



The Warren Sentinel

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June 27, 2013

Sheriff probes robberies on the north corridor

By STAR TRAYLOR
The Warren Sentinel

FRONT ROYAL, June 24 — The sheriff's office is investigating two robberies reported on Monday. Although both took place on the U.S. 340/522 corridor, they are believed to be unrelated.

MATERIALS, EQUIPMENT VALUED AT \$50,000 STOLEN FROM RSW REGIONAL JAIL SITE

Fourteen trailers at the RSW Regional Jail construction site were robbed of items including electrical wire, copper plumbing fittings, tools and a dirt bike, information from the sheriff's office states.

Investigators believe the crime occurred between 3 p.m. June 22 and 6 a.m. June 24 and are looking for a possible suspect vehicle — an 18-foot box truck of unknown make and model with a mural or logo on the side.

A construction worker at the jail site who did not want to give his name said the robbery had already taken place when he arrived at work early Monday morning.

"(The robbers) knew what they were looking for," he said. "I believe it was an inside job."

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Photo courtesy / SCOTT TURNMEYER

The Northern Virginia 4-H Center will have fireworks on July 3.

BOS OKs \$100 fee for pro fireworks displays

By STAR TRAYLOR
The Warren Sentinel

FRONT ROYAL — Public fireworks displays in Warren County will now require an approved application from the fire marshal and a \$100 fee.

The Board of Supervisors on June 18 passed a motion to amend the county code to require a \$100 fee with applications for the displays, which will now be submitted to Warren County Fire Marshal Lt. Gerry Maiatico instead of the county administrator's office.

Maiatico said the code amendment won't affect most people planning to set off fireworks at home because the regulations refer to fireworks that can only be purchased by licensed pyrotechnicians.

"What this does is, this really isn't adding new regulations. The regulations are already set by the Commonwealth," Maiatico said. "If a locality doesn't regulate fireworks, the state regulates them."

So far this year, Fire and Rescue has received four

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"Walking off the war"



Tom Gathman and Adam Bautz, veterans hiking the Appalachian Trail as part of a program called Walk off the War, talk June 21 about their experiences on the trail during a stop at the Front Royal VFW headquarters, where hikers had dinner with veterans and local officials.

Veterans follow in the footsteps of Appalachian Trail pioneer

By STAR TRAYLOR
The Warren Sentinel

FRONT ROYAL, June 21 — Tom Gathman always wanted to hike the Appalachian Trail. His grandfather's ashes are scattered atop Mount Katahdin, where Gathman will end his trek in September.

Like his grandfather, Gathman is a veteran, one of 14 who started hiking the Appalachian Trail together in March.

The seven veterans who are still hiking with the Warrior Hike "Walk off the War" program stopped in Front Royal on June 21, where they shared their experiences and had dinner at the VFW headquarters.

Gathman, 30, of Lewisburg, Pa., served on two tours in Iraq. He and fellow veteran Adam Bautz were picked

up from the trail by the Front Royal trolley.

They were greeted by a group including Warren County Supervisor Dan Murray and his wife, members of the Appalachian Trail Conservancy and Cooking with the Troops, an organization that provides meals to veterans.

"My beard didn't always look like this and I looked nothing like this without it," Gathman said.

Bautz, too, was a changed man after completing a portion of the hike and stopping in Front Royal, where he got the letters "AT" tattooed on his body as a permanent reminder of the trip. Bautz said he had gone to Blue Diamond Tattoo before coming to the VFW headquarters.

"I was (the artist's) first paying customer," Bautz said.

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Photo courtesy / JANE WICKER FACEBOOK

Wing walker Jane Wicker and her pilot, Charlie Schwenker, died on June 22 in a plane crash at an Ohio air show. Wicker kept her plane hangared at the Front Royal-Warren County Airport.

Local airshow still on for Sept.

WING WALKER KILLED IN OHIO KEPT PLANE IN FRONT ROYAL

By STAR TRAYLOR
The Warren Sentinel

FRONT ROYAL —By all accounts, Jane Wicker was a daredevil. A wing walker is what she called herself.

On Saturday, the 45-year-old FAA budget analyst died when her plane — flown by pilot Charlie Schwenker of Oakton — crashed at the Vectors Air Show near Dayton, Ohio.

Wicker, a mother of two from Bristow, hangared her Stearman plane at the Front Royal Warren County Airport and was slated to perform at the air show here in September, Airport Manager Reggie Cassagnol said Tuesday.

"She was a very exciting person and she was always happy," Cassagnol said. "She loved doing what she did. She could tell you right there she feels more comfortable on the

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Heroin ODs are on the rise

By MELISSA BOUGHTON
Byrd Newspapers

WINCHESTER, June 18 — Heroin use is becoming an epidemic in the area and people are dying because of it.

That was the message at a press conference called on last week by the Command Board of the Northwest Regional Drug Task Force in the Frederick County Sheriff's Office.

Task force chairman and Shenandoah County Sheriff Timothy C. Carter presented surprising numbers that he said

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GINGER PERRY / Byrd Newspapers

Shenandoah Co. Sheriff Timothy Carter of the Northwest Regional Drug Task Force speaks June 18 at a press conference on the local heroin epidemic. In back, from left, are Capt. Gary Settle, Va. State Police, Kevin L. Sanzenbacher, Chief, Winchester Police Dept., Robert Williamson, Sheriff, Fred. Co., Norman Shiflett, Chief, Front Royal Police Dept.

More charges for man accused of assaulting officer

By KEVIN SEABROOKE
The Sentinel

FRONT ROYAL — A man awaiting trial on charges of attempted murder of a police officer stemming from an incident last summer has been indicted by a Warren County Grand Jury for an assault of a deputy in March.

Clyde Eugene Burrell Jr., 34, of Front Royal was indicted June 3 on one



BURRELL

count of malicious wounding of a law enforcement officer and one count of assault and battery of an officer.

Burrell was awaiting trial in the Warren County Jail after an alleged attack in July 2012 on

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Sports

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Obituaries.....A4

- Roger Millard Adkins, 69, Front Royal
- Gertrude C. Brown, 95, Front Royal
- Paul Faris Burnett, 73, Front Royal
- Elizabeth Margaret Johnson Gibbs, 94, Woodstock
- Michael A. Hopkins, 63, Front Royal
- Ernest Franklin "Fats" Wines, 75, Front Royal



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Long-time downtown law firm adds name to the door

By KEVIN SEABROOKE
The Warren Sentinel

FRONT ROYAL — For the first time in 21 years the Main Street law firm of Struckmann & White are taking on another stockholder.



Dennis Eric Wisely of Shenandoah County officially came on board June 1. The firm's new name will be Struckmann, White & Wisely, PC.

John Casey Struckmann, who founded the firm in 1980 with Ed Greco, said that he and Chip White had been "thinking about bringing someone in if they looked promising."

"And he does," Struckmann said. "He handles himself well in court."

Struckmann began to see Wisely more and more over the past year following Amanda McDonald Wisely's election to the Commonwealth's Attorney post in Shenandoah County.

"He could no longer practice law in Shenandoah County," White said. "He moved over here and was by himself. It looked like it would be a good, mutually beneficial thing to do."

Another thing Wisely brings to the firm is experience in the appellate court, Struckmann said.

"I just finished an appeal to the Supreme Court of Virginia for the first time in 30 years and a lot has changed," he said.

Wisely was a clerk to Judge Clements in the court of appeals for five years and has a significant appellate practice for other lawyers, White added.

White, who is originally from Warren, but now lives in Frederick County, has primarily a "transactional practice" now, he said, handling will, probate and real estate.

Struckmann said Wisely will do some family law and divorce work, a growing area of law, and something the firm hasn't been doing for about the last decade. The new attorney will also be "taking on a good deal of criminal defense work that I'm slowly getting out of," said Struckmann who has been practicing criminal law since he was a prosecutor in 1971.

Struckmann himself, who has been an attorney in Front Royal since 1977, said he'll become a bit more of a supervisor.

"I'll be managing this entity and handling civil litigation and probate and estate litigation," Struckmann said. "There's more of that now than there used to be. I'll probably still do some misdemeanors and I've got long-time clients to take care of."

Warriors

Continued from Page A1
"He's that new."

Bautz said his tattoo would provide extra incentive for him to complete the 2,185-mile hike from Georgia to Maine, which only a small percentage of hikers are able to do.

Already, a few of the veteran hikers with "Walk off the War" have given up the hike, which Gathman and Bautz admitted isn't easy.

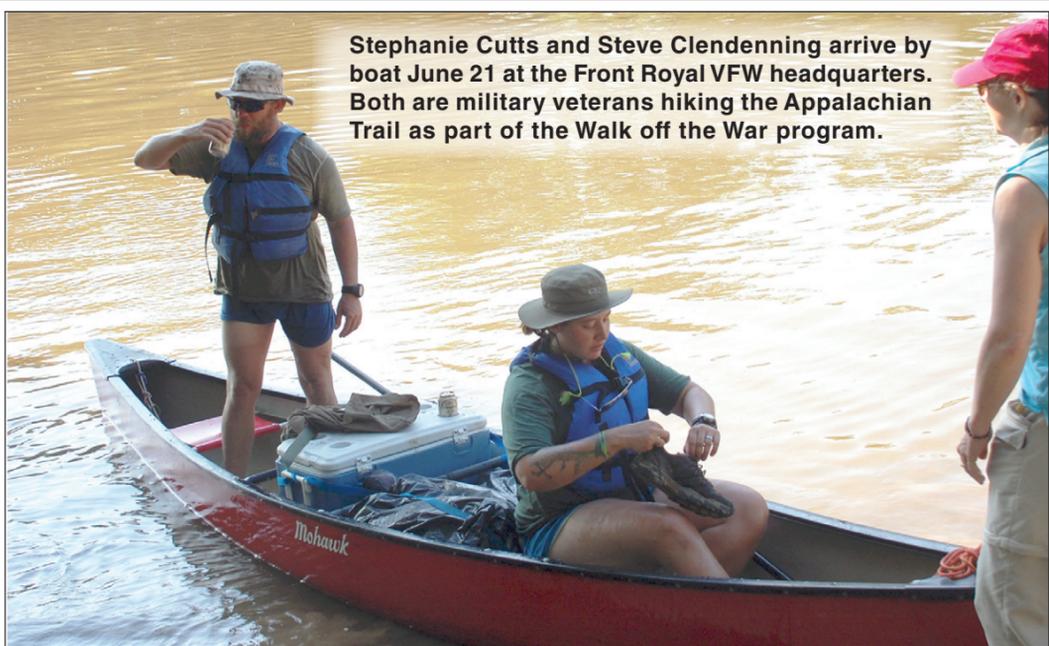
"It's been a really, really wet year," Gathman said. "It's been driving people to go home."

Veterans Stephanie Cutts, who served in the Navy in the Persian Gulf and in Southeast Asia in 2004, 2005 and 2006, and retired Marine Corporal Steve Clendenning arrived Friday in a canoe after going about 30 miles on the Shenandoah River.

"It was no clouds. It was all sunshine," Clendenning said.

Asked what was the most difficult part of the hike, Clendenning said, "Probably being away from the public eye, but actually it's been peaceful in that you just don't have the everyday life. You don't have to worry about shopping and loud cars and loud people."

Gathman, Bautz, Cutts and Clendenning are all hiking as part of the Warrior Hike "Walk off the War" program.



Stephanie Cutts and Steve Clendenning arrive by boat June 21 at the Front Royal VFW headquarters. Both are military veterans hiking the Appalachian Trail as part of the Walk off the War program.

Warrior Hike was founded in 2011 by Marine Corps Captains Sean Gobin and Mark Silvers.

The original goal for the Warrior Hike was to hike the Appalachian Trail to raise money to purchase vehicles for wounded veterans, said Gobin, who attended the Friday event at the VFW headquarters. Last year, the hike raised \$50,000 for veterans' vehicles. This year, instead of tying it in with a fundraiser, Gobin said the organization partnered with the Appalachian

Trail Conservancy on the Walk off the War program aimed at helping service members transition back into society after deployment.

According to the organization's website, it was inspired by World War II veteran Earl Shaffer who became the first person to hike the entire length of the Appalachian Trail from Georgia to Maine. Shaffer completed the four-month trek in 1948, doing it, he said to "walk off the war" to work out the sights, sounds, and

losses he had experienced. "The idea behind the VFW stops now is to integrate and socialize with veterans from past generations," Gobin said, explaining that the hike also gives veterans time to process and cope with their experiences in combat.

"It also helps them integrate back into society. It helps (veterans) realize how supportive people are," Gobin said. "It's become incredibly apparent just how supportive the nation is to its veterans."

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