



## PATRICK COUNTY BRANCH LIBRARY



In February of 1941, the county supervisors were approached by Commonwealth Attorney, E.P. Burton, notifying them that an anonymous donor wanted to make a contribution of a library and a collection of books. The supervisors and town council decided on a location and bought a lot owned by a Mrs. Shockley for \$1,000.

Around 1954 the Patrick Library merged with Franklin County Library, also an Ambassador David Bruce library. Patrick was considered the "home" library since Franklin County did not have a librarian. The merged library was named alphabetically, Franklin-Patrick.

When Franklin County decided to go it alone, around June, 1974, Patrick County along with Martinsville became the Blue Ridge Regional Library system and in 1991, the Library moved to the current site at 116 West Blue Ridge Street.

The Blue Ridge Regional Library offers several fun things to do. Book Bingo, open studio for colored pencil enthusiasts, women's writing group, "Sit and Be Fit", and many more.

For information on more programs, visit their [website](#).

## UPTOWN SUITES OF STUART

The George Building was built in 1928 in Uptown Stuart, VA. Uptown Suites is located on the second floor of the George Building. Originally designed as office space, the second floor was converted to apartments around the 1940's and rented as such until 2010. The first floor has four retail units and the third floor was built for the Mountain Home Masonic Lodge. It is currently awaiting an elevator to begin a future remodel.



All suites are non-smoking, and there's a no pet policy. All have secure, coded locks, password-connected wifi, flat screen televisions with USB port, fully accessorized kitchens, dedicated office space, individually controlled air systems, full-sized microwaves and refrigerator, remote-controlled ceiling fans, and windows with blinds and black-out curtains. Maid service is provided once a week for long-term guests. Additional laundry service is available upon request. An on-site exercise room will soon be available. Suites 1-3 require a two night minimum. All units are available on a nightly, weekly or monthly rate.

For reservations, call 276.694 4471 or visit their [website](#).

## STARS AMONG US



### WARREN RODGERS



Warren Rodgers and Percy Sledge

In 1966, Warren Rodgers joined 2 local musicians and the group called 'The Embers'. Complete with rhythm section, sax, and trumpet, they started playing venues around the region. Although not the same group of the beach music 'Embers', these guys played the hits as they surfaced in the two-inch transistor radio speakers which were carried by all that were 'in the groove' at the time.

Due to college, graduation, family, etc., the group split and Warren and Joe formed The Soulsations. Soon Uncle Sam recruited Joe Owens, and soon after the Soulsations went national, Warren decided to go back to college and left the group.

In 1975, three of the original Embers from Stuart got back together and started a band called 'Crossfire'. In the late 80's, they changed their name to Sunset Drive. Since 1999, Sunset Drive has been performing as the backup band for Percy Sledge.

Sunset Drive released their first CD self-titled as 'SUNSET DRIVE'© in April 2002 on WRM records ©. Their next CD was released in September, 2004, entitled 'Percy Sledge and Sunset Drive - Live In Virginia'©, also on WRM records ©. A live DVD music video with Percy Sledge was filmed in Prestonsburg, KY in July, 2006 and released in April, 2007 entitled 'Percy Sledge - The Ultimate Performance'. A new Sunset Drive CD is being recorded and will be released soon.

To see the many talents of Warren Rodgers and Sunset Drive, visit [warrenroddersmusic.com](http://warrenroddersmusic.com)

## LESLIE SHELOR



Leslie Shelor of Meadows of Dan, Virginia, is a ninth generation descendant of Lawrence Shelor, the first known Shelor ancestor in America. She grew up surrounded by family stories, music and creative people. She still lives in Meadows of Dan on a family farm and operates Greenberry House, a local business near the Blue Ridge Parkway.

Leslie is a hand spinner, crocheter, and knitter that raises German Angora rabbits for fiber. Her studio is a trail site on the [Hidden Treasures Artisan Trail](#) of Patrick County, and she is a member of [Round the Mountain](#) Artisan Trail. Greenberry House is located at 12134 Squirrel Spur Road, just a few feet beyond the old farm house location in Meadows of Dan. Still on Concord Road and now sharing a building with Mountain Meadow Farm and Craft Market. Hours are 10 AM to 5 PM Friday, Saturday and Sunday through the end of April and then Thursday through Monday, 10 AM to 5 PM, from May on. Learn more about Leslie and Greenberry House by visiting her [website](#).



## VIRGINIA STATE PEACH FESTIVAL

The [VIRGINIA PEACH FESTIVAL](#) is celebrated annually during August. This years event is slated for August 15th & 16th. Patrick County produces some of the finest peaches. This annual celebration includes music events, plus food, crafts, peach ice cream, and fresh local grown peaches.



Photo by Patrick County Chamber of Commerce

On Friday, join all your friends and neighbors for the traditional evening music celebration at beautiful [Wayside Park](#). Gates open at 4:00 pm, Music begins at 5:00pm Various food, crafters and business exhibitors will attend. Scrumptious Barbeque, Peach shaved ice, Peach fried pies, and a Peach Cook-off contest. RAIN OR SHINE. No coolers please.

On Saturday, the [Meadows of Dan Folk Fair](#) starts at 10:00am; featuring Local Crafters, Belgian Horse Drawn Wagon & Buggy rides, Blacksmithing, Heritage Demonstrations, Local Peaches and Peach Desserts, Peach Butter Making, Local Music, Corn Maze, Food Vendors, and Church Fund Raisers. FREE. "A Simpler Place In Time".

## WHAT'S HAPPENING

**August 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th, 7:00-10:00pm - Willis Gap Community Center Open Jam-** Family fun, traditional mountain music, dancing, food, & more. For more information, call 276.251.8548.

**August 3rd, 1:00pm - Sunday Sounds @ Chateau Morrisette Winery-**Featuring "Ragtop" live in the Courtyard. [thedogs.com](http://thedogs.com)

**August 4, 5:00-7:00pm- Monday Market at the Park.** - Now open at Fairy Stone State Park at the Allied Picnic area. Local farmers, beekeepers, bakers, musicians.

**August 9th, 11:00am-5:00pm- Black Dog Summer & Wine Festival at Chateau Morrisette.** At 2:00 p.m., enjoy national recording artist Railroad Earth, who just completed their seventh studio album "Last of the Outlaws." This year's opening act is The Mastersons, a husband and wife duo lauded at this year's SXSW for their new album, "Birds Fly South." Enjoy exceptional food vendors, Virginia wineries, and artisans. For more information, visit [thedogs.com](http://thedogs.com).

**August 29-31st- Front Porch Fest.** -An annual music and arts festival held on Virginia's Front Porch to the Blue Ridge Mountains, Spirithaven Farm. (see below)

## FRONT PORCH FEST



Photo by Front Porch Fest

Front Porch Fest is produced by a group of family, friends and funsters inspired by the idea that life is enriched by art, with music at its soul. Lovers of music come together in an intimate outdoor setting where the distinction between artist and audience is blurred. Local, regional and national musicians showcase their talent on three stages with no overlapping sets so that you never have to miss a beat. Front Porch Fest is a family friendly event, so bring the kids! They can groove to the tunes while doing arts & crafts in the Children's Area. There is an Awareness Village, which provides information on different causes that are important to the area. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to camp with us! There is both field and woods camping on site, with food and merchandise vendors to help make your weekend more enjoyable.

Proceeds from the festival are donated to the Patrick County Food Bank, Caring Hearts Free Clinic and the Patrick County Skate Park. We think it's imperative to give back to the community and the Patrick County Skate Park. We think it's imperative to give back to the community and the Patrick County Skate Park. We think it's imperative to give back to the community and the Patrick County Skate Park. We think it's imperative to give back to the community and the Patrick County Skate Park.

We strive to make you feel at home and at peace and we think you'll agree that Front Porch Fest is like no other. To see a schedule of events and to order tickets, visit their [website](#).

## WHAT'S COOKIN'?

### Crab Cakes

- 1/2 cup rice flour
- 1/2 tsp. seafood seasoning
- 1/2 tsp. dried basil
- 1/2 tsp lemon pepper
- 1/2 cup mayonnaise
- 1/2 tsp Italian seasoning
- 2 1/2 pounds crabmeat
- Cornmeal



Whisk together flour, seafood seasoning, basil, lemon pepper, mayonnaise, and Italian seasoning in mixing bowl. Add crabmeat and toss by hand until coated. Cover and refrigerate 45 minutes. Make patties and coat in cornmeal before cooking. Cook on high heat until golden brown.

Recipe compliments of Chef Shawn Phillips

This recipe and more can be found in the "Eat & Explore Virginia" cookbook. Available for purchase at the Patrick County Chamber of Commerce.

## NEWSLETTER

In This Issue:

- Books, Bingo, & Sit and Be Fit
- New Accommodations in Stuart
- Stars Among Us
- What's Happening?
- This month's recipe

How to contact us:  
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P.O. Box 466  
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276.694.6094

Or visit our website:  
[www.visitpatrickcounty.org](http://www.visitpatrickcounty.org)

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\*Eat & Explore Virginia Cookbook is available for purchase at the Patrick County Chamber of Commerce office located at 103-B Stonewall Court in Stuart, VA.

