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# THE NEW CASTLE RECORD

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## Craig County High School's Class of 1961 commemorates 60th reunion



The Craig County High Class of 1961 celebrated their 60th reunion at the Olde Hotel on June 12. On June 10, 1961, 26 students graduated. Roughly half that number was present last Saturday. A full article will be in next week's paper.



Jonathan Huffman and his family recently enjoyed an unforgettable experience at the ACH & BGA Southern West Virginia State Championship Event. "I want to thank Steve White and the folks up there for hosting a great event and giving us the opportunity to show a few SMK hounds," he said. "They were some great folks, and it was a beautiful drive to get there."

## Upcoming Coon dog show and events

**Pam Dudding**  
Contributing writer

People all over the country enjoy a variety of sports. In Craig County, one popular sport is the pride and joy of the community and involves good coon hound dogs.

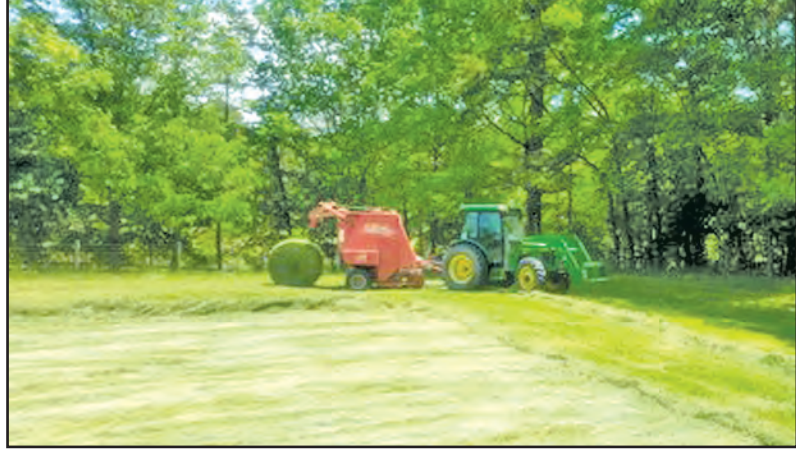
While most people hunt, many simply show up.

One passionate coon dog owner, Jonathan Huffman, is hoping more will enter their dogs into the upcoming American Coon Hunters and Big Game Association (ACH - BGA) 2021 - 1st Round Big Game World Qualifiers. The event is scheduled for three days, June 18-20, and is expected to be held at 495 Camp Mitchell Road in New Castle.

Entry fee is \$15 per hound per competition and all hounds must be registered in ACH & BGA. Entries can be completed online prior to the event.

See Huffman, page 3

## Farm Bureau celebrates Agriculture Week



Week is being celebrated. Dudding wished to share "a snapshot of Agriculture in Craig County" with everyone.

She posed the questions, "How many of us went to the grocery store in the past year and had trouble getting a food item that was on our shopping list? Had you ever experienced this before the pandemic?"

"I am guessing that most of us would say yes to my first question and no to my second question," she continued.

Research shows that America has one of the safest and most plentiful food supplies in the world, in large part to the American farmer.

Dudding continued, "With the population being two to three generations removed from the farm, this is something we often take for granted. There are many people who have no idea or appreciation of where their food comes from."

See Farm, page 5

As we celebrate Virginia Agriculture Week June 13 - 19, it is important to show appreciation for all that work in the agriculture industry. Be mindful that it is hay season, so be aware that you may encounter farm machinery on the roads. Please be patient and courteous as everyone wants to get where they are going safely.

**Pam Dudding**  
Contributing writer

With the COVID-19 pandemic, food, gas and other natural resources have been altered in their availability. However, according to Craig County Farm Bureau employee Jeannie Layton-Dudding, there is a benefit to living in a rural area rich in farmland.

This week, Virginia Agriculture

## Lawnmower Derby was small in numbers, but strong in hits

**Pam Dudding**  
Contributing writer

There were out-loud shouts as the younger teens drove their lawnmowers into the muddy ring at the 2021 Summer Lawnmower Derby.

All drivers were ready with their mowers and their attitudes. They were, Holley Givens in her black and white Cowabunga, Carter Givens in his black Kickn' Grass mower, Waylan Hypes in his 13 - Camo-look Mountain Ghost and Hall in another black lawnmower.

The horn blew and all started ramming. Holley and Carter were used to this event as they have entered almost every Lawnmower Derby since it started.

All four tried to hit hard and fast all at once. As they got tangled up, the judges were quick to separate them, being cautious and get their feet out of the way, as the drivers were quick to hit someone again.

Holley got a hit by Hypes and the mower started turning up on its side, but she regained her balance.

See Derby, page 5

## Traveling girl's hoops team slam-dunks their tournament



The Craig County Rockets Girl's traveling basketball team finished with the main win. Members of the team, from left to right, Amber Medley, Laiken May, Daleigh Donithan, Maggie Mays, Jenna Boitnotte, Natalie Fisher, Kallie Fisher, Kailyn Jones, Emily Smith Kammie Fisher and Annalese Fisher. Coaches Brock Jones and Tommy Fisher are the in back. Roland Donithan is not pictured.

children live as "normal" as possible in creating a traveling team to play sports.

Craig County has always been known as a family type of community. The community joined together to provide an avenue of sports for their kids to enjoy, keep positive and stay healthy.

Though a traveling team has to pay their own way, and there are no state-paid buses, parents chose to find a way to make it happen anyway.

"The girls were middle school age, and the schools did not have the capacity or ability to do middle school," Debbie Boitnotte said.

Adults that helped make this happen for the basketball team include: Stacey Fisher, Gina Smith, Debbie Boitnotte, Roland Donithan, Brock Jones and Tommy Fisher, the last three serving as coaches. Dedication not only kept the team going but was a great mentoring opportunity for the team to observe, that with drive, teamwork and support, dreams can come true.

Smith was a strong advocate for the girls being able to play sports, with safety at the forefront. Tommy and Stacey Fisher then joined Smith and "pulled the rest of us in," Boitnotte shared.

Boitnotte then created a sign-in

See Hoops, page 3



The Lawnmower Derby continues to be a huge hit for the youth and everyone involved.

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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).

## 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 FRIDAY

Craig County Genealogy Library open every Friday 1 to 4 p.m. 152 Main Street. 540-864-7023

## 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.

## SECOND TUESDAY

- Craig County School Board meets at 5:30 p.m. in the High School Media Center.
- 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.

## JUNE 26 - 30

Grace Baptist will be having its Vacation Bible School for kindergarten through eighth grade students from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. A meal will be provided each night for the kids. For more information, contact 540-864-7729.

Send community news and photos to [shawn.nowlin@ourvalley.org](mailto:shawn.nowlin@ourvalley.org)

# Make sure to thank a farmer during Virginia Agriculture Week



Buffalo in Craig County

SUBMITTED PHOTOS



Cattle are among the most valuable Craig County farm products.

Governor Ralph Northam recently proclaimed June 13 - 19 as Virginia Agriculture Week, recognizing Virginia's largest industry. Agriculture production in Virginia contributes \$70 billion annually to the state's economy and employs more than 334,000 people.

According to the US Department of Agriculture 2017

Census of Agriculture, most Virginia farms range from 50 to 179 acres, with 97 percent of those farms owned and operated by families. Eight percent of Virginia farmers sell direct to consumers. Livestock, poultry and related products have the highest market value in Virginia, followed by crops including grains, vegetables, fruits, Christ-

mas trees and other horticulture products, and hay.

The Census showed that there were 179 farms in Craig County. The market value of all products sold was reported as \$4,658,000. Livestock, poultry and related products accounted for 82 percent of the value, with crops valued at 18 percent of the total.

"As the pandemic created

economic disruptions, capacity restrictions and other unique challenges, Virginia's agricultural industry continued to provide food, fiber and fuel to consumers around the state, nation and world," said Secretary of Agriculture and Forestry Bettina Ring. "Virginia Agriculture Week provides an opportunity for us to thank our farmers and

agribusinesses for their critical role in the commonwealth's economic rebound. We can all help our economy recover and thank Virginia's farmers by purchasing fresh, local Virginia-grown products."

-Submitted by Ann G. Harrell, Communications Specialist

# Roanoke Valley resident inducted into IFDA Truck Driver Hall of Fame

## Shawn Nowlin

[shawn.nowlin@ourvalley.org](mailto:shawn.nowlin@ourvalley.org)

History was recently made in the Roanoke Valley. On May 21, longtime resident Steve Akers was one of 70 individuals nationwide inducted into the Class of 2021 International Foodservice Distributors Association (IFDA) Truck Driver Hall of Fame. Since its inception, IFDA has worked tirelessly with its member companies to promote a culture of safety. This year marks the largest

inducted class to date.

Akers, as to be expected, is immensely proud of his hall of fame accomplishment.

"When you're on the road, safety isn't just about you as the driver, it's about every person you share the road with and I take that commitment very seriously," he said. "It is a great honor and privilege to be recognized by IFDA for my commitment to safety. I could not have accomplished this without the support of my US Foods

team. I truly work for a terrific group of people."

Added Drew Rhodes, the Manager of Transportation for US Foods, "Steve has held many driving duties with US Foods and has always demonstrated a commitment to being a team player. He is willing to go above and beyond when asked and always puts safety first."

There are over 130,000 foodservice distribution drivers currently on the road, but only those with the best safety records and

longevity of service qualify for the IFDA Truck Driver Hall of Fame.

"These hard-working professional drivers are truly essential to our economy, national security, and way of life," said Mark S. Allen, President and CEO of IFDA. "Our drivers are the heart of the foodservice distribution industry - enabling our member companies to safely and efficiently deliver food and supplies to professional kitchens across the country, even during times of crisis."

In addition to shifts often surpassing 50 hours a week, additional facts about truck drivers include: only six percent are women, nearly nine million are employed in the truck industry, 70 percent of all U.S. freight is transported via Class 8 trucks and small-business trucking companies comprise 90 percent of the industry.

"The International Foodservice Distributors Association (IFDA) is the premier trade organization representing the \$303 billion foodservice distribution industry," Senior

Media Relations Specialist Gerald Witt said. "This industry ensures a safe and efficient supply of food and products to more than one million restaurants and foodservice outlets in

the U.S. every day."

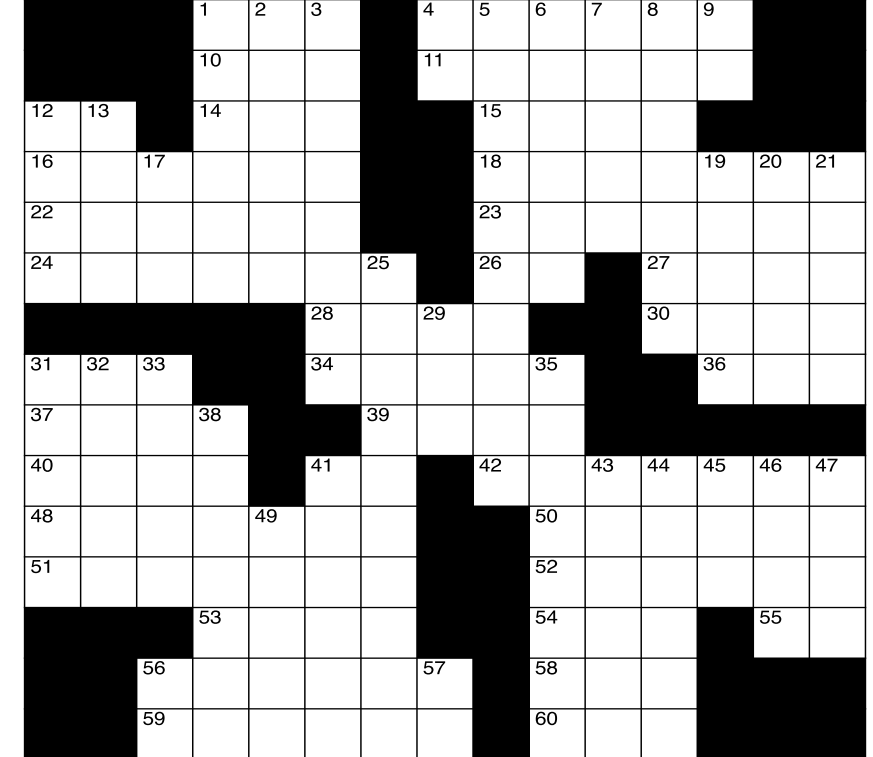
When asked if he had any advice for those who want to become a truck driver, Akers responded, "Work hard, rest well and always put safety first."



PHOTO PROVIDED BY US FOODS

After 26 years of being an employee at US Foods, Steve Akers was inducted into the IFDA Truck Driver Hall of Fame.

## CROSSWORD PUZZLE



- CLUES ACROSS**
1. "Sleepless In Seattle" actress Ryan
  4. One of Santa's reindeer
  10. Before the present
  11. Type of butter
  12. Location of White House
  14. Motion
  15. Tree part
  16. Regions around the North Pole
  18. Fits on a boat's gunwale
  22. Discuss after it's happened
  23. Milk substitute for coffee
  24. Describes one who believes in supreme being
  26. Equally
  27. Famed director Forman
  28. Popular apartment style
  30. British School
  31. Advanced degree
  34. Order of architecture
  36. Investment account (abbr.)
  37. Snake-like fishes
  39. Children's tale bear
  40. Norse personification of old age
  41. Atomic #58
  42. Moving your head
  48. 1878 Kentucky Derby winner
  50. Frankfurter
  51. Small, seedless raisin
  52. Device in papermaking machine
  53. Go
  54. Open payment initiative
  55. "Westworld" actor Harris
  56. Saturated with salt
  58. Marry
  59. Report on
  60. Midway between north and northeast
- CLUES DOWN**
1. Rays
  2. Self-centered person
  3. One you look after
  4. Prosecutor
  5. Portion
  6. Speaks ill of
  7. Formal system for computer programs
  8. To make angry
  9. Rural delivery
  12. Group of languages
  13. Large First Nations group
  17. Circulating life force in (abbr.)
  19. Excludes
  20. Body cavity of a metazoan
  21. Swedish monetary unit
  25. Works with
  29. Partner to "to"
  31. Rewards (archaic)
  32. One of Caroline Islands
  33. Type of alcohol
  35. Eat a lot
  38. Nuns
  41. Dog
  43. Become more serious
  44. Choose
  45. Newspapers use it
  46. World's longest river
  47. Commanded to go faster
  49. Cabs
  56. Mr. T's "A-Team" character
  57. Document signed (abbr.)

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# Hoops from page 1



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

**Natalie Fisher determined to get around for a shot.**

sheet for everyone that attended practice (including adults) which had the same questions the CDC recommended, to follow protocols set forth by CDC and the School.

The men became the coaches and the ladies made sure that the much the proper paperwork was complete, Club Camp

Mitchell (CCM) was kept clean, and the team was provided for at the games.

Their team is known as the Girls Traveling Craig County Rockets (AAU Basketball). All who are in attendance regularly received their AAU membership which also must be renewed annually.

"Adults are required to

have background checks before membership is approved," Boitnotte said. "The insurance with membership covers us regardless of where we are."

The girls attended camps and clinics at Spectrum in Roanoke last summer.

At the end of September 2020, ten girls participated in practices at CCM. Since then, most of these athletes have attended 81 practices and participated in eight tournaments.

The last tournament, called the Summer Slam, was on May 15 when seven of the 11 girls played softball games earlier that day and then traveled to Bristol, Tennessee, to play a three-game tournament. The dedication of the parents shown through to keep the girls going from one sport to the next has been nothing short of amazing.

And, it was exciting, as the Craig County Rockets not only won their softball games, but they won the basketball tournament also, and each received a medal.

"Basketball allowed these athletes to get in shape, be competitive, gain friendships and enjoy life during a difficult time," Boitnotte said. "Coaches

and parents enforced the academic rule that schoolwork needs to be completed and must have passing grades and most of the girls have maintained an A/B average or better all year."

Their tournaments can cost from \$125 to \$150 for a one-day tournament and up to \$250 for two-day tournaments.

Parents and coaches have dedicated many hours to keep the girls playing basketball, but also help maintain Club Camp Mitchell.

The group has cleaned, maintained, and even replaced broken faucets and toilets at CCM while also helping with the electric bill cost.

"When the team has a tournament, many times there is only an hour between games," Boitnotte noted. "As a group, we make sure there is plenty of water, Gatorade, and healthy snacks (sometimes sandwiches too) for them."

This year, they even had a fun "Heart's Party" for the team.

"I am just so excited that our girls had the opportunity to continue to stay active and healthy through all of this crazy stuff. Our goal was for them to have a bit of nor-



**Kailyn Jones blocks her opponent from a pass.**

malcy in a time of chaos," Smith said. "It was the best for them mentally and physically. It was better than sitting at home with no social interaction or physical activity."

They have fundraisers to help curb the high costs of a traveling team. Recently, they had a car wash and bake sale at Food Country.

They send out many thanks to the local businesses for supporting them:

- Food Country for allowing the use of their parking lot for their car wash and bake sale

- Subway for their support and making sure the team and parents were fed with sub platters and chips

- Subway and Linda Carper for baking cook-

ies and allowing them to be sold

- Carper Quick Mart and Supply donating cups

"It was cold and rainy but a successful day," said members of the team. "Thanks to everyone that came out. The 11 girls that play in the AAU travel basketball team really appreciate it as we thank you all more than you know. You are our big supporters of sports and the community. It wouldn't be possible without y'all."

They are in hopes to have another fundraiser on June 19 or later in the summer. The most to date information will be posted on Facebook.

Recently posted on Facebook was, "Thank you, Craig County! It truly is #smalltownlove."

# Huffman from page 1

event. Permanent hound registrations are \$25.00. Hounds do not have to be registered with any other registry to be registered in ACH & BGA. However, one must be a current member to register hounds. The annual ACH & BGA membership is \$25 and can be completed online too.

All three qualifier classes are \$25 per hound entry.

There will be food and vendors at these events and outside and non-sponsor vendors are welcome also. The fee is \$50.

Starting on June 18:

- 7 p.m. - Youth Bench Show - A bench show is where you display your hound on a bench to be judged on its characteristics in comparison to the preset breed standards, its movements and its obedience

- 8 p.m. - Youth Nite Hunt - Youth is anyone under 18, Jr. is a division of youth age group 6-12, Sr. is 12-18.

On June 19:

- 10 a.m. - Youth Field Trial (Raccoon)

- 11 a.m. - Youth Tree Contest (Raccoon)

- 12 p.m. - Adult Field Trial (Raccoon) - Field trial is where a scent trail is laid over a distance around a predetermined coarse and ends where the target is placed in a tree 10 plus feet off the ground. Hounds are then released in groups (usually of four) to see which will follow the scent trail to the tree the fastest

- 2 p.m. - Adult Tree Contest (Raccoon) - A tree contest is where a target is placed at an elevated height and your hound is evaluated on how many times it barks at the target in one minute

- \*Point toward World Qualifier\* 4 p.m. Youth 100 Yard Tree Dash (Bear)\* - 100 yard tree dash is where a decoy is placed in a tree and hounds are lined up in groups(heats) of usually four at a distance of 100 yards from the tree, they are released and the first dog to the tree wins

- 5 p.m. - Adult 100 Yard Tree Dash (Bear)\*

- 6 p.m. - Adult Bench Show

- 8 p.m. - Adult Nite Hunt- Nite hunt is pretty simple - hunters and competitors are divided into groups of four to go hunting. Each group has a judge to keep score and make sure everyone follows the rules. The first dog to strike (locate a coon trail) gets a determined number of points then the first dog to tree the coon gets another score of points. A certain number of points are awarded to the other hounds depending on their performance on each task as well. The dog with the most points at the end of the hunt wins

On the last day, June 20, which is World Qualifier bear event

- Qualifier: every competition has a points scoring system where dogs accumulate points toward their title of champion as well as toward qualifying to compete in the World Championship event

- 1 p.m. - Jr. Youth Field Trial

- 2:30 p.m. - Sr. Youth Field Trial

- 4 p.m. - Adult Field Trial

"At the World Events we will be holding are two separate bear hound events," Huffman said. "The first will be the youth championship known as the ACH & BGA Big Game Little World Championship and the second will be the ACH & BGA Big Game World Championship. Both are a series of field competitions, but the adult version has an actual live bear hunt for the final 4-6 competitors remaining to determine the winner based on the hound's performance in the hunt."=

Hopes are for a great turnout, lots of fun and a show of the extensive training these hounds go through to be able to exhibit these talents.

# Craig County High School graduates celebrate their journey with family and friends

Ashlyn Stanley, a member of the Craig County High School Class of 2021, recently celebrated her accomplishment with friends, family and fellow classmates. Said Stanley, "I was petrified on graduation day. All I was thinking was don't forget your song and don't fall. Now that I'm out of school I plan on attending college in the fall and then going on to law school." (Next week's paper will feature a full graduation article)



SUBMITTED PHOTO

**Ashlyn Stanley receiving her high school diploma.**

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# OPINION

# New Normal

## Library Corner

Empowering individuals to build a stronger community

The library wants to celebrate a New Normal. If you drive by the library during regular hours, come on in. No appointments are required. We are back to full access and are eager for our patrons to return. Our volunteers are soon to be back at the desk and have missed you.

June is the Friends of the Library Membership Drive. June is also the kick-off date to renew or become a supporting member of your library. Sign-up at the library or at our website in June and get your name in the hat for a \$100.00 gift card towards a local business of your choice. Please consider

additional support dollars. With new laws increasing the salary of our dedicated staff, our cost of operations is increasing. Any gift is greatly appreciated.

Come join us on the library porch on Saturday, June 26, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. to celebrate our New Normal. Membership forms will be available. We are hosting another Swap Day with free books and a giveaway of household goods. Do you have extra household goods that need re-homing? We invite you to bring them, with your own set-up, on Saturday at 10 in the morning. The library will provide outdoor space and advertise the day. At 3 p.m., pack up and take away your things with possibly a few extra treasures you find. All is free.

We are grateful for your part in allowing the Craig

County Library to continue its growing services to this community.

Here is a reminder of a few of the services your library provides:

- Books: E Books & Kindles - Audio Books - Inter Library Loans - Large Print
- Magazines and Newspapers
- Movies and DVDs
- Wi-Fi and Hot Spots
- Checkout
- Computer Use and Training
- Printing and Fax Service
- Notary Service
- Assistance with Online Job Applications
- Voter Registration Forms
- Order Forms for Barn Quilts and Ornament Sales
- Children's Programs
- Online Certified Courses: Universal and Rocket Language
- Test Proctoring - GED, College and Vocational Testing
- Tax Forms
- Visitors Center -Tourism Resources
- Community Bulletin Board
- Telescope Checkout



The Craig County Public Library is at 303 Main Street.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Submitted by Jane Henderson

**Library News:** Membership drive is all

of this month. It is only \$5 to become a Friend of the Library, and there is an easy donate button on our website. Thank you for your support.

June 26 - 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Swap Day in the library parking the ultimate "Freecycle" right here at home. Free money for the li-

brary: Please google Kroger Community Rewards and select Craig County Public Library as your charity. This keeps a constant trickle of free money coming our way to keep our doors open. Thank you, Kroger!

Library Board meeting: July 12 at 6 p.m. on the library patio.

# National Month of Vaccine Action

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

June is the "National Month of Action" to encourage more people to get vaccinated. As part of the White House's national effort to have 70 percent of U.S. adults

with at least one dose of vaccine by July 4, the Roanoke City & Alleghany Health Districts (RCAHD) will offer numerous clinics across our jurisdictions in upcoming weeks to make it easier than ever for the public get vaccinated to be protected from COVID-19.

These clinics are in addition to the increasing number of retail pharmacies and doctors' offices that are also offering vaccine, free of charge. Walk-in appointments are available at most RCAHD and pharmacy locations, although online pre-registration can speed up the check-in process.

To date, more than 235,000 first and second doses of vaccine have been administered in the Roanoke City and Alleghany Health Districts. The more people who are vaccinated against

this deadly pandemic, the better off we all are.

COVID-19 has already claimed 495 loved ones in RCAHD - let's work together to make sure it doesn't take any more lives. To make it as easy as possible for people to receive their free vaccine, we have worked with community partners to schedule multiple clinics every week for the next month. Clinics are in convenient, accessible spaces, especially in areas where access to vaccine may be more challenging for some of our residents.

We are encouraged that we are making progress in the fight against COVID-19. As recently as early May, we saw around 200 cases of infection locally each week. Now those numbers have dropped to around 50 cases each week, down from over 1,400 cases per week at the peak of

transmission. Local hospitalizations from COVID-19 infections have dramatically dropped in the last few weeks too.

It is good news that many people who felt that they needed to wait-and-see how the vaccine rollout fared have now been encouraged enough by the positive results to decide to get vaccinated. As people get vaccinated, confidence in the vaccines is increasing across the country, the state and our districts.

Companies are doing their part to increase rates by offering additional encouragement for people to get vaccinated, such as Krispy Kreme's donut offer and NASCAR's sweepstakes for 2022 Daytona 500 tickets. Lyft and Uber are offering free rides to vaccination sites. Learn more about vaccine incentives at: <https://www.vaccines.gov/incentives.html>. As a local example, more than 80 people took advantage of the offer to get a free

admission to a Salem Red Sox game when they got vaccinated on site. Similarly, at Mt. Zion AME Church, everyone getting a vaccine was offered free hot dogs with delicious homemade chili.

Helping to protect yourselves, your families and getting our communities back on track has been reason enough for many to get their shot. If you still have questions before you decide to get vaccinated, please talk to your trusted healthcare provider.

As we move forward, starting this week, the Roanoke City and Alleghany Health District update will run once every three weeks. We will continue to keep you posted on local trends in public health and the latest in COVID-19 updates. Should the situation in the community change in a way that merits communication more often, we will work to keep you informed.

**THE NEW CASTLE RECORD**

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[www.ourvalley.org](http://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

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The New Castle Record encourages letters from our readers on 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.

Email letters to the editor to [shawn.nowlin@ourvalley.org](mailto:shawn.nowlin@ourvalley.org)

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# What would Ellen Coleman, a Preserve Craig founder, do?

## Preserve Craig

Bill Wolf, Co-Chair, Inc.

Mountain Valley Pipeline (MVP) is still missing key permits to cross streams and wetlands. The initial designer/owner/manager of MVP is gone. Project costs have doubled to six billion dollars. Court cases are still pending. Hundreds of violations and penalties have been levied by two states and the damage to waterways, land, viewsheds, soils, and caves is well-documented. Yet the construction and destruction has not halted.

Would Ellen Coleman have stopped opposing the Mountain Valley Pipeline if she were alive today? Coleman, one of the founders of Preserve Craig in 1991, would have turned 74

this past Friday, June 11. Ten years ago, when she was terminally ill and stepped down as its President, she asked that Preserve Craig's leadership always be ready to protect this special place against developers who would harm our waters, our mountains, and our people.

Long before the Mountain Valley Pipeline was proposed it was as though Ellen had a premonition of what was coming. She spoke from her heart about this special place and warned that our quality of life could easily be harmed. She saw it is our sacred duty to do everything in our power to cherish Craig County and oppose the very destruction that Mountain Valley Pipeline is now causing.

Today, Ellen would say that we must continue our opposition and make every effort to stop the project and this unduly destruction:

- Continue raising the money for attorneys to fight and win in the courts.

- Convince our elected officials that the Natural Gas Act is wrong and unconstitutional.

- Affirm that our water and quality of life is more precious and more important than the fantasy of exporting gas for private profit.

- Watchdog every foot of construction and report about the violations and devastation. And, most important, she would be looking to the future to make sure no more projects like this can come through our mountains.

Preserve Craig and allies have open appeals and lawsuits pending against the FERC, the Forest Service, the Bureau of Land Management and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. We expect to win these cases. But Ellen would be surprised and disappointed



at how unfair the system has become, allowing a project to proceed even before all permits are final.

Preserve Craig is a participant in the Mountain Valley Watch (MVW), a collaboration of volunteers, nonprofits, and private interests. MVW is documenting construction activity

of the Mountain Valley Pipeline to assure compliance with environmental regulations during construction. Call or text to 833-MVWATCH (833-689-2824) with any info on harm MVP is causing.

**We need help to protect our community**

We need your donations to protect this

special place. Preserve Craig, Inc. is a 501C3 nonprofit volunteer public charity formed in 1991 to protect our natural, historical, and cultural resources. Tax-deductible donations can be made online at [www.preservecraig.org](http://www.preservecraig.org) or by mail to: Preserve Craig, Inc., PO Box 730, New Castle, VA. 24127.

## Farm

from page 1

other than the grocery store shelf. The recent disruptions in our food chain because of the pandemic have hopefully opened people's eyes to the importance of American agriculture and our farmers."

She also noted that nearly everything we count on in our daily lives has some type of animal or plant by-product in it, from the food we eat, to the medicines we take, and the skincare products we use, to the plastics of our cell phones.

Dudding shared statistics of the local Agriculture in Craig County.

- According to the 2017 Census of Agriculture (collected every five years), there are 179 farms

- The average size of a farm in Craig County is 243 acres

- Agriculture brings in over \$4.6 million dollars for our local economy

- There are 302 producers reported as either joint or sole operators with 197 being male and 105 being female

- Family farms still make up the landscapes of farms in Craig with 96 percent being family owned

"If we think about what we primarily see raised or grown in Craig, we most often think cattle. Cattle and calves bring in nearly \$3 million of the agriculture market value and we have approximately 6,300 head of cattle," Dudding stated. "The majority of cattle operations are cow and calf operations, however, we do have some operations that also or only handle stocker cattle. Stocker cattle are younger cattle that are weaned, but are not yet large enough for a feedlot or finishing situation."

There is only one dairy left in Craig County that is shipping milk. However, some individuals and families may keep dairy cattle for personal use.

There are also other livestock producers that raise animals such as sheep for wool or meat, chickens for meat or laying eggs, goats – both dairy and meat, and hogs mostly being raised for personal use.

"Although few in numbers, we do have some equine-related businesses, however, most horses in the county are for personal hobby and showing purposes," Dudding added.

"Agritourism is another asset to our county," she said. "As we know, Craig County is beautiful and a great place to live, work, and visit. We have several businesses that serve to provide people services a little different than simply producing commodities for the market."

Dudding noted that:

- Craig has one of the region's largest Christmas tree farms that offers seasonal farm festivals that include pumpkin picking and other activities

- Craig has some small greenhouses, including the Craig County Ag Program's greenhouse located at Craig County High School

- There are venues for camps, weddings and overnight stays that utilize farm settings

- Natural resources certainly fall under the definition of agriculture and Craig has many businesses that utilize the wild resources of our area for hunting, fishing, hiking, kayaking, and camping

"Agribusinesses are also crucial to support farmers, community, and the economy in Craig. We have a State Fish Hatchery that supplies catchable trout to approximately 10 counties in Virginia and there are local stores that provide locally grown, raised, or crafted goods and supplies," Dudding shared. "Craig is home to restaurants that serve locally grown or raised products and several growers who sell at farmers markets, and we are fortunate to have an equipment dealer and mechanics that work on farm machinery."

It was also noted that forestry is important to our economy with there being a US Forest Service work center located in Craig, as well as local loggers and forestry consultants.

"Agriculture in Craig County is very diverse and very important to our community, environment, and economy," Dudding concluded. "Although farming has decreased overall compared to decades ago, it remains to be the sole or partial livelihood of many people in Craig. If you ask me, there are few other industries to work in, that are as rewarding as working in the agriculture industry."

## Derby

from page 1

Hypes left front wheel got angled out by a solid hit.

Carter was not taking it easy on anyone. He hit everyone that was in his path and gave his sister no mercy.

Holley almost got stuck in the mud, but her persistence in jumping back and forth got herself out. We guessed she was used to "cow patties" in the Cowabunga.

Carter hit Hall and Hall didn't think twice and hit Hypes.

Holley got hit by two at one time and hit back, driving up on Hypes' mower tires.

Hypes rammed Carter's side and Holley came in and hit them both.

More hits crunched their lawnmowers but not their spirits as they were not going to stop until the horn blew.

Carter took first place and the Mad Dog Award, while Holley got second and Hypes third.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

**Despite being siblings, Carter and Holley Givens give no mercy to each other, as they go head-to-head.**

## OBITUARY

### Nelson, Joshua "Josh" Wayne

Joshua Wayne Nelson (Josh), 32 of Roanoke, formerly of Craig County, passed away on June 5, 2021. Josh graduated from Craig County High School and was employed at Cut-Above Landscapes. He loved skateboarding, video games, hunting, fishing, and watching sports.

He was preceded in death by his grandparents, Clayton and Audrey Hancock, and Mary Meadows. He is survived



by his dad and mom, Mark and Dana Nelson; brother, Chris Nelson and his wife Alisha; nephew, Gaige Nelson; grandparents, Charlie and Amber Nelson; his cat, Dewey; aunts, uncles, cousins and many friends.

A memorial service will be held at 5 p.m. by Jonathan Lee on Saturday, June 19, at Mt. View Christian Church, 4201 Craig Valley Dr. New Castle, with family receiving friends one hour prior. Arrangements by Valley Funeral Home. Roanoke Va.

Send community news and photos to [shawn.nowlin@ourvalley.org](mailto:shawn.nowlin@ourvalley.org)

### CROSSWORD ANSWERS

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
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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.

### CHESTNUT GROVE CHURCH

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

### CORNERSTONE CHURCH

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

### CRAIG HEALING SPRINGS CHRISTIAN CHURCH

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

### CRAIG VALLEY BAPTIST

171 Salem Avenue, New Castle, 864-5667; Sunday School 10:00 a.m., Sunday Worship 11:00 a.m., Wednesday: Prayer Service and Bible Study 7:00 p.m., Youth Group 6:30-8:00PM, Bible Buddies at 6:30-8:00PM. Transportation provided - call the church. Hearing devices also available. [www.craigvalleybaptist.com](http://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 Recovery 7PM, Youth Group 7:00PM, Reformers Unanimous Addiction Recovery every Friday evening at 7PM.

### GRACE ASSEMBLY OF GOD

5530 Catawba Valley Drive, Catawba, VA, 540-384-7075. Pastor Lorraine Taylor, [agladypastor@msn.com](mailto:agladypastor@msn.com). Sunday service begins at 10:30 a.m.; Wednesday Evening service at 7:00 p.m.; Youth (ages 13-18) & Super Church (ages 4-12) Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. You can also watch on Facebook Live at 10:30 a.m. [www.graceassemblycatawaba.org](http://www.graceassemblycatawaba.org)

### GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH

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

### HEBRON UNITED METHODIST

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

### LIGHTHOUSE BAPTIST

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

### LEVEL GREEN CHRISTIAN CHURCH

3388 Cumberland Gap Rd. Newport, Duane Wentle, 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 Service 9:00 a.m., Children's Church 9:15 a.m., Sunday School 10:30 a.m.

### NEW CASTLE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

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Sheldon Cosma, Senior Minister, 282 Salem Ave., New Castle; 864-5212; Sunday Mornings: 9 A.M. Contemporary Service and 10:45 A.M. Traditional Service with Sunday School at 10 A.M.; Sunday night adult Bible study at 7 P.M.; Sunday Night Youth Bible study (6-12) at 6:30 P.M.; Wednesday night Bible study at 5:30 P.M. for K-5; If you need a ride to church, please contact Calvin Duncan by 8 P.M. on Saturday at 864-5321; [www.nc-cc.org](http://www.nc-cc.org).

### NEW CANTERBURY PENTECOSTAL FELLOWSHIP

Pastor John D. Abbott, Hwy 621 (10 miles), phone: 864-8242, Sunday Morning Lesson 9:45 a.m.; Sunday Worship 10:45 a.m.; Wednesday Night Service 6:00 pm.

### 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](http://www.paxtonchapelchurch.com); email at [paxtonchapel@yahoo.com](mailto: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.

### NEW CASTLE UNITED METHODIST

Rev. Charles Stacy, 364 Main St., New Castle, Va. 864-5242; Sunday School 10AM, Worship 11AM; Monday Adult Choir 7PM, UMW 3rd Wednesday 7PM, Youth and other programs, Bible Studies.

### ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST CATHOLIC CHURCH

99 2nd Street, New Castle. Rev. Stephen McNally. 540-473-3691. Mass is on Sunday at 11:15 AM.

### CRAIG COUNTY COMMUNITY CHURCH - 'WELCOME HOME!'

Sunday service 9-10:15am at the VFW building in New Castle. Casual dress if you desire and contemporary praise and worship. If you don't have a 'home' church, please join us at ours with Pastor Gary Burch. Check us out on facebook or contact us at: [craigcountycommunity-church@gmail.com](http://craigcountycommunity-church@gmail.com).

### ST. THOMAS ANGLICAN CHURCH

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If your church is not listed and if you are interested, call Randy Thompson at 540-389-9355 or email at [advertise@mainstreetnewspapers.com](mailto:advertise@mainstreetnewspapers.com)

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### Legals - Botetourt County

#### ORDER OF PUBLICATION

Commonwealth of Virginia VA. CODE § 8.01-316 **Case No. J013851-08-00** BOTETOURT JDR DISTRICT COURT Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court Commonwealth of Virginia, in re JOYCE, AUDREY ELIZABETH COMMONWEALTH OF VA - DSS UNKNOWN FATHER The object of this suit is to: TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS TO AUDREY E. JOYCE It is ORDERED that the defendant UNKNOWN FATHER appear at the above-named Court and protect his or her interests on or before 07/20/2021 01:00 PM 05/03/2021 Pamela Jarvis CLERK

### Legals - City of Salem

#### Notice is hereby given to

all interested persons that the Council of the City of Salem, at its regular meeting on Monday, June 28, 2021, at 6:30 p.m., in the Auditorium of Andrew Lewis Middle School, 616 South College Avenue, 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 the following requests relative to the CODE OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA:

1. Consider the request of Bethel Baptist Church, Inc., property owner, for rezoning the property located at 6 Front Avenue (Tax Map # 234-6-2) from RSF Residential Single-Family District to HBD Highway Business District with proffered condition.
2. Consider the request of Peter R. Fields and Vivian D. Fields, property owners, for rezoning the property located at 303-305 South Colorado Street (Tax Map # 121-10-4) from RMF Residential Multi-Family to TBD Transitional Business District.
3. Consider the request of MCLIP Properties, LLC, property owner, for rezoning the property located at 901 South Colorado Street and 110 7th Street (Tax Map # 184-4-8) from LM Light Manufacturing District to CBD Community Business District.
4. Consider the request of Timothy J. Toohig and Lonzie L. Linkous, Jr., property owners, for the issuance of a Special Exception Permit to allow a two-family dwelling on the property located at 335 Roanoke Boulevard (Tax Map # 146 - 1 - 3).
5. Consider the request of Total Motion Performance, lessee, and 751 Union Station, LLC, property owner, for the issuance of a Special Exception Permit to allow athletic instruction services on the property located at 773 Union Street (Tax Map # 183 1 1).

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

At said hearing, parties in interest and citizens shall have an opportunity to be heard relative to the said requests.

THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA BY H. Robert Light Clerk of Council

### Notice

I, Walton Samuel Gibbs III, am doing business in Virginia under the fictitious name WALTON SAMUEL GIBBS III.

### Legals - Craig County

#### VIRGINIA: IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE COUNTY OF CRAIG

THE COUNTY OF CRAIG, VIRGINIA, a political subdivision of the Commonwealth of Virginia, **Case No. CL21-112** Plaintiff, v.

### Legals - Craig County

#### HEIRS OF THOMAS CALLAHAN, DECEASED, HEIRS OF ZELMA CALLAHAN, DECEASED, JUDY C. GRUBER, SARA C. CROUCH, and PARTIES UNKNOWN, Defendant(s).

#### ORDER OF PUBLICATION

The object of this suit is to enforce a lien for delinquent real estate taxes against the property known as Parcel No. 27-A-20. An Affidavit having been filed stating that due diligence has been used, without effect, to ascertain the location of the named Defendant(s), that the Defendant(s) may be non-residents of Virginia and maintain no domicile within the borders of the Commonwealth, or are deceased, or that there may be parties who have an interest in the property but are unknown, namely, the heirs, devisees, and successors in title of the named Defendant(s), made Defendants by the general description of Parties Unknown, it is hereby ORDERED that the named Defendant(s) and all Parties Unknown appear on or before July 16, 2021, and do what may be necessary to protect their interests in this cause.

Entered: 6/7/2021 Sharon P. Oliver, Clerk Circuit Court Clerk/Judge County of Craig, Virginia

I Ask For This: N. Reid Broughton (VSB No. 38899) Mary Foil Russell (VSB No. 46440) Sands Anderson PC P.O. Box 2009 Christiansburg, Virginia 24068-2009 (540) 260-9011 (540) 260-0022 (facsimile)

### VIRGINIA: IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE COUNTY OF CRAIG

THE COUNTY OF CRAIG, VIRGINIA, a political subdivision of the Commonwealth of Virginia, **Case No. CL21-111** Plaintiff, v.

HEIRS OF ORAN GREENWAY, a/k/a OREN GREENWAY, DECEASED, RAYETTE HENDRICK, and PARTIES UNKNOWN, Defendant(s). **ORDER OF PUBLICATION** The object of this suit is to enforce a lien for delinquent real estate taxes against the property known as Parcel No. 60-A-1 (377 Maggie Maw Lane). An Affidavit having been filed stating that due diligence has been used, without effect, to ascertain the location of the named Defendant(s), that the Defendant(s) may be non-residents of Virginia and maintain no domicile within the borders of the Commonwealth, or are deceased, or that there may be parties who have an interest in the property but are unknown, namely, the heirs, devisees, and successors in title of the named Defendant(s), made Defendants by the general description of Parties Unknown, it is hereby ORDERED that the named Defendant(s) and all Parties Unknown appear on or before July 16, 2021, and do what may be necessary to protect their interests in this cause.

Entered: 6/7/2021 Sharon P. Oliver, Clerk Circuit Court Clerk/Judge County of Craig, Virginia

I Ask For This: N. Reid Broughton (VSB No. 38899) Mary Foil Russell (VSB No. 46440) Sands Anderson PC P.O. Box 2009 Christiansburg, Virginia 24068-2009 (540) 260-9011 (540) 260-0022 (facsimile)

### Legals - Montgomery County

#### ORDER OF PUBLICATION COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

VA. CODE §§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316, -317, 20-104 **Case No. CL21000845-00** Montgomery County Circuit Court 55 East Main Street Suite 1 Christiansburg, VA 24073 MASTROGIOVANNI, JENNIFER v. EVANS, MICHAEL TAHIR The object of this suit is to: NAME CHANGE ON A MINOR

### Legals - Montgomery County

It is ORDERED that MICHAEL TAHIR EVANS appear at the above-named court and protect his/her interests on or before JULY 20, 2021.

MAY 27, 2021 ERICA W. CONNER CLERK

### ORDER OF PUBLICATION COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

VA. CODE §§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316, -317, 20-104 **Case No. CL21000748-00** Montgomery County Circuit Court 55 East Main Street Suite 1 Christiansburg, VA 24073 ARROYO, ESMERALDA RUIZ v. HERNANDEZ, ERNESTO ARROYO The object of this suit is to: DIVORCE It is ORDERED that ERNESTO ARROYO HERNANDEZ appear at the above-named court and protect his/her interests on or before JULY 26, 2021.

MAY 27, 2021 ERICA W. CONNER CLERK

### LEGAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Christiansburg Town Council will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, June 22, 2021 at 7:00 PM in the Council Chambers of the Christiansburg Town Hall, 100 E. Main Street, Christiansburg, Virginia 24073. The purpose of the public hearing is to receive public comments concerning:

- A. An amendment of proffers for conditional zoned property for The Reserve at Round Meadows by Shah Meadows LLC (applicant/property owner). The change of proffers would allow an increase of five (5) additional lots for a total of no more than 56 single-family detached dwellings. The development is adjacent to Round Meadow Drive on Tax Map Nos. 494 – ((A)) – 62 and 63, Tax Map 495 – ((A)) – 64, and Tax Map 494 – ((A)) – 55E1 – 55E3.
- B. Conditional Use Permit request by Shah Development LLC (applicant/property owner) for a revision to The Reserve at Round Meadows subdivision previously approved 51 single family detached dwelling Planned Housing Development to add five (5) additional single-family dwellings on property located adjacent to Round Meadow Drive on Tax Map Nos. 494 – ((A)) – 62 and 63, Tax Map 495 – ((A)) – 64, and Tax Map 494 – ((A)) – 55E1 – 55E3.

Town Hall will be open and available to receive public comment in-person at the time of this Public Hearing. Additionally, the meeting will be streamed live on the Town of Christiansburg's YouTube channel at [www.christiansburg.org/youtuve](http://www.christiansburg.org/youtuve) and will remain on the Town's YouTube page once the meeting concludes. For information on contactless methods for submitting public comment, please visit [www.christiansburg.org/publichearings](http://www.christiansburg.org/publichearings).

A copy of the applications, the Town's Zoning Map, Zoning Ordinance, and Future Land Use Map may be viewed in the Planning Department Office, 100 E. Main Street, Christiansburg, VA 24073 during normal office hours of 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Contact Andrew Warren, Assistant Town Manager, at (540) 382-6128 ext. 1130 or by email at [awarren@christiansburg.org](mailto:awarren@christiansburg.org) with any questions or if you require reasonable accommodations.

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# SPORTS

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## Rockets are Pioneer District soccer champs, qualify for Region 1C tournament this week



PHOTOS BY DONNA DEPLAZES  
The scoreboard says it all as the Craig County soccer team gathers for a Pioneer District championship photo.



Dalton Henderson(#16) has the keeper at his mercy as he scores in the regular season finale against Parry McCluer.



Mason Huffman knocks the ball out of harm's way in Craig's tie with Parry McCluer. Helping defend are Lucas Taylor(#11), Hunter Ashley(#30), Clayton Owens(#9) and Claire Deplazes(#5)



Dalton Henderson(left) and Logan Kitler celebrate after the game winning goal.

Bryce Drake scored a dramatic overtime goal off a corner kick by Lucas Taylor to give Craig County a 2-1 overtime victory in last week's Pioneer District championship soccer game in Hot Springs.

Craig came in as the regular season champion, but had to play on runnerup Bath County's home field last Thursday

as the championship site had been predetermined. The host Chargers took a 1-0 lead about 10 minutes into the game but the Rocket defense stiffened and didn't allow the ball to enter the Craig cage for the rest of the evening.

The Rockets tied it up early in the second half when Dalton Henderson scored. That's the way

the game remained after regulation, sending the two teams into overtime. Drake then sent the Rockets home winners with his big goal to give the young Craig County program their first ever soccer championship.

With the win the Rockets advanced to this week Region 1C tournament. Craig was scheduled to

host Galax on Monday, but results were too late for publication. Bath and George Wyrthe High were in the other region semifinal, and the two winners will play tonight at Christiansburg for the region championship. The winner of tonight's game advances to the state tournament with semifinals on Monday, June 21, and the

state championship game a week from tonight.

Craig comes into the region tournament with an 8-2-1 record, and one of the losses was a non-district loss to Auburn. The Rockets finished the regular season with a 2-2 tie against Parry McCluer on the turf field at Southern University. Henderson scored both goals for Craig and Taylor assisted on the second. Neither team scored in overtime, ending the game in a tie.

The tie was almost as good as a win for Craig, as that gave the Rockets the Pioneer District regular season championship.

Bath County finished with two district losses while Craig finished with one loss and one tie.

The Rockets opened the Pioneer District tournament with a 2-1 win over Covington. Taylor had both goals for the Rockets and both were unassisted.

That set up a third game between Craig and Bath after the two rivals had split the first two. As expected, it was a close one and the Rockets were able to come out on top in overtime, setting off a celebration on the Bath County pitch and earning the Rockets a banner for the high school gym.

## Covington shuts out Craig County to end Rockets' softball season



Chasity Wolfe fires the ball in from centerfield.

PHOTOS BY BRIAN HOFFMAN



Jordyn Price, Craig's only senior, legs one out.



Craig County catcher Lily Hutchison looks to the bench for a signal.

The Craig County softball team was eliminated from Pioneer District play when the Rockets were shut out by Covington, 11-0.

The Rockets won their opening round game, 9-8 over Narrows. That put them against Covington in the semifinals and the Cougars won at home. The other semifinal had Parry McCluer defeating Eastern Montgomery, 2-0, and Parry McCluer then defeated Covington, 3-0, to win the district championship. Both East Mont and Parry McCluer advanced

to the Region 1C tournament this week.

"We finished the season as a much better team than we started; fewer strikeouts when batting and fewer errors in the field," said coach Elaina Wolfe-Carper. "I'm very optimistic for next year. Sara(Jones) finished the year with 93 strikeouts and only eight walks. Lily Hutchison is very quickly becoming an excellent catcher. We are only losing one senior this year (Abby Price), and there are quite a few eligible girls moving up for next year."

## Huffman scores six points for Craig in Region 1C track meet

Craig County's Summer Huffman finished fifth in the discus and seventh in the shot put at the Region 1C track meet at Christiansburg High School last Friday. The meet

was hosted by Eastern Montgomery.

The 2021-2022 home schedule features 22 Friday and Saturday games, along with three Thursday dates and three Sunday dates. Special dates to highlight include Black Friday (November

26), the day before Christmas Eve (December 23), and New Year's Eve (December 31). The puck drops at 7:05 P.M. unless otherwise noted on the schedule.

Roanoke's last home game was February 22, 2020, just before the 2019-2020 SPHL season was

cancelled due to COVID-19. After 601 days without hockey in the Star City, the Rail Yard Dawgs look to have a big season on the ice and in the box office. Full and half season tickets will continue to be available for purchase, however the front office will now

begin booking group outings as well. Quarter Season (Seven Game) Packages and Kid's Club Packages will go on sale in the coming weeks. The on-sale date for single game tickets has not been released yet, but is expected to be September 2021.

Huffman scored six points for Craig County, which was good enough to tie for eighth place as a team in the girls' final standings.

## Roanoke Rail Yard Dawgs release 2021-2022 home schedule

There will be 601 days between the Dawgs last home game before COVID-19 and Opening Night of the upcoming season

The Roanoke Rail Yard Dawgs ice hockey team has received the home game schedule for the upcoming 2021-2022 season. The team will play a 56 game regular season, split evenly between home and away games. The team's full schedule including away games, op-

ponents, and promotional nights will be released at a later date.

The 2021-2022 home schedule features 22 Friday and Saturday games, along with three Thursday dates and three Sunday dates. Special dates to highlight include Black Friday (November

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