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THE NEW CASTLE RECORD



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Craig's economic development partnership creating new jobs



SUBMITTED PHOTO

The Craig County Economic Development Authority recently announced that cryptocurrency mining repairer and reseller Manifold Mining would immediately invest roughly \$420,000 into a Craig County-based center of operations. This investment is expected to create several jobs. Pictured from left to right are Lenny Macdonald, Darryl Humphreys, Jordan Labiosa, Ryan McDaniel (Manifold Mining), Jacob McDaniel (Manifold Mining), Jerry Groseclose and Dan Collins. Not pictured are Trace Bellasai, Kermit Daniel and Melissa Beaudoin.

Pam Dudding
Contributing writer

Technology is growing by leaps and bounds and Craig County has people who are stepping into

that unknown arena, learning its benefits, and bringing it into our county.

A press release shared that the Craig County EDA reported a partnership with Manifold Min-

ing in New Castle on August 17.

The Craig County Economic Development Authority announced that cryptocurrency

See **Jobs**, page 8



PHOTO BY SAMANTHA REYNOLDS CREWS

Kallie Fisher enjoyed reading the age-old poem written by the local Ruth Reynolds, which shed precious memories of the Old Salem Church.

Church memories within a poem

Pam Dudding
Contributing writer

Some people can paint what they see beautifully, while others write with a passion to express their love for a person or thing.

On Sunday, August 15, at the Annual Homecoming potluck, the "usual" afternoon was changed up a bit as Jean Bradley told stories and her granddaughter shared a poem which was once read at the homecoming at the same Old Salem Church, on August 31 in 1983, by her very own daughter, Stacey Bradley.

As Kallie carefully unfolded the computer printout poem dated in 1983, Jean looked on with a look of fond remembrance as Kallie, now Stacey's daughter, read the beautiful poem, written by Ruth Reynolds, a past member of the church.

Still stands our Little Brick Church, built in 1883,
Nestled here mid the trees,
Remote from the city's stir and strife,
Its area fanned by each cooling breeze.

Passing years have left their mark,
On this early day house of God,
It was built by earnest pioneers,
And now they sleep beneath the sod.

In the loft the swallows' nest,
And rad their young ones there,
While withing parents did their best,
To guide theirs into the Saviors' care,
And worship His dear name.

The pleasant summer sun shines in,
Through the windows slim and high,
And from the nearby fields,
Comes the meadowlark call.

Each pastor wept over his flock,
As he strove to lead them on,
And set their feet upon a rock,
To be ready to meet their Savior.

Many have had their sins forgiven,
As they knelt at the altar here,
'Twas here with tears of penitent hearts,
Saved by grace and answered prayers.

In this old church, vanished faces,
Of those dear ones we use to know,
Their voices raised in prayer,
To praise God still echo.

With sorrow we watch the change and decay,
That comes to our little church,
Where we often met to worship and pray,
Memories linger on.

Afterwards, the older generation chattered about the poem and their personal memories. Some became quiet as they expressed their sentimental thoughts.

The day was filled with people coming together, who seemed to just be family, regardless of if they were related or not.

"We hope to see you again next year," was the sentiment shared by everyone, as long hugs, warm smiles and an atmosphere of love permeated the beautiful mountain lawn.

VFW hosting potluck picnic for members

Pam Dudding
Contributing writer

Men and women of our military have given so much of themselves, sacrificed their personal goals and their family time to protect our country, our communities. Because of this, the Craig County community is forever appreciative.

The local Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) wishes to bring all their members together on Saturday, September 11, at 2 p.m. for a comrade potluck picnic.

Burgers have been donated by the Moose Lodge on Route 311 and drinks by the Gopher Market and IGA Express.

Attendees can bring a side dish or a meat dish

if they so choose. Delicious dessert sides will be needed as well.

Anyone wishing to donate to this event by providing a dish are also welcomed to do so. Volunteers are needed to help cook the burgers, serve, park and clean up.

"As the nation's oldest major Veteran's organization, the Veterans of Foreign War, VFW, has an impeccable and long-standing record of service and stewardship. More than four million patriot Americans, both members and non-members, entrust the VFW with financial contributions and millions of volunteer hours," the VFW website states.

See **Potluck**, page 8



SUBMITTED PHOTO

On September 11 at 2 p.m., the Craig Valley VFW Post 4491 will be hosting a potluck picnic for its members.

Fall Festival registrations currently being taken



SUBMITTED PHOTO

At the Craig County Fall Festival this year, there will be flat-footing contests for both kids and adults. Attendees should make sure they have their dancing shoes and get ready to have a lot of fun.

Pam Dudding
Contributing writer

The Craig County Historical Society wants the community to know that the 38th Annual Craig County Fall Festival will be held on Saturday, October 9, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Main and Court Streets in New Castle. Many county citizens have already expressed their elation.

For a space, if you register prior to September 1, you get the early bird rate of \$45. After that, the cost will be \$50.

Booth spaces are 10 feet x 10 feet of sidewalk/street. If more than ten feet is needed, additional

space may be rented.

Electricity is limited. Therefore, indicate that need on your application, including the size of your tent and what items you will be selling or showing.

To reserve a space, contact Foster for an application at (540) 977-8395. The check or money order can be made to the Craig County Historical Society and payment to Robyn Foster, 193 Walnut Street New Castle, Va. 24127. Reservations will be accepted until September 30.

The Fall Festival will be held regardless of the weather therefore no re-

See **Festival**, page 8



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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.

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.

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.

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.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 27

The Historical Society will be hosting a delicious dinner at the Old Hotel. There will be 5 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. settings. Featured on the menu will be country-style steak, sides and homemade desserts. Reservations are required. For more information, contact Mary Hutchison at (540) 747-2255.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 29

Mt. View Baptist Church at 5714 Catawba Creek Road in Catawba will be celebrating their 75th Homecoming, and the community is invited. Mt. View believes homecomings are not only for renewing old friendships, but for making new friends too. The 11 a.m. service will feature special music and a guest speaker, Pastor Darrell Naff. Around 12:30 p.m., lunch will be served on the grounds. At 1:30 p.m., Carl Scott and Glory Bound will

be giving a free concert. A love offering will be taken. Come receive a blessing and make new friends.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

The local VFW will host a VFW members potluck at the Craig Valley VFW Post 4491. Burgers and drinks will be provided. VFW members and their families invited

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 9

The Craig County Fall Festival is expected to last from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. in downtown New Castle. Contact Robyn Foster at 540-977-8395 for more info or to reserve a booth. For car show information, contact Jackie Taylor at 540-520-5555. If you register by September 1, you get the early bird rate of \$45.00. Afterwards it is \$50. Registration ends September 30. The event has been sponsored by the Craig County Historical Society for 38 years.

Roanoke Valley couples celebrate six decades of marriage



On August 26, 1961, Loren and Barbara Walker were married in Roanoke. Since 1976, the couple has resided in the Roanoke Valley.

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shawn.nowlin@ourvalley.org

Congratulations are in store for Roanoke Valley residents Fredric and Carolyn Eichelman as well as Loren and Barbara Walker, as both couples are celebrating their wedding anniversary this month.

When Loren and Barbara got married in 1961, it was in Roanoke City. For the last 45 years, they have called Salem home. While Barbara is known for her homemade sweet pickles, unique quilts and sense of humor, Loren still enjoys home improve-



Salem residents and former educators Fredric and Carolyn Eichelman celebrated their 61st wedding anniversary on August 6

ment and outdoor activities such as biking. Active members of Salem Presbyterian Church, the Walkers have three daughters, seven grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

"I live near Atlanta while my siblings live near Chicago and San Diego, respectively. Given COVID-19, their health, age and distance, we all collectively decided to not do a gathering this year," said their daughter Linda. "Our entire family is forever grateful for Loren and Barbara's legacy of love, stability and faithfulness."

After six decades together, Fred says that he and his wife are still making memories. "Both of us have had many shared interests

covering a range of things, from education, working in projects to improve the media to be more faith and family friendly, community involvement to being active in our church and animal rescue. Above everything, we are friends and teammates and treat each other accordingly," he said.

Both Fred and Carolyn, 86, worked as educators for over 40 years. After starting her career teaching pre-school at Total Action Against Poverty (TAP), Carolyn retired as an elementary school teacher. Fred taught in schools in Vinton, Salem, Cave Spring and North County.

Occasionally, they will run into a former student.

"It usually happens when we are getting into our car," Carolyn said. "I've taught countless students over the years, and it does my heart well to see them all grown up with families of their own."

Life today is vastly different from what it was when Fred and Carolyn got married. In 1960, the U.S. population was approximately 180 million. Today, that number is around 329 million. Sixty-one years ago, gas was \$0.31 per gallon. That number today is roughly \$2.97 per gallon. The average price of a home back then was \$11,900 compared to \$325,000 in 2021.

The two understand how blessed they are to have survived the COVID-19 pandemic together. "We took various precautions to be extra safe," Fred said. "There were many couples who did the same. However, they were not as fortunate. We are incredibly grateful to live through the pandemic."

The Eichelmans have two children, five grandchildren and just welcomed their first great-grandchild. Carol Webster, their oldest child, is a drama teacher and director at William Byrd High and Burton Center for Performing Arts.

Both have the same advice for a lasting and successful marriage. "It sounds cliché, but remembering your commitment to each other, communicating respectfully, being willing to learn while keeping God first are the ingredients to a fulfilling marriage," Fred said with his wife right by his side. "It's really that simple."

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

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- CLUES ACROSS**
- Nature expedition
 - Edible fruit
 - Take the energy from
 - Bungled
 - Young salmon
 - Botanical gardens
 - Source of chocolate
 - Country singer LeAnn
 - Yokel
 - Unit of energy
 - Plant of the lily family
 - Tusked wild pig
 - Form of "to be"
 - Formerly
 - Letter of the Greek alphabet
 - Former First Lady
 - News organization
 - Shining brightly and intermittently
 - Brew
 - Teams' best pitchers
 - Pitching stat
 - __ or bust
 - Baby product manufacturer
 - Monetary unit of Finland
 - Small spherical structures in cells
 - Pouches
 - Reached
 - Investment account
 - Oft-repeated slogan
- CLUES DOWN**
- Nuclear undersea weapon
 - Helps the skin
 - Evergreen coniferous trees
 - Relieve of employment
 - A way to drench
 - Journalist Tarbell
 - __ and Venzetti
 - Alcoholic liquor
 - An athlete who plays for pay
 - Where to get drinks
 - Japanese art form
 - Baseball great Satchel
 - Winged angelic beings
 - One point south of due east
 - Group of islands in Polynesia
 - A place to play: __ center
 - Masses of gray matter in the brain
 - Belgian city (alt. sp.)
 - Milliliter
 - Beloved Will Ferrell film
 - Railway above ground
 - Satisfaction
 - Aggregate of molecules
 - Type of barometer
 - Type of college teacher (abbr.)
 - Long periods of time
 - Native people of Nebraska and S. Dakota
 - Deliver
 - Thin, narrow piece of wood
 - Modern Israel founder
 - Small NY college
 - Pounds per square inch
 - Veterans battleground
 - Hollywood talent agency (abbr.)
 - Popular kids' channel



It has been 60 years since Loren and Barbara Walker got married, but the two still enjoy making memories together.

Grammy award-winning artist plays benefit concert for Feeding Southwest Virginia



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

On the first Tuesday of the month, 3rd Street Coffeehouse hosted a virtual session of the "Tuesday Tunes benefitting Southwest Virginia." Since May, the event helped raise over \$21,000.



On August 3, Feeding Southwest Virginia was in attendance at the final virtual session of the "Tuesday Tunes benefitting Southwest Virginia" at local venue, 3rd Street Coffeehouse. Tuesday was the culminating event of a fundraising campaign that helped to raise over \$21,000 for Feeding Southwest Virginia since May of 2020.

The event featured local artist Greg Trafidlo and Friends, and included a headline surprise performance by Grammy Award-winning folk artist, Tom Paxton, who made the trip to Roanoke for the occasion.

The concert was broadcast live on Facebook, but also in attendance were many of the over 60 artists who donated their talents to the Tuesday Tunes concert series over the past 16 months.

"Tuesday Tunes is the amazing response of the Southwest Virginia music community and fans to the unprecedented hunger crisis precipitated by COVID-19, which resulted in plant closings, work force reductions, limited job opportunities and constraints to job re-training opportunities," Bob Schmucker, 3rd Street Coffeehouse

spokesperson, said. "It takes a community to feed a community," said Pamela Irvine, CEO and President of Feeding Southwest Virginia. The Food Bank is so thankful for the support from 3rd Street Coffeehouse and all of their amazing artists - and we are so excited to help them celebrate their success in helping us provide over 100,000 meals to our neighbors through the Tuesday Tunes virtual concert series."

-Submitted by Lisa Uhl, Marketing and Communications Coordinator



Dozens of attendees packed the venue to see the musicians perform.

Appalachian Telemental Health Network

Do You or Someone You Know Need Mental/Behavioral Health Help?

Appalachian Telemental Health Network (ATHN) is a state-funded resource for people in Virginia who are seeking mental and behavioral health help. Sessions are held over a

HIPAA secure video session with a professional. The prior eliminates barriers of time, distance, and provider scarcities. The process is streamlined, making it easy to use the plat-

form as a provider and patient. Appalachian Telemental Health Network was designed to create better access for the underserved Appalachian counties of Virginia. ATHN

welcomes providers, referral streams, and people seeking help. If you or someone you know needs help, do not hesitate. Appalachian Telemental Health Network is an avail-

able resource. For more information, visit www.athn.us.

-Submitted by Appalachian Telemental Health Network (ATHN)

Prevent snake bites by leaving snakes alone

There are 32 species of snakes in Virginia, but only three are venomous, and death from snake bites is extremely rare.

About 8,000 people in the U.S. are bitten by venomous snakes each year, and up to 10 of them die as a result, according to the Virginia Herpetological Society. According to the Virginia Department of Health, only about one death from snake bites occurs every 10-15 years in the state.

The state's herpetologist, John "J.D." Kleopfer, said 99 percent of all encounters between humans and snakes can be resolved safely if people heed his four words of advice: "Just. Leave.

Them. Alone.

"Bad things often happen when people take matters into their own hands," added Kleopfer, who has served as the state herpetologist with the Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources for 15 years. "If people leave snakes alone, then they don't need to worry whether they're venomous or not."

Of Virginia's three venomous snakes, only the eastern copperhead is found statewide. The other two - the northern cottonmouth and the timber rattlesnake—have limited geographical distribution.

Venomous snake bites are considered medical emergencies, and need

to be treated quickly. However, the chances of being envenomated are extremely low.

"Although venomous snakes occasionally may pose a risk to one's personal health and safety, the vast majority of species do not present an imminent danger or threat to us," said Dr. James Parkhurst, an associate professor in Virginia Tech's Fish and Wildlife Conservation Department.

Most snakes are even beneficial. Larger snake species help manage rodent populations by eating eat mice, rats and voles, Parkhurst said.

Many smaller snakes feed on insects and other invertebrate pests common in gardens and landscaped areas. Black racers and eastern king snakes will often prey on other snakes, including venomous species.

Some snakes serve as a food resource for other predators, such as raccoons, opossums, skunks and birds of prey. "Thus, snakes are important players in the food web and are a key component of healthy ecosystems," Parkhurst noted.

As people are spending time outside during the summer months,

they should take certain precautions, Kleopfer said. Snakes are most active at night and in warm weather, so watch where you step, and use a flashlight when walking at night. Protective clothing also is important when spending time in places where snakes may be hiding, like brush or debris.

Never handle a snake, even if you think it is dead. Recently killed snakes can bite by reflex - even detached snake heads.

One of the best ways to prevent venomous snake bites is to "get to know which snakes live

in your area," Kleopfer recommended. He said the Virginia Herpetological Society provides statewide identification charts and even has a feature where residents can upload images of snakes and get them identified.

Visit virginiaherpetologicalsociety.com for more information.

"Remember, snakes are not out to get you and will not chase you," Kleopfer emphasized. "If you leave them alone, they will leave you alone."

-Submitted by John "J.D." Kleopfer

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OPINION

A brief history of summer reading part 2 by Jennifer Harlan

Library Corner
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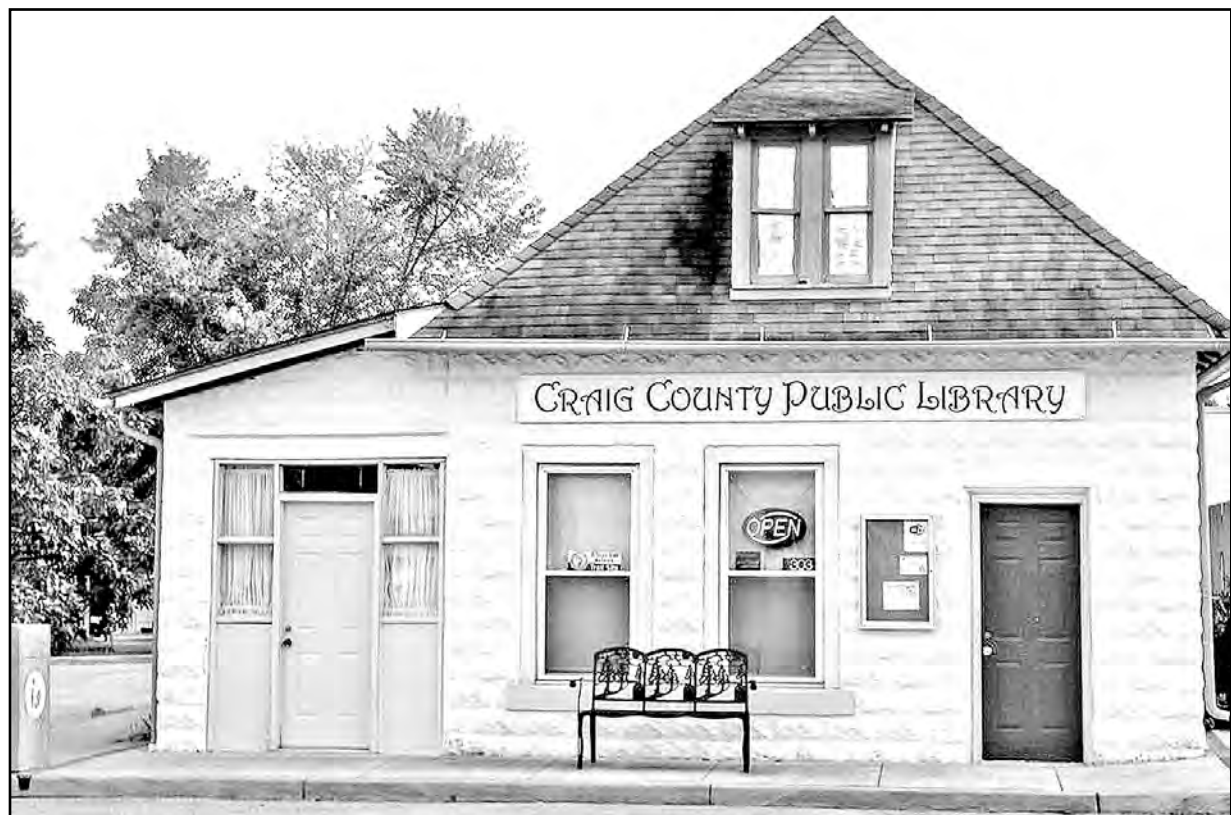
Publishers saw an opportunity in this new wave of summer travel to bolster what had traditionally been a lackluster season for book sales, and to promote novels, which up until that point had largely been seen as an inferior literary subgenre and a dangerous corrupting influence, particularly for young women.

“Reading novels was something that was highly suspect,” said Dr. Harrington-Lueker. “But slowly, from the 1870s into the 1880s and ’90s, they manage to reposition it as a genteel, middle-class pleasure. Light novels, paperback novels, novels that were easily portable or could be read while lying under a tree: All of these became embraced by the tastemakers of the industry.”

The publishers’ goals were helped along by two other important developments, Wendy Griswold, a professor of sociology at Northwestern University, explained in a phone interview. The invention in the mid-1800s of wood pulp paper, which was much cheaper to produce than paper made from linen rags, significantly reduced the price of books. And literacy rates among American women — who were more likely to spend long chunks of the summer at resorts than their husbands, who often had to commute back and forth from their city jobs — skyrocketed.

Summer resorts provided women with an escape from the strictures of everyday Victorian life, free from the prying eyes of husbands or chaperones. And they also provided the setting for a new genre of novel, one specifically crafted about and for this season of escape.

The American sum-



The Craig County Public Library is at 303 Main Street.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

mer novel, which began popping up in the 1860s, was easily identifiable by a few key characteristics — many of which may sound familiar to today’s readers. It took place over the course of a summer, at a resort or grand hotel. Its plot was “devoted to lovers ... their thrills, their perturbations, their mishaps, and their triumphs,” as the Book Review wrote in the introduction to its 1898 summer reading issue. And it ended with an engagement or marriage, as the characters prepared to return to society.

Such a novel was easy to spot without ever cracking its spine. It was set apart by its cover, usually made of paper and featuring a romantic summertime scene. “A catching title, the colors, and a photographic reproduction of a comely soubrette face are considered the correct adornment of the cover of a summer novel,” the Book Review reported in 1900. “The public does the rest.”

Summer leisure

evolved and expanded dramatically in the early 20th century, thanks in large part to the invention of the automobile and the introduction of paid vacation time. And summer reading became so established as an American pastime that it continued to grow even during periods when vacations were put on hold. “In curious and unexpected ways, the war affects and alters many a thing,” The Times reported in 1915, one year into the first World War. “The latest of its byproducts is the appearance of manifold signs that there is to be a boom in summer reading. Not wholly in books about the war, either; in every kind of books.”

The introduction of the mass market paperback in the late 1930s further democratized things. “The novelty of paperbacks is not only their physical form, but also that they were sold in drugstores and newsstands,” Leah Price, a professor of English at Rutgers University and the author of “What

We Talk About When We Talk About Books: The History and Future of Reading,” said in a phone interview. “You could buy them anywhere at the spur of the moment rather than planning to go to this specialized store, of which there might be only one in the town where you lived. So, in that sense, you could see the paperback as an ancestor to the ebook. It’s like that old Amazon Kindle ad, where you can think of a book and in a minute, you’ve got it. Same thing with paperbacks.”

The physical book isn’t the only thing that has evolved. The kinds of books that readers reach for in the summertime have changed over time as well. In 1968, James Baldwin, writing in the Book Review, urged readers to engage with books grappling with the question of race, such as the works of Ralph Ellison or “The Autobiography of Malcolm X.” In 1999, as Y2K loomed, The Times’s recommendations included books

on string theory and memes along with select science fiction. Summer reading today has expanded well beyond the summer novel, from romance to mystery to fantasy to thrillers. The Book Review did not offer selections of “Fiction by Famous Hands” or “Noteworthy Long Stories” on its 2021 summer list, but sports books, Hollywood tell-alls and true crime did make the cut.

So, what is it that makes something a summer book? “Summer, like every other time, is a good time for good books and an especially good time for long ones in which neither the author nor the reader feels hurried,” Joseph Wood Krutch wrote in the Book Review in 1950. “It is a good time, and an especially good time, for reading what one wants to read for no reason except that one does want to read it.”

Up until the 1800s, novels were largely seen as an inferior literary

See **Library**, page 8

THE NEW CASTLE RECORD

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

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

Give us your view: newcastle@ourvalley.org
To subscribe: 540-389-9355

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OBITUARY

Helems, Anna Fay

Anna Fay Helems, 91 of New Castle, departed this life to be with her Heavenly Father on Saturday, August 7, in her home. Born in Johns Creek on October 17, 1929, she was the daughter of the late Harry Gleason Stebar and Margie Jane Bell Stebar.

Anna Fay was a central part of her community and was very head strong and independent, but to know her was to love her. Anna Fay had served in her life in the textile mill, and later in life with the National Forestry Service. She is also a lifetime member of the Forks of Johns Creek Christian Church.

Anna Fay was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Arnold Helems; sons, Melvin Arnold Helems, Robert Roscoe Helems, and Lloyd Vincent



Helems; a daughter, Shelia Fisher; grandson, Matthew Funari; sisters, Frances Detamore and Maude Elizabeth Jane Stebar.

Left to cherish her memory to their hearts are her daughters Mary Funari (Anthony) of Kentucky, and Shorty Sowers (Tommy) of Simonsville, and a son in law Ralph Fisher of Newport; grandchildren, Jessica Funari, Robert Funari, Chris Heath and wife Jerri, Zachary Sowers, Teanna Sowers, McKinley Heath, Dylan Heath, Evan Heath; a very special great-granddaughter, Everleigh Sowers; special friends, Bertie Ann Mills, Sue and Sammy Reynolds and a whole community of persons whose lives she touched.

SCC reminds Virginians to review their property insurance before a hurricane or other disaster strikes

The 2021 hurricane season already has had a busy start with eight named storms and one reaching hurricane strength. The State Corporation Commission's (SCC) Bureau of Insurance (Bureau) reminds Virginians that late August to early October is often the most dangerous and active time for tropical storm activity – and the potential property damage those storms can cause.

If you have not already reviewed your property insurance, the Bureau urges Virginians to do so now as the hurricane season is underway. Whether you're a homeowner, renter or business, protect yourself financially by making sure you have the coverage you need before disaster strikes.

Hurricane season officially runs from June 1 to November 30. Even areas hundreds of miles from the coast can be impacted by the high winds, heavy rains and flooding that accompany hurricanes and tropical storms. You may have a difficult time increasing your insurance coverage once a hurricane develops and until the threat has passed, so review your coverage now and make any necessary changes.

"Disasters can happen anywhere and anytime. Don't wait until it's too late to protect yourself and your property from a hurricane or other disaster," said Virginia Insurance Commissioner Scott A. White. "Assess your risk now and make sure you have the coverage you need before a storm begins to brew."

The Bureau encourages Virginians to talk to their insurance agent or company if they have questions about what is and is not covered, how to reduce property damage and what to do if damage does occur.

Most homeowners, renters and commercial insurance policies do not cover losses due to flooding. Talk to your insurance agent about flood insurance or visit the National Flood Insurance Program's website at www.floodsmart.gov to learn more about protecting your home or business from damage due to floods, surface water or storm surge. There is typically a 30-day waiting period for a new flood insurance policy to take effect.

The Bureau also encourages Virginians to create a detailed home inventory with photos, videos and serial numbers of your belongings. The National Association of Insurance Commissioners' (NAIC) free smartphone app can facilitate this process. Place your insurance policies and home in-

ventory in a safe place and take them with you if you must evacuate. These records will contain your policy numbers and the phone numbers of your insurance companies in case you have questions or need to file a claim.

If your property is damaged by a hurricane, contact your insurance agent or company as soon as possible. To protect your property from further damage, make necessary emergency repairs. Document all damage to your property and include photographs, notes and repair-related receipts.

Policyholders should consider the following questions related to potential hurricane damage when reviewing their policies:

Does your homeowners policy contain a special deductible for wind or hurricane losses? These deductibles are applied separately from any other deductible on a homeowners policy and may be written as a flat amount, such as \$1,000, or applied to a loss as a percentage of the insurance coverage on the dwelling.

Does your homeowners policy provide coverage for such things as sewer backup? Most homeowners policies do not provide coverage for sewer backup, but policyholders may purchase additional coverage for this.

Are vehicles covered in the event of a hurricane or windstorm? If you have other-than-collision (or comprehensive) coverage for your vehicle under your automobile policy, your vehicles generally will be covered for flood and wind damage.

To learn more, contact the Bureau of Insurance Property and Casualty Division toll-free at 1-877-310-6560 or in Richmond at 804-371-9185. The Bureau's specially trained staff can assist consumers with their insurance-related questions and concerns. The Bureau also offers free consumer guides for homeowners and commercial property owners with information about what to do when a disaster strikes. These are available on the disaster readiness section of its website at scc.virginia.gov/pages/Disaster-Readiness.

For additional emergency preparedness information relating to hurricanes and other types of disasters, visit the Virginia Department of Emergency Management website at www.vaemergency.gov.

-Submitted by Katha Treanor

Infrastructure package makes its way through Congress

American farmers and agribusinesses are positioned to be more competitive in the global economy with the U.S. Senate's Aug. 10 passage of President Joe Biden's bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act.

The nearly \$1 trillion plan is intended to rebuild roads and bridges, modernize public works systems and expand broadband internet, among other improvements. The Senate also is considering a second \$3.5 trillion package that would pay for new family, health and education programs. The White House anticipates the investments will add, on average, about 2 million jobs per year within the coming decade.

The House will eventually consider both packages simultaneously. While American Farm Bureau Federation supports the first part of the plan, it does not endorse the second one.

The first phase of the bill would invest \$110 billion in U.S. roads and bridges, \$65 billion for broadband and \$17.3 billion for ports and inland waterways. Section 23018 of the bill includes an exemption for livestock and insect haulers from Hours of Service Regulations within a 150 air-mile radius from their final destination—a small but particularly helpful change for Virginia livestock producers, said Ben Rowe, Virginia Farm Bureau Federation's national

affairs coordinator.

"We were pleased to see the Senate develop a comprehensive infrastructure package while preserving important tax provisions that make it possible for farmers to pass the family business to the next generation," he said. "We urge leaders in the House to follow the Senate's lead by leaving tax rates and stepped-up basis unchanged."

AFBF President Zippy Duvall expressed gratitude to the Senate for working toward solutions while preserving those tax provisions.

He said the pressing infrastructure issues facing the nation are too important to ignore, particularly in rural communities where modernization is desperately needed.

"Farmers and ranchers depend on millions of miles of roadways and waterways to get their products to America's dinner tables, and they rely on ports to ship food, fiber and fuel to countries around the world," Duvall said. "And increased funding to bring broadband to hundreds of thousands of farms that currently have no access to the internet will help farmers meet the demands of a growing world while using emerging technologies to build on climate-smart practices."

-Submitted by Nicole Zema, VFBF communications

Virginia offers one-time relief funding opportunity to intercity bus providers

- American Rescue Plan Act allocates \$2.3 million to the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation for distribution -

The Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT) was apportioned \$2.3 million in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding to allocate to Federal Motor Carrier-Certified intercity bus operators throughout the Commonwealth. This one-time grant opportunity will help intercity bus companies recover operating expenses incurred during the pandemic. The application period is open now through October 1, 2021. Eligible intercity bus providers are encouraged to apply.

"Healthy and competitive multi-modal transportation is the key to connecting people to better jobs, education, and healthcare. Each transportation provider across the Commonwealth serves as an essential piece of the mobility puzzle," said Secretary of Transportation Shannon Valentine. "The American Rescue Plan Act funding will ease the burden placed on intercity bus providers and help maintain these critical services that keep Virginia moving."

In March, President Biden signed the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, which provided \$30.46 billion to support the transit industry in response to COVID-19. ARPA allocated \$100 mil-

lion to intercity bus operators throughout the country. Of that, \$2,307,909 was apportioned for intercity bus operators in Virginia. Funding is provided at a 100 percent federal share, with no local match required. The funds can be used to reimburse certain operating expenses incurred to maintain transit services as well as pay for administrative leave for transit personnel due to reduced operations during the emergency.

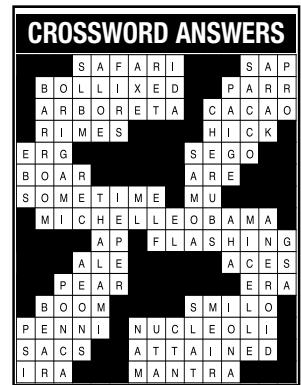
The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and DRPT have established eligibility criteria to appropriately allocate this funding. Criteria should be thoroughly reviewed before completing the application.

"DRPT remains committed to enhancing intercity bus service in Virginia," stated Jennifer Mitchell, Director of the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation. "In addition to our ongoing support for the Virginia Breeze Bus Lines, we also welcome this

unique, one-time opportunity to help other intercity bus providers recover from the pandemic."

Intercity Bus service operates with a limited schedule, has fixed routes, and connects to two or more urban areas that are not in close proximity. These services may have the capacity for transporting passenger baggage and service that makes specific, planned connections with established intercity bus service where such service is available.

-Submitted by Haley Glynn, Department of Rail and Public Transportation



The family of **Lala Ails** would like to thank everyone for the flowers, visits, phone calls, cards and especially the prayers during her hospital stay and then her passing. The staff at Snyders Nursing Home will always be remembered for their loving care and patience with her.

Wayne, William, Tommy & Bobby Sowers, Lisa Gusler

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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!

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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.

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

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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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5530 Catawba Valley Drive, Catawba, VA, 540-384-7075. Pastor Lorraine Taylor, 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

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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
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.

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

MOUNTAIN VIEW CHRISTIAN
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.

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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; 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.

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.

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Legals - Botetourt County

Public Notice Environmental Permit

PURPOSE OF NOTICE: To seek public comment on a draft Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit from the Department of Environmental Quality that will allow the release of industrial wastewater and stormwater into a waterbody in Botetourt County, Virginia PERMIT NO.: VAO072397 NAME AND ADDRESS OF FACILITY: Roanoke Cement Company LLC, 6071 Catawba Road, Troutville, Virginia 24175 DEQ CONTACT: Becky L. France, 540-562-6793, becky.france@deq.virginia.gov, 901 Russell Drive, Salem, VA 24153 The full public notice is available at <https://www.deq.virginia.gov/permits-regulations/public-notices/water/virginia-pollution-discharge-elimination-system-vpdes>

Legals - City of Radford

VIRGINIA: IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE CITY OF RADFORD

THE CITY OF RADFORD, VIRGINIA, a political subdivision of the Commonwealth of Virginia, **Case No. CL21-6456** Plaintiff, V. COLE-PHILLIPS BUILDING CO., and MICHAEL H. COLE and PARTIES UNKNOWN, any heirs, devisees, and successors in title, including Successors in interest of Cole Phillips Building Co., A General Partnership collectively made Defendants, Defendant(s).

ORDER OF PUBLICATION

The object of this suit is to order abatement of nuisance or allow for razing of a structure owned by Cole Phillips Building Co., and located at 103 Polk Street in the City of Radford, Virginia, and enforce a lien for the costs of the same. 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 partnership, 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 September 24, 2021, and do what may be necessary to protect their interests in this cause.

Entered: 7/22/2021
Melissa White
Circuit Court Clerk/Judge
City of Radford, Virginia

I Ask For This:
Michael R. Bedsaul, Esq. (WSB # 41273)
Mary Foil Russell (VSB No. 46440)
Sands Anderson PC
P.O. Box 2009
Christiansburg, Virginia 24068-2009
540-260-9011 (phone)
540-260-0022 (facsimile)

Legals - City of Salem

ORDER OF PUBLICATION

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA VA. CODE §§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316, -317, 20-104
Case No. CL21-888
ROANOKE COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT
305 E. MAIN ST SALEM, VA 24153
ALTIZER, ZANDER LEE v. MCGUIRE, CONNER LEE
The object of this suit is to: NAME CHANGE OF MINOR
It is ORDERED that Ashley Altizer appear at the above-named court and protect his/her interests on 8/27/21 @ 11:00 AM

Enter 7/16/21
Judge Dorsey

Pursuant to the Single Family Mortgage Foreclosure Act

of 1994, 12 U.S.C. Chapter 38A and the Secretary's Foreclosure Commissioner designation, a COMMISSIONER'S SALE of 1994, 12 U.S.C. Chapter 38A and the Secretary's Foreclosure Commissioner designation, a COMMISSIONER'S SALE of 1407 Longview Avenue, Salem, VA 24153 (Short Legal Description: LT 6 BLK 3 SEC 1 MIDDLETON GARDENS) will occur at public auction outside the main entrance to the building of the Circuit Court of Salem, VA located at 2 East Calhoun Street, Salem, VA 24153-7933 on September 9, 2021 at 11:00 AM, pursuant to a default of a note secured by a deed of trust executed by Calvin C. Overstreet by Nellie C. Overstreet, his attorney in fact, and Nellie C. Overstreet recorded 2/10/2012, in the Circuit Court for Salem, VA, as Instrument No. 120000317, and the Assignment in favor of the Secretary of HUD recorded 1/18/2018, in the Circuit Court for Salem, VA as Instrument No. 180000119. TERMS OF SALE can be reviewed by the recorded notice of default on file with the Salem Circuit Court for which all terms are incorporated herein into this notice. A 10% deposit is immediately required for winning bidder in certified funds. Anderson Law, 2492 N. Landing Rd, #104, Va Beach, VA 23456, <http://www.virginialawoffice.com/hud> Run date 8/19/2021, 8/26/2021, and 9/2/2021

Legals - City of Salem

Public Notice Environmental Permit

PURPOSE OF NOTICE: To seek public comment and announce two public hearings on (1) a draft permit from the State Water Control Board that will allow the filling of wetlands and streams in Giles, Craig, Montgomery, Roanoke, Franklin, and Pittsylvania Counties, Virginia and (2) the Board's intent to provide Section 401 Water Quality Certification for activities authorized by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:** The public comment period is from August 28, 2021 to October 13, 2021. **PUBLIC HEARINGS:** The Pigg River Community Center, 2410 South Main Street, Rocky Mount, Virginia 24151 on September 27, 2021 from 6:00pm to 9:00pm, and Radford University - Kyle Hall, Howe Street, Radford Virginia 24141 on September 28, 2021 from 6:00pm to 9:00pm. The public hearing will adjourn when everyone present has had an opportunity to speak, or the facility closing time, whichever occurs first. Persons planning to attend the public hearings are advised to check the DEQ website at the link below for any changes to the meeting format or public health protocols.

PURPOSE OF THE HEARING: To obtain input from the public related to this project for the Board to consider.

PERMIT NAME: Virginia Water Protection Permit issued by the State Water Control Board
EFFECT OF PERMIT: Pursuant to Va. Code 62.1-44.15-20.D. issuance of the permit shall, in conjunction with Certification No. 17-001, constitute the certification required under Section 401 of the federal Clean Water Act for the project.

APPLICANT NAME, ADDRESS AND PERMIT NUMBER: Mountain Valley Pipeline, LLC; 2200 Energy Drive, Canonsburg, PA 15317; WVPP No. 21-0416
PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Mountain Valley Pipeline, LLC has applied for a new permit for the Mountain Valley Pipeline Project. The project is a 42-inch natural gas pipeline located along an approximate 107-mile-long corridor from the Virginia-West Virginia state line in Giles County southeast through Craig County, Montgomery County, Roanoke County, Franklin County, and Pittsylvania County to the Transco Village (located approximately three miles east of Chatham, Virginia). The permit will allow the applicant to work in surface waters consisting of wetlands and streams. The proposed activity would permanently affect 1.19 acres of palustrine forested wetland (PFO), 0.76 of an

Legals - City of Salem

acre of palustrine scrub-shrub wetland (PSS), 0.04 of an acre of palustrine emergent wetland (PEM), and 63 linear feet of streams. The proposed activity would temporarily affect 3.91 acres of palustrine emergent wetlands (PEM) and 17,065 linear feet of streams. The activity proposed in the permit will affect surface waters in the Middle New, Upper James, Upper Roanoke and Banister watersheds. To compensate for the surface waters affected, the applicant would provide 7.114 wetland mitigation credits and 298 stream mitigation credits, and restore temporarily impacted areas to their original condition. The State Water Control Board's preliminary decision is to issue the permit. **HOW TO COMMENT:** DEQ accepts comments by hand delivery, e-mail, fax or postal mail. All comments and requests must be in writing and be received by DEQ during the comment period. Submittals must include the names, mailing addresses and telephone numbers of the commenter/requester and of all persons represented by the commenter/requester. The Board also accepts oral comments at the public hearing. To make a statement at the public hearing, write your name on a sign-up sheet available before the hearing. You may sign up only for yourself. The hearing officer sets the time allowed for each statement. When a hearing is held, the final decision is made by the State Water Control Board. **HOW A DECISION IS MADE:** After public comments have been considered and addressed by the permit or other means, the State Water Control Board will make the final decision.

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Contractors must submit their application on the electronic M7B bidding site at <https://www.plow4va.com/>. All new and returning Contractors must be active in the Virginia eProcurement Portal (eVA) in order to do business with the Commonwealth of Virginia (<https://eva.virginia.gov>).

Applications received by 7:00 PM on Friday September 24, 2021 may be eligible for a mobilization bonus. See the EVA posting for additional information, including contract requirements.

Questions can be directed to the Christiansburg Residency from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Monday - Friday. Phone: 540-381-7201
Email: SalemDistrictSnow@vdot.virginia.gov

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The Virginia Department of Transportation invites heavy equipment owners to sign up for the rental of their equipment with operators for SNOW & ICE REMOVAL purposes in Salem Residency which includes the counties of Roanoke, Botetourt and Craig during the winter of 2021-2022. Price per hour shall include operators, fuel, tire chains, supplies and required insurance. VDOT will need dump trucks, pickups with plows, motorgraders, backhoes, dozers, track loaders, tractors, rubber-tire loaders and farm tractors. All equipment shall be equipped for night work and be in good mechanical condition to ensure a safe and dependable 24/7 operation. VDOT reserves the right to determine acceptability of equipment size and condition for the task. Contractors submitting prices meeting the requirements of the Agreement may be contracted with and may be eligible to receive a mobilization payment.

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Jobs

mining repairer and reseller Manifold Mining would immediately invest roughly \$420,000 into a Craig County-based center of operations. Additional good news is that this investment will create a minimum of fifteen jobs within the first five years of operation and a significant related tax base.

“Craig County’s low taxes and inexpensive cost to operate continues to set businesses up for success,” said EDA Chairman C. Jordan Labiosa. “Manifold Mining’s commitment to creating high tech jobs for Craig County residents also

speaks to the diverse skillset of our labor force. I look forward to seeing Manifold Mining continue to expand and create jobs in our community.”

Software development was originally the primary focus of Manifold Mining, but over time the business expanded to include in-house cryptocurrency mining operations, ASIC miner repair and ASIC miner resell.

“Manifold Mining is thrilled with the opportunity to grow our business here in Craig County. Current market conditions present significant opportunities and Craig

County is an ideal location for our business needs,” Jacob McDaniel, owner of Manifold Mining, said. “We look forward to working with the community and local talent as we renovate the Crown Building and grow our operations.”

Manifold Mining will expand into the 40,000-square-foot former furniture manufacturing plant known locally as the “Crown Building,” located on Marshall Drive in New Castle. The company will have open job postings for management, technicians, bookkeepers, electricians, receiving, and in eCommerce. Interested

individuals are encouraged to go to manifoldmining.com for more information.

“This is an astonishing economic development announcement. The Crown Building has been silent for over 25 years. The EDA members have been working diligently for several months negotiating an agreement with Manifold Mining that will benefit both the county and the new company,” said EDA Director and County Administrator Dan Collins. “With this announcement, we look forward to new jobs in Craig County. Welcome Manifold Mining!”

Added Craig County Board of Supervisors Chairman Jesse Spence, “I want to sincerely thank the EDA and Dan Collins for working hard to bring new business to Craig County. Mining is a great company that has a lot of potential and will be a benefit to the community.”

For more information about the Craig County Economic Development Authority and this partnership, contact the Craig County Administrator’s Office at (540) 864-5010. Manifold Mining can also be reached at 303-807-7551 or online at manifoldmining.com

Festival

funds will be granted. This year, David Givens has lined up an entire day of great entertainment. “Taylore Price will be opening the stage music at 9:30 a.m. and Mike Carter and his Virginia Magic Band will bring the finale at 3:30 p.m.,” he shared. The complete music entertainment will be confirmed and posted after September 1.

Dr. Jackie Scruggs Taylor is sponsoring the Annual Reynolds Memorial Car Show for everyone to display their antique cars, trucks, motorcycles, mud boggers, tractors and unique vehicles. Plaques will be given out to the first 50 entries, and you do not have to be present to receive them. Taylor also shared they give a nice goodie bag to

every entry. Pre-registration is appreciated so they can get an idea of how many will be entering. To have one mailed to you or pick one up at the Hotel or Food Country, contact 540-520-5555. Mail back to Jackie Scruggs Taylor at 340 Cumberland Ave., New Castle Va. 24127. Festival organizer Robyn Foster has an-

nounced that there will be a fun flat-footing contest this year. There will be an adult contest and a kids contest, so everyone get their dancing feet ready.

For setup, a Society member will be on Main Street by 6 a.m. festival morning to direct everyone to their space. Exhibitors must furnish all materials needed. Organizers ask that table

fronts be draped to the sidewalk. The Fall Demolition Derby has also been scheduled for that evening, along with the little tikes Power Wheels Derby and the younger teens and tweens Lawnmower Derby.

Everyone is invited for an entire day of fun-filled entertainment, vendors and food in New Castle and invite a friend.

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Potluck

The Veterans of Foreign War holds a sacred place in the hearts of many service people within the USA and it holds the same heartfelt commitment with the Veterans in Craig County.

“It connects you with comrades that are closer than some family,” explained Billy Lee, Post Commander of Craig Valley Post 4491. “When you go through war together, it connects you in a way that others have a difficult time under-

standing sometimes.” At the potluck picnic, the VFW will have tables and chairs set up inside so no one will have to be concerned about the weather.

VFW members and their families are encouraged to attend this afternoon of comrade fellowship, some optional fun-time games for anyone to enjoy, an afternoon of relaxation and a great meal.

Post 4491 is located on the road behind Camp Mitchell at 295 Hunters

Drive in New Castle. To volunteer, contact Ken Looney at (540) 864-6262.

To donate any items or food, contact Robert Falson at (540) 864-5510.

For information about becoming a Craig Valley VFW Post 4491 member, contact Post

Commander Billy Lee on messenger or at (540) 864-6169.

“Your presence is important to us,” VFW members shared. “We look forward to seeing everyone.”

Library

subgenre — and a dangerous corrupting influence, particularly for young women. Credit: Lee Romero/The New York Times

Today’s summer reading often shares several hallmarks of the 19th-century works of Howard or Alcott. The books are engrossing. They transport the reader away from their everyday life. And yes,

many of them continue to feature romantically driven plots that take place at an American summer locale — think the Nantucket novels of Elin Hilderbrand or any of the coastal romances by Nicholas Sparks.

Most important, they entice the reader with the possibility of long sunlit days spent unmoored from everyday restraints and immersed

in a literary world, whatever shape it may take. As the writer Hildegard Hawthorne explained in the Book Review in 1907, the true pleasure of summer reading lies not so much in the novel itself but in the choice to devote oneself to it.

“A deep peace fills your soul,” she wrote. “Here is this delicious book and the whole day, both yours.”

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

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Rocket volleyball team opens this week

Craig County Volleyball Girls Varsity Fall 2021 Schedule

Date	Time	Opponent
Aug 26	6:30PM	at North Cross
Sep 2	6:30PM	Christiansburg (Home)
Sep 7	6:30PM	at Bath County
Sep 9	6:30PM	Eastern Montgomery (Home)
Sep 13	6:30PM	North Cross (Home)
Sep 16	7:00PM	Narrows (Home)
Sep 21	7:00PM	Covington (Home)
Sep 23	5:30PM	at Highland (Double-Header)
	7:00PM	at Highland (Double-Header)
Sep 28	6:30PM	at Parry McCluer
Sep 30	6:30PM	Bath County (Home)
Oct 5	6:30PM	at Eastern Montgomery
Oct 12	6:30PM	at Narrows
Oct 14	6:30PM	at Covington
Oct 21	6:30PM	Parry McCluer (Home)



PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

The Craig County girls will open their season this week under new coach Suzanne Crawford. The Rockets have two road games to start the season. They were scheduled to play at Christiansburg on Tuesday, and on Thursday of this week they have a 6:30 pm game at North Cross School in Roanoke. The home opener is next Thursday, September 2, when Christiansburg comes to New Castle. This year's varsity team consists of, front row left to right; Maggie Mays, Kylee Clifton, Annabelle Gregory, Britney Brookman, Jennifer Fitzpatrick and mascot Emmett Crawford. Back row, assistant coach Tyler VanDyke, middle school coach and jayvee assistant Haleigh Smith, Randalyn Taylor, Ashlyn Keen, Hannah Caldwell, Kaylee Stroop and coach Suzanne Crawford. Gabriella Hypes was not present when the photo was taken.

Football from page 10



PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

New Craig County football coach Jim Fisher puts players through warmup exercises on the practice field in preparation for Friday night's opening game.



PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

Rocket football players go through drills on the practice field.



are in our favor. It's the old 'bend but don't break,' but I don't like bending either."

Crawford will do the placekicking and punting for the Rockets. Taylor can also kick and Brayden Fisher is the backup punter.

Jimmy has a solid group of assistants, most of whom played for the Rockets. As mentioned, Hancock will be coaching the runningbacks and Casey also works with the defensive backs. Brock Jones, a former standout quarterback for Craig, is coaching quarterbacks and the secondary. Former Rocket Jeremy Howell has linebackers and the offensive line and Danny Owens also works with the linebackers. Fisher works with both lines himself and is "hands on" in every phase of the program.

Craig graduate Jamie Simpkins will be the middle school coach and he'll be assisted by John Thomas and Roland Donithan. Roland is also the trainer and he's the school nurse so he's a handy man to have around.

Fisher knows this is going to take some time. In addition to missing last season the Rockets haven't won more than two games in a season since 2012, and that includes winless campaigns in 2016 and '17. Fisher isn't one to take losing in stride, but he knows Rome wasn't built in a day, and neither is a winning

jerseys ordered for home games and the Rockets have white jerseys for road games. They'll wear blue pants with white and silver stripes home and away.

Jimmy has made a "two to four year" commitment to coach the team and he's hoping to find a capable replacement during that time. Until then, he'll be working as long as it takes to get the program he loves back on sound footing.

"People have no idea what I walked into," he said. "I'm going to show them how to do it and hopefully someone will be able to take over in a few years."

ball on traps and dives.

"He's a real spark plug," said Fisher

The "C" back will be either sophomore Trevyn Francisco or senior Cameron Shell. Others who could see time in the backfield include Bryce Drake, Lucas Taylor, Mason Huffman and Alex Drake.

Craig won't throw the ball often, but if they do the A or C back will move to a slot position. Craig will use two tight ends, mostly for blocking, and Nathan Fisher will play one spot with Lucas or Chris Hanes at the other.

Johnny Hutchinson, a 6'1", 300 pound senior, will be the center for the Rockets. The guards will be Logan Reynolds on the left side and Layton Huffman on the right. Both are

seniors.

Samuel Saunders, a junior, will start at left tackle with sophomore Tyler Fitzgerald on the right. Backups include sophomore Marcus Keen at center, senior Trapper Vest at guard and two sophomores will back up the tackles, Isaac Caldwell and C.J. Armes. Freshman Jaycob Wolfe could also see some time on the line.

On defense Fisher plans to run the traditional 5-3, switching to a 4-4 against teams who run a spread offense. On the line Hutchinson will be the nose guard, Reynolds and Fitzgerald will be the tackles and Dylan Crawford and Fisher are the ends. All five also start on offense, but Fisher is hoping that won't be the case

as the program progresses.

"We don't want kids to go both ways if they don't have to," said Fisher. "We only had three guys going both ways on the '84 team that went 8-2, and in 2005 I think we had six go both ways."

Shell, Taylor and Peters will be the linebackers while the cornerbacks will come from a trio of Lucas, Francisco and Bryce Drake. Frango will double as the safety.

Fisher is hoping the defense sets the tone for the team. He's a defense oriented guy and the old saying goes, "if the other team doesn't score the worst you can do is tie."

"The average high school drive is eight plays," noted Fisher. "If we can get to the ninth play the odds

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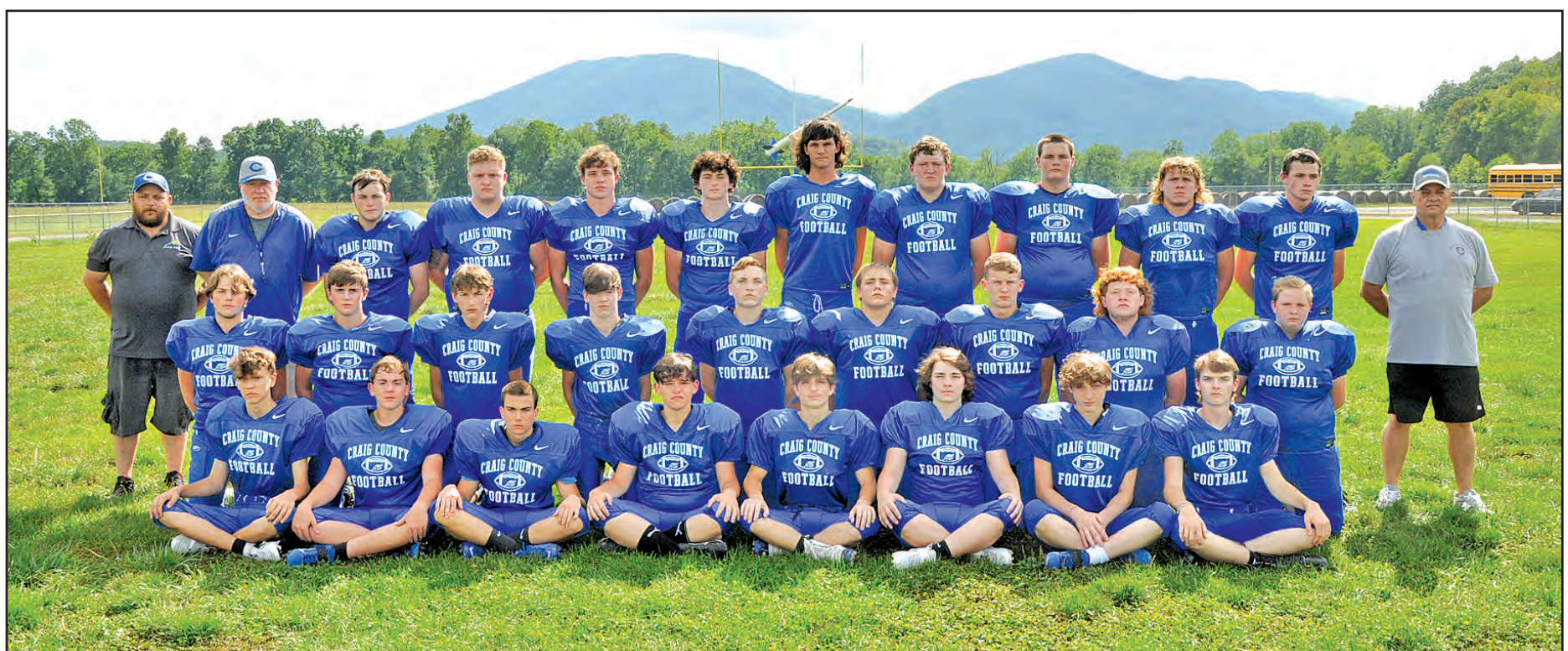


PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

The 2021 Craig County Football team. **FRONT ROW:** (Left to Right) Colby Wolfe, Jaycob Wolfe, Chris Hunter, CJ Armes, Bryce Drake, Josh Craft, Malachi Paitsel and Chris Hanes. **MIDDLE ROW:** (Left to Right) Trevyn Francisco, Lucas Taylor, Dillon Crowder, Nick All, Skyler Rodrigues, Tyler Fitzpatrick, Matthew Lucas, Zachary Peters and Kira Sherrod. **BACK ROW:** (Left to Right) Coach Danny Owens, Coach Jimmy Fisher, Trapper Vest, Johnny Hutchinson, Brayden Frango, Cameron Shell, Nathan Fisher, Logan Reynolds, Samuel Saunders, Dylan Crawford, Layton Huffman and Coach John Thomas. **PLAYERS NOT PICTURED:** Justin Boitnotte, Isaac Caldwell, Alex Drake, Austin Hickson, Mason Huffman, Marcus Keen, Colton Mabes, Blake Wright and Xander Cantrell. **COACHES NOT PICTURED:** Roland Donithan, Casey Hancock, Jeremy Howell, Brock Jones and Jamie Simpkins.

Craig County Football Varsity Fall 2021 Schedule

Date	Time	Opponent
Aug 27	7:00PM	at Bland County
Sep 3	7:00PM	Auburn (Home)
Sep 17	7:00PM	Montcalm (Home)
Sep 24	7:00PM	at Twin Valley (Buchanan)
Oct 1	7:00PM	at Roanoke Catholic
Oct 8	7:00PM	Eastern Montgomery (Home)
Oct 15	7:00PM	Parry McCluer (Home)
Oct 22	7:00PM	at Bath County
Oct 29	7:00PM	Narrows (Home)
Nov 5	7:00PM	at Covington

For the first time since November 8 of 2019 the Craig County High School Rockets will have a football game Friday night, and you can thank Jimmy Fisher for that.

Fisher, a Craig County native and New Castle High School graduate, stepped in to save the program when former coach Mark Harrison resigned just a few weeks before summer practice was scheduled to begin. Fisher has added head football coach to his other jobs as real estate agent and teacher at Craig County High and he's been scrambling

to install a new offense and get the new uniforms here on time. He's also trying to coach around another bout with COVID, which caused the Rockets to cancel their scrimmage with Alleghany last week.

COVID is why it's been 22 months since the Rockets suited up for a game. The fall season was postponed due to the pandemic last year and re-scheduled for the spring. By that time some of the Craig boys had either lost interest or lost eligibility due to having classes online. Harrison, who was coach at the time, decided

to can the season and concentrate on getting ready for this fall.

When Mark resigned over the summer, a quick search was held to find a new coach on short notice. Fisher, who bleeds Rocket blue, helped in the search but a suitable coach could not be found so he decided to take the job himself. He's been working 24-seven ever since to get a respectable team on the field, and it looks like he's going to do it.

"Missing the season last year hurt, but there's nothing we can do about that," said Fisher. "We just have

to move forward. There's a light at the end of the tunnel and we need to keep moving toward it."

Fisher has already done a good job getting players out for the team. The Rockets have 35 players on the varsity roster and that's more than some Class 2 schools have.

Jimmy has put in a whole new offensive system since the team started practicing three weeks ago. He's made it simple and he's drawing on some past experience.

"Its Rocket football, not Rocket science," said Fisher. "We're going to run a double wing offense and run over people, similar to what Riverheads and Stuarts Draft have been so successful doing. It's the offense we ran when we won the Sandlot Super Bowl."

Fisher coached the Craig County Cougars Junior League team to the valley-wide youth title in the year 2000. Many of those same boys played on the 2005 high school team that won the Pioneer District.

"Basically, we run a balanced formation and try to outnumber you at the point of attack," said Fisher.

The offense features a quarterback and three backs. The "A" is the power back, the "B" is the blocking back and the "C" is the speed back. Craig's all-time leading rusher, Casey Hancock, was the "C" on the sandlot team and played on the 2005 high school team and he's now an assistant coach for Fisher, so he has first hand experience running the offense.

Senior Brayden Frango will be the quarterback, and he'll line up under center. Sophomore Matthew Lucas is the backup.

"Brayden is a natural leader and one of the best athletes on the team," said Fisher. "He could also play runningback."

Senior Dylan Crawford will start at A-Back. He was an outstanding player for the Rockets as a sophomore would likely have some impressive career stats if not for missing last season. He's a tough kid who will be difficult to bring down.

Zachary Peters was the quarterback when the Rockets last played a game, but he'll be the B-Back in this system. He'll do a lot of blocking and carry the

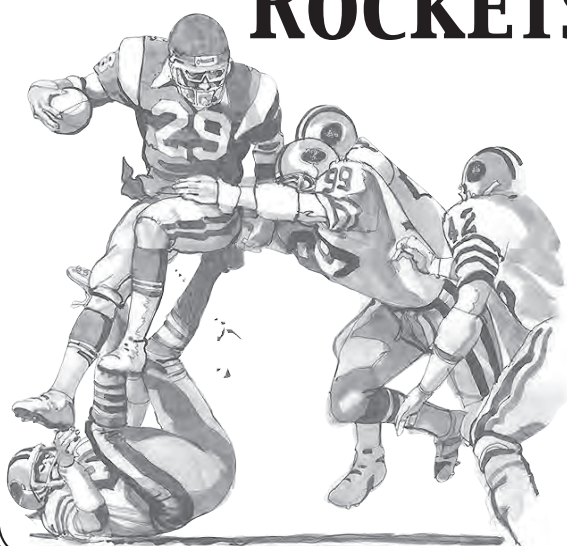


PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

The 2021 Craig County cheerleaders, left to right: Chasity Wolfe, Jordyn Price and Eliza Muncey. Back; coach Jessie Gills. Hayleigh Flowers is not pictured.

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