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THE NEW CASTLE RECORD



Bear Scales Available on-site

Fall Festival drizzle didn't dampen the spirit



SUBMITTED PHOTO

The Annual Fall Festival of Craig County began with the VFW Post 4491 raising the flags and representatives from the Historical Society leading in the Pledge of Allegiance and the National Anthem.

Pam Dudding
Contributing writer

As the misty morning covered the mountains of Craig County, in New Castle, tent after tent arose for the long-awaited return of the Annual Fall Festival. Vintage vehicles started driving in with unique horn sounds to awaken the spirit and the food started cooking to awaken everyone's appetite.

On Saturday, October 9, the Craig County Annual Fall Festival came alive once again.

Though clouds, mist and even an hour-long drizzle visited the streets, people still showed up and enjoyed themselves.

Some stayed all day and brought their chairs to enjoy the continuous bands, music and fellowship while others came when their schedule al-

lowed. Big smiles with happy hellos, pats on the backs, handshakes and, yes, even hugs were in abundance.

Medical science suggests that a ten-second hug is better than some medicines. It helps the body fight infections, eases depression and lessens tiredness. "It produces oxytocin - the

See **Fall Festival**, page 2



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Craig County's Hunter Ponton earned second place in the Youth Star City Whitetail Deer Picture Contest. Shared his father later, "When I looked back at the photos, it was very emotional for me. I just knew that Hunter was so thankful."

Youth win big at buck contest

Pam Dudding
Contributing writer

Star City Whitetails is all about helping people enjoy one of the oldest forms of providing for one's family, hunting.

Recently, the organization sponsored a contest for the youth hunters.

Jeff Phillips, a hunter from youth, decided ten years ago, to start a small contest for hunters to submit their big buck pics to be judged. He also encourages the youth to enjoy the same fun.

He has since expanded that idea into a few more. Recently, all youth were given the opportu-

nity to post a picture with their deer hunt within a timeframe on his website.

Then, the Virginia hunting community was able to log in and vote on their favorites. Several pictures came in and the contest was on. Every vote was cast.

"Congratulations to each one of our Virginia youth that participated in our great tradition this past weekend," Phillips said.

The SCW Youth Weekend Photo Contest winners were: Overall people choice winner from Franklin County Kylee Pendleton (first place), Hunter Ponton (second

See **Buck Contest**, page 2

DAR Chapter recognizes war patriot Adam Lugar



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Together, the oldest descendant, Robert Lugar, with the youngest descendant, Gerlene Sizer's one-year-old great-grandson, unveiling the bronze marker.

Pam Dudding
Contributing writer

Under a beautiful September sky, the Craig Valley Chapter and National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution (NSDAR), recently shared that they recently honored American Revolutionary War Patriot Adam Lugar with the placement of a marker.

The marker resides in the Williams Cemetery in the western end of Sinking Creek Valley on land which Lugar claimed around 1780.

The welcomed sunny day attracted more than 100 people in attendance for the dedication service held on Sunday, September 26. Approxi-

mately half of them were estimated to be descendants of Adam and Anna Margaret Lugar's children.

Said DAR member Diane Givens, "Joyce Williams Bergin, a descendant of Barnabas Lugar and Craig Historical Society member, came the farthest, from Georgia. Two family groups were known to come from Ohio while others traveled from Charlottesville, Richmond, Covington and Bland County."

They noted that guests who came to participate and pay tribute in the service included members of Fincastle Resolutions SAR, Craig

See **DAR**, page 3

Everything made from scratch at Lemon & Vale Cakery

There is nothing more pleasant than the smell of a fresh homemade cake, cookies or pies when they are baking.

Dawn Perkey has a hobby that

she has come to thoroughly enjoy and now, so have many others.

Recently on Facebook, she shared, "Hi, my fellow New Castlers! (Totally made that word up)

Just wanted to say I'm so elated with all the support and orders for goodies every time I share a 'pop-up' post. I have plans in the works for my baking hobby, but until then, I wanted to share that I am available for custom orders. As always, every cake, cupcake, cookie, cake ball/pop etc. is made by me from scratch."

Her Facebook fans and clients responded with compliments.

•Karen Crush, "So talented. The cake I purchased was absolutely delicious. Looking forward to future cake or cake pops, cupcakes, etc."

•Mary Spence shared, "I wanted to let you know, everything was delicious! My husband brought home bubble cake the same day to surprise me, and vice versa."

See **Cakery**, page 3



SUBMITTED PHOTO


Dawn Perkey had no idea how that her hobby of creating special cakes and treats would take off. She displayed her talent at the Fall Festival, and many in Craig have ordered their own special desires.

Craig County High crowns its 2021 King and Queen



PHOTO BY CHELSEA LOUTHEN

Hannah Caldwell and Dylan Crawford were crowned King and Queen when Craig County High School celebrated its Homecoming last weekend. The Royal Rockets were crowned at halftime of Craig's game against Parry McCluer.



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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. to 6 p.m., Wednesday from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 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.

•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. John's 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.

Fall Festival

from page 1

love hormone that relieves stress and boosts heart health," experts have said. "It also helps in losing weight, lowering blood pressure, fighting diseases, increasing libido, reducing stress and giving us a feeling of comfort."

A hug also increases serotonin, a neurotransmitter known in the medical field as the "feel good" hormone which is produced and spread by neurons in the brain. It also helps us to feel happy, calm, confident and good about ourselves. Many Craig County residents were on the way to better health!

The Historical Society, which hosted the event, began the day with the raising of the flag by the local Craig Valley VFW Post 4491, the Pledge of Allegiance, the National Anthem and prayer. A respectful hush filled the air as the flag was raised, and the harmony of peoples' voices joined in for the pledge and anthem.

A special presentation was made from the Oliver family to the Historical Society, giving them the keys to the building which they had been longing for. (Article to be printed in later issue.)

Then our hometown girl, Taylore Price, brought beautiful music to the atmosphere with her voice that should be on the Grand Ole' Opry. Later, her pawpaw joined her for a few great songs.

Approximately 75 vendors were scheduled. Although a few chose not to set up, most of them did. There were a bundle of toys for kids, hand-crafted jewelry, knives, blankets, and other items, private sale items along with the many cakes, canned goods and food vendors.

David Givens was ready to

cover the speakers as the drizzle decided to stay a while. One band had to back out because they didn't want to damage their equipment. Still, the day went on and Dave's Sounds filled the air with great music.

The flat-footing contest was a big hit, as people started flooding the area about 10:45 a.m. to get a place to watch the event.

Though the drizzle rain didn't stop, it didn't stop the dancers.

The Blue Connection Band played a warm-up song and then the contest began. Feet and arms were happily going to the beat of the country tune. Smiles were deeper on people's cheeks as each person looked at the other in sweet contentment of "just enjoying the moment," as one lady shared.

The adult winners were: Douglas Compton, the first-place winner with his creative and enjoyable flat-footing moves, second-place finisher Shelby Devinney, and third-place finisher Tammy All.

The kids' flat-footing contest brought out the "happy" in their feet too. The winners were Gabe (first), Teagen (second), Jack (third) and Layla (fourth).

The Old Hotel had people streaming in and out all day with full bellies, as they enjoyed the food and touring the different parts of the hotel itself. Many hung out on the balcony with a birds' eye view of everything going on, taking in all the action.

Vendors were attentive in selling their wares and making new friends, as well as seeing old pals.

Guys from Botetourt brought the rest of their pumpkins of various sizes and shapes to sell for only \$3. They also had corn stalks and mums,

ready for people to start decorating for the fall season.

The Annual Reynolds Memorial Car Show was serenaded by emcee Tim Leftwich as he played a variety of music at the far end of the event for the Vintage car owners and all the vendors and people at the other end of Main Street to enjoy.

Vehicles from oldest Model T's to the newest Jeeps were on display, some creatively decorated for the Halloween season.

Kids were mesmerized by the huge tires on the trucks. Maverick said he liked big trucks. I asked him how he was going to get up in it, as he could almost walk under the truck. "Get a ladder," he said with a grin.

Then the owner of the truck lifted a little boy into the front seat of his truck, and he had a smile a mile wide.

"This is what I do," George Stull said. "I love to see that smile. I don't care about trophies. If I get to see the kids smile when they get in the truck, it's what I love. It's just paint and if they scratch it, I'll fix it." Stull entered the show and is from Allegheny.

Many residents brought their children as well as their puppies and dogs to enjoy the days events.

"I'm so happy they didn't cancel the festival this year," one lady shared as she and her husband brought their children. "We needed this in Craig."

Throughout the day, more people slowly stopped in and browsed all the vendors booths, taking chances on raffles and enjoying foods and funnel cakes.

Community fun, friendship, lots of laughter and a relaxing day was enjoyed by a few hundred people, as many left with their goodies in their hands and even more in their hearts.

Buck Contest

from page 1

place) with his dad Bub, embracing after Hunter's Craig County Harvest and Payton Peele (third place) from Bedford County.

Phillips had great prizes for the winners. The first-place finisher earned \$100 in cash, a \$100 gift certificate to Shenandoah Sporting Goods, Bent Mountain Games Calls Turkey Calling Package and a grunt call from Trophy Hunter Custom Calls. Second place and third both received \$100 in cash.

Hunter Ponton, who is certainly no stranger to hunting, shared his story as he was really trying to "hold out for a buck." He has been hunting with his dad, Bub, "since a little fella," watching shows on television and YouTube as well.

Bub shared that Hunter had picked out his "lucky spot at granddaddy's field." There is a food plot in the upper north end where they had seen 12 does feeding through.

"Sunset was fast approaching, and Hunter told me he saw movement in the thicket as three more does came out," Bub said.

Hunter decided to try a shot, discussing with his dad the yardage of 150 yards, held "dead on, taking his time and slowly squeezing the trigger." The big doe fell, much to Hunter's excitement.

"We made sure his gun was safe and went to check out his harvest," his dad said. "We were both excited as we tried to capture some great pictures with the sunset."

He added, "When I looked back at the photos, it was very emotional for me. I just knew Hunter was so thankful. It was a blessing as the first thing we did was to pray over it and thank the Lord for our hunt and our harvest, something we do. We hugged each other and when I went through the pictures, and it just made my heart happy to see that picture with the sunset and us hugging one another."

And, for anyone who knows Hunter, he said he looks forward to the rest of hunting season, and most importantly, spending time with friends and family.

That particular picture earned him second place in the photo contest.

"Jeff Phillips always works so hard for Star City Whitetails, and most importantly our youth," Bub added. "He always puts on great events."

Phillips created his own Facebook page called Star City Whitetails, a hunting page for Virginia.

His next contest has already started.

For all hunters during this year's deer season, October 2 until January 1, Philipps will be accepting pictures for his Big Buck Contest. Only Virginia bucks will be accepted.

He has donations of over \$13,000 in prizes, including three different outfitted hunts packages.

The contest covers all of Virginia with six different divisions from October 2 through 27: men's, women's, youth, National Forest, mobility impaired and early bow season.

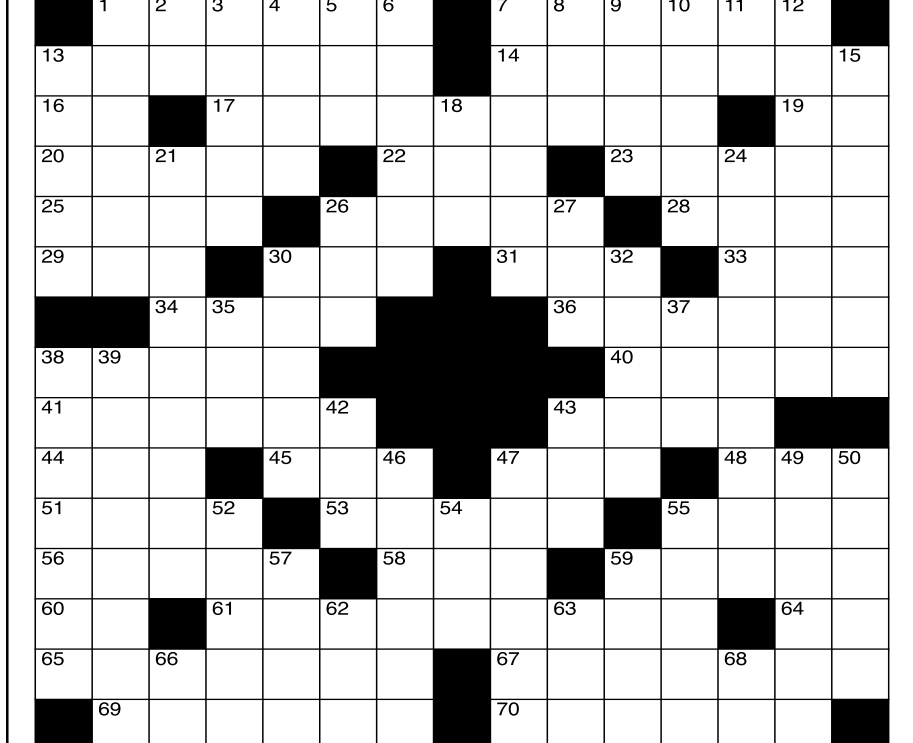
The guidelines are for participants to take a picture of their big buck and send it to Star City Whitetails anytime during the contest season.

At the end of the season, Phillips will post the top ten from each, and the internet community gets to vote on their favorite. The one with the most likes will move on out of each round, until the best is chosen by the Facebook community.

"This is my 10th Anniversary of the SCW Big Buck Contest, and I am just as excited this year as I was my first year," he said.

For more info, <https://www.facebook.com/SportsmansRoanoke/>

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



- CLUES ACROSS**
- 1. Break
 - 7. Ruled Russia
 - 13. Having several lobes
 - 14. Walked around proudly
 - 16. Atomic #77
 - 17. Largest living land animals
 - 19. The Great Lakes State
 - 20. A type of toast
 - 22. Partner to feather
 - 23. Bristlelike
 - 25. Bowfin
 - 26. Distributes
 - 28. Hairlike structure
 - 29. Sino-Soviet block (abbr.)
 - 30. Where wrestlers work
 - 31. Blood relation
 - 33. A great deal
 - 34. Round Dutch cheese
 - 36. Move further away from
 - 38. Type of wrap
 - 40. Furies
 - 41. Removes from the record
 - 43. Young salmon
 - 44. Feline
 - 45. Skin decor
 - 47. Disfigure
 - 48. They ____
 - 51. Formal term for "on"
 - 53. Weight of precious stones
 - 55. Traveled rapidly
 - 56. Long-winged aquatic bird
 - 58. Prickly husk
 - 59. Expressed pleasure
 - 60. Exclamation of surprise
 - 61. Most irritable
 - 64. Virginia
 - 65. Optimistic
 - 67. Humorous works
 - 69. Arranged systematically
 - 70. Emerges
- CLUES DOWN**
- 1. Wives of a polygamous man
 - 2. Where hurt ballplayers land
 - 3. Single-celled animal
 - 4. Rhythmic pattern
 - 5. One from Utah
 - 6. A group of seven
 - 7. Refrains from inflicting
 - 8. Light brown
 - 9. Humanistic discipline
 - 10. Emits coherent radiation
 - 11. It says who you are
 - 12. Roundworm
 - 13. Group of Native Americans
 - 15. Makes wider
 - 18. Headgear
 - 21. One who sets others free
 - 24. Form of communication
 - 26. A Brit's mother
 - 27. Title of respect
 - 30. Famed modernist painter
 - 32. One-time province of British India
 - 35. Prosecutors
 - 37. Motor vehicle
 - 38. Non-religious
 - 39. Native Americans of Colorado and Wyoming
 - 42. Pouch
 - 43. Touch gently
 - 46. Chose
 - 47. Actress Tomei
 - 49. Former Broncos coach
 - 50. Icelandic poems
 - 52. More decent
 - 54. Grillmasters use it
 - 55. Self-immolation by fire rituals
 - 57. Expression of annoyance
 - 59. Spumante (Italian wine)
 - 62. Consumed
 - 63. Body part
 - 66. Thus
 - 68. Rupee

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Cakery

from page 1

•Amanda Sarver added, "She made cake balls for my daughters' baby shower, and they were a big hit!"

"I've always enjoyed baking and have the biggest, sweet tooth a person can have," Perkey said. "I fondly recall as a little girl helping my mom make homemade cinnamon rolls, cookies, pound cakes, breads and other baked goods all from scratch. They were the best."

She noted that her mom is very crafty and grew up in a family of ten children, making her a very resourceful and talented lady.

"Everything I've learned about baking, I learned from my mom," added Perkey who said that fall is her favorite time of the year.

"I love most anything pumpkin!" she said. "One October weekday last year, my husband David and I were sitting on the couch watching TV and talking about wanting something sweet. He has a converted sweet tooth since meeting me, now possibly worse than mine! So, I started looking through my 'Sweet Tooth' recipes and came across a Pumpkin Carrot Cake rec-

ipe I had saved years prior, but never made. I generally have most baking ingredients in my pantry, but I didn't have everything I needed for this recipe so the next day I got what I needed and made the cake the following weekend."

She said it was the most moist and flavorful cake she'd ever tasted.

Her husband added that it was "the best carrot cake" he's ever had.

"I remember calling my mom and telling her to get the cake out of our house because we had eaten half of it in one day. She came and rescued the cake. We talked about that cake for weeks," she said. "Fast forward to a few weeks before Thanksgiving. I knew this cake was too good not to share, so I went back and forth with the idea of posting a picture of the cake on my Facebook page offering it for the holidays ahead."

With her husband's encouragement, she decided to go for it, though not expecting much response.

She was surprised when, from Thanksgiving and Christmas, she made 50 pumpkin carrot cakes for fam-

ily, friends and people in New Castle.

"I received many great and wonderful reviews, all similar to my husbands with repeat orders. After receiving so much positive feedback, I decided to start posting 'Pop-ups' offering my sweet treats mostly around holidays," she said.

Perkey agrees that she does have a creative mind to an extent, however, is more of a visual learner, getting ideas for decorating from a variety of sources, including videos on decorating techniques and following several cake and baking pages on Facebook and Instagram.

People also send special requests along with a picture.

"I add my own touch to it," she admits. "I'm self-taught with a lot of trial and error when it comes to decorating. There have been times I've taken all the frosting off a cake because I didn't like the way it turned out, but the forgiveness of frosting is nice and allows me to experiment with different designs and techniques which most times happen in the moment."

She noted that fondant is a good medium and she's always liked to create with her hands and having worked with sculpting polymer clay, fondant isn't much different, providing another element to a cake, with its uniqueness.

The most fun cake she has made was her "Forest Gnome" cake.

"I'm a big nature junkie, so I was able to bring outside elements to this cake of lemon/raspberry with a raspberry filling and designed to look like a tree stump made from chocolate," she excitedly shared. "It was covered in chocolate 'dirt' and graham cracker 'moss,' then topped with gnomes, pine trees and mushrooms."

Perkey grew up in Botetourt.

"My husband and I moved here August of last year after selling our home in Roanoke and living in a fifth wheel camper for a year with plans to build a home on land we own in Botetourt," she shared. "Fate had different plans and we found our dream home, in a frame in New Castle. Our dream is to retire in New Eng-

land as my husband is a surrealist artist and I am a nurse."

They are nature lovers and spend their free time hiking, backpacking, gardening, mushroom hunting and traveling with their little dog, Adora.

Perkey admits that it has always "been a dream to own her own bakery, but a brick and mortar is very intimidating to me because I'm not that savvy when it comes to the behind-the-scenes part of running your own business."

She quickly added, "But, put me in the kitchen with the tools and ingredients I need, and I can make most anything."

Her menu currently includes, cakes, cupcakes, cake balls, cake pops, banana bread, cookies and brownies for special occasions. However, her favorite is her Lemon/Raspberry cake, thus her newly created bakery name is, Lemon & Vale Cakery.

Most items are custom priced, but she is currently working on a price list for her Facebook page.

"Please feel free to message me anytime and hopefully I can help you out," she said.

DAR

from page 1



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

The marker states, "In memory of Revolutionary War Soldier Adam Lugar, Private in General Pulaski's Legion & North Carolina Continental Line, Born 1 March 1738 in Frankfurt AM Main, Hess-Nassau, Europe, Died 9 March 1837 in Giles County, Virginia. Marker placed by Craig Valley Chapter, NSDAR, September 2021."



The DAR Chapter members present were: (seated) descendant Peggy Huffman; State Regent VADAR LeAnn Turbyfill and descendent Gerlene Sizer. Those standing include past regent Lois Groseclose, Jackie Taylor, Tina Crawford, Joann All, regent Margaret Hines, page Nicole Alley, Diane Givens, descendent Francene Rock, youngest descendent Tristan Smith and descendent Lisa Ferguson.



Over 100 people were in attendance for the dedication service held on Sunday, September 26. Approximately half of them were estimated to be descendants of Adam and Anna Margaret Lugar's children.

VFW Post 4491 and representatives from several area DAR chapters.

Givens added, "The chapter was honored and delighted to have Virginia State Regent LeAnn Turbyfill speak about the importance of preserving the legacy of Patriots like Lugar."

Gerlene Sizer shared that she is a descendant, stating, "I was a Caldwell which goes back to Adam Lugar, the McPherson's, the Caldwell's and to then to me."

At the event, Sizer, who is also the current president of Craig County Historical Society, spoke about Adam's life, the musical heritage.

"His grandfather, Cyrus Caldwell, was a band leader. It is said that Adam Lugar was musically talented as well and traded the Ridge Back of Level Green Church for a fiddle. He had a lot of land that he had been given him," noted Sizer who said this story has been handed down for years.

Sizer then explained that four of the children

moved westward to new territories while six remained in the Sinking Creek Valley. One of the descendants was Richard Lugar, a senator of Indiana who served six terms as Mayor.

John Lee Cahoon of the SAR informed listeners about Adam's military history, how he arrived in America from Germany to fight against the colonists, but soon joined their fight for liberty and freedom.

The youngest descendant present was the one-year-old great-grandson of Gerlene Sizer, and the oldest descendant present was Robert Lugar of New Castle. Together, they unveiled the bronze marker.

Robert shared that the most surprising thing he found out was that though he had either lived or had been coming to Craig all his life, and even spent summers in Craig, since 1930, neither he nor his sister or his cousins had ever heard of the Williams Cemetery.

"When

Diane Givens came to tell me and shared that I was oldest living one and asked if I would attend, I said certainly," Robert said. "Robbie Givens drove Bobby Lugar and me up and I enjoyed the whole day."

Robert said that Adam had ten children. "They started listing every child, listing the descendants," he noted. "Bobby Lugar is related to the ninth child of Adam. Prior to that, Bobby and all of us could never understand where we connected."

"Adam Lugar was not unlike many young men in late 18th century Europe, seeking fortune and adventure. He lived in the principality of Hesse-Nassau (now Germany) and was likely a member of the local militia," Sizer said before adding, "The British Army was seeking to increase their troops to quash the rebellious colonists in America and Hessian princes saw an opportunity to earn money by hiring out their militia to the British. Adam was soon

on his way to America, landing in Pennsylvania, well-trained and prepared to fight for the British Crown."

It was also noted that no one knows the reason Adam turned his allegiance to the Continental Army shortly after his arrival.

Sizer continued, "Perhaps he saw with his own eyes how the colonists were treated by the British Army. He may have heard other revolutionists speak of the freedom and independence they yearned for."

He enlisted in the service of General Pulaski and traveled south with the Continental Army's Light Infantry and fought in the Carolinas. However, he was taken prisoner in South Carolina, later released, and quickly joined the North Carolina militia.

He married during the war and after the colonists were victorious at Yorktown, he settled his young family on land which would eventually become Craig County. He settled here, raised

ten children, and lived to the age of 99 years.

Robert was 91 on September 14 and said he was surprised to hear that Adam lived to be 99. "That wasn't common back then," he said.

A Flintlock salute and the playing of Taps from VFW Post 4491 concluded the event.

A reception catered by Lasterday Market followed at Level Green Christian Church as family members were able to visit and look at research material about Lugar history on display by Craig Valley DAR Chapter.

"Craig Valley DAR is

proud to celebrate the life of Adam Lugar and his contribution to our freedom. The chapter is grateful for a generous grant received from the State Regent's Virginia State Project which financed much of the cost of the 11x15 inch marker," they shared. "All descendants of Adam Lugar are eligible for membership in the DAR and SAR, which is a way to honor our ancestors and preserve family history."

For more information, interested individuals may contact Margaret Hines at 540-864-8447.

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OPINION

Library Corner

Empowering individuals to build a stronger community

Outside fall advances with the changing colors. The crisp air marks the season shift. Before too long, winter will be here. Indoors, our home décor shifts from orange and black, then the colors of Christmas and the holidays. Let the library help you with the winter holiday décor. Are you ready to trade out last year's décor with new ideas? Plan to join us on Swap Day, Saturday, November 6, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

On Nov. 6, you can bring items to give away and can take home new treasures brought by other Swap Day folks, all for free. As you go through your winter clothing and decorations, keep your Craig Library in mind to swap up the fashion. This Swap Day you can bring holiday décor and warm outerwear. Set up in the library parking lot from

the back of your truck or bring a table.

Go home with new décor items for your home or a warm layer for a family member. Pick up some warm clothing for a friend, or bring you out-grown kids coats and boots for someone else to enjoy. Everyone needs some good books to help pass the long winter nights, so come for free books on Swap Day. Of course, any time you can just come to the library and check out books for free. Library cards are free of charge. You can also become a Friend of the Library for only \$5 to get on the FOL mailing list.

There is no fee or reservation needed to set-up for Swap Day. We hope you join us. The more folks that show up, the better the swap opportunities. Don't have items to swap? No worries. Come anyway, and take home free items.

Library News:
The fall festival was a success and many new books found homes. Congratulations to the raffle winners! Deb

The Changing Seasons



The Craig Library's Swap Day will happen on November 6.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Tripp won the book lamp and Victoria Suthphin won a customized designed barn quilt. Thank you to the Craig

County Historical Society for sponsoring this event! Mark your calendar for Swap Day on No-

vember 6. If you are interested in participating in the recycling program to help the library win a

bench, contact us at Craiglbrary@swva.net. Stay tuned for next week's Library Corner for more information!

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,
It is clear now more than

ever that the choices we make in our local elections have a major impact on our

everyday lives. Local officeholders have the most direct connections with the people they represent. It is vital for communities to have representation by folks who truly care about issues that impact their neighbors. Equally important is that local representatives have the know-how to address the concerns of the people in their area effectively and with integrity.

Kathi Toelke is one such local representative. She is the incumbent running for re-election to the Board of Supervisors in the Sim-

monsville District of Craig County. Kathi and her husband Rich have lived in the Sinking Creek community of Craig County for over 25 years. Their three children, Emma, Levi and Seth graduated from Craig County High School and have all gone on to college. Kathi farms on a small scale and works seasonally at Joe's Trees, a local Christmas tree farm. Her rural roots, civic-mindedness and interest in youth-led her to be active in 4-H leadership for many years. Kathi's concern for the well-being of our beau-

tiful area and its people is evident in all that she does.

Budgeting for the public school system is arguably the most important responsibility of the Board of Supervisors in our small rural county. Kathi's commitment to providing the best possible support for our schools is unwavering. She will continue to work hard to make sure that Craig County can provide a high-quality K-12 educational experience for all its children.

Kathi has proven herself to be an honest, caring, ca-

pable and level-headed person both in her exceptional citizenship and her responsible leadership as a member of the Board of Supervisors. I strongly urge voters to re-elect Independent Kathi Toelke to represent the Simmonsville District of Craig County to ensure the best advocacy for our public school system and to be a positive voice for her constituents in all matters affecting their lives.

Please vote on or before November 2.

- Rachel D. Mattox

THE NEW CASTLE RECORD

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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.

Timely rain yields ample apple harvests for Va. farmers

Apple-picking season is in full gear, and despite near-drought conditions that persisted throughout summer, Virginia growers are reporting their harvests are among the best they've seen in recent years.

"We've actually had one of the best crops we've had in a while," said Lucky Graves, who runs a U-pick operation. "The apples might've been smaller because some of the trees were a little more loaded than they usually are, but

overall it's been a great season."

Graves, who produces 10 or more varieties of apples each year, noted his crop benefitted greatly from late-summer rain that arrived after an extended dry spell. According to weather statistics recorded by the National Agricultural Statistics Service, northern and western areas of Virginia have seen below-average rainfall totals this year.

"We got really dry in summer, and we worried about that a little," Graves

added. "But we got those late rains to help our apples along, and everything's seemed to work out pretty good in the end."

With the season winding down, Graves noted his operation's farm stand still had Cameo, Fuji, Golden and Red Delicious, Granny Smith, Rome, Stayman, Winesap and York apples available.

See Apples, page 7

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Big week ahead for Craig County football team



PHOTOS BY CHELSEA LOUTHEN

Alex Drake makes a tackle for the Rockets in last Friday's game.



Braydon Frango rolls out to pass.



The Rockets enter the field for Homecoming with fire, balloons and an energetic home crowd.



Lucas Taylor(#12) and Cameron Shel(#11) combine for the tackle

The Craig County football team needs some wins in the coming week if the Rockets hope to make the Virginia High School League playoffs. The Rockets play three games in eight days and they're on the bubble for the Region 1C playoffs.

The Rockets are at Bath County this Friday for a Pioneer District matchup with the Chargers. Then, next Tuesday October 26, they have a makeup game with Montcalm of West Virginia. That will be at 6:30 pm in New Castle at Mitchell Field.

A busy stretch concludes next Friday, October 29, when the Rockets host Narrows. Coming into this

week Narrows is eighth and Craig County is ninth in the VHSL Region 1C rankings and the top eight make the playoffs, so this game could decide who's in and who's out.

The Rockets have a good chance to make up some ground prior to the big game with Narrows. Bath is 0-5 and ranked 11th in Region 1C, two spots behind the Rockets. Being a West Virginia school Montcalm is not in the rankings but the Generals come into this week with a 2-4 record, just like Craig. Montcalm has been shut out twice and held to six points in another game, so that's another chance for the Rockets to pick up a victory.

If Craig can win both of those games that would set up a big home meeting with Narrows next Friday. The Green Wave is 2-5 but with a slightly higher rating than Craig coming into this week due to a tough schedule. After winning their first two games Narrows has lost five in a row and will play a home game with Eastern Montgomery this Friday.

The Rockets had their hands full with Parry McCluer last Friday as the Blues came to town riding a three game win streak and made it four in a row with a 40-0 win, putting a damper on Craig's Homecoming. The win moved Parry McCluer up to third place in the Region 1C rankings behind

only Galax and Giles, and just ahead of Covington and Eastern Montgomery.

Parry McCluer's John Snider had a big night for the Blues, scoring the first five touchdowns of the game. He had TD runs of four, 10, nine and four yards in the first half alone as he finished with 129 yards rushing on 18 carries.

The Blues are now 2-0 in Pioneer games while Craig dropped to 0-2 in the district, hoping to pick up their first Pioneer win this Friday in Hot Springs.

Next Tuesday's game with Montcalm will be "Rec Night." Players will get in free if they wear their jersey but parents have to pay.

Volleyball team wraps up regular season



PHOTOS BY JON FLEMING

Kaylee Stroop sets one up for the Rockets.



Kylee Clifton goes high for a spike at a recent match.

The Craig County volleyball team will wrap up the regular season this week and prepare for next week's Pioneer District tournament.

The Rockets were scheduled to play at Bath County on Monday, and today they have a rescheduled game at Narrows. Tomorrow, Thursday, the girls will host Parry

McCluer in their last home game to wrap up the regular season.

The Pioneer District tournament opens on Monday at the sites of the higher seeded teams. The semifinals are Tuesday, also at the higher seeds, and the Pioneer Tournament championship is scheduled for Thursday, October 28, at the gym of the highest re-

maining seed. Craig will be on the road for Monday's first round.

The Rockets had a game at Covington last Thursday where they fell in three sets, 25-17, 25-18 and 25-14. Hannah Caldwell led the team with six kills and three blocks. Kaylee Stroop had four kills and 15 assists and Annabelle Gregory had four kills and 13 digs.

MEETING FOR BASKETBALL

There will be a Sports Meeting for all parents and students that plan on participating in basketball at Craig County

High at 6:00 pm on November 3rd in the Auditorium. Please don't miss this meeting if you plan on playing.



PHOTO BY TJ DRAGOTTA ON UNSPLASH

Sandlot teams end regular season



PHOTOS BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

The Craig County sandlot teams wrapped up their regular season schedule last week. Here the C team offense is ready to fire off the ball in a recent game while the cheerleaders get the crowd fired up.