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# THE NEW CASTLE RECORD



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and more!**

## Field of Dreams receives much needed grant



SUBMITTED PHOTO

It's often said that it takes months to move a lot of dirt. The project at the Field of Dreams has proved that right. BJ Oliver and others have moved dirt and cleaned out ditches to allow access lines for water to extend from the town's Public Service Authority to the center of the complex, requiring a 2,500 foot, three-foot deep ditch with two-inch pipe and several Ts. The labor donated by the Oliver family made much of this possible and teams will be happy for the water that will be used for drinking fountains, the concession stand and restrooms.

**Pam Dudding**  
Contributing writer

Despite COVID-19 preventing much activity at the Field of Dreams, the Craig Recreation and Conservation Association (CCR&CA) continues to reach for its dreams by completing its final vision.

Recently, they were awarded a

much-needed grant to help with the completion of the field.

Debbie Snead, a community citizen and one of the original founders of the Field of Dreams shared, "The Community Foundation Serving Western Virginia has awarded a grant to Craig County's Field of Dreams from their Community Catalyst Funds in the amount of \$8,100, which

was approved to support the Field's extensive water project."

The CCR&CA recently completed several infrastructure projects for the Field including, electricity with assistance from Craig Botetourt Electric Cooperative, a well for watering the fields with labor donated by Billy Horn and

See **Field of Dreams**, page 5



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Craig Valley 4491 Post Commander Billy Lee awarding Makenzie Lucas as first-place recipient for her essay written for the Patriot's Pen Annual Contest, "What is Patriotism to Me?"

## What does patriotism mean, in the words of Craig County residents

**Pam Dudding**  
Contributing writer

The United States of America has stood the test of many trials throughout its years of existence and the Veterans of Foreign Wars are men and women who support this country with heart and soul as well as their own sacrificial lives.

The VFW also hosts writing contests every year, offering teenagers the opportunity to express themselves as young Americans who wish to share their voice.

The Veterans of Foreign War throughout the United States hosts local competitions in middle and high schools annually, challenging students to submit their writings on patriotic subjects, noting, that the competition is "dedicated to encouraging a better understanding and appreciation of America."

The Patriot's Pen is a written essay for middle school students. This year, their question was, "What is Patriotism to Me?"

Entrants vie for the top award of \$5,000 and last year more than 138,000 students entered.

The students compete locally, and the winners take home a gift card from Craig Valley VFW Post 4491 before competing in District where first place takes home a \$200 check. Those winners go forward to State for a chance to share in scholarships and awards between \$500 and \$1,000 and then to nationals.

In addition to local, regional, and state competitions, the first-place winner from each VFW State Department wins a minimum scholarship of \$1,000 and an all-expense-paid trip to Washington, D.C.

This year, Makenzie Lucas won first place, while Kallie and Kammie Fisher came in second and third place, respectively. Makenzie also took first place in the District contest and will receive an additional check.

Lucas wrote: "Accord-

ing to Webster's Dictionary, patriotism means 'love for or devotion to one's country.' But it is so much more. To me, patriotism means respecting the men and women who fought for our freedom. To me, it's standing for the Pledge of Allegiance and removing your hat and putting your hand over your heart for the National Anthem. To me, it's thanking a Veteran for their service. To me, it's not being ashamed of our country's history and military.

"I think it is absurd the way people are so disrespectful these days; burning the flag, stepping on it, really is loathsome. Without the Revolutionary War, we might still be a part of Great Britain," he added. "Without the World Wars, we wouldn't be free; World War One was the 'war to end all wars.' World War Two was the war to make America truly free. And we owe it to all to the people who fought for us."

Over 13,000 soldiers die serving every year. The death toll keeps rising. There have been over six wars involving the United States since 2000. America has been in 12 major wars in total, losing just one. We have a strong military that needs your support. We need your Patriotism.

We are free. One of the many wonderful things about America is that we are free. The right to go to church, freedom to say what we want. Our Founding fathers created the Constitution and rightfully knew it'd need Amendments to ensure rights and privileges as Americans. We have the 1st Amendment - Freedom of Speech and Religion. Then, we have the 2nd Amendment - the Right to Bear Arms; In other words, the right to own a firearm, to keep yourself safe.

The 19th amendment means a great deal to me. It assures women the right to vote. It was ratified in 1920. With their tenacious fight

See **Patriotism**, page 5

## CCCCC receives high performance rating



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Teachers at 5C enjoy the many different classes they can provide for Craig County parents. From tiny tots to older kids, the center cares for them all, providing excellent care, love and learning.

**Pam Dudding**  
Contributing writer

Many changes and adjustments have been mandated in the last several months due to the COVID-19 virus.

Craig County schools have been intensely affected as well as the local childcare center.

Still, administration and teachers strive to provide the best schooling available for them all.

Teresa Oliver, Craig County Child Care Center's (C5) Executive Director, said, "Even though Craig County is a very rural area with limited economic resources, that does not mean that our early learners must accept substandard educational services."

Most families agree that choosing an early childhood program is one of the most important decisions they can make.

By voluntarily participating

in Virginia Quality early learning programs, the C5 shows their staff, families and community that they are committed to quality for young children.

Their statistics show that, Quality Rating and Improvement Systems exist in most states across the country and are a proven strategy to systematically improve the quality of childcare and early learning programs. The quality rating set the standards for quality improvement.

There are five quality levels. The criteria define what the program will be assessed on, and the required activities define the quality improvement activities that will be available to help achieve the quality improvement required for moving to the next level.

There are four main factors that determine what makes a successful Virginia Quality site: child to staff ratios; teacher-child interactions; the learning environment; and staff

education, qualifications, and training. These standards have been selected because of a thorough review of the research literature and best practices in other states.

- Basic Health & Safety - The program is in compliance with requirements of state and local regulatory agencies

- Education & Qualifications - The program recognizes the importance of having teachers who have or are working towards formal education in child development or early childhood education

- Curriculum & Assessment - The program works to use curriculum, child assessment, and intentional teaching that promotes children's development and incorporates state early learning guidelines

- Environment - The program strives to have children engaged in meaningful learning and play by offering them a variety of materials and activities throughout the day

- Interactions - Daily, supportive interactions between teachers and children form the foundation for social and cognitive learning, significantly impacting school readiness

Virginia records show that there are currently 82 licensed childcare centers in the piedmont region that have voluntarily entered the Virginia Quality Rating process. Of those, 19 have received a level one, an additional 19 have also received a level two, 27 participants have received a level three, 15 have demonstrated the requirement to reach level four, and only two have accomplished

See **C5**, page 5



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# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

## MONDAY THROUGH SATURDAY

The Craig County Public Library is open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 10 a.m. - 6 p.m., Wednesday from 10 a.m. - 7 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. The library is located at 303 Main St. in New Castle. For more information, call (540) 864-8978 or visit [www.craiglibrary.org](http://www.craiglibrary.org).

Contact 540-293-4065 for more information.

•New Castle Church of Christ will hold its Bible Study from 7 p.m. to 7:45 p.m. at 118 Main Street in New Castle.

## EVERY SATURDAY

Overeaters Anonymous (OA) meeting. 11 a.m. at Christ Lutheran Church, located at 2011 Brandon Avenue in Roanoke. Contact 540-293-4065 for more information.

## EVERY TUESDAY

•Overeaters Anonymous (OA) meeting. 7 p.m. at Christ Lutheran Church, located at 2011 Brandon Avenue in Roanoke.

## EVERY SUNDAY

•Alcoholics Anonymous meeting. 8 p.m. at New Castle Fire Hall.

•The New Castle Christian Church, located

at 282 Salem Ave, is pastored by Sheldon Cosma is having services at 9 a.m. and 11 a.m., with communion at each, and is on Facebook live at 9 a.m.

•St. Johns Catholic Church, on Route 615, is having virtual masses at 8:30 a.m. and 10 a.m. by Father Steve McNalley. They are also live on Facebook. For more information, contact (540) 864-8686 or send an email to [stjohnnewcastle@tds.net](mailto:stjohnnewcastle@tds.net).

## SECOND MONDAY

•Paint Bank Ladies Auxiliary meeting, 7 p.m. at the Paint Bank Fire Department. Call 897-5346 for more information.

•Craig County Public Library Board of Trustees meeting at 6 p.m. at the library.

## THIRD MONDAY

Town of New Castle Council Meeting at 7 p.m. inside the New Castle Town Hall, located at 339 Market Street.

## FIRST TUESDAY

Craig County School Board meets at 6:30 p.m. in the High School Media Center.

## SECOND TUESDAY

Mountain Lodge 140 AF&AM, 7:30 p.m. at Lodge Hall, 255 Main St.

## THIRD WEDNESDAY

The Botetourt/Craig/Roanoke Farm Service Agency County Committee meets each month at 10 a.m. at the Bonsack USDA Service Center. Please call one day before the meeting date regarding possible cancellation information 540-977-2698, Ext. 2. The Bonsack USDA Service Center is located at 36 Executive Circle, Suite 1, Roanoke, VA 24012. All County Committee meetings are open to the public.

## FIRST THURSDAY

Craig County Board of Supervisors meets at 6 p.m. at the Craig County Courthouse.

## SECOND THURSDAY

Maywood Garden Club meeting at 7:30 p.m. held at Simmonsville Fire Department.

## EVERY TUESDAY AND THURSDAY

Everyone six months and up should receive a flu shot each year. A parent or guardian must accompany those under the age 18. Insurances will be billed. People are encouraged to bring their insurance card and not attend if they have COVID-19 like symptoms. The curbside clinic schedule is from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. by appointment only. For more information, contact 540-864-5136.

# Richfield Living appoints Amy Stoehr as new Executive Director of Rehab Services, Therapy

Richfield Living, a local leader in senior living and rehabilitation, has announced the selection of Amy Stoehr as the new Executive Director of Rehab Services, Therapy.

Stoehr, a graduate of Radford University with a Bachelor's Degree in Communication Sciences and

Disorders and a Master's Degree in Speech-Language Pathology, joined the team in November 2020.

"Amy's knowledge and experience will be invaluable to help Richfield Living achieve many objectives in our strategic plan," said Cherie Grisso, Chief

Executive Officer. "She is a wonderful addition to our leadership, and I am excited to partner with her in the future."

Amy began her career working in the contract rehab sector and has 20 years' experience in multi-site leadership. Her passion for working with the

senior population has enabled her to develop numerous clinical teams and to ensure excellent clinical outcomes and embrace patient-centered care.

"I am truly honored to have the opportunity to be a part of the Richfield Living family," said Stoehr. "I am excited and energized

to be surrounded by so many who are passionate and dedicated as we take this journey toward achieving Richfield's vision."

*-Submitted by Lisa Clause, Senior Director of Marketing and Philanthropy*



Amy Stoehr SUBMITTED PHOTO

# Craig-Botetourt Electric Cooperative submits request to State Corporation Commission

**Dan Tyson**  
*fincastle.editor@ourvalley.com*

If approved, the rate increase could generate nearly \$730,000 in additional revenue for the New Castle-based cooperative. Under the proposal submitted in late

2020, C-BEC's residential-rate customers could see a 6.34 percent increase, while seasonal rate consumers' bills may jump by 1.22 percent, according to the company and the SCC filing.

The 73-page filing states a typical residential customer

using 1,000 kilowatt hours of electricity each month would experience a monthly bill increase of \$9.69, from \$153.81 to \$163.50. C-BEC stated the additional revenue would pay for expenses, service debt, fund capital additions, and meet the financial goals established by its board.

C-BEC's Chief Executive Officer Jeff Ahearn said the company hasn't raised general rates in more than a decade, but the cooperative came out of 2019 needing to increase revenues. After speaking with consultants, C-BEC decided raising rates was its best option. "Let's say 2019 was a tough year," said Ahearn. "We were approaching a critical" financial situation.

Ahearn explained the utility's infrastructure is many decades old, some dating before World War II. To modernize its equipment, the cooperative invested \$10 million in a new substation in Montgomery County in recent years. In the Q2 2021, the substation is slated to be online to pick up slack from New Castle and Botetourt, ensuring more reliable service.

Additionally, the last two construction work plans C-BEC slates \$10 million worth of improvements.

C-BEC's 7,200 members in Alleghany, Botetourt, Craig, Giles, Montgomery and Roanoke counties could see the increase in their May 2021 bill. According to Dun and Bradstreet, C-BEC had \$13.27 million in sales in 2019. The cooperative requested the increase start April 15. The SCC hasn't set a ruling date yet.

Opposition to the increase is strong. During a public comment period on the raise, nearly 20 C-BEC's customers contacted the State Corporation Commission, all against the rate hike. "For the love of all that is holy, please do not raise the rates any further than they already have been! PLEASE," David Webster of New Castle wrote.

William Songer, of Newport, wrote the rates are already high, higher than any other electric provider in the area. "These are VERY tough times these days and we don't need this right now," he wrote.

Another New Castle resident, David Lindsey, wrote

that a rate hike could create a financial hardship for people given the COVID-19 pandemic. Additionally, C-BEC is operating at a profit. "Yes, it is nice to make more money and be able to retire debt. But this would be done on the backs of people trying to make ends meet. People that are retired with the only income being from social security [and they] are only getting about a 1.5 percent increase in SSI benefits ... It's just not the right time for a rate increase in electric cost."

Only one comment came from Botetourt County, Eagle Rock's Robin Fridley. In an interview, Fridley said she and her family moved to Eagle Rock in 1992 when electricity was 50 cents a KW hour. Nearly three decades later, her rate has almost doubled.

"I realize [C-BEC] needs to make a profit. Our service hasn't increased, but our bill is twice as much as it was 20 years ago," she said.

The family does have electric heat, but offsets it by keeping the temperature at 68 degrees and using gas logs. "I realize they have to raise rates, but why does it

have to be 6 percent? Why such a high amount?" she asked.

Fridley and other customers question the accuracy of C-BEC's filing, especially statements about monthly bills increasing from \$153 to \$163 a month.

In the summer, the Fridleys' bill runs between \$120 to \$125 each month for their 1,300-square-foot home on Mount Moriah Road. However, in the winter their monthly bill skyrockets to about \$230. Last week, Fridley said she's budgeting \$300 for January's electric bill.

Janet Overstreet of New Castle wishes her bill was lower. She said she pays \$200 in the summer and double the amount in winter. "So [C-BEC] raises these rates even more, I'm pressed between paying this bill or buying food," she wrote.

Newport resident Chelsea Grippo spent an entire \$600 paycheck last winter to pay her monthly electric bill, she said.

Ahearn said he understands the concerns of customers. "We're doing everything we can to control cost," he said.

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Craig County Board of Zoning Appeals will conduct a public hearing on Thursday February 11th, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. in the Craig County Courthouse - New Castle, VA to consider the variance of James F. Zimmerman who is seeking an exception to Section 58-261 (Frontage Regulations) of the Craig County Zoning Ordinance for A-1 Agricultural. Property reference parcel 72-A-1 and 71-A-67. The current road frontage minimum is 200'. The applicant is requesting a variance in order to subdivide his 2 lots into 3 lots with one lot having a 200' road frontage, 2nd lot having 154.74' and third lot having 167.49' road frontage in order to split up his property to be able to sell at a better price and be more affordable. This property is located at 21258 and 21230 Cumberland Gap Road (Route 42) on the left side, approximately 4.2 miles from New Castle, VA 24127.

Comments can be submitted in writing to Dan Collins, County Administrator, County of Craig at P.O. Box 308, New Castle, VA 24127 or at [dcollins@craigcountyva.gov](mailto:dcollins@craigcountyva.gov) or by phone at 540-864-5010 until February 4th, 2021.

Craig County Board of Zoning Appeals

C	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
R	13					14				15		
P	16				17					18		
O	19			20				21				
U			22					23			24	
S	25	26	27		28			29			30	
Z	31			32		33		34				35
S	36				37		38			39		40
W		41				42			43		44	
Z			45					46		47		48
O	49	50		51			52			53		
L	54		55			56					57	58
R	60					61				62		
D	63					64				65		
E	66					67				68		

- CLUES ACROSS
- 1. Correct code
  - 6. Foundation
  - 9. A pulpy condition
  - 13. Venezuelan river
  - 14. Orange-red chalcidony
  - 15. The shallowest Great
  - 16. Floating ice mountain
  - 17. Japanese cervids
  - 18. Special Interest Groups
  - 19. Divertimentos
  - 21. Indian wet nurses
  - 22. Flatfishes
  - 23. Haitian currency (abbr.)
  - 24. Southeast
  - 25. One point N of due W
  - 28. 10 decibels
  - 29. Wild oxes of SE Asia
  - 31. Ancient Greek City of SW Italy
  - 33. A passing glancing blow
  - 36. Marriage announce-
  - ment
  - 38. Tandoo bread
  - 39. Mag \_\_\_\_: Time
  - 41. Portended
  - 44. Alicante's 7th city
  - 45. Gulf of, in the Aegean
  - 46. Strike
  - 48. Hill (Celtic)
  - 49. Stuart Little's author
  - White
  - 51. Male sheep
  - 52. Indian dresses
  - 54. Pears
  - 56. Tardy arriver
  - 60. Smudge of ink
  - 61. Youngsters
  - 62. About aviation
  - 63. Small ornamental ladies' bag
  - 64. Unreturnable serves
  - 65. Fante and Twi peoples
  - 66. Round shape
  - 67. Of she
- CLUES DOWN
- 1. Strikes lightly
  - 2. Fencing sword
  - 3. Hooked pericarp
  - 4. Entreats
  - 5. Edison's Corp.
  - 6. Cooks in an oven
  - 7. Amounts of time
  - 8. Tooth caregiver
  - 9. Spellbind
  - 10. Solo opera piece
  - 11. Audible exhalates
  - 12. Siddhartha author
  - 14. Coach's game area
  - 17. Coars revenue
  - 20. Toff
  - 21. 1896 Italian defeat (alt. sp.)
  - 23. Auto fuel
  - 25. A woven structure
  - 26. Reveal a secret
  - 27. Hawaiian geese
  - 29. Brings into being
  - 30. Displaced liquid
  - 32. Frigid Zone
  - 34. Newsman Rather
  - 35. Prefix for inside
  - 37. Short-billed bird
  - 40. Sensory receptor
  - 42. Egyptian temple \_\_\_\_ Ombo
  - 43. Challenges
  - 47. Photograph (slang)
  - 49. Declined gradually
  - 50. Tilapia nilotica
  - 52. One-edge sword
  - 53. Wets
  - 55. Small coins (French)
  - 56. Twine together
  - 57. The middle point
  - 58. Sea eagle
  - 59. Activist Parks
  - 61. Humbug
  - 65. Atomic #79

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# Members re-elected to CCPS School Board



PHOTO BY PAM DIDDING

During the Craig County School Board monthly meeting on January 12, officers that currently held a position were re-elected. Pictured left to right in front of Superintendent Jeanette Warwick are: Deputy Clerk Diana Bayne, Clerk of School Board Sonja Switzer, Chairman Susan Crenshaw, Vice Chairman Gina Smith and Trace Bellassai, Representative for the Roanoke Valley Governor's School Board. Dedication and hard work are the backbone of these representatives. Their goal is to help in their field of expertise to provide the best education Craig County can offer its students.

## Local Sheriff April Staton eyes a second term



SUBMITTED PHOTO

**April Staton, just the fourth Sheriff to serve the citizens of Salem since 1968, is vying for a second term.**

April Staton knew at an early age that she wanted to work in a field that made a difference in the community. Born and raised in Lexington, Virginia, Staton attended Rockbridge County High School, graduating in 1998. As a teenager, she was active in many sports, mainly softball and basketball. Those experiences taught

her just how critical teamwork is in all facets of life.

Staton moved to Salem when she was 20 and has called the city home ever since.

Law enforcement was a career that she never expected. When she applied for a deputy sheriff position 18 years ago, she initially thought she wasn't

going to get it. "Sheriff Roger Surber believed in me and maybe hired me only because I played softball and he was such a huge sports fan, but his faith in me got me started," she said. "I attribute my love of leadership to Sheriff Ric Atkins and his constant push for me to go farther and be better. It takes a village as they say, and I have certainly benefited from many around me who helped me get to this point in my career."

After joining the Sheriff's Office in 2003, it took Staton, a registered independent, 14 years until she was elected as the fourth Sheriff in Salem history.

Today, as the executive administrator, Staton is responsible for the planning, researching, organization, directing and evaluation of all Sheriff's Office operations. This includes court security, civil process, transportation of inmates and mental health patients, preparation and management of the budget and development and management of policy and procedures.

The biggest challenge facing the community today, noted Salem's first female Sheriff, is the coronavirus pandemic.

"The ever-changing COVID-19 virus has affected us all personally and professionally. The city has done its best to minimize

the damaging effects on our businesses and citizens," she added. "While we may not be near the end just yet, we are closer to coming out on the other side and will be much stronger because of these challenges."

Staton currently oversees ten sworn deputies and an administrative assistant. Local leaders have praised Staton for her community involvement and ability to build positive relationships.

As Sheriff, Staton has set high expectations for her people and holds all of them accountable. They have thrived in this environment, she said, because we ensure they have the mentoring and coaching necessary to be successful in meeting their personal goals and those of the office.

She added, "They strive to be the best and without their success, I accomplish nothing. I am most proud of my staff."

On January 4, Staton announced her intentions to seek a second office term in November.

"My first term as Sheriff has been the most rewarding part of my career. I have thoroughly enjoyed being a part of the most professional, kind and compassionate team of deputies that this office has ever seen," Staton said. "I am running for reelection because I love my job and hope to continue serving the community for many years to come."

## Whitlow receives REALTOR® Good Neighbor Award



SUBMITTED PHOTO

**Janie Whitlow**

Janie Whitlow, of The Real Estate Group, recently received the 2020 REALTOR® Good Neighbor Award from the Roanoke Valley Association of REALTORS®.

Whitlow was recognized for her dedicated volunteer efforts with the Community Christmas Store of the Roanoke Valley. The Association made a \$1,000 contribution to the Community Christmas Store of the Roanoke Valley in honor of Whitlow.

The REALTOR® Good Neighbor Award recognizes any local realtor who gives of his or her time

to an organization that improves the quality of life in the

greater Roanoke Valley. The Roanoke Valley Association of REALTORS® is comprised of over 1,750 REALTOR® and Affiliate members in the Roanoke Valley area. It is one of more than 1,300 Associations of REALTORS® nationwide that make up the National Association of REALTORS®, the nation's largest trade association.

- Submitted by Jim Sweetwood, Coordinator of Events and Community Relations

## Conservation Reserve Program general signup ends on February 12

Agricultural producers and private landowners interested in the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) can sign up for the popular program until Feb. 12, 2021. The competitive program, administered by USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA), provides annual rental payments for land devoted to conservation purposes.

"This signup for the Conservation Reserve Program gives producers and landowners an opportunity to enroll for the first time or continue their participation for another term," Nivin A. Elgohary said. "This program encourages conservation on sensitive lands or low-yielding acres, which provides tremendous benefits for stewardship of our natural resources and wildlife."

Through CRP, farmers and ranchers establish long-term, resource-conserving plant species, such as approved grasses or trees, to control soil erosion, improve water

quality and enhance wildlife habitat on cropland. Farmers and ranchers who participate in CRP help provide numerous benefits to their local region and the nation's environment and economy. CRP general signup is held annually and is com-

petitive; general signup includes increased opportunities for wildlife habitat enrollment through the State Acres For Wildlife Enhancement (SAFE) initiative.

New cropland offered in the program must have

See Signup, page 5

### CRAIG COUNTY NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Board of Supervisors of the County of Craig, Virginia will hold a public hearing to receive public input regarding a proposed Ordinance to Amend the Charter Agreement of the Workforce Investment Area III, of which Craig County is a member of. The change will be designating a new fiscal agent, after Roanoke Valley Alleghany Regional Commission announced its decision to resign. The new fiscal agent will be the Workforce Development Board.

The public hearing will be held at the regular Board Meeting on Thursday, February 4th, 2021, at 6:00 pm, or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, in the Craig County Courthouse, on Main Street, New Castle, Virginia. Anyone having questions regarding the above may contact the County Administrator's office (540) 864-5010, located at 108 Court Street, or mailed to P.O. Box 308, New Castle, Virginia 24127.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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## VDOT Virginia Department of Transportation

### Appalachian Trail Pedestrian Bridge Over Route 311 (Catawba Valley Drive) Roanoke County

Find out about a project to construct a new pedestrian bridge to carry the Appalachian Trail over Route 311 in Roanoke County. The McAfee Knob trailhead of the Appalachian Trail access is extremely popular with hikers, but poses a safety concern as pedestrians entering the trail from the nearby parking lot must cross Route 311 at a location in a curve with limited sight distance. As a long-term safety improvement, VDOT will build a pedestrian bridge to carry trail users over Route 311 away from vehicular traffic.

Project Information and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documentation in the form of a Categorical Exclusion are available for review at 731 Harrison Avenue in Salem, 540-387-5353, 800-367-7623, TTY/TDD 711. Please call ahead so VDOT can make arrangements for personnel to share more information or answer your questions.

If your concerns cannot be satisfied, VDOT is willing to hold a public hearing. You may request that a public hearing be held by sending a written request to Mr. Len Gisiner, Virginia Department of Transportation, 731 Harrison Avenue, Salem, VA 24153 on or prior to **January 28, 2021**. If a request for a public hearing is received, notice of date, time and place of the hearing will be posted. VDOT previously received public comments on the project in July 2020.

In compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act, Section 106 and 36 CFR Part 800, information concerning the potential effects of the proposed project on properties listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register for Historic Places will be provided in the project's environmental documentation.

VDOT ensures nondiscrimination and equal employment in all programs and activities in accordance with Title VI and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. If you need special assistance for persons with disabilities or limited English proficiency, contact Len Gisiner at the phone numbers listed above.

UPC: 111066 State Project: 0311-080-913, P101, R201, B618 Federal Project: HSP-5128(401)



# OPINION

## Adventures with Books

### Library Corner

Empowering individuals to build a stronger community

Reading books can take you to faraway places and on adventures that you never dreamed of. During the pandemic, more books are being read and shared. Online check out of e-books and audiobooks has skyrocketed. Books can educate, inform, entertain and inspire. Unlike movies, books require the reader to visualize scenes and they awaken the imagination.

Book lovers every-

where enjoy a book club. It's an opportunity for readers to share favorite books and to learn more about stories and their authors. It's an adult version of literature class, but much more fun!

Locally, there are two book clubs available. The Library Book Club meets on the first Tuesday of the month at Bibo's Italian Restaurant for a discussion of the current book that everyone is reading. This month's selection is *Big Lies in a Small Town* by Diane Chamberlain. To join the Library Book Club, just show up at Bibo's and meet other book lovers. Anyone is welcome to join the book club!

The second book club meets currently by Zoom on the third Tuesday of the month at 2 p.m. This club is named Dreama's Readers for the founding member Dreama Menafee. The Book of Longings by Sue Monk Kidd is this month's selection. To join Dreama's Readers, contact Barbara Charlton at pkcharlton@pemetel.net. New members are welcome!

Your Craig County Public Library supports the book clubs by checking out E-readers with the current book downloaded for you, or it usually has copies of the book to check out. If audiobooks are your choice, the librarian can

help you get a Roanoke library card so you can use the Overdrive system to get free books.

Just seeing the book club list can point out books worth reading if you need a suggestion. If you yearn for social interaction a book club gives everyone common ground for starting discussion and who knows where that conversation could lead with your new friends.

Here is a review of this month's books.

*Big Lies in a Small Town* by Diane Chamberlain  
North Carolina, 2018: Morgan Christopher's life has been derailed. Taking the fall for a crime she did not com-

mit; she finds herself serving a three-year stint in the North Carolina Women's Correctional Center. Her dream of a career in art is put on hold - until a mysterious visitor makes her an offer that will see her released immediately. Her assignment: restore an old post office mural in a sleepy southern town. Morgan knows nothing about art restoration, but desperate to leave prison, she accepts. What she finds under the layers of grime is a painting that tells the story of madness, violence and a conspiracy of small-town secrets.

*The Book of Longings* by Sue Monk Kidd  
Grounded in meticulous research and written with a reverential approach to Jesus's life that focuses on his humanity, *The Book of Longings* is an inspiring, unfor-

gettable account of one woman's bold struggle to realize the passion and potential inside her, while living in a time, place and culture devised to silence her. It is a triumph of storytelling both timely and timeless, from a masterful writer at the height of her powers.

Library Book Club:  
February 2, 2021, *Big Lies in Small Town* by Diane Chamberlain

March 2, 2021, *The Huntress* by Kate Quinn

April 6, 2021, *A Long Petal of the Sea* by Isabel Allende

May 4, 2021, *America's First Daughter* and *Eleanor Oliphant is Completely* by Stephanie Dray

June 1, 2021, *Fine* by Gail Honeyman

July 6, 2021, *How to find love* in a Book Shop by Veronica Henry

## 2021 Generally Assembly Session has begun

**David Suetterlein**  
Virginia State Senator  
Guest Contributor

The 2021 General Assembly opened on Wednesday with my Senate colleagues and I meeting in person but

socially distant at the cavernous Science Museum of Virginia. The House of Delegates convened virtually via Zoom video conferences. It is believed that the House of Delegates' internet meetings are the first time a regular session of a Virginia legislative body has relocated from

Richmond since meeting in Fauquier County in 1849 to escape a cholera outbreak.

The very first act of the 2021 Regular Session was a moving tribute to our friend, Senator Ben Chafin of Russell County who passed away on New Year's Day. Serving next to Senator Chafin on the Senate Agriculture Committee was a joy and an education. He brought years of first-hand knowledge as a generational farmer, a banker and an attorney to the Virginia Senate.

Senator Chafin cannot be replaced, but filling the vacancy created by his passing is critically important to Southwest Virginia and all of rural Virginia. Unfortunately, Governor Northam has chosen to delay the election. In 2019, Governor Northam called a special election for a Fairfax and Loudoun County district to be held 42 days

after the vacancy. Last month, he called a special election for a Prince William and Stafford district to be held 28 days after the vacancy. Now, he has called a special election for a Southwest Virginia district to be held 81 days after the vacancy meaning the seat will not be filled before the end of the 2021 Regular Session. The people of Southwest Virginia deserved to have this seat filled with the same speed that Governor Northam ensured for the people of Northern Virginia.

The decision to hold the election to fill the Senate vacancy belongs to Governor Northam but the decision regarding Senator Chafin's vacant committee seats belongs to the Senate. I am fighting to have Senator Chafin's former seats on the Senate's Judiciary; Rehabilitation; Privileges and Elections; and

Education and Health filled during the 2021 Regular Session by other senators from rural Virginia who share Senator Chafin's perspectives and priorities.

This General Assembly, I have introduced legislation to limit the Governor's ability to impose long-lasting emergency orders without legislative approval; increase education opportunities for Virginia children; help get wrecks on the Interstate moved faster; and make election results more transparent. I have also introduced a resolution to finally get Franklin County native and American Civil Rights icon Booker T. Washington honored at our State Capitol. I plan to update you on the progress of each of these bills in the weeks ahead. You can also read and track the progress of every bill introduced during the 2021 Gen-

eral Assembly by visiting [leg1.state.va.us](http://leg1.state.va.us) on the internet.

COVID-19 robbed us of the many informative conversations I get to have with citizens at the fair, dinners and community meetings making it all the more important for you to share your views with me. I hope you will take 2-5 minutes and visit [tinyurl.com/2021VASurvey](http://tinyurl.com/2021VASurvey) on the internet to share your views on laws related to education, gun ownership, marijuana and other issues before the General Assembly.

You can also email me at [District19@senate.virginia.gov](mailto:District19@senate.virginia.gov) or call 540-302-8486 to share your thoughts. When you call you might also get to talk with my aides Nikki Thacker and Michael Walsh who help me review legislation and help constituents dealing with issues with state agencies.

**THE NEW CASTLE RECORD**

USPS 378-080 1633 W. Main St.  
(540) 389-9355 Salem, VA 24153  
[www.ourvalley.org](http://www.ourvalley.org)

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The New Castle Record (USPS 378-080) is published weekly for \$41 a year in Craig County, \$45 elsewhere in Virginia, and \$49 out of state by Virginia Media Inc., 1633 W Main St., Salem, VA 24153. Periodical postage paid at New Castle, VA. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to THE NEW CASTLE RECORD 1633 W. Main St., Salem, Va. 24153

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# Patriotism from page 1



SUBMITTED PHOTO

**Kallie Fisher placed second and Kammie Fisher placed third, respectively, in the VFW Patriot's Pen Essay Contest.**

and willingness to be jailed, they fought. They fought for freedom; freedom is what America is all about.

It's incredible how the U.S. has changed over the years. How much we've grown and improved. I'm so proud of what our country has accomplished. I'm proud of our military and what the flag symbolizes. I love my country. I wouldn't want to live anywhere else. And that's what Patriotism is to me.

Lucas, a seventh-grader, shared that she participated in the contest last year and enjoyed it. "My teacher encouraged me to enter again this year," she said. "With all the stuff happening in America, I thought it was a good idea to show my Patriotism."

Kallie's submission included similar opinions as well, "People show Patriotism in different ways. Some hang American flags, and all should vote. It shows

respect and love for their country. Our government was designed to give people the option to pick the next leader to represent us."

Kallie shared that her mom encouraged her to enter and enjoyed the writing competition.

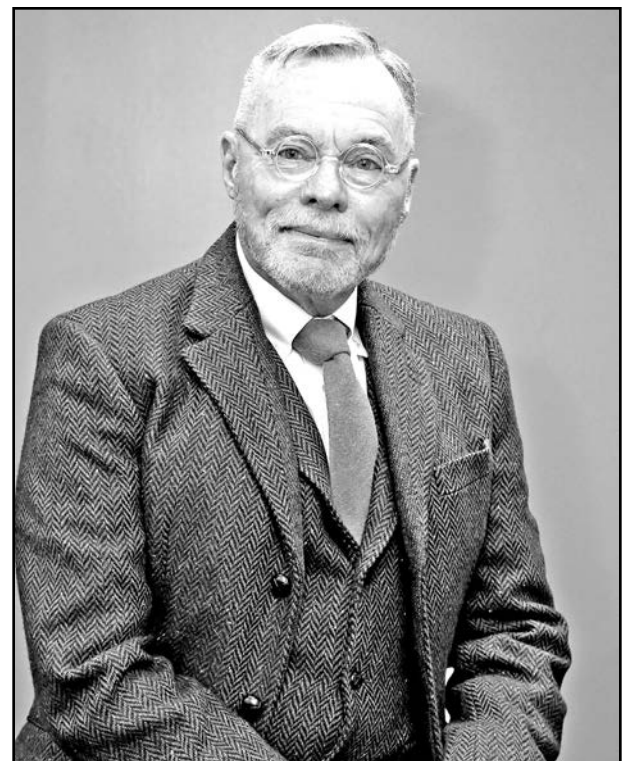
Kammie's essay included, "Patriotism is very important to the country. It is an essential part of the growth of a nation. It embodies sacrifice for the country to protect honor. It means recognizing and grasping the ideals the nation recognizes. Patriotism is for the well-being of your country, and the people in it."

She added, "I love to write, and it is another way to help my writing skills."

Each winner was presented a beautifully framed certificate as well as a gift card.

"It's really good that kids still take interest in how good America is," Post Commander Billy Lee said.

# Butzer selected as School Board Chairman, Wray to serve as Vice Chairman



Don Butzer

SUBMITTED PHOTO

The Roanoke County School Board has selected Catawba District member, Don Butzer, as the chairman of the school board for 2021. Butzer previously served as school board chairman in 2019 and for a portion of 2020. He served as board vice chairman in 2018. A retired executive from Verizon, Butzer was first appointed to the Roanoke County School Board in 2016 and was elected to the board in 2017.

Butzer and his family have been residents of Catawba for more than a decade. Prior to that he lived and worked in Northern Virginia. His wife of more

than 20 years is Katrina Butzer. The couple have two daughters, Eleni, a 2020 graduate of Glenvar High School and Arianna, a 2017 graduate from GHS. Katrina is a Roanoke County educator, teaching mathematics at Northside Middle School.

The school board also selected Cave Spring District member, Mike Wray, as the board vice chairman. Wray most recently served as chairman of the board for the latter half of 2020 and was school board chairman in 2016.

*-Chuck Lionberger, Director of Community Relations*

# Field of Dreams from page 5

a detailed water project to get fresh water into the field.

It was explained that the access line for water extends from the town's Public Service Authority to the center of the complex, requiring a 2,500 foot, three-foot deep ditch with two-inch pipe and several Ts.

"Costing \$16,238, the project was expensive, even with labor donated by the Oliver family, but it will be amazing to have water for the drinking fountains, the concession stand and restrooms, and it will significantly increase the value of the property," Snead said. "CCR&CS has provided additional lines and access to water for the neighboring Baptist Church and two private residences in appreciation for the easements they provided."

The water project was the basic infrastructure for creating the next steps in developing the complex.

CCR&CS knows that in addition to supplying future buildings, having fresh water for drinking and restrooms makes the facility more self-sufficient, allowing children to come for the day in a safe and healthy environment.

"And we know there's nothing like a cool drink of water after playing sports on a hot day," they added.

Accessible to all children in Craig, the facility is particularly helpful to low-income families who cannot afford to travel out of the County for games or other activities, which is important to local parents.

Additionally, the complex encourages children to select community-based sports as opposed to potential at-risk activities or behaviors. The complex is also available to families and organizations for activities and other events.

Snead added, "The purpose of the grant request was to seek assistance in helping to pay for half of the water project. As noted, the complex is large and the water line is deep and long. Specialized labor, equipment, pipe, and construction costs were high. Although the all-volunteer project has raised almost half of the funds, the project was started prior to the pandemic and since that time, CCR&CA has not been able to take in sports fees or hold fundraisers to pay for the remaining half of the project."

The grant from the Community Foundation has allowed CCR&CA to complete the project and begin planning the next phase of construction.

Donations to the Field of Dreams project are tax-deductible and may be sent to CCR&CA, P.O. Box 371, New Castle.

"The children and families are most appreciative," Snead said.

# C5 from page 1

the level five standard.

Oliver shared that the Craig County Child Care Center (C5) have met all basic health and safety, educational and qualifi-

She added, "The staff and facility at the Craig County Child Care Center (C5) have met all basic health and safety, educational and qualifi-

cations, curriculum and assessment, environment and interaction standards."

Congratulations were due, as on December 28, 2020, the Craig County Child Care Center was awarded a level four performance quality rating.

"I am immensely proud of all the hard work that the staff has committed to achieving this level of quality educational services. C5 staff has gone above and beyond to reach this goal; they have gone back to school, taken online classes, done numerous trainings and accomplished many hours of certifications," Oliver said. "Several are enrolled to further continue their education through a registered apprenticeship program."

Oliver and the C5 also

wished to recognize and thank those who have assisted them in this endeavor: TAP Early Head Start / Head Start, United Way of Roanoke Valley, and Craig County Youth & Community Services Board members for all their dedication and support they have given which has greatly helped the Craig County Child Care Center achieve this accomplishment.

"Now we can proudly say the children who attend the childcare center will be equipped with the tools needed to be successful learners and leaders," Oliver added.

The Craig County Child Care Center is located at 100 Brooks Street in New Castle and can be reached at (540) 864-7700 for any additional questions.

# Signup from page 3

been planted for four out of six crop years from 2012 to 2017. Additionally, producers with land already enrolled but expiring on Sept. 30, 2021, can re-enroll this year. The acreage offered by producers and landowners is evaluated competitively; accepted offers will begin Oct. 1, 2021.

Signed into law in 1985, CRP is one of the largest private-lands conservation programs in the United States. The program marked its 35-year anniversary in December 2020. Program successes include:

- Preventing more than nine billion tons of soil from eroding, which is enough soil to fill 600 million dump trucks.

- Reducing nitrogen and phosphorous runoff relative to annually tilled cropland by 95 percent and 85 percent, respectively.

- Sequestering an annual average of 49 million tons of greenhouse gases, equal to taking

nine million cars off the road.

- Creating more than three million acres of restored wetlands while protecting more than 175,000 stream miles with riparian forest and grass buffers, which is enough to go around the world seven times.

- Benefiting bees and other pollinators and increasing populations of ducks, pheasants, turkey, bobwhite quail, prairie chickens, grasshopper sparrows, and many other birds.

*-Submitted by Lenoir-Giles, Public Relations Specialist*

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**CHESTNUT GROVE CHURCH**  
Duane Wente, Minister, Rt. 42, New Castle, 540-864-5692. Sunday: Worship 10:00 a.m.

**CORNERSTONE CHURCH**  
Pastor Don Brown, Corner of Salem and Wagner, New Castle, 580-3228. Sunday Worship 10:30am (Children meet separately, Nursery provided). Bible Study - Wednesday 6p Teens - Wednesday 6p. Ministries: Men, Ladies, Young Adult, and Seniors. Times vary, call for details.

**CRAIG HEALING SPRINGS CHRISTIAN CHURCH (Disciples of Christ)**  
Pastor - Kenneth W. Davis, Jr., 6 Grannys Branch Road (Johns Creek), New Castle, Phone: 864-6102. Sunday School at 10 am. Sunday Worship at 11 am every Sunday. Fellowship meal after Sunday Worship on second Sundays. Everyone is welcome!

**CRAIG VALLEY BAPTIST**  
171 Salem Avenue, New Castle, 864-5667; Sunday School 10:00 a.m., Sunday Worship 11:00 a.m., Wednesday: Prayer Service and Bible Study 7:00 p.m., Youth Group 6:30-8:00PM, Bible Buddies at 6:30-8:00PM. Transportation provided - call the church. Hearing devices also available. www.craigvalleybaptist.com

**CRAIG VALLEY GOSPEL FELLOWSHIP**  
HWY 621, Pastor Roy Lee Law Jr., "Jay", 864-8984. Sunday School 10:00am; Worship 11:00am., Wednesday night Bible study 7pm, from HWY 311, up HWY 621, 8 miles on left.

**CROSSROADS CHURCH**  
21892 Craigs Creek Road, New Castle. Pastor Gary Burch. 864-7520. Sunday School- 10-10:45AM, Sunday Worship - 11AM-Noon.

**FIRST BAPTIST**  
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**GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH**  
159 Old Railroad Ave, New Castle, 540-864-PRAY, Sunday School 9:30AM, Sunday Worship Service 10:00AM, Wednesday Night Services 7:00PM.

**HEBRON UNITED METHODIST**  
Pastor Rodney Longmire, Rt. 606, 1981 Caldwell Mt. Rd., New Castle, 540- 400-3419. Worship 11:15AM.

**LIGHTHOUSE BAPTIST**  
Rev. Lee Looney, Rt. 311 N., New Castle. Sunday: Sunday School 10AM, 11AM, & 6PM. Wednesday Bible Study 7PM.

**LEVEL GREEN CHRISTIAN CHURCH**  
3388 Cumberland Gap Rd. Newport, Duane Wente, Minister, 540-544-7179. Sunday School 10:00am, Sunday Morning Worship 11:00am, Children's Church 11:00am. Choir Practice, bi-weekly 7:00pm, Ladies meeting first Monday of each month at 7:00pm.

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Pastor Lee Looney, Rt. 311 N., New Castle, 540-525-7662. Sunday: Sunday School 10AM, 11AM, & 6PM. Wednesday Bible Study 7PM.

**MOUNTAIN VIEW CHRISTIAN**  
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**NEW CANTERBURY PENTECOSTAL FELLOWSHIP**  
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Roanoke, VA. Provide  
subject matter expertise in  
psychiatric diagnostic  
assessment, crisis mgmt,  
& empirical  
psychotherapy.  
Psychiatric assessments,  
structured diagnostic  
interviews, &  
implementing clinical  
research  
programs/research  
compliance. Apply online  
at <https://jobs.vt.edu/>.  
Jobsite: Virginia  
Polytechnic Institute &  
State University, 2  
Riverside Circle, Roanoke  
VA 24016.

**Handyman**  
Must be able to  
climb stairs and ladders,  
carry objects up to 50 lbs.,  
Work well with others and  
independently, use a  
riding mower and  
weed eater, use power  
tools  
Saturday's 10-5  
\$15 an hour Cash  
Fincastle  
**Phone calls ONLY**  
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**Legals - Botetourt  
County**

**ORDER OF  
PUBLICATION**  
Commonwealth of Virginia  
VA. Code Ann. §§ 8.01-316,  
-317  
**Case No. 20-649**  
Botetourt County Circuit  
Court  
Mary Elizabeth McKenney  
v.  
Richard Lee McKenney

## Legals - Botetourt County

The object of this suit is to:  
Obtain a divorce based on  
separation of 1 year.  
It is ORDERED that Richard  
Lee McKenney appear at  
the above-named court and  
protect his/her interests on  
or before 02/01/2021.  
12-28-20

Sherry Perry  
Deputy Clerk

## SPECIAL COMMISSIONER'S SALE OF 58 Lakeland Circle, Troutville, VA 24175

**Tax Map  
#108(A)(1)BK2-19**  
The Special Commissioner  
will offer the above-  
described property for sale  
to the highest bidder at  
public auction on the date  
and time referenced below.

Lot 19, Block 2, according  
to the Map of Blocks 2  
through 7, of Rainbow  
Forest, property of Botetourt  
Development Corporation,  
Botetourt County, Virginia,  
made by C.B. Malcolm and  
Son, S.C.E.'s dated August  
15, 1960, of record in the  
Clerk's Office of the Circuit  
Court of Botetourt County,  
Virginia in Plat Book 4, page  
102.

Date of Sale: February 9,  
2021 at 9:00 a.m.  
Location: outside the  
Botetourt County Circuit  
Court, PO Box 219,  
Courthouse, Main Street,  
Fincastle, VA 24090.

Terms: CASH; a deposit in  
the form of certified funds in  
the amount of \$10,000 or  
10% of the sale price,  
whichever is lower. Final  
settlement is subject to  
Court approval of terms.  
Time is of the essence.

OPTIONS:

1. All costs of conveyance,  
examination of title,  
recording charges, etc. will  
be at cost of purchaser with  
the exception of the  
grantor's tax. Neither the  
Special Commissioner nor  
any other party guarantees  
or covenants to deliver or in  
any way to obtain  
possession of the premises  
for any third party  
purchaser.

2. The Special  
Commissioner reserves the  
right to reject all bids,  
extend the time to receive  
bids or withdraw the  
property from sale at any  
time. In addition, should the  
Special Commissioner be  
unable, for any reason, in its  
sole discretion, to convey  
title, the successful bidder's  
sole remedy in law or equity  
shall be the return of his  
deposit. Upon refund of the  
deposit, the sale shall be  
void and of no effect.

Additional terms may be  
announced at the time of  
the sale. The Special  
Commissioner will convey  
the above-described  
property to the purchaser(s)  
by Special Warranty deed at  
settlement and makes no  
additional representations  
or warranties of any kind  
regarding the title to said  
property.

John K. Prillaman, Esq.  
Special Commissioner

For Information Contact:  
John K. Prillaman, Esq.  
OPN LAW  
3140 Chaparral Drive  
Roanoke, Virginia 24018  
(540) 725-8194

**VIRGINIA:  
IN THE CIRCUIT  
COURT OF  
BOTETOURT  
COUNTY**

**IN RE: ESTATE OF  
GEORGINA B.  
HUTCHENS,  
DECEASED**

**NOTICE**

Having been requested to  
do so by Jane Judah,  
Administratrix of the estate  
of Georgina B. Hutchens,  
Deceased, and in  
accordance with Section  
64.2-550 of the 1950 Code  
of Virginia, as amended, all  
creditors of Georgina B.  
Hutchens, and all persons  
in any way interested in her  
estate are hereby notified  
that I have fixed the 17th  
day of February, 2021 at 10  
o'clock a.m., at my office at  
13 South Roanoke Street,

## Legals - Botetourt County

Fincastle, Virginia as the  
time and place for  
determining an account of  
the debts and demands  
against said Georgina B.  
Hutchens or her estate, the  
priorities among them, and  
the names of the persons to  
whom they are due.  
All creditors of Georgina B.  
Hutchens, deceased, and  
persons interested in her  
estate should appear at the  
time and place named, or  
any other time or place to  
which the proceedings may  
be adjourned, and protect  
their interest.  
Given under my hand this  
the 11th day of January,  
2021.

Malcolm McL. Doubles  
Commissioner of Accounts

## Legals - City of Salem

**ORDER OF  
PUBLICATION**  
Commonwealth of  
Virginia VA. Code  
Ann. §§ 8.01-316, -317  
**Case No. CL20-2497**  
Roanoke County Circuit  
Court  
April Lynn Webster-Mullins  
v.  
Timothy Roger Mullins  
The object of this suit is to:  
Obtain a divorce based on a  
one year separation.  
It is ORDERED that  
Timothy Roger Mullins  
appear at the above-named  
court and protect his/her  
interests on or before  
2-26-2021 @ 4:30pm.

1-4-2021  
Jennifer Vest  
Deputy Clerk

## Legals - Craig County

**ORDER OF  
PUBLICATION**  
Commonwealth of Virginia  
VA CODE § 8.01-316  
**Case No. JJ002182-04-00,  
JJ002182-05-00,  
JJ002182-06-00**  
CRAIG COMBINED  
COURT- JUVENILE  
Juvenile and Domestic  
Relations District Court  
Commonwealth of Virginia,  
*in re* PAITSEL, RAYNE,  
AKA BABY GIRL GARMAN  
The object of this suit is to:

The object of this suit is to  
terminate the residual  
parental rights of the father  
of Rayne Paitset, aka Baby  
Girl Garman thought to be  
either Daniel Garman,  
Christopher Allen Paitset or  
Unknown Father pursuant  
to Virginia Code Sections  
16.1-283 B and C, and  
which child is under the age  
of twelve (12) months and  
was born to Kristen Nicole  
Garman. Residual parental  
rights are defined in Section  
16.1-228 of the Code of  
Virginia (1950, as amended)  
as the rights and  
responsibilities remaining  
with a parent after the  
parent loses custody of a  
child, including but not  
limited to the right to  
visitation, consent to  
adoption, the right to  
determine religious  
affiliation, and the  
responsibility for support.  
The termination of your  
residual parental rights will  
permanently end all of your  
rights and responsibilities to  
the child named in the  
petition. The ties between  
you and your child are  
severed forever and you  
become a legal stranger to  
the child.

It is ORDERED that Daniel  
Garman, Christopher  
Paitset & Unknown Father  
appear at the above-named  
Court and protect his or her  
interests on or before  
02/17/2021 09:30 AM.

12/29/2020  
Patty Taylor  
Deputy Clerk

## Legals - Montgomery County

**NOTICE OF  
JUDICIAL SALE**  
Pursuant to an Order of  
Sale entered in United  
States vs. Aimee E Reese,  
and Randall J. Reese, Civil  
Action No. 7:19-cv-00645,  
United States District Court  
for the Western District of  
Virginia Roanoke Division,  
the United States will offer  
for sale at public auction, to  
the highest bidder,  
according to law and  
pursuant to the terms and  
conditions set in herein, the  
property described below.

## Legals - Montgomery County

Date: February 25, 2021  
Time: 10:00AM

Sale Location: Front of the  
Montgomery County  
Courthouse 1 E Main Street  
Christiansburg, Virginia  
24073. All prospective  
bidders will be required to  
wear a face mask and  
maintain a social distance.

Title Offered: The property  
shall be offered for sale at  
public auction, free and  
clear of all liens and  
interests of the parties to  
this action.

Description of Property:  
Being all of Lot 45,  
containing approximately  
1.978 Acres, The Ridges  
Subdivision Phase 6,  
located in Montgomery  
County, Virginia. Parcel ID  
number 140178. Pin  
number 045-9-45.

Property May Be Inspected  
at: Drive by only

For information about the  
sale: Call Sara Wright at  
865-274-7349

Minimum Bid: \$7,800

The Terms of Payment:  
See Below

Form of Payment: All  
payments must be by  
Certified or Cashier's Check  
made payable to the United  
States District Court for the  
Western District of Virginia

TERMS AND CONDITIONS  
OF SALE:

No bid (except for bids  
made by the United States)  
shall be accepted by the  
IRS, unless the same is  
accompanied by a certified  
check or cashier's check, in  
the minimum amount of  
\$1,560 made payable to the  
United States District Court  
for the Western District of  
Virginia. Before being  
permitted to bid at the sale,  
all bidders shall display to  
the IRS proof that they are  
able comply with this  
requirement. No bids will  
be received from any person  
who has not presented  
proof that, if he or she is the  
successful bidder, he or she  
can make the deposit  
required by the Order.

The successful bidder shall  
tender the balance of the  
purchase price, in certified  
funds payable to the United  
States District Court, at the  
office of the IRS on or  
before March 25, 2021.

In the event the successful  
bidder defaults on any of  
the terms contained in the  
Order, the deposit shall be  
forfeited and retained by the  
IRS as part of the proceeds  
of sale, and the real  
property shall again be  
offered for sale, without  
further permission of the  
Court, under the terms and  
conditions of the Order, or,  
in the alternative the real  
property shall be sold to the  
second highest bidder.

The United States may bid  
as a creditor against its  
judgments without tender of  
cash.

The sale of the real property  
shall be subject to  
confirmation by the Court.  
Upon confirmation of the  
sale and receipt of the  
entire purchase price, the  
Court shall deliver to the  
purchaser, a deed  
conveying the real property  
to the purchaser. Upon  
confirmation of the sale, all  
interests in, liens against,  
or claims to, the real property  
that are or may be asserted  
by any of the parties to this  
action are discharged and  
extinguished.

The United States reserves  
the right to reject any and  
all bids and to withdraw  
the property from sale.

**\*\*\*\*\*IMPORTANT  
INFORMATION\*\*\*\*\***  
This is not an advertisement  
of a sale of administratively  
seized property. This is an  
information notice only  
regarding a sale being  
conducted by the Internal  
Revenue Service as a result  
of the foreclosure of an  
Internal Revenue Service  
Federal Tax Lien by the  
Department of Justice.

**ORDER OF  
PUBLICATION**  
Commonwealth of Virginia  
VA CODE § 8.01-316  
**Case No. JJ018725-06-00**  
Montgomery County  
Juvenile and Domestic  
Relations District Court  
*In re* Dejah Moser  
Montgomery County DSS  
/v.  
Telisha Leigh Moser  
Gebhart

## Legals - Montgomery County

The object of this suit is to:  
Terminate the residual  
parental rights of Telisha  
Moser Gebhart legal parent  
of Dejah Moser a minor, in  
that said parent has, without  
good cause, failed to correct  
the conditions which  
resulted in the child entering  
foster care and it is not  
reasonably likely that they  
will be able to do so in a  
reasonable amount of time,  
failed to maintain continuing  
contact with the child and  
substantially plan for the  
child's future. Residual  
parental rights include, but  
are not limited to the right to  
visitation, consent to

adoption, the right to  
determine religious  
affiliation, and the  
responsibility for support.  
The termination of residual  
parental rights will  
permanently end all of your  
rights and responsibilities to  
the child named in the  
petition.  
It is ORDERED that Telisha  
Leigh Moser Gebhart  
appear at the above-named  
Court and protect her  
interests on or before  
February 16, 2021.

1-12-21  
Amie Blankenship  
Clerk

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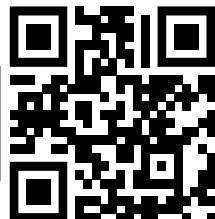
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# SPORTS

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## Roanoke College basketball begins this week, no fans allowed but games will be broadcast

The Roanoke College men's and women's basketball teams are scheduled to open this week with no fans allowed. The Maroon men were scheduled to host Greensboro on Tuesday and on Saturday, January 23, Hampden-Sydney comes to RC. The Maroons are also home against Ferrum on January 28.

The women will open on the road at Shenandoah on Thursday of this week with their home debut on Sunday, January 31,

against Eastern Mennonite. The Maroon women are at Emory & Henry this Sunday at 3 pm.

All Roanoke College basketball games will be broadcast by play-by-play man Ron Myers and color man Bob Southard on the Maroon Sports Network.

The Old Dominion Athletic Conference (ODAC) Presidents Council has endorsed a conference policy that will prohibit spectators at any ODAC indoor athletic event for the upcoming seasons. This decision affects all conference indoor sports including basketball, indoor track & field, swimming and volleyball. ODAC leadership will continue to monitor the landscape surrounding the pandemic.

The Roanoke College swim team is scheduled to have a meet this Saturday, January 16. It will be at Liberty University in Lynchburg and RC will swim against the host Flames and Lynchburg University.

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PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

Bob Southard(left) and Ron Myers will broadcast Roanoke College men's and women's basketball on line beginning this week.

## Old Dominion Athletic Conference's Brad Bankston Honored by Division III Commissioners Association

Old Dominion Athletic Conference (ODAC) Commissioner Brad Bankston was honored by the Division III Commissioners Association (D3CA) last week as he was named the recipient of the organization's Meritorious Service Award.

The D3CA Meritorious Service Award is bestowed annually to an individual, who, over time, has made significant and substantial contributions to Division III athletics consistent with the purposes of the D3CA. "This year's recipient of the Meritorious Service Award could not better represent the tenets of the honor," explained incoming President of the Division III Commissioners Association, Patrick B. Summers from the New England Women's and Men's Athletic Conference (NEWMAC). "From his tenure on [Division III] Management Council, Championships Committee and several sports committees, Brad's tireless work and dedication has made Division III better. We are thankful for Brad's commitment to Division III."

Bankston, 50, marks his 28th year of service to the ODAC in 2020-21. It is his 24th as the conference's commissioner,

having taken over for Dan Wooldridge following his retirement in March 1997. The two have been the only commissioners in league history dating back to its inauguration in 1976-77.

Bankston's contributions to Division III and the ODAC have been numerous. He just completed a four-year term on the Division III Management Council, which reports directly to the Division III Presidents Council. He has served on four NCAA Division III committees and served as chair for three of those groups -- Championships Committee (2000-04; chair 2001-03), Football Championship Committee (2009-13; chair 2012-13), Men's Golf Championship Committee (2004-08; chair 2006-08), and Budget Committee (2002-03).

During his tenure, Bankston has seen the steady growth of the conference to its current membership of 15 full-time members and two associate members -- one each in football and men's and women's swimming. The league's sport sponsorship has also increased with the allotment currently standing at 24 offerings -- 11 men, 12 women, and 1 co-ed. Bankston's continued partnership with the Ro-

anoke Club of Salem, Va., to conduct the ODAC men's and women's basketball tournaments, has been a key feature for both the Conference and Club. The four-day event showcasing 14 games in the Salem Civic Center has evolved into a unique experience for Division III basketball, but its reach extends beyond the hardwood. Since 1981, the Club has redistributed over \$700,000 in charitable proceeds from the ODAC's basketball tournaments, generating as much as \$30,000 per year in contributions in the community, region and the world.

"I don't really know where to start," explained Bankston following a Zoom call where the D3CA leadership announced his honor. "It means so much to be recognized by my peers in this way. This group is so special to the Division, our members and my professional development. The influence of D3CA has made a huge impression on me during my time as a commissioner. It is a group that supports its members despite the competitive environment of athletics. I am humbled by this recognition knowing there are so many worthy members deserving



ODAC PHOTO

Brad Bankston has been the ODAC commissioner for 24 years.

the same recognition."

The connection with Salem has deep ties in ODAC history given that it was the home of the conference office through the 2009-10 campaign. Bankston has been pivotal in Salem becoming "Virginia's Championship City" and destination for thousands of Division III student-athletes. He is one of three individuals to serve as host and member of the local planning committee for all 73 Division III championships hosted within the City limits. It is a tradition that began with the Stagg Bowl in 1993 and has grown to include men's and women's basketball, baseball, women's lacrosse, men's and wom-

en's soccer, softball, and women's volleyball. The upcoming Division III championship cycle will see the duo team up to host 15 additional championships.

In a fitting tribute, City of Salem Mayor Renee F. Turk proclaimed July 24 as Richard Bradley Bankston Day in recognition of Bankston's 50th birthday and his contributions to the City over the previous 25 years.

"Brad and I go back to that first championship in 1993, beginning a working relationship and valued friendship that has been rewarding on so many levels," expressed Carey Harvey-Cutter, the Director of Tourism for

the City of Salem and the Tournament Manager for all 90 NCAA Division II and III championships hosted in the City. "His extremely personable nature has helped forge so many connections in and around ODAC circles. He is a professional in the truest of definitions and deserves all the recognition that comes his way for the hard work and dedication he has shown to Division III and the ODAC."

Bankston, a graduate of both the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill ('92) and Virginia Tech ('94), enjoys life with his wife, Beth, and sons Benjamin and Burke at their home in Forest, Virginia.

## Bianca Smith is first black women to be named pro baseball coach

Ian Browne  
@IanMBrowne

The Boston Red Sox have hired Bianca Smith as a Minor League coach, making her the first Black woman to serve as a



CASE WESTERN RESERVE UNIV. PHOTO

Bianca Smith is the first black female professional baseball coach after being hired by the Red Sox.

coach in the history of professional baseball. The club officially welcomed her via a tweet on January 4.

"The opportunity is amazing," Smith said in an interview on MLB Network's Hot Stove program on Monday. "I'm still wrapping my head around it. I probably won't really have it sink in until I'm actually there."

"I think it's a great opportunity also to kind of inspire other women who are interested in this game. This is not really something I thought about it when I was younger. I kind of fell into it being an athlete, so I'm excited to get that chance to show what I can do."

Earlier this offseason, the Marlins named Kim Ng their new general manager, making her the first woman to hold that title in the four major sports in North America.

The 29-year-old Smith is currently the assistant coach and hitting coordinator at Carroll University in Wisconsin, a role she has held since 2018. Before that, Smith worked at Case Western Reserve University as director of baseball operations from 2013-17 and had a stint

as assistant coach at University of Dallas in '18. She will start her Red Sox career based at the club's player development facility in Fort Myers, Fla., and will work mainly with position players.

Smith played softball at Dartmouth College, graduating in 2012. While Smith has a strong background in the biomechanical and analytic sides of baseball, she looks forward to getting the chance to broaden her expertise with the Red Sox.

"As the hitting coordinator, I run all of our technology side for hitting at Carroll," said Smith. "The number of different resources that the Red Sox have as far as tech goes, I'm really excited to get my hands on that and learning the different metrics and being able to dive deeper into what I currently have is pretty exciting."

Smith previously did internships in the baseball operations departments of the Texas Rangers and Cincinnati Reds.

Ian Browne has covered the Red Sox for MLB.com since 2002. Follow him on Twitter @IanMBrowne and Facebook.

## Hokies beat Wake Forest



ACC PHOTO

Virginia Tech's David N'Guessan slams two of his 13 points in the Hokies 64-60 win over Wake Forest in Winston-Salem Sunday. The win lifted the Hokies to 11-2 overall as Tech prepares to host Boston College in Blacksburg tonight.