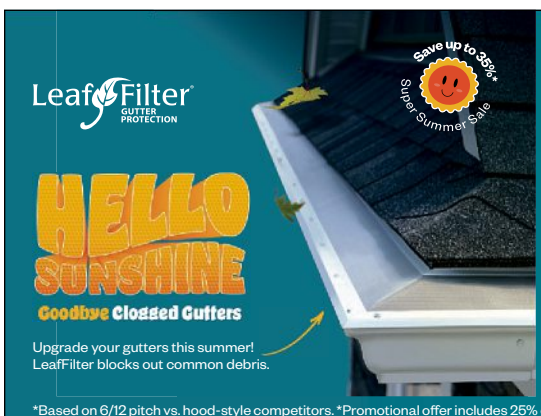

Save up-to*

35% Off + FREE Inspection

*25% off + 10% for qualified Seniors & Military

Schedule your **free** inspection and quote today!

Call 540-712-3319

LeafFilter.com/group

Promo Code 364

*Based on 6/12 pitch vs. hood-style competitors. *Promotional offer includes 25% off plus an additional 10% off for qualified veterans and/or seniors. Cannot be combined with any other offers. One coupon per household. No obligation estimate valid for 1 year. See representative for full warranty details. Subject to credit approval. Call for details AR 366920925, AZ ROC 344027, CA 1035795, CT HIC.0671520, DC 420223000087, FL CBC056678, IA C127230, ID RCE-51604, LA 559544, MA 213292, MD HIC164488, MI 262300331, 262300330, 262300329, 262300328, 262300318, 262300173, MN IR810524, MT 266192, ND 47304, NE 50145-24, NJ 13VH13285000, NM 408693, NV 86990, OR 218294, PA PA179643, RI GC-41354, TN 10981, UT 10783658-5501, VA 2705169445, VT 174.0000871, WA LEAFFLH763PG, WI No. 537-DCFRR, WV WV056912

The News Leader

TUESDAY, AUGUST 18, 2026 | NEWSLEADER.COM

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

Part of the New York Flying Pizza franchise, Staunton Flying Pizza is located at 2221 N. Augusta St.
BRAD ZINN/THE NEWS LEADER; GRAPHIC, GETTY IMAGES

A SLICE OF THE VALLEY

Staunton Flying Pizza crowned best local pie

Monique Calello Staunton News Leader | USA TODAY NETWORK

We spotlighted 16 locally owned favorite pizza spots in Staunton, Waynesboro and Augusta County, drawing on reviews, recommendations and buzz from across the web and social media, and asked you to vote for your favorite place. • New York Flying Pizza in Staunton claimed the top spot in August's Best Pizza poll with 31% of the vote. Pizza Luca finished second at 19%, while Little Maria's Pizza & Subs in Verona placed third with 13%. • We looked for a strong mix of New York-style, traditional Italian, brick-fired, and neighborhood pizzerias with loyal followings and something distinctive to offer, whether it's Sicilian pies, gourmet toppings or signature specialty pizzas. **See BEST, Page 3A**

Staunton Amtrak station to get $15M facelift

Bill Atkinson
Petersburg Progress-Index
USA TODAY NETWORK

More than $15 million in federal funding is on track for improvements at the Staunton Amtrak Station.

In a shared statement Friday, Aug. 14, Virginia Sens. Tim Kaine and Mark Warner said the money for the station will cover upgrades to the station's platform, canopy, and accessible routes, including handrails and curb ramps.

It is part of more than $2.18 billion awarded to the state through the U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal-State Partnership for Intercity Passenger Rail Grant Program. The program was created by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, which the senators called "a transformative investment" in American infrastructure.

"Reliable passenger rail plays a critical role in connecting Virginians to their jobs, families, and communities, while also giving travelers more options to get where they need to go," Kaine and Warner said in the statement. "We're thrilled that the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law continues to deliver major investments to Virginia, improving our transportation infrastructure, boosting our Commonwealth's economy, and creating good-paying jobs.

Located at 1 Middlebrook Ave. in

See AMTRAK, Page 2A

Staunton explores 'daylighting' damaged tunnel

City Council weighs options for Wharf parking lot system

Lyra Bordelon
Staunton News Leader
USA TODAY NETWORK

The City of Staunton daylighting the Wharf parking lot seems more likely than it did before the Thursday, Aug. 13, Staunton City Council meeting.

The possibility of daylighting, or exposing part of the tunneled stream under the Wharf back up into the eponymous daylight, was briefly raised last year, similar to what was done at Peyton Creek in Gypsy Hill Park. The city turned to the engineering firm of Wiley Wilson to study the possibilities.

Dan Sutton, a senior project manager with the firm, presented the initial results of the daylighting study to council on Aug. 13. Sutton was concerned about a section of the stream tunnel not currently under repair, which flows downstream from the point where Lewis Creek and Gum Spring Branch, also known as Peyton Creek, meet.

"The tunnels themselves are not in immediate danger of failing, but they're not getting any better the longer we wait to do something about this," said Sutton said. "We have a continued limited use of the Wharf parking lot and we have this risk that the next big flood does damage that to the point where it collapses."

Highlighting that the sections of

See TUNNEL, Page 2A

Scenes from the Virginia Scenic Railway, a tourist rail excursion that departs from Staunton.
PROVIDED BY KATE SIMON

THIS MONTH ONLY

GET 50% OFF INSTALLATION

of Your KOHLER® Walk-In Bath + NO INTEREST FOR 12 MONTHS†

K150 | LIFETIME LIMITED* WARRANTY

Call today for your **FREE** in-home quote!

(826) 204-2531

*For as long as the original purchaser consumer owns his or her home. For complete warranty details, visit KOHLER.com/Warranty.

†Offer ends August 31, 2026. Participating dealers only. Not available in AK; HI; Nassau Cty, Suffolk Cty, Westchester Cty, or City of Buffalo, NY. 50% off installation labor applies to the installation of the KOHLER walk-in bath and may exclude costs associated with plumbing and electrical. Cannot be combined with any other advertised offer. Contact Reveal by KOHLER Authorized Dealer for financing details.

Subscriber-only eNewspaper

The eNewspaper is an electronic copy of your print newspaper. Enjoy every page by going to newsleader.com/enewspaper or scan this code on your mobile device. You will also find late news and sports in the bonus sections. Check it out today!

PROUDLY SERVING OUR COMMUNITIES OF STAUNTON, WAYNESBORO AND AUGUSTA COUNTY, VA. FOR MORE THAN A CENTURY.

Volume 136 | No. 195
Subscribe 877-424-0032

©2026
$1.50