

GUTHRIE INSURANCE AGENCY INC.
HOME~AUTO~BUSINESS~FARM~LIFE~HEALTH



LEANN CROY
OFFICE MANAGER/CSR
TEXT TO OUR NEW NUMBER
(540-468-2970 (TEXT ONLY))

leann@guthrieinsurance.net
www.guthrieinsuranceva.com
GUTHRIEINSURANCE@YAHOO.COM
Licensed in VA, WV, TN & NC



THE NEW CASTLE RECORD



GIFT CARDS AVAILABLE BOTH LOCATIONS!



First ever "Light up Craig" Decorating Contest expected to be massive

Pam Dudding
Contributing writer

Lights, blow-ups, twinkling stars and lots of bows bring out the smiles in everyone this time of year, as people start decorating their homes and yards for the memorable Christmas holiday.

For the first time in Craig County, there will be a Christmas Decoration Contest, sponsored by the local Rescue and Orion Creative Media.

Donna Birtsch, with the Craig County 911 Dispatch, suggested the idea to the crew.

"We are doing this as a fundraiser for the Rescue Squad," said Trace Bellasai, adding, "But we also thought it would be a lot of fun for the community as well."

See **Light up Craig**, page 3



SUBMITTED PHOTO

The inaugural Christmas decorating contest is scheduled for December. Craig County residents are encouraged to "deck the houses and yards" with all their ideas, creations and lots of lights! The Rescue Squad is hosting its first contest and hopes to have many entries for this fun contest that will light up Craig County.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Jeanette Warwick has a proven history at CCPS of looking out for the best interest of the students, the staff and the schools. Even as she toured a group through the schools during the "Crumbling Schools Tour," her emphasis always pinpointed the needs to best serve the students of Craig County. She is determined to make CCPS, "no crumbling schools on my watch."

Opportunity available to give to local school employees



SUBMITTED PHOTO

The opportunity to give to our school's employees during the "13 Days of Christmas" is a new and unique opportunity for anyone in our community to give thanks to all of the employees at our Craig County Public Schools, starting December 1 and ending December 17 which also concludes the semester. This year's idea is to have a gift for every worker in CCPS from our community. Businesses and individuals alike are encouraged to donate. Hand-

made items are truly welcomed too. If anyone wishes to share additional baked goods, they can drop them off at the School Board office and they will be delivered to the employees to enjoy. For more information, interested individuals can contact 540-864-5191.

A gift card can be purchased at the of the following local businesses: IGA Express Exxon, Gopher Market, Carper Quick Market, The Emporium, Subway, Food Country, Pine Top, Bibos,

Helms Hardware, any local hair or nail salon, Crawford Oil Company, individual businesses such as Scentsy, Avon or Thirty-One, just to name a few. Bakeries are also a great option. The ideas are endless.

Make these holidays extra special for our CCPS workers and take your gift donations to the School Board office. Please consider ending this year with a big "thank you" to the ones who care for our kids!



SUBMITTED PHOTO

For many, "Granny's apron" brings a flood of good memories. In this picture, Mary Margaret Dudding was helping to prepare her usual Sunday dinner for her ten kids and endless grandkids. An apron always accompanied her attire to protect her dress as she never wore slacks. The apron held her hankie that she wiped her brow with as the wood stove always created a super-hot kitchen. Her daughter, Lake, was taking out the homemade fresh baked biscuits that was just pulled out of the old wood stove. Granny Dudding always had a smile and a bear hug for everyone she encountered.

Granny's apron – a poem of memories

Pam Dudding
Contributing writer

A poem was recently shared on Facebook by Diane Givens about the history of aprons, and it truly touched my heart.

Personally, when my Granny Dudding passed, the one thing I asked for was one of her used aprons. Those aprons were a special part of her and held so many wonderful memories for me!

When I read this poem, I couldn't believe how much it paralleled with me and

my Granny. I loved her so much. She was my rock. When we had talks, she always ended her wisdom, with, "Always pray honey, just give it to Jesus."

Here is the poem/story by an unknown author.

"I don't think our kids know what an apron is. The principal use of Grandma's apron was to protect the dress underneath because she only had a few. It was also because it was easier to wash aprons than dresses and aprons used less material.

See **Granny's Apron**, page 5

Warwick more committed than ever as CCPS Superintendent

Pam Dudding
Contributing writer

Running a school division in today's world takes a "bushel full of guts and stamina," one citizen recently shared. Though Craig County Public Schools is a rural area, it's still confronted with issues that many older people never dreamed would take place in our small community.

Superintendent Jeanette Warwick had contemplated retiring, as many know she has a beautiful little granddaughter she loves to share time with.

However, she has assured Craig County that she is staying on.

"I was hired in August of 2009 as the principal of McCleary Elementary, only a few days before teachers were to return for the new school year and I was presented with a challenge by the Superintendent at the time, Mr. Ron Gordon," she recalls. "McCleary was in its third year of Academic Warning with the Virginia Department of Education. To avoid sanctions from the state department, the school needed to show significant progress on the Spring 2010 assessments."

She noted that she and her staff swiftly began to examine the previous years' data and develop a strategic plan for improvement.

"The goal was to make sure we were 'out of warning' by Spring 2010. It became a school and community goal," Warwick added. "School staff and parents pulled together as a team as we focused on student achievement. This partnership was successful because in the Spring of 2010, the school's results greatly improved, and we were 'out of

warning' for the 2009-2010 year and continued to show improvement."

This trend continued. In 2021, McCleary Elementary received the "Board of Education Competence to Excellence Award," which was awarded by the Virginia Department of Education for schools that met all state and federal benchmarks for at least two consecutive years and made progress toward the goals of the Governor and the Board.

"As I reflect on the beginning of my career in Craig County Public Schools, I am reminded of what can be accomplished when we all work towards the same goal," she said. "I look forward to remaining as Superintendent in CCPS to continue this collaborative work with all stakeholders to support the education of our most valuable resources: our students."

School Board Chairman Trace Bellasai, shared, "We were very happy to hear that Mrs. Warwick believes her work is not done in Craig County. She is a huge asset to our school system, and we are elated to be able to keep her here with us. We have a lot of work ahead, and she is the best person to help us accomplish our goals for the future of our school system."

"When Mrs. Warwick announced the news that she would be retiring, I was immediately scared for CCPS. People asked why I would use the work scared? I tell you why - Craig County is a special place like no other surrounding counties," explained Vice Chair Gina Smith. "Our students are special and enjoy the uniqueness of our county and land to which they reside. Not

See **Warwick**, page 4



Say YES to NO wires, NO boxes, & NO contracts

Say "yes" to a simple way of watching TV with SFN TV Now powered by Citizens.

Sign up and download the TV Now app on your mobile device, Firestick, Roku, or SmartTV today. Select from three packages for your viewing enjoyment. All packages have local channels and are suited for any budget.

CITIZENS • Call us today! 540.745.2111 • 276.637.6485 • citizens.coop/tvnow

Not available in all areas. Available on fiber and cable modem services. Requires internet. See Citizens for TV only and set top box options.

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.

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. 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.

Governor-elect Glenn Youngkin holds rally in Roanoke Valley to thank supporters



PHOTOS BY SHAWN NOWLIN

Governor-elect Glenn Youngkin speaking to his supporters during a visit to Salem.



Youngkin supporters react as he explains his vision for Virginia.

Shawn Nowlin

shawn.nowlin@ourvalley.org

When Glenn Youngkin is inaugurated as the 74th governor of Virginia on January 15, 2022, it will be the first time in over a decade that a Republican will serve as the Chief Executive of the Commonwealth.

To thank his supporters, the Governor-elect recently traveled across the Roanoke Valley, including a visit to CommUNITY Church in Salem. Delegates Joe McNamara and David Suetterlein as well as Sheriff Eric Orange,

provided remarks throughout the event. It was Orange who led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

“Not only throughout the Roanoke Valley, but Glenn Youngkin is setting a model for the United States of America. I am the only thing between you and the Governor-elect so please help me welcome him to the stage,” McNamara jokingly said while introducing the man that everybody came to see.

Addressing a crowd of packed supporters, Youngkin said, “I want to start this morning with one basic comment, thank-you.

I must tell you that when I first started campaigning, and I came here, everybody was so welcoming and embracing. My wife has decided that this is a good place to live once our career in politics is over. She passes on her thanks. Every time that we have set foot anywhere near this church, we have felt like family.”

Elaborating on the magnitude of the statement made on Election Day 2021, Suetterlein said, “We had a great victory across the Commonwealth. Governor-elect Youngkin, which I just love to say by the way, was able to win

across the state because so many people responded to his message. Even in some places that aren't always hospitable to Republicans such as the City of Roanoke.”

Like the overwhelming percentage of Roanoke Valley residents and natives, Jim Reynolds voted for Youngkin. “To me it wasn't a hard choice. I saw what McAuliffe was offering and felt that our state would be much better under Youngkin's leadership. I can't wait to see what he does when he is in office.”

On two other occasions this year, in May and August, respec-

tively, Youngkin visited Salem to discuss his platform and vision for the future. Each instance drew enthusiastic supporters from all over the Roanoke Valley and beyond.

When asked why he thinks Youngkin defeated McAuliffe, Richard Stuckey responded, “He clearly was the more energized candidate. He made his campaign about the future, while his opponent spent too much time talking about Critical Race Theory and Donald Trump.”

Youngkin's term will run through January 2026.



Pastor Tom McCracken taking a selfie with Youngkin supporters.



Delegate Joe McNamara thanking Republicans for electing Glenn Youngkin.



Delegate David Suetterlein discussing the resounding statement made on November 3.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

	1	2	3	4	5	6		7	8	9	
	10	11							12		
	13								14		
	15								16		
17								18			
19			20					21			
22				23	24	25	26		27		
	28						29		30	31	32
			33			34					35
			36						37		
			38							39	
	40							41	42	43	
44						45	46	47			
48						49					
50						51					

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| <p>CLUES ACROSS</p> <p>1. Topsides</p> <p>7. Sino-Soviet block (abbr.)</p> <p>10. A Sultan's court</p> <p>12. Maine city</p> <p>13. Largest living land animal</p> <p>14. Appetizer</p> <p>15. Encounters</p> <p>16. Leader</p> <p>17. The source of bacon</p> <p>18. Nuclear near reach weapon (abbr.)</p> <p>19. Celery (Spanish)</p> <p>21. Pie ___ mode</p> <p>22. Eye disease</p> <p>27. Hello (slang)</p> <p>28. Those in their 80s</p> <p>33. Law enforcement agency (abbr.)</p> | <p>34. Business organizations</p> <p>36. Mimic</p> <p>37. For indicating speed of rotation (abbr.)</p> <p>38. Feeling</p> <p>39. Visual way to interact with computers (abbr.)</p> <p>40. "Let It Snow!" songwriter</p> <p>41. Essential oil used as perfume</p> <p>44. Norwegian composer</p> <p>45. Coast</p> <p>48. ___ lang syne, good old days</p> <p>49. Gland behind the stomach</p> <p>50. Tooth caregiver</p> <p>51. King of Camelot</p> | <p>CLUES DOWN</p> <p>1. N. American indigenous people</p> <p>2. Fascinated by</p> <p>3. Root of out</p> <p>4. Patti Hearst's captors</p> <p>5. Atomic #50</p> <p>6. Habitual drunkard</p> <p>7. Arabic for "peace"</p> <p>8. Trickery</p> <p>9. One's physique (slang)</p> <p>10. Not quite there</p> <p>11. Wistfully mournful</p> <p>12. Popular dance</p> <p>14. Cut of meat</p> <p>17. A way to stand</p> <p>18. "Gunga Din" screenwriter</p> <p>20. 10th month of the year (abbr.)</p> <p>23. A way of jumping</p> | <p>24. Utah town</p> <p>25. Of I</p> <p>26. Actress de Armas</p> <p>29. Silver</p> <p>30. Play a role</p> <p>31. ___ Falls</p> <p>32. Attaches to</p> <p>35. Japanese title</p> <p>36. Expressed pleasure</p> <p>38. Buckets</p> <p>40. Dirt</p> <p>41. Hypnotists' group (abbr.)</p> <p>42. Restaurant drive-___</p> <p>43. Digs up</p> <p>44. He voices "Olaf"</p> <p>45. Relaxing place</p> <p>46. Body part</p> <p>47. Pesky house critter</p> |
|--|---|--|--|

YOUR LOCAL NEWS

JUST THE WAY YOU LIKE IT!

THE NEW CASTLE RECORD

DIGITAL ONLY

One Year Digital Subscription \$29.00

DIGITAL & PRINT

Yearly Print & Digital Subscription \$67.00

PRINT ONLY

Yearly Print Only Subscription \$44.00 In County \$48.00 Out of County \$52.00 Out of State

SUBSCRIPTION TO NEW CASTLE RECORD

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____

Check Enclosed _____ or call (304) 647-5724 to pay by credit card

Mail to: Circulation Department, NEW CASTLE RECORD, P.O. BOX 429, Lewisburg, WV 24901 or call us at (304) 647-5724.

McCleary acknowledges Red Ribbon Week winners

One of the best parts of Red Ribbon Week is the annual poster contest. Children all

throughout Southwest Virginia participated in this year's event which was themed "Drug Free

Looks Like Me."

McCleary School Counselor Dustin Persinger shared that

the school had several winners, which is a big deal because "they competed with many

other students from across the area." Every winner received a small cash prize.



Kindergarten winners, Abby Craft (third place) and Cora Crowder (second place)



First-grade winners, Lilly Swindell (third place), Ryleigh Neff (second place) and Ashlyn Hale-Smith (not pictured)



Second-grade winners, Emma Lindsey (third place) and Makenzly McCormick (second place)



Third-grade winners, Rylee Mattox (second place) and Kamber Smith (third place)

Virginia growers to present grand champion tree and wreaths to governor's family

A Canaan fir seedling planted 10 years ago has grown into the tree that will debut this Christmas season at the Virginia Executive Mansion.

The grand champion tree and handmade wreaths, selected by a three-judge panel for the annual Virginia Christmas Tree Growers Association competition, was delivered to Gov. Ralph Northam and his family on Nov. 29.

Tree entries are judged on straightness, fullness and overall health and color in the contest that celebrates the diverse variety of Virginia-grown Christmas trees. Trees and wreaths were

judged at the association's annual meeting in August.

This year's grand champion fir was grown by Farm Bureau members Virginia and John Carroll. They have planted trees on 25 acres since 1984, and their trees previously have been presented to former governors Bob McDonnell and Terry McAuliffe.

"It was a nice surprise because there were a good number of entries in the contest this year," John Carroll said. "We are honored to win and present the tree to Gov. Northam and the first lady at the mansion."

August's winning Canaan

fir was 7.5 feet tall with green-blue hues, a pleasant aroma and sturdy branches. A similar, somewhat larger Canaan fir will have a holiday home at the governor's mansion.

"The contest encourages growers to continue to keep growing better trees, with quality at its best for our consumers," Carroll said, adding that cultivating gorgeous Christmas trees is a family endeavor.

"I didn't grow the tree by myself," he said. "But I did cut it!"

Robert O'Keeffe, who organizes the association's competitions, said four categories of trees

can be grand champion—firs, pines, spruces and others, like cypress or cedar.

"Fraser fir is the Cadillac of Christmas trees, and most in-demand by consumers," he said. "But the other trees are eligible and do win."

Ken and Elaine Rhoades of Mountain View Christmas Tree Farm submitted August's grand champion wreath. The family will create similar, fresh wreaths to adorn the mansion's gates and doors.

The Rhoades' winning mixed green wreath was made with Scotch pine backing, topped

with white pine, arborvitae and Turkish fir, with blue ice cypress accents.

Rhoades said his parents, Stephen and Sharon Rhoades, have long created the stylish natural wreaths, which have fetched the grand prize in past association contests.

"It promotes a little competition in the organization, plus it's a fun event," O'Keeffe said. "And it's beneficial for new growers to see the quality and variety of champion trees."

Submitted by John Carroll

Area Elks Lodge supports Homeless Veterans Program

More than three dozen homeless Veterans made their way to the Salem Civic Center Nov. 9 to take part in Stand Down for Homeless Veterans, a program run through the combined efforts of the Salem VA Health Care System, Department of Labor, Total Action for Progress, and the Virginia Employment Commission.

The modified event allowed homeless Veterans to access information on housing and employment, COVID-19, flu, and Hepatitis A vaccinations, as well as access to coats, shoes, winter and comfort items. A boxed meal was also provided. In addition to support pro-

vided by the Department of Labor to run the event, the Roanoke Elk's Lodge #197 supported the Veterans by purchasing \$2,000 worth of essentials to be distributed.

"Through our national foundation, we have applied for and received grants of \$2,000 for the last three years to help support the Stand Down," said Barbara Brandtner, Past Exalted Ruler of Lodge 197. "This year we called Tanya and asked for a wish list, and then we went and bought those things."

The wish list included items such as blankets, pillows, pots and pans, can openers and other house-

hold essentials that people often don't consider.

"We're trying to find housing for our homeless Veterans, and people often donate canned food and other items, all of which are important and appreciated," said Tanya Jones social worker and Healthcare for Homeless Veterans Coordinator with the Salem VA HCS. "But we often forget you need a way to open those cans. The continued support of the Elk's Lodge 197 has been transformative in what we are able to do to decrease the number of Veteran Homeless in the area."

This is the third consecutive

year of Lodge 197's substantial donation, and the Elks are looking forward to being able to continue to help.

"Over the years, Lodge 197 has donated more than \$9 million within the local area," said long-time lodge secretary and US Navy Veteran Bill Chase. "Lodge 197 has been active since 1891, and we are dedicated to Veteran causes and are hoping to work more closely not just with the Salem VA Health Care System but with other Veterans as well."

Vince Brandtner, husband of Barbara and also a Past Exalted Ruler of Lodge 197 said, "Veterans

have been a priority to us for a long time. We used to hold a cook-out and ice cream social here twice a year, and we look forward to being able to do that again for the Veterans here and at the Virginia Veterans Care Center next door."

The Stand Down is part of a US Department of Housing and Urban Development-Veterans Affairs Supporting Housing (HUD-VASH) initiative to help homeless Veterans and their families find and sustain permanent housing.

Submitted by Rosaire Busbey, Public Affairs Officer

Light up Craig

from page 1

The winner will receive half of the proceeds from the entry fees collected and will be announced on December 19.

The entry form can be found online at craigrescue.com/LightUpCraig.

The property being judged must be located within Craig County with some guidelines:

- Only exterior decorations, or decorations visible from the exterior of the house will be considered (i.e. a Christmas tree visible in the windows, etc.)

- Deadline for decorations to be completed will be December 15 for judging to take place, starting December 16

- Judges will physically be going around to houses

starting the night of December 16 to judge houses until December 18, when judging will end

- Submittal of the form they have online gives permission for the judges to enter the exterior of your property between December 16 through December 18 for purposes of judging

The entry fee will be \$25 per location and the winner will receive half of the total entry fees. The winner also will be announced via social media, with a possible event to be announced too. (Watch website for more information!)

Contestants will be judged by a five-member panel of judges.

Judging will be on a scale

of one to ten in three different categories: Creativity (originality, unique design and creative use of lights and decorations), Arrangement (display and placement of decorations) and Overall Appearance (color coordination, balance, and overall attractiveness).

Scores will be totaled, and the highest score will be the winner. In the event of a tie, the judges will vote on a winner.

There will also be a "Community Favorite" that will be chosen by allowing members of the community to vote online and sponsored by IGA Express Exxon.

"At a minimum, we would like to have at least 15 enter to hold the contest,"

Bellasai said.

The Rescue Squad has need of many things, as the crew shared, "These funds will go into our operating budget, which is used for everything, including, medical supplies, vehicle maintenance, equipment purchases and just paying the bills to make sure we stay in operation."

Entry payment can be made by cash or check payable to Craig County Rescue - EMS, or via paypal by going to <https://paypal.me/craigrescue>.

Entries that have not paid the entry fee by December 15 will not be able to participate. Also, non-adherence to any of the rules above will result in disqualification and

surrendering of any entry fees collected.

For questions, interested individuals may contact officers@craigrescue.com, reach out via Facebook to Trace Bellasai or Robert Wrzosek or call the Volunteer Rescue

Squad at (540) 864-5115.

Let's Light up Craig County for this special holiday season, while helping to support our local volunteers at our Rescue Squad and have a very Merry Christmas!

Tickle Oil & Propane

Serving Craig County
Call today for prices!
540-626-6000



We accept all major credit cards.

- Forestry Mulching/Brush Cutting
- Right of Way & Land Clearing
- Stream & Pond Services
- Light Excavating/Grading
- Pipe & Culvert Cleaning
- Rock & Stump Removal
- Crane Services
- Bucket Truck Services
- Underground Utilities
- Storm Water Management
- Site Prep • Small Job Specialty



APX Services LLC
540-566-6920

Let's explore your Medicare plan options

- Discuss your specific health needs
- Review your plan options
- Walk through the enrollment process

As a local Anthem Medicare representative, I can help you choose a plan with the benefits you deserve for the coming year.



JESSICA PISENTI
540-742-4487, TTY: 711
VA Lic. # 727810 Authorized Agent

jessica.pisenti@anthem.com

Hay disponibles servicios de traducción; póngase en contacto con el plan de salud o su agente. For costs, exclusions, limitations, terms, and complete details of coverage, please contact your agent or the health plan. Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield is the trade name of Anthem Health Plans of Virginia. Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield, serving all of Virginia except for the City of Fairfax, the Town of Vienna, and the area east of State Route 123, is an independent licensee of the Blue Cross Blue Shield Association. Anthem is a registered trademark of Anthem Insurance Companies, Inc. Y0114_22_3000321_L_C_1015 10/01/2021 60970289-13599014 1033967MUSENMUB_1015

OPINION

Books that feel like a warm hug – Part One

Library Corner
Empowering individuals to build a stronger community

What is the book equivalent of a mug of cocoa to read over the Christmas break? Something so endearing you can't help but smile? Here are our favorite cozy, comforting reads - perfect for Christmas gifting, and beyond.

Sometimes we read to be entertained, sometimes we read to learn more, and sometimes, every once in a while, we want to read something that simply makes us feel better. At Christmas, that's certainly the case: whether you're having a quiet one this year, or simply want to dive into an uplifting read at a time of good cheer. The books that gently transport us away from the world, and into someone else's; the books that have a surefooted happiness at the end. For a few hours, whatever's happening outside those pages can hit

pause: there's some seriously comforting reading to be done in these titles.

Conversations on Love by Natasha Lunn (2021)

Whether you're deeply in love or still looking, journalist Natasha Lunn's deep exploration into love, in all its forms, will prove a revelatory and refreshing read. Lunn has spoken to great readers and thinkers, from Dolly Alderton to Candice Carty-Williams and Alain de Botton, about the loves that have defined their lives. From friendship to forever love, Conversations on Love will offer a new, and wholly heartening, way to think about the relationships in your life.

Away with the Penguins by Hazel Prior (2020)

At 85, Veronica McCree's daily schedule is fairly quiet - and predictable. She likes to collect litter, she is often having to locate her glasses, and she loves a wildlife documentary. But she doesn't have much in the way of company: Veronica lives

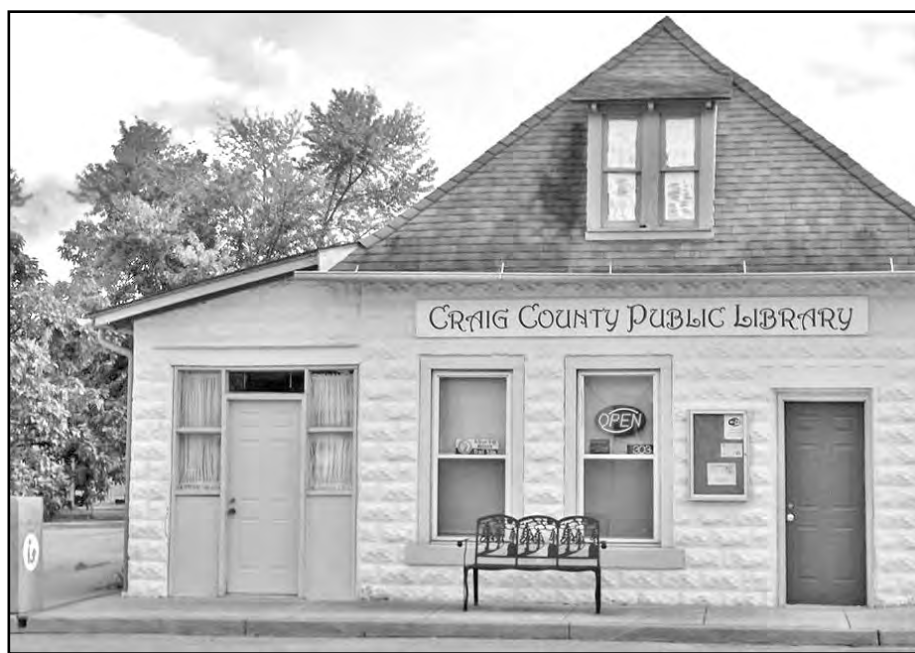
at home, alone. Until, that is, she decides to go on an adventure of a lifetime, showing that ambition and new horizons can take hold, no matter your age. This gorgeous book is funny and heartwarming.

Before My Actual Heart Breaks (2021) by Tish Delaney

This debut from Irish writer Delaney may not initially seem all that comforting: the opening pages show a life of frustration for its delectable first-person narrator, Mary Rattigan, who grows up too soon against a backdrop of The Troubles. But for all the conflict - at home and on the streets - Before My Actual Heart Breaks moves compellingly into something more heartfelt, an unconventional love story that shows the value of a chosen family and the power of perseverance in hard times.

Miss Benson's Beetle (2020) by Rachel Joyce

The premise of Joyce's follow-up to Joyce's The Love Song of Miss Queenie Hennessy (and,



The Craig County Public Library is at 303 Main Street.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

before that, The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry) may sound far from comforting - an unlikely mission to discover a beetle so rare it may not even exist - but the bestselling author knows how to imbue a grand narrative with irresistible humanity. Journey, adventure and a delightful poignancy are steeped into Miss Benson's Beetle,

about two "leftover women" defying social stereotypes to find courage and conviction in themselves.

A gorgeous reinvention of the Girl's Own Adventure.

Source: PenguinRandomhouse.com

Library News: Send some cash back to your community by signing up for Kroger Community Rewards with

Craig Library as your charity of choice. Every little bit helps to keep the doors open.

To participate in our recycling program to win a bench from NexTrex, please send an email to the library: craiglibrary@swva.net or contact us through Facebook and someone will send you the details. Thank you!

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

Imagine, if you will, traveling across state lines with an illegal weapon and killing two people. Just thinking about it boggles my mind. Imagine being 17. A non-

resident with an unlicensed, illegal weapon who killed two people. Wow! I'm wondering lately if ANY lives matte? This situation goes way beyond gun control. Our country has lost its priority. Where were this child's parents? What about his vic-

tim's family. The bumper stickers are correct - Guns Don't Kill People; People Do. That minor (at the time of the killings) murdered those people. Lord have mercy on us all.

Cathy Bittler

Warwick

from page 1

many people from the outside would understand our students and school in the same way. I was so glad to hear that she was not done with our small school system. The past couple of years have been very stressful for all involved: students, administrators and teachers had to tackle uncharted waters. I couldn't choose any other person that I would rather have handled those hard decisions with. She does an amazing job and always has our students' safety and intentions at the top of her concern. I am so glad she decided to stay. It was great news for CCPS!"

Board member Faye Powers added, "I'm beyond happy that she is staying. She is a great asset to our school system, and it shows through her compassion and love she shows to all."

Warwick has proven to be a "doer of her word" and pursues the best educa-

tion for our students in Craig Schools, setting goals:

•COVID-19 continues to be an issue that we face daily. Our goal is to come through this pandemic, ensuring the needs of all students are met

•Our school division motto is "Every Child A Graduate...Every Child Prepared for Life." My first goal is to ensure that we offer appropriate curriculum and courses for ALL students, for whatever path they choose. Students may choose to pursue post-secondary education, a career or join the armed forces. I love the following quote and believe it sums up our ultimate goal, "Our job is not to prepare students for something. Our job is to help students prepare themselves for anything." - A. J. Juliani

"I have enjoyed working with Mrs. Warwick under her many different hats

during her CCPS tenure," said High School Principal Melissa Whiting. "I was on the original selection committee when she was interviewed for the McCleary Principal position in 2009 and remember stating to the rest of the group at the end of the meeting, 'She is going to make us do things we don't want to do but will turn our school into a better place. We need to hire her.' CCPS is a better district as a result of Mrs. Warwick, and we are extremely fortunate that her decision to remain with us will continue to allow these improvements in the future."

"Thank you for the outpouring of support when I announced that I would not be retiring and remaining as your Superintendent," Warwick shared. "I remain committed to the success of our students and look forward to our continued collaboration!"

THE NEW CASTLE RECORD

USPS 378-080 1633 W. Main St.
(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

The New Castle Record (USPS 378-080) is published weekly for \$44 a year in Craig County, \$48 elsewhere in Virginia, and \$52 out of state by Virginia Media Inc., 1633 W Main St., Salem, VA 24153. Periodical postage paid at New Castle, VA. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to THE NEW CASTLE RECORD 1633 W. Main St., Salem, Va. 24153

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.

COMMUNITY SERVICE DIRECTORY

GUTHRIE INSURANCE AGENCY INC.
HOME~AUTO~BUSINESS~FARM~LIFE~HEALTH
Need a quote or policy information?
TEXT to our NEW NUMBER
(540-468-2970 (text only))

WWW.GUTHRIEINSURANCEVA.COM
GUTHRIEINSURANCE@YAHOO.COM
LICENSED IN VA, WV, TN & NC

ANGIE GUTHRIE-PONTON
OWNER/AGENT
ANGIE@GUTHRIEINSURANCE.NET

LEANN CROY
OFFICE MANAGER/CSR
LEANN@GUTHRIEINSURANCE.NET

CRAWFORD OIL CO., INC.

- Heating Oil
- Oil Filters
- Furnace Supplies
- Gasoline and Oil

New Castle
864-5601

Paitsel Funeral Home

VISIT OUR WEBSITE ONLINE AT WWW.PAITSELFH.COM
ONLINE OBITS, CONDOLENCES, DIRECTIONS,
COMMUNITY SERVICES, ON-LINE PRE-ARRANGEMENTS.

SIGN IN AT THE GUEST BOOK
AND GIVE US YOUR THOUGHTS

PO Box 326, 286 Main Street • New Castle, Virginia
540-864-5142

Want to keep up with local news, sports and events?
SUBSCRIBE TODAY
Call (540) 389-9355

Guthrie Insurance Agency
We Insure Farms
Angela Guthrie-Ponton, Owner/Agent
207 Main Street, New Castle • (540) 864-6688

Medicare Questions? Let me help.

The Medicare Annual Enrollment Period (AEP) is October 15 through December 7

Call your licensed local agent, Linda Walker at 540-529-1308 for a FREE Consultation*
Virtual or In-Person Appointments

Email: lkwalkeragent@gmail.com
www.MedicareWithLinda.com

Linda K. Walker, Agent LLC
Independent Insurance Agent
Specializing in Medicare Health Plans

*No obligation to enroll

To advertise in this space, call Randy Thompson at 540-230-1129
advertising@mainstreetnewspapers.com

MHC
Monroe Health Center

Craig County Health Center
226 Market Street - New Castle, VA
Phone: (540) 864-6390 Fax: (540) 864-6356

- *Physical Exams
- *X-ray Services
- *Laboratory Services
- *Acute Care
- *Mental Health Services
- *Well Baby Checks

ACCEPTING NEW PATIENTS

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING REALLY WORKS!
CALL (540) 389-9355

OBITUARIES

Blair, Sandra Jane Caldwell

Sandra Jane Caldwell Blair of Catawba, Virginia, passed away and entered her eternal home on November 22, 2021. She was born on August 5, 1938, to James L. and Ella Hill Caldwell in the coal-mining town of Clinchco, Virginia.



She was preceded in death by her beloved parents and siblings: Jim Caldwell, Chet Caldwell, Buddy Caldwell and Joel, (Jodie) Morefield. She is survived by her brother, Daniel Caldwell, (Cindy), her children, Janet Duncan and Joel Kelley (Beth), her granddaughter, Taylor Milbrath (Jordan), sisters-in-law, Phyllis Caldwell and Ellen Caldwell and other precious extended family.

Jane loved traveling and seeing

new and different places. She loved the beach and tending her flower beds. She loved to read and read and read. She also loved doing crossword puzzles, which we are sure kept her mind engaged and very sharp until the end. She loved her family and tried to keep in touch with as many as she could as we spread out over the

country.

She battled many health issues until the end and her children would like to express their deep gratitude to her late brother Buddy and his family for taking her in and watching over her in the last years of her life. She loved being over on the mountain with you all!

She will be in our hearts forever.

Heldreth, Glynda Carolyn Carper

Glynda Carolyn Carper Heldreth of Salem passed away November 22, 2021, at LewisGale Medical Center.



Born April 28, 1938, to Milan Charles (Skip) and Buena Winston (Wincie) Lee Carper, Carolyn was preceded in death by her beloved husband, Claude Edward Heldreth. She was the last remaining of her generation of seven siblings and their spouses: Lyda (Carroll) Richard, Buddy (Verdie) Carper, Wayne (Florence) Carper, Norman (Bonnie) Carper, Jean (Harry) Jehle and Sandra (Charles) Reynolds.

Safely ensconced as number six of seven in her large family, she grew up in the small-town of New Castle in Craig County, during a gentler period of time, where everyone knew you, and you were related, in some way, to most; when children were free to play and roam and a whole community looked out for you.

Classmates she started school with, she graduated with and, though they went their separate ways, were her friends for life. Later in life and with a more worldly view, she felt so lucky to have been part of that time and that small-town life. Fittingly, she was crowned Miss Craig County and was proud to represent her corner of the world at the state pageant in Richmond.

She lived through the dark times of WWII. Though not understanding it exactly, she knew her older brothers were gone and in danger, and that everyone must do their part, save everything for the war effort...string, gum wrappers, tin cans, newspapers! She saw so much advancement during her lifetime: plastics, man-made fabrics to man-made diamonds, TV, computers, cell phones, space travel, man on the moon, sunscreen. She recalled to her children as a third grader being told about a wonderful

new product, a pen that contained its own ink supply. Yes, the ballpoint pen!

Carolyn married Claude, a career Marine, in 1955. Together, they traveled, lived, and raised their family in many different states and countries. After retirement to Orlando, Florida, that love of travel and adventure remained, and they visited many far-flung places, but were always glad to come

home. They returned to Craig County in 1999 due to Claude's declining health.

Carolyn had a long and happy life and was always truly grateful for the many gifts it had given her. Carolyn was a kidney transplant patient – her donor was her daughter, Lori, whose gift of life gave her many additional healthy, happy, productive years. One of her most endearing and happy memories of her later life was a trip with her children back to Iceland 45+ years after they had lived there as a young family. Though missing the fourth member of their clan, it was special for all, recalling wonderful adventures and memories.

Survivors are her two loving children, Steven (Anne) Heldreth of Charlottesville and Dr. Lori (Carl Timothy) McDaniel of Indian Valley; six grandchildren, Nicholas, Sarah and Nathaniel Heldreth and Shannon, Matthew, and Eric McDaniel; nieces Sherry McLain, Charlene Rousseau, Rhonda Macdonald and Elizabeth Huffman, and one nephew, Timothy Reynolds.

Services were held at Patsel Funeral Home in New Castle on Friday, November 26, at 1:00 p.m. with visitation beginning one hour before the funeral. After the services, interment was at Fair View Cemetery in Roanoke. The family encouraged attendees to wear masks. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the UVA Health Foundation, designating the Renal Patient Memorial Fund.

Brickey, Iris Ann

Iris Ann Brickey, 80, of New Castle, VA, went to be with the Lord on Thursday, November 25, 2021. She was born on February 24, 1941, to the late R. Bernie and Alice Quinn Lee. Iris and her husband were faithful members of Mountain View Christian Church in New Castle. So much could be said about Iris Ann, but she was such a humble spirited person she'd frown upon broadcasting her achievements. She had many cherished family members and friends that looked up to her for wisdom, inspiration, and advice.

Wood; beloved sisters-in-law; special nephew, Craig Brickey; numerous nieces and nephews.

A funeral service will be held at 2 p.m. on Friday, December 3, 2021, at Mountain View Christian Church, 4201 Craig Valley Dr., New Castle, VA 24127, with Pastor Lee Sarver officiating. Burial will follow at Huffman Memorial Park.

Friends may visit with the family from 1-2 p.m. at the church.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Patsel Funeral Home PO Box 326 New Castle, VA 24127 to help with funeral costs.

Patsel Funeral Home of New Castle is serving the Brickey family.

Granny's apron

from page 1

But along with that, it served as a potholder for removing hot pans from the oven.

It was wonderful for drying children's tears, and on occasion was even used for cleaning out dirty ears.

From the chicken coop, the apron was used for carrying eggs, fussy chicks, and sometimes half-hatched eggs to be finished in the warming oven.

When company came, those aprons were ideal hiding places for shy kids...and when the weather was cold, Grandma wrapped it around her arms.

Those big old aprons wiped many a perspiring brow, bent over the hot wood stove. Chips

and kindling wood were brought into the kitchen in that apron.

From the garden, it carried all sorts of vegetables. After the peas had been shelled, it carried out the hulls and in the fall the apron was used to bring in apples that had fallen from the trees.

When unexpected company drove up the road, it was surprising how much furniture that old apron could dust in a matter of seconds.

When dinner was ready, Grandma walked out onto the porch, waved her apron and the men folk knew it was time to come in from the fields to dinner.

It will be a long time before someone invents something that will re-

place that 'old-time apron' that served so many purposes.

REMEMBER:

Grandma used to set her hot baked apple pies on the window sill to cool. Her granddaughters set theirs on the window sill to thaw. They would go crazy now trying to figure out how many germs were on that apron.

I don't think I ever caught anything from an apron - but love." - author unknown

Yes, my Granny carried everything in that apron, from eggs, to veggies out of the garden, to apples from the tree.

But most of all, she carried a lap full of special Granny's love. No one ever entered her

home without an apron full of real bear hugs, food on the warmer of the wood stove and a prayer if you needed it.

One of my favorite times as a kid was sitting in the front porch swing as my Granny peeled apples as fast as we would eat them. Of course, the homemade apple pies and cakes always made for a great treat later.

I remember my Granny wiping the sweat from her brow, cooking over that big wood stove. She could whip up a batch of 24 biscuits from scratch and have them in the oven in five minutes flat. It always amazed me. When I asked her how they always turned out so good and fluffy, she responded, "Don't knead

them too much honey!"

She would come in from the chicken coop and milking the cow early in the morning, yes, with the eggs cradled in her apron.

The cream would be rising to the top of the milk as she was taking the homemade biscuits out of the oven, the homemade molasses off the stove and would pull the homemade cow butter out of the frig.

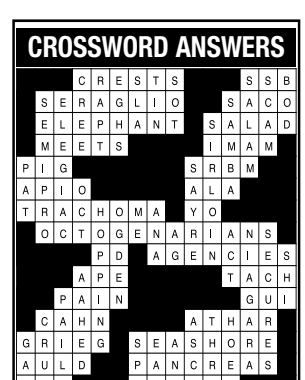
She would skim the cream off and then pour me some fresh milk over a glass of ice, giving me the most loving smile.

I'd always say a big thank you, as I watched her wipe her loving hands on her apron, wipe her brow with it again and then proceed to the

next task.

All I can say is that I am eternally grateful to have had those memories with her. They are meaningful times that are engraved in my heart. Her "time" she spent with me, though she had little with 10 kids and over 20 grandkids, and a bushel of great-grandkids, me being the eldest grandkid, meant the world to me.

Oh, what memories of my Granny's special love apron and I bet many of you have the same.



www.newcastlerecord.com

God's House Is Always Open

BETHEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

CHESTNUT GROVE CHURCH

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

CORNERSTONE CHURCH

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

CRAIG HEALING SPRINGS CHRISTIAN CHURCH

(Disciples of Christ)

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

CRAIG VALLEY BAPTIST

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

CRAIG VALLEY GOSPEL FELLOWSHIP

HWY 621, Pastor Roy Lee Law Jr., "Jay", 864-8984. Sunday School 10:00am; Worship 11:00am., Wednesday night Bible study 7pm, from HWY 311, up HWY 621, 8 miles on left.

CROSSROADS CHURCH

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

FIRST BAPTIST

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

GRACE ASSEMBLY OF GOD

5530 Catawba Valley Drive, Catawba, VA, 540-384-7075. Pastor Lorraine Taylor, agladypastor@msn.com. 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

GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH

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

HEBRON UNITED METHODIST

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

LIGHTHOUSE BAPTIST

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

LEVEL GREEN CHRISTIAN CHURCH

3388 Cumberland Gap Rd. Newport, Duane Wente, Minister, 540-544-7179. Sunday School 10:00am, Sunday Morning Worship 11:00am, Children's Church 11:00am. Choir Practice, bi-weekly 7:00pm, Ladies meeting first Monday of each month at 7:00pm.

LIGHTHOUSE BAPTIST

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

MOUNTAIN VIEW CHRISTIAN

4199 Craig Valley Drive, New Castle, 864-6622. Sunday: Worship Service 9:00 a.m., Children's Church 9:15 a.m., Sunday School 10:30 a.m.

NEW CASTLE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

"WHERE YOUR HEART CAN FEEL THE DIFFERENCE"

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

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

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

NEW CASTLE UNITED METHODIST

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

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

CRAIG COUNTY COMMUNITY CHURCH - 'WELCOME HOME!'

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

ST. THOMAS ANGLICAN CHURCH

Located at 4910 Hubert Rd, NW Roanoke, Va. Traditional Liturgical Lenten Services, Sunday at 10:30 am. Call (540) 589-1299 or visit www.sttfc.org for midweek masses and events. (In Roanoke, go E on Hershberger, L on Hubert to 4910).

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

BUSINESS SERVICES DIRECTORY



DR FAME
ALLERGY
ASTHMA

540 404-9598
1002 APPERSON DR • SALEM, VIRGINIA 24153
WWW.DRTOMFAME.COM



SENIOR FOR SENIORS
PAINTING & RESIDENTIAL MAINTENANCE

Cell: 540-293-4271



CIRCLE R ROOFING OF VIRGINIA

Call for a FREE Estimate
Rob Gendreau • 540.784.0500



embrace
homeloans

Robin Jewell
Senior Loan Officer / NMLS# 235597
540.309.5013
rjewell@embracehomeloans.com
www.embracehomeloans.com/robin-jewell
5044 Keagy Road, Suite H100
Roanoke, VA 24018



Embrace Home Loans, Inc. (NMLS ID#2184) is licensed in VA.
(www.nmlsconsumeraccess.com)



BAG
A GREAT DEAL IN THE CLASSIFIEDS!
To place your ad, call 389-9355



Lisa Martin, REALTOR®
Serving the industry for 30+ years
Roanoke Valley & Blue Ridge Mountains
Premier, REALTORS
(540) 597-0480
Lisa@Lisa2buy.com • www.Lisa2buy.com
1638 Roanoke Road, Suite 101
Daleville, VA 24083

BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY HomeServices
A member of the franchise system of BHH Affiliates, LLC



Craig County Health Center
226 Market Street - New Castle, VA
Phone: (540) 864-6390 Fax: (540) 864-6356

- *Physical Exams * X-ray Services
- * Laboratory Services * Acute Care
- *Mental Health Services * Well Baby Checks

ACCEPTING NEW PATIENTS

CARPET RE-STRETCHING!
STEVEN W. DURRANCE FLOORS

Repairs • New Sales • Expert
540-776-9591
Cell: 540-353-7908
Licensed & Insured
carpetroanoke.com

Sunflooring Inc.
STEVE SMITH

With over 40 years of experience

Specializing in Hardwood Floors, Hardwood Refinishing, Laminate Flooring, Engineered Floors, Ceramic Tile, Carpet and Luxury Vinyl Plank

540-556-3100



CUSTER'S PLASTERING AND DRYWALL

- No job too large or small
- Repair work, new construction, etc.
- Quality Work At A Reasonable Price

Call 864-6498



THE CLASSIFIEDS-
Where the Deals Are!


The best place to find it, sell it, buy it, and announce it.

LARRY DEW, REALTOR®
~ BUY OR SELL FOR YOU ~

+40 years Land Management, Farming, Forestry, U.S. Forest Service (retired)
Specializing in: Residential w/acreage
Farms - Recreation Land

Mobile: 540.968-0544
433 E. Ridgeway St., Clifton Forge, Va

HIGHLANDS REALTY
Email: dewsauction@aol.com




Roof Replacement & Repair

540-966-0688
PO Box 630
Daleville, VA 24083

www.southerntracellc.com

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

Opportunity is knocking loud and clear.

Electrolysis by Betsy

Now offering services in TWO locations!
Bluefield WV & Blacksburg VA

Electrolysis has been around for over 100 years!
It is the only permanent hair removal solution.

Now accepting new clients!
Call today for an appointment (304) 487-2296



Absolutely Best Real Estate Experience Ever!!
-J&M T.

540.342.9600
Dayna@PatrickTeamHomes.com

Patrick Team HOMES
Farms & Unique Properties
RE/MAX All Stars • Daleville, VA



SITUATIONS WANTED

Find a job in your special field, or find the help you need.


WE NOW OFFER NEW HEADLIGHTS! COME CHECK OUT OUR PRICES!

Price is Right
Auto Parts + Supplies

We sell used cars, bedliners, wheels, truck covers & boxes.
Plus many other new & used parts - for every make of car!

Robert Cox
341 Walnut Avenue
Vinton, VA 24179

Sonny Arrington
800-982-8778
Phone: (540) 982-8777

This holiday season, buy a **\$20 Go Local Card** and receive **"HUNDREDS OF DISCOUNTS"** throughout the NRV and beyond.

"Go Local Cards" can be purchased online or at our card retailers.

Check us out at glocalcards.com

HOMES FOR SALE

House-hunting couldn't be easier.

389-9355

SATISFACTION TREE SERVICE

35 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE! **FREE TREE EVALUATIONS!**

Call 540-387-2288 for more information

If you believe in your business and want to build it...

ADVERTISE!

To place a classified ad, call 540-389-9355

Want to keep up with local news, sports and events?

SUBSCRIBE TODAY
Call (540) 389-9355

SPORTS

Send story ideas & announcements to bhoffman@ourvalley.org

Rocket girls open basketball season this week, Boys will open on December 10 at Alleghany



Craig girls returning from the last time the Rockets fielded a team are, left to right, Hannah Caldwell, Annabelle Gregory and Sara Jones.

PHOTOS BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

The balls are bouncing at Craig County High School once again. After a season off due to COVID the Rockets will be returning to the hardwood in the coming weeks.

The boys won't play until Friday, December 10, but the Craig County girls will be in action this week. The girls were home to North Cross on Monday and they'll be back home tonight, December 1, to host Glenvar.

The girls have a new coach in Brock Jones, who was one of the best players ever to suit up for the Craig County boys' team. Jones has the largest varsity roster Craig has had in years in girls' basketball with 13 players, including six seniors, four juniors, one sophomore and two freshmen.

"Our goal for this year is to compete in the Pioneer District as one of the top three teams," said Jones. "We have a bit of

height and physical players and I think we can compete in the district. I feel confident that we can compete with most everyone on our schedule."

Craig has three girls with varsity experience, senior Hannah Caldwell and juniors Annabelle Gregory and Sara Jones. Caldwell was a sophomore and Gregory and Jones were freshmen when Craig last fielded a team under Randy Hale for the 2019-20 season.

"Hannah has great length and can handle the basketball," said Jones. "She has a decent shot and moves her feet well."

Jones is a 5'11" forward who is a strong inside or outside threat.

"Sara has a good jump shot and also scores well around the rim," said coach Jones. "If she works she can be a 12-plus points per game and eight-plus rebounds per game type of player.

The offense will float primarily around Sara."

Gregory was Craig's point guard as a freshman.

"She should be able to match up and play great 'on ball' defense," said Jones. "She'll be the leader of the offense and setting the attack up. Annabelle handles the ball well."

Other seniors include Chasity Wolfe, Kylee Clifton, Summer Huffman, Reann Peters and Hailei Sessler. Wolfe is a low post player who should help on the boards. Clifton is a guard who will be important to Craig's pressing defense while Huffman is another post-player with some size. Peters and Sessler are out for basketball for the first time.

Joining Gregory and Sara Jones from the junior class are Hannah Ratliff and Lexxy Brookman. Ratliff was a solid jayvee player as a freshman. A

guard, she also runs cross country and is in great shape, making her an asset on the defensive end. Brookman is a 5'10" post player who Jones is high on.

"She's a physical player who moves well around the rim," he said. "Lexxy has potential to grab 10-plus points and rebounds a game. She should be a force in the paint."

Randilyn Taylor is the only sophomore on the varsity. She played jayvee as an eighth grader during the last Craig season.

"She has the best shot form on the team," said Jones. "She can shoot the deep ball decently well and handles the ball well. Randilyn can play forward or guard."

Two freshmen made the varsity, Maggie Mays and Madison Underwood. Both can play guard or forward and are physical players.

"Maggie rebounds well and

gets good position under the rim," said Jones. "Madison is better on the block but can also step outside."

Jones is looking to build a solid program at Craig County. He knows many of the girls from travel ball and is looking forward to the chance to put his mark on the team.

"I want the underclassman to see what I am trying to build within the program, to understand our game and mindset and play our style of basketball," he said. "We will play up close tight man-to-man defense and a motion style pick and roll offense. The girls have told me they are used to a 1-3-1 defense, so conditioning has been a focus point for us with the type of defense that we want to play."

After the two home games this week the girls will be at James River next Monday.

Martinsville Speedway to Host 27th Annual Christmas Toy Drive to Benefit the Grace Network of Martinsville & Henry County on Saturday, Dec. 4

Fans Can Drive Laps Around the Historic Half-Mile Oval by Donating an Unwrapped Toy or \$25 to Support the Community

MARTINSVILLE, Va. (Nov. 18, 2021) – Martinsville Speedway will hold the 27th Annual Christmas Toy Drive on Saturday, Dec. 4 from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. The annual event will welcome the greater Martinsville region to donate an

unwrapped toy or \$25 for the opportunity to drive laps around the iconic track in their personal vehicles. The Christmas Toy Drive will benefit the Grace Network of Martinsville and Henry County.

"The 27th Annual

Christmas Toy Drive will have a tremendous impact in the lives of families in our community," said Clay Campbell, Martinsville Speedway President. "As we enter the holiday season, we will rally the community to support this great cause, so we can share the joy of Christmas with those in need. We are grateful for our valued partners and fans across the region for joining us in supporting this event to touch lives through the Grace Network of Martinsville and Henry County."

Over 27 years, the Christmas Toy Drive has impacted over 20,000 area children through nearly \$300,000 in donations and over 50,000 toys to unwrap on Christmas morning in Martinsville and Henry County. The Christmas Toy Drive is one of the most popular events in the region with residents from Henry County and the surrounding counties in Virginia and North Carolina coming to support the community and take laps on the same historic half-mile short track as NASCAR's biggest stars. Last year's Christmas Toy Drive raised over \$12,000 and provided toys

to over 700 children.

On Saturday, Dec. 4, Martinsville Speedway staff will welcome the community to the track and receive donations from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. For laps around the track, drivers must sign waivers and be 18 years of age or older with a valid state-issued driver's license. All participants must adhere to Virginia state laws regarding the usage of seat belts and child safety restraints.

The donated toys and monetary donations will be distributed to area children through the Grace Network of Martinsville and Henry County, which is a faith-based, first-stop center for resources for families in crisis. The organization supports those in the community who need support to keep a roof over their heads, homes warm and lighted, and food on the table with short-term assistance and long-term solutions. To learn more about the Grace Network of Martinsville and Henry County, visit gracenetorkmhc.org.

For more information on the 27th Annual Christmas Toy Drive, visit www.martinsvillespeedway.com/events/toydrive.

LITTLE GUY GETS A BIG BUCK



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Sawyer Rutter, a 10 year old Craig County boy, harvested a seven-point buck in his very first time hunting. Sawyer accompanied Jeff Huffman and dropped the buck from 220 yards away.

Protect the ones you love, get your flu shot today.

@vaccinatevirginia

Protect the ones you love, get vaccinated now.

VDH VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

MARTINSVILLE SPEEDWAY The Short Track

Send sports news and photos to bhoffman@mainstreetnewspapers.com