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GOPHER MARKET

Frango wins "Light up Craig" Decorating Contest

Pam Dudding
Contributing writer

Whether you are a kid or an adult, Christmas lights bring a warm smile to all as they drive by, admiring the different decorations families spend so much time putting up.

The First Annual Light Up Craig Christmas Decorating Contest, presented by the Craig County Rescue Squad, brought out the best of lights in town.

Many blow-ups, thousands of various light displays, twinkling stars, creative scenes and other décor garnished many lawns.

Even with the limited guidelines that were set for the contest, many entered, and said they

had a blast, regardless of whether they won or not.

"We are doing this as a fundraiser for the Rescue Squad," Trace Bellassai said.

There were two contests. One was to be decided by the judges for a first, second and third place winner and the other was to be judged by the community via Facebook votes.

The judges all went around together in the Rescue Squad response vehicle to look at the 15 competing homes and each of them scored individually.

Though the judges agreed that the decorating was exceptional, it was Darrell Frango who earned first-place honors. Rose Looney and

Rose Welch placed second and third, respectively. All were homes that everyone should drive by and see.

There was also a "Community Favorite," which as sponsored by IGA Express Exxon, in which local residents were encouraged to vote online. Frango also won this award too.

"Over 200 community members voted," Bellassai said. "We were really happy to see a lot of community involvement!"

"When Robert called me about winning, I kept thinking who in the world is this and then he told me I got first place," Frango said before adding, "Bel-

See Contest page 2



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Darrell Frango was surprised and beyond delighted to learn that not only did he win the judges choice for the First Annual Christmas "Light Up Craig" Decorating Contest, he also won the Community Vote Contest too. Rescue Squad member Robert Wzorsek presented him with his winnings.

Santa hits the road on a fire truck



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

Squad members of the Upper Craig Creek Volunteer Fire Department (UCCVFD) and Junior Squad, recently joined Santa and gave local children a surprise visit that they will remember.

Pam Dudding
Contributing writer

Kids love to see the jolly St. Nick at Christmas, however, few ever thought they'd see Santa riding on the back of a fire truck, coming through their

neighborhood. The Upper Craig Creek Volunteer Fire Department (UCCVFD) heard that Santa needed a little help in coming to visit the good girls and boys on a back road route he was taking to the North Pole.

Chief Shawn Matheny and his crew agreed to help so that Santa's reindeer were able to rest up for the big night of traveling around the world.

The sleigh bells were ringing, the announcement preceded his arrival and kids were running

to meet Santa on Saturday, December 18.

So, instead of a red sleigh, Santa loaded onto their red firetruck and hung on while being driven to visit many kids in Craig.

Smiles, giggles, and squeals

permeated the air and parents' hearts were full with joy at the glee their children experienced while telling Santa their deepest wishes.

"I think even some of the

See Santa, page 3



The UCCVFD was happy to assist Santa in his quest to visit and surprise kids on their response route.

New Year's Resolutions or bah humbug?!

Pam Dudding
Contributing writer

Do you remember what the story of the little choo-choo engine said, as he slowly climbed the humongous hill?

"I think I can, I think I can, I think I can!"

He gave himself the first opportunity of positive gesture, until he got closer and closer to the top where he finally knew that the distance in front of him was far less than the big drop mountain behind him.

It was then he changed it to 'I know I can, I know I can, I KNOW I can!'

This year, as you enter 2022, many will choose to put 2020 and 2021 behind them, and start their climb

for a change, even if it's just with the thought, "I think I can, I think I can."

It is not always easy to challenge yourself to a new venture, a new possibility or a new you.

It is sometimes scary and takes much courage and tenacity to step out of a box you may have accepted for your life, even if you know that you may have compromised in.

Making the decision to "choose to change" can be a fearful and even overwhelming.

Still, most of us do not wish to 'bah humbug' another year away! Or even a month.

Treat yourself to a great year of determination and power. Procrastination is

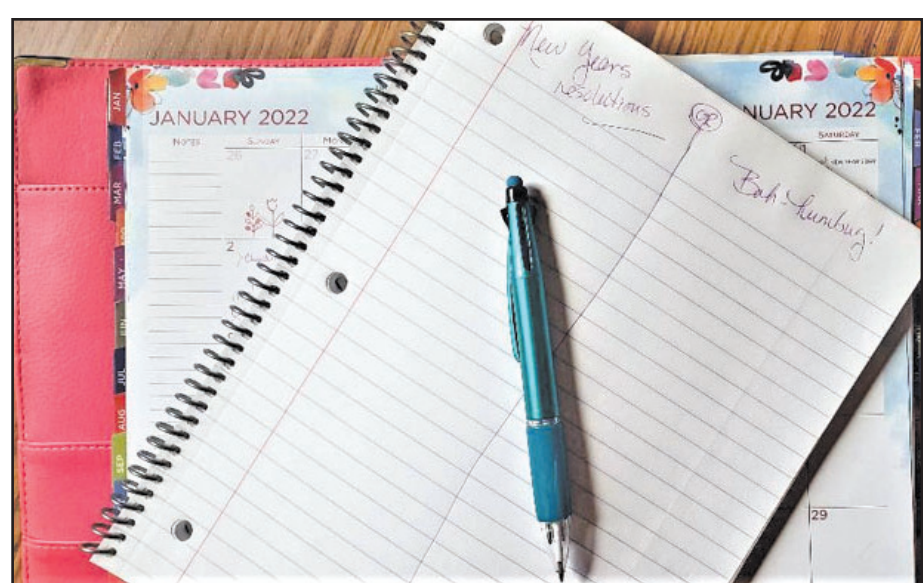
easy. Action is difficult, but oh so worth every step.

Many years ago, I heard someone say, "Change isn't change until you change." I had to stop and ponder. I wanted lots of change at that time in my job, home and family.

I came to understand that if we do not change our mindset, our heart won't change therefore, everything around us won't either. In other words, if we choose change with our thinking, then say with our lips exactly what we want and then move ourselves into the position of action towards that goal, change can't help but start happening.

That first step or decision

See Resolutions page 5



SUBMITTED PHOTO

For some, the New Year is a joyous time to start new ventures, choose to change some things and look forward to a prosperous year. Yet, for others, it's more difficult. Still, it's a time to reflect, to decide what is good and bad and choose to set your own destiny.



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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

MONDAY THROUGH SATURDAY

The Craig County Public Library is open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Wednesday from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The library is located at 303 Main St. in New Castle. For more information, call (540) 864-8978 or visit www.craiglibrary.org.

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.

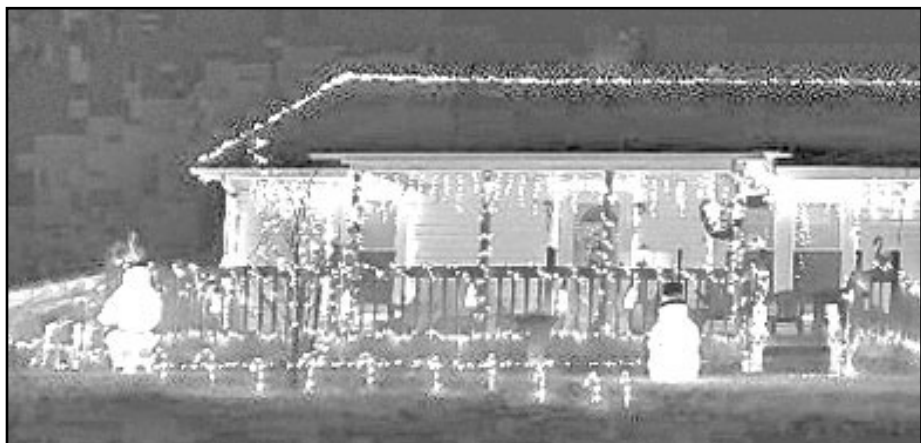
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Contest

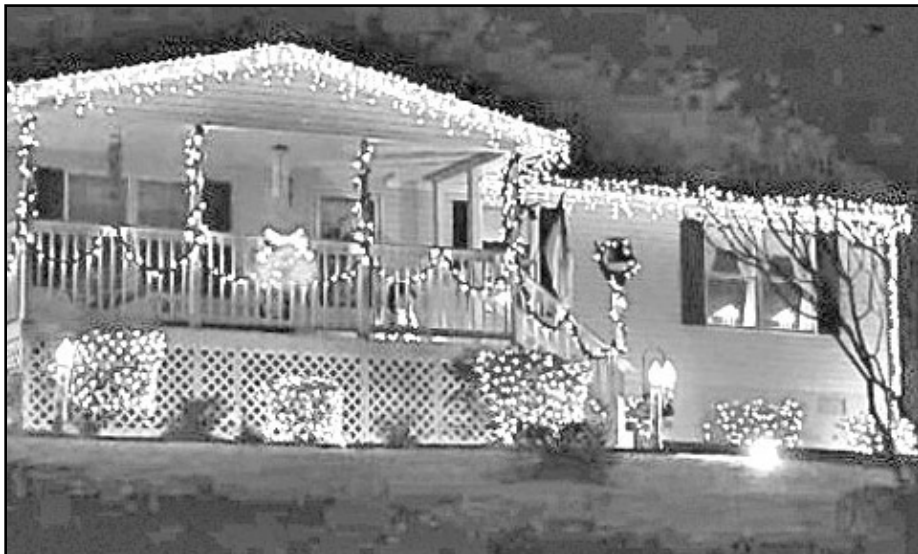
from page 1



Julie Welch placed third with her beautiful display of lights on the hill.



Rose Looney placed second. Her beautiful yard was filled with the manger scene and other decorations.



Frango's home and carport was decorated in festive lights. Nothing was left untouched by "Christmas."



Darrell Frango had blow-ups all the way up his 75-foot-long driveway. He also had bells that played music, a manger scene and every part of his home decorated. What people didn't get to see was that every room in his home was decorated too.

lassai and Robert (Wrzosek) came down here and gave me a \$100 IGA Express gas card and \$175 in entry winning. That was really nice."

Frango didn't stop there. He then said to them, "Y'all ain't seen nothing yet," as he escorted them throughout his home where every room, nook

and cranny was decorated.

"I was surprised that I won," he said. "Even my daughter in Arizona saw it on Facebook and called me."

Half of the proceeds from the entry fees went to the winner and the other half was sent as a donation to the Rescue Squad.

Contestants were judged by a five-member panel of judges, on a scale of one to ten in three categories: Creativity (originality, unique design and creative use of lights and decorations), Arrangement (display and placement of decorations), and Overall Appearance (col-

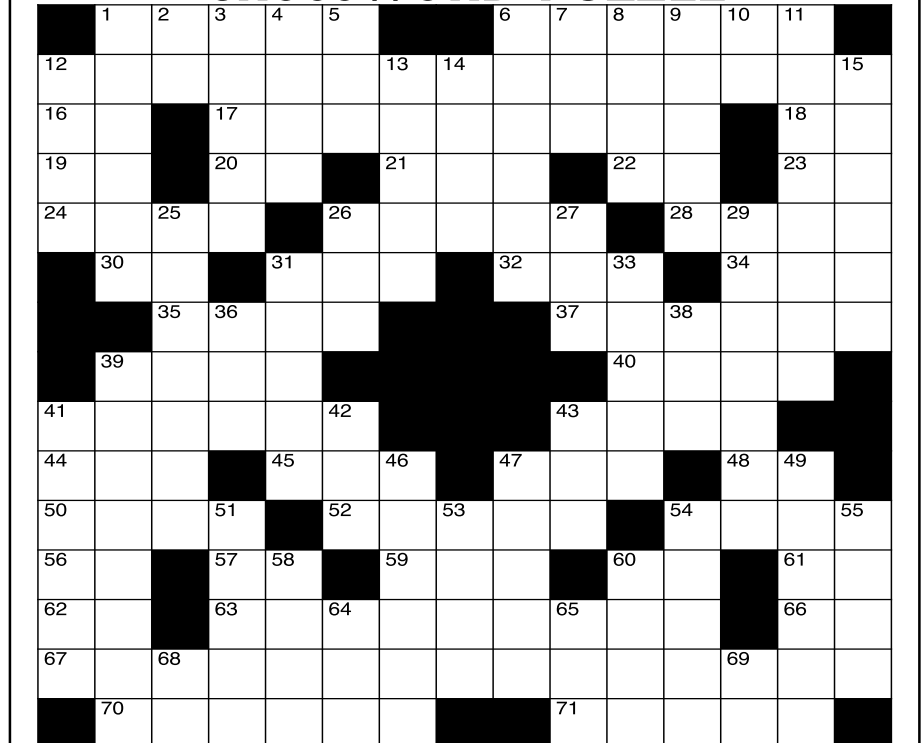
or coordination, balance, and overall attractiveness).

"They had a great time!" Bellassai shared. "We had a few reach out that said they didn't know about it until we started the voting, so hopefully, we will have even more enter next year!"

The Rescue Squad is in

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."

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



- | | | | |
|---|---|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| CLUES ACROSS | 39. Attired | CLUES DOWN | 36. One's grandmother |
| 1. Struck firmly | 40. Peculation | 1. Poem | 38. Vocal style |
| 6. Shirt part | 41. Netted | 2. Everest is one (abbr.) | 39. Pronunciation mark |
| 12. Nevertheless | 43. It shows you paid (abbr.) | 3. Olympic legend Jesse | 41. American Indian chief or leader |
| 16. Article | 44. Payroll firm | 4. Portable tent | 42. Insecticide |
| 17. Adornment | 45. Antidiuretic hormone | 5. When you hope to get there | 43. Go bad |
| 18. Educator's helper | 47. Japanese classical theater | 6. Unwavering | 46. Capital of Zimbabwe |
| 19. Healthcare pro | 48. The first two | 7. Back muscle | 47. Polish river |
| 20. Atomic number 28 | 50. Ancient burial chamber | 8. Within | 49. Cast out |
| 21. Extinct flightless bird | 52. Type of card | 9. Excessive fluid accumulation | 51. People of India and Sri Lanka |
| 22. Mystic syllable | 54. Expression of sorrow or pity in tissues | 10. Six | 53. Cleaning fabrics |
| 23. College sports decision maker (abbr.) | 56. Hectoliter | 11. Involved as a necessary part | 54. Very skilled |
| 24. Edible mushrooms | 57. Morning | 12. 2002 Liotta, Patric film | 55. Pouches |
| 26. Venerable English monk | 59. NYC subway dweller | 13. Living thing | 58. Restaurant must-have |
| 28. Surrounded by | 60. Law enforcement | 14. Type of gin | 60. Native Americans from Arizona |
| 30. Forming fractional numbers from 4 onwards | 61. Sodium | 15. Moved around in pursuit of fun | 64. Remaining after all deductions |
| 31. Eastern France river | 62. Elevated subway | 25. Makes light bulbs | 65. Fleece |
| 32. Short cry or yelp | 63. Facility where wild animals are kept | 26. Story of one's life | 68. Dorm official |
| 34. Brew | 66. Integrated circuit | 27. Small island in a river | 69. It cools your home |
| 35. Ornamental box | 67. Seaman's tool | 29. A type of bliss | |
| 37. In a way, surfaced | 70. Drink to | 31. Genus of large herons | |
| | 71. Small group | 33. A way to make dry | |



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Cheryl L. Wilson named Executive Director of Virginia American Revolution 250 Commission

Cheryl L. Wilson, a nationally recognized leader of Virginia historical commemorations, has been named executive director for the Virginia American Revolution 250 Commission.

The Virginia American Revolution 250 Commission is charged with the statewide observance of the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution, the Revolutionary War and the independence of the United States in 2026.

In her new position, Wilson will work with the Virginia American Revolution 250 Commission to coordinate commemorative activities across Virginia, collaborating with historic sites, national parks, museums, tourism organizations and state agencies to mark this milestone occasion in Virginia and the nation's history. Her new post will begin on January 10.

Wilson has worked with the Virginia General Assembly for more than 30 years, most recently as the deputy clerk for Committee Operations for the House of Delegates, overseeing hundreds of legislative meetings and working with leadership to ensure proper parliamentary procedure and process, and previously served as senior manager with the Division of Legislative Services, where she drafted bills and resolutions, staffed the House and Senate Rules committees and handled special projects.

Wilson has served as the executive director for the Virginia World War I and World War II Commemoration Commission, which developed statewide programs to mark the 100th anniversary of World War I and the 75th anniversary of World War II in 2016-2020, which included poignant ceremonies to honor living veterans of WWII.

As executive director of the Virginia Sesqui-centennial of the American Civil War Commission in 2006-2015 for the statewide commemoration of the 150th anniversary of the Civil War in Virginia, Wilson's work with the Civil War 150 was recognized as a national model for a commemoration that was balanced and inclusive of all perspectives. The multi-year event involved nearly every locality in Virginia and embraced cross-partner collaborations among other states. She fostered close partnerships with historic sites, national parks, museums, tourism organizations and agencies across Virginia, and oversaw all commission activities and programs, including an award-winning mobile museum exhibition, popular signature conferences, dozens of large-scale commemorative events, and implemented a document digitization effort that located and preserved 32,000 his-

torical documents, and a matching grant program for local partners.

Wilson graduated summa cum laude from Virginia Commonwealth University, where she earned a bachelor's degree in political science and a master's in public administration. She has been honored to receive numerous awards, including the Governor's Award from Richmond Region Tourism and the Chairman's Award for Excellence by the Civil War Trust.

For more information on the American Revolution 250 Commission, visit america250.org.



Cheryl L. Wilson

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Submitted by Tracy Perkins, Media Relations Manager

Santa

from page 1



Santa giving and receiving lots of hugs on his Craig County Tour with UCCVFD.



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

Kids enjoyed seeing Santa riding the back of the fire truck and were even more happy when he stopped and said "Ho-Ho-Ho" to them.

ing they was the next stop was great," the squad shared. "We heard the kids yell out, "look mom and dad, Santa's on the fire truck!"

"We covered all of our first due coverage area, county line to Walton Mountain Road on 311 and all of 621 hitting all the side roads along the way," Matheney said.

They started at 9 a.m. that morning and didn't finish until 4 p.m.

"The members loved the idea from the time it was brought up back in the spring until the day of," Matheney shared. "Everyone was excited and looking forward to it. And then after doing the Santa run, liked it even more and everyone can't wait until next year to do it again!"

The squad also noted, "We are having a spaghetti dinner on February 12 from noon until 4 p.m., dine in, carry out or drive through."

"We felt having Santa visit the kids was a way to give back to our community after they showed us so much support this past year," Matheney said.

They hope to see you at their Valentine's Spaghetti Dinner for a great meal, fellowship and also, to help continue to support their efforts for the Upper Craig Creek Volunteer Fire Department, to serve the community.

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TOWN OF NEW CASTLE PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE – PROPOSED CIGARETTE TAX JANUARY 17, 2022 7:00 PM

PURSUANT to Virginia Code §15.1427, notice is hereby given of the public hearing to be held by New Castle Town Council, at 7:00 PM or as soon thereafter as persons may be heard, on January 17, 2022 in the New Castle Town Hall, 33 9 Market Street, New Castle, VA.

The purpose of the public hearing will be to receive public comments on the proposed adoption of a cigarette tax of twenty (.20) cents per pack of cigarettes sold within the Town of New Castle, pursuant to Virginia Code §58.1-3830. Any person interested in the proposed tax may appear at the hearing to present their views.

The Ordinance will be prepared and will be available at a later date concerning the administrative mechanism for collection of the tax and other details.

By the authority of New Castle Town Council - John S. Johnson, Mayor (540) 864-7306
Persons attending the public hearing are encouraged to wear face covering and adhere to social distancing. Comments can be sent to Clerk, Nina Davis ninad628@swva.net; phone (540) 864-5380 or by mail to: P. O. Box 347, New Castle, VA 24127.

little ones that are afraid of Santa wasn't as afraid of him seeing him on the firetruck," Matheney said. "We also had some of our Junior Squad to help us. They seemed to really enjoy it too."

Santa on the firetruck was Matheney's idea. "I grew up looking forward to Dunlap Fire and Rescue doing it every year then when I was 14 and joined the Jr. Squad, I got to be a part of it and have done it every year until we moved to Craig," he said. "I have wanted to do it with the volunteer rescue squad when I was Chief, but it just didn't work

out." The Tuesday night before, they had bought lots of candy and bagged 265 individual bags of candy and gave out more than half. "All of it was exciting but watching the kids jump up and down when they saw Santa and know-

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The 2021 National Book Award Finalists by Ashly Moore Sheldon

Library Corner

Empowering individuals to build a stronger community

First awarded in 1950, the National Book Awards are granted to authors in five distinct categories: fiction, nonfiction, poetry, translation and young people's literature. Last year's winners included Charles Yu's *Interior Chinatown* and Kacen Callender's *King and the Dragonflies*, as well as *The Dead are Arising*, a Malcolm X biography by father-daughter team Les and Tamara Payne. Here are this year's five finalists for each category.

FICTION
 Cloud Cuckoo Land
 Pulitzer Prize winner Anthony Doerr weaves together multiple storylines and timelines in this novel about children on the cusp of adulthood in a broken world.
 Matrix
 Lauren Groff's new novel is a defiant and timely exploration of the raw power of female creativity amidst corruption in 12th-century Europe.

Zorrie
 Set in the early twentieth century, against a harsh, gorgeous, American landscape, Laird Hunt's empathetic and poetic portrait of an intimate portrait of one tenacious woman.
The Prophets
 The debut novel from Robert Jones, Jr. depicts the passionate and dangerous love affair between two enslaved young men in the antebellum South.
Hell of a Book
 Bestselling author Jason Mott's novel, both incredibly funny and deeply honest, goes to the heart of racism, police violence, and the hidden costs exacted upon America.

NONFICTION
 A Little Devil in America: Notes in Praise of Black Performance
 In this collection of essays, Hanif Abdurraqib offers an exploration on how Black performance is inextricably woven into the fabric of American culture.
 Running Out: In Search of Water on the High Plains
 Anthropologist Lucas Bessire's intimate reckoning with environmental change in the place where five generations of his family have

lived as farmers and ranchers.
Tastes Like War: A Memoir
 Grace M. Cho explores her upbringing in a xenophobic American town during the Cold War in this book—described as part food memoir, part sociological investigation.
Covered with Night: A Story of Murder and Indigenous Justice in Early America
 An absorbing chronicle by Nicole Eustace examining a little-known, yet pivotal, act of brutality that challenged the definition of justice in colonial America.
All That She Carried: The Journey of Ashley's Sack, a Black Family Keepsake
 Renowned historian Tiya Miles traces an object handed down through three generations of Black women, from slavery and into the twentieth century.

POETRY
 What Noise Against the Cane
 Desiree C. Bailey's poems offer a lyrical quest for belonging and freedom, exploring themes like political resistance, immigration, and Black life in America.
 Floaters
 Martín Espada bears eloquent witness to anti-immigrant bigotry with

this collection of exuberant odes and defiant elegies, songs of protest and songs of love.
Douglas Kearney's poems are sonic in their espousal of Black vernacular traditions, while examining histories, pop culture, myth, and folklore.
A Thousand Times You Lose Your Treasure
 Multilayered, plaintive, and provocative, Hoa Nguyen's latest collection is meditation on her personal and cultural history.
The Sunflower Cast A Spell to Save Us From The Void
 By sharing her personal index of dreams with scenes of solidarity and resilience, Jackie Wang embodies historical trauma and communal memory.

TRANSLATIONS
 Winter in Sokcho
 Franco-Korean author Elisa Shua Dusapin's debut explores shared identities and divided selves, vision and blindness, intimacy and alienation. Translation by Aneesa Abbas Higgins.
 Peach Blossom Paradise
 An enthralling story of revolution, idealism, and a savage struggle for utopia by Ge Fei, one of China's greatest novelists. Translation by Canaan Morse.
 The Twilight Zone

An engrossing, incantatory novel about the legacy of historical crimes by Chilean actress, author, and screenwriter Nona Fernández. Translation by Natasha Wimmer.
When We Cease to Understand the World
 Chilean author Benjamín Labatut imagines the lives of real-life scientists and thinkers whose discoveries wreaked substantial moral consequences. Translation by Adrian Nathan West.
 Planet of Clay
 In vivid and poetic language with a sharp eye for detail, Syrian writer Samar Yazbek offers a surreal depiction of the horrors taking place in her homeland. Translation by Leri Price.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S LITERATURE
 The Legend of Auntie Po
 By Shing Yin Khor, this is the story of thirteen-year-old Mei, working in a Sierra Nevada logging camp in 1885 and telling stories about Paul Bunyan—reinvented as a Chinese heroine.
 Last Night at the Telegraph Club
 Acclaimed author Malinda Lo returns with a gripping novel about two girls falling in love in San Francisco's Chinatown during the 1950s.

Too Bright to See
 Kyle Lukoff's haunting ghost story set in rural Vermont is about navigating grief, growing up, and growing into a new gender identity.
Revolution in Our Time: The Black Panther Party's Promise to the People
 With passion and precision, Kekla Magoon relays an essential account of the Black Panthers as human rights advocates working to defend their community.
 Me (Moth)
 A debut novel-in-verse by Amber McBride about a teen girl grieving the deaths of her family after an accident. Then she meets Sani, a boy searching for his roots.

The winners, to be announced on November 17, will receive \$10,000. In addition, the National Book Foundation bestows two lifetime achievement awards. This year's Medal for Distinguished Contribution to American Letters will be presented to groundbreaking Japanese-American author Karen Tei Yamashita and the Litterarian Award for Outstanding Service to the American Literary Community will go to renowned Seattle librarian and author Nancy Pearl.

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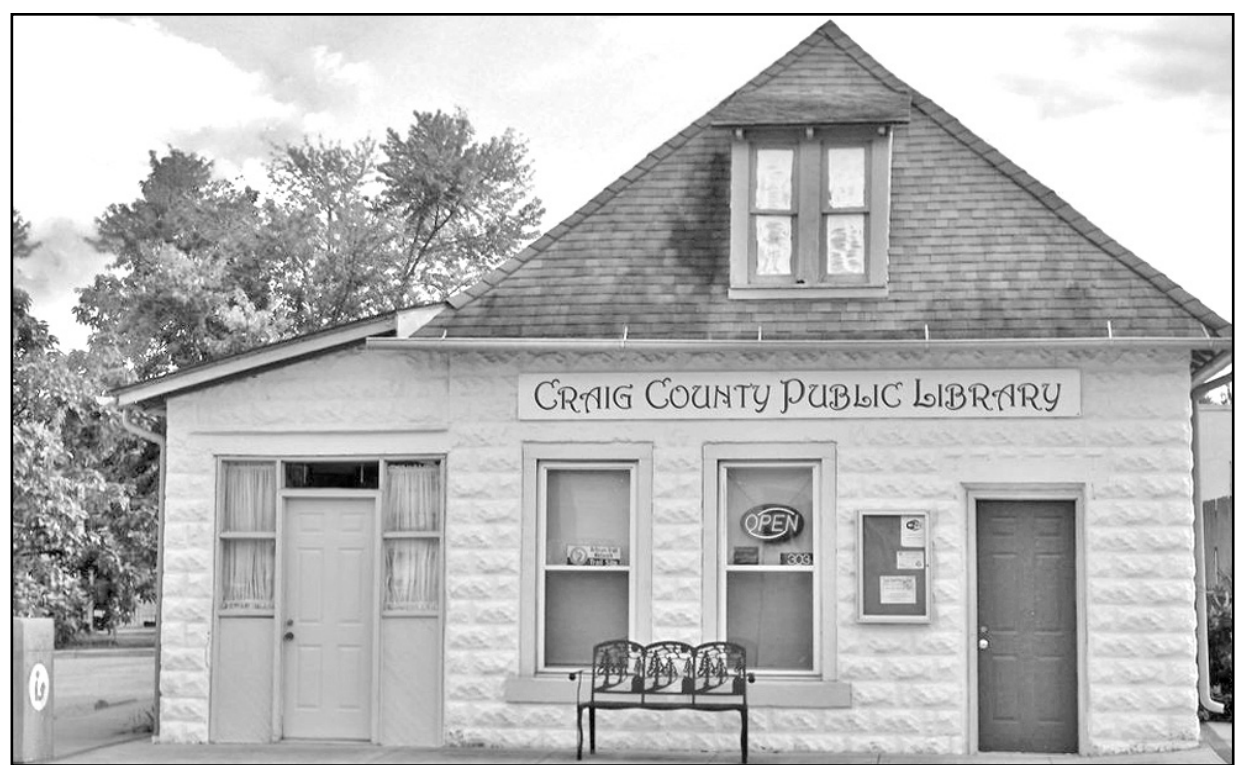
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The New Castle Record encourages letters from our readers on topics of general interest to the community and responses to our articles and columns. Letters must be signed and have a telephone number where you can be reached to be considered for publication. All letters will be verified before publication. The Record reserves the right to deny publication of any letter and edit letters for length content and style. News of public interest is solicited from all sections of the county.



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SUBMITTED PHOTO

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Lt. Governor-Elect Winsome Earle-Sears announces Julianne Condrey as Chief of Staff

Winsome Earle-Sears recently announced that Julianne Condrey, Vice President of Aegis Associates, LLC, in Richmond, will become her Chief of Staff on January 15.

"Julianne has extensive experience working on Capitol Square with legislators, staff, and many related organizations. Her knowledge, work ethic, and outstanding relationships will enable our office to work well with the General Assembly and Youngkin Administration," Earle-Sears stated in making her announcement.

Condrey has lobbied for healthcare and education-related clients, with a focus on special needs education and maternal health.

In accepting this post Condrey said, "Lt. Governor-Elect Winsome Earle-Sears' historic win, as well as her remarkable personal story, resonates with citizens of Virginia and well beyond. She will serve the people of the Commonwealth with compassion and distinction. It is an honor and a privilege to serve as Deputy Director of Transition and

starting January 15, as her Chief of Staff."

Chris Saxman, Transition Director for Earle-Sears, added, "Julianne Condrey is a consummate professional who is highly respected and well known for getting the job done while effectively working across the political aisle. Her experience will be a tremendous asset to the new Lt. Governor."

Julianne Condrey is a graduate of The Sorensen Political Leaders Program at UVA, holds a B.A. in Government from Regent University, and is a candidate for

a M.A. in Government with a concentration in Law and Public Policy.

Condrey has served as the Vice President of the Ginter Park Residents Association and as Vice Chair of the Richmond Sister Cities Commission. She has served as Legislative Assistant/Chief of Staff in the Virginia General Assembly in the House of Delegates and the Senate.

Submitted by Chris Saxman, Transition Director



Julianne Condrey

SUBMITTED PHOTO

OBITUARIES

Craft, Sylvia Anna

Sylvia Anna Craft, 69 of New Castle, went to be with the Lord on Thursday, December 30, 2021. She was preceded in death by her father Ernest Sink and mother, Christine Cadd.

She is survived by loving husband of 50 years, Charles Craft, Jr.; daughters, Mary Craft-Fontanyi and husband Michael and Rena Owens and husband Randy; grandchildren, Lisa Craft, Barry Perdue, Jr., Gabe Wolfe, and Char-

lie Wolfe; Madison Fontanyi, Karson Fontanyi, Jasmine Fontanyi, and Samantha Fontanyi; great-granddaughter, Charleigh Craft; sister, Louise Shelton; brother, William Glenn Sink; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Funeral services will be held at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, January 8, at Paitsel Funeral Home with Raymond Christian officiating. Interment will follow at Brickley Cemetery.

Swingle, Mary Elizabeth Shires

Mary Elizabeth Shires Swingle, 89 of New Castle, passed away peacefully on Saturday, December 25. She was born January 31, 1932, in Paint Bank, Virginia.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Percy C. Shires and Son M. Shires; siblings, Ruby S. Mays, Virgel L. Shires, Claude C. Shires, Esther S. Gemont, Reginald Shires, Althia Jane S. Holsinger, Marie Shires, James Garland Shires, Roy Allen Shires, and Benny L. Shires.

Left to cherish her memory are her children, James L. Swingle, Jr. (An-



gie) and Christopher S. Swingle, Sr. (Michelle); grandchildren, Kevin (Savannah), Brandon (Tarah), Alyssa (Brandon), and Christopher (Emily); great-grandchildren, Nathan, Grace, Holly, Gracie, and Blaise; along with numerous nieces, nephews, and special friends.

A Memorial Service was held at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, January 2, 2022, at Paitsel Funeral Home with Pastor Don Brown officiating. The family received friends one hour prior to the service.

Arrangements by Paitsel Funeral Home. www.paitselfh.com

Resolutions

from page 1

is the most difficult, as our minds send continuous reasons to "not" or the reasons we will fail, and we think, "why set myself up for another one?"

Still, science proves that if you do something for 21 days in a row, your body will adapt it as a habit. Amazing, isn't it?

Sadly though, this is why so many people get caught up into drugs, smoking, drinking and wrongful sexual acts.

They think that just a little bit won't hurt, or I'll just do it once, or that they just have to get 'over the hump' of that incident or devastation in life. Until, sadly, they look in the mirror months and for many, years later and see a different person looking back at them. And they are heartbroken at their own reflection.

It's a new year! Be like Ebenezer Scrooge and ditch the 'bah humbug' aside. Let the real you that was created in you come on out and be seen, felt, and celebrated!

A TV pastor said this week, that "Although no one can go back and make a brand-new start, anyone can start from now and make a brand-new ending."

Isn't that what Scrooge did? He saw the benefits of what he really wanted and then moved himself into that position and pushed himself over the edge of personal victory.

T.S. Elliott wrote: "For last year's words belong to last year's language and next year's words await another voice."

I'd like to add, that this year's words are standing at attention, waiting for your commands!

Why procrastinate?

Just imagine how it would feel to do that thing you really want to start doing. Picture it in your mind. Cut out pictures and paste them on your refrigerator, bathroom mirror or rear-view mirror of your car. Don't let yourself get away with waiting another year or more.

"The secret to change is to focus all of your energy, not on fighting the old, but on building the new," Socrates said.

How do you start?

1. Decide what you want.
2. Consider the consequences and assess

the obstacles.

3. Take some time, as you may need to revise your plan as you go. The goal is to start a plan. Write it down. Get a notebook just for your plan which will become your goals.

4. Start a new routine.

5. Share your goal with someone you can trust and that will help you to reach it, not give you more excuses to avoid it.

6. Stay focused. Don't allow other people or things to steer you off course. Don't use excuses. That can be a sneaky major downfall for anyone.

7. Seek help if you need it. Don't allow pride to keep you from what you want.

8. Be patient. Give yourself a break if you goof up a little. But, don't be too easy on yourself either. The old saying, "no pain no gain" carries a lot of weight. Yes, sacrifice, but not to the point of wrongful pain.

9. Celebrate! Give yourself prizes and gifts for achieving the small goals. Don't wait until the end when you get to the carrot at the end of the stick. Still, make sure you do have a party when you accomplish your goal! Even if it's just with you.

One of my favorite sayings is, "The best is yet to come!" And one of my favorite scriptures in the Bible is Mark 11: 22-24, "Have faith in God," Jesus answered. Truly I tell you, if anyone says to this mountain, 'Go, throw yourself into the sea,' and does not doubt in their heart but believes that what they say will happen, it will be done for them. Therefore, I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours."

So, what will you be saying this year? What will you speak into being for 2022? What world are you going to create around you, your family, your friends or your work?

Your words create the atmosphere you enter, whether good or bad. Choose good.

Choose your change. Choose a new year for you.

You'll be ever so glad you did, and I'll be rooting for you all the way!

"I know you can, I know you can, I know you can! Set your course and throw those embers on the flame of your engine!"

www.newcastlerecord.com

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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 Went, 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 Bible Study 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.graceassemblycatawba.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 Went, Minister, 540-544-7179. Sunday School 10:00am, Sunday Morning Worship 11:00am, Children's Church 11:00am. Choir Practice, bi-weekly 7:00pm, Ladies meeting first Monday of each month at 7:00pm.

LIGHTHOUSE BAPTIST

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

MOUNTAIN VIEW CHRISTIAN

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

NEW CASTLE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

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282 Salem Ave., New Castle: 864-5212; Sunday Mornings: 9 A.M. Contemporary Service and 11:00 A.M. Traditional Service with Sunday School at 10 A.M.; Wednesday night Bible study at 6:00 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.

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

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Max went missing November 8, 2021 in the Solitude Rd area of Arcadia, Va. Please help us find Max, if you see something, say something, ask questions, he's out there somewhere. He is loved and missed terribly by his family and twin sister Bella. We need Max home, PLEASE!!

Share this far and wide. Let's get Max home.

Auctions

PUBLIC NOTICE
 The contents of the listed unit will be sold at Public Auction January 7, 2022 at 11am at 1st Security Self Storage 5 Midway Plaza Dr. Christiansburg, VA. D061 E82 F18 F41 1st Security reserves the right to refuse any bid. Terms: CASH OR CREDIT CARD AT SALE.

Affordable Mini Storage, LLC
 1250 Lee Highway Roanoke, VA 24019
 Date: Saturday, January 8, 2022
 Time: 12:00 pm
 Units: F17, F16, B07, E33, P06, F20
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The Salem TimesRegister has openings for afternoon/evening shift work inserting, labeling and bundling newspapers for delivery. No experience necessary. Hours may vary. Will train. \$7.50 per hour. Contact Lynn Hurst, General Manager, Salem-Times Register (540)389-9355 or email lhurst@ourvalley.org

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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 pertaining to the review of subdivision site plans and plats.

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

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

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 24, 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:

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At said hearing, parties in interest and citizens shall have an opportunity to be heard relative to the said requests.
 THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA
 BY: H. Robert Light
 Clerk of Council

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SPORTS

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Maggie Mays looks for some room.

PHOTOS BY JIM & REGINA DEVINNEY

Rockets fall to Auburn in girls basketball

The Craig County girls' junior varsity team opened last week's quadruple-header in New Castle with a win, but that was the highlight of the day as far as the girls go.

The jayvees took a 36-34 win over Auburn in the first game of the day, only to have the Eagles dominate in the varsity game. The Craig girls fell behind 49-4 by the half and lost 87-11 to an Auburn team that was all over the Rockets on defense and bombing away on offense.

Craig coach Brock Jones was ill and could not attend the game, and watching on the NFHS network didn't make him feel much better.

"It was not pretty at all," said Jones. "They hit 12 threes against us and the press hurt us really bad. Lack of practices from the holidays and people traveling with family and such really showed up. This time of year is rough on basketball teams and practicing, but family and loved ones come first."

Sara Jones was Craig's leading scorer with just four points, all from the foul line. Hannah Ratliff had three points and Lexxy Brookman and Maggie Mays had two each.

"Our girls just looked tired," said Jones. "We didn't show up to play and the confidence went downhill quickly. There was a funeral the same day for one of our players' grandpa, and a few girls attended that before the game. I'm sure their heads weren't all the way into the

game and they felt low down and trying to be there for their friend and teammate. We love Reann Peters, and we are here for her as a team. We are praying for her and the Hypes Family."

Leann Mattox coached the team in Jones' absence.

"I felt like a train had hit me," said Jones. "Leann did a great job with the girls and continued to try and coach them all the way up to the last second. I couldn't ask for a better person to have on the staff with me."

Now 1-5, the girls missed practice due to school being closed on Monday and have three tough games this week. The Rockets start 2022 with a home game against Narrows on Tuesday followed by a trip to Giles tonight. On Friday they're back home to host Covington. The jayvees will play first against Narrows and Giles at 5:30 pm but Covington does not have a jayvee team so the varsity game Friday will start at 6 pm.

"The schedule is not in our favor this week either," said Jones. "We have a tough road ahead of us and we need some much needed gym time for practice coming up. We will continue to fight and push through the difficult time. A lot of this is new to all the players. Multiple players haven't played in two or three years and it's hard to fit that into a season that started November 8th. As long as they keep believing and working we will continue to improve."

Craig boys end the year with win over Montcalm



Lucas Taylor guards a Montcalm player.



Nathan Fisher drives to the hoop.

PHOTOS BY JIM & REGINA DEVINNEY

The Craig County boys played the last game of the

day in last week's quadruple-header and it proved to be the best of the four. The Rockets took a 56-46 win over visiting Montcalm to close out 2021.

Craig got off to a slow start, trailing 11-10 after the first quarter. The Rockets caught fire in the second period and outscored the Generals, 18-11, to take a 28-22 lead at the half. The Rockets never trailed again and held off a couple Montcalm

runs to close out the win.

"At times we were sloppy with the ball and ended the game with 19 turnovers," said coach Ryan Frazier. "This is an area we will need to clean up, and I feel that a majority of these were self-inflicted. One thing we did well has hustle. For stretches our shots weren't falling, but we kept our effort and energy up and that won us the game."

Nathan Fisher had a double-double for the Rockets with 21 points and 11 rebounds, and he also got the crowd on their feet with his first dunk. Dylan Crawford had a double-double with 11 points and 20 boards and Matthew Lucas scored 13 points. Zach Peters had just three points but dished out seven assists.

"We shared the ball on offense with three guys in double figures, and that's what we need every night," said Frazier. "If we tighten up in other areas I'm excited to see where we will end up this year."

With the win Craig closed out the old year with a 3-1 record, but things will get tough to start off the new year. The Rockets are scheduled to play at Narrows on Tuesday, home to Giles on Wednesday and at Covington Friday.

"We have a tough week ahead," said Frazier.

The jayvees also played last Wednesday against Montcalm and lost by one point, 29-28.

CROSSWORD ANSWERS

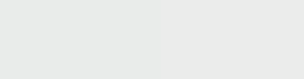
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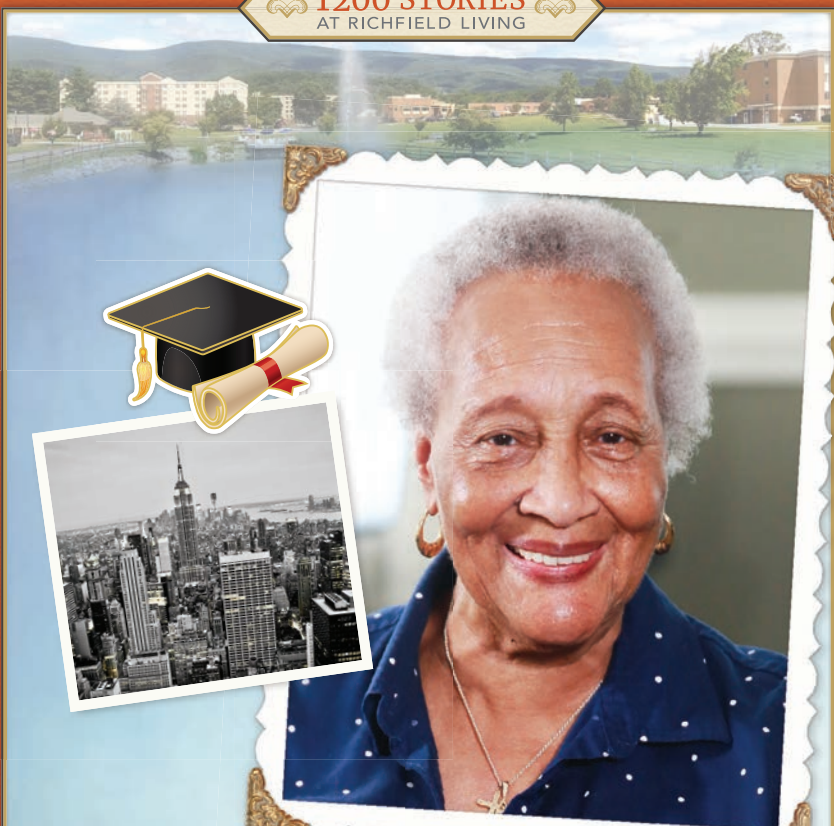
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Shirley White

Shirley W. is a resident of Knollwood independent living. When she was young she lived in the area and worked as a cook at The Roanoker restaurant. Later she moved with her three sons to New York, where she pursued her undergraduate and master's degrees. She used her education in psychology to help the homeless.

She is most proud of her three sons. One is a lawyer, one is a CPA, and the middle one was a football player. Shirley has eight grandchildren and eight great grandchildren who are all college graduates or in the process. She came to Richfield for rehab, and had such a good experience that she came back here to live.



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I lived near Richfield, and had friends there, so when I decided to downsize my choice was Richfield. The community has lots of activities that keep me busy. Shirley White