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# THE NEW CASTLE RECORD



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## Fire Department dishes out the spaghetti



SUBMITTED PHOTO

A small village was required to make the successful spaghetti fundraiser a success at the Upper Craig Creek Volunteer Fire Department this year. Those who helped serve the 150 meals were: Deb Cash, Brad Jones, Emily Jones, Doug Yeisley, Chris Matheny, Heather Matheny, Shawn Matheny, Jake Waller, Jacob Altizer, Chris Short, Christy Smith, LeAnn Yeisley, John Yeisley, Jeremiah Law, Sydney Law, Keith Dunbar, Katherine Allen, Ronnie Allen, Carly Allen and Shannon Palmer.

**Pam Dudding**  
Contributing writer

In yesteryear days, local fire departments would take a few weeks out of the year and go door to door, asking for donations.

Today, they have to resort to other creative ways to help fund the necessities they have to have in order to best serve their community.

On February 27, the Upper Craig Creek Volunteer Fire Department hosted a drive-thru spaghetti dinner fundraiser, serving over 150 meals in the process.

Volunteers were stationed at each section and the entire delivery ran faster than Chick-fil-A, with friendly greetings and thank you's in abundance.

"We had a great turnout, both in

See Spaghetti, page 3

## Local teacher nominated for Presidential Award



SUBMITTED PHOTO

For his commitment to teaching children science and mathematics and willingness to go the extra mile, Geoff Boyer, through Craig County Public Schools, has been nominated for a Presidential Award.

**Pam Dudding**  
Contributing writer

Some think that smaller schools have teachers that lack credentials. In Craig County, nothing could be further from the truth.

Craig County Public Schools has been blessed in drawing in teachers who have a heart to not only teach, but to continue to learn themselves, while sharing that with their students.

Geoff Boyer teaches two high school programming classes. "One is focused on Mobile App Development and basic computer science principles and the second is more advanced with

complex programming languages to control physical devices," Boyer said.

Recently, he was nominated for a Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching.

"This is the highest recognition that a K-12 grade science, technology, engineering, mathematics, and/or computer science teacher may receive for outstanding teaching in the United States," Superintendent Jeanette Warwick shared at the February School Board meeting. "Only up to 108 teachers are recognized each year."

See Boyer, page 3

## Students win Regional Red Ribbon Contest

**Pam Dudding**  
Contributing writer

The Craig County Public Schools broaden the horizons of their students by educating them of national events as well as what's in the schoolbooks.

Red Ribbon Week, October 26 through the 29, was honored by offering K-12 students the opportunity to participate in the theme,

"Be Happy. Be Brave. Be Drug-free."

Principal Gerri VanDyke shared, "Students were asked to show how they are happy, brave and drug free. The committee wanted to see the student's skills on what it means to be drug free which could be in the form of a poster, a dance, an essay, writing a song, a video, a poem, etc."

Red Ribbon Week is an alcohol, tobacco, and other drug and violence prevention awareness campaign observed annually in October in the United States. It began as a tribute to fallen DEA special agent Enrique Camarena in 1985 who tragically was kidnapped, tortured and murdered.

Camarena had been working undercover in Guadalajara,

See Red Ribbon, page 3



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

McCleary Elementary students were encouraged to participate in Red Ribbon Week and many excelled even into being a district winner. Maya McAlwee took first-place in her second grade class. Principal Gerri VanDyke shared that she was very proud of her students and their great accomplishments.



With the many participants of Red Ribbon in the older students, Blake Hannah placed third in sixth grade in the district contest. Superintendent Jeanette Warwick gave kudos to all the kids for doing such an excellent job in the district competition.

## Chili cook-off brings first three-way tie

**Pam Dudding**  
Contributing writer

When it is cold and snowy outside, there's nothing more delicious than a steaming bowl of homemade chili and hot buttery cornbread.

To end the chilly month of February, the Third Annual Community Chili Cook-off amongst local churches was held at Craig Valley Baptist Church on February 27.

When people entered the doors, the mouthwatering aroma made their stomachs growl and immediately arose their senses.

There were six combined contestants from three churches that participated from Craig Valley Baptist, First Baptist and Cornerstone - New Castle. They were: Ken Looney, Karen Walker, Frank Maddox, Anita Martindell, Mike Rivers and Barb Winslow.

Approximately 25 people came to test and judge every chili entry. All agreed that each option was delicious.

See Chili cook-off, page 3



SUBMITTED PHOTO

The Third Annual Chili Cookoff amongst local churches had its first three-way tie, which allowed everyone had to vote again. Each chili was delicious, making the decision to choose the best pretty difficult. When all of the votes were tallied in however, Ken Looney took home first place honors for the second year in a row. Second and third place went to Frank Maddox and Frank Maddox, respectively. Everyone involved left happy and full.

## Humphrey the Hamster celebrated at McCleary Elementary

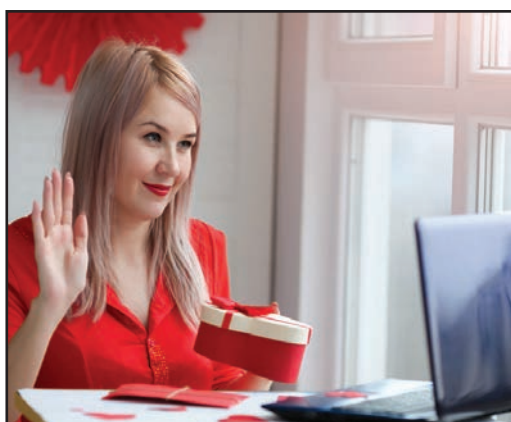


SUBMITTED PHOTO

McCleary Elementary school. Ms. Foster's students enjoyed a week's worth of celebrating reading, as students, teachers and staff dressed up like the characters of the book, "The World According to Humphrey."


Humphrey, who is a very smart golden hamster, makes a positive difference in the lives of students and staff in the

school. Ms. Foster's students dressed the parts of many characters. Pictured from left to right, Theresa Mitten, Addison Francisco, Destiny Hubbard, Kinsley O'Dell (holding Humphrey), Emily Smith, Raelynn Stamper, Jonathan Frazier, Maddie Day, Bryson Smith and Frances Foster. The full article will be in next week's issue.



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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).

•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 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.

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## McCleary Elementary opens new playground for children



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

McCleary students were overjoyed Friday when they got a chance to play on their new playground set for the first time. Squeals, laughter and lots of running made for a great day at the elementary school.



Humphrey the Hamster also received a new playground set to enjoy, during the week of One School One Book Celebration.

## Science Center project receives strong support from alumni



SUBMITTED PHOTO

President Mike Maxey, Terri Maxey, Sheila Cregger, and Morris Cregger, from left to right.

Three Roanoke alumni and their spouses are leading the charge to ensure that plans for Roanoke's new Science Center become a reality.

John and Betty Shannon have stepped forward to donate \$3.3 million to the Roanoke's new Science Center. In addition, Morris and Sheila Cregger and Dr. Paul and Constance Capp have each donated \$1 million to the Science Center project. These generous contributions added significantly to the ongoing Science Center campaign, Beyond the Rise, which is nearing \$20 million raised from all donors.

"It's a timely endeavor," said John "Jack" Shannon '52, a former member of the Roanoke College Board of Trustees. "It's something the College has needed and the time has come to go forward with it."

The Science Center Project is the most important capital project on Roanoke's agenda. The new Center will be built for the "next century of discovery" with state-of-the-art teaching and learning spaces. The plan calls for complete renovations of the half-century-old Life Sciences and Trexler buildings, and the removal of Massengill Auditorium and construction of a new state-of-the-art central building in its place that connects Life Sciences and Trexler into one integrated facility.

Roanoke's student population has doubled since the science buildings were constructed in 1970. The new Science Center will become an important venue on Roanoke's campus for study of all academic subjects.

"All you need to do is to see how rapidly things are changing in our communities and in our lives," Shannon said. "Sciences are an important factor for Roanoke as a liberal arts school. What we are going through now, with the pandemic, has further increased the need in the science area. This is a great opportunity to update the College in this area."

Shannon is retired, after a long and distinguished career as chief legal officer for Norfolk Southern Corp. In 2008, Roanoke

College established the John Shannon Professorship in Economics, currently held by Dr. Alice Kassens.

Morris and Sheila Cregger are honoring Roanoke College President Michael Maxey, and his wife, Terri, with their gift to the Science Center. Morris Cregger '64 is the retired chair of the Roanoke College Board of Trustees. Through that role, he and his wife, Sheila, developed a strong friendship and working relationship with the Maxeys.

"Our gift is a recognition of the dedication, sacrifices, leadership and love for Roanoke College by President Mike Maxey and his wife, Terri," said Morris Cregger, founder, with his wife, of a leading plumbing supply business. "I had the honor and pleasure to serve as chairman of the Board of Trustees for eight years and developed the utmost respect for these two incredible people. Sheila and I developed a friendship with them that will always be a part of our memories."

"We know President Maxey would like to break ground on the Science Center soon. We made our gift in their honor with hopes it will inspire others to join us to make this project a success," Cregger said. "The environment has been made more difficult by COVID-19 but the Science Center remains a high priority for Roanoke's future."

"They say it is the impact of one's life on those that follow that measure one's contributions," Cregger said. "Mike and Terri have a strong legacy at Roanoke as they touch so many lives."

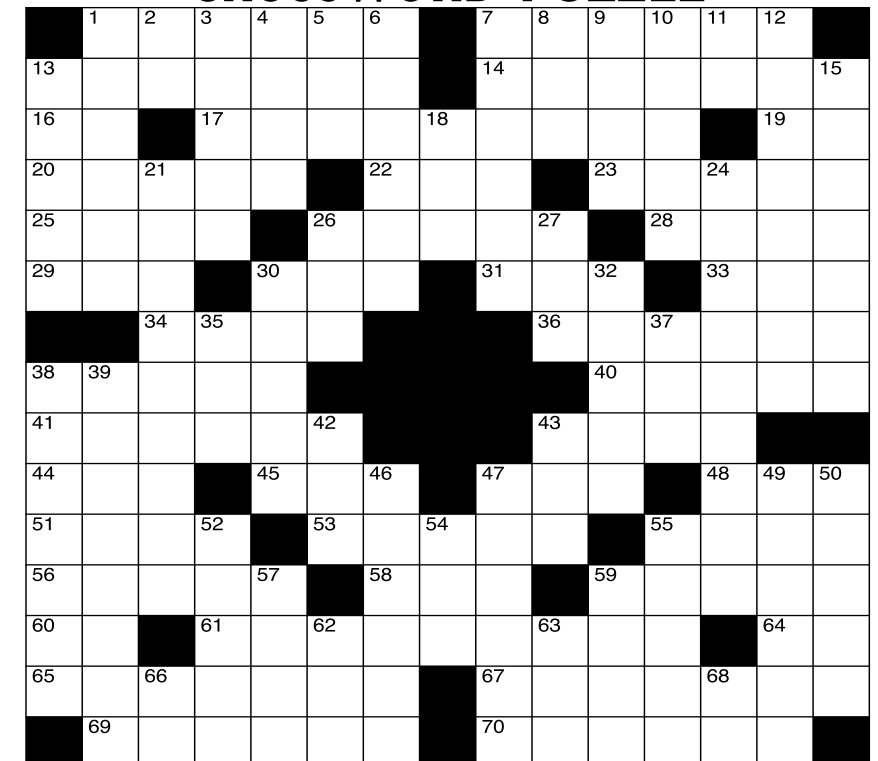
Relationships also played a key role for Dr. Paul Capp '52.

"The motivation I had to pursue physics and medicine came from the science faculty," said Capp, a member of the College's Board of Trustees. "I would not be where I am today if not for the professors who taught and advised me."

"The faculty are always outstanding, even when our physical facilities have not

See **Science Center**, page 3

## CROSSWORD PUZZLE



- |                                  |   |  |                                  |
|----------------------------------|---|--|----------------------------------|
| <b>CLUES ACROSS</b>              | 40. Organic compound                      | <b>CLUES DOWN</b>                              | 30. Indian instrument            |
| 1. Large dung beetle             | 41. Section at the end of a book          | 1. An ape or monkey                            | 32. Bleated                      |
| 7. Reproduction of a plan        | 43. Flat tableland with steep edges       | 2. Chemical element                            | 35. Cablegram (abbr.)            |
| 13. In a fervid way              | 44. Criticize                             | 3. Zodiac sign                                 | 37. Root mean square (abbr.)     |
| 14. The Book of Psalms           | 45. Split pulses                          | 4. Removes                                     | 38. Jellyfishes                  |
| 16. Morning                      | 47. Brief trend                           | 5. Brew  | 39. Individual TV installments   |
| 17. Exactly the same             | 48. Cool!                                 | 6. Nickname                                    | 42. Talk                         |
| 19. About                        | 51. Purposes                              | 7. Architectural structures                    | 43. More (Spanish)               |
| 20. Brown & basmati are 2        | 53. Brews                                 | 8. Trigonometric function                      | 46. Leaseholder                  |
| 22. Swiss river                  | 55. Skin condition                        | 9. Postmodern architectural building in Vienna | 47. Monetary units               |
| 23. Philippine island            | 56. Pops                                  | 10. Henderson & Fitzgerald are 2               | 49. Hostility                    |
| 25. Expressions of surprise      | 58. American air travel company           | 11. Mountain (abbr.)                           | 50. Work stations                |
| 26. An ant                       | 59. Minute bug                            | 12. Landscaping practice                       | 52. Linguistics giant            |
| 28. Common Japanese surname      | 60. Anno Domini (in the year of Our Lord) | 13. Capacitance unit                           | 54. Female sheep                 |
| 29. Deoxyribonucleic acid        | 61. One who rides in your car             | 15. Redirect                                   | 55. Calendar month               |
| 30. Car mechanics group          | 64. One of the Gospels                    | 18. Hat for women                              | 57. Seasoning                    |
| 31. A person's brother or sister | 65. City in southern Spain                | 21. In a way, dressed down                     | 59. Lofty nest of a bird of prey |
| 33. Ancient pharaoh              | 67. Inquisitive                           | 24. Granny                                     | 62. Single Lens Reflex           |
| 34. Quantitative fact            | 69. Jean Paul __, author                  | 26. Feed                                       | 63. A way to remove              |
| 36. Vividly colored bird         | 70. Pop singer Harry                      | 27. Endpoint                                   | 66. Virginia                     |
| 38. Your home has one            |   |  | 68. Old English                  |

## COUNTY OF CRAIG RESIDENTS

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE ~ TUESDAY, MAY 17, 2021**  
**DUAL PRIMARY ELECTION ~ TUESDAY, JUNE 8, 2021**

**THE CONSTITUTION OF VIRGINIA REQUIRES** you to be registered in the precinct in which you live to be qualified to vote. To be eligible to vote in the **Dual Primary Election**, on **Tuesday, June 8, 2021, you must register by 5:00 PM in The Registrar's Office or online at [vote.virginia.gov](http://vote.virginia.gov) by 11:59 PM on Monday, May 17, 2021.**

**The Voter Registration Office is open Monday through Friday from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM, and will be open Saturday, June 5, from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM for in-person absentee voting. The deadline for qualified applicants to vote absentee in-person is Saturday, June 5, 2021 by 5:00 PM.**

**The deadline to apply for an Absentee Ballot by mail is 5:00 PM on Friday, May 28, 2021. The Department of Elections advises applying as early as possible to account for any potential delays in mail delivery.**

### YOU WILL BE REQUIRED TO SHOW A VALID PHOTO ID AT THE POLLS

You are encouraged to make application for voter registration. Please call the number listed below if you have any questions. All requests for reasonable accommodations due to a disability should be made to the Registrar with at least a 48-hour notice.

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# Goodwill Industries of the Valleys announces new President and CEO



SUBMITTED PHOTO  
**Richmond Vincent Jr.**

Goodwill Industries of the Valleys recently announced Richmond Vincent Jr. as the incoming President and CEO following the retirement of Bruce Phipps in April. In partnership with Voltage, Goodwill's Board of Direc-

tors began the search process in September 2020 after current President and CEO Bruce Phipps announced his retirement. Phipps has nearly 18 years of service at Goodwill Industries of the Valleys and 48 years within the Goodwill enterprise.

Vincent currently serves as President and CEO at Goodwill Industries of South Mississippi (GSMS) and Mississippi Goodworks and has since 2017. He is also a member of the Mississippi Gulf Coast Business Council Executive Committee, Goodwill Industries International

Board of Directors, and Conference of Executives Executive Council. He was also recognized as a Best CEO in Mississippi by Mississippi Business Journal.

"We are excited to welcome Richmond to our organization," said Robert Jeffrey, Jr., Board Chair for Goodwill Industries of the Valleys. "He brings a wealth of Goodwill leadership and business expertise to our Executive Team and Goodwill Board. He is respected for leading organizations through innovation, culture, and growth strategy. His pas-

sion for Goodwill's mission will enable us to continue providing programs and services with a long-lasting impact on the economic health of individuals and our community now and well into the future."

Before joining GSMS, Vincent served as the Senior Vice President of Workforce Development for the Goodwill of Central and Northern Arizona. He created the agency's first career center co-located with a community-based organization. He also spearheaded the development and implementation of

the initial fundraising program.

Prior to Goodwill, Vincent served as vice president at several financial institutions, including J.P. Morgan Chase and BBVA Compass. Also, he was an entrepreneur for several years. Vincent served on the board of directors of the Greater Phoenix Economic Council and Arizona Association for Economic Development, and he served as chairman of the Maricopa County Workforce Investment Board.

"I am thrilled about my new role at Goodwill

Industries of the Valleys and serving the communities in Central, Southwest, and Southside Virginia," said Vincent Jr. "I am eager to build on the success of a strong organization and honored to lead future successes which will be possible with the MacKenzie Scott gift, loyal donors and shoppers, collaborating with community and business partners, and dedicated Goodwill employees."

*-Submitted by Michelle Darby, Vice President of Marketing and Development*

## Science Center

from page 2

matched our program," Capp said. "As prospective students and parents look at Roanoke College, they see a top-quality program and a stunning campus with facilities like the Cregger Center. They expect an equally impressive science

facility and there is a weakness there that has to be changed if we are going to compete, especially for those who don't yet know about our faculty and career advising."

Capp has spent his career in physics and medicine in academia

- 73 years, all told - first at Roanoke, then at Duke, University of North Carolina and the University of Arizona Medical School.

"I've been able to critically observe the sciences and development at Roanoke," he said. "I feel

a closeness to Roanoke and those first four years of my academic career provided the jump-start I needed for a career in academia. I've spent 69 years at other institutions, but none propelled me more than those four years at Roanoke."

"That's why I'm supporting the Science Center, and why I know it will impact students for years into the future," Capp said.

*-Submitted by Public Relations Department*

## Spaghetti

from page 1

terms of volunteers and community support," Chief Shawn Matheny said. "And the Lord looked after us and cleared the rain out during the time of the dinner."

As people approached the fire department, orange cones were set up to help people drive easily through the correct path for the volunteers to get their orders.

Several volunteers were quick to take the orders while others did the running for the food, drinks, salads with specific dressings and the desserts.

The dessert list was over a half-

page long, and included things like Heath Bar, coconut, honeybun, German chocolate, pineapple and chocolate, just to name a few.

Matheny said that they had so many people to donate food, desserts and other items and that he didn't want to try to list everyone as he would be afraid that someone would be left out saying, "Everyone please know how thankful we are for your donations."

He added that he wished to "send a big thank you out to all that helped whether it was leading up to the dinner, the day of the

dinner and during the dinner."

"It took many hours and many days beginning with the door-to-door fund drive to get the word out," Matheny continued. "Everyone pulled together and got things accomplished. The only way to explain this turnout is Heaven sent, from the engine being donated, to the members that continue to be there to build the organization to what it has become."

Many complimented the spaghetti dinner on Facebook, saying things such as:

- "Lots of food, all very good

and you all did a great job with the packaging! Thanks!"

- "A wonderful meal. Thank you for your service!"

- "Great meal! Already looking forward to your next one! Great job by all"

- "That spaghetti made my tummy very happy!"

Noted Matheny, "the funds raised will keep us in business."

Among the things the department needs includes new bunker gear (which he said the county has a grant in countywide for all departments).

"Also, we are always in search of updated equipment to better serve the citizens of the community," he said. "We are establishing back as a department and will turn down no donation large or small."

Matheny and the crew wished to send out "A huge thanks for the outpouring of community support they continue to give us. We are always searching for new members and no job is too small. There is a place for everyone at Station 5!"

They added for everyone to be on the lookout as more fundraisers being planned.

## Boyer

from page 1

To put that into context, there are approximately 3.2 million teachers in the United States. At that same meeting, Boyer was presented with a certificate award and flowers.

Warwick and Principal Melissa Whiting nominated Boyer based on the programs and classes Boyer teaches. There will be Regional selections and then State finalists are chosen. As of press time, no dates are set in stone yet.

"Once nominated, the teacher must decide to apply by completing an application packet," Warwick said. "Mr. Boyer has graciously accepted this nomination and is preparing his application."

"I will be recording videos of lessons and submitting curriculum that I teach as well as examples of student work and the influences in the community," he said. "My submissions are due by April 1."

Continued Warwick, "If selected, Presidential awardees receive a certificate signed by the President of the United States; a trip to Washington D.C. to attend a series of recognition events and a \$10,000 award from the National Science Foundation. Congratulations, this is truly well deserved, and we appreciate your leadership here at CCHS."

When Boyer was asked, "What would this mean for you to win

this award and do you have any ideas of how you would spend the \$10,000?," he responded, "In my mind, it would really be an award for the community and schools as a whole."

His thoughts are to give a portion to the school technology funds or possibly towards some scholarship awards for students going to college for tech-based majors.

Students seem to really enjoy

Boyer's classes. His teaching techniques bring out the curiosity in them, and it doesn't hurt that it's technology, the "in" thing for today's teens.

Boyer added that for his students, "The community impact will be the problem-solving skills they can bring to the business field they choose and in everyday life."

Fingers are crossed and hopes are high that Boyer receives this prestigious honor and award.

## Red Ribbon

from page 1

Mexico, for over four years. "His efforts led to a tip that resulted in the discovery of a multi-million-dollar narcotics manufacturing operation in Chihuahua, Mexico," history states.

It is stated that Red Ribbon Week is an environmental strategy, which means "it does not just affect a small group but usually goes beyond schools, churches and other groups into the broader community."

The goal of Red Ribbon Week is to increase awareness to the general public about the dangers

of drug use as well as to encourage people to stay off drugs.

During the week, CCPS held daily events: Monday - "Give Drugs the Slip" - wear slippers and PJs, Tuesday - "Put a Lid on Drugs" - wear a hat, Wednesday - "Red Out" - wear red and Thursday - "Dress for Success" - dress up as your dream job.

VanDyke noted that, during art classes, the students worked on projects that were submitted to RAYSAC for the contest. They held prize drawings each day for daily win-

ners in each classroom, and the school was decorated.

However, for obvious reasons, the Red Ribbon Week Candlelight Ceremony was virtual this year.

The entry deadline was November 4 and the awards were announced Tuesday, November 16, at 6:30 p.m. Winners were later recognized at the School Board Meeting at a local level, and winners were forwarded to regional.

At the February School Board meeting, Superintendent Jeanette

Warwick announced the regional winners as Principal Gerri VanDyke presented the them with a certificate and a cash prize.

"I want to remind everyone that these are the winners from our entire region including Roanoke City, Roanoke County and Salem. This is not just Craig County," Warwick shared. "This is quite an accomplishment and we are very proud."

This year's Regional winners were:

- Grade 2 - 1st place Maya McAlwee and 2nd place McKenna Jones (unable to attend)
- Grade 4 - 3rd place Maggie Underwood (unable to attend)
- Grade 6 - 3rd place Blake Hannah
- Grade 7 - 3rd place Elliot Martin (unable to attend)

According to the United States DEA, Red Rib-

bon Week is the nation's largest and longest-running drug awareness and prevention program.

"I am so proud of you all," VanDyke shared with each recipient as she presented their awards. "We have some very talented students in our schools."

The student's smiles were wide, though they had their masks covering their faces, as their eyes gleamed with joy.

## Chili cook-off

from page 1

In fact, they were so good, that for the first time, there was a three-way tie for second place.

When that happened, everyone was given another ticket and asked to judge between the three.

It seemed the consensus of the evening was that it was too difficult to judge, as they were all worthy of the top honor.

Ultimately, Ken Looney from Craig Valley Baptist, who currently holds the first-place title from last year's contest, was announced as the first-place winner again. He accepted the trophy with a big grin.

Second place went to Karen Walker of Craig Valley Baptist and third was Frank Maddox of Cornerstone Church - New Castle.

Since this was Ken Looney's second win in a row, the championship trophy will remain at Craig Valley Baptist Church for another year.

"This was a year of especially good chili," Rich Martindell said. "There was actually a tie for second-place between three chilis and a second cook-off had to be held. The final difference

between second and third-place ended up being just one vote."

Martindell noted that there was great participation by the various churches' members providing a large variety of cornbreads and desserts which everyone enjoyed after the contest was over.

"This is a great example of why many people come to small towns," Martindell added. "Through events like this, everyone gets to know their neighbors better and sees that we all have a lot in

common, wherever we may worship."

Though it was a competition, everyone laughed and greeted the winners with a little fun on the side, talking of how much better they would be next year and how they would adjust their ingredients.

"There is a true feeling of camaraderie through competition, lighthearted humor and of course, delicious food," Martindell said before others chimed in, "It's a competition where you're happy for whoever wins."

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# OPINION

## Wise investors invest in libraries

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Empowering individuals to build a stronger community

Wise investors know a good deal when they see it, which is why so many people who are smart and wealthy love their public library.

That's because the research repeatedly shows that the Return-on-Investment (ROI) for your local library is around \$5 (but could be up to \$9), for every dollar spent on them.

It's true: for every dollar that communities invest in library services they get five back in programs, services and collections!

It's simple, really, if you consider what the average U.S. household pays for library services (-\$7.50/month) and put that next to a public library's vast offerings, the point is obvious. For under ten dollars you get thousands of books, music, movies, wholesome activities for kids, very expensive market research databases, and much, much more.

Is this a killer deal? Of course, it is! It's why

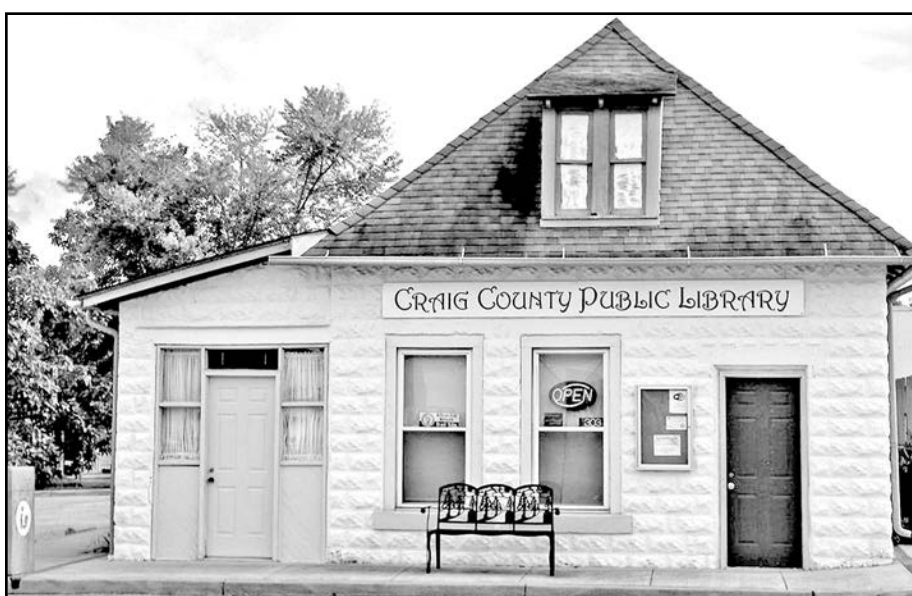
nearly every personal finance guru sings the praises of libraries. Note, these are not abstract benefits like how libraries help build a stronger Democracy, or how they inspire curiosity in people, a library's ROI is the institution's worth in cold hard cash. This doesn't just translate to value for the individual either, a well-funded library raises surrounding property values, helps develop an intelligent workforce (making your area attractive for cutting-edge companies), and makes local social services more efficient. Heck, as a teenager, I learned basic job skills through a program at my library. It's where I wrote my first resumé!

Increased property values, job skills development and strengthening of social services are all examples of the public value libraries create. That means that these are ways in which libraries benefit even those who never set foot inside.

It's like if an imaginary person named George was trying to launch a business — he knew what he wanted to do and was good at it, but

had no experience with running his own firm. Not knowing what else to do, George went to his local library and partook in the numerous resources it offers to small business owners. A year later, his business is providing a useful service to customers, paying wages to local workers, supporting local governance through taxes and earning him and his family a decent life. Now, multiply George by 50 or a 1,000, and you get the public value of libraries.

This is not even attempting to quantify the long-term financial rewards of supporting our nation's education system through targeted early literacy initiatives. I'm going to say it plain: After parents and grandparents, libraries are the first place where children establish lifelong reading habits; kids learn to read at the library. Moreover, new parents learn how to teach their kids to read at the library by attending an age-appropriate storytime and observing the librarian. Does this fit directly into the five dollars of value libraries give you for every one dollar you pay? I don't know, but I've



The Craig County Public Library is at 303 Main Street.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

never ever heard anyone argue against the valuable investment that is teaching our kids to read well.

Likewise, I've never heard anyone who truly understood the research on the excellent ROI (up to \$9 for every dollar spent!) that libraries provide for communities muster a cogent argument for defunding this important and beneficial institution. Libraries aren't just feel-good spaces for softies, they are solid, tangible evidence of public money returned directly to a community as public

value. Rare are enterprises more worthy of our support.

**Library News:** We depend on donations to keep us afloat. We are participating in RV gives campaign, so a big thank you to all who donated! It is not too late to help. We accept your tax-deductible donations at any time and you can earmark the money for children's programs, capital campaign for expansion or library operations. Our local and county government fund approximately half of our operations, and

the rest comes from Library of VA, Friends of the Library fundraising, Barn Quilts and YOUR donations. Thank you for helping the Craig County Public Library to continue its good work.

The "Take and Make" program has begun! Please call the library to reserve your activity packet for children ages 1-10. A new packet will be available each month.

These spring nights are great for stargazing. Wanted: an astronomy geek to do a stargazing event some warm spring night!

**THE NEW CASTLE RECORD**

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(540) 389-9355 Salem, VA 24153  
www.ourvalley.org

Michael Showell, *Publisher* .....  
Shawn Nowlin, *Editor* .....shawn.nowlin@ourvalley.org  
Brian Hoffman, *Sports Editor* .....bhoffman@ourvalley.org  
Lynn Hurst, *General Manager* .....lhurst@ourvalley.org  
Randy Thompson *Advertising Consultant* .....advertise@ourvalley.org

**Give us your view: newcastle@ourvalley.org**  
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## FDA issues emergency use for third COVID-19 vaccine

**Dr. Cynthia Morrow**  
Roanoke City and Alleghany Health Districts Health Director  
Guest Contributor

Last weekend, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) issued an emergency use authorization for a third COVID-19 vaccine, Johnson & Johnson's "Janssen COVID-19 Vaccine." We expect that doses of this new vaccine will arrive in Virginia, possibly in our area, as early as the end of this week. As new vaccines

enter the market, people may start asking "Which vaccine is best for me?" The simple answer is that the best vaccine is the one that is available to you!

Like the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines, the new Johnson & Johnson vaccine is safe and effective. Like the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines, the Johnson & Johnson vaccine underwent rigorous safety and efficacy review in clinical trials. Almost 45,000 people in eight countries participated in the Johnson & Johnson trials and the results of these exten-

sive studies demonstrate that the vaccine is safe and effective. Unlike the Pfizer and Moderna mRNA vaccines, the Johnson & Johnson vaccine is a viral vector vaccine, which means that a "vector," in this case a harmless virus, carries a message to cells that in turn help the body fight COVID. There are many advantages to this vaccine, but the biggest advantages are that it only requires one dose and that it can be stored more easily than the mRNA vaccines.

You may have heard that some people are

concerned that the Johnson & Johnson vaccine is not as effective as the Pfizer or the Moderna vaccine. It is important to understand that in the clinical trials, the Johnson & Johnson vaccine was shown to be "85 percent effective in preventing severe/critical COVID-19 occurring at least 28 days after vaccination" according to the FDA.

With all three COVID-19 vaccines, people may experience mild side effects from the vaccine, including a sore

See Morrow, page 5

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# SPORTS

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## Rockets come from behind in two sets for first volleyball win of the season



Nicole Austin hammers one down against Covington



The players on the Craig bench cheer after a Rocket point.



Autumn Hutchison goes high for a spike.



Samantha Sarver of Craig scores against Covington.

The Craig County girls came from behind in each of the first two sets, then put the match away in the fourth set for their first volleyball win of the season. Craig defeated Covington on Thursday, 26-24, 28-26, 22-25 and 25-21.

It was an exciting match, unfortunately played in front of just a handful of fans. In the first set Covington was one point away from a win at 24-22 only to have the Rockets score four unanswered points to win the set. Then, in the next set, the Rockets trailed 22-17 but

pulled into a tie at 24-24. Six intense points followed that saw the Rockets pull out a 28-26 victory to go up 2-0.

Covington held on to win the third set, 25-22, but the Rockets put it away in the fourth. Autumn Hutchison led Craig with 12 kills, five blocks and six assists. Kaylee Stroop had 28 assists on the night and Nicole Austin had 12 kills and five aces.

"Serving and serve receive was the difference on Thursday, which propelled us to the victory," said Craig coach

Geoff Boyer. "We had solid contributions from the new trio of starters in Lucy Rigney, Samantha Sarver and Kylee Clifton. Jennifer Fitzpatrick also gave us a spark coming off the bench."

The win evened Craig's record at 1-1. The volleyball team participated in the first school sponsored sporting event in over a year last Tuesday when Craig hosted Narrows. The visiting Green Wave won that match 25-17, 19-25, 25-19 and 25-18. Hutchison had nine kills and two blocks and

Stroop assisted on 16 points.

"Most importantly, we are very thankful to the school board, administrators, parents and everyone in the community that is making it possible for our team to have a season," said Boyer. "It was great to be in action after a year and a half. Both Narrows and Covington have strong teams and we played well in each match. Former Rocket standout and assistant coach Suzanne Gans provides us with experience during our practices and matches."

The Rockets were scheduled to play a third home game to open the season on Tuesday of this week against Eastern Montgomery, followed by five straight road matches, all against Pioneer District teams. The Rockets are at Parry McCluer for a doubleheader on Thursday of this week followed by a trip to Bath County next Monday, March 15.

The girls are planning on having "Senior Night" and raising the 2019 Pioneer District Tourney banner on March 23 before hosting Highland.

**Brian Hoffman**

Sports Editor



Happy Anniversary

Do you realize that Thursday of this week is Day 366 AG of the sports stifling coronavirus pandemic?

That's right, Thursday is May 11, exactly one year to the day after the Utah Jazz game was cancelled just before tip-off because center Rudy Gobert tested positive for COVID-19. Within days all NBA games, the NCAA "March Madness" Tournament, Major League Baseball spring training, NASCAR, professional golf and any number of other events were put on hold due to the virus. As a sports guy I look at May 11, 2020, as the official beginning of the pandemic.

It's been a long year, to say the least. Many people have died, many businesses have closed and many people have suffered, physically, mentally and financially. It was disappointing to lose so many sporting events, but in the big scheme of things that was the least of our problems.

Now, one year later, things are getting better. We still don't have arenas filled with fans, but we had a great NFL football season, enough college football to keep us entertained and both NBA and college basketball. March Madness is scheduled to go on, although with limited fans it won't be as "mad" as usual.

After going nine months with few sports to cover I'm busy again, and I love it. We have Virginia High School League fall sports squeezed between winter and spring sports, and it's sort of cool to still have some football to enjoy a month after the Super Bowl.

At Roanoke College you have the end of winter sports this week, with both basketball teams participating in the Old Dominion Athletic Conference tournament. In addition to that the fall sports are being played now and all the spring sports have already started. Within a month's time every sport offered by the college had a game,

meet or match.

I'm optimistic we'll be back to normal by the fall sports season. We now have three vaccines and I'm hoping everyone is smart enough to get vaccinated while continuing to "mask up" at large gatherings.

Of course, there will always be people who buck the establishment. I had someone recently tell me he wasn't going to get vaccinated because it was the government's plan to put a chip in everyone, so they could track you wherever you go. He also said the vaccine was very dangerous, and that doctors who spoke out about this were being murdered to keep it quiet.

I certainly hope that's not true, but if we can save humanity I'll gladly have a chip implanted in me. Just don't put it where I have to sit on it every day.

Happy one year anniversary, Rudy Gobert. Maybe that's why you were the last one picked in the all-star game draft.

### Offending spuds

I understand why Aunt Jemima was offensive to African Americans, although she made a darned good pancake syrup. And I can even understand why the name "Redskins" is offensive to Native Americans, and that the smiling Wahoo might not be the best characterization of the folks who lived here before the Europeans took over.

But Mr. Potato Head? I just don't see the problem there.

From what I understand Mr. Potato Head is now going to be just "Potato Head." If he would have been Potato Head to begin with, that would be just fine, but to drop the Mister is a mystery as to why that is deemed necessary.

For one, you already have a Mrs. Potato Head, so it's not a gender equality thing. You remember Mrs. Potato Head from the Toy Story movies. She was voiced by Doris Roberts, who played the mother on the "Everyone Loves Raymond" television show.

The Potato Heads have been around a long time. I actually had one when I was a kid. You get the plastic potato shell that comes in two sections, where you can store the nose, mouth, ears, etc. inside the shell. When I was a kid, the idea was that you actually could take a real potato and make characters by pushing the stems of the lips, ears and whatever directly into the spud. Of course, it's not going to last as long as the plastic one but potatoes are cheap. Just don't try it with a tomato.

So what's next? There are lots of "Mister" items

that could be considered gender offensive. How about "Mr. Bubble" for one? He's been around for over 50 years, are you going to let him get in the tub with your naked three year old daughter? He should now be called, "Bubble."

The ice cream man in our neighborhood when I was growing up had soft serve products and was called "Mr. Softie." I guess now his truck should just say "Softie" on the side.

You can go down the list. Mr. Clean should be just "Clean," and ninety percent of the time it's the woman using him. At least that's the way it's always been in my family, although that statement in itself might seem offensive to some women.

Anyone remember when Milton Berle was called "Mr. Television." Well, he would be just "Television" if he were alive today.

And then there's "October." You know, Reggie Jackson who surely offended people by being called "Mr. October." Anyone remember who "May" would be? Of course it's Dave Winfield, who Yankees owner George Steinbrenner once insulted by calling him "Mr. May" in reference to his poor showing in the playoffs.

Baseball is full of offensive Mistfers. How about "Mr. Met?" Is there a Mrs. Met? If not, he should just be "Met."

And then there's Bob Uecker, who Johnny Carson once dubbed "Mr. Baseball." If you say Mr. Baseball is coming on the show everyone knows who it is. But if you say "Baseball" will be on the show tonight, who knows what that means? And what would the late Joe DiMaggio think if his favorite product, "Mr. Coffee," would change to be just "Coffee."

How about the rock band Mister Mister? They had a couple hits years ago, notably "Kyrie" and "Broken Wings." Now they'd just be "Mister," although I always thought Mister Mister was an odd name to begin with.

There are endless ways to offend people. Rowan Atkinson's comedic character "Mr. Bean" should now be called "Bean." Mr. Goodbar will just be "Goodbar" and if you like Batman you'll want to see the episode where "Freeze" is the villain, not "Mr. Freeze."

And don't get me started on Dr. Seuss. One of the things that was apparently offensive was a cartoon of an Asian man and he happened to be holding a bowl of rice and chopsticks. Tell me, what restaurant have you EVER been in that gave you chopsticks that didn't serve Asian food?

You can't have Uncle Ben sell you rice and you can't have an Asian cartoon character eating it with chopsticks. Yes, it takes a lot of effort not to offend someone in 2021.