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"The Voice of Craig County"

Wednesday, March 31, 2021

\$1.00



Winebarger proudly tapped into Beta Club



Maci Winebarger was recently tapped into the Beta Club at CCPS by Principal Melissa Whiting who once taught Maci in kindergarten. "I learn much more from Maci than she learns from me," Whiting said before adding, "I am in continuous awe of her, and I am so looking forward to witnessing her future accomplishments."

Pam Dudding

bought."

Contributing writer

Life today seems quite different

from 50 years ago when I was a little

girl. We always got a new outfit for

Easter. Of course, my mom made

ours. She was the best seamstress, and

they were "so much better than store-

with a cape or jacket to match. Then,

we got out our white gloves and cute

spring hat to add to the Sunday attire.

dad drove us to West Virginia where

his parents lived. I got to be with my

other 20 plus cousins and 18 aunts

It was always a happy time with

You see, my granny in WV was a

family, as we celebrated this special

born-again Christian and she raised

and uncles, plus distant kin.

Pam Dudding

Contributing writer

lunch every day at school.

classes that were in the "Hut."

it an ugly green eyesore.

For many older citizens in Craig

County, they vividly remember the

Quonset Hut. It was where many at-

tended first and second grades or ate

Back then, second through

12-grade levels were in the one New

Castle High School, except for the

Because it wasn't used by the coun-

ty over the years, its condition be-

came worsened. In fact, many called

After our special church service,

She always made me a shift dress

Pam Dudding Contributing writer

When children are born, a parent sees so many dreams for them through their loving eyes. However, when life brings unexpected hardships, new dreams emerge, and faith and hope becomes their "rock of Gibraltar."

Maci Winebarger was born healthy and was active as a child. However, at age six, a brain tumor changed her life and quickly put her in a wheelchair.

Through ten years of challenges, surgeries, therapies and struggles, she continues to press forward, being "the strongest young lady I know," her principal Melissa Whiting said. "She has never considered giving up on any of her goals and her efforts are obvi-

Her mother, Shari, added, "Maci does what she needs to do each day. She does have moments as anyone else when she gets down. She's a strong young woman and always pulls herself together. She doesn't complain. I guess she's learned throughout the past ten years that you just do what you have

Whiting added, "I have had the pleasure of knowing Maci since she

Celebrating Resurrection Life at Easter

us all, her kids, grandkids and great-

grandkids in the love of Jesus Christ.

In fact, she made my mom take me

to church when I was still in her belly.

though we also received the Easter

baskets and got to hunt tons of Eas-

ter eggs, (some of which my cousins

original meaning of Easter is all about.

This saddens me; maybe because of

what it really means, and the depth

name of Jesus Christ in a swearing

In fact, today, some only know the

Still, the special meaning of Easter

Jesus Christ was born to this world

holds a powerful place; one which

many agree cannot be substituted or

a few thousand years ago, to "save"

us from ourselves, our own sins and

that Jesus Christ plays in my life.

Many today have no idea what the

loved to eat – yuk!).

So, we always gave Jesus first place,

was four years old. She was, and still is, absolutely precious. Throughout the years I have grown to love her, and her entire family, as my own."

Whiting was initially Maci's kindergarten teacher at CCPS and shared that she has had many fond memories of Maci ever since,

"Although she was one of the youngest in the class, she was one of the strongest readers I had ever taught. We had a small reading group of two and she was especially interested in any books related to horses," Whiting reminisced. "We spent a lot of time that winter watching a mother bear on the internet as she was hibernating while waiting for her cub to be born. We submitted a name for the cub and the website chose our suggestion...Hope! Maci, of course, offered the original suggestion of her own middle name (Maci Hope).'

Adding, that she remembers Maci loving "story-time" and that she would always rush to the story-time carpet so she could get a front-row seat. "Her laughter was infectious...and still is," Whiting said.

Maci takes general and special edu-

Many refer to Easter as Resurrection

Sunday which will be celebrated this

Sunday, April 4. This year, several

churches in Craig County will

celebrate Resurrection Day with a

special message and some will even

have egg hunts and special dinners.

He was rejected at only 33 years of

See Easter, page 3

age, lied about, not believed, traded

off in exchange for a murderer, beaten

See Winebarger, page 5

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Mike Carper is happy to announce that they recently wrote their first check from the sales of adjustable masks

and gaiters to the Craig County Public Schools for \$578 and will continue donating \$2 per sale to the schools from both IGA Express Exxon and the Gopher Market.

Carpers continue to donate to CCPS

Pam Dudding Contributing writer

Carpers When the owned and operated the IGA grocery store, the community was always blessed with their open-hand policy they had regarding giving to the community and the

They haven't changed, purchasing the local gas stations in recent years.

The IGA Express and Gopher Market ĥave been offering many different items with Craig County and the school's names and logos on them since they were purchased by both Mike and Richard Carper.

Mike shared that they decided to order masks and then gaiters.

"I was a little skeptical about ordering these at first, because at the time, it seemed that more people were pushing against them," he said. "However,

when you go into a restaurant or to a doctor's office you have to have one."

The first shipment I got in of 48 were gone so fast, Mike said, so I ordered multiple times since.

The two chose to help the schools in Craig County by donating \$2 per mask and gaiter sold at both stores and this week, they wrote their first check to the school system for \$578.

The masks sell for \$9.99, and gaiters are \$12.90 and \$2 per mask will go towards the CCPS.

Mike noticed they are getting short again and will be placing another order

"Personally, I like the gaiter because it doesn't blow off and all I have to do is this," he said as he pulled

the gaiter over his nose. However, the masks have earpieces that are adjustable,

See Carpers, page 3

The ugly 'hut' got a beauty makeover



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

However, the Craig County Child Care Center (CCCCC) purchased the property from the County several years ago, with a new vision in mind.

We, the Childcare Center Board and the Craig County Youth & Community Services, envisioned a larger space for the school-age children that would allow them a 'big kid' area separate from the younger children," said Executive Director Teresa Oliver.

Wishes were granted and they received a grant from the United Way of Roanoke Valley, UWRV, to expand care for school-age children through the pandemic and are excited to be



eternal death.

The new hut, now called the School Kids Learning The green ugly Quonset Hut holds many memories for Lab, is completely furnished to meet the needs of people in Craig who attended the school after it was built. current students.

able to offer their services to more kids again.

"After all fire inspections, licensing and health inspections were completed, we are super proud to have saved this great old space and made it usable

for future kids," said Oliver.
She added that they are grateful to UWRV for the funding and Kevin Bevins Construction for getting it done on such a timely manner. They received the grant in mid-December, and he completed his work in mid-February.

See **Ugly 'hut'**, page 5

Daffodils and children help bring Spring alive



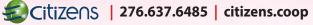
SUBMITTED PHOTO

Brantley Willoughby, the grandson of Rebecca Price, takes the newly bloomed Spring daffodils to his babysitter.



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National Ag Week recognizes the essential role of agriculture

Ag Week National was observed the week of March 21-27 with National Ag Day happening on March 23. The Catawba Valley Farmers Market joined numerous agricultural advocacy groups in recognizing the work of farmers as they produce a safe and affordable abundance of food and fiber for the nation.

Americans are urged to understand how ag products are produced and to value the role of agriculture in maintaining a strong economy. Here are just a few reasons why celebrating National Ag Week is so important: agriculture provides almost everything we eat, use and wear on a daily basis; each American farmer feeds

more than 165 people a dramatic increase from 25 people in the 1960s; young people are encouraged to consider career opportunities in agriculture; and food brings everyone to the table.

Agriculture is Virginia's largest private industry, with an annual economic impact of \$70 billion, providing more than 334,000 jobs. According to the United States Department of Agriculture's 2017 census, there were 179 farms in Craig County, with a total of 43,431 acres. These farms sold products with a market value of \$4,658,000, with a farm-related income of \$300,000.

In addition to its tangible benefits such as farm

cash receipts and jobs, agriculture provides many intangible benefits. These include recreation, tourism, wildlife habitat, biodiversity, flood mitigation, improved water quality and soil stabilization.

Local farmers and growers who participate in the Catawba Valley Farmers Market (CVFM) were busy during Ag Week caring for their young plants and crops in their greenhouses and high tunnels. Some cold-tolerant plants such as cabbage, broccoli and onions are being planted outside.

CVFM opens the 2021 season on Thursday, May 6, just before Mother's Day. Vendors will have fresh produce, microgreens, meats (beef, pork, chicken), baked goods, hanging baskets, indoor plants, bedding plants (vegetables and flowers), and crafts on hand.

aged to visit the open-air Čatawba Valley Farmers Market to meet the vendors, learn how their food products are grown and purchase locally-grown foods. The CVFM is open on Thursdays from 3:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., beginning May 6, at the Catawba Community Center, 4965 Catawba Creek Road (Rt. 779), just off of Rt. 311 in Catawba.

tawba@gmail.com or

(540) 580-1533. The CVFM website (ca- events, vendors, as well as

Consumers are encour-



Calvin Sowers (on right) and his son, Jesse (on left) planting cold-tolerant vegetables. Calvin's wife, Kristy, sells produce, meats at baked goods at CVFM.

Anyone interested in tawbafarmersmarket.com) selling at CVFM should and Facebook page (Cacontact Pam Hall at psca- tawba Farmers Market) feature frequent updates on available items, special

numerous photos.

-Submitted by Ann Harrell, CVFM Communication Specialist

Area author uses her upbringing as the catalyst for her debut book

Shawn Nowlin

shawn.nowlin@ourvalley.org

Some people know exactly what their talents are at an early age in life. For others, it can take several years before that realization happens. Salem resident Teresa Killen has always had a passion for daydreaming. Possessing that talent laid the foundation for her recently published book Wysterra, an analogy of conquering her depression, anxiety and OCD. As she put it, "In the land of Wysterra, the dream world affects the real world. Your thoughts and dreams influence who you be-

Killen says there are parts of her upbringing that were less than ideal. Many of the neighborhood kids and classmates that she grew up with did not reciprocate her kindness and, at times, were downright cruel.

"I remember my last the real world was just only perceptions." somewhere that was too be in.

A book passage from bus ride before switch- Wysterra reads as follows, ing schools due to bully- "How do you define what ing when no one on the is real? What is not? Is it bus would let me sit with whether or not you can them. Sometimes I think hold it in your hand? I I am still that little kid assure you every thought that just wants someone is real. Every piece of to ask her to sit on the your imagination is real. bus with them," she said. Whether or not you can "My imagination devel- hold something in your oped to entertain myself hand or in your mind is and distract myself when no different. They are Killen first dreamed of

boring or too difficult to Wysterra when she was ten and over the years, the concept has evolved numerous times. The final draft of the book was written when she was on maternity leave with her youngest son. As difficult as it may be to believe, Killen says she never planned to share Wysterra with anyone.

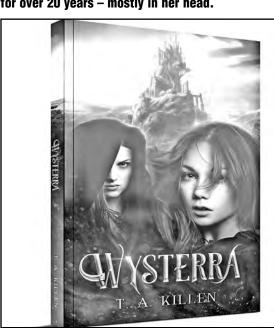
"I thought to write it all down and put all the books in a trunk that would be discovered after my time had passed. I did not want to know if anyone else thought it was silly because this world is my most precious thing and the place I escape to even now when things are difficult," she said. "No matter where I am or what is happening, all I have to do is close my eyes, and it melts away."

Killen strongly believes that all authors pull from their own lives, whether they are aware of it or not. Part of her writing process for Wysa movie in her mind. "I art before they make any- OCD. thing anyone really wants to," she said.

the book, she cried. If a different kind of story. you pull back the layers Part of my goal with this



Writing as T.A. Killen, area resident Teresa Killen has been working on her first full-length book, Wysterra, for over 20 years – mostly in her head.



Paperback copies of Wysterra sell for \$14.99 on Amazon.

terra was just closing her is more than just a novel, eyes and daydreaming adding, it is an analogy of the human mind and think that writing is an my journey back from art form, and all artists depression and finding make a lot of really bad a way to conquer my

"Growing up with to look at, read, or listen tales of knights in shining armor and princes, I When Killen finished wanted to give little girls of Wysterra, said noted, it book is to provide them

with a different sort of narrative," she said. "I wanted them to know they are strong, and they can be or do whatever they want. Be your own knight in shining armor."

Killen already has Wysterra sequels in her mind. For more information about the book, including how and where to purchase it, visit wysterra.com.

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14. Group purchasing protest 17. Insecticide

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9. License & passport

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DNA and RNA

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26. Married woman

23. A purine base found in

32. Short trips or tasks 35. Small craving

30. Cantonese dialect

31. Causing physical hurt

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42. Opera song 43. Create social or

emotional ties 44. Opposite of LTM

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TY 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.

EVERY TUESDAY

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

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.

SECOND MONDAY

Paint Bank Ladies

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

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

SECOND TUESDAY

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

THIRD WEDNESDAY

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.

THURSDAY, APRIL 1

The Craig Valley Baptist Church will be hosting a potluck dinner at 6 pm with service starting an hour later.

FRIDAY, APRIL 2

The Lighthouse Baptist Easter Egg Hunt is scheduled to happen from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Bring your own basket, ages 2-9 and snacks will be provided.

SATURDAY, APRIL 3

Tire amnesty at the

Craig County Transfer Station at 196 Landfill Road (Route 609) from 8 am to 4 pm. For more information, contact 540-864-7105.

SUNDAY, APRIL 4

Randy Spencer from Liberty University will be delivering an Easter Message at Craig Valley Baptist Church.

SUNDAYS, APRIL 4 AND APRIL 11

See the story of Jesus' miracles, crucifixion, resurrection and return in drama and song at Grace Assembly of God.

> Send community news and photos to shawn.nowlin@ ourvalley.org

Salem VA Health Care System offers COVID-19 vaccine to enrolled Veterans of all ages The Salem VA Health rolled Veteran population,"



The Salem VA Medical Center is located at 1970 Roanoke Blvd.

Care System has opened scheduling of COVID-19 vaccines to Veterans of all ages effective immediately. The two-shot series Moderna vaccination will be given at the Salem VA Medical Center, and the single-dose Janssen vaccination will be available at Community Based Outpatient Clinics in Tazewell, Lynchburg, Danville, Wytheville and "The Salem VA Health

Care System is excited to be able to open vaccination appointments for all of our ensaid Dr. Jeffrey Thompson, Chief of Pharmacy at the Salem VA Medical Center. "Individuals are encouraged to reach out to their primary care teams or call our vaccination hotline between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday through Friday to schedule their appointments." Thompson also said that

Veterans who received the first of a two-dose vaccination at a community hospital must get their second dose at the same location; he also encourages Veterans who have been fully

vaccinated at community hospitals to bring their vaccination card with them to their next VA appointment so their medical records can be updated. To schedule a COV-

ID-19 vaccination appoint-

ment, Veterans should call 540-982-2463 and choose Option 2. Veterans can get the latest information and sign

up to receive updates on VA's COVID-19 vaccine webpage.

-Submitted by Rosaire Bushey, Public Affairs Officer

Carpers from page 1

unlike most that people purchase.

They have a variety of colors and plain camo along with those that have Craig County, Rockets or Cougars written on them.

Mike also added that they are assisting people in downloading the new Exxon app to get their

points - Exxon Mobil Rewards+, which gives people points towards their gas purchases.

"I have some people who have over 1,000 points," he said. "That is \$10 off your fuel purchase. If you got 10 gallons, that means you only paid \$1.69

per gallon. It's crazy!"

They are still running the donation of giving \$2 per mask or gaiter sold to the Craig County Public Schools. He also noted that the company that makes the masks for him, Ohio Pyle Company, also donates seven percent of his purchase cost to the CCPS.

"It feels good to be able to help our schools," Mike shared.

The Gopher Market is also already setting people up for gardening with broccoli, cabbage, cherry tomato plants as well as beautiful hanging baskets from

Craig Creek Gardens, with potting soil ready at hand. They will add their full line of plants after the frost season ends.

They invite you to add the Exxon App to get your gas discounts and buy a mask or gaiter to help support CCPS.

Easter from page 1

"beyond recognition" (can Sunrise service you even imagine that?) and people to make fun of.

Many refused to accept Morning' Him as the true Son of God, the Messiah that was prophesied to come to earth, in the Old Testament of the Bible.

However, because He was the Son of God, He did not stay in the grave. He came basket, and snacks will be to earth (to us) to fulfill a provided)

would rise from the dead. And He did, after going to the pits of hell and taking back the "keys from Satan" God in His Heaven.

That's what Easter is cel- sus' Return ebrated for. Some Christians call it Resurrection Day instead, as the term Easter is service actually named after a pagan goddess of spring.

According to historic mass records, it is said to be "the most important and oldest festival of the Christian Easter service Church" and is celebrated on the first Sunday after the first full moon following the Northern Spring Life"

Equinox. There's something special about rising early on Easter. To stand atop a hillside, as the sun rises, singing joyful songs amidst others, seems to bring a more powerful meaning to the day, representing new life, a new start and a hope for our today and eternal to-

This year, several churches in Craig will celebrate Resurrection Day with a special message and some will even have Easter egg hunts and special dinners:

 Craig Valley Gospel Fellowship: 7 a.m. – Easter

•Mt. View Baptist: 11 then crucified on a cross for a.m. - "The Light Shines Brightest on Easter Sunday

> •Lighthouse Baptist: 11 a.m. - Special Easter message and The Lord's Supper with Easter egg hunt on Friday, April 2 from 5:30 to 7 p.m. (bring your own

Craig Valley Baptist: The Bible prophesied Apr 1 – Maundy Thursday that on the third day, He service at 7 and potluck at 6, 11 a.m. – Easter message from Dr. Randy Spencer from Liberty University

 Grace Assembly of God: so that one day, we could 10:30 a.m. (In drama and live eternally with He and song) Easter Sunday - Crucifixion message, April 1 Je-

•Cornerstone – New Castle: 10:30 a.m. - Easter

Johns Catholic •St. Church: 11 a.m. - Easter •Forks for Johns Creek

•New Castle Christian Church: 10 a.m. – "You are The Resurrection and The

Christian Church: 10 a.m.

Many churches have an way avenue for all mankind Easter Sunrise Service and a Seder feast, commemorating the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

This is also the time the Hebrew writings call, Passover, which many still cel-

ebrate today. In Biblical time, King Herod ordered every boy child two years and younger to be killed as he was trying to execute the baby Jesus at that time as he had heard

that this to be the new king. But God told His people if they would kill a lamb and place the blood on their doorposts, then the death angel would not touch their child.

Also, Jesus was crucified during this season as well, creating a 'pass-over from eternal hell, for people to become cleansed from their sins, if they repent and follow Him.

Why repent? Because is it stated that there is a Heaven and a Hell. Everyone will go to one or the other for eternity, when they leave this earth. No one just "dies."

Jesus Christ, The Master Craftsman, created a one-

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with Him. He chose to give His life, shed His blood, enter hell to get the keys from Satan (which man gave him), and rise again, so that every man and woman could enter the

to live forever in Heaven

gates of Heaven for eternity. Resurrection Day or Easter is celebrated in America on Sunday, April 4, during the Passover season.

It is a time to remember the Creator of the world, who created man and woman and who still wishes to create a new heart in every-

For many, it is a time of new birth or remembrance

of the 'reason for the season' and to "choose whom they will follow" as choices are made to "passover" a life of sin and death and into a life of peace and eternal salvation with a Savior who loves

endlessly. May this Easter bring you resurrected life, hope and new beginnings.



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UPINION

National Library Week: April 4-10, 2021

Library Corner

Empowering individuals to build a stronger community

The theme for National Library Week, Welcome to Your Library," promotes the idea that libraries extend far beyond the four walls of a building - and that everyone is welcome to use their services. During the pandemic, libraries have been going above and beyond to adapt to our changing world by expanding their resources and continuing to meet the needs of their users. Whether people visit in person or virtually, libraries offer opportunities for everyone to explore new worlds and become their best selves through access to technology, multimedia content, and educational programs.

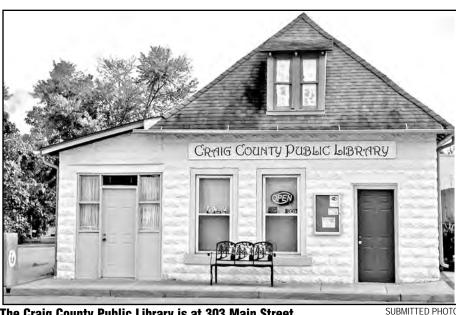
Every day, librarians help people access information, discover the joy of reading, and feel welcome in their com-

We asked I Love Libraries readers and the American Library Association's social media followers to share how librarians have impacted their lives over the years. Here are a few of our favorite stories:

"I was six-years-old in first grade and we had a class trip to the library to get our first library card. We had to be able to write our names in script. I was so nervous my hand kept shaking and I couldn't get a legible signature. The librarian took pity on me, took me aside and quietly invited me back for a tour with my mother (thought I would be calmer then) and she would personally have me sign and get my library card as a reward for being such a good reader. I have been reading, of course, ever since. Librarians rock!" –Judith E.

'Middle school is tough, and this was no different for me. I was in 8th grade and had moved to a new school. I walked into the library while most students were eating in the school cafeteria. The librarian smiled at me and said, 'Do you need any help?' I responded, 'I love to read but I don't know what to pick.' She made a recommendation, and I was hooked. I will never forget that she was always happy to see me, and I read everything she recommended. Her kindness helped me get through middle school and further instilled a love of reading. You can change a student's life."—Bay C.

"My daughter's school W. librarian, Suzanne, provided a port in the storm ies blog for our family when we Suzanne's kindness has hot spots available for



never know how a book The Craig County Public Library is at 303 Main Street.

never left me."—Cindi check-out bring Wi-Fi

Source: I Love Librar-

This week, take time were struck by tragedy. to thank your librarian We were not prepared, for keeping the library obviously, and she al- open during the panlowed my daughter to demic and being there take refuge in the library for you! Remember that and find solace in the library extends bebooks and in her gentle youd our four walls. presence. It has been 22 Literally, our free high-years since that awful speed Wi-Fi extends time, but the memory of around the block. The to your home. Our Little Free Libraries are in the far reaches of Craig County. Our book club serves everyone who attends. The Take and Make crafts are available to children up to age ten. Income tax resources are available and adult education GED practice tests can be checked out. Take time to let your board of supervisors know that the

public library is a good investment in our youth and community.

Library News:

April 10 - Plant and Seed Swap in the parking lot from 10-3. Stop by for some books and plants!

Mav 2021 Annual Friends of the Library meeting and election of board members. Nominations for the Board of Trustees are being taken now. Craiglibrary@swva.net.

Email letters to the editor to shawn.nowlin@ourvalley.org

THE NEW CASTLE RECORD

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topics of general interest to the community and responses to our articles and columns. Letters must be signed and have a telephone number where you can be reached to be considered for publication. All letters will be verified before publication. The Record reserves the right to deny publication of any letter and edit letters for length content and style. News of public interest is solicited from all sections of the county.

A visit with residents who have received their shot

Dr. Cynthia Morrow Roanoke City and Alleghany

Health Districts Health Director

Guest Contributor

I recently visited our vaccine clinic in Covington and had the opportunity to talk with some residents while they received their shot. One gentleman told me, "I'd rather be uncomfortable for 12 hours after getting a shot than get CO-VID-19. I don't want to end up in the hospital with COVÍD."

It is heartening that many of our residents like him have reached the same conclusion: that the possibility of some mild discomfort from the vaccine is much better than having COVID-19. We know that the disease can make peo-

ple very sick, especially the elderly and those with underlying conditions. CO-VID-19 disease can have many long-term complications affecting the heart, lungs, skin and nervous system.

In contrast, we currently have three very safe and effective vaccines that can prevent COVID-19. The vaccines were evaluated in tens of thousands of people before being approved for use. Although they were developed in record time, the COVID-19 vaccines authorized by the Food and Drug Administration have gone through all of the same steps and requirements as every other vaccine, meeting all safety standards. As of this past week, over 120 million doses of the vaccine had been administered in the United States under the most intense safety monitoring in U.S. history. The three vaccines avail-

able in the United States have been proven to be safe as they help your body fight COVID-19. Some people may have no side effects at all after receiving the vaccine while other people may have some mild effects. For example, you might have a sore arm or may not feel well for a day it is important to know that down and talking to your these effects are temporary, and they mean the COing. We have also learned over two million Virginsecond dose, side effects are in our health districts. mild and self-limited.

more about the disease or closer to ending this panthe vaccines that prevent demic.

it every day, but there is so much that we do know. We know that certain people, such as older adults and people with underlying medical conditions, are at much greater risk of getting seriously ill if they get COVID-19. We know that people who become infected can pass the virus to friends and loved ones. And we know that there are minimal risks of an effective vaccine. At the end of the day though, every person has to make the best decision for themselves. If you have questions or conor so, with mild fever or cerns about the vaccine, body aches or fatigue. But consider writing them

As a public health pro-VID-19 vaccine is work- fessional, I am thrilled that that for some people, the ians have received vaccine, second dose of the vaccine including the 115,000 first can have more side effects. and second doses we have Thankfully, even with the now delivered to residents With every vaccine that is We continue to learn delivered, we are one step

doctor about them.

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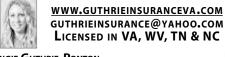
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Winebarger from page 1

cation classes at CCPS. She works hard each day and has physical and visual challenges as well as having a traumatic brain injury due to the brain tumor.

"Everything is a challenge to do but she doesn't complain except maybe in math," her mom shared with a little giggle. "The area of the brain most affected seems to be the part that handles math. Science is her favorite subject."

The school also provides an aid to assist her in getting around as well as with her studies and working as a

"This has definitely been a collaborative effort," Shari explained. "When her journey began, Jeanette Warwick was her principal. She always supported Maci and us in whatever she needed to succeed in school. Melissa Whiting was Maci's kindergarten teacher (and now her principal). She is wonderful about giving Maci emotional support. The special education teachers do an amazing job day in and day out. Elaina Carper is over special education for Craig County. She has a heart for each child and has a way to reach them that is amazing. Each aid at school Maci has worked with has been professional. Maci also has lots of 'mothers' at school who really look after her. The aids have always taken her in and treated her like their own child."

of Maci's journey, Warwick helped the family figure out "just where the best fit for Maci would be." They visited other schools they thought would be better equipped.

"Finally, Jeanette Warwick looked at me and said, 'I think we can teach her better in Craig," Shari said. "She was so right. Our school system has done a phenomenal job. It has definitely been a collaborative effort by every teacher, aid, Maci, and the administrative staff.'

Jerry, the father, added, "Whenever I am asked how I would describe Macy, I tell them first off she's as tough as a \$2.00 steak, mentally hard as any General, and is soft-hearted as a little Bunny. When the child sets her mind to something, she will exhaust all her abilities making it happen. She cries at sad songs and is ready to fight the next second if she needs to. She's warm, loving, sentimental, concerned, empathetic, considerate and

Whiting shared that she feels Maci's strongest attribute is that "she listens intently and thoughtfully contemplates before acting. She exhibits determination in a manner that I have never before witnessed."

And Maci Hope has shown just that. Now a 16-year-old junior, she was recently tapped into the Beta Ćlub. Whiting shared on Facebook, "I found myself a bit choked up on the stage with her this morning. I'm afraid I'll be a blithering idiot at her graduation. I love you girl."

Shari responded, "You've been with us every step of the way. She loves you too."

Jerry added, "She loves you. And will always be at your hand if you want her. She thinks the whole world of you and Bud."

The Facebook picture brought out almost 300 comments and likes. Some of the encouraging words

•You go Maci girl! Great job!!!!

Proud of You!

•Awesome job Maci, Melissa and CC school system!

Congratulations Maci! You are an inspiration! •I just can't love this

enough, everything about this is amazing! •Wonderful Maci! What an accomplishment! Whoot!

Whoot!

•Give her a big-huge hug for me and make sure she knows how proud I am of

•You've come a long way Baby!

 Absolutely awesome. You are amazing!

•You are my hero!

 Congratulations on all your hard work Maci. Love

you young lady! •Along with lots of congratulations, thumbs up and

dancing icons Whiting

"What is it that makes you proud of her accomplishments?"

She responded, "I have had many opportunities to spend quality time with Maci and consider myself fortunate to have these experiences. Without question, I learn much more from Maci than she learns from me. I am in continuous awe of her, and I am so looking forward to witnessing her future accomplishments. Maci will graduate from CCHS in just a few short years. I get choked up just thinking about her leaving and will likely be quite emotional when the day arrives. I consider myself very fortunate to call her my friend."

Jerry noted, "These two have been together all the way through. I'm proud of them both!"

He added, "One more thing I'd like to add is that this community, these loving and caring children she goes to school with, and the whole staff at Craig Schools, grades K – 12, thank you for your treatment of my daughter. You've been wonderful!"

"We've definitely had many ups and downs during the past 10 years. Maci's had surgeries, chemo on two different occasions when her tumor started growing again, more than 60 MRIs, thousands of hours of PT and OT, seen doctors from Baltimore to Fort Worth," Shari explained. "She's not had an

Maci Winebarger joined her dad and brother, Jerry and Cole in "proudly supporting Amanda Chase for Governor" last week.

easy journey and it's far from over, but Maci definitely has had the love and support of a community and school that is second to none." Maci says that she has

thought about her future. She loves children and animals and is currently looking at what she wants to do in those areas. We are hopeful she will

be able to maybe help out with the preschool program after graduation," Shari said. 'She also wants to volunteer during her free time at Healing Strides where she does therapeutic riding."

"We are proud of all our children, and don't mind telling it," Jerry continued. "Macy is not a better kid than either of the others.

But given her situation, and her few limits, she always has smile for anyone who would notice her and speak. She smiles here all the time, bearing her world and taking it in stride as she constantly strives for more. She's not perfect, but she is special. I can't wait to see what Macy ends up becom-

ing."
"I love school and I like enjoys keeping up with them on Facebook and Snapchat)," Maci said "To encourage them, I would tell them to continue to do your work and always ask for help because the teachers are always willing to help you if you just ask. Also, don't (EVER) give up!"

Ugly 'hut'

During the beginning

from page 1

Oliver noted, "Both the teaching staff and the children have been closely waiting and watching the progress Mr. Bevins and his crew have been

doing and eagerly await-

ing this new big space."

The new building is officially under the Craig County Child Care Center's license, but is referred to as the School Kids Learning Lab and is being



Because the interior had become so dilapidated, a major renovation was warranted.

used for children ages five through 12.

This will serve as a before and after school-age classroom currently, but full-day services once school is out," Oliver noted. "The new learning lab affords the school kids their own space not shared with "little kids", as this allows them their own "big kid" areas."

They have also received five new laptops for the children to use for homework and reading programs and are patiently awaiting new Wi-Fi boosters to arrive so they can install them, as well as a water fountain which is on back order. Oliver added that though they cannot use it until after the COVID pandemic is concluded, they are excited to get it installed.

Now, since the school kids moved out to the Learning Lab, this has freed up space to construct a large motor room for the Infant -Preschool classes.

'This will allow the smaller classes to have a

space to go to when bad weather permits them from going outside," Oliver said. "We have been very blessed through our partnership with TAP Early Head Start that they were able to help equip this new large motor room with some great new equipment as well."

When Oliver shared the old pictures of the Hut on Facebook and then the new pictures of the complete renovations for the Learning Lab, people responded with kudos, and many older folks recalled memories of their school days:

I had Economics class in the building and was used for summer computer classes I remember chocolate

milk and great pizza (when it was a cafeteria) - back when the only places to get pizza was Pizza Hut in Sa-Îem and Briz's (in the '70s)

Many shared that is where they attended first and second grades. One remembered playing her organ for the classes while

attending "The acoustics laughing, were wonderful in that tin building.' I had Ms. Inge for first-

grade in 1957 It was also used as the Glee Club music room,

Health classes and study Some even remembered the first custodians, Fleet-

wood Stanley and Mullin compliments for turning "that arched ugly green thing" into a wonderful building which will be used

"The New Castle High School was built in 1927," Diane Givens said.

years to come.

Patricia Carper added, "Mrs. Carper taught second grade in a Sunday School room at the Christian Church in the fall of 1945, then on the stage at the high school while waiting for the hut to be built. It will be 84 this year! (See the 2007 edition of the School histories

second-grade, by the Craig County Historical Society.)"

Oliver noted that before COVID-19, she enrolled many more kids at CCCCC. "Now that the building

is complete, I will be able to have capacity again," Oliver mentioned before adding, "We do have openings to serve an additional 12 children, ages five to 12 years." Their full summer rate

Many also sent Oliver without discount is \$100 weekly or \$70 for before and after school care. They also have separate rates for just before, and just after by local children for many school.

To enroll, simply complete an application, have a current physical and have the child's birth certificate. Parents can also go to Smart2start.com for more information.

Oliver and her staff are excited to welcome the new kids to their childcare center.



Dear Editor,

I've been watching, from a strictly non-political standpoint,

Of our alleged beloved country. It ain't pretty y'all. Somehow, something, has managed to turn us on ourselves. You mean lit-

Getting killed for a request to wear a mask for a pandemic protection? Someone help me understand. You can't gather in my

Bingo. But I can take six people into the liquor store? Please, help me understand.

- Cathy Bittler

erally we are killing ourselves! the fall of these past few years. complex community room for

BETHEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

11599 Cumberland Gap Road/Rt. 42, New Castle, 864-5242; church phone:544-7040 Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m., Sunday School 10:30 a.m., Choir Tuesday 7:30p.m., Youth Outreach and Missions Program. Rev. Charles Stacy.

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

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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

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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 Pastor Kevin Altizer, Corner of Main Street & Boyd Ave., New Castle. Church phone 864-5919. Sunday School 10:00AM, Sunday Worship 11:00AM and 6PM. Wednesday Evening Bible Study 7PM, Youth Group 7:00PM, Reformers Unanimous Addiction Recovery every Friday evening at 7PM

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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.

LIGHTHOUSE BAPTIST

Pastor Lee Looney, Rt. 311 N., New Castle, 540-525-7662. Sunday: Sunday School 10AM, 11AM, & 6PM. Wednesday Bible Study 7PM. MOUNTAIN VIEW CHRISTIAN 4199 Craig Valley Drive, New Castle, 864-6622. Sunday: Worship Ser-

vice 9:00 a.m., Children's Church 9:15 a.m., Sunday School 10:30

NEW CASTLE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

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NEW CANTERBURY PENTECOSTAL FELLOWSHIP

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PAXTON CHAPEL Pastor Kenny Davis, 17 Sage Brush Lane, New Castle; "Presenting God's Word Faithfully"; Sunday School 10:00 AM; Sunday Worship Service 11:15 AM; visit us on the web at www.paxtonchapelchurch.

com; email at paxtonchapel@ yahoo.com. THE CHURCH OF CHRIST

Contact person: Panco Cantley, 864-5035, 118 Main Street, New Castle. Service Times: Sunday, Bible classes-10 a.m., Worship-11:00 a.m., Evening Worship-6 p.m.; Wednesday, Bible classes - 7 p.m.

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Radford

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Connector Road, and the construction of approximately 900LF of realigned Auburn Avenue. Review project information and National Environmental

approximately 620LF of the

Policy Act (NEPA) documentation in the form of a Categorical Exclusion (CE) are available at 10 Robertson Street, Radford, 540-731-3603. Please call ahead so the City can make arrangements for personnel to share more information or answer your questions.

If your concerns cannot be satisfied, City is willing to hold a public hearing. You may request that a public hearing be held by sending a written request to Radford City Manager, the City of Radford Office located at 10 Robertson Street, Radford, Virginia 24141 on or prior to April 9, 2021. If a request for a public hearing is received, notice of date, time and place of the hearing will be posted.

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City of Radford **CDBG Annual Action Plan**

The City of Radford invites

comments on its 2021 Annual Action Plan, which will be submitted to the US Dept of HUD on or about May 10, 2021. The Annual Action plan serves as the City's grant application for **Community Development** Block Grant Funds and sets the goals and budgets for the use of funds. A copy of the Annual Action Plan is available for review online or at the City Manager's

Comments may be given via e-mail to: melissa.skelton@radfordva. *gov*, by phone at (540) 731-3603, or by mail to Community Developer, 10 Robertson St, Radford, VA 24141. Comments must be received by 5:00 p.m. May 7, 2021.

Legals - City of Salem

Notice is hereby given to all interested persons that

the City of Salem Planning Commission, at its regular meeting on April 14, 2021, at 7:00 p.m., in the Community Room at the Salem Civic Center, 1001 Roanoke Boulevard, in the City of Salem, Virginia, will hold a public hearing, pursuant to Sections 15.2-2204 and 15.2-2285 of the Code of Virginia, as amended, to consider approval of the following requests relative to the CODE OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA:

1) Hold public hearing to consider amending Chapter 66, Article I In General, Section 66-9, Article III Construction Location, Division 1 Generally, Section 66-73, Article IV Permitted Signs by Use and District, Section 66-107, and Article V Definitions, Section 66-151, of the CODE OF

Legals - City of Salem

THE CITY OF SALEM. VIRGINIA pertaining to signs.

2) Hold public hearing to

consider amending Chapter 106, Zoning, Article II District Regulations, Sections 106-204.3(B)1, 106-208.3(B)1, 106-213.3(B)1 pertaining to single-family dwellings; Article III Use & Design Standards, Section 106-304.5(B)(D) pertaining to home occupations, Article IV Development Standards, Section 106-404.11(A)(E) pertaining to parking, Article V Administration, Sections 106-504(A), 106-514, 106-518 pertaining to zoning permits, enforcement, and civil penalties of the CODE OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA.

Copies of the proposed plans, ordinances or amendments may be obtained from the Office of the City Planner, Community Development, 21 South Bruffey Street, Salem, Virginia.

interest and citizens shall have an opportunity to be heard relative to the said requests.

James E. Taliaferro, II

Legals -Montgomery County

PUBLICATION

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA VA. CODE §§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316, -317, 20-104 Case No. CL21000326-00 MONTOGMERY CIRCUIT COURT 55 EAST MAIN STREET, CHRISTIANSBURG, VA 24073 CHARLES PHIEGAR KAREN PHLEGAR

JAMES FULTON HOGE, DECEASED UNKNOWN OF HEIRS OF JAMES FULTON HOGE The object of this suit is to: REMOVE THE REMAINS FROM ABANDONED FAMILY GRAVEYARD It is ORDERED that THE UNKNOWN HEIRS OF JAMES FULTON HOGE, above-name court and protect his/her interests on

FEBRUARY 24, 2021 **Bridget Adams**

540-389-93

call

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At said hearing, parties in

THE PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA

Executive Secretary

ORDER OF

or before APRIL 26, 2021.

Deputy Clerk

County of Montgomery, Virginia

SALEM TIMES REGISTER

Synopsis of Advertised Budget for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2022 This budget synopsis is prepared and published pursuant to Section 15.2-2506 of Code of Virginia, for

LEGALNOTICE

information and fiscal planning purposes only.

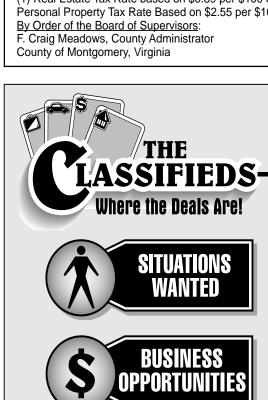
A hearing will be held by the Board of Supervisors on April 8, 2021 at 6:15 P.M. at the County Government Center Board Room, 755 Roanoke Street, Christiansburg, Virginia at which time any citizen of the County shall have the opportunity to attend and state his or her views on the advertised budget.

A copy of the Advertised Budget is available for inspection at the County Government Center, in the County Administrator's Office, 755 Roanoke Street, Christiansburg; the Blacksburg Library, 200 Miller St., Blacksburg; the Christiansburg Library, 125 Sheltman St., Christiansburg; the Meadowbrook Library, 267 Alleghany Springs Road, Shawsville; the Blacksburg Community Center, 725 Patrick Henry Dr., Blacksburg; the Christiansburg Recreation Center, 1600 N. Franklin St., Christiansburg; the Blacksburg Municipal Building, in the Town Manager's Office, 300 S. Main St., Blacksburg; and the Christiansburg Town Hall, in the Town Manager's Office, 100 E. Main St., Christiansburg.

EXPENDITURES:							
	FY 2021			Advertised		Increase	
GENERAL GOVERNMENT:	Budget			Budget		(Decrease)	
Board of Supervisors	\$	270,632	\$	282,425	\$	11,793	
County Administration	\$	1,956,788	\$	2,104,749	\$	147,961	
County Attorney	\$	382,368	\$	383,225	\$	857	
Financial & Management Services	\$	1,225,460	\$	1,018,450	\$	(207,010)	
Insurance	\$	208,195	\$	210,695	\$	2,500	
Information Technology	\$	2,015,760	\$	2,135,796	\$	120,036	
Commissioner of the Revenue-State	\$	561,856	\$	588,651	\$	26,795	
Assessment-100% County	\$	479,677	\$	490,370	\$	10,693	
Treasurer-State	\$	482,702	\$	492,165	\$	9,463	
Collections-100% County	\$	531,481	\$	506,505	\$	(24,976	
Electoral Board/Director of Elections	\$	485,484	\$	473,570	\$	(11,914	
Commonwealth Attorney	\$	1,249,358	\$	1,282,063	\$	32,705	
Courts	\$	262,008	\$	267,247	\$	5,239	
Clerk of the Circuit Court	\$	715,542	\$	779,147	\$	63,605	
Sheriff-State	\$	8,066,081	\$	8,213,115	\$	147,034	
Sheriff-100% County	\$	7,178,602	\$	7,323,178	\$	144,576	
Fire Departments and Rescue Squads	\$	1,487,781	\$	1,494,981	\$	7,200	
Animal Care and Adoption Center	\$	631,681	\$	652,869	\$	21,188	
General Services	\$	6,348,344	\$	6,685,685	\$	337,341	
Children's Services Act	\$	1,651,969	\$	1,651,969	\$	-	
Human Services	\$	378,338	\$	392,725	\$	14,387	
Public Health Department	\$	604,488	\$	604,488	\$	11,007	
Social Services	\$	6,228,024	\$	6,364,979	\$	136,955	
Parks & Recreation	\$	1,257,701	\$	1,296,123	\$	38,422	
Regional Library	\$	2,246,303	\$	2,347,680	\$	101,377	
Planning & GIS	\$	948,750	\$	948,167	\$	(583	
Economic Development	\$	434,156	\$	460,975	\$	26,819	
Other Agencies	\$	2,708,739	\$	2,762,426	\$	53,687	
_	\$		φ \$		\$		
Contingencies Special	\$ \$	526,307	э \$	536,307	\$ \$	10,000	
Contingencies-Special	э \$	7,836,404	э \$	526,000		(7,310,404	
Revenue Refunds		195,000		195,000	\$	(0.004.054	
Subtotal:	\$	59,555,979	\$	53,471,725	\$	(6,084,254	
Law Library	\$	17,600	\$	17,600	\$	-	
SCHOOLS:							
School Operating	\$	113,745,153	\$	121,984,741	\$	8,239,588	
School Capital	\$	2,146,173	\$	2,195,645	\$	49,472	
School Nutrition	\$	5,228,004	\$	4,633,474	\$	(594,530)	
Subtotal:	\$	121,119,330	\$	128,813,860	\$	7,694,530	
County Capital	\$	3,531,173	\$	3,580,645	\$	49,472	
Debt Service	\$	24,722,725	\$	24,722,725	\$		
Economic Development	\$	380,000	\$	380,000	\$		
COUNTY TOTAL	\$	209,326,807	\$	210,986,555	\$	1,659,748	

RESOURCES:		FY 2021 Budget	A	FY 2022 dvertised Budget	Increase (Decrease)
REVENUE:					(,
General Undesignated Revenue:					
Current Property Taxes (1)	\$	101,562,376	\$	103,807,971	\$ 2,245,595
Delinquent/Other Property Tax Revenue	\$	2,996,000	\$	2,996,000	\$ -
Sales and Use Tax	\$	10,301,540	\$	10,081,222	\$ (220,318)
Undesignated Consumer Utility Tax	\$	1,659,000	\$	1,628,000	\$ (31,000)
Motor Vehicle Licenses	\$	800,000	\$	800,000	\$ -
All Other Local Taxes	\$	1,370,000	\$	1,325,000	\$ (45,000)
Interest on Investments	\$	895,999	\$	113,268	\$ (782,731)
All Other Undesignated Revenue	\$	546,384	\$	620,384	\$ 74,000
Total Undesignated Revenue	\$	120,131,299	\$	121,371,845	\$ 1,240,546
General Designated Revenue	\$	20,009,464	\$	14,833,608	\$ (5,175,856)
Law Library Designated Revenue	\$	15,000	\$	15,000	\$ -
School Operating Designated Revenue	\$	62,326,540	\$	68,516,128	\$ 6,189,588
Other School Designated Resources	\$	5,228,004	\$	4,633,474	\$ (594,530)
Debt Service Designated	\$	1,613,900	\$	1,613,900	\$ -
Total Designated Revenue	\$	89,192,908	\$	89,612,110	\$ 419,202
Law Library Fund Balance	\$	2,600	\$	2,600	\$ -
Total Fund Balance	\$	2,600	\$	2,600	\$ -
TOTAL RESOURCES	\$	209,326,807	\$	210,986,555	\$ 1,659,748
(1) Pool Estato Tay Poto boood on \$6	200 505	¢400 - ξ Δ		I Valuation	

(1) Real Estate Tax Rate based on \$0.89 per \$100 of Assessed Valuation. Personal Property Tax Rate Based on \$2.55 per \$100 Assessed Valuation.



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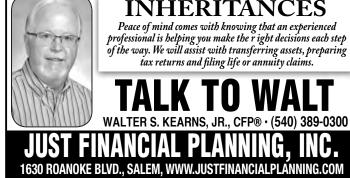
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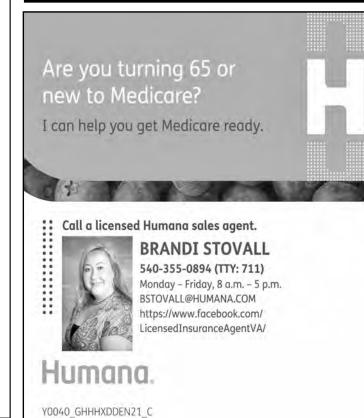


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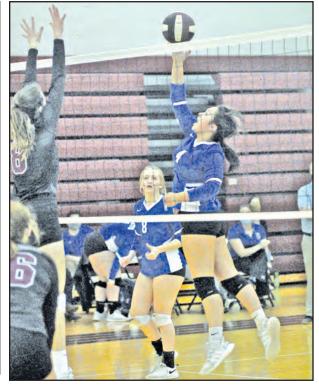
SPORTS

Send story ideas & announcements to bhoffman@ourvalley.org

Rockets hang last season's championship banner, look to add another in coming pioneer tournament







Autumn Hutchison goes up for a kill against East Mont. Nicole Austin goes high to tip one over the net.



Lucy Rigney digs one out in Thursday's match.

The Craig County volleyball team will open the Pioneer District tournament on Monday of next week as the higher seeds get home games. Craig is near the middle of the pack and a first round site or opponent was yet to be determined at press time.

The tournament will continue on Tuesday of next week with the semifinal round. The championship match and consolation match will be held on Thursday, April 8, and all games are at the higher seeds.

On Tuesday of this week the Rockets were scheduled to hang their Pioneer District championship banner from the 2019 season, the last fall season played in the Virginia High School League calendar. The 2020 fall sports were moved to the spring and they're currently wrapping up the regular season. The Rockets were scheduled to play host to Parry McCluer on Monday and Bath County on Tuesday before wrapping up the regular season with a trip to Narrows on Thursday of

The Rockets had four district matches last week and came out with an even split for a 4-5 overall record. The week began with a match at Covington and the host Cougars took a three set win, 25-19, 25-21 and 25-9.

"I thought we played well," said Craig coach Geoff Boyer. "We played with a lot of energy. Covington played really well but we hung tough. I was happy with our intensity.

Kaylee Stroop had seven assists and six kills for the Rockets while Kylee Clifton had three assists.

On Tuesday the Rockets hosted Highland County in a district doubleheader, with each match being a best-of-three. The Rockets needed three sets to win the first match, 25-14, 22-25 and 15-9, then swept the second in two, 25-20 and 25-18.

"It was the best team Highland has had in some time," said Boyer.

It was also "Senior Night" for the Rockets who honored senior players Nicole Austin, Autumn Hutchison, Samantha Sarver and Lucy Rigney. It was also a night where Austin returned to the lineup after missing time with a knee injury. She didn't miss a beat with 13 kills, two blocks and seven serving aces. Hutchison had 15 kills and five aces, Sarver had four kills and four aces and Rigney did a great job on defense as all four seniors had a good night. Stroop, a junior, had six kills and nine aces while dishing out 25 assists.

The Rockets played their fourth match in as many nights on Thursday as they traveled to Elliston for a rematch with Eastern Montgomery. The Mustangs had won the first match in New Castle and they were able to hold off the Rockets again at their place to improve to 7-2 on the season. East Mont won 25-18, 25-22, 21-25 and 25-10.

Austin had 14 kills and four aces for Craig while Hutchison had 13 kills and five blocks. Stroop had 25 more assists to go with five kills and four aces and Jen Fitzpatrick played well all around.

"We've gotten better every match," said Boyer. "I'm glad we have Nicole back and I'm anxious to see what we can do in the tour-

Martinsville Speedway to Host Limited Fans for Spring NASCAR Weekend on April 8-10

First-Ever Three Race Weekend of Night Races Featuring Blue-Emu Maximum Pain Relief 500 NASCAR Cup Series Race on Saturday, April 10

tinsville Speedway, the track will host a limited, reduced number of fans throughout the first-ever three race weekend of night races on April 8-10. Martinsville Speedway will host the Virginia is for Racing Lovers 200 NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour race on Thursday, April 8, the Cook Out 250 NASCAR Xfinity Series Dash 4 Cash race on Friday, April 9 at 8:00 p.m. and the Blue-Emu Maximum Pain Relief 500 NASCAR Cup Series race on Saturday, April 10 at 7:30 p.m.

The reduced capacity for

continues in accordance with enhanced safety protocols and procedures to provide a safe environment for fans, competitors, employees and industry personnel.

'With the increase in limited fan capacity for entertainment venues across the Commonwealth of Virginia, we will be ready to welcome back more race fans for a safe, exciting race experience at Martinsville Speedway," said Martinsville President Clay Campbell. "We look forward to hearing more of our loyal race fans cheer on the action

As a result of the seating capacity limitations, many guests have had their grandstand seats relocated. In addition to encouraging distancing throughout the venue, all guests will be screened before entering the facility at staggered entry times and will be required to wear face coverings. Multiple handwashing and hand-sanitizing stations will be placed throughout the operating areas and entrances and a "clean team" of staff, clearly identified for guests, will be cleaning or disinfecting at all times.

MARTINSVILLE, Va. – As the 2021 spring event week- NASCAR returns to the fierce end is due to the ongoing half-mile short track at Mar- COVID-19 pandemic and April 8-10."

Martinsville will once again bost the penultimate races on of the NASCAR Cup Series, an evening of intense compe-NASCAR Xfinity Series, and NASCAR Camping World Truck Series seasons on Oct. 30-31. On Saturday, Oct. 30, Martinsville will host a doubleheader with the NASCAR Camping World Truck Series Playoff race at 1:00 p.m. and the Dead On Tools 250 NAS-CAR Xfinity Series Playoff race at 6:00 p.m. The NAS-CAR Cup Series' Championship 4 will be set in the Xfinity 500 on Sunday, Oct. 31 at

The ValleyStar Credit Union 300, the nation's biggest, richest and most presti-

tition on Sept. 25. NASCAR race tickets are available for purchase today via phone at 877-RACE-TIX or online at martinsvillespeedway.com. Fans can view the NASCAR Cup Series, NASCAR Xfinity Series, NASCAR Camping World Truck Series schedules and purchase tickets at nascar.

To learn more about the spring NASCAR event weekend at Martinsville Speedway and its safety protocols, visit martinsvillespeedway.com/

Pulaski River Turtles name Clark Crist manager

An Arizona native has been tasked with developing the Pulaski River Turtles into the hottest team in the Appalachian

Major League Base-

ball veteran Clark Crist from Phoenix, AZ, was recently named the manager of the Pulaski River Turtles. Crist most recently served as a National Junior College

Cross Checker for the Arizona Diamondbacks, overseeing all junior college prospects nationwide for the club from 2015 to 2020.

be a part of the inaugu- I am thankful to Maral season of the new Ap- jor League Baseball and palachian League," says USA Baseball for giving Crist. "It is an honor me this opportunity. My to be allowed to work goal is to provide these with these young, tal- athletes an understandented college players and ing of the game while enhancing their abilities. I am also looking forward to working with the Pulaski ownership and front office and meeting the wonderful, supportive fans of the River Turtles!"

A native of Tucson, AZ, Crist played collegiate baseball at the University of Arizona, where he was the starting shortstop for the 1980 team that authored 19 late-inning comebacks en route to the national championship. Crist was drafted by

the Seattle Mariners in the 14th round of the 1980 MLB June Amateur Draft and spent four seasons in Minor

League Baseball, eventu-

ally serving as a player-

coach for the Mariners

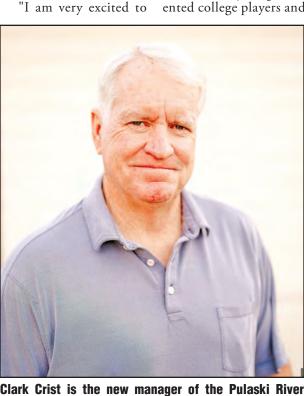
Double A affiliate, the Chattanooga Lookouts, from 1982-1985.

Crist's tenure in Major League Baseball includes scouting roles for the Houston Astros (1985-1992), Boston Red Sox (1992-1994), Cleveland (1994-2995),Indians New York Mets (1995-1997), St. Louis Cardinals (1997-2006) and the Cincinnati Reds (2006-2015). Crist oversaw the signing of many notable names during his career as a Major League Baseball scout, including All-Stars Kenny Lofton and Albert Pujols, Covelli "Coco" Crisp, Mike Leake, Tommy Pham, Chris Duncan and Amir Garrett. Crist and his wife of

more than forty years, Leslie, have two children and a grandchild. Crist's son, Justin, played minor league baseball for the Los Angeles Dodgers. Crist's daughter, Randi, and her husband, Jack, have one son, George.



bobgarrettservices.com



Clark Crist is the new manager of the Pulaski River Turtles baseball team.