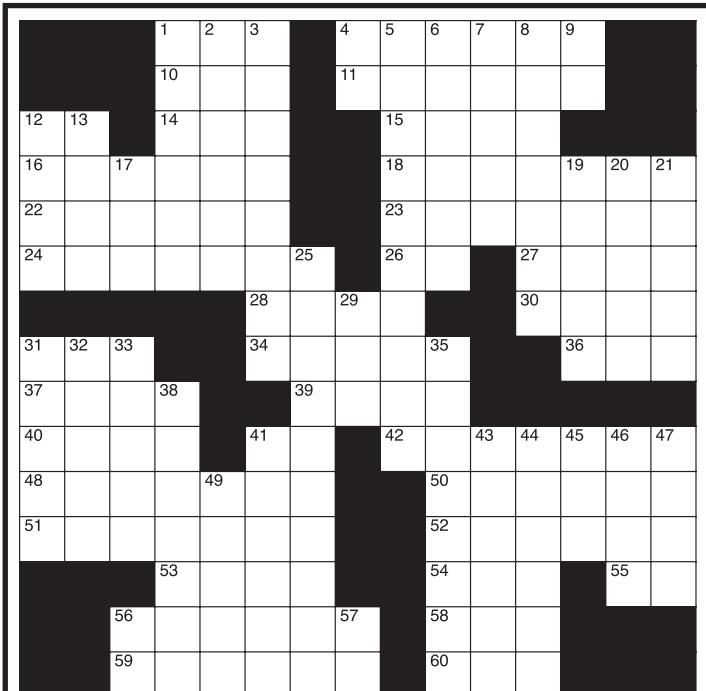


Get the PICTURE?



Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: Peanut butter & jelly sandwich



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Popular broadcast network
- 4. Train line
- 10. Go quickly
- 11. Straightforward
- 12. Canadian province
- 14. Swiss river
- 15. It can be straight or curved
- 16. Edit
- 18. Utter repeatedly
- 22. Gotten up
- 23. Sea vessel
- 24. Agents of one's demise
- 26. Not out
- 27. Something to scratch
- 28. A round water pot
- 30. Slang for cylindrical green fruit
- 31. Promotions
- 34. Masses of matter
- 36. Soviet Socialist Republic
- 37. Nightstand item
- 39. The content of cognition
- 40. Arab ruler
- 41. Northern U.S. state
- 42. Chewed in small bites
- 48. Hawaiian island
- 50. More thin
- 51. Of one
- 52. Rigid bracelet or anklet
- 53. Barbary sheep
- 54. Not even
- 55. Atomic #106
- 56. Haggie
- 58. Boxing's GOAT
- 59. Division of a group into opposing

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Horse-drawn carriage
- 2. Prejudices
- 3. Peacefully
- 4. University athletic official
- 5. Soldiers
- 6. Large mollusk
- 7. Take out again
- 8. Sour or bitter in taste
- 9. Songwriter Tunstall
- 12. Husk of wheat
- 13. Flexible covering in some birds
- 17. Energy
- 19. Night monkey genus
- 20. Small nails
- 21. Colorless volatile liquid
- 25. In a way, changes integrity
- 29. Mark Wahlberg's stuffed animal
- 31. Remember it
- 32. "Good Will Hunting" lead man
- 33. Pleasant facial expression
- 35. Sea vessel
- 38. Lacking poetic beauty
- 41. Tall, swift and slender dog
- 43. Sports personality Michelle
- 44. Robber
- 45. Liquefied natural gas
- 46. Snakelike fish
- 47. Sediment at bottom of a liquid
- 49. Crimean seaport
- 56. Bad grades
- 57. Popular S. Korean rapper

How they say that in...

English: Peanut
Spanish: Cacahuate
Italian: Arachide
French: Cacahouète
German: Erdnuss

Did You KNOW?

Peanut butter is not just for sandwiches. It also is delicious in baked goods or even savory dishes.



Get the PICTURE?



Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: Peanut butter & jelly sandwich

interstate, where it struck a stopped tractor trailer. The impact caused the Ram to catch fire.

The two occupants of the Ram died at the scene. The driver of the tractor trailer was not injured.

The crash remains under investigation.

Frederick County Burn Ban in Effect

Due to the increased risk for wildfires due to the current extreme atmospheric and drought conditions, Frederick County will be under an open air burn ban effective Wednesday, November 5th until further notice.

No person shall kindle or maintain or authorize to be kindled or main-

tained any open burning during this time. This prohibition includes all bonfires, ceremonial fires, camping fires, barrel fires, etc. This regulation does not include barbecue grills, smokers, or any device that emits smoke through a chimney or stack.

This action is being instituted in accordance with Chapter 45 Article II section 45-10 E of the Frederick County code on the recommendation of Frederick County Fire Rescue System Fire Marshal and Fire Chief by the County Administrator.

The Frederick County Fire and Rescue System - Office of the Fire Marshal will continue to monitor these adverse conditions daily and make recommendations to the County Administrator and the Board of Supervisors on when to lift or amend the burn ban.

Violations and Penalty – Violations of the open burning regulations may result in being charged with and convicted of a Class 1 Misdemeanor, which carries a penalty of a fine up to \$2,500.00 and up to a year in jail. Further, if convicted, the responsible party may be held liable for all damages and the costs of firefighting operations.

Safety tips during this dry period to reduce the chances of fire include:

Do not discard cigarettes by throwing them down, use ashtrays or water to make sure they are out before disposing. Discarded cigarettes do cause

fires and can be disastrous in times of drought and high fire risk.

When pulling off the side of the road, stay off dry grass areas. Park vehicles so that the exhaust does not contact dry grass, leaves or weeds.

During this time, do not burn household trash in barrels.

If you cook outdoors, never leave barbecue grills or smokers unattended. Place your grill or smoker on concrete or your driveway away from combustible materials. If using charcoal or wood, make sure that the fire has been extinguished by soaking it with a garden hose before disposing of the coals.

Move anything that will burn far away from structures, items like firewood, compost piles, brush piles, etc.

Town of Front Royal Voluntary Water Conservation LIFTED

Due to the rainfall the area has received, the Town voluntary water restrictions have been lifted today, November 3, 2025.

The Town of Front Royal greatly appreciates your efforts and thanks you for your assistance in conserving our water resources during this recent period of voluntary water conservation. As always, the Town continues to encourage users of the Town's municipal

water supply system to monitor their use of water and to conserve our water resources. Please monitor your local media sources for future reports of water conservation efforts in the Town of Front Royal.

If you have any questions, please contact the Department of Public Works at (540) 635-7819.

Belle Grove Plantation to Host 6th Annual Kris Kringle Market November 22nd and 23rd featuring more than 90 artisans and crafters

Belle Grove Plantation will host its 6th Annual Kris Kringle Market on Saturday, November 22, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. and Sunday, November 23, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. This year, early shoppers on Saturday from 10 a.m. to noon will have an entry fee of \$2 per adult (children 12 and younger are free). Admission is free at all other times of the event. There is no charge for parking.

The event began in 2020 to provide an outdoor shopping experience during COVID. It has grown each year since, and this year will have more than 90 artisans and crafters. Vendors will sell jewelry, clothing, candles, art, gourmet food, home and holiday décor, and feature artisans who do woodworking, fiber arts, metal fabrication, and more. Vendors will be set

up on the grounds between the Belle Grove Manor House and Beverley B. Shoemaker Welcome Center.

This year the event also has expanded food offerings, including Bricello's Caterers and Grilled Formaggio (gourmet grilled cheese), Daily Buzz Cafe (bratwurst, coffee), Classy Caboose (corn dogs, funnel cakes), Joie de Vivre Crepes (sweet and savory crepes), Josephine's Kitchen (hot pierogis), among many others. There will be beverage offerings from West Shenandoah Ruritan Club (gourmet hot chocolate), Copper Fox Distillery (whiskey hot toddy made with Belle Grove 1797 Whiskey), and Belle Grove (German style mulled wine, Great Lakes Brewery's Christmas Ale, and Anderson Valley's Barney Flats Oatmeal Stout).

In addition to shopping, guests can enjoy a festive atmosphere with roaming carolers, heartwarming stories with Kris Kringle himself, and exciting activities for kids of all ages.

The Belle Grove Manor House will be open for self-guided touring during the event (though it will not be decorated for Christmas until December 5). The Belle Grove Museum Shop is also fully stocked with unique local gifts, books, toys, and a dazzling array of Christmas ornaments.

For the complete list of vendors, food trucks, and a detailed schedule, visit https://bellegrove.org/calendar/kris_kringle or www.facebook.com/BelleGrove.

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 <p>MT4133A - 2019 Toyota Sienna LE, 176k, FWD, Local Trade - \$13,797</p>	 <p>TS379A - Certified Pre-Owned 2024 Toyota Tacoma SR5, 22k, 4x4 - \$34,997</p>	 <p>MT4190 - 2022 Toyota Camry Hybrid XSE, 65k, Front Wheel Drive - \$26,887</p>	 <p>MT4194 - 2022 Toyota Tundra SR5, 36k, 4x4, Clean CarFax, No Accidents - \$42,797</p>
 <p>MT4193 - Certified 2025 Toyota Tundra i-FORCE MAX Platinum, 5k, 4x4 - \$64,797</p>	 <p>TS1014A - 2020 Jeep Gladiator Rubicon, 38k, 4x4, Local Trade, Clean CarFax - \$33,597</p>	 <p>TT012A - 2022 GMC Sierra 1500 SLT, 39k, 4x4, Accident Free 1 Owner CarFax - \$42,997</p>	 <p>TS1018A - 2022 Toyota Tacoma TRD Off-Road, 75k, 4x4, Local Trade - \$33,497</p>
 <p>MT4205A - 2023 Ford Bronco Badlands, 15k, 4x4, Local Trade, Clean CarFax - \$49,897</p>	 <p>TT041A - 2022 Honda Passport TrailSport, 49k, All Wheel Drive - \$29,797</p>	 <p>TT031A - 2023 Toyota Tacoma SR5 22k, 4x4, Local Trade, Clean CarFax - \$35,997</p>	 <p>TS340A - 2023 Acura RDX A-Spec Advance Package, 43k, All Wheel Drive - \$38,497</p>
 <p>TS1092A - 2019 Ford EcoSport Titanium 79k, 4x4, Local Trade, Clean CarFax - \$13,297</p>	 <p>TS635B - 2021 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 Custom Trail Boss, 113k, 4x4 - \$25,997</p>	 <p>TT021A - Certified Pre-Owned 2025 Toyota Sequoia TRD Pro, 5k, 4x4 - \$79,397</p>	 <p>MT4220 - 2023 Toyota Tundra SR5, 20k, 4x4, Clean CarFax, 1 Owner - \$43,997</p>
 <p>MT4217 - Certified Pre-Owned 2022 Toyota Camry SE, 11k, All-Wheel Drive - \$27,797</p>	 <p>MT4213 - Certified Pre-Owned 2022 Toyota 4Runner SR5 Premium, 26k, 4x4 - \$41,997</p>	 <p>TS951A - 2022 Chevrolet Trailblazer ACTIV, 15k, All-Wheel Drive, Local Trd - \$23,997</p>	 <p>TS970A - 2024 Toyota Tundra 1794, 22k, 4x4, Clean CarFax, One Owner - \$57,997</p>

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