

Scottsville Monthly

July 5 – August 1, 2019 • ONE COPY FREE • Like Us On 

SCOTTSVILLE, VIRGINIA

Chestnut Grove Baptist Church Youth Choir



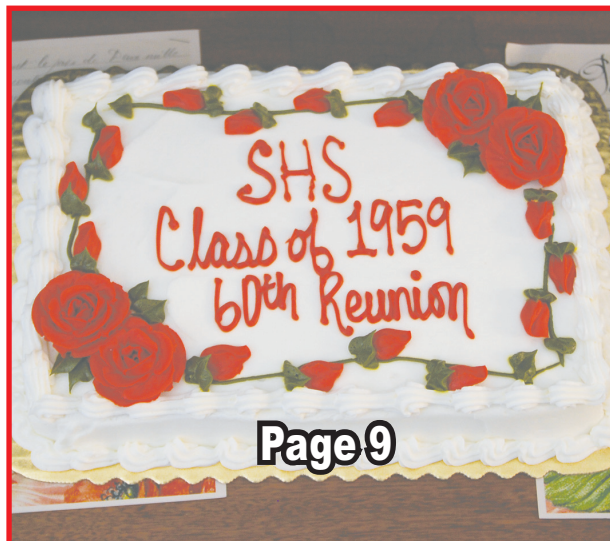
Scottsville's Good Old Days Music

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Scottsville Monthly

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Mayor Gill delivers State of the Town narrative.
Photo by Ron Smith



Council Member Eddie Payne comments on R-3 Zoning Text Amendment request. Photo by Ron Smith

Mayor Gill Issues State of the Town Report

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At the June 17th meeting of the Scottsville Town Council, Mayor Nancy Gill, who is completing her third year in office, issued a State of the Town report summarizing accomplishments made over the past two

years.

Noting that changes in office staff have increased efficiency, Mayor Gill stated that Vice Mayor Laura Mellusi "has taken an active role in rudimentary tasks." Mellusi heads the town's Events Committee and is responsible for, among other things, the annual Batteau Festival. She also noted that Police Chief Jeff Vohwinkel "takes public safety very seriously, working closely with both the volunteer fire department and area EMT services.

The Mayor mentioned repairs and upgrades to town assets such as Victory Hall, the pumping station, Farmers Market and Canal Basin Square. The town is "also continuing to work with CSX to make their property and the East Main Street entrance corridor more attractive," she said. With regards to zoning she stated that "the comprehensive plan was updated and a small area plan for the western side of town is underway."

As for her upcoming last year in office she said she will be "working on two initiatives, the Health Equity and Access in a Rural Region (HEARR) initiative and scheduling a joint meeting with the Albemarle County Board of Supervisors, the pur-



Vice Mayor Laura Mellusi.

pose of which will be to schedule joint work sessions and discuss common goals and agreements."

In closing her report, Mayor Gill thanked "the volunteers who serve on town committees, the fire department, Chamber of Commerce, museum, library and civic organizations."



The Cover

No Less Days To Sing God's Praise Than When We'd First Begun: A few members of the Chestnut Grove Baptist Church Youth Choir, with Assistant Director, Sharron Ayres (l), and Director, Rebecca Rush (r). Left to right in photo: Aiden Williams, Trayvon Auston, Tamera Auston, Trashad Auston, Taylor Auston and Kennedy Dillard.

Photo by Patrick Healy

Cover designed by Marilyn Ellinger



Police Chief Vohwinkel.

Figure 9 - Expanded Parking View



The old bus station renderings (1&2) Courtesy Lucas RVP V.LLC.

"Bus Depot" Specifics – Same footprint, rezone commercial, mixed-use, three units

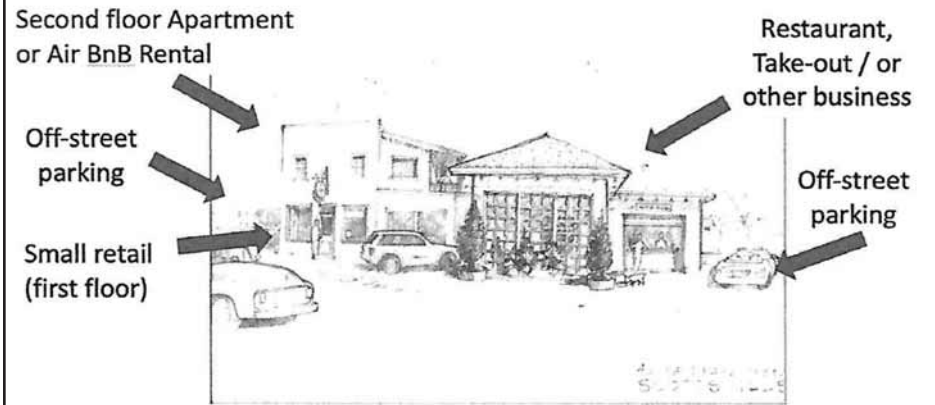


Figure 3 – Planned "Mixed Use" Scenario: Residence, retail/market, restaurant

Three public hearings took place at this meeting. The first was to consider a rezoning request by Lucas RVP V.LLC and Dimitri Hasson to rezone 460 E. Main Street which is Scottsville' old bus station. The applicants wish to use the property, after renovations, for a mixed use of apartment/business/restaurant/commercial. The Planning Commission had previously recommended approval to Council and, as no one from the public spoke against the request, Council voiced its approval.



Matt Lawless

The second public hearing was a boundary adjustment matter. The Scottsville Volunteer Fire Department wants to build a new station on the north side of their existing property. To make it possible to move forward with the project the fire department needed the lot adjoining the north side of the fire department's property and that lot lies in Albemarle County. With no members of the public speaking to this issue, Council approved the request stating that after working with Albemarle County the boundary adjustment placed the parcel within town limits. Now the new fire department building can become a reality.

The third public hearing drew the majority of the large number of those in the audience. Virginia Land Trust and their agent Shimp Engineering had requested a "zoning text amendment" to the town's R-3 ordinance. The change would reduce from 9700 square feet to 2000 square feet the minimum size for a "cluster" development on R-3 zoned properties. While the Planning Commission recognized certain ambiguities in the R-3 zoning, they had recommended to Council the request be denied. This was the feeling also of those who spoke to Council with the exception of the applicant's representatives. Council, after hearing the public comments and discussing the matter among themselves voted to deny the applicants request and, at the same time, requested the Planning Commission work on finding a solution to the contradictions found in the current R-3 zoning text.

Routine business consumed the remainder of the meeting. The proposed 1 % increase in the meals tax was changed to one half of one percent and the town

budget for the next fiscal year was approved. Erin Root was appointed to the Architectural Review Board, the Van Clief Nature Area Master Plan was approved, and committee reports were received.

Minutes of town meetings are available on the town website. Town Administrator Matt Lawless and Town Clerk Tomas Unsworth are available to answer questions. If you have a question or are confused about something going on in town, go online or make a call. **The phone number is 434-286-9267 and they are always happy to assist.**

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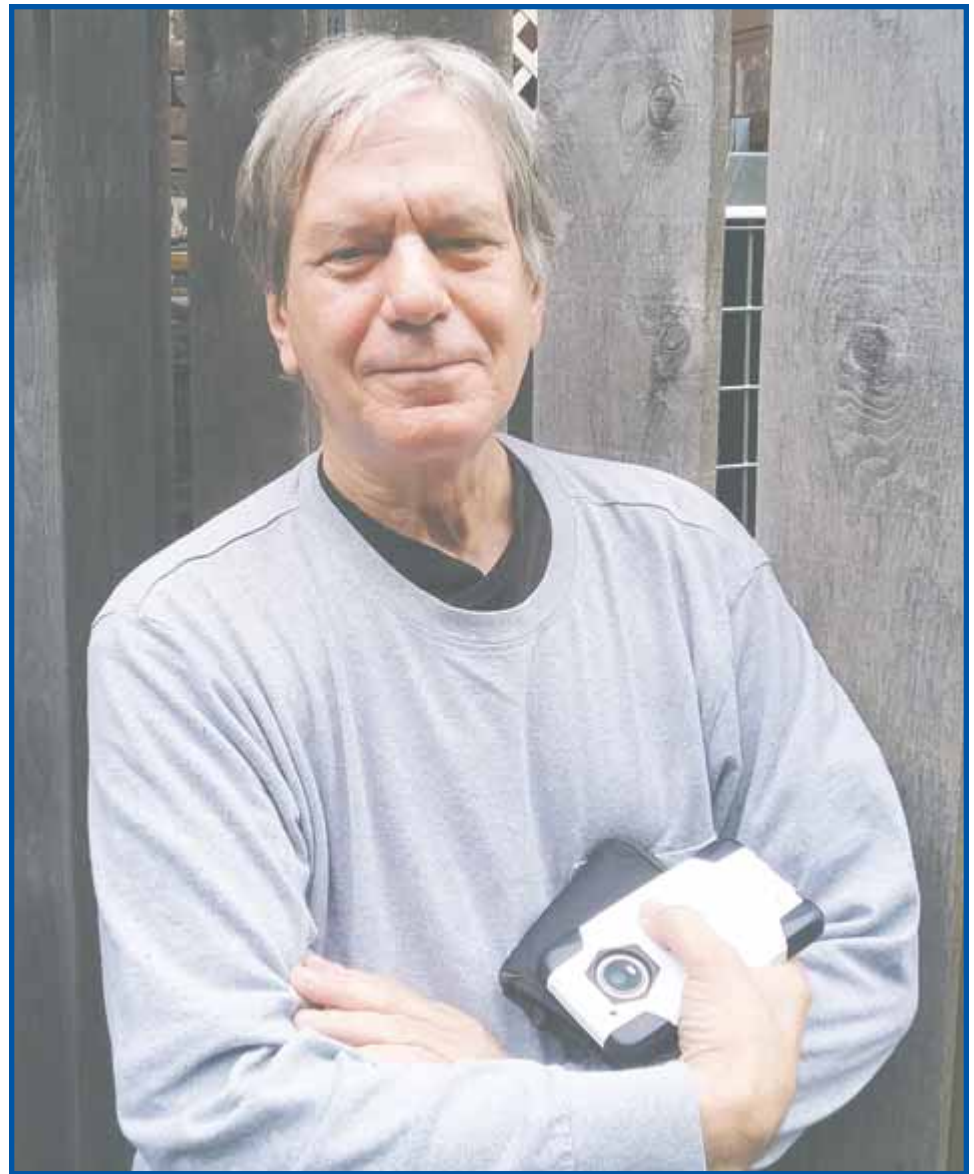




The Accoustic JAM - Every second Friday of each month - 7 pm - 9 pm at Victory Hall Theatre - Music Event - Bring your own AXE, meaning bring an instrument if you want to jam . Free and open to everybody. This an old get together that happens every 2nd Friday of every month.



Mary Hardy Roberts and John Frank fiddling together. Photo by Nancy Gill from November 28, 2014 issue of Scottsville Monthly.



From Bakersfield to Bollywood: Ethan Hamburg relaxes in his new "hometown" by doing what he has always done; playing and composing music.

Can You Still Make Home Made?

By Patrick Healy
Correspondent

*"Late in the ev'nin', 'bout sundown
High on the hill, an' above the town
Uncle Pen played the fiddle, Lordy, hear it ring
You could hear it talk, you could hear it sing."*

So sang Bill Monroe, recalling his beloved uncle, and his own "good old days". These, our own good old days are, seemingly, light-years away from the late Bluegrass legend's younger days. Our plumbing has moved indoors, where the "climate" is digitally controlled. We don't have to spread saddle blankets over the rough planks of a farm wagon so that our families can ride to church. Since someone else grows our food for us, buds aren't those little bumps at the tips of fruit tree twigs, but the soft plastic beads we stuff in our ears.

A local music titan, Nick Glennie-Smith or Dave Matthews, might be seen enjoying a sandwich at the Tavern on the James, but you won't hear Dave's guitar ringing from any evening hilltop around here. No, Matthews plays his music in distant stadiums. Like Glennie-Smith, he records in London or New York, and mixes in Memphis or Los Angeles. For a few cents you can download the DMB hit of your choice, or for a couple of bucks stream any one of the blockbusters scored by Glennie-Smith. Thus enlivened, our earbuds protect us from the offensive and bor-

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ing things everyone else is doing, while protecting others from taking offense at our own tastes in music, or movies. Why, it's almost like social climate control! And that Uncle Pen fellow? You can file him under buggy whips, or butter churns.

Or not. As it turns out, there are plenty of people around here who like to tune up, and make their instruments talk, and sing. Some unwind at the end of the day with anything from honky tonk to free jazz. Others serve to join their communities in songs of faith, hope, and love, at week's end. So come along, as we scratch the surface of that local scene.

For more years than anyone can recall, people have gathered at Victory Hall on the second Friday of every month. There, the pleasant ruckus goes from 7:00 until 9:00 PM, and all are encouraged to join in. Join in they do, with everything from the primal - spoons, hambones, jewsharps, and hand-clapping - to the sophisticated tones of the electronic keyboard. In between are violins, violas, bass fiddles, harmonicas, banjos - antique and brand new - mandolins, and every kind of guitar imaginable.

On the evening we looked in at the Hall the crowd was smaller than usual. Ron Smith, who has acted as "caller" for the last four or five years, had most of his band,

See Homemade page 6

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The Victory Hall Theatre.



Mary Hardy Roberts with the Humpback Pioneer Farm First Time Fiddlers, 2006. Photo by Nancy Gill.

In the Spirit of a fiddler

Any story about participatory music in Scottsville would be more than half empty if it failed to mention the late Mary Hardy. As a young woman, Mary honed her prodigious talent working with teachers and top musicians in New York City. Success as a performer was almost certainly open to her, but teaching proved to be Mary's passion. So as she moved through life, this talented musician grew through sharing. She came to the area to introduce the children in the Buckingham school district to the challenge and joy of musical performance. Later she guided the young talents studying music at Longwood University, then found her way to Scottsville where her lifetime of sharing culminated in her final act of prodigious giving. She formed the Scottsville Center for Arts and Nature, where she helped hundreds of people become better musicians. The Center will be reopening the String Program in Mary's name, so that the musical sharing will continue, in her spirit.

In the parlance of the old Virginia mountain songs, Mary has "gone up yonder". Maybe she talks theory with Bach and Purcell, or helps Uncle Pen with some tricky fingering on his violin. She probably smiles, when she hears the people of Scottsville sing.

"4 Hits And A Miss", on hand. He got things going, leading everyone through a number of standards from the early country music and rock n roll catalogs. Other players took their turns, leading hymns, murder ballads, tin-pan-alley tunes, and songs of love, both true and betrayed. A march from the War Between the States was played, as well as one of the show-stoppers from the hit Broadway review, "Golddiggers of 1929". All of it remarkable stuff which, you can bet, vibrated in no earbuds around town on that Friday night.

Towards evening's end, a spontaneous pile-up of Beatles and Rolling Stones songs occurred as the players let one song dissolve into another, during a bit of musical horse-play. The nicest thing about the Victory Hall musicians is how generous they are with one another. Seasoned, talented musicians sit next to base-level beginners, and nervous youths next to laid-back seniors. Everyone just enjoys the music, and each other.

Ground-zero for homemade musical fun in Scottsville might just be on the lower level of the James River Brewery; unless they take it outside. Every Friday night, from 7:00 until closing time, is open mic night at the Brewery, but without any microphones. There are always a half-dozen or more people there to play. As at Victory Hall, it's an eclectic group. Songs can come from or go about anywhere, but lean to the classic folk and rock genres. We heard songs by Bob Dylan, Simon and Garfunkel, Tom Petty, and The Eagles, among others. "Heard" is the tricky bit at the brewery. It is a small room, filled with people who talk, laugh, sing along, and play unplugged. Darts whiz past the heads of earnest pickers. It's all in good fun, but sometimes the music doesn't cut through the ambience.

Just lately, the Brewery has been hosting Karaoke on the occasional Saturday. So if you would like to get in touch with your inner, well-oiled Japanese business executive and howl out some Twisted Sister hits, here's your chance. But seriously, Karaoke is a unique way for anyone to partake in live music. Some sing very well, and others, otherwise; but, it works either way. Check at the Brewery for the next date and time.

Sunday evenings, from 7:00 until 8:00, "Hops and Hymns" rules the roost at the Brewery. There's usually a crowd of good singers on hand, accompanied by Ethan Hamburg on piano and, until she was recently sidelined by poor health, Caron Bridges on trumpet (Get well soon, Caron). It's sort of like going to church...with beer. Indeed, the local churches help out, acting as hymnal libraries. One week there's a stack of Baptist hymnals, and the next a stack from the Methodists. Heads nod together, sharing, when singers outnumber the hymnals. Hops and Hymns puts a nice twist on non-denominationalism.

Going to church, at church, is certainly the more conventional way to find songs of uplift and praise. So on one of those late spring mornings, when the gentle rain adds inches to our field sprouts and deepens the green of our woodlands, we joined the community at the Chestnut Grove Baptist Church for their Sunday Service. The liturgy rotates from week to week at Chestnut Grove, and on this soft, gray Sunday a subset of the youth choir, accompanied by a drummer, provided the music.

But there is nothing "minimalist" about the service at Chestnut Grove Baptist, least of all the music. Pastor Lewis called his flock to worship, gave a nod, and the drummer laid down the beat. Both the choir and the congregation jumped on it. Most clapped on the second and fourth beats, along with the snare drum. A few syn-copated with rapid double claps, or clapped on the one. With the groove established, the choir raised their young voices. The songs were structured with musical space at the end of each verse line, which set up a call/response performance. The choir would deliver the verse and the powerful voice of choir director, Rebecca Rush, would give it right back. Members of the congregation joined in, offering harmony or counterpoint as the spirit moved them. The service alternated hymns with readings, prayers, announcements, and preaching, but the music never really stopped. During a reading, the choir hummed a beautiful melody. While offering up a prayer, Pastor Lewis's voice slipped from spoken to sung words and back, as if there is no difference between the two. To hear him beseech Heaven on our behalf is to realize that, indeed, there is none.

It was a beautiful service, centered on worship, and riding on the heart-felt expression of a rich musical heritage.

There is a leitmotif running through our story, which ought to be allowed to solo for a moment. So take a bow, Ethan Hamburg. Hamburg provides music for the Scottsville Presbyterian Church in town, and St. Stephens Episcopal Church in Esmont. He has played at the Chestnut Grove Baptist Church in Chestnut Grove, is a regular at the Victory Hall song circles, and sits in at James River Brewery open mics. And don't forget his support for Hops and Hymns. You might say that Hamburg's life is caught up in music. And you might be right.

Hamburg was born in New York, and grew up in the Washington D. C. area. He started out with basic, western European musical theory where he found his ideals among the great Baroque composers. "I think of Henry Purcell as my English friend, and Bach as my grouchy German professor," says Hamburg. But his clavier was wont to wander, and by the mid-70s he was out in Los Angeles, working in studios, and clubs. He worked with the young Riki Lee Jones, and with the Bakersfield musicians, who recorded at Capitol Records in LA. In 1979 he went out on the road with Merle Haggard, when Merle's regular piano man was incapacitated. This led to other opportunities, and in the ensuing years he played in the bands of Willie Nelson, Kitty Wells, Roger Miller, and Moe Bandy. He played in opening acts for other stars, and worked with television performers, Mike Douglas, and Merv Griffin. From 1988 to 2009 he played for the DC regional band Southern Winds.

He composes, as well, including a film score in 1991, and the meditations he plays each Sunday before the service starts at Scottsville Presbyterian.

So what does this seasoned professional think of all the amateur musicians rattling the window panes hereabouts?

"Martin Luther wanted the church to be a participatory community," says Hamburg. "Participation is at the heart of the Protestant Reformation." He goes on to point out the Reformation is part-and-parcel with the Renaissance, the First Great Awakening, and the Enlightenment and, therefore, an important factor in the establishment of our Town, the Commonwealth, and the Republic. "Participation is what we do."

It's hard to argue with that.



The Scottsville Library. Photo by Ron Smith

Scottsville Library Began with a Party!

By Ronald Smith
Correspondent

We have come a long way since clay tablets and papyrus were used as ways to record history, tell stories and provide useful information to the masses. There is evidence that as far back as 2600 BC an early form of “the library” was already in existence. Great libraries were found around the Mediterranean area dating back to the 5th century. In the United States the first tax supported library was established in Peterborough, New Hampshire in 1833.

In 1839 a traveling library called the American Frontier Library was started and in 1876 the American Library Association was formed. After the Civil War the library movement really took off with a number of newly formed “women’s clubs” donating books from member’s collections to establish libraries. Philanthropist such as Andrew Carnegie funded the library movement. Carnegie alone funded 2000 libraries in the United States.

In 1902 Scottsville did not have a library. Something needed to be done so Mrs. Jacinto Pereira, wife of the Fidelity Bank’s president, and Miss Marietta Powers, his secretary decided to have a benefit to raise funds for a library. The party was planned and took place in Beal’s Hall, known today as the Beal Building at the corner of Bird and Valley Streets.

At the party, guests wore costumes depicting characters from favorite books. Money raised from this event went to establish a small library at the corner of Main Street and Valley Street. Later Mr. Pereira built a new bank building and the library was moved into a room at the bank. When the Pereiras moved away, Miss Powers became custodian of the books and moved the library to a building next to the Methodist Church.

According to the current Scottsville Library website, “when Miss Powers died in 1953 there were 1000 books in the library.” Local resident, Grover Cleveland, “purchased the collection for \$40.00 and the money was donated to the Scottsville Volunteer Fire Department.” After that time the bookmobile from Charlottesville made regular trips to Scottsville and that was Scottsville’s “library.”

With what has been an ongoing theme with Scottsville residents, when a need arises citizens tend to that need. A group of citizens organized in 1959 and with donated books a new library was established in a vacant store on Valley Street. The first paid librarian was Mrs. Brent Dorrier and her salary, as well as the rent on the space the library occupied were paid by the McIntire Library in Charlottesville.

In 1965 with the help of local civic and social organizations, the Chamber of Commerce, and Uniroyal Plant employees, the old school building at Bird and Page Streets was renovated to become Scottsville’s Library. Then disaster struck! In 1980 lightning struck the library. The building and most of the books were destroyed. Again local residents sprang into action and with donated books and books salvaged from the fire a temporary library was established.

1982 saw a new building on the old site and there it has been since, today housing a collection of over 21000 items. It is a testament to what local citizens can do when it comes to seeing to the needs of their community.

Scottsville is part of the Jefferson – Madison Regional Library system. Being part of this gives patrons the opportunity to access any item at any branch. Kathleen Burns is currently head librarian at the Scottsville Branch. A University of Georgia graduate and former member of Microsoft’s IT division, Kathleen has been in library service or over fifteen years. When she was at her first library, in Corolla, NC, she used her IT experience to upgrade that facility and bring it into the 21st century.

She has been with Scottsville for five years. Her expertise has helped untold numbers of patrons with numerous problems and challenges. However, if you want to meet Kathleen you had better hurry. She is retiring at the end of July. She plans to take it easy for a while with her husband, two dogs and a first grandchild due any day now.

Thanks to those party goers in 1902 for starting something that continues today. Scottsville’s library is truly an asset to the community. It not only offers a vital service, it is a monument to what local citizens can do when there is a need that needs to be addressed.

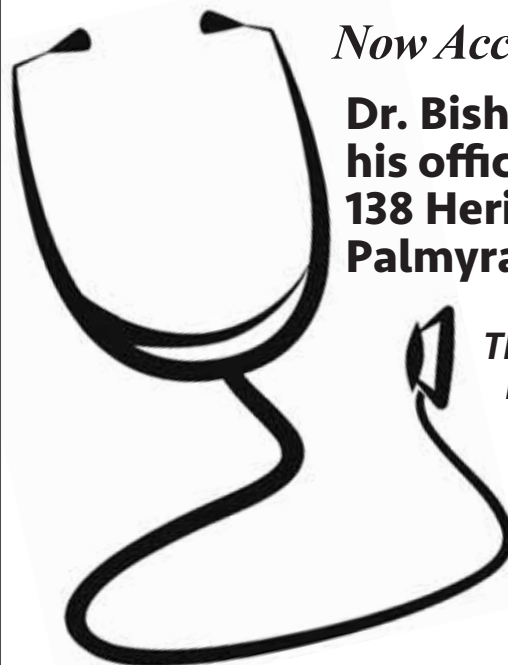
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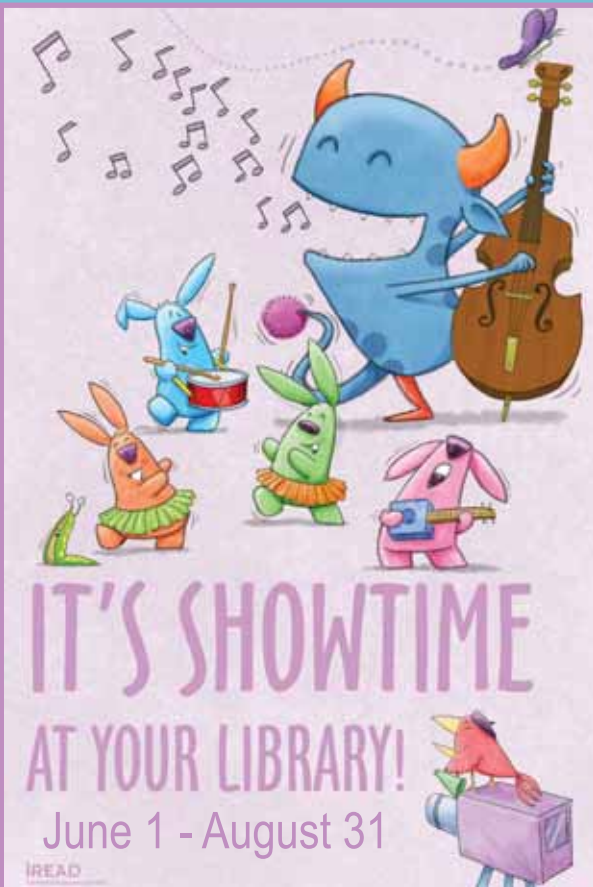
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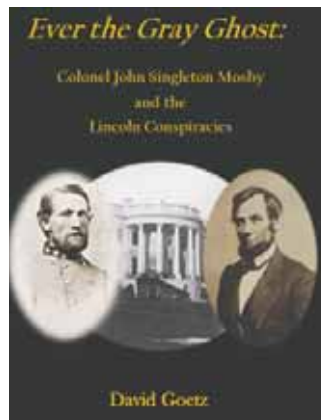
The AFC Board thanks the community for their interest and continued support and looks forward to sharing and celebrating the best of our rich and lively agricultural community at the 2019 Fair at James Monroe's Highland.

Scottsville Library Reptiles Alive Show
Thursday, August 8, 2019 at 10 AM – 10:45 AM

Colorful live reptiles presented by an engaging and kid-friendly Wildlife Educator make a Reptiles Alive show fun for all ages! Enjoy exciting stories about how the animals survive while meeting an exotic cast of snakes, lizards, turtles and other amazing animals.

Scottsville Library, 330 Bird St, Scottsville

Tickets: www.jmrl.org
 About Reptiles Alive! LLC
 Education · Annandale, Virginia
www.ReptilesAlive.com Wildly exciting Live Animal Shows. Bring our popular and fun reptile program to your child's birthday, school assembly, fair, scout meeting or any special event.



Author David Goetz To Talk About New Book

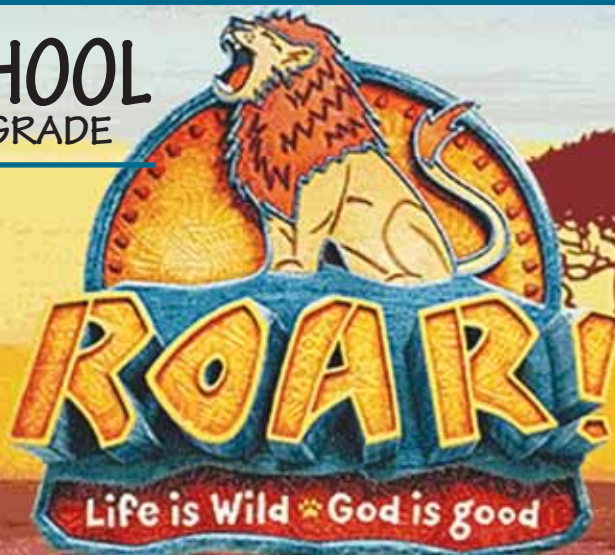
The Scottsville Museum, which is open each weekend through the end of September, will host author David Goetz on Saturday, **August 10th** to talk about his new book, "Ever the Gray Ghost." The book follows Confederate Col. John Singleton Mosby and his "Mosby Rangers," a band of Confederate fighting men, many of whom were from Scottsville and the surrounding area. The Rangers, sometimes referred to as Mosby's Raiders, made "lightning fast attacks" and then disappeared before Union forces could find them.

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Upcoming Events & Announcements



Cooking Classes To Start

Mt. Tabor Baptist Church is sponsoring a cooking class for anyone wants to learn the basics of cooking. This class will be offered once a month at 10:00 am until 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm – depending on questions. It will be taught by the pastor who was a cook for three years at a missionary training center. He began learning by helping his mother in the kitchen. Then at the age of 16 he learned to make biscuits from a man who learned to make biscuits when he had to use a stool to get up to the counter.

The first lesson will cover some knife skills and the use of spices in cooking. He will make Hamburger gravy, tacos, sloppy joes, Cincinnati chili and marinara sauce. We will taste some of what we have cooked and have a meal of Cincinnati Chili. He will explain how to make sausage gravy, bacon/egg gravy and beef stroganoff.

To register for the class email or call: nida.ron@gmail.com or 434-390-7135

We plan to have the class if at least 6 people sign up for it. There will be a minimum charge of \$ 4 to \$ 5 to cover the cost of the food. The use of the facility and the pastor's time and effort are free.

We will allow the members of the class to steer the class by choosing what to learn to cook and when.

Fluvanna County Fair 2019

3 Dates · Aug 15 - Aug 17

AUG15: Thu 6:00 PM

AUG16: Fri 6:00 PM

AUG17: Sat 10:00 AM

Fluvanna County Fair

1730 Thomas Jefferson Pkwy, Palmyra, Virginia 22963

Come on out to the Fluvanna County Fair! It's family fun all weekend long. Live music and performances, kids zone, contests, skill-athons, and so much more! Follow us and stay in the know!



Pleasant Grove Park

271 Pleasant Grove Drive, Palmyra

General admission: \$2.00 • Children 2 and under are free!!!



Thistle Gate Vineyard

When: Open March through December

Where: 5199 W. River Rd., Scottsville

Call: (434) 286-7781

More info:

<http://www.thistlegatevineyard.com/events.html>

July Events:

July 13 (Saturday), noon to 6 PM. Music with Powers and Brown.

July 14 (Sunday), 2 to 4 PM. Wine Class. Join sommelier Sara Davenport for a fun and informed afternoon. Wine and food pairing. Reservations required (434-286-7781).

July 20 (Saturday), noon to 6 PM. Music with Byron and Billy Massie.

July 27 (Saturday), noon to 6 PM. Music with Ben-David Warner.

AA and Al Anon

Every Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. at Scottsville United Methodist Church. AA meets in the Fellowship Hall and Al Anon (for families of problem drinkers) meets in the Sunday School Room.



Scottsville High School Class of 59 - Front Row (l-r) Joyce Smith, Phyllis Alford, Bill Pitts, Gene Harding. Back Row (l-r) Joe Smith, Morris Foster, Roland Leap.

Photo by Ron Smith

Welcome to the 60th Reunion!

By Ron Smith
Correspondent

Members of the Scottsville High School Class of 1959 gathered recently at the home of classmate Roland Leap to celebrate their 60th reunion. A great afternoon was enjoyed by all in attendance. Remembering their high school days and those who are no longer with them, the guests reminisced and shared stories. Most all of those who attended continue to live in the Scottsville area and plan to have reunions for, as Roland said, "the next fifteen years!"



The Senior class of 1959. Photo courtesy of the Scottsville Museum.

Splash Canyon

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Join Us!

Save The Date:
July 29-Aug 2
6-8:30 pm

Contact:
David Roach
286-3825

Fox Memorial Baptist Church **2847 River Road Scottsville**



Vendors as well as beekeepers as well as Master Gardeners were available to answer questions and provide lots of free information! All photos by Ron Smith

Highlights From Scottsville's Bee City Day



Children and adults alike learned the ins and outs of bee keeping during Scottsville's Bee City Day. The event was the culmination of Pollinator Week 2019. Workshops, art, hands on activities and a movie at Victory Hall Theater provided an enjoyable and educational way to spend a beautiful Saturday in Scottsville.

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scottsville Pharmacy Green Mountain Store Piedmont Vet Scottsville Elementary School Lumpkins Restaurant BB&T Bank Scottsville Post Office Loving oven Chester B&B WF Paulett (Ace Hardware) Augusta co-op Brown's Market Howardsville Store Glenmore Store, Tr. 655 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Midway Market Tavern on the go(Ali's) Spangler's P & S Market James River Vet Scottsville Library A. Scott Ward Realty Municipal Building Esmont Post Office Evolve Hair Colemans Outdoors Goco Kidds Store, Rt. 6 RT.6 Market
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New Beginning for An Old Village

Esmont In The 21st Century

By Patrick Healy.
Correspondent

Once there was a little village, set in a beautiful corner of Albemarle County. This village thrived due to its industrious people, natural resources and, not least, a great transportation link which curved into the village, then out and away to the world's markets. Villagers prospered by holding good paying jobs, or by reaping the profits from the seemingly inexhaustible wealth they produced. For a while, the village bank was one of the richest in the Commonwealth. People looked out for one another, and filled the village shops, schools, and churches. But, in time, what had been bountiful turned deadly, and the main artery swept the village's wealth away, on its way out of town.

Is this a story of some hypothetical Scottsville, absent its levy? Actually, it is a very real patch of Esmont's history, in the years following World War II. The next chapter tells of the younger villagers' moving away, and of the elderly's passing. The stores went the way of the bank, and were abandoned. Weeds and brambles reclaimed fields and road beds, and homes fell into disrepair. But the village remains, and its greatest resource, its people, are gearing up to make the place they love as pretty, and relevant, as it was in its heyday.

Peggy Purvis Denby was one who moved away; but she is back, and she has a plan. "When Don and I walked through town that first time, it just broke my heart," says Denby. For decades, Denby's family owned and ran the Purvis Store at the southern end of the village. "I was born in the back part of the store where we

lived." Don, is Don Jones, Peggy's husband. After retiring, they took to the road, traveling the blue highways, and enjoying the sights, sounds, and people of our vast nation. Once they settled back here, and took that first walk through the village, they both knew that trying to improve conditions in the village was something that Peggy just had to do. Veterans of a neighborhood improvement project back in Atlanta, they had a good notion of how to proceed. "First, you listen," says Don. "People will tell you what they want." Peggy points out the necessity of finding the people who can help accomplish the stated goals. "You have to get people involved."

Thus, was Friends of Esmont, Inc. born; a 501 (c) (3) corporation with the goal of "bringing the village back to life". Oh, what happened next! "The response was overwhelming," says Denby. "Just from word-of-mouth, we heard from people all over the area, and from all across the country." Soon the little non-profit had a functioning Board of Directors, a website, and was hosting well attended regular monthly meetings. Best of all, they had a plan. Denby credits our Town Administrator, Matt Lawless, with help in formulating the FoE Program Plan. "Our communities have been linked for generations. There is so much history to share," says Lawless, referring to Scottsville, and the nearby, unincorporated communities of Porters Precinct, Esmont, Chestnut Grove, and Alberene. Denby characterizes those communities as

See Esmont page 12



The Purvis Store, in the Village of Esmont. Photo by Patrick Healy

Crossword

by Margie E. Burke

ACROSS

- 1 Fizzy drink
- 5 Toned down
- 10 5:1, e.g.
- 14 Large-scale
- 15 Join together
- 16 Medic or legal starter
- 17 Take it easy
- 18 Something to recycle
- 20 Completely surround
- 22 Back out (on)
- 23 Rudimentary seed
- 24 Net-surfer's stop
- 25 "War of the Worlds" star
- 27 James Garner title role
- 31 Like some criticism
- 32 On the wagon
- 33 Woman with a habit
- 34 One who raised Cain
- 35 "Grab ___!"
- 36 Bring on board
- 37 Newton fruit
- 38 "Humble" dwelling
- 39 Adorable sort
- 40 Period of unbridled activity
- 42 Day spa offering
- 43 Fail to mention
- 44 Winter wear
- 45 Radio noise
- 48 Guiding light
- 51 Free-market proponent
- 53 Scrabble draw
- 54 Furthermore

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- 7 Bad thing to blow
- 8 Posting at JFK
- 9 Like the needy
- 10 First game of the season
- 11 Social outing
- 12 Type of race
- 13 After-Christmas event
- 19 Coin collector?
- 21 Football play
- 24 Fine fur
- 25 Like the needy
- 26 Diameter halves
- 27 Prone to sulking
- 28 Ambition
- 29 Vatican tribunal
- 30 Prepare to be dubbed
- 32 Young hog
- 35 Give up the throne
- 36 Shoddy goods seller
- 38 Fess up (to)
- 39 Be concerned
- 41 Skin soother
- 42 Hesitate
- 44 Outlaw chasers
- 45 Healing sign
- 46 Saga
- 47 Cathedral recess
- 48 Metallic sound
- 49 On the safe side, at sea
- 50 Tear
- 52 Pastoral setting

Crossword Answers page 15



The Past Is Not Forgotten: Retired Esmont Postmaster, Judy Brochia-Blake shows how she rang the St. Stephens Church bell on Memorial Day to honor Esmont native, Frank Peragory, a Congressional Medal of Honor recipient killed in World War II. All photos by Patrick Healy.



The "Colored" School, in Chestnut Grove.

the "forgotten corner" of Albemarle County. The Plan's purpose is to make Esmont the "hub of activity" it once was, and thus a destination.

The heart of the Program Plan is its Projects List. Those projects are:

- 1). A Rails-to-Trails plan for the old Esmont-Alberene Quarry Line track bed. Long term plans could extend the trail to Schuyler to the west, and Warren to the east.
- 2). Duplicate the old rail depot, long since demolished. The new depot will serve as trailhead for hikers and cyclists. At some point, the trail and depot would be given to Albemarle County Department of Parks and Recreation.
- 3). Encourage, and aid in the restoration of historic homes.
- 4). Establish a Wildlife Refuge along Ballinger Creek. This would include restoration of low-lying wetlands, and construction of a boardwalk. The Refuge would serve educational and recreational needs, as well as the myriad critters sure to settle into a welcoming habitat.
- 5). Research and write a full history of the Esmont Village, and Communities.
- 6). Create easy access (i.e. parking, and gentle paths) to the Fulfilment Farm parcel north of Irish Road, and west of the Village of Esmont. This 200 acre parcel encompasses the old slate quarry, and will tie into both the rails-to-

trails, and Ballinger Creek projects.

7). Restoration of Purvis Store, putting the old store back to work as a cafe/bistro, B&B, or tourist information and transportation center.

It's a challenging list. As we go to press, FoE received the disappointing news that their application for a rails-to-trails planning grant has been denied; not the hoped-for outcome, but par for the course in the non-profit business. The Friends will keep pushing on that issue, and participants at June's FoE meeting were both optimistic and enthusiastic. Community support is solid. Its main obstacles to goal completion are the eternal ones of money, access to property, and the marshalling of necessary skill sets, so Denby is focusing on the Depot as a priority. A period building, freshly painted and of recognized purpose, with its "Esmont" signs hanging off of each end, will build the brand. And the kid who grew up in that hub of community activity called Purvis Store knows that it is the attractive merchandise that will sell.

Readers who are curious, interested, or have something to share should contact the Friends of Esmont. Their next meeting will be on Monday, July 15th, at 7:00 PM. The meeting will be held at St Stephens Episcopal Church in the Village of Esmont.



Friends of Esmont Founders, Don Jones and Peggy Purvis Denby. Photo courtesy of Friends of Esmont.

About Don & Peggy

Don and Peggy have long looked for the opportunity to finally "hang'em up and hit the road". They are both semi-retiring from their paid jobs and have replaced themselves in their many volunteer roles, and will begin living their dream.

Don has spent many years as a health care professional which he will continue as they tour the country. His volunteering in a number of neighborhood organizations, particularly in public safety, will cease for the duration of RV living.

Peggy, who also spent a number of years in the health care industry, finished up her work life as Executive Director of Keep Atlanta Beautiful and will continue to play a minor role with that organization for a while on the road. Public Safety and neighborhood advocacy were Peggy's volunteer passions and can be expected to resurface once she is back living in "stix and bricks."

With no previous knowledge of full timing, or being on the road, Don and Peggy did lots of research but have much to learn and are taking off with some amount of excitement, fear and trepidation!

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EVENTS

STS. PETER & PAUL CHURCH ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT & AWARDS DINNER: Fund Raiser on Sunday, July 14, at the Lake Monticello Golf Course. Sign-in at 12 p.m. Shotgun start at 1 p.m. Fee \$65 = golf, cart, prizes & Awards Dinner*(approx. at 5 p.m.) at Sts. Peter & Paul Church, 4309 Thomas Jefferson Pkwy., Palmyra. * Golfer's dinner guests are \$5, children under 6, free. Dinner/Golf registration due by July 7. Forms at LM Golf Pro Shop, Church, or call church office (M-F) 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Hole Signage Sponsorship \$50 and \$25.

EVENTS

Prize donations needed. Questions? Call Jim Cullinan (434) 589-4551.

BINGO: at Lake Monticello Fire & Rescue, 10 Slice road (off of Rte 600, turn at traffic light), Palmyra. Closed Thursday, July 4th. See you all again on July 11th.! Doors open at 5:30 p.m. Early Bird 6:445 p.m. \$1000 Jackpot (with 80 or more players). Progressive Games! Food Menu available. Questions? Call (434) 591-1018.

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(Crozet Residential Services- 2 full-time positions and 4 part-time positions)

Direct Support Professionals
(Charlottesville Residential Services- 3 full-time positions and 3 part-time positions.)

Direct Support Professionals
(Charlottesville Adult Activity Center- 2 full-time positions.)

We are eager to hear from qualified candidates interested in working in Charlottesville, Crozet, and Louisa working in one of group homes. Additional detail for each vacancy (including schedules) may be viewed on the Employment page of our web site.

We are also seeking candidates interested in working as Direct Support Professionals in Charlottesville, Crozet, and Nelson.

To see a full listing of all of our positions, to apply and to learn more about what The Arc is doing to support our community, please visit our web site at <http://thearcofthepiedmont.org/>

In addition to offering a challenging and rewarding experience The Arc also offers competitive compensation, paid training, and- for full time staff- an attractive benefits package which includes paid leave, health, dental and vision insurance, as well as life and long-term disability insurance, among other offerings. The Arc of the Piedmont is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

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Answers to the Crossword Puzzle from page 11

S	O	D	A		M	U	T	E	D		O	D	D	S	
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