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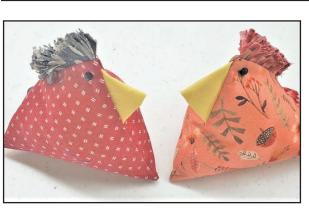
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"The Voice of Craig County"

Wednesday, December 29, 2021

\$1.00



A group of ladies recently decided to join the beginner's quilting class with Mary Hunter from Farm Bureau Women's Committee and learn the long-lost art of quilting. Their first project was a table runner.

Learning an old art to create new beauty

Pam Dudding

Contributing writer

(Published on March 24, 2021) In years long ago, ladies kept their hands busy in the evenings, as they would have to make colorful quilts to keep their families warm and cozy, as there were no Belk's or Walmart's to pop into to purchase one.

That long-lost art is emerging again, and the ladies of the Farm Bureau are taking full advantage by offering a beginner's class to those who are interested in

The Craig County Farm Bureau Women's Committee started the weekly class

Pam Dudding

Contributing writer

(Published on May 19,

2021) There are many

military Veterans living in

Craig County and they

have countless stories to

share. Some do not mind

doing so, while others

cringe at the thoughts of

horrific times in service

and in war that they expe-

try is real. Life is real and

sometimes not pleasant to

In asking several Veter-

the eyes or the heart.

Still, it is real. War is real. Serving your coun-

rienced.

A Veterans tribute

on Armed Forces Day

on February 28 at 2:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall at Craig Valley Baptist Church.

The fee for the class is a non-refundable \$25 donation to the Craig County Farm Bureau Women's Farm Bureau Women's Committee. The donated funds will be used to support agriculture education and provide scholarships to students within the com-

Instructor Mary Hunter recently gave each new lady a student miniature handmade quilted chick.

"Have you always wanted to learn how to make a quilt or just want to brush up on

See New Beauty, page 2

ans about their memories

of serving, some opened up

I would write an article on

Armed Forces Day. Our

hometown reporter, Pam

Dudding, said she knew

that I was a career military

man, and an active mem-

ber of VFW Post 4491, so

she thought that I might

be a good candidate to give

any input on this subject,"

Kenneth Looney, AECS (Retired) United States

Navy, said. "Knowing how

much Pam respects, honors

and supports our local vet-

See **Tribute**, page 2

"I was recently asked if

and shared the following.

"Just A Hand" found a permanent home

Pam Dudding Contributing writer

(Published on January 6, 2021) Throughout 2020, many people have extended their hands, regardless of how little they felt they had to share.

Last year, a new service blessed Craig County residents with a building full of clothes, books, toys, and household goods at Club Camp Mitchell. People that heard, flooded in, and picked out their necessities for their children and other neighbors.

This event, "Just A Hand," is a non-profit organization created by Lynn and Bill Morgan of Spotsylvania, Virginia. It was brought to Craig by Nichole Persinger who organized the connection with the Morgan's and her son Dustin Persinger, a CCPS School Counselor.

Locals who attended were seen and heard and expressed how thankful they were.

This tugged on their hearts and they went to work searching for a permanent place to house such a wonderful idea.

This week, Derek Persinger announced that "Just A Hand" officially has a home.

"Starting this month, we are located at 1945 Craig Valley Drive in the Former Craig Printing Building," he said. "With the help of many individuals from the community, our non-profit organization is off to a great start."

The goal of Just A Hand is to help support families in communities by offering free access to clothing,

See Just A Hand, page 4



Just A Hand has finally found a home in New Castle in the former Craig Printing building.

Feeding America is back in Craig

Pam Dudding

Contributing writer

(Published on February 17, 2021) Because of the coronavirus pandemic, many families have struggled when it comes to consistently putting food on

The blessing of having the Feeding America truck delivery back in Craig was more than a welcome to

The New Castle Christian Church continues to host the huge amount of

food that Feeding America brings to the community. "They delivered 240 prepackaged boxes," Pastor

Sheldon Cosma said. It included fresh vegetables such as some loose cabbage, red potatoes, sweet potatoes, onions and

carrots. Even with the cold and

rainy weather, the faithful volunteers showed up to help box up the vegetables and bring some extra healthy foods to Craig residents this month.

"It was a little cold and wet, but I hardly noticed because it warms my heart to spend time around such great servants of Christ," Cosma said. "And yes Jean (Bradley), sometimes I do not have enough sense to get in out of the rain."

With boxes securely placed in everyone's vehicle as they drove around the block for the drive-through pickup service, many thanks and lots of smiles were expressed to the vol-

Hopes are that the truck will continue monthly on the second Wednesday. However, keep in touch with the Facebook notifications just in case changes

"I love my church family," Cosma said as the day ended.

Many residents added the same sentiments as they drove off with a box of quality food for their families.



Despite cold weather, faithful volunteers came out to pack the vegetables left by the Feeding America truck and loaded them into vehicles as citizens drove by.

Jesse Carper Musky tournament scheduled for May 1 and 2

Pam Dudding

Contributing writer

(Published on April 21, 2021) For some, memories have a way of conjuring up great times together of fun and laughter.

Even though Jesse Carper is no longer on this earth, many friends and family still have fond memories of him, including a special friend, Luke Kessler who is keeping Jesse's favorite pastime alive, Musky fishing, with the Jesse Carper Memorial Tournament that takes place annually.

This year's tournament dates are May 1 from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday, May 2, from 7 a.m. until 3 p.m.

Not only was Jesse an advent fisherman, but he also enjoyed hunting and had a voice that most people felt would have hit the charts in

Kessler shared, "What gives me the drive to continue this yearly tournament is that it is a great cause for a great friend."

Many have echoed those same words, "Any-

See **Tournament**, page 3

Jesse Carper could make anyone smile, if not with his wit and warm smile, then his melodic voice always got the job done. The Seventh Annual Jesse Carper Memorial Musky Tournament will be held this year on May 1 and 2. The goal is to raise \$5,000 to be able to help other events and groups in the future.



Honoring the Veterans who have served or are currently serving for their sacrifices is something that the Craig County community takes tremendous pride in.



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Library returning to normal with a Swap Day

Pam Dudding

Contributing writer

(Published on June 23, 2021) The library is back to regular hours. This means appointments are no longer necessary, and no more restrictions on the number of patrons.

To celebrate the reopening, they are having Swap Day on the library back porch this Saturday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. There will be books and household goods for free and everyone is

Since "School's Out for Summer," the Craig County Library is an essential "go-to" for kids and parents alike during their summer fun days, enjoying the books, videos and internet.

Jane Henderson, Treasurer of the CCPL, Inc Board, said, "Previous library plant Swap Days have been great, and the library would like to continue Swap Days as a regular activity. It's a fun day of sharing with people from the community and others from outside New Castle."

She noted that on their Swap Day, anyone can bring household items they want to give away.

"Just remember, you can set up your own space (pick-up truck bed, table and chair, etc) behind the library and you must take away anything that is left over. Anyone can come and pick up treasures they want for free," Henderson added. "There will also be books to swap at the library."

The idea of free household goods for this Swap Day came from Kathi Toelke, the library's County Board rep-

"I have lots of nice used games and toys. I'd rather just give them to people in the community as opposed to giving them to Goodwill where they get sold or thrown away," Toelke shared. "If you have had time for spring cleaning and want to clear out no longer used household items, join us for the day. We can help you find a new home for your things. You may find some treasures you can take home for free also."

Also, June is the Friends of the Library Membership Drive.

They had their kick-off at the start of June by inviting everyone to become a supporting member of the Library, whether they would be a new member or renew their membership. (These small funds make a huge difference in helping the staff run the facility and provide more for the patron of Craig.)

If people sign-up at the library or on their website in June, their name will be put in the hat for a \$100.00 gift card towards a local business of their choice. "Please consider additional support

dollars," they asked. "With new laws increasing the salary of our dedicated staff, our cost of operations is increasing and please know that any gift is greatly appreciated."

Their doors are open and awaiting everyone this weekend's visit.



The New Castle Library is excited to announce there are no more COVID restrictions and will be celebrating with a Swap Day on Saturday, June 26. They invite others to set up as well.

Hypes, Perry Wayne

Perry Wayne Hypes, 65, of New Castle, VA went to be the Lord on Wednesday, December 22, 2021. Perry's loving parents, Robert F. Hypes and Ruth K. Hypes along with his brother, Larry R. Hypes were waiting with open arms for him at the 'Pearly Gates'.

Perry was a devoted husband, father, and PawPaw whom will be greatly missed. Perry is survived by his lov-

ing wife of almost 42 years, Sheila Hypes; his children, Tomika Peters (Tom Spence), Robert Hypes (Melissa Bellassai) and Elizabeth Hypes (Dale Waldron), and Tucker (his fur baby) all of New Castle. Seven grandchildren, Ashleigh, Reann and Zachary Peters, Skyler Hypes, Grayson and Payton Trivette and Kylie Waldron. Sisters, Linda (Che Che) (Dille) Caldwell of New Castle, Beverly Frango of New Castle, Peggy (Wayne) Linkous of Newport. Sister-in-Law, Wanda Hypes of Roanoke. Numerous nieces, nephews and cousins. A special nephew, Bucky Hypes whom Perry loved as his own.

Perry so loved watching his grandchildren

along with other children playing their favorite sports, he loved the outdoors, hunting, porch sitting with his loving wife watching birds, and let's not forget his love of the mud bogs and his Mud Mafia family. 'Ole Blue' was his pride and joy that will remain in his family forever. Perry's contagious smile and laughter would make anyone smile

with him. Let's not forget he ALWAYS had snacks to share. Special Thanks to our earthly Angel, Gina

Smith, whom went above and beyond for

A celebration of Perry's life will be held at 12 p.m. on December 29, 2021 at Paitsel Funeral Home in New Castle, with Reverend Raymond Christian officiating. Burial will follow at the Brickey Cemetery.

Friends may visit with the family from 11 a.m. until the service hour at the funeral

Paitsel Funeral Home of New Castle is serving the Hypes family.

erans year after year, I said yes. Yet, after the conver-

Tribute from page 1

sation had ended, I asked myself, 'What have you just done?" He continued, "Armed

Forces Day is not one of the most celebrated, or most well-known holiday's that we observe, so I dare say that most of us don't know much about it. I will be honest, and I will confess, that I had to do some research on this topic before I could write anything on the subject. After a good bit of time spent on the computer, I think I can now give it my best effort to help enlighten those of you, who are like me, who were standing in the shadows, when asked to talk about this special day."

Armed Forces Day is the day where Americans celebrate the military. It is held annually on the third Saturday in May and has been observed since August 31, 1949.

Looney noted that unlike Veterans Day, which honors those who wore the uniform and served to defend our nation's causes, and Memorial Day, which honors those who lost their lives in the defense of our nation at war, Armed Forces Day is the proper day to honor all of the men and women currently serving. The same goes for those who have served and sacrificed to defend our freedom too, both former and active, in the reserves, National Guard, or on active duty at this time, and in any support role defending our Nation.

"I only recall one Armed Forces Day celebration, which was held in Pensacola, Florida, in 1967, when I was a fresh boot Airman (E-

2), and scared to even smile, and not even smart enough to know how to shave properly, according to their standards," he shared. "Being a Navy newbie, I was ordered to stand at attention in the very hot Florida sun, for four hours, and hand salute anything thing that moved, Marine Corps Bull-dog mascot. So, you can probably guess, I wasn't fondly looking forward to the next Armed Forces Day celebration. But it came and went, and then just became a humorous memory."

His thoughts continued, "But who would have thought that a young, naïve, backwoods, Southwestern Virginia country boy, would stick it out in the United States Navy for 23 years, and rise up and be promoted to, the rank of Senior Chief" (E-8) Petty Officer."

His story gets exciting when he was selected number three of 13, out of the eligible candidates, who were striving to claim the title and the promotion to the top enlisted rank of Master Chief Petty Officer

"I was very honored and excited to have been selected, but sadly and regovernment financial conthe promotion, I would have been transferred to San Diego, California, and my family to my home of record, here in Virginia," Looney explained. "It was a very tough decision, but I give praise, honor, and glory to the good Lord leading me, and I chose family, over career, and I have never looked back or ever regret-

ted it."

Looney said that he shared his life's history, not to brag on his success, or to be prideful, but "because I just wanted to share with you, and show you, that you can do it as well."

His statement, "The only thing holding you back up to and including, the is you," rings a bell in the hearts of many.

"Now I know that the military is not for everyone, and that's a good thing, but if you are out there and don't have a clue what your future may hold, then I suggest you give the military some thought. It was a good life choice for me, and that paycheck each month isn't bad either," Looney shared. "You may wonder why I choose the military for my career, and it is a very simple answer, patriotism. I was raised knowing that this wasn't just another word lightly tossed around, but it was a way of life for every red-blooded American citizen who loves this nation, and what it stands for. We were taught to show honor and respect to those in positions of authority, such as police officers, firemen, EMTs, medical staff, and most of all, to the members

of the military." Looney added that he luctantly, had to decline and his peers knew at an the promotion because of early age the old saying of, "Freedom is not Free, but straints. Had I accepted was paid for by our military, no matter the cost, up to and including, the shedding of precious blood or life itself, for the protection of our way of life.'

> He added another old saying that is totally true as well, when we think of our military, "All paid some, but some paid all.

"That's why we should always respect and pay honor to our military, and the sole reason that Armed Forces Day was created," Looney shared with passion. "So, the next time you see a military person, or police person, or some other person of authority, take just a moment and say to them, 'Thank You for your service' and shake their hand. Also, a most patriotic thing you can do to show your patriotism is to stop for a moment when you see our American flag, look up, and say loudly for all to hear, 'Thank You, Veterans, for your service. Now that we know more on what Armed Forces Day means, let us remember to pay honor and respect to all our hero's, who at this very moment are serving to protect our way of life." Along with many other

Veterans in our community, Looney shared his appreciation, "I thank all Veterans for your dedication, your devotion to duty and your sacrifices in the defense of our freedoms."

Looney concluded with the adamant statement that, "Yes! It was my honor to serve God and Country, and I would do it all over again in a heartbeat. May God bless each of our Veteran's and their families and keep them in His loving care. God bless you and Happy Armed Forces Day to each of you."

New Beauty

your skills? If so, this is the class for you," Hunter said. "We will go over all the steps for making a quilt from start to finish but on a smaller scale so that it's not so intimidating by making a very simple table runner instead of a full-size quilt."

Hunter included the techniques of how to choose fabric for a quilt, piece the top, prepare it for quilting, how to quilt it with simple stitches on the sewing machine and apply binding to finish up the quilt.

The nice thing is that no one needs any quilting experience to take this class, only a sewing machine to and the "ability to be able to sew a fairly straight line with it."

Added Hunter, "In our first class we'll talk about tools, supplies and the fabric to make your quilt and how to sew a quarter inch seam. The following Saturday we will take a field trip to purchase your materials and then in our next class we'll cut out the top and start sewing it."

Another group of experienced quilters recently attended as support, and worked on their full-size quilts, which were abso-

The new quilters are almost complete. The first set of classes are scheduled at the "We are excited about having these

ounger girls in our group now and ing this craft," Hunter said. "They will be ready to tackle the next class which will be a larger project, the Curved Log Cabin

To sign up for future classes and pay the class fee (which ensures your space) or get more information, email Mary Hunter at huntermd56@gmail.com or call 540-309-"The class does have limited space, so it's

first-come, first-serve," Hunter said.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE 15 17 21 32 38 43 59 60 61 62 **CLUES ACROSS** 32. Parent a child 4. Collegiate military mentor ___-Wan organization 33. Sun-dried brick 1. Loud cheer 36. Cast out 37. Breakfast food 5. Defensive nuclear 38. One point south of due east 5. Large nests

weapon (abbr.) 8. Type of cell 11. Oblong pulpits 13. Pitching statistic 14 Uncommon 15. Liabilities

30. Used in cooking and

31. Water (French)

medicine

41. Female fashion accessory 43. A way of making a copy of 45. A way to debilitate 47. Wings 49. Social insect

50. Dull brown fabrics 16. Thin, straight bar 55. Indian musical pattern 17. Oh goodness! 56. N. England university 57. Portable stands for coffins 18. Competitions Jima, WW II 59. Iranian district 60. Envision

battlefield 21. Professional assn. (abbr.) 62. Container 22. Itálian mountain 63. Falter 25. Taking possession of

1. Cool!

2. Passover offering

3. Swedish rock group

61. Passerine bird genus 64. Tunisian city CLUES DOWN

6. Beloved baked good 7. 1980s pop legend

8. Finger millet 9. Hillside 10. Surrender 12. Midway between south and southeast 14. Long, narrow strap

19. Discount 23. A type of cast

24. Large, tropical lizard 25. Half of "Milli Vanilli" 26. Single

34. Insecticide

35. Luke Skywalker's

27. Big truck

Maldives 28. Midway between east and southeast

39. By reason of 40. One who makes thread 41. Baseball stat 42. Breezed through 44. Frothy mass of bubbles 45. Tony-winning actress

Daisv 46. Made of fermented honey and water 47. Member of a Semitic people 48. Monetary unit of the

51. Run batted in 52. Makes publicly known 53. Disagreement 29. Et __: indicates further 54. Soluble ribonucleic acid 58. Single-reed instrument

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School Board jump starting upcoming school year

Pam Dudding

Contributing writer

(Published on August 4, 2021) With all Board members present, the July School Board meeting covered many topics pertaining to the upcoming school year.

Superintendent Jeanette Warwick reported that annually, Craig County schools get a special education performance report.

"This year our report was based on data from the 2018-2019 school year. There are 14 indicators, and we did not meet the state target for two," she said.

 Students with disabilities grades 7-12 who dropped out. Craig County was 1.69 and state target wants you to be under 1.40. Obviously if one child does not graduate, that is not ok with us, therefore we will be addressing that this upcoming year

 School age least restrictive environment for students served in separate public or private schools children that need to go to a school due to a special nature of their disability. We have five percent. We only have three children and we do not send kids out of town unless we absolutely cannot meet their needs here

Warwick continued, The Coalition of Small Rural Schools are sponsoring a 'Crumbling Schools Tour.'

The notice stated that "This tour will allow decision makers to have a first-hand account of the conditions our students and staff endure on a daily basis. Unfortunately, rural, and high poverty areas have more than their fair share of school infrastructure needs. The goal of these tours is not to call out or cast blame, but to bring awareness to the difference in what is, compared to what could be. This issue cannot be solved by localities alone. This issue cannot be solved by the Commonwealth alone. The only real solution to this ever-growing problem is to combine federal, state and local resources to ensure that a student's zip code is not a predictor of the quality of the education they

"In Region 6, we were asked to host this tour," Warwick continued. "There will be different legislators coming and the Board of Supervisors and the School Board were invited to come. This is to give them an idea of the things we are still in need of." Craig County Public

Schools (CCPS) were visited on July 22 at 10:30 a.m.

Trace Bellassai is the Board representative for Governor School and reported that they are still reviewing some of the guidance concerns for admissions and discussing a waiver. However, he reported that the good news is, CCPS is sending an additional student this year.

Warwick shared, "I have been so hoping to be able to give a definite answer about masks when school starts. However, the current Governor's order requires us to wear masks while children are here and on school property and on school buses."

This mandate expired July 28, therefore new mandates will be given, as school

Warwick did add that temperatures checks are no longer required at the door, however, they still monitor symptoms, "just as we do during flu season."

Grading scales in schools are a consistent issue and Warwick shared that she has been approached several times over the last few years about the one at CCPS, requesting the ten-point grading scale.

Samuel Foster had conducted a survey with the teachers for their personal input, as Warwick wanted to hear the comments of every teacher, grades K-12.

Foster reported that the survey was conducted June 2021, asking teachers and staff about which grading system they preferred. They were asked to choose a grading scale, grades 3-5, 6-8 and 9-12. There were three possibilities given:

•seven-point scale (CCPS current scale) 100-94 = A

•ten-point scale 100-90

•ten-point plus or minus scale (for grades 9-12) which is what most colleges use to-

Forty-one responded. It was approximately 50 percent were high school, 20 percent middle school and 30 percent elementary school, which is the breakdown of their staff, therefore we have a good response across the division.

Foster then explained that one concern on the tenpoint scale that has risen is, that students who have an 80 average receives the same grade as a student who has an 89-average grade.

"The plus and minus scale does break this down a little bit more and are similar to college grade scales," he said.

His reporting found the following: •Grades 3-5: 77 percent of all respondents would like a ten-point scale (most all elementary teachers and middle school teachers chose ten-point whereas the high school suggested to remain on the seven-point scale.)

•Grades 6-8: 91 percent of respondents ten-point

•Grades 9-12: 97 percent ten-point scale 68 percent prefer the plus or minus scale

Based on the results, Foster recommends the following for the 2021-2022 school year: grades 3-8 straight ten-point scale and grades 9-12 to do a tenpoint plus or minus scale. The advantage here is it prepares them for college.

As you know, our mission statement is "Every Child a you are looking for." Graduate; Every Child Prepared for Life." So, we are preparing them.

Bellassai inquired of the ticipation. survey information Foster change in grades for stuschool that moved from sevand sadly, the number of F hope right now," he said. students remained the same.

ten or ten-plus/minus scales. on Sundays.

Warwick added that she

prefer the ten-plus or minus pate in sports. scale as the students who receive a higher grade need to "emergency dent gets a 90.2, they receive

is a reward for them." Bellassai added, "There are areas I think our standards could be better and the seven-point scale helps offset the fact, that it sets our standards a little big higher." Warwick replied, "Since

2016, we have worked diligently to expand many prohave two math teachers who plate a Sunday game.' can teach dual-enrollment AP classes, including AP Computer-Science class to start it in the nation. He has a great program for those students. We have AP Eng-



The Craig County School Board was ready at the July meeting to jump-start the upcoming school year with many positive ideas. Samuel Foster, shown here. addressed many issues to the Board.

our teachers to move beyond multiple choice and go to more higher-level processes and then we will see what

Smith added that for VHSL, grades impact some of the cutoffs for sports par-

Foster said that students had sent to the Board since must pass three out of four the survey did not show a grades which would put our players on more of a level dents. He shared which gave playing field with surrounda profile of another local ing counties. "I think this grading scale gives our stuen to ten-point scale. There dents a little more hope and seemed to be no difference, they need that little bit more

The Board approved At the time, only CCPS the recommendations. The and Salem were on the Board also approved for seven-point scale, all others CCPS to continue to not schools have changed to the schedule practice and games

Warwick shared that famhad been asked several times ilies and staff had previously Gina Smith noted, stressed that Sunday was "Surrounding counties are to be a family day and stualso on a ten-point scale and dents should not be forced also college is at that scale. to choose between religious Explained Warwick, "I services in order to particito choose between religious

Smith inquired of what situations" be rewarded for that. If a stu-would warrant a Sunday game and Foster explained the same A for the student that it is typically playoff who carries a 100 average. games that could be weath-For the students who want er-related in District and to work and excel, I think it Regional tournaments with specific deadlines. "I feel like we have been doing good all these years, why do we need to change it?" he said.

High school principal Melissa Whiting said, "Parry McCluer was just in a situation in soccer with rain and they had to cancel a game and make up a game prior grams, including AP and to deadline for the tournadual-enrollment. We now ments and had to contem-

Ultimately, the Board and have added additional unanimously approved to not have Sunday games.

Warwick reported that that Mr. Boyer started. He there was an excess of fund was one of the first teachers for the 2020 - 2021 school year of \$454,000. Due to the amount of COVID-19 Response Funds CCPS relish. We need to empower ceived, many of the items

normally paid for out of the operating budget, were purchased with these funds. There was also an excess in transportation because they went from transporting students five days a week to four days a week.

"We have to turn this over to CC Board of Supervisors and it is placed in a capitol fund which have to be applied to specific areas," Warwick said.

Chairman Susan Crenshaw added that these funds had been earmarked for possible specific purchases, which Warwick said that the needed resurfacing of the parking lots was one of the areas the funds would be

Upon the meeting ending, Crenshaw addressed the many citizens that attended, "For everyone who came out tonight with concerned business, talk to your school personnel with any of your concerns."

Bellaisai inquired about using some of the funds for the athletic areas that needed some serious attention.

Whiting said, "We have a 'parent posse' who has volunteered just what you have indicated and working with our newly appointed football coach. Great minds think alike."

Warwick added they would be sending the backto-school schedules and she praised the summer staff. Our kids have been loving coming to school. They are just happy, they are bouncing in. It is really nice seeing the children loving being here. A big shout-out to the staff, Mrs. VanDyke and Mrs. Whiting as well and Mrs. Stimeling.'

Warwick assured the community that their concern for the students at

CCPS was of top priority. She stated, "There has been a lot of news media about the transgender policy that the Department of Education was mandated by the General Assembly to put out this policy. However, we already have policies in place that protect all children from any discrimination. So CCPS will not be adopting anything separate from the policies we have that will protect our children against discrimination. I wanted to make that statement publicly because it is a lot to see in the media. It is a local school decision and the School Board in Craig do not see a need to adopt the model policy as we already have those policies."

Later, she added, "I would like to explain Craig County Public Schools' stance on these topics."

1. Virginia Code Section 22.1-23.3

The intent of the law is to prevent discrimination of transgender students. The school division already has approved policies in place to ensure non-discrimination of all students. Those policies meet the requirements of the Code. Therefore, it is not necessary to change existing policies or adopt the VDOE's Model Policy for the Treatment of Transgender Students. The division will continue to work with individual students, as we always have, to keep all students emotionally and

physically safe at school. 2. Critical Race Theory This term is not mentioned in the current Virginia Standards of Learning, nor in the curriculum. This includes the current standards and those standards that will be taught beginning in the 2022-2023 school year. We will continue, as always, to teach the standards prescribed by the Virginia De-

partment of Education. Warwick thanked everyone for attending the meeting, encouraging them to return for the August 10 meeting at 5:30 p.m.

ıournamen

one who knew Jesse understood the bright-eyed look and mile wide grin he would give when he caught another 'big one." Added many of his fishing buddies, "He was so much fun to fish with." Recently, his picture has been posted several times by friends and

Kessler set up a GoFund-Me page for the Seventh Annual Jesse Carper Memorial Musky Tournament. The goal is to raise \$5,000. The fundraiser page is where people can go to register for the tournament.

family.

Guidelines are open to Virginia and West Virginia open waters.

"This means one can enter the tournament for a \$25 donation and fish any waters in either state,"

must have a picture of the at some of Jesse's favorite fish on a bump board (mea-fishing areas." suring device) and a picture pictures."

Proceeds from noted that if the VDGIF shown by the donations with something that does as prizes and trophies." not get funding, "we try to help them out with preserving the sport Jesse loved so much as well." Adding,

Kesler said. "When a par- "Other funds have been ticipant catches a fish, they used for memorial plaques

"Our favorite thing of themselves with the fish. about the tournament is There's a code that's drawn being able to give money live on Facebook the night to Hooked on Fishing in before the tournament Jesse's name," Donna and starts that has to be in both Steve (Jesse's parents) said. We are very 'grateful' the that so many would work event will go towards the to make this annual event 'Hooked on Fishing-Not happen. It has shown us on Drugs' Program in Craig how much Jesse was loved County and the Jesse Carp- and is missed. He met a lot er Memorial Youth Tour- of people in the business nament that was started at shows. He had so many three years ago. Kesler also friends in the industry, as musky biologists need help that are auctioned as well

Kessler shared that his

best memory with Jesse was when they went bear hunting together with their

dads. humbled and truly honored to head this up," Kesler said. "I knew Jesse his whole life and our parents were longtime friends."

Trophies are awarded to first through third place winners and to the person who catches the biggest

Last year's winners were: •First - Jeremy Wagner with 3 fish 38.75 ,40.25 and 41.5 inches long

 Second and biggest fish - Eric A. Campbell with a 47.5-inch fish

•Third - Shannon Hill

with a 42.25-inch fish

"Every year we like to have a banquet at the Moose Lodge on 311 where we have several bluegrass bands play and all the fishermen/women come after fishing all day to register their fish and see who wins," Kesler explained. "We also have a silent auction of all kinds of custom baits that get donated from bait mak-

COVID-19 caused a

hiccup last year and is again in this years aftertournament event. However, Kessler is conducting online auctions for all the donated items and they are then shipped to the

highest bidder. Kessler invites anyone who loves musky fishing or first timers to join and enjoy the event, sharing, "Jesse was the one who got me started fishing for musky and I have loved it ever since."

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON **PROPOSED CHANGE IN**

CIGARETTE TAX RATE

Pursuant to Virginia Code §§ 15.2-1427, the Craig County Board of Supervisors (the "Board") will hold a public hearing at 6 p.m., or as soon thereafter as persons may be heard, on January 6th in the Circuit Courtroom, Craig County Courthouse, 303 Main Street, New Castle, Virginia.

The purpose of the public hearing will be to receive public comment on the proposed reduction of the cigarette tax effective January 1, 2022 of forty cents (\$0.40) per pack of cigarettes to thirty cents (\$0.30) per pack on cigarettes sold in the county. Any person interested in the proposed tax reduction may appear at the hearing and present their views.

A copy of the full text of the Ordinance is on file in the office of the County Administrator of Craig County, 108 Court Street, New Castle, VA 24127, and is available for review during normal business hours. If you should need auxiliary aids, please contact the office of the County Administrator at least five days in advance of the public hearing.



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Just A Hand

kids' books and toys, household goods and other necessity items.

They are accepting donations and will officially open the doors to the public closer to the end of

"We would like to say thank you to quite a few individuals who have helped to see our dream realized," Persinger said. "Without the help of the founder Lynn Morgan, who started this nonprofit in Northern Virginia from the ground up, we would not have the resources or the support to get this started and share something so great with our community."

He added, "Robin Nobles of Camp Mitchell provided a location for years before we were able to find a more permanent space. Without Robin and other individuals such as Stacy Fisher, Debbie Boitnotte, and Gina Smith who gave a hand to us when we needed it, we would not be able to pay it forward. We would like to say thank you to Jack Rankin for his support in lending us a more permanent space, which ultimately will allow us to house more items to eventually give back to the community."

"Lastly, during our first day of donations in the new location, one individual from our community saw our potential and has been working effortlessly to raise funds to further support our community. We are so very thankful to Iordan Labiosa for the kindness he has shown Just A Hand," Persinger mentioned. "We appreciate all of the individuals who are working to make our community a place where everyone can

Just A Hand is also on Facebook for the community to view. https://www.facebook.com/justahand.

We encourage those who are interested in donating or would like to know more about the organization to contact Dustin Persinger at dpersinger@craig.k12. va.us or look at the Facebook Yard Sale page with regular updates on when the shop will be open," he

Persinger also shared that when he was recently talking with another family who was visiting Just A Hand, the true goal came to life.

"Our goal is to create a space where families in our community can come and take what they need and leave behind something for someone else who may need it," Persinger shared.

Lynn Morgan, the Founder and CEO of Just A Hand, shares her story to Craig County.

"Hello to all in New Castle, Virginia! Thank you so much for welcoming Just A Hand. We are excited to have others learn about our efforts. Any assistance, be it word of mouth, volunteer-based, collection-based, fundraising or monetary donations is greatly appreciated and tax-deductible per IRS guidelines. Just A Hand is a 501(c)3 non-profit that I founded in Spotsylvania, Virginia in February of 2009." "We collect new and used

in helping new moms get everything they need for a great start. We clean and check items and make them as new as possible," she said. "Families are encouraged to return items still useable in exchange for the next size up. This allows the families to contribute and eases the feelings normally

associated with needing help. It

items year-round and specialize

often results in families collecting for us and volunteering in their

Morgan shared that in the past, they have hosted holiday giveaways and have been delivering to families to reach even more. They spearheaded multiple natural disaster relief missions with the help of their local communities. Because of this, their mission has inspired many new organizations to start, including their Sheriff's office hosting a Christmas event.

She believes that what has made their efforts extra special is the fact that they are an all-volunteer organization that is run and operated in her home without the need for high overhead and fund-"My husband and I are able to

meet the local demands for many families. Last year for Christmas, we provided toys for 146 children in December. When we plan larger events, our board of directors helps us to recruit volunteers to meet our needs. Our home has been filled at times and our days filled with sorting and preparing items for families. We recycle as much as possible," Morgan shared.

"Our overhead has been minimal, but with a building comes more needs for funding. Besides our basic needs of trash bags, bleach, wipes and things like corporation fees, P.O. Box, and phone bills," she added. "That is what we have paid in the past. Any funding that comes our way is used to purchase many items that we do not have in stock and are rarely donated. We make many of these purchases from online yard sales, auctions and store closeouts."

Morgan added that her connection to Craig County is family.

"It is always my heart. My father David Greenway (RIP) is somewhere in heaven moving things to help make this happen, I am sure of it! I am from Roanoke and was born at the old Lewis Gale and my mother's family ran the mail routes through this county so many years ago. She still resides in Roanoke. Most of my family either reside or are buried on or in these mountains somewhere," she said.

We have just recently secured a much-needed space in Craig County. The plan is to house items for distribution to families in that community after a successful giveaway at Camp Mitchell showcased the greater need. My sister Nicole is helping to make this all possible and has no idea how much work it will take. Please, no one tell her," she jok-

Morgan added that the building they have found has a reduced rent and are in hopes that they will have it for a while as it is for sale.

"We ask that those we help not sell any items they no longer need. They may return them or give them to someone else in need," Morgan said.

There are no income guidelines to qualify for help. Families will only need to fill out a brief sheet which includes their name, address, phone number, number of kids, ages and genders form and sign that they know items are used and must be checked for age appropriation, cleanliness and safety.

Ideas for suggestions for kids donations are: clothing - birth to size 16 and diapers, outer wearcoats, hats, gloves, scarves, shoes

 (tennis shoes, play shoes, boots, dance and sport), books - (any and all including coloring books, school supplies), linens - (blankets, towels, sheets, bedding sets for crib, toddler, twin and full sizes, throw pillows, curtains, shower curtain sets, toys - (all types, games, puzzles, dolls, play sets, sports equipment, train tables, kitchens, doll furniture, barbie houses, dollhouses, Legos, chalkboards, musical instruments, craft kits, stuffed animals, art supplies), furniture - (cribs, crib mattress and changing pads, changing tables, rockers, toddler beds, twin and full size beds, chests, nightstands, small desks, kids size table and chairs, bookcases, toy boxes and lamps) as well as baby Gearall types (Pac-n-plays, bassinets, swings, car seats, boosters, baby gates, bouncy seats, potty seats, set me up seats, monitors, play yards, kid dishes, sippy cups, boppy pillows, bathtubs, strollers, humidifiers, breast pumps, bottles, baby bags, carriers).

Other donation items can be: clothing racks, metal free standing shelving, display racks, baskets, plastic hangers, re-useable shopping bags, folding tables, saw horses, large clean trash cans and laundry bins.

New or unopened items only of underwear, formula, baby food, wipes, Pedialyte, toothbrushes, snacks, cereal and canned goods may be accepted.

"Our mission statement is simple as are our goals," Morgan said. "Give of yourself and teach others to give. No matter how small the gesture, if you help to ease the burdens of another, you help to create a better place for us

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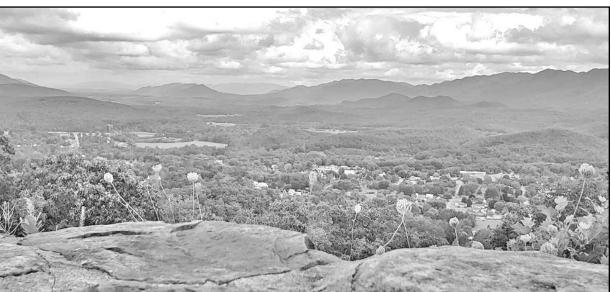
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One of the treats that Craig County offers is the Lookout view on Route 42



(Published on September 1, 2021) As summer comes to an end, many are starting to make the drive to view the beauty of Craig County. At the Lookout on Route 42, the town of New Castle can be viewed in addition to many majestic mountain ranges that never seem to end.

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Everything made from scratch at Lemon & Vale Cakery

Pam Dudding

Contributing writer

(Published on October 20, 2021) 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, 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."

•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 recipe 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 encourage-

ment, 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 family, friends and people in New

"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 it 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, an a frame in New Castle. Our dream is to retire in New England 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

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.

Cigarette tax proposal being revisited by Board said, I am not a smoker, but non-tobacco consumers."

Pam Dudding

Contributing writer

(Published on November 17, 2021) Many taxes have increased the last couple of years with the current administration, however, Craig County Board of Supervisors also passed a large tax on cigarettes which will impact not only cigarette sales, but also additional sales for our local businesses in Craig.

However, at the November Board of Supervisors meeting, business owner Mike Carper presented important information of the reason to rescind the cigarette tax increase for Craig County business owners that is scheduled to take effect January 1, 2022.

Currently, there is no county tax in Craig on ciga-

Additionally, there are still other local cities and towns with "NO" cigarette tax. They are Boones Mill, Buchanan, Dublin, Fincastle, Floyd, Narrows, Pearisburg, Pembroke, Stony Creek and Troutville. These are all surrounding counties that many Craig citizens pass through and would switch their cigarette purchases as well as their gas and "convenience" pur-

chases. Carper explained that as of January 1, Roanoke County has proposed a \$2.50 tax on a carton of cigarettes.

The Craig Board of Supervisors recently and unanimously passed a \$4.00 per carton tax.

"This tax is going to put Craig County at a huge disadvantage. This means that businesses will have to raise their price \$4.00 per carton or forty cents per pack," Carper explained. "With that

ship 10:00 a.m.

this is going to drive business out of our county." He added that about 80

percent of working people work outside of Craig County, meaning that they will then "most certainly purchase their cigarettes in Roanoke or other counties." Carper also shared with

the Board that when people purchase their cigarettes, they also purchase other items too, such as gasoline, drinks, groceries and snacks. Therefore, they will just pick those up in other counties to save money instead of stopping at the convenience of Craig. Carper noted that cigarette

sales make up about 25 percent of their sales. "It we lose only half of that, it affects the people I employ and trickles down and effects the entire business," he said. "And if I am not mistaken, there is also a 5.3 percent tax on cigarettes and the county gets a portion of that, therefore when they buy in another county, we will also lose out on the 5.3 percent tax as well (Craig receives one percent)."

"People are taxed enough, and prices are already high, and they cannot take any more. This has the potential of serious impact on our community," Carper added. "I've been in business in Craig for 30 years, so I know our customers. The feedback I am getting is that they will get their cigarettes and gas in another county as well as

stock up if needed.' He added that if the BOS impose the tax, customers can just go across the county line and get cheaper ciga-

Carper brought surveys from other counties close to Craig who put a tax on ciga-

One survey was from Vinton in 2014. They had proposed a tax from .20 per pack to .40 per pack, looking for an estimated tax revenue increase of 43 percent. However, when statistics came in, the report stated, "The additional revenue never materialized, and cigarette tax revenues plunged by 17 percent instead.'

The study also noted that in 2007, New Jersey raised their cigarette tax a small amount, from \$2.40 per pack to \$2.58 and according to experts, "Not only did actual revenues miss projections, they also declined below FY 2006 and FY 2005 levels."

Similar tax increases gave the same negative results in Ashland, Alexandria, Hampton, Winchester, Fairfax City, Leesburg, Newport News, Manassas, Purcellville, Charlottesville, Portsmouth, Bristol and Stanton.

Thus, proving the statements made by Carper to the Board.

The study also provided

these important facts: According to the U.S. Census, Virginia's local govcollected 16.3 ernments percent less in real tobacco tax revenue from FY 2010 and FY 2013, even though individual local governments raised cigarette tax rates roughly fifteen times over the same period

The revenue losses and revenue shortfalls show that the tax increases are changing consumption patterns as consumers seek alternative markets with lower taxes and therefore lower prices

Tobacco consumers are important to the health of small businesses, such as convenience and small grocery

stores, and increasing tobacco taxes can harm these busi-

It continued, "Moreover, tax changes, especially on consumer goods such as gasoline and cigarettes, drive consumers to make purchases in other jurisdictions that have lower or no tax, and, thus, lower prices. In other words, as a result of higher taxes, consumers would have less money to purchase goods and services and thus would see retail sales, and, in turn, tax collections fall or grow more slowly."

Thus, if the main driver of slumping cigarette sales is that consumers crossing municipal lines to make purchases, then retail sales in convenience stores and small grocery stores suffer under cigarette sales tax increases.

According to data from the National Association Convenience Stores, "cigarette sales comprise 41 percent, or \$48,417, of an average convenience store's monthly merchandise sales of \$118,223 and comprise 21 percent of an average stores gross profit. Cigarette sales are certainly important to the convenience store. However, stores not only lose the sale of cigarettes, but also the other purchases consumers make with their cigarettes."

Management Science Associates used data from over 3,400 shopping visits to convenience stores to estimate the spending patterns of customers and found that, "Tobacco was the fourth most often purchased item out of 15, as buyers purchased tobacco on 21 percent of their visits. Tobacco consumers made purchases over ten dollars 52 percent of the time compared

to 33 percent of the time for

The survey finalized that

the cigarette consumer is an important source of sales to convenience stores and small grocery stores. The tobacco sales account for a large portion of total sales at these stores and tobacco consumers tend to visit the stores more often and make larger Adding, "If cigarette tax

increases are driving sales to other jurisdictions, as is the case with Vinton, this portion of the local economy will suffer disproportionately." The survey conclusion was, "Several cities and towns across the Commonwealth

of Virginia are in the rush to raise revenue by increasing the local excise tax on tobacco. But such tax discrimination has costs. Any short-term revenue comes at the expense of longterm decline in sales and diminished economic activity. These regressive taxes fall hardest on low-income consumers but also diminish the prospects of small businesses who also rely on other smokers who have a propensity to spend on other items."

survey that excise taxes are problematic since they are not a major source of revenue for local municipalities. Thus, a large increase in the local cigarette tax would not provide a sustainable long-term solution to any immediate funding shortfall facing cities and towns in the Common-

wealth of Virginia. Carper shared, "I've seen it in business before, once a customer goes somewhere else, it is hard to get them back. Once people change their habits, they don't go back. Placing this tax will put Craig

businesses at a disadvantage.' Board members asked

questions. Carper shared that out of both his stores, they sell approximately 300 cartons per week. Jesse Spence shared, "We set out rate to be competi-

tive with other counties.

I can't tell you it will be adjusted but it can be adjusted." Carper responded, "I think you ought to take a hard look at it. We don't want to run our customers off nor our businesses off, because if they don't buy cigarettes, they aren't

beer, etc." Spence answered, "We do want our customers to shop in Craig and buy everything possible."

buying their gas, groceries,

County Administrator gain Dan Collins added that he will check into the tax by calling the surrounding counties, "If we are out of whack then we need to adjust it. I will bring back a report at the next meeting." The Board agreed that they would revisit the pro-

posal. It is suggested that the It was also noted in the citizens of Craig County let the Board of Supervisors know your opinions on this upcoming proposed ciga-

rette tax.



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: Wor-

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 Bible Study 7PM, Youth Group 7:00PM, Reform-

ers Unanimous Addiction Recovery every Friday evening at 7PM.

GRACE ASSEMBLY OF GOD

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

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

GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH

HEBRON UNITED METHODIST

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

10AM, 11AM, & 6PM. Wednesday Bible Study 7PM. LEVEL GREEN CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Rev. Lee Looney, Rt. 311 N., New Castle. Sunday: Sunday School

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

Pastor Lee Looney, Rt. 311 N., New Castle, 540-525-7662. Sunday:

Sunday School 10AM, 11AM, & 6PM. Wednesday Bible Study 7PM. MOUNTAIN VIEW CHRISTIAN 4199 Craig Valley Drive, New Castle, 864-6622. Sunday: Worship Ser-

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

"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.

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Legals - City of Salem

Notice is hereby given to

all interested persons that the Council of the City of Salem, at its regular meeting on Monday, January 10, 2022, at 6:30 p.m., in the Community Room of the Salem Civic Center, 1001 Roanoke Boulevard, in the City of Salem, Virginia, will hold a public hearing, pursuant to Sections 15.2-2204 and 15.2-2285 of the Code of Virginia, as amended, to consider approval of the following requests relative to the CODE OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA:

Hold public hearing to consider the request of Sia Asset Management, LLC, applicant, and Helm Building Enterprises, LTD, property owner, for a Use Not Provided For Permit to allow crypto mining at 1401 Southside Drive, Tax Map # 165-4-2.1.

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

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

At said hearing, parties in

THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA H. Robert Light

Clerk of Council

ORDER OF **PUBLICATION** COMMONWEALTH OF

VIRGINIA VA. CODE §§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316, -317,

Case No. CL21000359-00 City Of Salem Circuit Court 2 East Calhoun Street, Salem, VA 24153 DANA LYNN FRANCISCO **MEADOR**

PAUL CLINTON MEADOR The object of this suit is to: FOR ENTRY OF DIVORCE It is ORDERED that PAUL CLINTON appear at the above-named court and protect his/her interests on or before JANUARY 20, November 19, 2021

Stacy L. Owen

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Legals - City of Salem

Notice is hereby given to

all interested persons that the City of Salem Planning Commission, at its regular meeting on January 12, 2021, at 7:00 p.m., in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 114 N. Broad Street, in the City of Salem, Virginia, will hold a public hearing, pursuant to Sections 15.2-2204 and 15.2-2285 of the Code of Virginia, as amended, to consider approval of the following requests relative to the CODE OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA:

1. Consider the request of

Scott A. Boggs, property

owner, for rezoning the

property located at 407 East Burwell Street (Tax Map # 120-1-5) from RB Residential Business District to TBD Transitional Business District. 2. Consider the request of Union Plaza, LLC, contract purchaser, and the City of Salem, property owner, for rezoning the property located at 630 Union Street (Tax Map # 160-11-2) from HM Heavy Manufacturing District to HBD Highway Business District. 3 Consider the request of 2936 Salem Inc., dba Sunshine Spa and 217 NY Ave Corp, property owner, for the issuance of a Special Exception Permit to allow a massage parlor at 2936 West Main Street (Tax Map # 210-1-2). 4. Consider amending Chapter 106, Zoning, Article IV. Development Standards, Section 106-400 pertaining to site plan review. 5. Consider amending Chapter 78, Subdivisions, Article I Generally, Sections 78-103 and 78-105, Article II Administration, 78-201, Article III Definitions. Section 78-300, Article IV Review of Plats, Sections 78-402, 78-403, 78-406, 78-408, 78-416, and 78-421 of the CODE OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA

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

pertaining to the review of

subdivision site plans and

At said hearing, parties in interest and citizens shall have an opportunity to be heard relative to the said requests. THE PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA James F Taliaferro II

Executive Secretary

Legals -Montgomery County

LEGAL NOTICE OF

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Section 15.2-3107 of the Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, that on January 11, 2022, at 7:00 P.M. in the Christiansburg Town Hall, 3rd Floor Council

Montgomery County

Legals -

Chambers, 100 East Main Street, Christiansburg, Virginia, the Town Council of Christiansburg, Virginia ("the Town") shall hold a public hearing on the Town's intent to approve a proposed Boundary Line Adjustment Agreement between the Town of Christiansburg and County of Montgomery and will thereafter consider for passage a resolution approving the Agreement. The Agreement is authorized by Section 15.2-3106 et seq. of the Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, and provides that the boundary line between the Town of Christiansburg and the unincorporated area of the County of Montgomery will be adjusted as follows:

Moving 68.866 acres from

the unincorporated area of the County of Montgomery into the incorporated Town of Christiansburg. The proposed boundary adiustment area is commonly known as Falling Branch Corporate Park Phase II, Parcel 2, Tax Map Number 94-A-8 (formerly the Cox property) and is located on the southern boundary of the Town of Christiansburg, west of the intersection of Technology Drive SE and Parkway Drive SE, shown more particularly on the plat entitled "Plat Showing **Boundary Line Adjustment** Between The Town of Christiansburg and County of Montgomery for Portion of Falling Branch Corporate Park Tax Parcel 94-A-8"; dated June 7, 2019. As part of the Boundary Line Adjustment Agreement, the Town has agreed to provide the County Three Hundred **Thousand Dollars** (\$300.000) to assist the County in the cost of extending Town water and sewer to the first developed pad on the 68.866 acres Once a contract is signed by the County for this project, the Town agrees to provide the County the money within sixty (60) days of receiving a written request for the funding from

A true copy of the proposed Boundary Line Adjustment Agreement is on file and may be viewed in the office of the Clerk of Town Council, Christiansburg Town Hall. 100 East Main Street, Christiansburg, Virginia 24073. A copy of the Agreement will also be available at the public hearing. The public is invited to attend the public hearing and comment on the Agreement.

the County Administrator.

Notice to Our Family Medicine

Patients Effective Saturday, January 1, 2022, Leslie Badillo, M.D., will no longer practice from Carilion Clinic Family Medicine in Christiansburg. Your confidential medical records will remain with Carilion Clinic. If you choose to continue your medical care with us, you do not need to take any action. If you choose to transfer to another provider and need a copy of your Carilion Clinic Family Medicine record, please contact our office for a medical record request/ transfer form. After you return the form and the request is processed, your medical record will be sent to another provider of your choice within a reasonable time. If you need help finding a physician in a different office, please call the physician referral line on Carilion Direct at 800-422-8482. location cannot be

VIRGINIA: IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE COUNTY

COUNTY OF MONTGOMERY, **VIRGINIA**

a Political Subdivision of the Commonwealth of Virginia, Case No. CL21001664-00 Complainant,

MAY GERTRUDE SHEALOR, ET AL., Respondent(s) ORDER OF PUBLICATION The object of this suit is to enforce the lien of the Complainant, County of Montgomery, Virginia, for delinquent real estate taxes against certain real property located in the County of Montgomery, Virginia, described as follows: Tax Map No. 193- A 12 Account No. 016926 All that certain lot of land.

containing 0.91 acres, more

Legals -Montgomery County

or less, in Blacksburg Magisterial District. Montgomery County, Va., on the waters of Toms Creek, and bounded as follows: Beginning at a stone near a gate on the line of land, now or formerly owned by, H. R. Plunkett, thence a new line N 30° W 425 feet, running on the west side of a road to a post, near Plunkett's corner; thence with said Plunkett S 45° W 202 feet, to a stone, corner to said Plunkett: thence S 56° E 418 feet to the place of beginning.

And being the property conveyed to May Gertrude Shealor, for life: remainder to her children, from William Allen and his wife, Henrietta Allen by Deed dated July 25, 1925 and recorded September 25, 1925 in the Montgomery County Circuit Court Clerk's Office in Deed Book 82, Page 557.

This description is made subject to all easements, conditions, agreements, restrictions, and reservations of record which affect the property herein

IT APPEARING that an Affidavit has been made and filed stating that due diligence has been used, without effect, to ascertain the identity and location of certain parties to be served, that the last known addresses for the Respondents herein are as follows: May Gertrude Shealor aka Mary Allen Shealor aka Mary Gertrude Allen, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is c/o Ethel Feihl, 10 Annett Lane, Colonia, New Jersey 07067; Ethel Shealor aka Mary Ethel Shealor aka Ethel M. Feihl, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Mable I. Shealor aka Mable Irene Shealor aka Mabel Hughes, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown: Roy Andrew Hughes, Sr., whose last known address is 330 Merrimac Road Lot 3, Blacksburg, Virginia 24060; Trigg I. Shealor aka Trigg Ingle Shealor, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Ruby Mae Hutchens aka Ruby Shealor, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Gary Sheak Gary Allen Shealor, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; James E. Shealor aka James Elliott Shealor, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Eva Marie Moran aka Eva Shealor, who is believed to be deceased

and whose last known address is unknown; Sally aka Ralph Randolph

Marie Shealor aka Sallv Marie Thompson aka Sally Massey, whose last known address is 96 Greenfield Drive, Bassett, Virginia 24055: Ralph R. Shealor Shealor, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Ralph Michael Shealor, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is 1237 Park Avenue. Plainfield New Jersey 07060; and that any officers, heirs, devisees, and successors in title of the Respondent named herein are made parties Respondent to this action individually and/or by the general description of Parties Unknown, it is hereby
ORDERED that the parties herein and all Parties Unknown and/or whose

> ascertained appear on or before January 28, 2022 in

the Clerk's Office of the

of Montgomery, Virginia,

necessary to protect their

Entered on the 20 day of

Robert M.D. Turk, Judge

interests in this cause.

Dec., 2021.

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John A. Rife, Esq.

and do what may be

Circuit Court of the County

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OF MONTGOMERY

(VSB No. 45805) Jeffrey A. Scharf, Esq. (VSB No. 30591) Mark K. Ames, Esq. (VSB No. 27409) Andrew M. Neville, Esq. (VSB No. 86372) Paul L. LaBarr, Esq. (VSB No. 91609) Gregory L. Haynes, Esq. (VSB No. 37158) Taxing Authority Consulting Services, PC P.O. Box 31800 Henrico, Virginia

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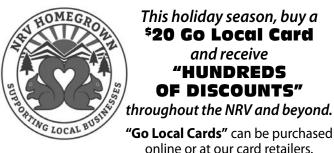
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Matthew Lucas drives to the hole.



Maggie Mays looks for a teammate.



Hannah Caldwell cans a jumper.



Coach Ryan Frazier watches the action.



Craig girls watch from the bench at a recent game.

Rockets wrap up 2021 with home games Wednesday

Craig County High School will cap off 2021 with a slate of four basketball games on Wednesday, December 29, at the high

school gym. Action begins at noon with a girls' junior varsity game against Auburn, followed by the varsity girls against the Eagles. The boys will take the floor with a jayvee game against Montcalm at approximately 3:30 pm, and those two schools will wrap up a busy day

with a varsity game to follow. Times could vary depending on the length of the games.

The girls come in with an overall record of 1-4 after losing at James River in the last game before Christmas, 46-32. The Knights jumped off to a 17-5 lead after the first quarter and the Rockets were never able to catch up. Sara Jones led the Rockets with 12 points while Hannah Caldwell and Lexxy Brookman had six points each.

The boys are 2-1 and haven't played since defeating Eastern Montgomery in Elliston, 51-33, on December 17.

Both teams will open the New Year with Pioneer District games against Narrows on Tuesday, January 4. The girls will be at home and the boys will play at Narrows. Then, a day later, the boys are home against Giles and the girls go to Pearis-

SALEM RED SOX 2022 SCHEDULE

burg to play the Spartans.

BEGINS APRIL 8th Following an exciting 2021 season both on and off the field, the Salem Red Sox are excited to an-

nounce the 2022 season schedule. Opening Day in Salem begins with a Battle for 460 against the Lynchburg Hillcats on Friday,

April 8th. The 2022 home schedule boasts 66 home games, including 12 weekend series, an increase of six home games over the 60 in 2021. All series are six games, running Tuesday through Sunday, with the excep-tion of April 8-10 and July 22-24, where the Red Sox will face the Hillcats

during three game series.

VDHVIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

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shorter.

Salem will host one Monday game on May 30th, featuring a Memorial Day home game. Additional home holiday dates during the 12th season of Salem Red Sox baseball include Cinco de Mayo, Mother's Day, Father's Day and Juneteenth.

April 8th will begin a 132-game slate that will conclude on September 11th, featuring 23 series. The Minor League All-Star Break will coincide with the Major League All-Star Break, July 18-21. The Salem Red Sox will welcome three new opponents from the Low-A East League including

the Charleston River-Dogs, Columbia Firelfies, and the Kannapolis Cannon Ballers.

'We couldn't be more excited to announce our 2022 season schedule to the best fans in Minor League Baseball who showed overwhelming support during 2021, said General Manager, Allen Lawrence. "We look forward to an even brighter future of baseball and family entertainment

in Salem during 2022". Following the restructuring initiative from Major League Baseball prior to the 2021 season, the Salem Red Sox are now part of the Northern Division of the Low-A East league, featuring a total of 12 teams. Additional Northern Division teams include the Delmarva Shorebirds (BAL), Fredericksburg Nationals (WSH), and Lynchburg Hillcats (CLE). The Central Division is comprised of the Carolina Mudcats (MIL), Down East Wood Ducks (TEX), Fayetteville Woodpeckers (HOU) and Kannapolis Cannon Ballers (CWS). The Southern Division includes the Augusta GreenJackets (ATL), Charleston RiverDogs (TB), Columbia Fireflies (KC), and Myrtle Beach Pelicans (CHI). The 2022 promotional

schedule, game times, single game ticket information and more will be available in the coming months. Visit Salem-Sox.com or call (540) 389-3333 for more information on 2022 Season Ticket Packages and Group Outings.



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