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From Your Chamber...

While our community has experienced its fair share of closings and downsizing, we have also experienced staying power and endurance. In the business realm, experts say staying power and endurance are an underrated idea. Surviving as a business means adapting. If a business can adapt to change it is much more likely to stand the test of time. If you look around Martinsville and Henry County, you will see examples of businesses that have stood the test of time.

- *The Lester Group* is one. In 1896, Lester Lumber Company was founded in the Dyer Store Community by G.T. "Cap'n Til" Lester and over the years adapted and grew into what it is today. The company has survived fires and during WWII, Lester Lumber Company was called on to produce barracks and "packaged houses" for use in Russia.
- *West Window Corporation* is another local business that has stood the test of time. For over 70 years, they have independently tested and certified their products to meet the ever-changing needs of their customers and to insure they meet building codes and energy requirements.
- *Frith Construction Company* was established in 1945 by J. Burness Frith, Sr. While they are still in the business of construction, they also offer lease and build/lease options, warehousing and shell buildings. Frith is another example of adapting to change to grow their business.
- Established in 1946, *Martinsville Machine Works* offers a solid foundation in complete machine design, fabrication and sales to support the wood furniture industry with their Critz Spindle Sanders. Over the years, they have also reached out to specialize in building machines and support equipment for many other industries.

The above list is short, but there are many more businesses in the Martinsville – Henry County community that have staying power and endurance. We hope as you read the current edition of Discover MHC, you will recognize the businesses that have stood the test of time.



Chamber Officers

Jay Dickens Immediate Past Chair The Lester Group

Bill Kirby Vice Chair Economic Development *American National Bank*

Spencer Thomas Vice Chair Governmental Affairs Sovah Health-Martinsville

Mary Handy Secretary/Treasurer Bassett Mirror

Chamber Directors

Eddie Cassady Retired

Monica Hatchett Henry County Public Schools

Larissa Rash Fidelity Bank

Susan Sabin The Spencer-Penn Centre

Terri Stutz Carter Bank & Trust

Wayne Draper Right Now Restore

Chamber Staff

Kristoff Lievens Vice Chair Organizational Improvement Eastman

Anne Jacobsen-Smith Chairperson Hooker Furniture

Joni Temple Vice Chair Membership AmeriStaff

Rhonda Hodges Patrick & Henry Community College

Richard Reed Reed Electrical Solutions

Carlie Smith AirLife Virginia

DeShanta Hairston Books & Crannies

Japhet LeGrant Back & Neck Pain Center

James Souter King's Grant



Kimberly Keller-Bonacci – Uptown Entrepreneurial Development Manager, Sharon Shepherd – Deputy Director,

(Not pictured) Marlana Lackey – Uptown Martinsville Farmers' Market Associate

Martinsville-Henry County Chamber of Commerce What Your Chamber Does For You...

REFERRALS—MARKETING—BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT—RIBBON CUTTINGS— NETWORKING—WORKSHOPS—ADVOCACY

- Acts as your salesperson every day as we promote the Martinsville and Henry County Area. This includes maps, brochures, guides and our annual Discover MHC magazine.
- Validates that you are an involved business, working to make Martinsville and Henry County a better place to Engage-Enjoy-Expand.
- Keeps you informed of Chamber and membership events through eblasts and Facebook.
- Provide workshops and seminars addressing a host of employer business-related topics and issues.
- Is your voice when needed to represent the business community on local, state and federal issues.
- Helps impact your future by involving participants from an array of professions in many hours of planning and working to shape the future of Martinsville and Henry County.
- Answers your mail and phone calls by responding to all requests for information on products and services offered by Chamber membership.
- Offers advertising services such as opportunities to sponsor events and programs, directory ads, eblasts, Facebook and on one of the Chamber's TV shows.

NETWORKING

Because Chamber members want to develop new business contacts and prospects, the Chamber offers Business After Hours. Members gather at different host locations to relax in an informal setting to spread the word about your business or organization.

RIBBON CUTTINGS

The Chamber stands ready to assist members with ribbon cuttings, grand opening events and open houses.

VALIDATION

Your business or organization can proudly display your membership decal representing a united business front.

REFERRAL SERVICES

The Chamber serves as an extended marketing team for its membership. The numerous daily requests for information on products, services or vendors are referred only to Chamber members.

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

The Chamber partners with the P&HCC, Longwood Business Development Center, SCORE, the EDC, City, County and others to assist businesses in their training and resource needs.



115 Broad Street—P.O. Box 709 Martinsville, VA 24114 276/632-6401 mhccoc@mhcchamber.com www.martinsville.com



OF CONVERCE

CHAMBER

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- Hooker Furnishings Pictures (From the Files at Hooker Furnishings)
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For additional information, contact the Chamber, 276.632.6401 or mhccoc@mhcchamber.com.

Lung Cancer: It's Not Just a 'Smoker's Disease'

Sovah Health

f you're like many people, you may think of smoking as the most obvious cause for lung cancer. And while cigarette smoking has certainly been established as a major risk factor and the number one cause for lung cancer, it's important to note that lung cancer is not just a "smoker's disease." In fact, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), lung cancer is the second most diagnosed cancer in both men and women in the U.S. and the leading cause of cancer death. As many as 20 percent of lung cancer fatalities can be attributed to those who have never smoked or used any form of tobacco, according to an article published by the American Cancer Society.

Risk Factors

Cigarette smoking remains the number one risk factor for lung cancer. Use of other tobacco products like pipes and cigars also increases your risk. Risk factors that can cause lung cancer in people who have never smoked include exposure to radon gas, secondhand smoke, carcinogens like asbestos and diesel exhaust, air pollution and also certain gene mutations.

Signs and symptoms

Signs of the disease can vary from person to person. Some of those affected may have symptoms related to the lungs or to another part of the body if the cancer has spread, or may have a general feeling of being unwell. Most people will not have symptoms until the cancer has advanced. Symptoms may include:

- Coughing that gets worse or doesn't go away
- Chest pain
- Shortness of breath
- Wheezing
- Coughing of blood
- Constant feeling of being very tired
- Weight loss without a known cause
- Repeated instances of pneumonia
- Swollen or enlarged lymph nodes inside
- the chest area between the lung

GOING SMOKE-FREE

If you or someone you love is looking to quit smoking, there are several resources that can help. At www.smokefree.gov, you'll find tips, articles, advice and other great resources to help you on your journey. Additionally, all states have "quit lines" with counselors who are specially trained to help smokers quit. **Call 800.QUIT.NOW (800.784.8669)** to get connected. These signs can also suggest the presence of other illnesses as well, so it's important to discuss any symptoms with your primary care provider.

Prevention and early detection

The good news is that there are several things you can do to help reduce your risk of developing lung cancer. The first and most important thing is to refrain from smoking, since cigarette smoking has been proven to cause the vast majority of lung cancer deaths in the U.S. Refraining from other uses of tobacco like pipes and cigars can also help you reduce your risk, as can avoiding secondhand smoke, testing your home for radon, limiting your exposure to carcinogens at work and home, and eating a healthy diet with plenty of fruits and veggies.

Since lung cancer symptoms do not show up for most people until the disease has advanced, early detection can be key to finding and more effectively treating lung cancer. A low-dose computed tomography scan (low-dose CT scan) uses special x-ray equipment and advanced technology to help identify suspicious spots on the lungs that may be cancerous. It is a painless test and usually takes less than one minute to complete.

SOVAH

HEALTH

Annual lung cancer screenings are recommended for those who:

- Have a history of heavy smoking (20 packs a year or more) and
- Smoke now or have quit within the past 15 years and
- Are between 50 and 77 years old.

Medicare and many insurance programs cover the cost of lung cancer screenings. Talk with your provider about your risks and if a lung cancer screening is right for you. If you don't have a primary care provider, call Sovah Health at 844.GO.SOVAH or visit the Find a Doctor tab at SovahHealth.com to get connected with one today. Learn more about low dose CT's by watching our video or taking the free lung health assessment at SovahHealth.com/lung-cancer-screening.

Edward Jones

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In 2020, Edward Jones renewed our strategic alliance with the Alzheimer's Association[®] with a five-year, \$25 million commitment. This matches the \$25 million we've raised in the first five years since signing on as the first-ever Walk to End Alzheimer's[®] National Presenting Sponsor in 2016 — and includes helping our clients, colleagues and local communities manage the impact of Alzheimer's through access to resources such as the Alzheimer's Association 24/7 Helpline.



Note: Alzheimer's Association Helpline staff do not perform diagnoses. If you or someone you care for is having memory problems, please consult your doctor.

What help can I get?

- Crisis assistance and decision-making support
- Referrals to local community programs, services and ongoing support
- Help understanding the signs of Alzheimer's and other dementias, memory loss, aging and brain health
- Information about medications, treatment options, and providing or accessing care









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Embracing a Hopeful Mindset for our Community *The Harvest Foundation*

hen The Harvest Foundation set out to create a strategic plan to inform its next five years of work, the goals were clear: prioritize community voice and inclusion, continue to build upon previous goals and initiatives, and ensure the plan is a tool that evolves as needs in the community change.

"We required a plan to address the needs of this community, but we also needed a way to build connections among residents and create a culture of hope that everyone can support," said Kate Keller, president of The Harvest Foundation. "Celebrating our 20-year anniversary in 2022 gave us an opportunity to look back on what was accomplished, and acknowledge the resilience of the Martinsville-Henry County community. We took those wins and incorporated that positivity and hopefulness into our plan."

Following a year-long process of in-depth data collection, analysis, and extensive input from the community through focus groups, workgroups, and public surveys, Harvest launched a new strategic plan in January 2021.

"Our 2022-2026 plan is encompassed by hope, which serves as our north star," Keller said. "When we talked with members of the community during our strategic planning process, it was pretty clear that many people don't feel hope for themselves and don't feel hopeful for the future of our community. Our ultimate goal is to make MHC a place where all envision a positive future for themselves and the broader community."

The Harvest Foundation celebrated its 20th anniversary in 2022. It was a time to appreciate all the hard work that's given Martinsville-Henry County its forward momentum, and build on it to address the challenges and opportunities ahead.

"We've learned what worked and didn't work over the past 20 years," said Sheryl Agee, senior operating officer at The Harvest Foundation. "We've brought great jobs to the community and developed systems around healthcare and other priorities, but we still have a gigantic portion of our population living in







poverty. We'll continue to work with our community partners to look at ways to solve those challenges, as well as address rising needs like broadband, housing, and childcare."

What sets Martinsville-Henry County apart from other communities is the people who make our home a welcoming environment where everyone shares in the promise of an MHC that is healthy, prosperous, and vibrant. The Harvest Foundation is embracing a future of meaningful partnerships, open communication, and shared goals for a thriving community. A future where everyone chooses hope.

2022-2026 HARVEST FOUNDATION STRATEGIC PLAN

Thriving Youth

Provide first-class learning and development opportunities from birth to college in Martinsville-Henry County

- Expand Birth to Age 4 Systems & School Readiness
- Grow First-Class Schools
- Youth Development

Vibrant Community

Health: Ensure that residents of MHC have access to & understand how to use the primary & behavioral health care systems

- Maintain SafetyNet System
- Support Behavioral Health Systems

Growing MHC: Grow a positive future for MHC by building a connected & revitalized community that will attract & retain diverse residents

- Housing Capacity Growth
- Broadband Expansion
- Revitalize Uptown
- Catalyze Community Connectivity and Conversations
- Build a Powerful Shared Community Narrative

Resilient & Diverse Economy

Economic Development: Continue to make MHC a place where all can secure living-wage employment at both large & small businesses that contribute to a vibrant MHC

- Increase Jobs & Tax Base
- Build Up Entrepreneurial Ecosystems

Economic Mobility: Ensure all people in MHC have the opportunity & support to secure a living wage, follow a rewarding career path, & build wealth for the next generation

- Strengthen Systems for Upward Mobility
- Understanding Causes and Cultures of Poverty
- Transportation Barriers

To learn more about The Harvest Foundation and its new strategic plan, visit www.theharvestfoundation.org.











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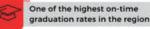


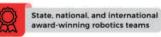








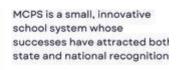






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📵 www.martinsville.k12.va.us

Learning Today, Leading Tomorrow K-12 Education in Martinsville-Henry County





Martinsville City Public Schools

(Martinsville.K12.va.us)

Martinsville City Public Schools is a small, innovative school division whose successes have earned both state and national recognition. Five schools serve students from pre-K through 12th grade. Dedicated to "empowering success one learner at a time," MCPS strives to meet the needs of each individual student, utilizing engaging learning strategies and community partnerships to bring relevant, real-world learning into the classroom, preparing students for success in college and careers.

Points of distinction:

- All MCPS schools are fully accredited by the Virginia Department of Education.
- MCPS boasts one of the highest on-time graduation rates in the region.
- Advanced learning is present throughout the district, including opportunities for high school students to earn college credits or even graduate high school with associate's degrees.
- Albert Harris Elementary School was recognized by the Department of Wildlife Resources as a Virginia Naturally School for its efforts to ensure students are good stewards of the environment.
- Albert Harris Elementary and Martinsville High School have been recognized by the Board of Education with Continuous Improvement Awards.
- Martinsville LEGO Robotics and Odyssey of the Mind teams have won state, national, and international awards.
- MCPS' internship program offers opportunities for students to get first-hand experience in various career paths.
- Small class sizes offer individualized instruction, ensuring MCPS can meet the needs of each student.
- A robust program of extracurricular and summer activities includes athletics, robotics, and performing arts to engage students outside of the classroom.
- MCPS is a 100% AVID-certified school district, a program which encourages college and career readiness and success.
- MCPS' technology-rich school environment includes interactive flat panels in all core classrooms and a 1:1 student-technology ratio from pre-K through high school.





(CarlisleSchool.org)

Carlisle is an independent Pre-K – Grade 12 school offering a college preparatory education that stresses hands-on, project-based learning. As one of Virginia's leading independent schools, Carlisle blends a unique family atmosphere with an exceptional education to bring out the best in every student. Those who attend the school develop confidence and build a strong sense of self. With fewer than 400 students, Carlisle offers a smaller, nurturing learning environment. In the classroom, on the stage, in athletics, the Carlisle student excels.

Points of distinction:

- Carlisle is designated as an AP Capstone School.
- Carlisle School was named among the top 4,000 STEM schools in the nation and top 126 in Virginia by Newsweek Magazine
- Carlisle was recognized as a Top School by Virginia Living Magazine for their STEAM program.
- Carlisle was recognized as a Best of Virginia winner by Virginia Living Magazine.
- Carlisle School was recognized as a NICHE 2021 Best School.
- Carlisle School offers a robust fine arts program, including visual arts, choir, band, drama, and dance.
- Carlisle School's unrivaled college counseling program ensures that graduates have all the resources they need to choose a college best suited to their goals and abilities.
- Student athletics include soccer, basketball, tennis, golf, volleyball, baseball, bass fishing and cross country.
- Carlisle Students participate in an exchange program abroad.





Henry County Public Schools

(Henry.k12.va.us)

Henry County Public Schools (HCPS) provides its diverse community of learners with meaningful educational experiences that prepare them for a successful future. The division's work to support student success has fostered a variety of opportunities for students to partner with community businesses and organizations, enriching the school community experience for all involved.

Points of distinction:

- HCPS is one of 125 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.
- HCPS is nationally recognized as a Green Ribbon School District and is home to two Green Ribbon Schools: Bassett High School and Magna Vista High School.
- HCPS is rich in technology with interactive boards or Apple TVs in every classroom and a student/device ratio of 1:1.
- HCPS is the first school district in Virginia to offer STEMformation in partnership with Discovery Education.
- HCPS's Career Academy is preparing students to be workforce ready through its partnerships with local industry. In its first year, 90% of graduating seniors earned a state license or industry certificate.
- 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 project-based curriculum of study and practice that are fun, engaging and expected for 21st century learners.

Continuing Your Education Higher Learning in Martinsville-Henry County



Patrick & Henry Community College

(PatrickHenry.edu)

For 60 years, Patrick & Henry Community College has been the launching pad for thousands of successful entrepreneurs, healthcare workers, welders, teachers, and so many others. Whether a student is coming to learn a new skill, to transfer to a four-year institution, or to land a dream career, P&HCC is the gateway to their goals. For students looking to launch a career, P&HCC can help them connect with potential employers by arranging internships and interviews. For students looking to transfer to a four-year university, P&HCC offers dozens of guaranteed transfer pathways.

No matter the student's goal, P&HCC works to ensure anyone can access the programs they need. One way P&HCC does this is by reducing financial barriers. Thanks to a \$10.3 million donation from the Harvest Foundation, every high school graduate in Martinsville and Henry County can attend P&HCC at no cost. For others, scholarships and grants like the governor's G3 program and the college's PH Scholars program could also cover tuition costs.

P&HCC is also making college more accessible to the community by expanding to new and more convenient locations. The college intends to complete the second building in its Manufacturing, Engineering, and Technology (MET) Complex in 2022 which will triple its welding program capacity. The building will also house the heavy equipment operator and precision machining programs. In 2019, P&HCC opened two new sites in Patrick County making P&HCC's popular welding program and career and technical programs more accessible to Patrick County students. The college also plans to expand its health career offerings soon with a new nursing lab.

P&HCC is also making college more accessible by enabling students to start early. With a dual enrollment program funded by the National Science Foundation, students can earn three-quarters of their engineering technology associate degree before graduating high school. With tailor-made programs, abundant funding opportunities, and strategic locations, Patrick & Henry Community College is removing the barriers that keep the people it serves from getting the opportunities they deserve. For six decades, P&HCC has been a pathway to growth and success for countless community members in MHC.





New College Institute

(NewCollegeInstitute.org)

The team at the New College Institute (NCI) in Martinsville is working aggressively to position itself, through industry relevant programming, partnerships, and collaborative relationships as THE training and education destination for degree programs, certifications, and workforce training.

We are proud to create opportunities for more people, from more backgrounds, to find the workforce training and education they need to advance their careers. By establishing partnerships across the Commonwealth (and beyond) to offer virtual, hybrid, and in-person education and training, New College Institute is opening doors to employment opportunities in industries including off-shore/ onshore wind, drone training, smart cities technologies, telehealth, cybersecurity, advanced manufacturing and more.

As a Global Wind Organisation certified training provider in Basic Technical Training, Basic Safety Training, and now Sea Survival, NCI is the first in Virginia to offer industry required certifications that are critical to the operations and long-term maintenance of wind turbine projects. Other innovative programs offered at NCI include Center for Advanced Manufacturing, and the Southside Telehealth Training Academy & Resource Center (STAR Telehealth). In addition to degree and certification programs, NCI offers additional community and individual educational opportunities including non-credit lectures, educational camps, financial aid counseling, internship opportunities, K-12 programming as well as award-winning high school STAGS Robotics team support and more.

NCI facilities are packed with state-of-the-art technology and the equipment necessary to meet the training and academic needs of students, faculty and local industry partners. As new opportunities and industries arise, NCI develops partnerships that create pathways to entry. We foster unparalleled opportunities to attain the education and career skills needed to succeed and prosper in today's everchanging economy.

With online programs and on-site classes located in Martinsville, NCI offers flexible opportunities that advance education and career goals and provides guidance and support to achieve success.



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A Commitment to Community Blue Ridge Regional Airport

lue Ridge Regional Airport, then named Lester Airport (also known as Lester Field), began its journey as a training ground for World War II pilots at its first location on Liberty Street. Since its renaming and relocation to Spencer in 1962, the airport's commitment to bettering the community and serving its clients has never changed.

"Our primary focus lies in relationship building and growing our reputation," said airport Managing Director Jason Davis. "Having quality relationships with your customers is an important aspect of making sure they feel welcome. If you can

remember the name of a customer's dog and have that pet come running to you off the plane, its owners will definitely be back." At Blue Ridge, making Martinsville-Henry County a better place for visitors and residents means providing a platform for people to utilize

its world-class facility, which is unique in many ways.

"We have relationships with our local government and funding partners that make us the envy of other airports across the region," Davis said. "We also offer fuel and food in the same place, which hundreds of other airports don't offer. When you stop at Blue Ridge, we are able to take care of the plane, pilot, and passengers."

Relationships are at the heart of success for Blue Ridge. Davis said all three localities they serve, Henry County, Patrick County, and the City of Martinsville, understand the value the airport brings to their respective communities. He also credits the airport's relationship with The Harvest Foundation as a driving force behind recent growth initiatives.

"We can't do what we do without the support of local partners such as Harvest and economic development," Davis said. "These partners assist us in doing things that other airports aren't able to do. Part of that work is expediting our capital projects that parallel our aggressive growth plan. It's been a feather in our cap – you know you're doing something right when other airports try to model your plans."

The staff and board of directors at Blue Ridge play a huge role in its critical success, Davis added.

"They understand how important relationships are to what we do," he said. "We participate in all things aviation, from attending all the Virginia Aviation Board meetings to the conferences – we continue to tell our story and sell our story."

In 2019, The Harvest Foundation announced an investment of \$863,000 that allowed the airport to leverage state and federal grant funding to expedite the construction of an extended ramp (apron), which is about 90 percent complete. Davis said they opened it a day before the fall 2022 NASCAR race and filled it to capacity.

"This ramp quadrupled our parking space," he said. "It's been a game changer for us, and I don't use that term lightly. This added room not only allowed us to increase our capacity, but we can do our jobs safer and more efficiently because of it. That's a big win."

Looking to the spring of 2023, Davis said they'll finish the ramp project and immediately start to move the western portion of the road, which will allow the runway extension project to get underway. They will bid the road project in the spring of 2023 and get started that summer, according to Davis.

"We've rebounded and are pretty much back to pre-COVID levels within a few percentage points," Davis said. "We see an uptick in traffic year after year, and as soon as this runway extension is done, we expect those numbers to significantly increase. This past year was a breath of fresh air to open back up and get back to business."

Blue Ridge Regional Airport currently has a runway of 5,002 feet and is 100 feet wide, soon to be extended to 6,000 feet. The airport averages 23,000 annual enplanements and 64 operations per day. It's home to more than 50 aircraft, including two medivac helicopters. Discover more by visiting flyblueridge.com.

Martinsville.com

We Are Here to Help!

Piedmont Community Services



t Piedmont Community Services (PCS), we genuinely mean it when we say "we are here to help," despite the fact that it may be a slogan for businesses. Our goal is to improve the quality of life for people, families, and communities by offering a highly efficient network of services for mental health, substance use, and developmental disabilities, including treatment, education, and support. The core values of Piedmont are perseverance, adaptability, and foresight. We take satisfaction in advancing compassionate solutions.

In each of the communities we serve, Piedmont has remained a staple for a very significant period of time. The Mental Health Association began offering pastoral counseling services in 1959, which subsequently served as the foundation for Piedmont Community Services. In 1972, the counties of Franklin, Henry, and Patrick, as well as the city of Martinsville, joined together to create the Piedmont Regional Mental Health & Mental Retardation Services Board. Over the following 21 years, initiatives such as the Patrick Henry Drug Control Council, Horizon's Social Club, Little Ivy Group Home, Church Street Square Apartments, and the Mental Hygiene Clinic were established to address local needs. The organization, Piedmont Community Services, which serves the city of Martinsville and Henry County, didn't receive its formal name until 1993. It relocated to its current location at 24 Clay Street, Martinsville, Virginia in 2000. The Rocky Mount, Virginia, facility on Technology Drive and the Patrick County, Virginia, facility at 22280 Jeb Stuart Highway were established in 2008 to maintain the longevity of our other areas. Fast-forward to 2012, when Piedmont Community Services celebrated 40 years of serving each of its areas. At that time, we had over 300 staff, a 20 million dollar yearly budget, and in 2013, we served 5,814 clients. Currently, Piedmont has over 430 employees and a 32-million dollar yearly budget. We recently celebrated our 50th anniversary. We have provided services to 7,412 people and counting, an increase of 28% from 2013. This applies to our Martinsville office as well as those in Henry, Franklin, and Patrick Counties. The dynamic initiatives we keep creating on a daily basis are still what drive the communities we serve.

Identification and Implementation

We have had to learn how to adapt to change during the 50 years that Piedmont Community Services has been providing services to the communities of Martinsville City, Franklin, Patrick, and Henry County. The world is always changing, and Piedmont has learned to adapt to the quick changes our localities experience. When COVID-19 affected our world in March 2020, many businesses were forced to make snap decisions, and we had to innovate to meet the needs of our clients. In order for clients to continue receiving services, we were able to purchase the necessary equipment for Tele-Health visits. Our staff were prepared to adjust their work schedules to accommodate demand and provide 2,499 Tele-Health visits in April 2020, 1,431 visits in April 2021, and a steady rate of roughly 500 visits in 2022. More clients were about to return to the office for visits, as evidenced by the number reducing. We have served 4,946 individuals related to mental health this year alone; 1,056 for ID Services, 1,203 for substance use disorders, and 4,379 for ancillary services.

Foresight is the fuel of innovation for developing sustainable programs that will benefit our service regions. Among the several initiatives that represent our vision for the community, The Crisis Intervention Team Center (CIT) and The Piedmont Adult Drug Treatment Court are only two. Emergency Services Supervisor Annie Webster at PCS made the following remarks. Piedmont Community Services started our CIT program in 2012 in Martinsville/ Henry County out of the local emergency room. We have since expanded to have two sites, one at the emergency room at SOVAH Health and one in the emergency room at Carillion Rocky Mount. Piedmont CSB averages about 90 prescreen assessments a month and are committed to trying to provide services that allow people to be served in their community close to home. This is why we are opening the 24 hour CIT center to provide options for treatment when people are ready for treatment on November 15th, 2022. This will be a standalone building where patients can receive care from a staff that includes peers, counselors, nurses, and psychiatric providers. Trained law enforcement will also be on hand to offer security. This is a much more therapeutic environment where treatment can be provided in a comfortable setting a lower cost to the individual. "

The PCS Family and Drug Court Coordinator, Quincy Gravely, said the following: "The Piedmont Adult Drug Treatment Court is a Post Plea program. Each offender who agrees to participate in the program must enter a guilty plea to the charge(s) that led to their arrest. Adjudication on the guilty plea will then be deferred pending successful completion of the Adult Drug Treatment Court program. The Piedmont Adult Drug Treatment Court is a five-phase program. The mission of the Adult Drug Treatment Court is to enhance public safety by providing a judicially supervised regimen of Martinsville.com

treatment to substance abusing offenders with a goal of returning sober, law -abiding citizens to the community, thereby restoring and strengthening families. The goals of the program are to reduce substance abuse and recidivism among offenders in the local community by assessing their needs and offering responsive, culturally sensitive, effective services while providing intensive judicial monitoring. In addition, we hope to increase personal, familial, and societal accountability among offenders while saving costs associated with incarceration. Currently, there are 47 drug courts in the state of Virginia. The community and Piedmont Community Services implemented Drug Court because it helps participants recover from addiction, prevents future criminal activity, and also reduces the burden and cost of repeatedly processing low-level, non-violent offenders through the nation's courts, jails, and prisons. Every adult participant accepted into a Virginia drug treatment court docket saves the Commonwealth \$19,234 compared to traditional case processing. The number of adult drug court participants served in FY 2018 saved local agencies and the Commonwealth of Virginia more than \$11.1 million. Drug court programs have a tangible effect on criminal recidivism. The Piedmont Adult Drug Court enrolled its first participant in April of 2022. Through research and development, we have resolved some minor obstacles, and now are poised and ready to expand our services to more individuals in need." Within the next few years, we shall share a great number of additional programs.

Looking to the Future

We are eager to see what the next fifty years will bring to our community and how we can continue to grow, adapt, and be resilient. But until then, we'll keep offering high-caliber services, growing our programs and facilities, and increasing the size of our business. Because that is the Piedmont way, never forget that Piedmont Community Services is here to help.





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Anne Marie Biggs, **Pharmacist**



Liz Hagan, FNP

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Carley Shelton, FNP



Joni Sessor-Kendrick, WHNP-BC

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NASCAR Celebrates 75th Anniversary Season at... Martinsville Speedway

fter Martinsville Speedway's 75th anniversary season last year, NASCAR will celebrate its 75th anniversary in 2023 with an exciting mix of history-rich venues, short tracks and road courses, with the sport reaching a new level of excitement with the first-ever NASCAR Cup Series' Chicago Street Race. Following last fall's sellout of the fall NASCAR Cup Series Playoff race, Martinsville Speedway will once again host two prominent race weekends on the NASCAR schedule this season.

Founded in 1947 by H. Clay Earles, Martinsville Speedway is a short



track known for its distinctive paperclip shape, scenic Norfolk Southern Railway behind the backstretch, iconic Martinsville grandfather clock trophy, famous Martinsville hot dogs and its truly authentic, traditional race

experience. On Sept. 7, 1947, Martinsville Speedway held its first race, three months before the creation of NASCAR, with 9,013 fans and 750 seats ready on its original dirt track. On Sept. 25, 1949, future NASCAR Hall of Famer Red Byron won the first NASCAR race held at the Martinsville Speedway dirt track. Bill France Sr., founder of NASCAR and inaugural inductee to the NASCAR Hall of Fame, joined Earles as a 50 percent partner on the track in the early 1950's.

Martinsville Speedway is the only NASCAR track to host NASCAR Cup Series races every year since its inception in 1949. The track was paved in 1955 and remains the shortest track on the Cup Series schedule at .526 miles. Its width is 55 feet with 800-foot asphalt straights and tight 588-foot concrete turns, banked at 12 degrees.

"Since the first race won by Red Byron in 1947, Martinsville Speedway has been home for our family and generations of NASCAR fans," said Clay Campbell, Vice President, Mid-Atlantic Region, NASCAR and Martinsville Speedway President. "We are proud that the competition on the track and the authentic fan experience from the first race to today remains the cornerstones of Martinsville Speedway."

In 1964, Earles decided it was time for a "different" type of trophy for race winners, so the track introduced the Martinsville grandfather clock in Victory Lane. The grandfather clocks are manufactured by a local company, Ridgeway Clocks, as part of a historic tradition that continues to this day. Fred Lorenzen won the first Martinsville grandfather clock.

"I've been coming to Martinsville since 1949, when NASCAR held its first Cup race," said Richard Petty, seven-time NASCAR Cup Series champion and all-time wins leader (15) at Martinsville Speedway. "I don't remember the hot dogs starting that early but racing definitely did. I consider Martinsville to be our home track since it's right up the



road from the house. I always enjoy coming here and seeing who will take home the next clock."

Earles remained chairman of the board and chief executive officer of Martinsville Speedway until his death on Nov. 16, 1999. In 2017, he was recognized with the NASCAR Hall of Fame Landmark Award. Clay Campbell carried on his grandfather's legacy by joining Martinsville Speedway in 1978 and becoming track president in 1988. Campbell, the longest serving track president in NASCAR, has led Martinsville Speedway's continued success at the track and the organization's active role giving back to the local community.

"Martinsville Speedway holds significance in the history of NASCAR as the only track to host a NASCAR Cup Series race since its inception in 1949," said Mike Helton, Senior Advisor to NASCAR. "H. Clay Earles and Clay Campbell have built one of the most competitive tracks in NASCAR, along with fan experience that allows fans to step back in time to a different era when engines fire. From their traditional Martinsville grandfather clock to their famous hot dog and scenic railway views, Martinsville continues to be a foundational piece in the history and future of NASCAR."

After 70 years of racing, Martinsville Speedway became the first major motorsports facility in the nation to install LED lights in 2017. In the fall of that year, Martinsville's Cup Series race was the first to finish under the lights at the track. On June 20, 2020, the first full Cup Series night race at Martinsville Speedway was won by Martin Truex Jr.

"When you think about the rich history of NASCAR, Martinsville Speedway has played a huge role in delivering some of the most memorable moments every single year since the sport's inception," said Ben Kennedy, NASCAR Senior Vice President of Racing Development



& Strategy. "As the sport evolves and grows, the competition on the track and the authentic fan experience at Martinsville Speedway will continue to make lasting impressions on every fan and competitor for years to come."

As part of NASCAR's 75th anniversary season, Martinsville will host all three NASCAR national series on April 14-16, 2023, featuring the CRAFTSMAN Truck Series on Friday, April 14 at 3:30 p.m. Xfinity Series on Saturday, April 15 at 7:30 p.m. and the Cup Series on Sunday, April 16 at 3:00 p.m.

The ValleyStar Credit Union 300, the nation's biggest, richest and most prestigious NASCAR Late Model Stock Car race, will return for an evening of intense competition next fall.

Martinsville will host the Whelen Modified Tour season finale on Thursday, Oct. 26 and penultimate races of the Xfinity Series in the Dead On Tools 250 on Saturday, Oct. 28 at 7:30 p.m. and the Cup Series for the fourth consecutive season in the Xfinity 500 on Sunday, Oct. 29 at 2:00 p.m. In an intense short track battle that can only happen at Martinsville, the races will set the field for the respective series for the NASCAR Championships the following week at Phoenix Raceway.

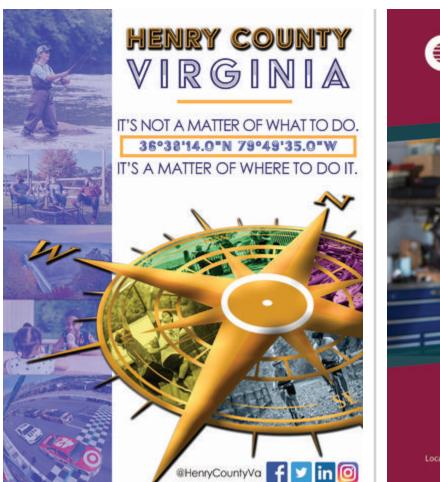
2023 NASCAR tickets are available for purchase via phone at 877-RACE-TIX or online at martinsvillespeedway.com. Fans can stay connected to Martinsville Speedway on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and the NASCAR Tracks App.

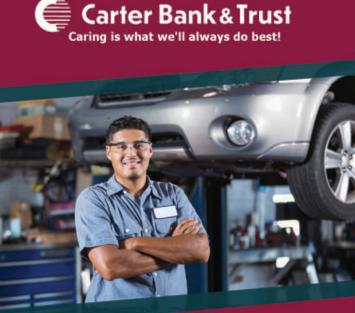






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A Family Approach to Business

Hooker Furniture

alking the halls of Hooker Furniture's corporate offices or visiting a manufacturing facility won't give you the typical experience of a corporate, publicly traded company. It's always been about family. "We've consistently put a priority on culture when we hire," said Jeremy Hoff, CEO of Hooker Furniture. "I always say we're playing the long game in all aspects of the company – we're concerned about our company's position 10 years from now. From a cultural and a business standpoint, we don't play to the quarter like many other public companies."

Anne Smith, chief executive officer and president, domestic upholstery, said it comes down to the word family.

"We don't look or operate like a typical public organization," Smith said. "If you look back at the beginning, it started as a familyrun business, and that's how it's run to this day."

From a hiring perspective, Hooker Furniture strives to recruit good people and train them well to do their jobs, according to Phil Garrett, director of human resources. "You get out of the way and let them do their job, but more importantly, you empower them to make a difference, not only in the workplace but in the community as well."

Hooker Furniture's values start with being the BEST: Be who you say you are, Eliminate unnecessary risk, Speed, and Total addressable market growth. "We want to be who we say we are, and we don't just talk the talk. We want to try and help organizations in the communities where we live and work," Hoff said.

The company has a significant history of supporting organizations in Martinsville-Henry County, but they've also expanded into communities like High Point, N.C. Hickory, N.C. and Mt. Airy.

"Caring and integrity are at the core of what makes us successful," Hoff added. "We get a lot of calls to participate and get involved, and our answer is almost always yes. We are fortunate to have 1,200 employees who care."

Many employees and management team members embed themselves in local organizations including The Harvest Foundation, Boys & Girls Club of the Blue Ridge, Piedmont Arts, the Virginia Museum of Natural History, the Monogram Smith River Sports Complex, United Way of Henry County & Martinsville, and the Martinsville-Henry County Chamber of Commerce. They also keep an ongoing donation box that when filled, goes to help clients of Grace Network feed their families.

"We have employees who are heavily involved in their churches and school systems through PTO groups and booster clubs," Garrett said. "It's really a grassroots effort as far as Hooker Furniture's philanthropic activities. Both from a financial and personal perspective, all of us invest our time and resources to make our community a better place."

Nearly every community in which Hooker Furniture operates is a small town, Smith said. "We realize that, and it's part of why we're entrenched so deeply in supporting these communities."



Smith shared an example of supporting its communities from one of its brands, Sam Moore Furniture in Bedford, Virginia. The Bedford Area Chamber of Commerce recently named Sam Moore "Large Business of the Year" as part of the Chamber's 2022 Excellence in Business award winners.

Smith said, "A very concerted effort was made by everyone at Sam Moore to pay more attention to the culture and to their people, making the workplace an environment where everyone wanted to be. They moved beyond 'I can't wait for Friday, and I'm dreading Monday.' People come there and have fun. They take pride in what they do, and they're happy to be there."

As a community, there are many things Martinsville and Henry County can do to support Hooker Furniture and other industries. Smith said they've seen many positive changes and improvements and would like to see the momentum continue to grow.

"Workforce readiness is a top priority for us," Smith said. "Making sure we have people with the right skill set and interest is crucial to our workforce. We're very involved with our local economic development organizations and do what we can to support that work."

Hoff said he's a big believer in public schools and would like to see local systems grow stronger. With an average retention of 18 years within Hooker Furniture's office, he said they're doing what they can to ensure a strong succession of good employees.

Founded in 1924, Hoff comes to Hooker Furniture as the fourth CEO. The consistency of leadership and culture is credited by many as a driving force behind the company's success.

"When you look at the history of the company, we have an employee who's worked in our warehouse for 50 years, we have a couple of ladies in the office with more than 40 years of service, and another 10 or so who are pushing 30 years," Garrett said. "We have a loyal employee base and that boils down to how we treat our employees. This started 100 years ago, and it's our duty to take that baton and carry it into future generations."

Hooker Furniture is an industry leader with locations in Virginia and North Carolina and factories in Asia, Mexico, and Central America. Discover more at www.hookerfurniture.com.

A Legacy of Success Bassett Furniture Industries

steady commitment to values and an appreciation of hard work contribute to a 120year legacy of success for Bassett Furniture Industries, which began from a family farm and sawmill in the 1800's.

Since 1902 when the company began making furniture, Jeb Bassett, chief operating officer and senior vice president, said the core values have generally stayed the same: hard work, conserving cash, valuing associates, valuing customers, valuing suppliers, and supporting the community.

"We've always done that throughout our 120 years, and our CEO has lived in Henry County since 1902," Bassett said. "We strive to be an ambassador for the community and promote the positives. Our community is a wonderful place to live, work, play, and raise a family. Over the years, our associates and senior management have been involved in many local, regional, and national initiatives to support Martinsville-Henry County."

Further developing the ports, particularly the VA Port Authority in Norfolk, and improving highway transportation, the local airport, utilities, and broadband factors into that work, Bassett said. "We're not looking for quick fixes or something that's going to be beneficial tomorrow. We're talking what's going to be beneficial three, five and 10 years down the road. We're setting our community up for success for generations to come."

Bassett said the company feels strongly that associates should be tied into the community. In addition to supporting the Chamber's Leadership Development Program by sending dozens of participants over the years, they also encourage associates to become more familiar with the area and seek out opportunities for leadership.

"Whether it's civic organizations, school programs like the PTO, church groups, or coaching sports teams, we want our associates to take part in the community," he said. "We definitely lead by example. Most of our management team serves or have served in leadership



roles on the boards of various organizations. Supporting our community is a huge part of how our company gives back."

Management and Associates at Bassett Furniture Industries volunteer and serve on the boards of several organizations including the Blue Ridge Airport Authority, Virginia Museum of Natural History, Piedmont Arts, United Way of Henry County and Martinsville, the (Monogram) Smith River Sports Complex, the YMCA, Boys & Girls Club of the Blue Ridge, Martinsville-Henry County Chamber of Commerce, Patrick & Henry Community College, the SPCA, and the Martinsville City Public Schools Endowment. The company also supports the Bassett Train Depot and had a large part in the Bassett Cruise-In, which frequently boasts more than 400 participants in a single event. The company had a significant role in supporting Rooster Walk as the lead sponsor. Company management led the fundraising of the annual Fourth of July Celebration at Martinsville Speedway. In the last two years, that financial support has transitioned to the Henry County Fair.

Executives have been called on to support recruitment for other companies looking to invest and locate in Martinsville-Henry County. Bassett said he's been involved in confidential meetings with prospective new companies to get a real sense of the community and what it is like to be located here.

"We share feedback on their potential workforce, local logistics, utilities, and what day-to-day operations look like," he said. "We certainly promote the amenities and all that we have to offer, and we welcome the industry diversity. We know that's what it takes for us all to survive and be successful."

Headquartered in the heart of Bassett, Virginia, Bassett Furniture Industries continues its rich heritage today with more than 100 dedicated retail locations in the United States and Puerto Rico. Discover more by visiting www.bassettfurniture.com.



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- City of Martinsville Electric (276) 403-5183 www.martinsville-va.gov/services/electric

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- Henry County Public Service Authority (276) 634-2500 www.henrycountyva.gov/publicservice-authority
- City of Martinsville Water Resources (276) 403-5157 www.martinsville-va.gov/residents/water-resources

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Top 10 Employers



inches of rain average annually



sunny days average annually



inches of snowfall average annually



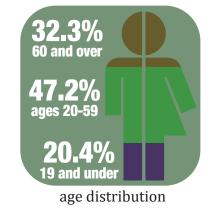
square miles



median home value

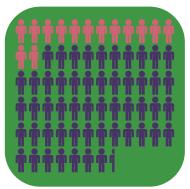


o average household income median household income o





minutes average commute



total population: 63,371 Martinsville: 13,325 Henry County: 50,046

MHC-Economic Development Corporation (yesmartinsville.com)

Pathways to Healthy Living

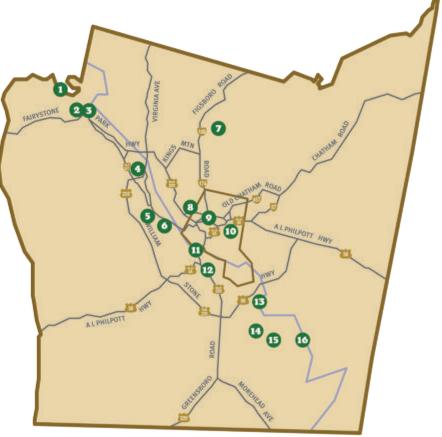
Martinsville-Henry County's trails and access points to the Smith River support close-to-home regular physical activity

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- Bassett Canoe Access 271 Trent Hill Dr, 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 276.634.4640
- **7.** Beaver Creek Reservoir Trails 600 Redskin Dr, Martinsville • 276.656.5179
- Dick & Willie Passage 699 Liberty St, Martinsville 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 • 276.634.4640
- **16. Mitchell Bridge Canoe Access Ramp** 2404 Mitchell Rd, Ridgeway • 276.634.4640

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Community Involvement Helping Smith River Sports Complex





n 2009, Monogram Foods opened a manufacturing plant in Martinsville, Va. Four years later, Monogram developed a kids foundation that grew to raise more than \$15 million this year.

In 2021, Crown Holdings announced it would build a manufacturing plant in Henry County and in 2022 the plant began operations. What do both of these companies mean to the formerly known Smith River Sports Complex?

A lot.

Monogram and Crown both wanted to move into our beautiful community to help the hardworking residents of Martinsville and Henry County, while also boosting the economy. Both companies also made it well-known they wanted to be a big part of the community and involve themselves with more than just their employees.

The year 2022 is when Monogram Foods became the official naming-rights sponsor of the Smith River Sports Complex – now known as the Monogram Foods Smith River Sports Complex - and Crown Holdings became the official naming-rights sponsor of the complex's amphitheater and festival grounds. Both companies invested into a facility they felt benefits our economy and local children, and improves the quality of life in our area.

"We're beyond thankful for these companies coming in and asking how they can become involved with our facility and make a difference for the people in our community," said MSC Director of Operations and Marketing Houston Stutz. "These sponsorships are important and essential in our daily operations."

For the Monogram Sports Complex (MSC), sponsorships are becoming more important than ever due to a recent loss of grant funding that had previously accounted for more than a quarter of the total operations for the facility from the time it opened in 2009 until 2019. Since 2019, MSC has slowly worked towards becoming more self-sustainable, and a big part of that plan consists of relying on more sponsorships and community involvement through donations or in-kind services.

"We're trying our best to keep field rental and costs at the complex competitive so we can

continue to drive sports tourism to the area and also stay affordable to our local youth sports groups and schools," Stutz said. "But we also have to maintain the facility's quality with the rising cost of equipment and materials, which is how the sponsorships and donations help tremendously."

The profit model for MSC is much different than other competitors in the sports tourism industry. Most facilities operate through funds from the city/county occupancy tax, which incentivizes the facilities to bring in as many out-of-town events as possible, which in return helps fund the facility, and also help local business. In these cases, the facility allows event organizers to use the facility at no charge.

The Monogram Sports Complex is different. It charges event organizers a field rental fee based on the hours and amount of space needed for

the event. So, to recruit an event to use the Sports Complex, facility fees must be competitive and the experience must be first-class to draw events that otherwise could go somewhere else at no charge. The biggest difference, however, is the event staff at MSC perform tasks such as field setup, concessions, trash removal, and bathroom maintenance, all to make sure organizers do as little as possible to have a top level event.

"We like to pride ourselves on being a facility that allows organizers to have a turn-key event," Stutz said. "They recruit their participants, set a schedule, and show up to make sure everyone is happy. We handle the rest. It's a big selling point for us, and I'm right there working with the organizer from the time they book the facility until the final whistle blows."

Other than the addition of new sponsors at the MSC, nothing has changed this year. It's the same staff and same great facility with all the amenities: athletic fields, the Dick & Willie Trail, Smith River Canoe Access, a dog park, walking trails, picnic areas, playground, and golf driving range. A new name will be used and a new logo has been created, and signs to go along with the promotion of the new sponsors are being installed to show thanks to those helping do their part to keep MSC thriving.

Other community businesses are still able to become business partners for a small yearly fee that gets them a sign near the main entrance and a spot on the MSC website. Visitors are also able to assist personally by becoming a "Friend of the Complex", making a yearly donation of any amount that will get them recognized in the same way online.

Sponsorships will not recover the full amount lost from grant funding, but they, along with the generous donations made by many local and non-local visitors, will be a great step in the right direction for the Sports Complex. The complex looks forward to continuing to offer diverse sporting opportunities in Martinsville-Henry County, while also driving tourism to our area and being a benefit to the residents and visitors of our home.

For more information about sponsorship opportunities or becoming a "Friend of the Complex," contact Lloyd Barber at 276-638-5200 ext. 6 or lbarber@smithriversportscomplex.com.





The M-HC Chamber of Commerce Celebrates Moul

A company anniversary is a big day in any organization. It is a day to celebrate the company's achievements, success, or an important high point. It can be a celebration of the 1 to 5-year company anniversary, 15 to 30-years company anniversary, 50 or 125-years company anniversary and all milestones in between. We hope you will join us in wishing the businesses below, and all the others in M-HC celebrating anniversaries and milestones a great big congratulations!

Rives S. Brown 95 Burton & Company 131 Prillaman & Pace 68
Freedom Prints 31 Martinsville Glass 73
Bryant's Radio Supply 50 Smith River Singers 8 Harris Harvey Neal & Co. 70
The Lester Group 127 Southwestern Virginia Gas Co 80
S & K Office Products 39 Virginia Farm Bureau Insurance 65 WHEE Radio 68
Hatchett Transportation, Inc 40 Mehler Engineered Products, Inc 23
Triangle Electric Corporation 60 ActivWall Systems, LLC 12
The Greene Company 31Reed Electrical Solutions 3Andlove 1
First Piedmont Corporation 53 JR'S MUSIC STORE 6
One Starling BnB 3 Angela's Graphx, LLC 2 West Window Corporation 73
Wigs Unlimited 15 Disability Rights and Resources 8
Hogwest Auto 1.5 Frith & Associates CPAs 4 Jacob Law Firm, P.C. 6
BOOKS & CRANNIES 6 Dawson Photography Inc 44
Raymond James Financial Services Inc 15 Bassett Office Supply 52
Spencer-Penn Centre 17Martinsville Machine Works 76Virginia Glass – Mirror 110
Restoration 1 of Greater Patrick County 3 JAMARRS Hands 8
Vaughn Real Estate Inc 38 M-HC Coalition for Health & Wellness 17
Almost Anything Flea Market & Thrift Store 5 MARTIN PLAZA & THE SHOWROOM 35

30

Southwestern Virginia Gas Company

James McClain



"We believe our employees and our customers are our" two most important assets. As a result, we focus a lot of our time trying our best to take good care of both."

> James McClain, President & CEO Southwestern Virginia Gas Company

Southwestern Virginia Gas Company has been in business for 80 years. What do you attribute this success to?

We believe our employees and our customers are our two most important assets. As a result, we focus a lot of our time trying our best to take good care of both. There are a lot of challenges businesses will face over time, but a keen focus on customers and employees will empower a business to overcome even the most difficult obstacles.

Business and industry face challenges daily. What has your industry faced and how has Southwestern Virginia Gas Company adapted?

Obviously, the conversation surrounding the energy portfolio has been a hot topic lately. Our industry has faced some headwinds with regard to domestic public policy. The most stable and secure energy portfolio is a diverse one. Our company and our industry both believe this to be true. We continue to advocate for a diverse energy portfolio, and we believe natural gas is an important part of that diverse mix. Another challenge is labor but that isn't unique to our Company or Industry. Our Industry has developed a lot training resources, and our Company has recently designed a new onboarding program for new hires.

How would you describe leading a family-owned business? Do you think your daughters will want to one day lead the family business?

Leading a family business is a wonderful opportunity. I'm very fortunate to have a supportive family, for which I am grateful. Even though our daughters are young, I wouldn't want to speak for them. I hope they will discover their passion and pursue it vigorously.

What does the Martinsville and Henry County Community mean to you?

Our business has enjoyed a great partnership with the MHC Community, and it has been a wonderful place for me personally. I enjoyed growing up here and am happy to be back and raising our family here. There is something special about the people in our community. They are incredibly caring and are generous, both with their time and resources. There are a lot of great small towns and communities across our Country, but MHC is the best.

There are different types of leaders, and they all have their place. What characteristics do you believe a leader should possess?

First and foremost, I believe leaders must be good listeners. Those of us in leadership positions all have our 🕰 opinions, but we should be good, active listeners with open minds. It's nearly impossible to learn unless you are listening and we all have a lot to learn, regardless of the positions we hold. Martinsville.com 31

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NCI brings unparalleled opportunities to attain the education and career skills needed to succeed and prosper in today's ever-changing economy. We currently have partnerships with Radford, Bluefield, Longwood, and Virginia Tech. University Programs include Elementary Education, Strategic Communications, Educational Leadership, Counseling and more!

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

In addition to secondary education degree and certificate programs, NCI offers programs and events that supplement the educational experiences of many groups within our community.

SUMMER CAMPS

Each summer, NCI hosts educational camps designed to engage and cultivate K-12 grade student interest in topics including Cybersecurity and applications in STEM subjects. CyberPatriot Cybercamp, Girls Who Game, FIRST Robotics

LIFE

NCI's LIFE (Learning Is ForEver) program offers learners of all ages the opportunity to participate in a wide variety of events, tours and lectures designed to impart knowledge, and empower life-long learning.

CAREER EXPLORATION

NCI knows that career exploration needs to start well before college and adulthood. We provide a variety of opportunities for K-12 students to explore the wide range of career opportunities available and help them understand the education needed to reach their goals.

INNOVATION LAB

The NCI Innovation Lab brings together emerging technologies and ideas into a creative workspace where possibilities intersect with wonder! Whether working with the latest Augmented Reality technologies, or discovering new uses for existing technologies, the possibilities of the Innovation Lab are limitless. The lab is open to the public during NCI business hours.



NCI is dedicated to being a rural innovation center for workforce training, certification, and educational programs. We are proud to create opportunities for more people, from more backgrounds, to find the workforce training and education they need to advance their careers.

We offer best-in-class training and education for cutting-edge careers ranging from cybersecurity to education, and telehealth to renewable energy. As new opportunities and industries arise, NCI develops partnerships that create career pathways for individuals.

With online programs and on-site classeslocated in Martinsville, NCI offers flexible opportunities that advance education and career goals and provides guidance and support to achieve success.

We foster unparalleled opportunities to attain the education and career skills needed to succeed and prosper in today's rapidly changing economy.

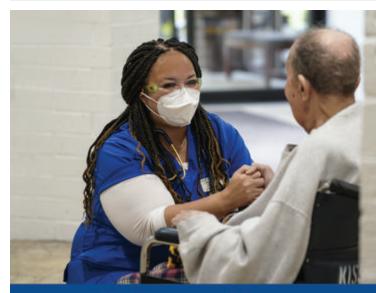
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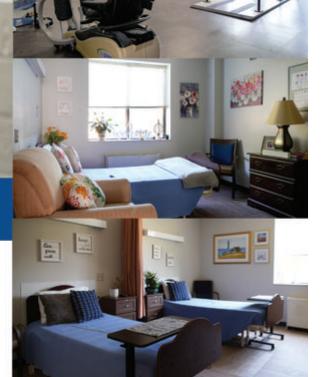
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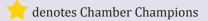
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Piedmont Arts Association (276) 632-3221 • Heidi Pinkston 215 Starling Ave, Martinsville, VA 24112

Reynolds Homestead (276) 694-7181 • Julie Steele-Walters 463 Homestead Ln, Critz, VA 24082

Rooster Walk Inc (919) 606-5815 • Johnny Buck PO Box 601, Martinsville, VA 24114

Spencer-Penn Centre (276) 957-1179 • Susan Sabin PO Box 506, Spencer, VA 24165

VA Museum of Natural History (276) 634-4141 • Joe Keiper 21 Starling Ave, Martinsville, VA 24112

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The David C Jones & Dr Nicole DeShon Orthodontists (276) 638-8888 • David C Jones DDS

(276) 638-8888 • David C Jones DDS 25 Cleveland Ave Ste E, Martinsville, VA 24112

Martinsville Family Dentistry (276) 632-6219 • Cathy Harris 25 Cleveland Ave, Martinsville, VA 24112

Martinsville Smiles PLLC (276) 632-9266 • Mark Crabtree DDS 407 Starling Ave, Martinsville, VA 24112

Moore, J Peyton DDS (276) 632-3963 • Peyton Moore DDS 101 Cleveland Ave, Martinsville, VA 24112

Piedmont Virginia Dental Health Foundation (276) 632-9266 • Ann Huffman 407 Starling Ave, Martinsville, VA 24112

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(276) 777-7881 • Delin Kirks 15580 W Lynchburg- Salem Turnpike, Blue Ridge, VA 24064

EDSO Exporting LLC (276) 336-4515 • Osama Bensadik 22 E Church St, Martinsville, VA 24112

Greene Co (276) 638-7101 • Eydie Greene PO Box 711, Martinsville, VA 24114

Radial (276) 670-1600 • Jeremy Daley 307 Hollie Dr, Martinsville, VA 24112

Stone Dynamics Inc (276) 638-7755 • Bobby Lankford 1220 Memorial Blvd S, Martinsville, VA 24115

Trent, Charles W & Co (276) 638-3526 • Kyle S. Trent PO Box 4203, Martinsville, VA 24115 **VF Outdoor LLC** (276) 656-6011 x6011 • Joan Stogner 500 Nautica Way, Martinsville, VA 24112

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Ferrum College (540) 365-4202 • Dr Mirta Martin PO Box 1000, Ferrum, VA 24088

Henry County Public Schools (276) 634-4700 • Sandy Strayer PO Box 8958, Collinsville, VA 24078

Institute for Advanced Learning & Research (434) 766-6700 • Telly Tucker 150 Slayton Ave, Danville, VA 24540

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Longwood University (276) 406-5626 • Pam Randall 191 Fayette St, Martinsville, VA 24112

Martinsville City Public Schools (276) 632-6313 • Dr Zeb Talley PO Box 5548, Martinsville, VA 24115

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Patrick & Henry Community College (276) 656-0201 • Dr Greg Hodges 645 Patriot Dr, Martinsville, VA 24112

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Theatre Works Community Players (276) 403-5345 • Scott Guebert 44 Franklin St, Martinsville, VA 24112

Uptown Pinball (276) 632-0443 • Mike Haley 35 E Church St, Martinsville, VA 24112

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Imagination Lavendar Farm (276) 734-2828 • Carolyn Byrd 3590 Green Hill Dr, Martinsville, VA 24112

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BANKERSLIFE

(276) 252-3388 • Hailey Williams 400 Bellemeade St STE 501, Greensboro, NC, 27401

Diversified Trust

(336)-458-1057 • Lynanne Newman 701 Green Valley Rd Ste 300, Greensboro, NC 27408

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(276) 632-6325 • Matthew A. Erikson 1103 Brookdale St Ste C, Martinsville, VA 24112

(276) 632-0825 • Michael Gourley 1866 Virginia Ave, Martinsville, VA 24112

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LPL Financial (276) 632-7500 • Charles Wimbish 22 E Church St Ste 311, Martinsville, VA 24112

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Stifel (276) 632-7151 • Dean Johnston 201 E Main St, Martinsville, VA 24112

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Restoration 1 of Greater Patrick County (276) 627-8086 • Christopher D Ross 2785 County Line Rd, Patrick Springs, VA 24133

Right Now Remediation, Restoration & Repair

(877) 744-4808 • Wayne Draper PO Box 3867, Martinsville, VA 24112

Servpro of Martinsville & Henry Co (276) 632-7276 • Wanda Winn PO Box 5001, Martinsville, VA 24115

FISHERIES

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Carpetland USA of Martinsville (276) 656-2090 • Dan Goren 2370 Greensboro Rd, Martinsville, VA 24112

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Collins-McKee-Stone Funeral Services (276) 629-2515 • Lora Osborne PO Box 1337, Bassett, VA 24055

(276) 632-3466 • Edward Stephens 109 Broad St, Martinsville, VA 24112

Norris Funeral Services Inc & Crematory (276) 638-2778 • David Norris PO Box 5501, Martinsville, VA 24115

Wright Funeral Services & Crematory (276) 632-2206 • Tony Wright 1425 Greensboro Rd, Martinsville, VA 24112

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Ridgeway, Town of (276) 956-2328 • Craig O'Der PO Box 525, Ridgeway, VA 24148

VA Employment Commission (276) 634-3600 • Sharon Barksdale 233 W Commonwealth Blvd, Martinsville, VA 24112

West Piedmont Workforce Investment Board (276) 656-6190 • Tyler Freeland 300 Franklin St Ste 241, Martinsville, VA 24112

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Gym 24 Fitness (276) 638-2170 • Sonny Privette 55 W Church St, Martinsville, VA 24112

Performance 276 (276) 632-3276 • Jerelle Carter 714 N Memorial Blvd, Martinsville, VA 24112

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Back & Neck Pain Center (276) 632-3334 • Jephet LeGrant 2549 Greensboro Rd, Martinsville, VA 24112

Bassett Physical Therapy (276) 622-3636 • John Williams 935 Fairystone Park Hwy, Stanleytown, VA 24168

BrightView Health (276) 224-3323 • Tameka Roberson 1836 Virginia Ave, Martinsville, VA 24112 **Caring Hearts Counseling** (276) 666-6569 • Camisha Campbell 825 N Memorial Blvd, Martinsville, VA 24112

Center for Pediatric Therapies (434) 797-5531 • Kristen Barker 175 Deer Run Rd, Danville, VA, 24540

Children First Pediatrics of Virginia (276) 638-5437 • Dr. Mary Beth Noonan 314 Fairy St Ste A, Martinville, VA 24112

CORA Physical Therapy (276) 632-1884 • Garrett Van Nutt 2700 Greensboro Rd, Martinsville, VA 24112

Dependable Home Healthcare (276) 656-2273 • Tanya Jones-Harrison 108 E Main St, Martinsville, VA 24112

Dr. Jon's Urgent Care Center (276) 638-2273 • Megan Peterson 2871 Greensboro Rd, Martinsville, VA 24112

Edwards Adult Day Center (276) 666-9400 • Patsy Dillard 431 E Commonwealth Blvd. Martinsville. VA 24112

Favero Family Practice dba Martinsville Family Medicine (276) 638-7205 • Pat Favero

2696 Greensboro Rd, Martinsville, VA 24112

Friedrichs Family Eye Center (276) 647-3937 • Denise Burke 1975 Virginia Ave, Martinsville, VA 24112

Gateway Health Alliance (434) 799-3838 • Heather Satterfield 1500 Fulton Heights, Danville, VA 24541

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Hussey & Lawson Therapies Inc/ DBA Therapy Direct (276) 632-5281 • Carole Hussey 301 Lavinder St, Martinsville, VA 24112

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Martinsville Health and Rehab (276) 632-7146 • Skylar Bates 1607 Spruce St Ext, Martinsville, VA 24112

Martinsville-Henry County Coalition for Health & Wellness (276) 403-5098 • Marcus Stone 29 Jones St, Martinsville, VA 24112

Martinsville Physical Therapy & Industrial Rehab (276) 638-4809 • Tina Armstrong 812 E Church St, Martinsville, VA 24112

Martinsville Urgent Care LLC (276) 634-0010 • Edith Boitnot 1044 E Church St, Martinsville, VA 24112

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(276) 403-4764 • Bren Hankins 240 Commonwealth Blvd, W Unit 202B, Martinsville, VA 24112

Mulberry Creek Nursing & Rehab Center (276) 638-8701 • Koby Johnson 300 Blue Ridge St, Martinsville, VA 24112

OakStone Health and Nutrition (276) 358-2448 • Samantha Turner 22 East Church St, Martinsville, VA 24112

Piedmont Access to Health Services (276) 632-2966 • Marsha Mendenhall 287 Commonwealth Blvd, Martinsville, VA 24112

Piedmont Dermatology (276) 666-8439 • Ned Gross 314 Fairy St, Martinsville, VA 24112

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Progressive Health Systems (276) 266-5331 • Billie White 1101 Brookdale St, Suite B, Martinsville, VA 24112

Southside Urology & Nephrology (276) 638-7731 • Dr Amar Parikh 429 E Commonwealth Blvd, Martinsville, VA 24112

SOVAH Health (276) 666-7601 • Spencer Thomas PO Box 4788, Martinsville, VA 24115 **Spectrum Medical, Inc.** (276) 790-3233 • Cress Gillie 1075 Spruce St, Martinsville, VA 24112

Stateline Heart & Vascular (276) 403-4278 • Karen Garrett 435 E Commonwealth Blvd, Martinsville, VA 24112

The Eye Site (276) 647-3766 4244 Virginia Ave, Collinsville, VA 24078

Total HealthCare (276) 647-5133 • Rhonda Clark 2202 Daniels Creek Rd, Collinsville, VA 24078

Trinity Support Services (276) 632-0589 • Teressa Hairston 601 Starling Ave, Martinsville, VA 24112

Valley Nephrology Associates (276) 638-1983 • Stephanie Young 1 E Market St, Ste B1, Martinsville, VA 24112

Zentmeyer Chiropractic (276) 647-5555 • Capers Zentmeyer 3652 Virginia Ave, Collinsville, VA, 24078

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Budget Blinds (276) 632-4900 • Teresa Lilly 542 Pell Ave, Rocky Mount, VA 24151

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HopeTree Family Services (540) 404-4043 • Jason Coleman 107 Clearview Dr, Martinsville, VA 24112

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Reeves, Dennis (276) 340-5339 • Dennis Reeves 106 Courtney Terrace, Martinsville, VA 24112

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Allstate Insurance -Thomas Insurance Agencies (276) 632-1000 • Stuart Thomas 101 Cleveland Ave Ste 2, Martinsville, VA 24112

Burton & Co (276) 632-2161 • Robby Burton 231 E Church St, Martinsville, VA 24112

Farmers Insurance- Chris Kidd Agency (276) 242-4969 • Chris Kidd 3406 Virginia Ave, Collinsville, VA, 24078

Fieldale / Dillon Insurance Agency Inc (276) 629-5304 • Phillip Davis or D. L. "Len" Dillon Jr PO Box 549, Bassett, VA 24055

Greg James Insurance (276) 632-7568 • Greg James 133 E. Market St, Martinsville, VA 24112

Henry County Virginia Farm Bureau (276) 638-7760 • Michel Wade 156 E. Market St, Ste. 2, Martinsville, VA 24112

Judkins Insurance Agency (276) 956-5556 • Jay Judkins 6535 Greensboro Rd, Ridgeway, VA 24148

Kelly Witt State Farm Insurance (276) 956-1200 • Kelly Witt 6494 Greensboro Rd, Ridgeway, VA 24148

Legacy Insurance & Financial Services, LLC (276) 358-4001 • Johnny Brown 3959 Virginia Ave, Collinsville, VA 24078

Liberty Mutual Insurance (419) 345-3319 • Pamela Carter-Taylor 355 Jefferson Davis Dr, Martinsville, VA 24112

McGriff Insurance Services (276) 666-3622 • Wanda Rowe 10 Franklin Rd SE, Ste 100, Roanoke, VA 24011

McMillan, Jim Insurance (276) 647-1465 • James McMillan Jr. PO Box 306, Collinsville, VA 24078

Pigg, Philip C Insurance Agent (276) 957-1591 • Philip C Pigg PO Box 29, Spencer, VA 24165

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Charles M. Aaron Attorney at Law (276) 638-3866 • Charles M Aaron 900 S Memorial Blvd, Martinsville, VA 24112

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Gardner Barrow & Sharpe (276) 638-2455 • Phil Gardner 231 E Church St, Martinsville, VA 24112

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Kennedy Disability Services (336) 613-6566 • Rosemary Kennedy PO Box 3144, Eden, NC, 27289

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Oakdale Inn (2817) 992-9084 • Lee Prillaman 50 Lowery Lester Dr, Martinsville, VA 24112

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Martinsville.com

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Southprint Inc (276) 666-3000 • Butch Hamlet 545 Hollie Dr, Martinsville, VA 24112

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MUSIC

Carlton Young Productions (276) 340-3359 • Carlton Young 3750 Figsboro Rd, Martinsville, VA 24112

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Smith River Singers (276) 340-8319 • Ms Gael Chaney 299 Niver Dr, Union Hall, VA 24176

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S & K Office Products Inc (276) 632-2401 • Cindy Summit PO Box 271, Martinsville, VA 24114

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Davenport Energy (434) 432-0251 • Tim Davis PO Box 879, Chatham, VA 24531

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Hillary Robinson Photography hillaryrobinsonphotography@gmail.com (276) 340-3716 • Hillary Robinson Martinsville, VA 24112

Kenny Webster Photography (276) 732-4695 • Kenny Webster 1122 Cherokee Tr, Martinsville, VA 24112

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Lester Properties (276) 632-2195 • Donna Morrison 101 Commonwealth Blvd, Martinsville, VA 24112

Long & Foster Southern Virginia (276) 666-4663 • Elle Wilk 10 Bridge St, Martinsville, VA 24112

Martin's Landing (276) 638-1115 • Freda Madison 1151 E Church St Apt 21 C, Martinsville, VA 24112

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Vaughn Real Estate Inc (276) 656-3999 • Brenda Vaughn 3988 Greensboro Rd, Ridgeway, VA 24148

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Olivia's Goodie Shop LLC (276) 952-7944 • Monica Hughes 618 Mayo Court, Stuart, VA 24171

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Rania's Restaurant Bar & Grill (276) 638-4462 • Roberto Sanchez 147 E Main St, Martinsville, VA 24112 **Rising Sun Breads** (276) 632-2292 • Darla Main-Schneider 1049 Brookdale St Ste D, Martinsville, VA 24112

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The Bayberry Retirement Inn (336) 623-5743 • Sherry Young 511 Carolyn Ct, Eden, NC 27288

SALONS & DAY SPAS

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True Roots Beauty Bar (276) 622-2944 • Cindy Boyd 4743 Kings Mountain Rd Suite B, Collinsville, VA 24078

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24/7 Home Security LLC (276) 647-3900 • Charles B Lawson PO Box 3446, Martinsville, VA 24115

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Brock Services (800) 600-WORK • Catherine Revel 4210 The Great Rd, Fieldale, VA 24089

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STORAGE

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VETERANS SERVICE ORGANIZATION

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

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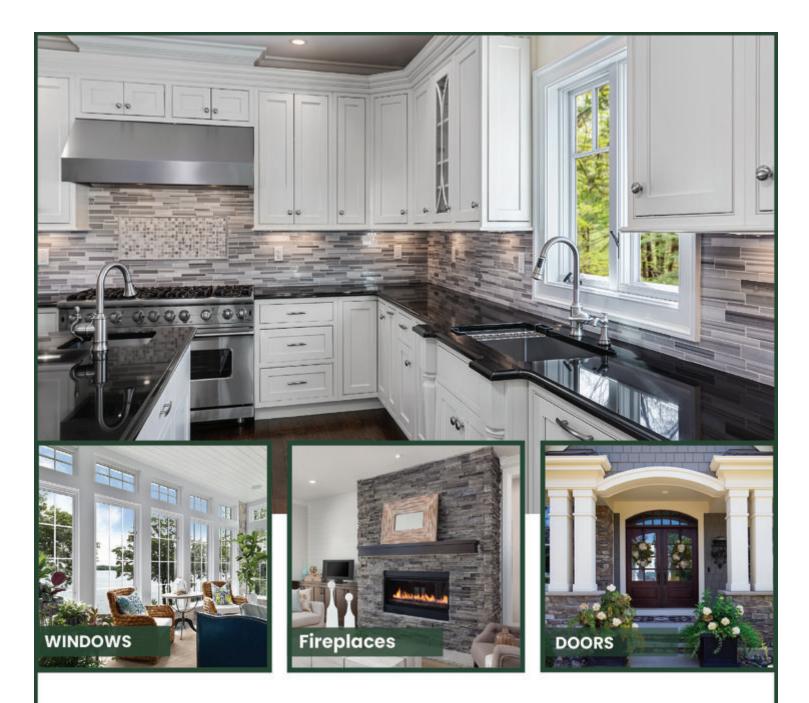
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