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showcase



KRIS SAINTSING

Between Two Worlds



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showcase

MARCH 2026

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COVER
Android in Diagnostic Mode
Photo by Kris Saintsing

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Kris Saintsing

Between Two Worlds

BY PAUL SEIPLE
PHOTOS BY KRIS SAINTSING

There is a painting that Kris Saintsing made during the early weeks of the COVID-19 pandemic that tells you nearly everything you need to know about how he sees the world. In it, an older man sits quietly on his front porch while flying saucers tear apart the landscape behind him. The sky is catastrophic. The man is still. The title is *Ma, the Invaders are Terraforming*.

At nearly five-feet wide, the painting is designed to overwhelm. It captures a particular feeling that many people recognized in 2020 but struggled to name: the bizarre, vertiginous sensation of watching global collapse from an ordinary porch, in an ordinary town, while the birds still sing. Saintsing had just returned to his hometown in North Carolina after fifteen years in Los Angeles. He was self-quarantining in a rented house, surrounded by the rustic landscape of his childhood, while the world came apart on every screen.



"The combination of being back in my hometown while everything felt so chaotic," he says, "produced that image."

That capacity for finding the personal within the apocalyptic is at the heart of Saintsing's work. He is a fine artist and professional illustrator who operates under the banner of Big Ancient Studios, and his visual language draws heavily from science fiction, fantasy, and horror. Not as genre exercises, but as psychological tools. "These genres allow inner states to become tangible," he explains. In his piece *The Android in Diagnostic Mode*, a malfunctioning robot stands in for the artist's own anxiety: the trapped, helpless sensation of existing inside a system that isn't working and urgently needs repair.

Saintsing has been using art as emotional infrastructure since childhood. He describes himself as a kid with "fairly severe anxiety issues" for whom making art was less a hobby than a survival strategy. A way to process fear, dreams, and internal conflict that had no other outlet. That foundation became a professional decision in college, where he pursued Film & Television as his major and Studio Art as a minor, a deliberate dual commitment that would come to define his entire career.

The television career that followed was formidable by any measure. Saintsing spent nearly two decades in post-production, rising to supervise editing, visual effects, color, music, and sound on series including *The Walking Dead*, *Torchwood*, and *The Muppets Mayhem* for networks like ABC-Disney, Warner Bros., and Lionsgate. Before that, he was writing, directing, editing, and animating viral comedy content for National Lampoon in the early 2000s. Saintsing was a

one-man creative operation that prefigured the kind of multi-hyphenate work he would later practice in fine art.

It was during his time at Warner Bros. that a specific visual ambition crystallized. Walking the studio hallways, he regularly encountered framed original cels from *Looney Tunes* and *Batman: The Animated Series*. Something about the artwork drew him in. "They just had so much depth and pop," Saintsing says. He realized that's what he wanted his own work to look like: large-scale versions of animation cels, rich and luminous, with light moving through them. He developed a method to achieve it, beginning each piece as a pencil drawing on paper, scanning it at extremely high resolution, then digitally painting the final image in Photoshop while deliberately preserving every imperfection from the original. The pieces are then output as large, transparent prints. When light passes through them, the arresting effect is dimensional, glowing, and alive.

"I approach this stage the way one would master a song," Saintsing says. "Making refinements while preserving the soul of the piece."

About ten years ago, he made a conscious choice to return to making standalone fine art alongside his production work. Pieces that existed for their own sake, not in service of a pipeline. It was not a rejection of television, but an expansion. The years spent sharpening images for clarity, emotional impact, and storytelling precision had left a deep mark. "My television background fundamentally shaped how I approach fine art."

His influences form an eclectic constellation: pop-surrealists like Takashi Murakami, David Choe, H. R. Giger, and Mark Ryden sit alongside classic comics artists like Wally Wood, Al Williamson, and Frank Frazetta. Beneath all of them runs the deeper grammar of cinema, animation, video games, and television. The visual culture that shaped him long before he could articulate why.

Community has also been central to Saintsing's development as an artist, though it arrived later than the work itself. He spent several years making art privately before a group of co-workers — while he was post-producing *Greenleaf* for the Oprah Winfrey Network — pushed him to visit the Downtown LA Art Walk. That visit led him to The Hive Gallery & Studios, a sprawling, genre-driven co-op, where he secured his first exhibition space. Even after relocating

Continued to Page 8



Continued from Page 7

back to North Carolina during the pandemic, he maintained his presence at The Hive remotely. He later joined Artmongerz, a co-op in Greensboro, North Carolina, that he credits with significantly broadening his perspective.

Today, much of that community-building energy flows through his curatorial work at The Brewer's Kettle in High Point, North Carolina, where he has organized monthly exhibitions and events for nearly five years. "Building community is foundational to my practice." It's clear Saintsing means it structurally, not decoratively.

In recent years, Saintsing's practice has shifted further toward physical media — pencil, ink, charcoal, acrylic, layered spray paint on glass — often working entirely in grayscale. He attributes the rise of AI image generation to accelerating the shift. "It pushed me to double down on physical media," he says. "That return to fundamentals has been deeply rewarding." For an artist whose career began with digital tools and television pipelines, the move feels less like a retreat than a recalibration: a reassertion of the handmade, the imperfect, the irreducibly human.

Looking ahead, Saintsing has several projects taking shape simultaneously. For him, it's the only way to work. He and his wife, Pam, are developing an assemblage art exhibition inspired by a 2024 trip to Joshua Tree, where they encountered massive outdoor galleries of sculpture made from reclaimed materials. He's also building a new body of work rooted in classic film noir of the 1940s and '50s: still cinematic, still psychological, but filtered through a darker and more shadowed lens.

Meanwhile, at The Brewer's Kettle, the community he has spent years building continues to grow.

The man on the porch keeps watching the sky. And Kris Saintsing keeps painting it.

To see more of Saintsing's work visit krissaintsingillustration.com/portfolio





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Neglect and cruelty investigations | Humane education programs | Free sheltering for animal victims of domestic violence | Pet food bank

Our 'no-birth, no-stray, no-neglect' program has been at the center of our work since 1984 when we began operating the city animal shelter. We have now given our efforts a name, and hope to engage more residents in our work. This comes as a result of the work of the strategic planning committee that was formed in 2025, the work of the Board of Directors, and the daily work of the shelter staff. It is much more than reducing euthanasia numbers.

While "no-kill" is an effective slogan, the real life consequences of "no-kill" policies make disturbing headlines on an almost daily basis: from animals being abused or even killed by people who don't or won't care for them to hoarder rescues being raided by law-enforcement authorities. The Danville Area Humane Society will never turn any animal in need away or prioritize statistics over the welfare of individual animals. Until there are fewer dogs and cats being born, fewer stray animals, and fewer cases of neglect, the work of open-admission shelters must continue.

The "no-birth" part will continue our vital spay/neuter assistance for residents of Danville and Pittsylvania County. Since 1993, we have spent over $1 million of grant money from The E. Stuart James Grant Charitable Trust. We provide assistance through rebates and funds given to veterinary clinics, as well as offers to pay for the complete cost of sterilizing owned outside cats and certain larger breed dogs. People who relinquish litters of puppies and kittens are also offered our assistance to spay the mother dogs.

The "no-stray" part will offer an increased number of free microchip clinics through the year. We will also post lost animals for their owners on our social media pages, as well as providing assistance in offering rewards through our Chewie Louie Fund. Although our transfer program has expanded, we will continue to seek new partnerships to help us find responsible, loving homes for our shelter animals. Our promotion of shelter animals has increased through our social media sites and we pledge to continue that important work. We hope to highlight our shelter animals through more tours and events held at the shelter.

The "no-neglect" part will provide education on the animal protection laws already in local and state code. We will continue to provide dog lots to remove dogs from being tethered. We will seek new ways to educate children and teenagers about the humane treatment of animals. We will also continue to work with animal control officers to intervene, investigate, and prosecute complaints of neglect and cruelty.

This three part program will be posted on our website (dahsinc.com), our Facebook page (Danville Area Humane Society Virginia), and our Instagram page (dahsvirginia) and updates will be periodically posted as well.

We encourage citizens to thoughtfully consider our program and join us in our long-term commitment to help the animals.

Like us on Facebook (Danville Area Humane Society Virginia) and visit our website (dahsinc.com).

OUR HOURS OF OPERATION

The shelter is open to the public from 12:00 p.m. until 5:30 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday and 12:00 p.m. until 3:30 p.m. on Saturdays. The shelter is closed on Sundays. The adoption areas are closed on Wednesdays. The shelter telephone number is 434.799.0843.

Drop-off cages are available after-hours, but we request that you call the phone numbers on the cages. An employee will be dispatched to take the animal inside. The cages are supplied with blankets, food, and water for the animal's temporary comfort.

For after-hour emergencies, please call 434.799.5111 for the City and 434.432.7937 for the County. Officers will be dispatched to help the injured animal.

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Danville Area Humane Society



Paws for a Cause

Many dogs and cats come to us with matted hair. Some come from the owners, and some come as strays. One that I vividly remember came to us a few years ago.

He was a poodle that was so matted, we could not even tell if he was a boy or a girl until he was shaved. He was obviously very uncomfortable, and so our groomer immediately started the process of clipping and shaving.

It took quite a while, and she found leaves, twigs, and lots of dirt in the middle of the mats. What really got our attention, though, was the stem from a rose bush with the thorns still attached. The thorns were completely entwined by the hair, and went from his bottom area, across his stomach, and were stuck underneath his arm pit. Every time he moved, the thorns would stick him.

WRITTEN BY PAULETTE DEAN
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
DANVILLE HUMANE SOCIETY



Vincent is under a year old and believes in living life to its fullest. That means he's ready to play at a moment's notice but also loves to cuddle.

The relief on his face when he was free of all the mats and thorns was evident. We recognized that look because we see it hundreds of times throughout the year when dogs, puppies, cats, kittens, rabbits, ferrets, (the list goes on) are rescued from dangerous, scary, and painful circumstances. The hungry and thirsty ones ravenously eat and drink; they then usually settle down with a sigh. The little puppies and kittens curl up and go to sleep.

It is amazing enough when we see what happens when basic physical needs are met. However, when the animals receive kindness and attention from shelter workers, the relief turns to joy.

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March 2026

The Drop

**All release dates are subject to change*

MUSIC:

March 6
- *Kiss All the Time. Disco, Occasionally* – Harry Styles (Dance-Pop)

March 13
- *Play Me* – Kim Gordon (Experimental Rock)
- *Trying Times* – James Blake (Electronic)

March 20
- *Arirang* – BTS (K-Pop)
- *The Way I Am* – Luke Combs (Country)



March 27
- *THIS MUSIC MAY CONTAIN HOPE* – RAYE (R&B)
- *Sexistential* – Robyn (Electropop)
- *Wildfire* – Loreen (Dance-Pop)
- *Ricochet* – Snail Mail (Indie Rock)
- *Creature of Habit* – Courtney Barnett (Indie Rock)

BOOKS:

March 3
- *You with the Sad Eyes* – Christina Applegate (Memoir)



March 10
- *Kids, Wait Till You Hear This!* – Liza Minnelli (Memoir)

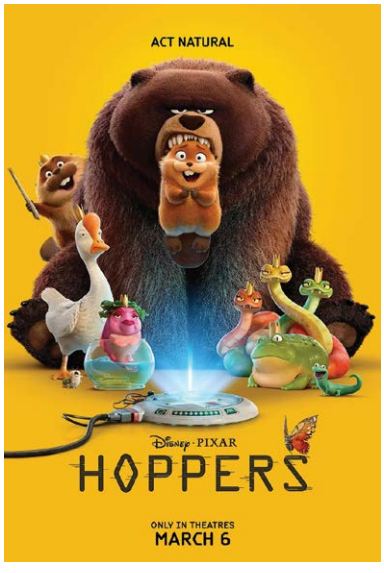
March 17
- *Innamorata* – Ava Reid (Gothic Fantasy)

March 24
- *Python's Kiss: Stories* – Louise Erdrich (Short Story Collection)
- *Starside*– Alex Aster (Romantasy/ Fantasy)
- *Wolf Worm* – T. Kingfisher (Gothic Horror)
- *Seasons of Glass and Iron* – Amal El-Mohtar (Fantasy/Fairy Tale Collection)

March 31
- *The Keeper* – Tana French (Mystery/Crime Fiction)
- *This Kingdom Will Not Kill Me* – Ilona Andrews (Epic Fantasy/ Romance)
- *How to Be Okay When Nothing is Okay* – Jenny Lawson (Self-Help/Humor)

FILM:

March 6
- *The Bride!* (Gothic Horror/ Romance)
  Starring: Jessie Buckley, Christian Bale, Jake Gyllenhaal, Penélope Cruz
- *Hoppers* (Animated Sci-Fi Comedy)
  Voice Cast: Jon Hamm, Meryl Streep, Bobby Moynihan



- *Peaky Blinders: The Immortal Man* (Crime Drama)
  Starring: Cillian Murphy

March 13
- *Reminders of Him* (Romantic Drama)
  Starring: Maika Monroe
- *The Breadwinner* (Family Comedy)
  Starring: Nate Bargatze, Mandy Moore, Will Forte

March 20
- *Project Hail Mary* (Sci-Fi Thriller)
  Starring: Ryan Gosling
- *Ready or Not 2: Here I Come* (Horror Comedy)
  Starring: Samara Weaving, Kathryn Newton

March 27
- *They Will Kill You* (Horror Thriller)
  Starring: Zazie Beetz, Patricia Arquette

TV:

March 4
- *Young Sherlock* (Prime Video)
- *Daredevil: Born Again* (Disney+)



March 6
- *Outlander* (Starz)

March 10
- *One Piece: Into the Grand Line* (Netflix)

March 11
- *Scarpetta* (Prime Video)

March 12
- *Virgin River* (Netflix)

March 14
- *The Madison* (Paramount+)

March 18
- *Imperfect Women* (Apple TV+)
- *Invincible* (Prime Video)

March 22
- *The Count of Monte Cristo* (PBS/Masterpiece)

GAMES:

March 2
- *World of Warcraft: Midnight* (PC)

March 5
- *Marathon* (PS5, Xbox Series X/S, PC)
- *Pokémon Pokopia* (Switch 2)

March 12
- *Fatal Frame II: Crimson Butterfly Remake* (PS5, Xbox Series X/S, Switch 2, PC)
- *John Carpenter's Toxic Commando* (PS5, Xbox Series X/S, PC)

March 13
- *Monster Hunter Stories 3: Twisted Reflection* (PS5, Xbox Series X/S, Switch 2, PC)

March 19
- *Crimson Desert* (PS5, Xbox Series X/S, PC)

March 26
- *Life is Strange: Reunion* (PS5, Xbox Series X/S, PC)



March 27
- *007 First Light* (PS5, Xbox Series X/S, PC)
- *Mega Man Star Force Legacy Collection* (PS5, PS4, Xbox Series X/S, Switch, PC)

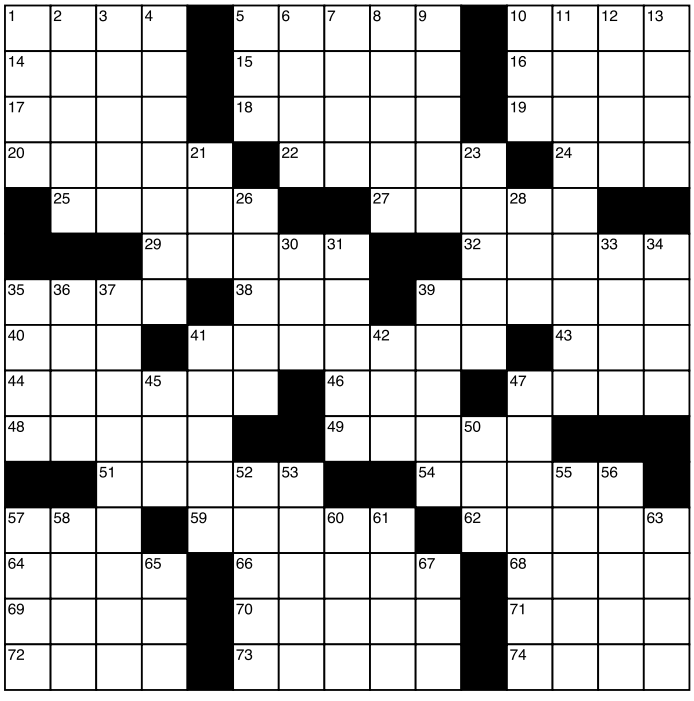
Level-Up
Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Western Athletic Conferences
5 Baseball player Yogi
10 Nerve
14 Unite in alliance
15 Regions
16 Dueling sword
17 Colored horse
18 Weight measurements
19 Other __
20 Asian country
22 FBI employees
24 Used
25 Small bunch of flowers
27 Type of alcohol
29 Affixed
32 Helper
35 Juicy
38 __ Lanka
39 Baseball player
40 Ripen
41 Musical venue
43 Cut
44 TV show "__ Brown"
46 Liberal (abbr.)
47 Gets older
48 Sucker
49 Monkey
51 Pointed at
54 Sensitive point
57 Kimono sash
59 Goofed
62 Water nymph
64 Cornmeal cake
66 Sits in a car
68 Past
69 To
70 Squashed circles
71 Women's magazine
72 Speaks
73 Send money
74 Grating sound

DOWN

1 Cagey
2 Soothing agents
3 Holding device
4 Combined effort of two
5 Container
6 Goofs
7 Glean
8 Synthetic fabric
9 Forte
10 Garner
11 Affirming
12 Duck
13 Mail
21 Nada
23 Defile
26 Effusive
28 Shrill bark
30 Before, poetically
31 Knobs
33 Canal
34 Representatives
35 Inclined plane
36 Water (Sp.)
37 Surety
39 City
41 Herb
42 Facial twitch
45 Pounds per square inch
47 Grace (2 wds.)
50 Women's partners
52 Boner
53 Hit a golf ball
55 Stringed instrument
56 Dukes
57 Musical composition
58 __ fide
60 Swiss-like cheese
61 Cafe
63 Insightful
65 Aurora
67 Fast plane



Word Search

CLOVER	JIG	LUCKY	POTATO
GOLD	LEGEND	MARCH	RAINBOW
GREEN	LEPRECHAUN	PATRICK	SAINT
IRELAND			SHAMROCK

D	L	K	V	M	R	J	Y	J	I	G	L
P	P	T	C	G	N	G	R	I	O	M	L
V	H	Q	K	I	R	R	R	T	P	R	E
R	C	K	Z	N	R	E	A	L	N	R	P
Z	R	N	L	D	L	T	E	H	R	A	R
P	A	R	K	A	O	M	A	N	L	I	E
R	M	X	N	P	Y	L	X	P	D	N	C
E	X	D	J	T	K	M	U	L	N	B	H
V	J	S	H	A	M	R	O	C	K	O	A
O	T	N	I	A	S	G	L	Z	K	W	U
L	Y	R	L	Q	Y	V	R	K	H	Y	N
C	G	X	R	P	D	N	E	G	E	L	L

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Answers on Page 21

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Pulse

Ongoing

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Ruby B. Archie Public Library Programs - See pages 20 & 21.

Through March 28

PAA Exhibits. American Watercolor Society 158th Traveling Exhibition; Act II: Paintings by Gail Doyle Smith; Opening Minds Through Art: Work by King's Grant Residents. Piedmont Arts. 276.632.3221.

Thru March 29

Danville Art League Exhibit. From the Minds Eye. Danville Museum of Fine Arts & History. 434.793.5644.

Thru March 21

Danville Farmers Winter Market. Baked goods, crafts, meats, eggs, seasonal produce and more. Sat 9am-1pm. Community Market. 434.797.8961.

March 1 (thru 31)

Pittsylvania County Public Libraries. Chatham - Book Bingo, Bridge, Little U, Tot Time, Art Challenge, Friends of the Library Meeting, Eric Carle Day Raffle, Bingocize, Novelty Yarns, Bingocize, Friday Paws, Leprechaun Scavenger Hunt, Chatham Branch Book Review, Take and Make Cricut Craft, After School Games, Page Turners Book Club, National Crayon Day, Lego Club. Mt. Hermon - Homeschool Junction, LEGO Lab, Knots & Needles, Book Bingo, Mother Goose on the Loose, Preschool Storytime, Reading Journals, MAR10 Kart Challenge, Bring Your Own Book Club, Book Club, Friends of the Library Meeting, Painting Class, Paws & Read, St. Paddy's Day Shenanigans, Cottagecore Craft Hour, Quilters Guild, Snow White Party, Art Lab. Brosville/Cascade Branch - Beginner Crochet, Storytime, Veteran's Coffee, Junk Journals, Cricut Workshop, Good Luck Charms, Acrylic Bookmarks, Skill Games. Gretna - LEGO Challenge, Baby Tales, Story Time, Reading Paws, Needlework Group, Teen Mayhem, Art Explorers, Bingo for Books, S.T.E.A.M, Teen Zone, Adult Coloring Night Gametastic.

March 1 (thru 29)

Live Music. Hosted by Matt Crowder. Sundays 2-6pm. 2 Witches Winery & Brewing Co. 434.549.2739.

March 4

American Legion of VA Claims Clinics. Post 29, Monroe Street. 10am-3pm. 434.222.0301.
Diabetes Support Group. Learn tips and tricks to help better manage diabetes. Topics will vary. 11am-12pm. Ballou Rec Center. 434.799.5216.
The Wednesday Club Program. The Impact of Early Literacy on Education Outcomes presented by Dr. Angela Hairston and Angela Wells. 3:45 pm. The Wednesday Club. 434.792.7921.

March 5

Helping Heroes Benefit. Celebrating 80 Years of Life-Saving Care with the Danville Life Saving Crew. 6pm. Atkinson Barn. 434.792.2739.

March 5 (thru 15)

Arsenic and Old Lace. A Killer Comedy. Smokestack Theatre Company. 434.549.5445. See ad page 15.

March 6

Comedy Night. Big laughs, good vibes, and great company. 6-10pm. Taqueria La G. 434.421.0598 or 434.549.5324.
Christopher Cross. Classic soft rock, soaring melodies and pure musical magic. 9pm. The Pantheon, Caesars Virginia. www.eventticketscenter.com.

March 6 & 7

True Grit Extreme Bull Bash. Bull riding, mini bull riding, barrel racing, food & vendors. 8pm. Olde Dominion Agricultural Complex. 434.432.8026. www.theodac.com.

March 7

Teacher Job Fair. Meet principals and teachers from 21 Pittsylvania County Schools. 10am-12pm. Chatham Middle School. www.pcs.k12.va.us.
MSAC Class. Make a Mosaic Sign. 2pm. Main Street Art Collective. 434.602.2017.
Comedy Hour. 7pm. 2 Witches Winery & Brewing Co. 434.549.2739.
Danville Symphony Orchestra Concert. 7:30pm. Bonner Middle School. 434.797.2666. dsova.org.
Candlebox - Can't Quit You Tour. 8pm. The Pantheon, Caesars Virginia. www.eventticketscenter.com.

March 8

Celebrating International Women's Day. Inspiring conversation with guest speaker Coach Lele. 3-5pm. Ballou Rec. Center. 434.799.5216

March 9 (thru 25)

Date Night Dance School. Exciting dance classes taught by Allison Snead covering three dynamic styles: Latin, Waltz, and Swing. M/W 6:30-8pm. Final showcase "A Night on the Dance Floor" 3/27, 6:30-10pm to see the moves participants have learned. The Prizery, South Boston. 434.572.8339.

March 10

Legal Aid Workshop. Repairs and Security Deposits. Questions and answers workshop. 11/6 5:30-6:30pm; 11/18 1-2pm. Ruby B. Archie Public Library Auditorium. 434.799.5195.

March 12

Clay Walker - Doin' What I Love Tour. Country music icon with 11 chart-topping hits and multi-PLATINUM albums. 9pm. The Pantheon, Caesars Virginia. www.eventticketscenter.com.

March 12 (thru 28)

Live Music. 3/12 Glenwood Smith; 3/13 Between Three; 3/20 Cotton & Steel; 3/27 Andy Burnette Trio; 3/28 Ryan Greer Band. 7-10pm. 2 Witches Winery & Brewing Co. 434.549.2739.

March 13

Ballou After Hours. Get grooving as you dance to music by DJ Greg Gee. Light refreshments. Registration required. 7-9pm. Ballou Rec Center. 434.799.5216.
Beatles vs. Stones - A Musical Showdown. Two of the greatest bands of all time face off in a high-energy, adrenaline-pumping musical showdown. 9pm. The Pantheon, Caesars Virginia. www.eventticketscenter.com.

March 13, 14 & 15

Danville Kennel Club Agility Trials. 8am-4pm. Olde Dominion Agricultural Center (ODAC). 434.432.8026. www.theodac.com.

March 14

Enchanted Tea Party. Enjoy sweets, games & crafts while dressed in fairy

tale costumes. Ages 2-12. Registration by 3/9. 10:30am. Ballou Rec Center. 434.799.5216.
MSAC Class. Create a Mosaic Stepping Stone. 11am. Main Street Art Collective. 434.602.2017.
Be Our Guest. Ring in spring with princess Belle. Enjoy pictures with Belle, cookie decorating, craft, lemonade and cupcakes. 1:30-3:30. Clementine's, Ringgold.
Dancing for the Arts. PAA fundraiser with local celebrities in a dance competition. 3pm. Martinsville High School Auditorium. Piedmont Arts. 276.632.3221.
St. Paddy's on the Dan. Live music, a DJ, and lots of green. Fundraiser for the Danville After Hours Rotary Club. 4-11pm. 2 Witches Winery & Brewing. Eventbrite.
G. Thomas Allen Concert. Extraordinary vocal range, innovative approach, soulful melodies, deeply rooted in sacred harmony. 7pm. GWHS Auditorium. Danville Concert Association. danvilleconcertassn.org.
Cabin Fever Music Series. Ryze Again. Reserved tables (seats 6) available. Tickets at door. 7pm. Danville Community Market. 434.799.5200.

March 14 (thru December)

Downtown South Boston Farmers Market. Saturdays, 8am–1pm. Broad Street, South Boston.

March 17

St. Patrick's Day Party with Therapeutics. Dance, eat, and have fun. Registration required. 11am-2pm. Camp Grove Rec Center. 434.799.5199.

March 18

The Wednesday Club Program. Mosaics and The Danville Globe presented by Dotti Stone. 3:45 pm. The Wednesday Club. 434.792.7921.

March 20

Cabin Fever Music Series. Remedy. Reserved tables (seats 6) available. Tickets at door. 7pm. Danville Community Market. 434.799.5200.
Jeffrey Osborne & Will Downing. Velvety vocals and timeless R&B. 9pm. The Pantheon, Caesars Virginia. www.eventticketscenter.com.

March 20, 21 & 22

13 Rodeo Stay Cutting Horse Show. Some of the best cutting horses and riders will showcase their skills. 8am or later. Olde Dominion Agricultural Complex. 434.432.8026. www.theodac.com.

March 21

MSAC Class. God Given Health Hacks (beginners class). 11am. Main Street Art Collective. 434.602.2017.
Artist's Studio Series. Dip Pen Calligraphy with Christy Foust. 11am-1pm. Ruby B. Archie Public Library. 434.799.5195.
King Kyote Concert. Soulful indie roots sound. 7pm. Historic North Theatre. 434.793.7469.

March 26

A Game Apart. Actor and playwright Mike Wiley will perform a one-person play about baseball legend Jackie Robinson. 7pm. Piedmont Arts, Martinsville. piedmontarts.org

March 27

Racin' & Tastin'. A night of entertainment with music by Superfly Five, all-you-care-to-eat BBQ, and more. 5:30-10:30pm. Community Market. Eventbrite.

March 27, 28 & 29

Fierce in Faith Barrel Race. Top competitors from across the region will be racing for big prizes. Times Vary. Olde Dominion Agricultural Complex. 434.432.8026. www.theodac.com.

March 28

Kid's Spring Event. A day of fun with live bunnies, photo sessions, crafts, sweet treats, dance party, and more. 10:30am-12pm, 1-2:30pm. N'tended for Kids / Dance Too. Craghead Street.
DAHS Pet Photos with the Easter Bunny. Pet adoptions, free microchipping, and more. 11am-1pm. Danville Area Humane Society. 434.799.0843.
MSAC Class. Paint a Barn Quilt. 11am. Main Street Art Collective. 434.602.2017.
River City Gospel Fest. Performances by The Inspirations, Jeff & Sheri Easter, The Down East Boys, and Declaration Worship. 5pm. The Tabernacle.
Cheap Trick: All Washed Up Tour. Legendary hits and high-energy performance. 9pm. The Pantheon, Caesars Virginia. www.eventticketscenter.com.

Upcoming

April 3, 4 & 5

Danville Kennel Club Agility Trials. 8am-4pm. ODAC. 434.432.8026. www.theodac.com.

April 4

MSAC Class. Gut Health, Antivirals & Antibiotics. 11am. Main Street Art Collective. 434.602.2017.
Mrs Roper's Rescues Pub Crawl for the Paws. Fundraiser walk in which participants are encouraged to wear festive attire, with door prizes, photography and more. 11am. Danville River District.

April 7 & 9

MSAC Class. Kids spring break paint class. 4/7-Painting Ceramics, 4/9-Paint a Dog or Cat on Canvas. 2pm. Main Street Art Collective. 434.602.2017.

April 10

Ballou After Hours. Get grooving as you dance to music by DJ Greg Gee. Light refreshments. Registration required. 7-9pm. Ballou Rec Center. 434.799.5216.

April 11

MSAC Class. Create a Custom Door Mat. 11am. Main Street Art Collective. 434.602.2017.
Benefit Draft Horse Pull. A powerful night of competition, community, and support. 3pm. Olde Dominion Agricultural Complex. www.theodac.com.
Live Music. Legendz Tribute Band. Fraternal Order of Eagles. 434.822.5686.
Collective Soul. A blend of fan favorites with new tracks delivered with trademark passion. 8pm. The Pantheon, Caesars Virginia. www.eventticketscenter.com.
Craig Morgan. Known for hits "That's What I Love About Sunday" and "Redneck Yacht Club." 9pm. The Pantheon, Caesars Virginia. www.eventticketscenter.com.







Beyond the Fields

Celebrating National Agriculture Month in Southern Virginia

BY HANNAH BARKER, MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM

PHOTOS PROVIDED BY CITY OF DANVILLE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM

Did you know Virginia's agriculture sector contributes more than $82 billion annually to the state's economy? This tremendous impact comes from products like poultry, cattle, crops, forestry, and more, having a ripple effect throughout towns, communities, and the entire nation.

Each March, National Agriculture Month shines a spotlight on the people and places that make this sector thrive. From farmers markets and ranchers to farm fresh restaurants and hands-on experiences, the celebration highlights the deep roots and vibrant future of farming across the Commonwealth.

One of the most engaging ways to experience this heritage is through agritourism, the blend of agriculture and attracting visitation. Agritourism is growing in Southern Virginia, taking on many forms: farm-to-table dining, overnight stays on working farms, pop-up markets, and immersive educational activities. These experiences invite residents and visitors to connect with the land, animals, and farmers who support the region's natural growth.

Many of these opportunities are actually right here in your own backyard, throughout Danville and Pittsylvania County. How many have you visited?

Taste, Tour, and Explore

Each year, thousands, both residents and visitors, flock to the **Danville Farmers Market**, in the search for home-made breads, jams, crafts, produce, meats, and more. This local market is in full bloom from May to October, with special Wednesday hours during July and August. Located in the heart of Danville's River District, the Danville Farmers Market is a beloved destination for anyone seeking goods that are homegrown and made with care.



In Chatham, the **Moses Mill Farm** has welcomed visitors for over a decade. The farm is home to a variety of cuddly creatures, including ten goats, each with a unique name and an even more unique personality of its own. Guests can tour the scenic property, participate in goat-milking experiences, and stay overnight at the newly opened bed-and-breakfast. Owner, Amy Davis, said, "We welcome individuals, families, school groups, and serious homesteaders to learn about life on the farm, how to milk a goat, make soap or cheese, the benefits of rotational grazing, and more."

At Infinity Acres Ranch, a nonprofit educational facility in Ridgeway, guests can engage in animal-based learning through programs such as Animal Adventure Camp, traveling exhibits, and guided tours. With goats, llamas, horses, birds, donkeys, and more, the ranch offers interactive experiences ideal for families, school groups, and curious learners of all ages.

A regional hub for agricultural events, the **Olde Dominion Agricultural Complex** draws thousands of visitors year-round. The facility hosts rodeos, horse shows, barrel racing, livestock shows, and a wide range of community events that celebrate the region's agricultural heritage. One of the most popular events is the seasonal Farmers Market, a gathering place for growers, crafters, producers, and bakers.





Located in Gretna, **Funky Fleece Farm** sits on 44 acres of family-owned land, features grand views of the countryside, and is home to a herd of fuzzy alpacas. Visitors can cuddle with the animals, snap photos, grab a pair of alpaca socks, or simply enjoy the serene property. The farm also hosts "sunset experiences," complete with a cozy patio setup, local wine, and charcuterie boards.

Helping Agritourism Thrive

The **Danville Office of Economic Development & Tourism** works to strengthen these agriculture-based businesses and experiences by offering relevant workshops, training opportunities, events, sponsorships, and promotional and marketing support. Lisa Meriwether, Tourism Manager, said, "Agritourism is one of our most powerful tools for attracting visitors. When people come to experience our farms, markets, and scenic landscapes, they discover a side of Danville and Pittsylvania County that is authentic, sparking a desire to visit again and again."

So, what will you explore first? Start your journey during National Agriculture Month at www.visitsosi.com.

What's happening at the local library

Ruby B. Archie Public Library

**Registration is required for most events*

All Month:
March 1-6
Children March Through the Stacks Take and Make Kits: Women's History Month – Learn about important historical figures in fun and engaging hands-on activities and crafts. Bags are available while supplies last. Ages 2-17.

March 1-31
Spring Bookish Bags – Are you looking for something new to read? Introducing the "Bookish Bag", the library's seasonal subscription bag! Each bag comes with a book you get to keep as well as a few bookish surprises that fit the bag's theme. There is no charge for the bags, but they are limited. Grades 2-8.

Mondays: March 9, 23
Computers for Beginners – Get an introduction to the basic functions of a personal computer, how to navigate the internet, and how to send and receive email. Ages 18+. 4:30pm-5:30pm

Tuesdays: March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31
Little Explorers Storytime – Children and their caregivers are invited to join us for songs, stories, and activities that promote language development and pre-literacy skills. Ages 2-5. 11:00am-12:00pm

Tuesdays: March 3, 17
The Write Stuff – Bring what you are working on to share with the group or just come to discuss your craft. All genres are welcome. Ages 18+. 5:00pm-6:30pm

Thursdays: March 12, 26
and Friday: March 20
Book Babies – Music and rhymes, stories and fingerplays in a a lap sit program for babies and their caregivers. Ages 0-18 months.10:30am-11:30am

Fridays: March 6, 20
Drop-In Resume Clinic – Need help with your resume? Learn what catches an employer's attention, get tools for resume-building, and practice making your own. Ages 18+. 10:30am-11:30am

March 2
LEGO Brick Engineers – Make your own LEGO brick creation to meet this month's creative challenge. Bricks provided. All LEGO models will be displayed in the children's department. Ages 5-17. 4:00pm-5:00pm
Shelf-ish Readers Book Club – A high school book club that includes group reads, book talks, themed events, and teen-led discussions with other booklovers. Snacks provided. Grades 9-12. 5:30pm-6:30pm

March 3
Internet Safety 101 – Learn the basics for protecting yourself and your privacy online. Ages 18+. 5:00pm-6:00pm

March 4
Homeschool Hub: STEM Series – Afternoon session of the library's Ancient Explorers and Tree House Tuesday STEM programs. Includes a large group presentation followed by small group activities based on age. Ages 5-12. 1:30pm-2:30pm
Code Challengers – Learn to make your own computer games, mobile apps, and more! Join to experience hands-on coding and robotics. No experience required. Ages 8-12. 4:30pm-5:30pm

March 5
Magical Journeys – Explore the many fantastical worlds of make believe, from Peter Pan's Neverland and King Arthur's Camelot to the forests of Narnia and Alice's Wonderland. Each session will explore a different world through crafts, experiments, and games. Ages 5-12. 4:00pm-5:00pm

March 10
Taste and Talk Murder Mystery Book Club: *Murder by Cheesecake* by Rachel Ekstrom Courage – Nothing goes together like tasty treats and cozy mysteries. Ages 18+. 11:00am-12:00pm at Ballou Recreation Center

Legal Aid Workshops: Repairs and Security Deposits – Representatives from Virginia Legal Aid Society will present information. Ages 18+. 1:00pm-2:00pm

March 12
Local History Presentation: Local Life in 18th Century Pittsylvania County – Local history presentation by Dr. Canady from Averett University. Ages 18+. 2:00pm-3:00pm
Little Learning Lab: Frogs & Toads – Explore, create, and learn through interactive STEAM-based activities that will engage the mind and body as your child builds their fine motor skills and creativity while exploring scientific concepts. Ages 2-6. 4:00pm-5:00pm
Just Write – Flex your creative writing muscles and exercise your imagination. Bring your journal, laptop, or other device to join in on writing activities, prompts, and exercises. Ages 18+. 5:30pm-6:30pm

March 14
Books & Beans Social Hour – Discuss what you've been reading and discover what to read next. Join other booklovers for a casual morning of coffee and conversation. Ages 18+. 9:00am-10:00am at Links Coffee House
Enchanted Tea Party – Join for tea at the royal Ballou castle where we shall enjoy sweets, games, and crafts. Guests are encouraged to dress in fairy tale costumes and come escorted by their esteemed caretakers. Ages 2-12. 10:30am-12:00pm at Ballou Recreation Center

March 16
Mad Scientists – Put your goggles and lab coats on and explore components of STEAM through hand-on demonstrations, experiments, and crafts. Ages 8-17. 4:30pm-5:30pm
Board Game Café – Explore the wide world of modern board games. Library staff will lead a game selected from various tabletop games that are simple to learn and fun to master. This is a great way to meet

new people and discover new games. Ages 18+. 5:30pm-6:30pm

March 18

Get More from Google: Google Docs – Join to learn about the many things you can do with the free apps included in your Google account. Ages 18+. 4:30pm-5:30pm

Teen Craft Night: Bead Buddies – Join for a night of crafts, music, and fun. Bring your friends and make new ones. Ages 12-17. 5:00pm-6:00pm

March 19

Ozobot Adventures – Help Ozo find his way! Use simple coding to navigate tiny robots through wild adventures. No experience needed. Ages 6-10. 4:30pm-5:30pm

The Pod People: Film Discussion – It's like a book club but make it podcasts. Discuss a different podcast genre or series each month. All selections should be available on your choice of podcast player. Register early to receive a list of suggested listening for upcoming discussions. Ages 18+. 5:30pm-6:30pm

March 20

Homeschool Hub: Teen Hangout – Meet your friends for an afternoon of games, crafts, and more in the Maker Space! Grades 6-12. 1:30pm-3:00pm

Teen Takeover – After-hours at the library is for teens only! Play video games with friends, make slime, have nerf battles, eat pizza, and more. Ages 12-17. 4:30pm-6:30pm

March 21

Youth Dungeons & Dragons – All experience levels are welcome. First time participants receive a free set of dice. *Please note that this event is collaborative and interactive. All participants are encouraged to arrive on time and stay for the duration to avoid disruption to the game. Grades 6-12. 10:30am-1:30pm

March 23

Unrequired Reading Classics Book Club: *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings* by Maya Angelou – We all learned about the classics in high school. Let's read them again just for fun! Join the discussion for a fresh perspective on these enduring tales. Ages 18+. 5:30pm-6:30pm

March 24

Treehouse Tuesday – If you are an adventurer like Jack and Annie from the Magic Tree House series, this program is for you! Learn about ninjas and twisters, perform experiments, and make crafts in this literary STEAM program. Ages 5-12. 4:30pm-5:30pm

Pop Culture Geek-Out Hour: Coloring and Conversation – Just to talk about the geeky things we love the most. Fill up on recommendations from books, movies, podcasts, and more. Ages 18+. 5:30pm-6:30pm

March 25

Preschool Picassos – Join for an evening of finger-painting and fun. Let those creative juices and drinks flow as you create your own work of art. Materials and drinks will be provided. Ages 1-6. 4:00pm-5:00pm

Books & Brews Social Hour – Drop by to join a casual discussion with fellow booklovers about all our latest reads, discover new books to add to your TBR. Ages 18+. 5:30pm-6:30pm at Crema & Vine

March 26

Better Business Bureau Presents: AI Scams – Learn helpful and interesting tips from a guest speaker who will teach us about recognizing and avoiding AI scams. Ages 18+. 5:00pm-6:30pm

The Loop Group: Open Needlecraft Hour – Bring your needlecraft project to work on. Share skills and learn techniques from others. Ages 18+. 5:30pm-6:30pm

March 28

D.E.A.R. Read-A-Thon: Welcome Party Only – Bring your books and blankets, find a cozy corner and spend the day reading during this lock-in event. Each hour of reading will be broken up with fun activities and challenges. Ages 2-12. 3:00pm-4:00pm

D.E.A.R. Read-A-Thon: Full Event – Bring your books and blankets, find a cozy corner and spend the day reading during this lock-in event. Each hour of reading will be broken up with fun activities and challenges. Readers are invited to stay until 7:00pm for activities and a pizza dinner. Ages 6-12. 3:00pm-7:00pm

March 30

Get Connected! Adult LEGO Hour – Join for an hour of LEGO brick free play just for adults! Enjoy conversation and creating with follow adult LEGO fans. Bricks provided. Ages 18+. 1:30pm-2:30pm & 5:30pm-6:30pm

Maker Mondays: Pocket Pets – Build, explore, tinker, and create fun hands-on projects. Ages 6-11. 4:30pm-5:30pm

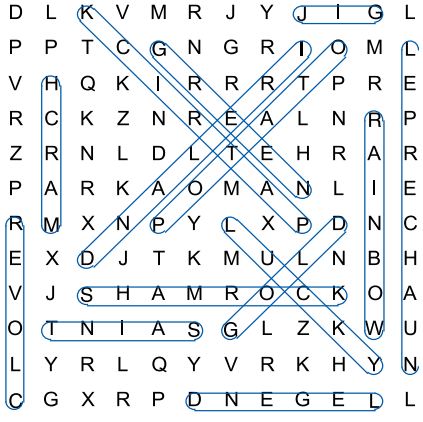
March 31

Adult Arts and Crafts: Sparkly Rhinestone Egg – Let your creativity shine to create a cute craft. Ages 18+. 5:00pm-6:00pm

Games Solutions

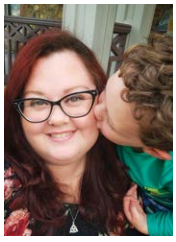
Continued from Page 14

Word Search



Crossword Puzzle

W	A	C	S	■	B	E	R	R	A	■	G	U	T	S
A	L	L	Y	■	A	R	E	A	S	■	E	P	E	E
R	O	A	N	■	G	R	A	M	S	■	T	H	A	N
Y	E	M	E	N	■	S	P	I	E	S	■	O	L	D
■	S	P	R	I	G	■	■	E	T	H	Y	L	■	■
■	■	■	G	L	U	E	D	■	■	A	I	D	E	R
R	A	C	Y	■	S	R	I	■	U	M	P	I	R	E
A	G	E	■	T	H	E	A	T	R	E	■	N	I	P
M	U	R	P	H	Y	■	L	I	B	■	A	G	E	S
P	A	T	S	Y	■	■	S	C	A	M	P	■	■	■
■	■	A	I	M	E	D	■	■	N	E	R	V	E	■
O	B	I	■	E	R	R	E	D	■	N	A	I	A	D
P	O	N	E	■	R	I	D	E	S	■	Y	O	R	E
U	N	T	O	■	O	V	A	L	S	■	E	L	L	E
S	A	Y	S	■	R	E	M	I	T	■	R	A	S	P



From the Kitchen of

Big Bear's Wife

Garlic Butter Shrimp and Broccoli

WRITTEN BY ANGIE BARRETT OF BIGBEARSWIFE.COM
PHOTO BY ANGIE BARRETT

Yield: 4 servings
Prep Time: 5 minutes
Cook Time: 10 minutes
Total Time: 5 minutes

Super simple and easy to make, this Garlic Butter Shrimp and Broccoli is going to get added to your dinner rotation as soon as you give it a try! From the rich flavors of garlic butter to the tender shrimp and broccoli, this dish is a must-try for any seafood lover.

INGREDIENTS

1/4 cup soy sauce
1 teaspoon freshly grated ginger
4 cloves garlic, peeled and minced
1 teaspoon olive oil
16 ounces Extra Large Raw Shrimp*, peeled and deveined
10 ounce bag frozen broccoli, steamed
4 tablespoons butter
Salt and Pepper
1 teaspoon cornstarch**
White or Jasmine rice for serving



INSTRUCTIONS

1. In a small bowl, combine the soy sauce, ginger, and minced garlic. Whisk together well.
2. Add shrimp to a medium bowl with 1/2 of the sauce and stir to coat well. *Note that you can leave the tails on or remove them.
3. In a large skillet, add olive oil and heat to medium heat.
4. Add shrimp. Cook 2 minutes per side, until shrimp curl and turn pink.
5. Add butter and broccoli, and stir around until the butter melts.
6. Season with a few dashes of salt and pepper.
7. Mix cornstarch with the remaining sauce.
8. Add to skillet, stir, and heat until sauce has thickened a bit.
9. Serve as is or over rice.

Notes

* Extra Large Shrimp is 26-30 shrimp per pound
**The cornstarch will help thicken the sauce but you can also make it without it.

Scan for step-by-step photos and more tips at BigBearsWife.com!



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Explore More: Discover the URW difference online at www.urwfcu.org

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