

# PITTSYLVANIA COUNTY

## VIRGINIA

Matthew D. Rowe  
Economic Development  
Director  
P.O. Box 426  
Chatham, Virginia 24531  
Matthew.rowe@pittgov.org



1 Center Street  
Chatham, Virginia  
Phone (434) 432-1979  
Fax (434) 432-7714  
[www.pittsylvaniacountyva.gov](http://www.pittsylvaniacountyva.gov)

For Immediate Release

July 20, 2016

*≈Assisted living and memory care facility to be developed near Hurt, VA≈*

HURT – Pittsylvania County and the Town of Hurt are pleased to announce that Runk & Pratt Senior Living Communities, a family owned company since 1992, will invest at least \$6 million and create 60 jobs during the next 5 years as they announce that one of their newest locations will be in Pittsylvania County, Virginia. They currently have 450 licensed beds between four locations in the Central Virginia area. The senior community will be centered around an existing golf course and will not only provide jobs but will also address northern Pittsylvania County's demand for senior assisted living and memory care services.

Pittsylvania County's Economic Development Office was contacted by the Gretna Alzheimer's Care Givers and Support Group in March regarding the need for an assisted living and memory care facility to serve northern Pittsylvania County. The County's Economic Development Office contacted and organized meetings between Runk & Pratt, the Gretna support group, and the community, to demonstrate market demand and need. The County's Board of Supervisors titled the project "Oscar" in memory of Oscar Davis, husband to Pat Davis, facilitator for the Gretna support group.

Jessie Barksdale, Pittsylvania County Board of Supervisors Chairman stated, "I am thrilled to welcome Runk & Pratt to our community. Their facility will not only create needed jobs, but will also address a widespread need for citizens that reside in the northern portion of the County. This project is a great example of what can be accomplished when a local government and its citizens work together towards a common goal".

Gary Poindexter, Town of Hurt Mayor shared his excitement and optimism by stating, "The Town of Hurt is on the brink of experiencing positive growth, with the potential to greatly benefit our town and the surrounding areas. One such growth is the advent of The Willows, brought to us by Runk and Pratt. It is our expectation that this project will play a substantial role in bringing about a rejuvenation of the local economy - something our citizens have direly needed for several years now. Truly, this announcement is some of the best news Hurt has received in a long time, and we are deeply grateful to Runk and Pratt for their investment in our community."

Brian and Vickie Runk, owners of Runk and Pratt, stated “We are proud to be a new member of Pittsylvania County, and we are also honored and humbled to have been approached by the County and the seniors that make up this great community. After looking at the demographics of Altavista, Hurt, Gretna and Chatham from a regional approach, the decision to bring senior services to this area and create jobs became a very easy decision to make. We look forward to creating an active lifestyle community that allows the residents the option to stay in their community.”

Senator Frank Ruff, Vice-Chairman of the Tobacco Commission said, “We are indeed fortunate to have a well-established and respected company to invest in the Hurt region. Their success has been based on quality service. We look forward to Runk and Pratt serving the area.”

Pittsylvania County worked closely with the Town of Hurt and the Virginia Tobacco Commission to secure this project. The Virginia Tobacco Commission has qualified \$155,000 towards the project which will be used for critical site development needs.