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STAUNTON BRANCH #7119-B FREEDOM FUND BANQUET

OCTOBER 10, 2026

6PM-8PM

COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

2001 N Coalter Street • Staunton, VA 24401

GUEST SPEAKER

Bishop Michael A. Turner, Sr



Soul Food • Silent Auction • Awards & Presentation • A Moment In
Pianist: George Hunter • Spoken Word: Angela Mickens

NAACP

Order of Program

6:00 – 8:00 PM

Introit	**Michelle Huggard,** Dancer
Emcee	**Todd Dunnings**
Litany	**Barbara White**
Greetings from City Council	**Councilmember Alice Woods**
Greetings from School Board	**Fontella Brown-Bundy,** Staunton City School Board Member
Musical Expression	**George Hunter,** Pianist & Songwriter
Blessing of the Food	**Minister Robert Woods**
Spoken Word	**Angela Mickens** accompanied by George Hunter
Dinner Served	
Musical Expression	**George Hunter**
Community Service Award	**Suzy King, Founder, and the SACAARS Organization** Presented by Susan Venable & Nadia Ware
Introduction of Speaker	**First Lady Mrs. Rhonda Turner**
Musical Expression	**George Hunter**
Speaker	**Bishop Michael A. Turner, Sr.** *A Moment of Time and Historical Events*
Thank You	**Susan Venable,** Freedom Fund Chair
Musical Selection	***"Glory!"*** Written by John Legend (John Roger Stephens), Common (Lonnie Lynn) & Rhymefest (Che Smith)
Closing Remarks	**Nadia Ware,** NAACP President
Benediction	**Bishop Michael A. Turner, Sr.**

GUEST SPEAKER

Bishop Michael A. Turner, Sr.

A Moment of Time and Historical Events

Biographical Sketch



Michael Turner is the product of the union of the late Herman Turner and Mrs. Flora Douglas Turner and was reared in Southampton County, Virginia. After his graduation from Southampton High School in June, 1976, he earned undergraduate and graduate degrees from The University of Virginia at Charlottesville. He is also a graduate of the Samuel DeWitt Proctor School of Theology of Virginia Union University. Subsequently, he received the Doctor of Divinity degree from the Virginia University of Lynchburg, where he was an adjunct professor from 1994 to 1999.

He was licensed to preach the gospel on Sunday, December 5, 1976 by Rising Star Baptist Church under the pastorate of the late Dr. R. Lafayette Petty and was ordained to the work of the gospel ministry on Sunday, December 7, 1980 at Ebenezer Baptist Church, Charlottesville, under the pastoral leadership of Dr. Elisha G. Hall. He has been the servant-leader of the following congregations: Mount Paran, Elkton; Mount Marine, Fishersville; Ebenezer, Staunton; and Beulah, Stuarts Draft. He also currently serves as Dean of the Eastern Theological Seminary in Lynchburg, Virginia.

He is the blessed father of his namesake, Michael Anthony, II and his beloved daughter, Florin. He was united in Holy Matrimony with Minister Rhonda Fuller Turner on Holy Saturday, April 23, 2011. His life verse is Philippians 1:21—"For me to live is Christ, and to die is gain." His trust is "With God all things are possible."

On December 4, 2021, Michael Anthony Turner, Senior was consecrated as a Bishop in the Lord's Church.

The Prayer Litany

Led by **Barbara White**

LEADER

Dear Lord,
we commemorate the life of a champion of justice,
one who recognized that,
"Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere."

PEOPLE

You have created us as your children
and tied us together
in "an inescapable network of mutuality."

LEADER

Whatever affects any of us directly
affects all of us indirectly.

PEOPLE

Injustice pervades our world,
distorting and harming your people.

LEADER

But you are a God of justice
whose laws are just.
You entered our world,
not advocating "bitterness and hatred,"
but "love, truth, and goodness."

PEOPLE

You have called your people
not to preserve injustice,
but to advocate for "the cause of justice."

LEADER

You have called us as your church,
not to be an "irrelevant social club,"
but instead to carve "a tunnel of hope"
through a mountain of injustices.

PEOPLE

Help us, as your people,
to "meet the challenge of this decisive hour"
by working to advance your "eternal will."
Amen.

—Barbara Bradley Feenstra and Ronald J. Feenstra, © 2025 Calvin Institute of Christian Worship, Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike. Used by permission. Quotations are taken from Martin Luther King, Jr., "Letter from Birmingham City Jail," in *A Testament of Hope: The Essential Writings of Martin Luther King, Jr.*, ed. James M. Washington. New York: HarperCollins, 1986.

BANQUET COMMITTEE

Susan Venable, *Freedom Fund Chair*
Rebecca Johnson, *Co-Chair*
Alonzo Taylor, *Co-Chair*
Bishop Michael A. Turner, Sr.
Kenneth Venable

VOLUNTEERS

Barbara White, Ann Murray,
Lakeisha Jones

CATERING

Sarah Jones

DECORATIONS

Fontella Brown-Bundy

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Greetings from His Grace

Bishop M. A. Turner, Sr. and
Elder Rhonda Fuller Turner



"Now unto Him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us."

– Ephesians 3:20



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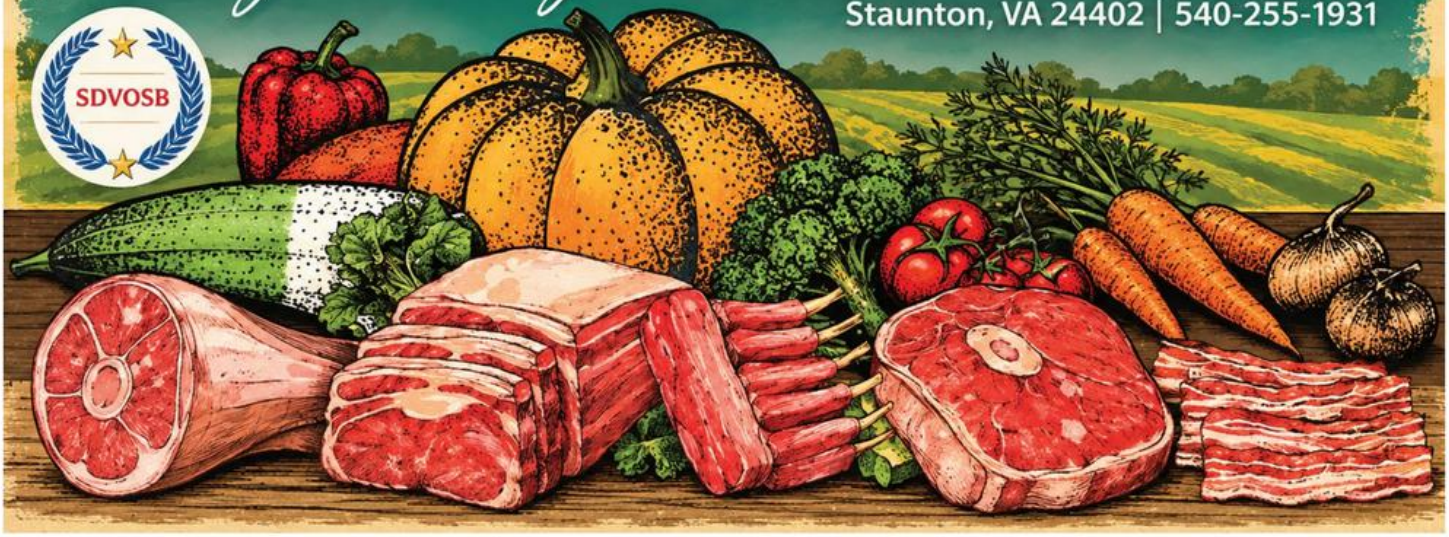
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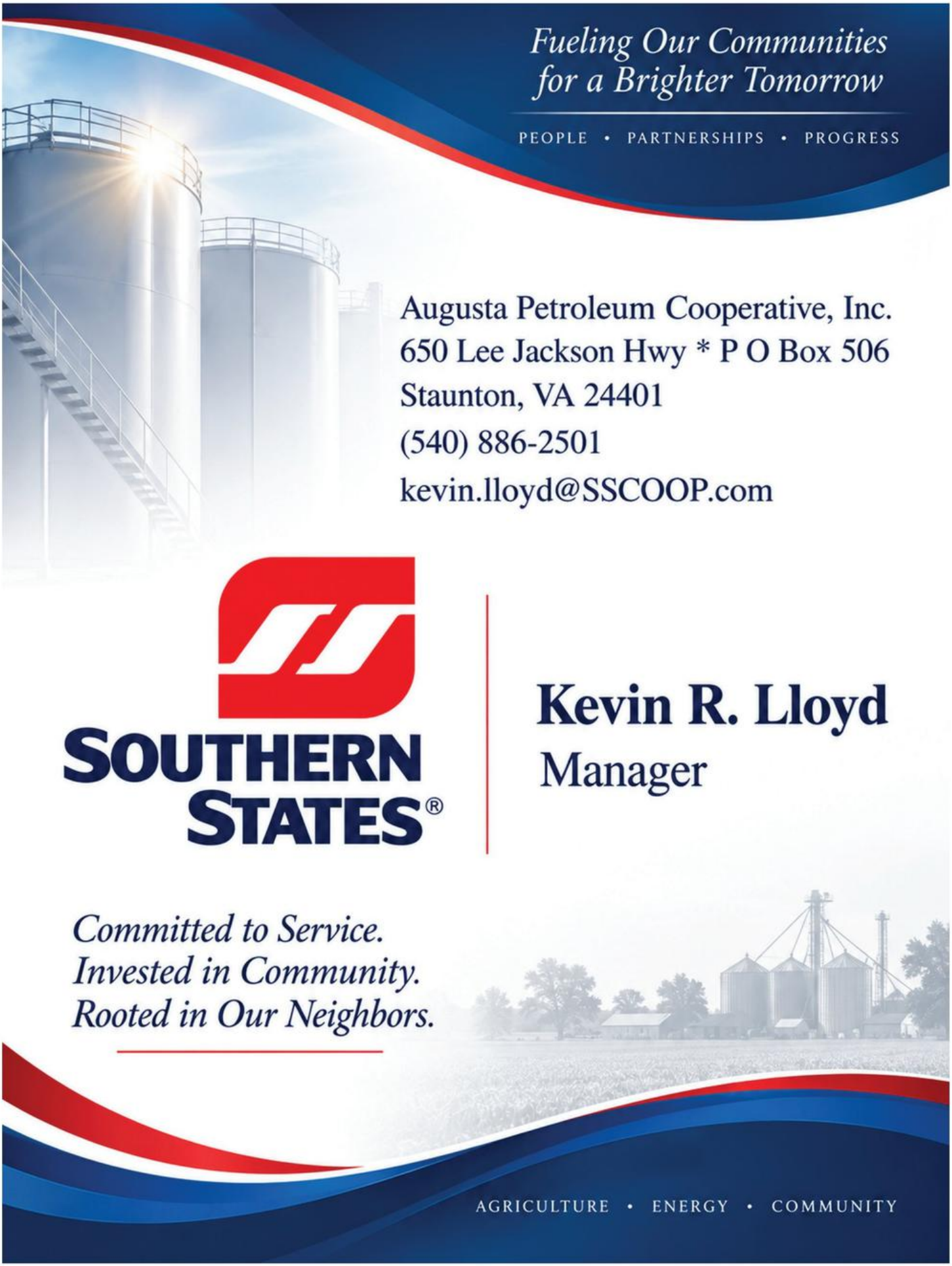
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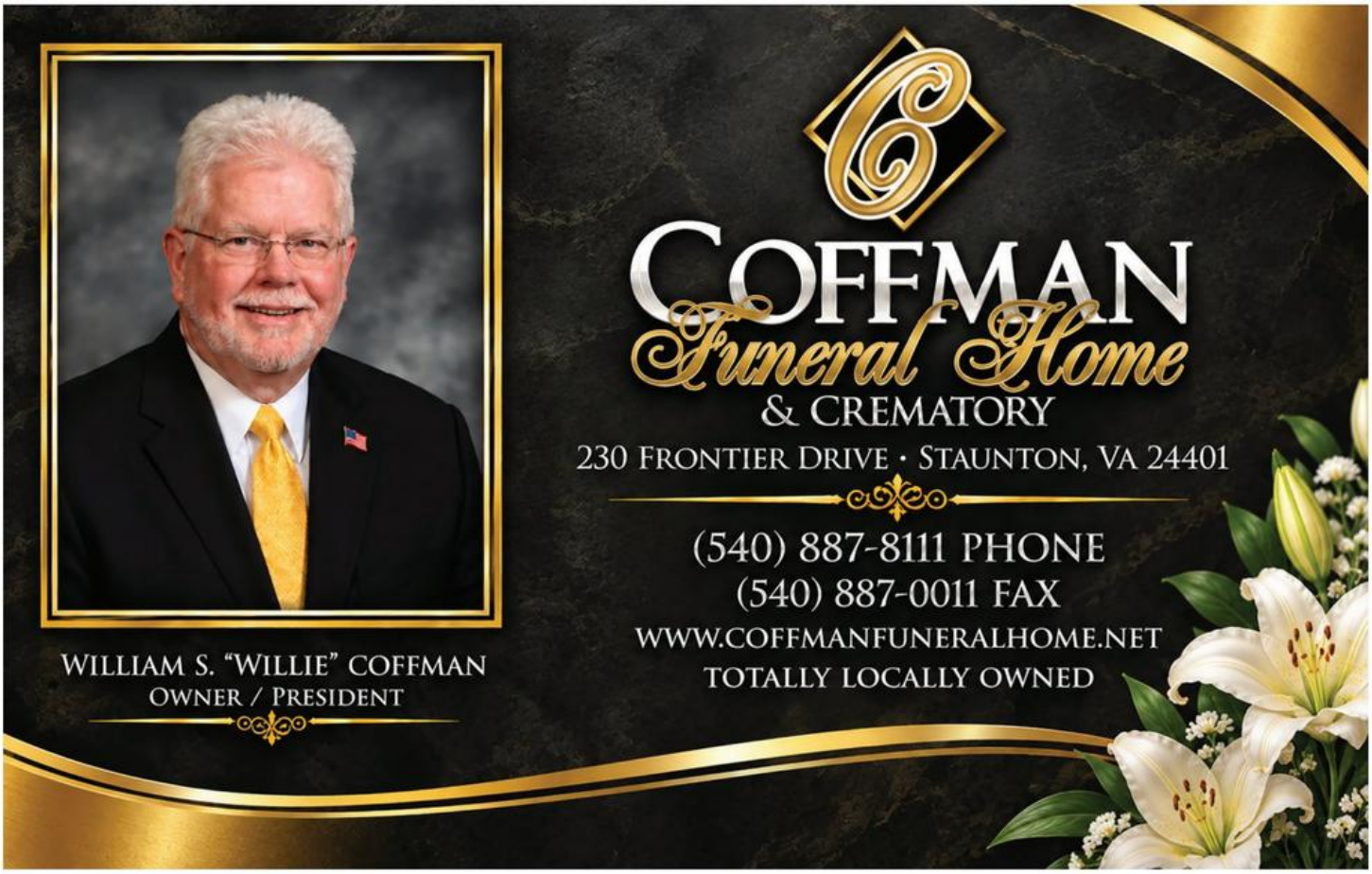
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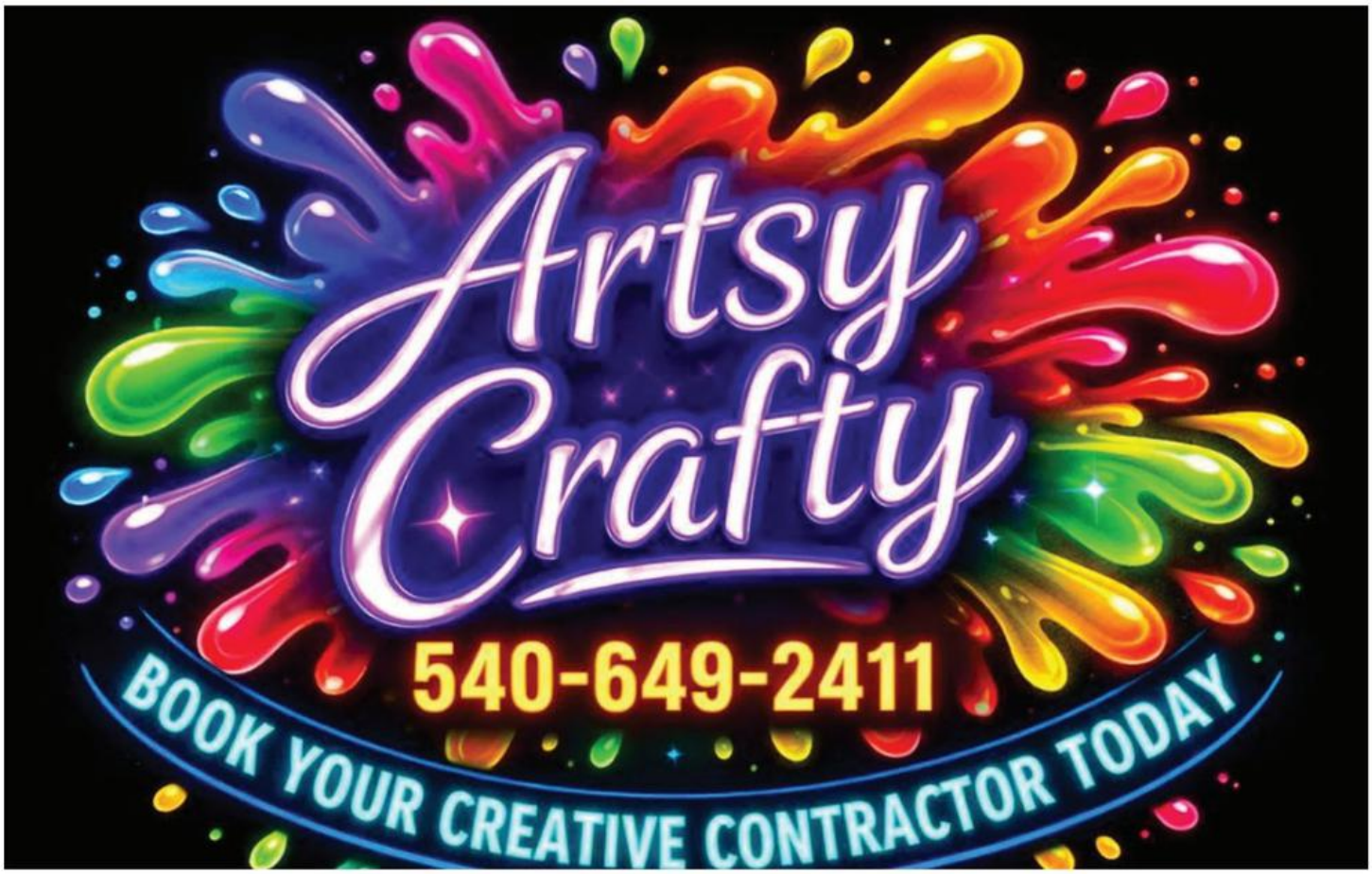
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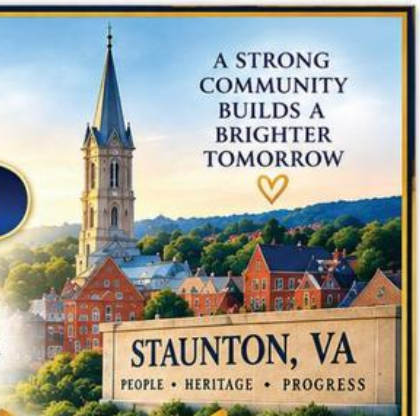
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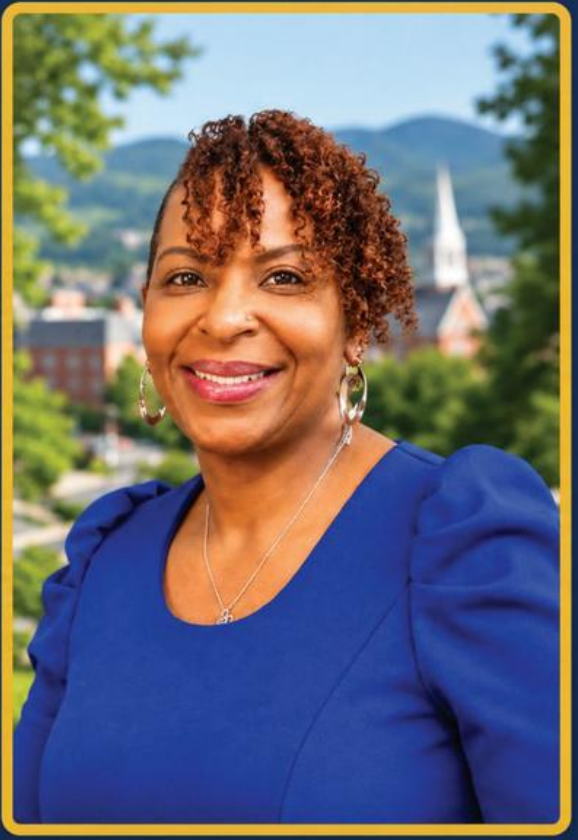
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Lift every voice and sing,

Till earth and heaven ring,
Ring with the harmonies of Liberty;
Let our rejoicing rise,
High as the listening skies,
Let it resound loud as the rolling sea.
Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us;
Sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us;
Facing the rising sun of our new day begun
Let us march on till victory is won.

- James Weldon Johnson



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