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The Harvest Foundation -Grants for Growth

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Growth and Optimism Abound



The Martinsville-Henry County Chamber of Commerce is honored to provide our community's annual magazine, Discover MHC, with the help of local Chamber members, generous sponsors, volunteers and staff. What a great year for growth and optimism for our community and your Chamber! Expansion and new business announcements such as Monogram and Press Glass

provided us welcomed optimism. Your Chamber's membership survey results will allow us to develop and hone programs and services to help you grow and strengthen your businesses and employees. Your Chamber and its charitable affiliate, the Chamber's Partnership for Economic Growth (C-PEG), are excited to continue growing the entrepreneurial spirit that has developed through our Startup / Grow M-HC initiative, as well as, build on the many other resources we have to assist our diverse new and established businesses in our community.

The 2019 Discover MHC features growth and optimism throughout the Martinsville and Henry County Community: The Smith River Sports Complex's growth into a local and regional recreational gem; Jeb

Bassett's optimistic views of the July 4th Celebration and the Smith River Small Towns Collaborative; Selling the story of the Blue Ridge Regional Airport to raise funds for runway expansion; Growing "mayhem" at the Martinsville Speedway keeps fans coming back; The Bassett Historical Center assisting in the growing ancestry quest; The Harvest Foundation providing optimism for its grant awardees; plus much more!

We hope Discover MHC has highlighted some of the growth and optimism in our community, and you will find it an ideal place to engage, enjoy and expand.

> Lisa Watkins President, Martinsville-Henry County Chamber of Commerce



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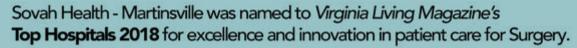
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Race to Relief

Hospital's total joint program expands access to specialty orthopedics care





s we age, damage to our joints can lead to pain, stiffness and arthritis. More than 1 in 3 Americans will _develop arthritis in their lifetime, making it the leading cause of disability in the United States.

Joint replacement surgery is a highly effective means of eliminating joint pain, restoring mobility and treating advanced arthritis. Total joint replacement is the surgical procedure in which parts of an arthritic or damaged joint and cartilage are

removed and the bone is resurfaced with a metal, plastic or ceramic device called a prosthesis or implant. The prosthesis is designed to replicate the movement of a normal, healthy joint.

Over 1 million total joint replacements are performed each year in the United States. Sovah Health – Martinsville's total joint program, called Race to Relief, allows patients in our community the opportunity to receive best-in-class joint replacement without having to travel far from home.

Discover MHC

About the Program

Launched in 2017, the Race to Relief total joint program at Sovah Health - Martinsville was developed to ensure optimal patient outcomes through:

- 1. Comprehensive education and coordination in all phases of care
- 2. Consistent caregiver involvement and education
- 3. An enjoyable hospital experience
- 4. Faster recovery and return home

The program is led by orthopedic and total joint surgeon Uosife Alfahd, MD, FRSC. An expert in orthopedic trauma and limb reconstruction, Dr. Alfahd has more than 12 years of experience specializing in primary and revisional joint surgery, trauma surgery, partial knee replacement, knee arthroscopy and shoulder arthroplasty. Joint program coordinator Susanne Washburn, RN, RTR, works with Dr. Alfahd and a multidisciplinary team from surgery, therapy, case management, dietary, pharmacy and nursing to ensure each patient achieves success through comprehensive education, clinical pathways, pain management and postoperative rehabilitation.

As a result, more than 200 local patients have graduated from the Race to Relief program and are back to enjoying their lives with more mobility and less pain.



Baxter Robertson finally decided to consider joint replacement after ten years of hip pain and weakness became too much to bear. After consulting Dr. Alfahd, Baxter chose to stay local for his hip replacement surgery based on the positive feedback he had heard about the surgeon and program from local friends and family. Baxter was surprised at how quickly he recovered getting back to work at his store As-Is Outlet in Uptown Martinsville a few days after his surgery. "Why go to Roanoke or Greensboro or Raleigh or wherever when you can get the same or better care, right here in Martinsville? I would recommend Dr. Alfahd and his team to anyone considering joint replacement."

Opening New Doors

Due to the success and popularity of the program, Sovah Health - Martinsville is expanding. The hospital will be opening a dedicated post-surgical orthopedics wing in early 2019. According to Washburn, the 10-room unit will ensure joint patients and their families have access to individualized care and attention for faster healing and recovery. Suffer from arthritis and joint pain? Take our FREE online health risk assessment at SovahOrtho.com or call our joint coordinator at 276.634.1988 to learn more. 🗹



Uosife Alfahd, MD

Orthopedic & Total Joint Surgeon



Susanne Washburn **RN, RTR** Ioint Coordinator

Patient Perspectives

Fieldale resident IT Harris danced competitively with his wife for years before severe knee pain caused him to stop. In 2017, JT underwent two joint replacement surgeries – one on each knee – through the Race to Relief program at Sovah Health. "Dr. Alfahd asked me what my goals were for having joint replacement, and I told him I wanted to work pain-free and to dance again. My first total knee replacement was so successful that I decided to have my other knee done after a few months. I'm finally walking and working again without pain, and I'm ready to start dancing again."



Harvest Foundation Makes 'Grants for Growth'

ith unemployment at its lowest levels in more than a decade and a host of exciting new business announcements and expansions, Martinsville-Henry County remains on a continuum of

growth and advancement.

However, in recent years the mayhem-meter has been turned up to 11.

"It's an exciting time to be a member of the Martinsville-Henry County community," said Allyson Rothrock, president of The Harvest Foundation. "Through our community partnerships and work at the foundation in supporting economic growth and development, we're working to keep this positive momentum moving forward. There are many wonderful programs and projects our Board of Directors has approved for 2019, and we can't wait to see how those opportunities will move the needle."

The Harvest Foundation Board of Directors awarded 12 grants and a special community investment opportunity totaling \$22.3 million at its 2018 fall grants meeting.

"Working with our grantees throughout the year and

seeing the amazing results from their efforts have been extraordinary," said Rothrock. "The projects approved by The Harvest Foundation Board of Directors vary from education, workforce training and credentialing support to health care and community asset building. Each year, we strive to discover and cultivate exceptional programs that benefit all citizens in Martinsville-Henry County."

To illustrate how these projects and programs work together to advance our community, The Harvest Foundation "Grants for Growth" tree was created. Each grant announced in 2018 takes the shape of a leaf on the tree that represents our community and the hardworking, capable people that make it a wonderful place to live and support a family.

Every grant ties back into the foundation's strategic goals for economic development and community growth. In 2019, Harvest will work to leverage funding and resources for community development and nonprofits, support efforts to build a ready workforce and strengthen workforce recruitment, as well as focus on the foundation's strategic planning and growth.

To find out more, visit www.theharvestfoundation.org.. 🕥





Discover MHC

2018 Harvest Grants for Growth

Workforce

- Patrick Henry Community College \$5.8 million over three years to increase the number of graduates who enter the local workforce in several, fast-growing job sectors.
- United Way of Henry County and Martinsville -\$147,181 over two years to expand its Bridges Out of Poverty and financial stability programs.
- Carlisle School \$177,390 over three years to develop a new, comprehensive writing program.
- Henry County Public Schools \$1.2 million over three years to ensure all students are reading on grade level by the end of third grade.
- Martinsville City Public Schools \$416,120 over three years to prepare its students for higher education and careers.
- Smart Beginnings Martinsville Henry \$268,368 over two years to expand its Promising Neighborhoods program.
- Martinsville-Henry County Coalition for Health and Wellness - \$929,720 over two years to focus on Virginia's Medicaid expansion and build on existing programs.
- Virginia Health Care Foundation \$65,000 over two years to assist local residents in applying for Medicaid coverage with its SignUpNow/Project Connect program.
- Hope Center Ministries \$225,939 over three years to expand its drug and alcohol residential rehabilitation program for men.

Investment

- County of Henry \$65,000 for one year to expand and upgrade Philpott Marina and the adjoining campgrounds.
- Virginia Museum of Natural History \$30,000 over one year to develop an outdoor education pavilion.

Advocacy

• Smith River Sports Complex - \$2.4 million over three years to replace turf fields and make other capital improvements at the complex.

Community Investment

• Martinsville-Henry County Economic Development Corp. - \$11 million to facilitate building a new substation and transmission line build at Commonwealth Crossing. These funds will be repaid to the Foundation over a 15-year period.





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The Martinsville City Public Schools Robotics Program exists to encourage the development of students' interests in the areas of math and science. Our program prepares young minds to 🔨

pipeline

ile High School Abert Harris Elementary

le Middle School 🗮 Patrick Henry Elemen

Clearview Early Childhood Center

work and thrive in an increasingly technological world and global economy

Our K-12 Robotics Program at MCPS is part of our overall STEM Pipeline that prepares our students to be successful in the 21st century.

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Learning Today, Leading Tomorrow

K-12 Education in Martinsville-Henry County



MARTINSVILLE CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS inging Life to Learning

Martinsville City Public Schools (Martinsville.K12.va.us)

Martinsville City Public Schools is an innovative school division that includes five schools serving preschool through 12th grade. With a mission of "Bringing Life to Learning," MCPS uses project-based learning and business partnerships to bring relevant, real world learning into the classroom, preparing students for success in college and careers.

Points of distinction:

- Martinsville High School features state-ofthe-art science labs, a TV studio, a mock hospital room, a robotics lab, an engineering makerspace, and an open commons area featuring collaborative work spaces.
- The **MCPS STEM** Pipeline is a preK-12 initiative focused on developing the skills and interests of students in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) career pathways. There are three programs for each of our school levels:

We ENspire Interest (Pre-K – 4th Grade) We ENgage Learners (5th – 8th Grade) We **ENgineer** the Future (9th – 12th Grade)

- Advanced learning is present throughout the school system with opportunities for middle school students to receive high school credits prior to the ninth grade and high school students to earn college credits, an associate's degree and specialized industry certifications upon graduation.
- Martinsville City Schools are fully implementing AVID (Advancement via Individual Determination), a college and career readiness system. Using research-based strategies, teachers are able to increase the rigor of their instruction and enhance student reading, writing, organization, collaboration, and inquiry; the forefront of the AVID way and allowing students to meet the demand of a global society.
- Clearview Early Learning Center offers a fullday three and four year old preschool program, staffed by fully certified teachers.



9 CARLISLE

Carlisle School (CarlisleSchool.org)

Carlisle School is an independent, Pre-K – 12 school offering a collegepreparatory curriculum that stresses hands-on, project-based learning with a variety of interdisciplinary projects to encourage students to apply their learning. Carlisle boasts impressive fine-arts offerings to students, including visual arts, choir and drama. Its impressive athletics program includes soccer, basketball, field hockey, tennis, golf, volleyball, baseball and fencing, with recent state championship wins for its boys soccer and girls basketball team. Specialty clubs, such as photography, creative writing, community service, and design technology allow students to explore their interests. Carlisle also offers an International Program with students attending from countries including Australia, Brazil, China, Ecuador, Germany, India, Italy, Japan, Nigeria and Spain.

Points of distinction:

- Carlisle is ranked the best independent K-12 school in Virginia with tuition under \$14,000 by Niche.com.
- Carlisle School has a 100% college acceptance rate since its first graduating class in 1974.
- More than \$850,000 in financial aid was given to Carlisle students for the 2017-2018 school year.
- The Class of 2018 received \$4.6 million in merit-based scholarships, and was accepted into 76 colleges in 19 states and 3 countries.





Henry County Public Schools (Henry.K12.va.us)

Henry County Public Schools (HCPS), a high-performing school division, provides all students with an exemplary education in a safe, supportive environment that promotes self-discipline, motivation and excellence. The school division has the largest iPad initiative in the state and a student/ device ratio of 1:1.

Points of distinction:

- HCPS is nationally recognized as an Apple Distinguished Program, which recognizes a school division for innovation, leadership and educational excellence in exemplary learning environments, for a third time and regularly hosts visitors seeking to implement.
- HCPS is one of 73 school districts in the nation to be recognized as a member of the Digital Promise League of Innovative Schools. Member districts are recognized as those that promote lifelong learning and provide Americans with the knowledge and skills needed to compete in the global economy.
- Magna Vista and Bassett High Schools are the homes of Virginia's FIRST New Tech Network academies. Warrior Tech Academy at Magna Vista and Bengal Tech Academy at Bassett offer students a rigorous projectbased curriculum of study and practice that are fun, engaging and expected for 21st century learners.





Patrick Henry Community College

(PatrickHenry.edu)

For over 50 years, Patrick Henry Community College (PHCC) has been the community's source for associate degrees, certificates, and workforce credentials, but that is only part of the story. PHCC doesn't just graduate students; it launches their journeys - whether that is to transfer to a four-year institution or to land a dream career.

By connecting students with potential employers through internships, interviews and more, PHCC helps graduates land careers. PHCC's many guaranteed transfer pathways help transfer students get started wherever their dreams take them. PHCC's alumni have excelled at places like Cornell University, Virginia Tech's School of Engineering, and many more.

PHCC aims to help even more people start their educational journey and achieve their goals. This year, a \$3.1 million donation from the Harvest Foundation enables more high school graduates to start their journeys than ever before. With the Harvest SEED Fund, every high school graduate from Martinsville or Henry County has the opportunity to attend PHCC completely free.PHCC is also making college more accessible to the community by expanding their locations. In October 2017, PHCC opened the Manufacturing, Engineering, and Technology (MET) Complex, a 53,000 square foot facility filled with stateof-the-art equipment. In 2018, the college is launching a renovation project to expand its offerings in Patrick County.

A third way PHCC is making college more accessible is by enabling students to start early. With a new dual enrollment program funded by the National Science Foundation, students can earn three-quarters of their engineering technology associate degree before graduating high school.

By adding locations, programs, and funding, PHCC is removing the barriers that keep the people it serves from getting the opportunities they deserve. By providing employee networking and transfer opportunities, PHCC ensures that from this community college, anyone can go anywhere.



Continuing Your Education



New College Institute

(NewCollegeInstitute.org)

New College Institute (NCI) makes quality higher-level education affordable and accessible to students of all ages in Southern Virginia. As a state agency, NCI partners with various state colleges and universities to provide degree, certificate/credential, and professional development opportunities in four strategic focus areas: 1) Advanced Manufacturing, 2) Technology & Cybersecurity, 3) Health & Human Services, and 4) Education & Community Leadership. NCI is committed to working with adults to better prepare them for the workforce and connect them to regional jobs.

In 2018, the average age of an NCI graduate was 31. NCI staff and faculty have proven success in their ability to develop academic programs while removing many barriers that exist for adult learners. This includes scheduling courses and using technology in order to best accommodate the busy lifestyles and responsibilities most adult students often have outside of their academic goals. Students take all courses in Martinsville, but in the end, their degrees come from the partner universities that hosts their specific programs.

In addition to degree and certification programs, NCI works closely with regional public education and industry partners to develop and enhance pipeline development opportunities in NCI's four areas of focus. Pipeline development includes non-credit lectures, educational camps, financial aid counseling, extensive internship opportunities and more. New College Institute's facilities are packed with state-of-the-art technology and equipment needed to meet the training and academic needs of students, faculty and local industry partners. Learning at NCI combines the best academia and hands-on learning opportunities to ensure our graduates and program completers are immediate contributors to our regional and statewide economy.

Other innovative programs offered at NCI include the Academy for Engineering & Technology (AET), Center of Advanced Manufacturing, and the Southside Telehealth Training Academy and Resource Center (STAR Telehealth).



PHEN BV EMB Growing an Growing Engine





hanges are coming to Blue Ridge Regional Airport, a significant economic engine in Martinsville and Henry County, and one of the first places many visitors see when they enter the community.

Manager Jason Davis said it all started with an airport layout plan.

"We had to start selling our story – the airport had to prove its worth, so to speak," Davis said. "With our growth through local industry and regional tourist attractions, we proved that we see a good amount of airplanes and that we see big aircraft."

Improvements at the airport will happen in several phases. The first phase involves rehabilitation of the current 5,002-foot runway. To help fund this project, the airport received a \$5.1 million grant from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). Construction should begin in April, Davis said.

Once that finishes up, Davis said the next phase is design for the updated apron (also known as a tarmac) and road relocation in 2020. If everything moves forward as expected, Davis said this project should begin in 2021-2022.

The largest phase of the airport layout plan is the extension of the current runway by 1,000 feet. The work for this project started nearly 30 months ago, according to Davis. While the work has been approved, Davis said they still have a way to go in getting the project funded.

"The good news is that we do have it approved by the FAA in our airport layout plan, but that does not mean you're guaranteed the funding," Davis said. "We are in line, and major changes like this take time."

To further support its need for expansion, just in the past year, corporate travel has gone up more than 20 percent at Blue Ridge Regional Airport. Major partners include the Martinsville Speedway and NASCAR, Primland Resort, and many corporate users.

"You go through peaks and valleys in this business, and we are riding a great peak right now," Davis said. "Our business is growing, and having the community behind us makes all the difference. If you don't have the support of your localities, you are dead in the water. They understand the importance of what this economic engine drives and what it pushes."

Davis added, "When a company locates to Martinsville-Henry County, we don't want a limited airport size to be a hurdle to their business. We have a responsibility to our community to do what we can to alleviate those restrictions ... We're proud of our growth at Blue Ridge and what we do to help move the economic needle."

Blue Ridge Regional Airport offers a variety of services including two medical helicopters, as well as an independent maintenance shop and a flight school based at the airport. Simply Suzanne's Café, located on site, offers a variety of delicious cuisine perfect for lunch.

According to the 2018 Virginia Airport System Economic Impact Study from the Virginia Department of Aviation, the airport's consolidated total economic impact supports 112 jobs with \$3.7 million in annual wages. It also supports the generation of \$9.7 million annually in economic activity, double its impact in 2010.

Keep up with Blue Ridge Regional Airport on Facebook and Instagram. Call (276) 957-2291 for additional information.





From the Ground Up

eferred to as the "Best Little Library in Virginia" and the "Best Kept Secret in Henry County", the Bassett Historical Center has a rich history tied closely with the Bassett Public Library both being part of the early efforts made by members of the Bassett Garden Club.

The first library in Bassett was in a Reed Stone building next to the Stone Theater in a single upstairs room which was formerly a confectionary. As far back as 1939, "book teas" became an activity of choice for Bassett Garden Club and members would bring books to donate to the library collection to help it grow. Because of this growth, by 1944 the library occupied two rooms which were heated by a pot bellied stove over the Kroger Store across the street. In the year 1946, the Bassett Public Library became incorporated with Mr. W.M. Bassett elected as President and Mrs. Effie Noland as librarian. There were three ladies who carried the title of librarian before Mrs. Noland who were Miss Annie Thomasson, Miss Dora Mitchell, and Miss Hazel Stone. Unfortunately, a fire broke out in 1952 in the Kroger Store and several of the books were

completely ruined due to smoke damage. Although some were able to be cleaned and saved, Mrs. Noland dreamed of a bigger and better place to call home to this growing collection of books and shared her idea with the members of the garden club. During World War II, the ladies of the Bassett Garden Club gathered and collected scrap metal to sell in order to raise money for this endeavor. Some got in trouble with their husbands for loading the scrap metal in their own cars! The \$1,500 raised from this project, which was a considerable amount back then, began the creation of the Bassett Public Library with Mrs. Effie Noland leading the way. While money was being raised, the library was temporarily moved to the old Bassett Grammar School which was vacant at that time and located behind the old Bassett High School. This became the site of the library between October 1952 and June 1955. There was a tremendous amount of help given from local industries, businesses, and individuals in the community to help make this dream a reality. Bassett Furniture Industries graciously donated land located on North Riverside Drive for a new building to be built. Enough money was raised and in 1955 a



new building was designed by Martinsville architect J. Coates Carter which was to become the new Bassett Public Library.

In early years, the genealogy material was housed in the basement of the library in a single file cabinet and on one shelf. Until the flood of Labor Day in 1987, the genealogy material remained in the library basement and consistently grew through the efforts of dedicated people such as Mrs. Noland, Mrs. Shirley Brightwell Bassett, Mrs. Lela Adams, and Mrs. Martha Jane Clark. Immediately the need was realized by the Bassett Public Library Board to bring this material to the upper level, which necessitated a building addition. This addition was realized in November of 1988, and housed both the genealogy materials and the children's area that had also grown to capacity.

Genealogy was then kept in what is now the current War Room. In 1992, the Bassett Public Library had become a part of the Blue Ridge Regional Library System. The Bassett Library was again bursting at the seams and the Board of Directors named a committee to lead a community effort to raise money to purchase the building across the street for the "regular" library. This project was completed in November of 1998, leaving the genealogy materials in the original building. The Bassett Historical Center was born! With collections continually being donated to the Center, a new addition which doubled the size of the building was built. This was the third community effort to add space to the existing building and it was completed by 2010.

Today the Bassett Historical Center is a stand-alone, independent repository for all genealogical research and local history for this area. We stand by our mission statement today as we have done so in the past. "The Mission Statement of the Bassett Historical Center is to preserve history, both local and family history, and to offer researchers adequate space in which to work. We educate the public as to the many treasures in and of this particular area. We preserve these valuable records, manuscripts, family and historical memorabilia, making them accessible to the public and preserving them for future generations."

People have visited the Center from each state as well

Discover MHC

as from sixteen foreign countries. The Center has helped numerous people with research both visiting the Center as well as through emails, letters, and also by phone; the Center has also helped agencies such as the police department, military agencies, educational and other organizations. There are over 20,000 books and manuscripts, over 10,000 family files, over 1,000 family photograph files, and just over 3,000 history files among the numerous collections that are housed here.

One of the first items to be donated to the Center is part of the Koger collection. The basket brought over from Germany in 1728 by Hans Jacob Koger was donated with fifty years worth of genealogical research by a lady from Wisconsin who was born in this area. The historical significance and value of this one family heirloom began a mini-museum as part of the Center. Because of the acceptance of that one item, the Center now houses one-of-a-kind pieces of the past. These present-day collections continue to grow and fill the space here at the Center making it a true hub of history!

Please view our website at www.bassetthistoricalcenter. com to see books in our catalog, the different collections that we have available to the public, events/programs always free to the public, and other information about the Bassett Historical Center.





"Half-Mile of Mayhem" Martinsville Speedway Lives Up To Billing

n recent years, Martinsville Speedway President Clay Campbell has found a nickname for the historic facility he presides over: The Half-Mile of Mayhem. From the very first race in 1947, when Buck Baker led the first 48 laps of the 50 lap race, only to be passed by Red Byron on lap 49, more often than not 71-yearold Speedway has lived up to the moniker.

However, in recent years the mayhem-meter has been turned up to 11.

In 2012, the legend of the Half-Mile of Mayhem began to grow. Clint Bowyer wiped out leaders Jimmie Johnson and Jeff Gordon on a late restart and Ryan Newman survived the carnage to claim a win.

Dale Earnhardt Jr. banged doors with Tony Stewart in the closing laps in 2014 to seal his first Martinsville Speedway win. The Mayhem took off from there.

In 2015, Joey Logano and Matt Kenseth's on-track spat, coupled with the race being Gordon's final win, became the stuff of legend.

Emotions spilled into post-race in 2017, when Denny Hamlin and Chase Elliott had a heated face-to-face after the checkered flag fell. In the closing laps Hamlin made contact with leader Elliott, sending NASCAR's newly crowned Most Popular Driver into the wall and denying him his first career win and a guaranteed spot in the Championship race of the season.

And, in 2018, Joey Logano and Martin Truex Jr.'s duel to the finish line in the First Data 500 cemented the nickname in the mind of Campbell.

"We have had so many great races over the years, and I have been lucky to see many of them," Campbell said. "The last few years, it just feels like the intensity has really grown.

"Every driver wants that grandfather clock trophy in their hands, and they have all shown they are willing to do whatever it takes to earn a win here at Martinsville."

The mayhem is not limited to NASCAR's Cup series, either. Rarely do NASCAR Truck Series or Late Model Stock Cars pull into Victory Lane without rugged looking sheet-metal and tire marks on the door.

Lee Pulliam's attempted pass of Mike Looney in the closing laps of the 2016 ValleyStar Credit Union 300 Late Model Stock Car race famously saw Pulliam go airborne in his attempt to claim the win. Both drivers held the wheel straight and their foot on the gas, as Looney held off Pulliam in a finish for the ages.



Perhaps Cup Series star Kevin Harvick summed up recent races at Martinsville Speedway best when asked about the 2017 finish between Elliott and Hamlin, saying "bent fenders and hurt feelings, I love it!"

For Campbell and the Speedway staff, the exciting finishes have grown from tall tales told in quiet moments into an identity the group has embraced.

"We feel like we supply the most exciting racing in all of NASCAR," Campbell said. "The drivers are the ones with their hands on the wheel and feet on the pedals, but Martinsville has consistently provided action that is second-to-none.

"Mayhem at the end of races here is what brings the fans back year after year. Whether their driver came out for better or for worse, that excitement is what we are known for. We don't shy away from that."

Campbell has long claimed that two events in his mind stand above the rest.

In 1987, Terry Labonte and Dale Earnhardt wrecked on the final lap, clearing the way for Darrell Waltrip to claim a win.

In 1981, Richie Evans' modified racer crossed the finish line with two wheels on the track and two wheels on the catch fence beating Geoff Bodine in a race that veteran broadcaster Mike Joy said is "the greatest race I've ever had the pleasure of calling."

With so much excitement over recent years, Campbell said that he isn't so sure those are automatically the top two in

his rankings anymore.

"Some recent races have certainly entered the discussion for the title of 'best finish ever at Martinsville," Campbell said. "It's exciting knowing that going into any race weekend, no matter what series it is, we could have a moment that will be discussed as one of the greatest finishes in NASCAR history. I don't know that many other tracks can say that."

Racing returns to Martinsville Speedway in 2019 for three race weekends.

In the spring the NASCAR Gander Outdoors Truck Series and Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series will return to Martinsville for the STP 500 weekend, March 22-24.

Both series will return again in the fall for the First Data 500 Playoff weekend, October 25-27.

The ValleyStar Credit Union 300, NASCAR's biggest, richest and most prestigious Late Model Stock Car race will once again, be held under the lights in the fall.

For more information about Martinsville Speedway or to purchase tickets, call 877.RACE.TIX or visit www. martinsvillespeedway.com.



From Concept To Much More Than a Sports Complex

n December of 2004, the Harvest Foundation funded a grant to begin a study about the feasibility of adding a sports complex to Martinsville-Henry County. Three years later, construction plans were being finalized on the project. Then in March of 2008, construction finally began on the "soccer" complex, as it was referred to around town. On August 23, 2009, the Smith River Sports Complex came to life and opened its gates for the first time.

Now, 14 years after the original idea and closing in on the Smith River Sports Complex's (SRSC) 10th birthday, local residents have a lot to celebrate about a facility they have supported and helped grow into a local and regional recreational gem.

In 2018, SRSC hosted over 600 games

for local youth to participate in soccer, football, field hockey and tee-ball. SRSC also managed to draw over 87,000 guests throughout year with 27,000 visiting for out-of-town events hosted at the facility. For reference, Martinsville's population alone is 13,670 and combined with Henry County is 66,494 according to M-HC Economic Development Corporation's population data. Approximately, 440 college and youth teams visited our community for the opportunity to play at SRSC from 22 different states, plus our nation's capital. The teams drove on average 139 miles and just under three hours one way to SRSC in 2018. If you added all the miles driven one way from the teams visiting, it would actually be enough to make almost 2.5 trips around the equator.

"This facility is fantastic," World Cup champion Mia Hamm said during her 2016 visit to SRSC. "Facilities like this didn't exist when I was growing up. We had complexes but it was kind of like 'Can you guys just get as far out of town as possible?"

Another big accomplishment for SRSC and the community is the amount of diverse opportunities being offered to its guests. SRSC is a facility that is inclusive and usable by all community residents or visitors with varying ages, interests, or economic means.

SRSC hosted 15 different sports plus multiple community events on its grounds in 2018, from golf at the recently added driving range, to horseshoes at another recent addition of horseshoe pits, to soccer, football, lacrosse, ultimate frisbee, field hockey, cornhole and tee-ball on the main fields. Local runners were able to use the cross-country course for a few high school meets this year as well as the special mud run course during Smith River Fest. Smith River Fest also included canoe and kayak races that finished at the convenient Smith River access. Cyclists were able to use the facility as a start/ finish line in the annual Tour de Scholar event. There will be even greater access for cyclists once the Dick & Willie Trail extension is connected. Already a perfect location, the addition of an amphitheater to the scenic festival grounds by the river enhanced the annual Wine by the River Wine Festival as well as a Latino Community Festival and will certainly add to the Smith River Fest experience in 2019.

SRSC also has numerous loyal visitors who take advantage of the one-of-a-kind Evos playground, multiple workout stations, more than a mile of paved walking paths, the calming trails along the river, two picnic shelters perfect for parties or



Martinsville.com



cookouts, as well as the indoor meeting room that can be rented for parties, reunions, dinners or showers.

"Having something of this quality that is open to everyone in the community is important," said Houston Stutz, SRSC Director of Marketing & Operations. "I think it not only brings everyone together and gives our community something else to be proud of, but also opens M-HC to new visitors who otherwise may have never seen what all our area has to offer."

Once a 91-acre piece of undeveloped land, SRSC is now much more than just a "soccer" complex or even a sports complex as mentioned in its name, but rather a large source of pride for the Martinsville-Henry County community. SRSC is a driver of tourism and economic impact. It provides a sense of community with opportunities for togetherness and outdoor activity, promoting fitness and healthy lifestyles. From an idea 14 years ago, to an \$8.7 million investment 10 years ago to the present, SRSC has grown into a world-class sports and recreation destination supported by local residents, regional visitors and national tourists today. That is a lot to celebrate.





Uptown Development

ew businesses, new housing options and a new perspective – Uptown Martinsville is growing and has something for everyone in the community to enjoy.

Kimberly Keller, Uptown Entrepreneurial Development Manager at the Martinsville-Henry County Chamber for Commerce, said many promotional programs and other exciting opportunities are in the works for increasing foot traffic and consumer sales for uptown businesses. Small Business Saturday is a national promotional holiday that supports local business. Martinsville participates annually in this event with help from the Chamber.

"This past year, we had a fun contest on social media and gave out coupons to shoppers for a discount off of their purchases," Keller said. "We're working to increase traffic uptown and trying to incentivize folks to shop local – not just on Small Business Saturday but every day." Keller said the Chamber organizes a variety of promotional events including Shop Second Thursdays, which encourages uptown businesses to have extended hours and specials during the second Thursday of each month.

"Even with the hurricane weather, many uptown businesses saw some success with the promotional events," Keller said. "We had 18 businesses open for Shop Second Thursdays, and 26 businesses to participate in Small Business Saturday. Our uptown business owners are always willing to work with us as we develop more programming and events to increase foot traffic."

Other special events held annually include the TGIF Concert Series, Oktoberfest, and Uptown Trick or Treat.

In addition to special events, Chamber officials also facilitate a façade grants program for uptown business owners. Martinsville Uptown can provide a 50/50 match for façade projects up to \$4,000 based on an application and guidelines that can be found online at www.martinsville.com.

Pam Armstrong, an interior designer and wife of Ward Armstrong, took advantage of the matching façade grants this past year. They are in the process of renovating the Armstrong & Armstrong law office at 1 Walnut St. in Uptown Martinsville.

"The application process was easy to navigate and pretty straightforward," she said. "And to make things easier, we included some old photographs of what the building used to look like, which was built around 1900."

The Armstrongs own three buildings that form the corner of Walnut and E. Church streets. Pam Armstrong said they are making sure the historical integrity of the buildings stays intact while also updating the look and making the space more efficient.

"We're keeping the brick look and using pavers to match the existing brick as much as we can," she said. "It's a great program for uptown business owners, and we're glad we were involved. Our renovations are still ongoing and we have a few more things to do."

Keller said there are many opportunities for entrepreneurs and consumers to be found in Uptown Martinsville.

"There's a wide variety of service businesses, retail shopping, dining and games – a little bit of everything for everyone," she said. "You can always find something unique and special in Uptown Martinsville."

Martinsville Farmers Market

Since the Martinsville-Henry County Chamber of Commerce began operating the Martinsville Farmers' Market in 2016, Chamber officials have worked to increase product offerings for customers and special programming at the market.

Located at 65 W. Main St., across from the Martinsville Fire Department and beside New College Institute, the market boasted 35 vendors with everything from hearty meats like pork, beef and turkey, to jams and jellies, salsas, produce and homemade crafts. It also hosted many special programs such as cooking demonstrations and giveaways for National Farmers Market Week.

The EBT program has been accepted at the market for several years now and can be used for any baked goods, vegetables, fruits, plants that produce food, jams, jellies, honey, eggs and meat. Those using EBT are offered a weekly match up to \$20 for produce, which has been extremely successful so far, according to Kimberly Keller, Uptown Entrepreneurial Development Manager for the Chamber.

"If customers using EBT spend their dollars on produce here, it



will go a lot further than at your typical grocery store," she said.

Senior coupons also are accepted and distributed through the Southern Area Agency on Aging, which are accepted by certified vendors.

"We have grown tremendously and hold many special events at the market as well as a variety of programs," Keller said. "Everything sold at the market has to be 100 percent grown or made by the seller. Every customer can know exactly where their products are coming from, and the farmers are always happy to share information about their production processes with customers."

Many vendors see the Martinsville Farmers' Market as an essential part of their business strategy. Wendy Prillaman of WJP Farms said the market is an excellent place for them.

"The market has a wide variety of people who have an appetite for fruits and vegetables," she said, "plus, the market managers do a lot of promotion, as well as host various events to help increase traffic. For us, it's a perfect way to market our growth and give school kids a safe environment to have a summer job."

Other vendors enjoy the family atmosphere and its returning customers.

"We love being a vendor at the Uptown Farmers Market," said Audrey Coombs of Coombs Family Farm. "We have sold there for three seasons and enjoy seeing many friendly faces each week. At the market you can expect fresh meats, produce, quality baked goods and fun homemade crafts – all for great prices."

Therese Craddock of Spook Creek Farms added, "The farmers market is such a wonderful part of our community. As a local farmer, I enjoy seeing my neighbors, friends and regular customers every week during the summer. I enjoy the opportunity to bring fresh, healthy berries and produce for them to enjoy. Nothing says summer more than fresh, sweet berries and perfectly ripe tomatoes."

The Martinsville Farmers' Market opens in the spring and closes in the fall each year with hours on Wednesdays and Saturdays. Join the Farmers' Market-Uptown Martinsville Facebook group to learn more, or call the Chamber at (276) 632-6401.

Pathways to Healthy Living

Martinsville-Henry County's trails and access points to the Smith River support close-to-home regular physical activity

Smith River Trail System

- **1.** Philpott Lake Canoe Access and Fitness Interpretive Trail • 1058 Philpott Rd, Bassett 276.629.2703
- **2.** Lauren Mountain Preserve Wells Hollow Rd, Bassett • 276.634.2545
- Bassett Canoe Access 271 Trent Hill Dr, 3. Bassett • 276.634.4640
- 4. Great Road Canoe Access 4313 The Great Rd, Fieldale • 276.634.4640
- 5. Textile Heritage Trail 3251 South River Rd, Fieldale • 276.634.4638
- 6. **Fieldale Trail and Canoe Access** 3521 River Road Fieldale • 276.634.2545
- **Beaver Creek Reservoir Trails** 7. 600 Redskin Dr, Martinsville • 276.656.5179
- Dick & Willie Passage 699 Liberty St, Martinsville 8. 276.634.4640
- **9.** Uptown Spur Trail Connection Corner of Franklin and Depot Streets, Martinsville 276.634.2545
- **10.** Silverbell Trail Corner of Church and Oakdale Streets, Martinsville • 276.632.1772
- **11.** Doe Run Park 198 DuPont Rd, Martinsville 276.634.4640
- **12.** South Martinsville Canoe Access 280 Tensbury Rd, Martinsville • 276.634.4640
- 13. Smith River Sports Complex River Access and Trails • 1000 Irisburg Rd, Axton • 276.634.4640
- 14. Marrowbone Creek Canoe Access 2120 Eggleston Falls Rd, Ridgeway • 276.634.4640
- **15.** Richard P. Gravely, Jr. Nature Preserve 2525 Eggleston Falls Rd, Ridgeway • 276.634.4638
- 16. Mitchell Bridge Canoe Access Ramp 2404 Mitchell Rd, Ridgeway • 276.634.4640

Go to VisitMartinsville.com/Trails for links and additional information.







By the Numbers A Glimpse of Martinsville-Henry County

average July high temp

average January low temp





inches of rain average annually





square miles



median home value

MHC-Economic Development Corporation (yesmartinsville.com)



24



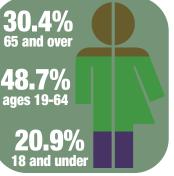
Henry County Public Schools **SOVAH Health-Martinsville Eastman Chemical** Monogram Food Solutions Radial (eBay) Martinsville City Public Schools Springs Global US, Inc Patrick Henry Community College Hanesbrands Walmart

Top 10 Employers

sunny days average annually



o average household income median household income O



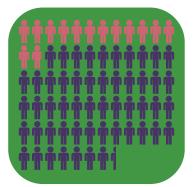
age distribution



inches of snowfall average annually



minutes average commute



total population: 66,494 Martinsville: 13,670 Henry County: 52,824





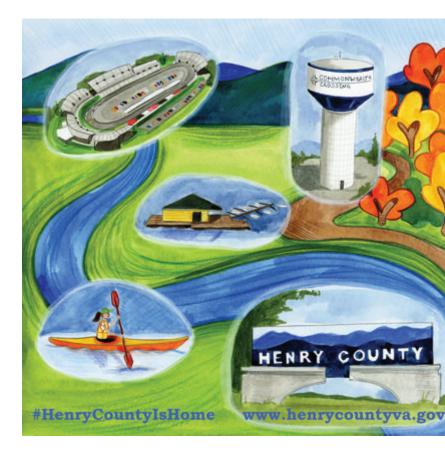
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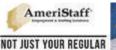
The partners of Harris, Harvey, Neal & Co., LLP along with the Martinsville staff are ready to assist with all of your tax and accounting needs. Please contact us at our local office: 231 E Church Street, 5th Floor • Martinsville, VA 24112 276.632.9871

Or any of our other locations: 2309 Riverside Drive • Danville, VA 24543-3424 • 434,792,3220 120 South Main Street • Chatham, VA 24531-0899 • 434,432,2441 554 N. Main Street • South Boston, VA 24592-0754 • 434.575.7914









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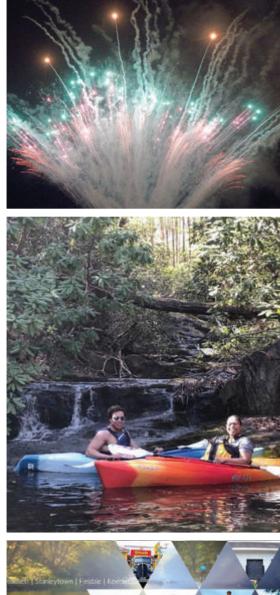
http://minet.solutions



Hours:

2:30PM-6PM





Jeb Bassett Leader, Believer and Promoter

orn and raised in Martinsville-Henry County, John Edwin Bassett III, or Jeb as he is known by most, has a true love of his community. This love is reflected in family, work, and his volunteerism.

After graduating from North Carolina State University, Jeb returned to the community he loves and began his 37-year career at Bassett Furniture Industries. He and his wife, Diane could not imagine raising their three boys anywhere but Martinsville and Henry County. A part of raising his family here paved the way for his commitment to First United Methodist Church, Boy Scouts of America-Blue Ridge Council and other local organizations. To ensure the growth of business and industry, he has held leadership roles within the M-HC Chamber of Commerce, Patrick Henry Community College and the American Home Furnishings Alliance to name a few. Jeb's volunteerism has been endless over the years, always lending a needed hand and time. Below is Q & A with Jeb regarding the July 4th Celebration and the Smith River Small Towns Collaborative.

Discover MHC

What excites you about the Martinsville – Henry County **Community**?

I have lived here all my life. I love the people, the friendly, caring neighbors, the work ethic, the southern charm. I love the strong "sense of community", the Churches, the shops, the restaurants, the Blue Ridge Airport, the local Chamber of Commerce. I love the beauty of the area--- the Smith River, the trails, the Smith River Sports Complex, Philpott Lake, the Blue Ridge Mountains, the fields, the wildlife, the four seasons. I love the local education options—public, private, the colleges, the close proximity to major Universities within a few hour's drive. I love The Natural History Museum, Piedmont Arts, Black Box Theatre, and Historical Centers. I love the proximity to larger communities like Raleigh, Greensboro, Winston Salem, Charlotte, and Roanoke.

WYou have been involved with the July 4th Celebration at the Martinsville Speedway since day one. A. What is it about the Celebration that has kept you involved all these years?

.

My introduction to the Celebration Levent was the 75 Anniversary of Hooker Furniture and Stanly Furniture. (Yes—being with Bassett Furniture—we are competitors---but we do respect each other, and support each other for the better of our community.) The following year---Clay Campbell brought together a small group of sponsors to continue the celebration. I felt, if Clay was generous enough to offer the facility, and his team, he should not be burdened with soliciting sponsors for funding of the event.

I walk the grounds and I see the clean, safe, family, environment. I see thousands of people, the families, the children, it's become a 20-year tradition, celebrating July 4th—our Independence Dav.

B. How treasured do you think the **Celebration is to our area?**

.

A 20 year, tradition. When I grew up, most years, I was fortunate enough to take a summer family vacation. Today,

with more demanding work schedules, more demanding personal schedules, the expenses of traveling, etc., many families, for one reason or another, may not able to take a summer vacation. The Celebration Event has become that summer family tradition, enjoying exciting carnival rides, top name musical entertainment, and world class fireworks. All-right here in Martinsville & Henry County.

What is the Smith River Small Towns Collaborative and why was it needed in Henry County?

Four years ago, I was part of a group of citizens from the Bassett and Fieldale communities that were approached by Henry County and the Harvest Foundation. We were asked to participate in the Smith River Small Towns Collaborative. The areas of Bassett and Fieldale were selected, due to their rich heritage of Furniture Manufacturing and Textiles in the upper Smith River region of Henry County. Due to global competition and "tough decisions" for survival, many factories in the area had ceased operations. The collaborative identified the assets

in the community, and identified the immediate needs in the community. We prioritized the needs. We selected specific areas of both communities to concentrate on. We visited other communities, took notes, and gained an understanding of the revitalization process. We worked with Public funds/grants and Private funds/ donations to put the plans in action.

area?

Bassett is presently undergoing a facelift. The Reed Stone block has new facades going up, new sidewalks, and new curb and gutter / drainage. The Bassett Train Station is under a renovation. creating a beautiful, historic event center. Catering kitchen, meeting spaces, both large & small, with full HVAC. An updated color scheme, new lighting, new decking, and landscaping. Beside the Train Station is a Clock Garden, landscaping and an "Industrial Town Clock" hinting of the local manufacturing heritage. This past summer, Fieldale unveiled

How has forming the Collaborative benefitted the communities of Bassett, Fieldale and the surrounding



new pool facilities, upgrades to the local Fieldale Community Center and facade work across the street.

How does the Collaborative work to build on the community's roots of textile and furniture manufacturing and relate that to the new wave of industry in Martinsville-Henry **County?**

.

The upgrades and renovations will have a hint of our "roots" in the signage, the street lights, banners, logos. While we want to remember our roots, our history, and our heritage, we must look forward with open minds, for new, 21st century opportunities. It may be technology, it may be services, it may be light manufacturing/assembly, it may by distribution, or it may even be opportunities that have not even been created yet. Everything moves so quickly now, new needs and opportunities are being created every day.

.

How will the Collaborative help to educate the community about the Bassett/Fieldale's history along with bringing in new people to experience the local amenities?

In the Bassett Train Station, the center fover will proudly display a Henry County Furniture Museum History Wall. The History Wall will show the history of furniture manufacturing in Henry County. I in the early 1900s' American of Martinsville, Bassett Furniture Industries, Gravely Furniture Company, Hooker Furniture Company, Martinsville Novelty, Pulaski Furniture, Stanley Furniture, and others.

Just below the Fieldale Ball Park, Fieldale has the Textile Trail. As you walk the trail, signage highlights the local area's rich textile heritage.



Entrepreneurship **Development and Business Plan Competition**

n 2018, the Chamber's Partnership for Economic Growth (C-PEG) made awards totaling \$28,560 to six startup businesses. Over 24 area entrepreneurs completed the Startup Martinsville and Henry County classes and better positioned themselves to open or expand their business.

Award recipients for 2018 included:

Alan and Brittany Agee of Cocoa Trail Chocolates, a chocolatier and candy company, \$10,000.

Kimberly Mason of Red & Maes, a home-style restaurant, \$6,000.

Lloyd and Toni France of Junior's Music, a musical instruments store, \$4,000.

Jomo and Yvette Luca of Rockbottom Athletics, a fitness center, \$3,400.

Shabazz Chelley of Quality Life Interventions, a human services company, \$ 3,460.

Larry Wallace, Jr. of IRECS LLC, a human services company - \$1,700.00

C-PEG partners with Patrick Henry Community College (PHCC) to deliver an eight-week entrepreneurial bootcamp to arm interested individuals with what Dr. Angeline Godwin, PHCC president, calls "an entrepreneurial mindset". Dr. Godwin, a serial entrepreneur, says "this mindset is a necessity for successfully starting and sustaining a business".

Funding and support for the program is provided by the City of Martinsville, Henry County, The Campbell Family Martinsville.com

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STARTUP Martinsville & **Henry County** G



Foundation and George W. Lester, II through the Community Foundation Serving Western Virginia. Corporate sponsor of the program is American National Bank, and Grow Sponsor (a four-week boot camp for growing businesses) Appalachian Power.

Since 2015, the initiative has successfully graduated 103 individuals from its training program, awarded 27 businesses with over \$170,000 in cash and in-kind funding. These businesses have created over \$800,000 in new capital investment and created 96 new jobs.

C-PEG is contracted by the City of Martinsville to administer small business and entrepreneurial development, and Henry County contracts C-PEG to provide entrepreneurial and retail development.

C-PEG is the Martinsville-Henry County Chamber of Commerce's charitable affiliate.

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The mission of the West Piedmont Business Development Center is to attract, assist, and encourage emerging entrepreneurs by providing a nurturing environment for their growth and development.



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Martinsville-Henry County Chamber of Commerce The Driving Force Behind a Successful Business Community

What is the Chamber of Commerce?

The Martinsville Henry County Chamber of Commerce is a membership organization comprised of businesses serving our community. With over 600 members, the Chamber is a voice for businesses in the region while also providing opportunities for networking, collaboration, and increased community exposure.

The Martinsville-Henry County Chamber of Commerce was founded in 1959 and has been actively involved in all facets of our business community ever since. Our programs are designed to encourage a strong local economy by creating an environment where businesses thrive and community and commerce work together for the future of Martinsville-Henry County.

Why should my business join the Chamber? Your membership in the Martinsville-Henry County Chamber of Commerce could be the powerful, thoughtful boost your business needs to ensure your continued growth and success. If your membership in the Chamber does not prove to be of significant value for your business, we will refund your full annual dues. Here are just some of the benefits you can expect to see:

Marketing

As a chamber member, your business will receive community recognition through our annual magazine, online directory, and ribbon cuttings in addition to sponsorship and advertisement opportunities. Chamber members can benefit by receiving referrals, attending free networking events, sending out announcements to our membership via email, and by participating in Fast Track, which is the region's premier trade show event.

Business Development

The Chamber provides seminars and programs for leadership development, supervisor training, and workforce development throughout the year for our members. Assistance is also available to help connect employers with local resources, job fairs, and help fill employment gaps for local businesses.

Advocacv

The Chamber is the voice of local business in Martinsville and Henry County. We host candidate forums, legislative roundtables, and keep in close contact with elected officials so that our members' needs and best interests are kept at the forefront of legislation affecting our region.

Access

Chamber membership provides you access to a wealth of information and resources in the community. Our dedicated staff is committed to helping members thrive in the community by connecting them with existing business development resources, potential business partners, and customers through our referral system.



For more information about the Chamber and membership, please contact us at 276.632.6401 or mhccoc@mhcchamber.com. You also can visit our website, Martinsville.com.

Chamber Honors Small Business and Individuals

the spirit of innovation in business at its annual Business Appreciation Luncheon. Small businesses are recognized for their successes, dedication, and service to the community. Awards for small

- Number of years in business
- Percentage of growth in employees
- Percentage of growth in sales
 - Response to adversity

The Chamber also recognizes individuals for their service to the community by awarding a Young Professional of the Year Award and a Business Person of the Year Award. These awards are given to individuals with a proven record of accomplishment in entrepreneurial creativity, determination, and commitment to the success of their businesses and the community at-large. Like the Small Business of the Year awards, selections for these individual awards are based on written recommendations and nominations.

In 2018, the Chamber renamed the Business Person of the Year award to the "Campbell-Lester Business Person of the Year" in appreciation of the Clay Campbell and George Lester families and for all they do for Martinsville and Henry County.

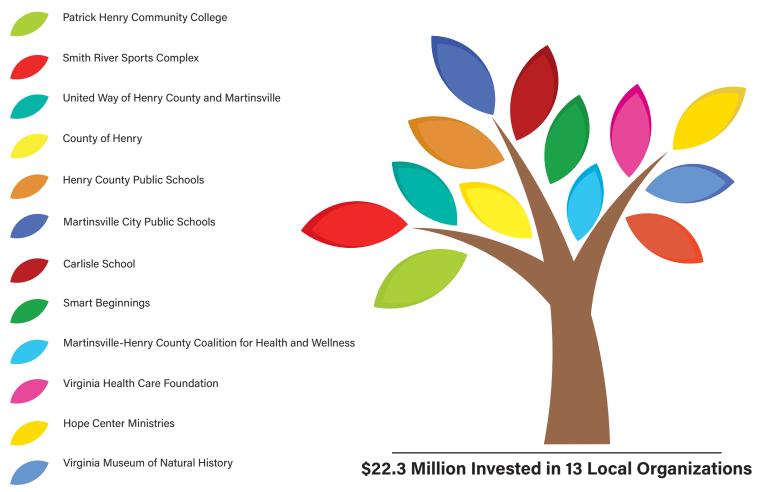


Congratulations to the 2018 award recipients: Pictured, are from left to right: Small Business of the Year for Manufacturing Robert Iuppa and Al Flora, Assured Comfort / SleepSafe Beds **Small Business of the Year for Service** James Williams, Dependable Home Healthcare **Small Business of the Year Uptown** Mike Haley, Uptown Pinball Young Professionals of the Year Latala Hodges, the Harvest Foundation and Blake Collins, Martinsville Speedway Small Business of the Year for Retail Roger Curtis and Amanda Hackenberg, The Jeweler's Edge **Campbell-Lester Business Person of the Year** Clay Campbell

- Each year; the Martinsville-Henry County Chamber of Commerce honors small businesses and individuals who exemplify
- businesses are given in four categories: service, retail, manufacturing and uptown. Selections for award winners are based on written recommendations and nominations. For Small Business of the Year awards, the following criteria are considered:

 - Level of contribution to community oriented projects

The Harvest Foundation **Grants for Growth**



Martinsville-Henry County Economic Development Corp.

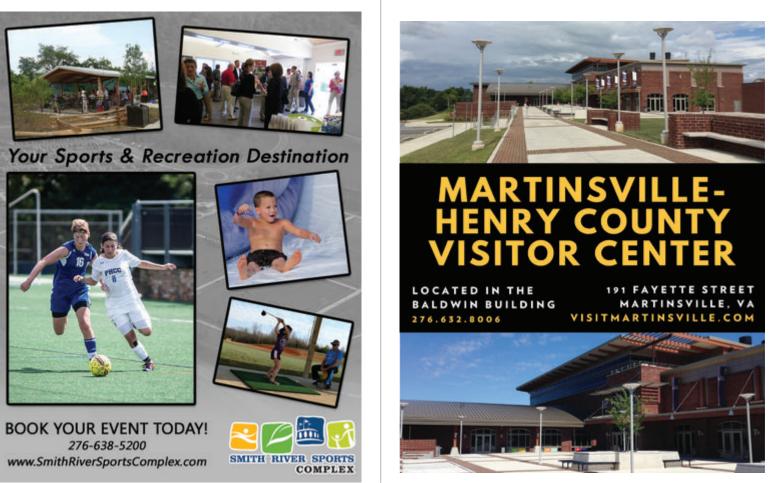
The "Grants for Growth" tree symbolizes how The Harvest Foundation's investments work together to elevate and grow Martinsville-Henry County.



MARTIN PLAZA FURNITURE OUTLET CHAMPION OF ALL THINGS UPTOWN

- A Junkin' Gypsy
- As-Is Outlet
- Books & Crannies
- Draper & Ferrell Clothiers
- Fido's Finds & Kittie's Kollectibles
- Free Play Cafe
- Grant's Unisex Salon
- Grooming Tails Daycare, Lodging, & Spa
- His & Hers Salon
- Hugo's Restaurant & Sports Bar
- J. Jones LTD.
- K & D Upholsterv
- Kay's Alterations











Martinsville.com



- For a complete list of retail, dining, service, and attractions in Uptown Martinsville, visit
- www.martinsvilleuptown.net.

- Main Street Scrubs
- Mark's Jewelers
- Martinsville-Henry County Coalition for Health & Wellness
- Pieces Too
- Rania's Restaurant Bar & Grill
- Sparkle Me Pretty
- Studio 107 Art Gallery
- Talk of the Town Beauty Salon
- Unique Design
- Uptown Pinball
- What's Your Sign?
- WoodmenLife Insurance

Chamber's Leadership Development Program Still Popular

The Martinsville-Henry County Chamber of Commerce congratulates its 2018 Leadership **Development Program graduates!**

The Chamber's Leadership Development Program is designed to cultivate leaders by providing leadership information that:

- Acquaints them with opportunities and concerns within the community;
- Introduces them to present leaders and encourages open discussion;
- Builds realistic understanding of the roles of leadership in the community; and
- Develops a spirit of cooperation among the participants and promotes teamwork essential for positive community engagement.

Participants received valuable leadership training during the 10-week program and topics of discussion included: Leadership - How It Affects State/Local Government; Education; Local Cultural Opportunities; Local Quality of Life Issues; Economic Development; Existing Industry and Diversification; History of the Local Area and Demographic Changes; and Issues Affecting the Future of Martinsville and Henry County.

The Chamber's Leadership Development Program was developed to increase the number of effective local leaders having sound understanding of broad community facts and issues.

Dr. Leanna Blevins, Executive Director of the New College Institute, shared timely remarks with the graduates and their guests and encouraged them to consider the choices they will make from this point forward and the positive impact they, through their leadership, can have in our community.

Graduates from this year's Leadership Development program are: Gerald Boadu, Arconic; Lane Clark, Martinsville Police Department; Amy Delancey, American National Bank; Bobbie Dillon, Virginia Museum of Natural History; Michael Farley, Martinsville-Henry County Coalition for Health and Wellness; Lisa Frick, United Way of Henry County & Martinsville; Dominque Hylton, Burton & Company; Hunter Jennings, Martinsville-Henry County SPCA; Susan McCulloch, City of Martinsville; Caleb Moore, Carter Bank & Trust; William Pace, Virginia House of Delegates (Delegate Poindexter); Stacy Peters, New College Foundation; Tonya Rumley, City of Martinsville; Shani Shorter, Delegate Les Adams; Suzy Williams, Martinsville-Henry County SPCA.

Ron Haley, Chairman of the MHC Chamber, said "Graduation from this program is an exciting time, and we look forward to the many wonderful accomplishments from this capable group of leaders."

Kerry Walker of Berry-Elliott Realtors has chaired the Leadership Development Program for nineteen years and graduated from the program in 1999. Martin Plaza Furniture Outlet sponsored the Leadership Development Program this year.

Since the program began almost thirty years ago, the Chamber has had over 750 graduates from its Leadership Development Program. The program is offered annually and begins in September with a kickoff session at the Martinsville Speedway.





Gerald Boadu

Lane Clark





Michael Farley

Lisa Frick





Susan McCulloch

Caleb Moore





Tonya Rumley



Amy Delancey



Bobbie Dillon



Dominique Hylton



Hunter Jennings



William Pace



Stacy Peters



Shani Shorter



Susy Williams



Commonwealth Centre for Advanced Training (CCAT)

ith more than a decade of planning and development under its belt, Martinsville-Henry County's 726-acre premier

industrial park will get its first tenant, Poland-based company Press Glass.

The largest independent, flat glass processing operation in Europe, Press Glass officials announced in July 2018 that they will invest \$43.55 million to build a 280,000-square-foot manufacturing facility at Commonwealth Crossing, creating 212 jobs.

Founded in 1991, Press Glass employs 2,100 across 11 manufacturing facilities. The company processes glass for fabricators of windows, doors, facades, solar panels and more.

Commonwealth Crossing currently has three tracts available that are pre-graded and future available areas still to be developed. Officials are in the process of completing the Commonwealth Centre for Advanced Training (CCAT), a 25,889-square-foot manufacturing training facility with more than 15,000 square feet of high-bay training space.

Henry County Administrator Tim Hall said the development of CCAT is critical because it will allow companies to work on "parallel tracks."

"(Companies) can construct their facility while also training their workers," Hall said. "Without this option, companies would need to train their new hires offsite at another facility, or wait until their new facility is ready. Both of those options cost the company time and money."

Throughout 2019, Hall said he anticipates a completed CCAT facility training workers for Press Glass and other tenants secured throughout the year.

"We will see more construction, both in infrastructure and in company-specific facilities," Hall added.

Discover MHC

The industrial site has full utilities available, but The Harvest Foundation will invest \$11 million, approximately 50 percent of total costs, to help provide reliable and clean power at Commonwealth Crossing by supporting a new substation and transmission line build.

"This project is necessary to ensure that Press Glass and future tenants at Commonwealth Crossing Business Centre will have the most reliable power quality to the park," said Allyson Rothrock, president of Harvest. "It is imperative that we keep this positive momentum moving forward by providing the best possible infrastructure for industry in Martinsville-Henry County."

The total cost of construction to complete the project is estimated at \$22 million. Funding will be repaid by Appalachian Power based on usage from tenants at the park over the next 15 years. This project is a unique funding opportunity for Harvest as its investment will be repaid to the foundation over a 15-year period.

Mark Heath, president and CEO of the Martinsville-Henry



Martinsville.com

County Economic Development Corporation (EDC), said, "A fully developed Commonwealth Crossing is an asset few communities can offer to major advanced manufacturing clients, especially communities of our size. CCBC is a deal changer for Martinsville-Henry County, and the EDC is privileged to be a part of the team making this happen."

Hall describes the future vision of Commonwealth Crossing as a "first-class, advanced manufacturing facility filled with progressive companies that employ thousands of local citizens earning a great wage and living a quality life in the region.

He added, "Economic development is a long game – we plan the work and then work the plan. Investments today may not pay dividends for many years down the road, but they will pay off. The vision shown by this region over the past 15 years is coming to fruition today, and this success underscores the leadership and determination from all of our local teammates: The Harvest Foundation, the EDC, the City of Martinsville, Henry County and others."

Biz Briefs



Serving All Your Glass Needs Since 1949

Locally owned and operated for over 70 years, Martinsville Glass Company is the area's go to for all of your glass needs. Red and Libby Hussey opened Martinsville Glass Company in March 1949, selling "anything from picture frames, window glass, windshields and automobile glass. Later on, they started doing commercial glass and glazing" such as on office buildings and storefronts.

Fast forward to 2019, and Lee Hussey continues to operate the glass business with the same friendly and professional service that his parents did. As a small business owner, he understands the importance of, and is committed to, performing superior workmanship, www.martinsvilleglass.com



Bringing the arts to Martinsville-Henry County for over 50 years

Located in the heart of Martinsville's Arts & Cultural District, Piedmont Arts is an award-winning art museum that curates thought-provoking exhibitions by international, national and regional artists.

The museum also offers performing arts—from concerts to plays to children's performances-and a full schedule of art classes for all ages.

Piedmont Arts' presence extends far beyond the museum's walls. Guests can experience the arts around town thanks to the museum's public art walking tour, which features six murals around Uptown Martinsville and five sculptures on the museum grounds and in its Gravely-Lester Art Garden, located up the street from the museum. www.piedmontarts.org



EyeSite Strong

The Eve Site is located in Collinsville, VA and provides Optometry care to the Martinsville/Henry County and surrounding areas. Located at 4244 Virginia Ave. Collinsville, VA, The Eye Site has been Voted #1 Best Optometrist by Virginia Living Magazine for 2017 and 2018. Dr. Julie Brown and Dr. Shannon Zollinger, owners of The Eye Site, recently suffered a catastrophic fire loss in the fall of 2017. The company remained in business during this time and have since rebuilt and reopened in a brand new Optometry facility at the same address. The doctors and their staff look forward to continuing to serve the community of Martinsville and Henry County for many years to come. www.theyesite.com



Hops Farm or Brewery

One of the key ingredients to the flavorsome brews made by Herb Atwell and Peggy Donivan at Mountain Valley Brewing is fresh hops. Hops they grow on site! With their own hop farm, they can keep fresh hops year-round.

Family owned and operated since 2017. Mountain Valley Brewing offers a perfect opportunity to enjoy the only hand-crafted beer in Henry County while strolling through the hop yard, touring the small brewery, chatting in the cozy taproom, listening to live music outside under the pavilion or playing yard games while enjoying the beautiful views.



Putting Martinsville First

Martinsville First Savings Bank is a long time local community bank that has always put Martinsville first. Roger Hornsby, and the Martinsville First team, are proud to offer a variety of products and services with the personal attention vou deserve. For over 80 years, MFSB has promised that your hard earned money stays in Martinsville and Henry County to help the local economy and support our neighbors.

www.martinsvillefirst.com

Arcade Fix

Welcome to Uptown Pinball, M-HC's one and only arcade that is the home of 5 of the top 10 ranked pinball machines in the world (as ranked by pinside.com top 100)! Owner/ operator, Mike Haley has brought fun for the whole family to Uptown. Don't let the name fool you...Uptown Pinball also offers skee ball, air hockey, pool tables, racing-hunting and sports games, shuffle board, laser tag and much, much more. www.facebook.com/UptownPinball/

www.mountainvalleybrewing.com



Providing Transportation Solutions

Established in 2013 with a dream to become the best transportation and livery service in Southwest Virginia, Charles Whitfield, owner, set out to achieve this by offering clientele the most luxurious, reliable and safe rides to their destinations. Charis Transportation has black car service, executive limo, private chauffer, airport transportation, motor coaches and more.

Charles has more than 20-years of experience in transportation, and you can rest assured that you will arrive at your destination safely, in style and comfort. Charis values their clients' confidentiality, and their drivers not only maintain excellent driving records, but also go through intense and on-going driver safety training. www.gocharis.com



Custom Solutions

ActivWall is a Martinsville company that is seeing rapid growth and increased market-share on the national level. Primarily building custom horizontal folding door and window systems for both residential and commercial spaces, ActivWall also builds several other unique products that are making a splash in or creating new product categories.

Started in 2011 by Martinsville native, Duke Ferrell along with his son Carter, ActivWall is a company with an exceptional values-driven business model with a growing dealer network that is now selling its unique products in the biggest cities in the US - all made right here in Martinsville, Virginia. ActivWall offers custom solutions to add beauty and functionality to any space! www.activwall.com.

Chamber Membership Directory

. **Accounting Services**

Brian J. Jessup, CPA PLC (276)694-4999 • Brian Jessup 810 Starling Ave, Martinsville, VA, 24112

Commonwealth Professional Accounting Services, Inc. (276) 634-5600 • Harry Rhett 15 Cleveland Ave, Ste 8, Martinsville, VA, 24112

Frith & Associates, CPAs, PC (276) 403-4320 • Marsha Frith 6 Moss St., Martinsville, VA, 24112

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(276) 629-2648 • Tracie Friddle 4226 Fairystone Park Hwy, Bassett, VA, 24055

(276) 634-5542 • Tracie Friddle 4339 N. Virginia Avenue. Collinsville. VA. 24078

Harris, Harvey, Neal & Co., LLP (276) 632-9871 • Kim Skinner 231 E Church St, Martinsville, VA, 24112

Hill Tax Services (276) 694-2285 • Brenda Hill 825 N. Memorial Blvd. Martinsville. VA. 24112

Mallard & Mallard, CPAs LLC (276) 632-5754 • Christina Mallard 411 E Church St, Martinsville, VA, 24112

Martha S Cooper, CPA (276) 632-7559 • Martha Cooper P.O. Box 4467, Martinsville, VA, 24115

Mehaffey Financial Service/ Bookkeeping Tax Solutions (276) 681-6848 • George Mehaffey P.O. Box 1201, Fieldale, VA 24089

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Rucker's Antique Emporium (276 403 4030 • Steve Rucker 20 E Church Street, Martinsville, VA, 24112

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551 Piney Forest Rd, Danville, VA, 24540

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HomeTrust Bank (276) 632-7172 • Teresa Prilliman 8 Lester St, Martinsville, VA, 24112

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Lawrence Distributing Co (434) 792-4110 • Linda L. Dalton P.O. Box 11090, Danville, VA, 24543

Mountain Valley Brewing (276) 833-2171 • Herb Atwell 4220 Mountain Vallev Rd., Axton, VA 24054

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C-PEG (276) 632-6401 • John Parkinson

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GENEDGE (276) 666-8890 • Linda Lancaster 32 Bridge St Ste 200, Martinsville, VA, 24112

Longwood Small Business Development Center

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Martinsville Uptown Revitalization Association

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Broad Street Christian Church (276) 632-2609 • Mark Parkinson 106 Broad Street, Martinsville, VA, 24112

Community Fellowship, The (276) 647-8231 • Michael Harrison P.O. Box 388. Collinsville. VA. 24078

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American Red Cross (276) 632-5127 • Ralph Lawson 1081 Spruce St, Martinsville, VA, 24112

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Focus on Youth / CASA (276) 403-5058 • Mable Finney 22 E Church St Ste 324, Martinsville, VA, 24112

Friends of Infinity Acres (276) 358-2378 • Richard Steere 136 Joppa Rd, Ridgeway, VA, 24148

Goodwill Industries of the Valley (276) 734-1680 · Crystal Hall 1089 Spruce Street, Martinsville, VA, 24112

Grace Network of MHC (276) 638-8500 • Tracy L. Hinchcliff P. O. Box 3902, Martinsville, VA, 24115

Intervention Life Services (336) 512 3381 • Shabazz Chelley 22 E. Church St., Martinsville, VA 24112

IRECS, LLC (276) 632-2523 • Larry Wallace Jr. 22 E. Church Street, Martinsville, VA, 24112

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HD Web Studio (276) 666-2266 • Beth Deatherage 1 W. Church St, Ste A. Martinsville. VA. 24112

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TekaByte Inc (434) 836-3455 • Timothy Saunders 1311 Piney Forest Rd Ste D, Danville, VA, 24540

. **Contractors**

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Discover MHC

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Leaf'Filter North of NC. LLC (336) 520-8271 • Karen Douglas 175 Southport Dr, Ste 300, Morrisville, NC, 27560

Light Electric Co Inc (276) 629-7168 • Thomas E. Light P.O. Box 717, Stanleytown, VA, 24168

McKinney Heat & Air Conditioning (276) 627-0046 • Tommy McKinney 265 River Rd. Fieldale. VA. 24089

Prillaman & Pace (276) 632-6308 • Philip Prillaman P.O. Drawer 4667. Martinsville, VA. 24115

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(276) 632-1711 • Rodney Haynes P.O. Box 4106, Martinsville, VA, 24115

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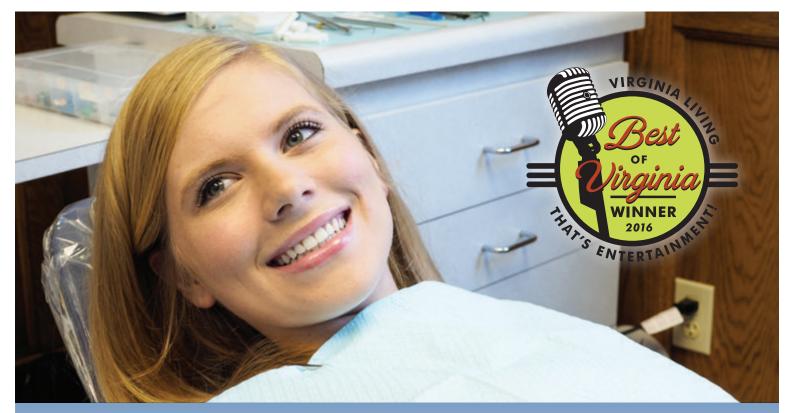
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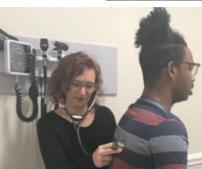
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