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"The Voice of Craig County"

Wednesday, February 2, 2022

\$1.00

## **School Board appoints officers**



Here are two of the Craig County School Board elected officers at January's monthly meeting. Trace Bellassai was re-elected as Chairman and Fave Powers, a current Board member, was elected as Co-chair. Both enjoy being a part of building the quality of education for local students.

#### Pam Dudding

Contributing writer

Times change and board appointments do as well. This is designed to help bring new ideas and also to relieve the work from others who have served.

At the January School Board meeting, officers were elected. Trace Bellassai was re-elected as Chairman as he was elected when Crenshaw resigned from the position.

Faye Powers, a current School Board member, accepted the appointment as co-chair.

Two School Board members had served their maximum terms of four years, Gina Smith and George Foster. Both shared that it was their honor to serve the students, school, and community in this capacity.

Expressed Foster, "It was a pleasure to serve for four years. Time to let someone else get a chance to serve."

"It was a pleasure to serve on the Craig County School Board to help make decisions for our students,'

Smith added. "The last couple of years of my term was very challenging and stressful due to not only having to make educational decisions, but health decisions for the students. I will continue to pray for the decisions that will have to be made by administrators and my fellow board members in the future. Our small community is special and unique. We have some of the best teachers and students."

Kevin Altizer is a remaining Board member.

New Board members elected are Walter Marsden (New Castle District) and Darren Gilreath (Sinking Creek District).

Powers, the new Co-Chair, shared what it meant for her to be a part of the Craig County School Board. "For me to be a part of the CC School Board is a very humbling experience. I feel blessed to help play such an important role setting policies with the best guidance and education we can provide."

She chose to participate as a member who was born and raised in Craig County and attended New Castle High

See School Board, page 2

## Craig toddler enjoys the snow around her house



When young Sophia woke up and saw all of the snow outside, she couldn't contain her enthusiasm. Her giggles were contagious, and she played in the piles of snow for over an hour.



The Upper Craig Creek Volunteer Fire Department is excited about the number of interested youth for their Junior Squad, which continues to grow. Pictured here are Cora Arritt, Doug Yeisley, Jeremiah Lucas, Benny Arritt, Carly Allen, Ava Greenway, Chris Matheney, Isaac Lucas, Hunter Jackson and Katherine Allen. Alex Drake is not pictured.

## **UCCVFD** Junior Squad honored

Pam Dudding

Contributing writer

There are those who believe that today's younger generation is causing problems. However, there are others who have taken strides to provide avenues for today's youth to have a vision and a responsibility, as well as a place for comradery and fun, while teaching them to be part of their community.

At the winter meeting of the Upper Craigs Creek Volunteer Fire Department, Chief Shawn Matheney said, "We've worked so hard together and accomplished so many things this year. I could go on and on forever about our accomplishments this year, but I won't. I feel our biggest accomplishment this year was starting the junior program."

He added with strong sentiment, that without the Junior Squad, the fire department was destined for the same result that it had just went through.

"In starting the Junior program and growing our own members in house, it is an accomplishment above all else because they are the future of our fire department," Matheney said, adding, "I think we have some of the best juniors that any fire department could ever ask for. These kids have gone out this year and worked hand in hand with adults and accomplished more than you could expect kids to ever accomplish."

He shared that while on a call or training, "none of the youth ever griped about the hard work, complained, got tired, quit, or went off playing. The juniors were in it to the end."

Allen "Toad" Nicholson, Bryan Grabow and Shannon Palmer serve as the junior counselors for the UC-

They recognized some Jr. members that participated before they started the program, recognizing them as charter junior members. They are Cora Arritt, Doug Yiesley, Carly Allen, Katherine Allen and Chris Ma-

See **UCCVFD**, page 5



The Upper Craig Creek Junior Charter Squad (with their counselors) are Bryan Grabow (Jr. Counselor), Doug Yiesley, Cora Arritt, Chris Matheney, Katherine Allen, Allen "Toad" Nicholson (Jr. Counselor), Carly Allen and Shannon Palmer (Jr. Counselor).



Catawba Valley Baptist Church teens take their annual Wild Game Dinner seriously. This year's goal is \$20,000. Everyone is invited to go online and purchase their ticket, enjoy the online auction and the dinner with another auction. The grand prize giveaway will be on Feb. 26.

## Wild Game Dinner returns with much excitement

Pam Dudding

Contributing writer

Though the COVID virus has halted many events, some are starting to emerge again for community members to attend.

The Catawba Valley Baptist Church Wild Game Dinner has announced it is "back in person" this year on Friday, February 25, at 6:30 p.m. at the Roanoke Moose Lodge #284 at 3233 Catawba Valley Drive in Salem.

"We plan to celebrate big this year as we return to an in-person event," said Pastor Stephen Vaughan. "This will be the most exciting Wild Game Dinner yet. Don't miss out on the amazing food, fun and giveaways while supporting a cause that supports

teaching the next generation." He noted that they understand some are not comfortable with coming to a large event at this point in time, therefore, they will have an enhanced take-out option available with more perks than in previous years.

"It's Wild Game Dinner time!" Vaughan said. "Every year on the last Friday in February, we host our annual Wild Game Dinner.

This event involves great food, an amazing auction and a lot of fun. But you have probably heard that before if you have ever attended one. If you haven't attended, all of that is true, but there is a lot more to the story."

Since 2013, the Catawba Valley Baptist Church has hosted its annual Wild Game Dinner.

It adopted this event to accomplish two simple goals.

"Goal one was to raise funds for our student ministries, specifically to send kids to camp the sum-

See **Dinner**, page 3



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## OMMUNITY 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 SUNDAY**

•Alcoholics Anonymous meeting. 8 p.m. at New Castle Fire Hall.

#### **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

#### 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

•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.

#### WEDNESDAY, **FEBRUARY 9**

At 6 p.m. inside the New Christian Church, the Annual Hearts Party

will occur. For more information, visit 540-864-5004.

#### SATURDAY, **FEBRUARY 12**

A spaghetti dinner at Upper Craig Volunteer Fire Department will happen from noon to 4 pm. Dine in, carryout and drive through options are all available. Any desserts or financial contributions would be greatly appreciated.

## Snow possum attempts to climb into the shed



Lorna Bragg, a snow-creationist, has uploaded pictures of her many snow creatures to Facebook. This little snow possum was her latest. "Oh no! Now there's a snoPossum trying to get into the shed," she shared.

### School Board

"This gives me close ties with most of the people in this county. I am no stranger here," she shared. "These people know me, and I have taught them, their children, and their grandchildren private music lessons for many years now. This is the second time I have held a seat on the Craig County School Board. The first time was for 10-years. During this time, we were able to build the new Dr. Dallas Helems Middle School, with much success of its usage over these years. We are very proud of this accomplishment."

When asked, "What do I wish to see or help with this coming year?" Powers replied, "These children are the future that you and I may never see. So, it is our job to provide the best education and safety for our children as we continue to support the Superintendent and staff as we work towards division goals which ensure our students are successful."

Chairman, Trace Bellassai shared, "I am honored to have been elected the School Board Chairman for the 2022 year and I'm very excited about what our new board will be able to accomplish. I am happy to welcome our new board members, and I know they will be great assets to our school system. Educating our children and preparing them for the future is one of the most important things any society can do, and my desire to make sure Craig County does so effectively is the reason I choose to be a school board

He added, "With any luck, this year will be more of a return to pre-pandemic 'normal,' which I know we are all looking forward to. We are excited to have several projects lined up for this year, including some facility upgrades, our Land Lab starting to come to fruition, and several other projects which are still in the works, but not as far along. I know we all cannot wait to see what 2022 has in store for us and our

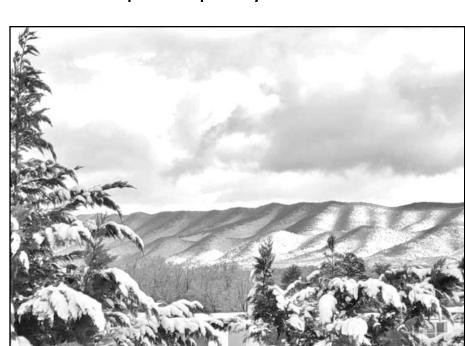
The community is encouraged to attend the monthly meetings on the second Tuesday of each month, in the high school auditorium at 5:30 p.m.

Being informed of today's events, new guidelines the administration has to constantly be implementing along with their continuous job to try and raise funds to keep the schools in good condition, takes a lot of dedicated people. Craig County is blessed to have these types of employees at the schools. If you can, please take time to attend the meetings. Even moral support means a lot in today's world.

## Snow beauty throughout Craig County



As the snow continued to fall in Craig County, many creeks gave their soothing rumble of the water over the rocks as the banks were ladened with pure white blankets of snow. The early morning haze rose from its cold waters, creating some of the most beautiful pictures and places to just relax and be in awe of.



Craig County has always been known for its majestic mountain scenes. Whenever snow falls, what follows is a strength of protection, surrounding the small town of **New Castle.** 

## **CROSSWORD PU** 15 20 24 23 26 44 50 55 58 59 30. More coherent

- **CLUES ACROSS** 1. \_\_ de Mornay, actress 8. Surrenders
- 13. Omission 14. The white poplar 15. They become butterflies
- 20. Select 21. Volcanic craters 22. Consumer price
- 23. Utilize 24. "True Blood"
- actress Paquin 25. Got up
- 26. Sank in

Giants

32. Most bald

33. Changes color

- 35. Undresses 38. Fathers 39. Learned skill 40. Remove
- qualification 44. Covered with frost 45. Speak up 46. Nowhere to be
- (abbr.)
- 19. Used to chop
  - 47. Part of surgery 48. Type of wrap
- 49. Church seating 51. College football conference 55. Turkish officer title 30. Retail 57. Organized body of

knowledge

58. Smooth and glossy

- 34. Unit of loudness **CLUES DOWN** 1. Get back 2. Pass or go by
  - 4. Midway between east and 5. Cairo Regional Airport Peace officer 7. Brings to life

3. Having a sharp taste

- 8. Automotive vehicles 9. One point south of due east 42. Brutal 10. Football position
- 11. Goes by 12. Most attractive 50. Mathematical figure 16. Road divisions

27. Change slightly

18. Small, faint constellation 22. Cabbage 25. Least frequent

28. A country in NÉ Africa

29. Metric units of measure

- 17. Not the sea
  - skilled
- 32. Make uninteresting
- 35. Institution of Oceanography
- 36. Of little value 37. Hindu model of the ideal
- 38. Biblical exclamation 40. You throw it at a board
- 41. Be about to happen 43. Opened one's mouth widely
- 45. 19th letter of Greek alphabet 48. Saturate 51. The woman 52. Someone who is highly
  - 53. A way to launch an attack on 54. Where golfers begin 56. Atomic number 58

### **Advertisement for Bid**

#### **Request Bids for Cleaning Services**

The County of Craig is seeking bids for the Cleaning Services Contract for the following buildings:

County Administration Office: One night per week on Friday

Sheriff's Office: Two nights per week on Tuesday and Friday Court House: One night per week on Friday Registrar's Office: One night per week on Friday

Cleaning of the buildings will include empty trash and recycling can, replace liners and remove to collection, clean windowsills, remove cobwebs, scuff marks and other blemishes as necessary and practical on an ongoing basis. Sanitize and clean bathrooms, fill hand soap/ sanitize dispensers, cleaning sinks and toilets, wipe down mirrors and trash receptacles, fill toilet paper and towel dispensers, sweep, mop and/or vacuum floors and vacuum carpets. Clean counter tops and glass partitions and glass doors. Dust cleared areas of desk and shelving. Sanitize handrails and other areas as needed.

Additional services on a as needed basis including but not limited to; cleaning windows inside and out, shampoo carpeting, waxing/buffing all tiled floors in Courthouse, Sheriff's Office, Registrar's Office, and Administration Building. Estimated cost must be submitted with bid.

Proof of Liability Insurance, and a background screening, is required prior to awarding this Contract.

Submit Sealed Bids by noon on February 28, 2022 in person to the Craig County Administrator's Office, Attn: Tom Cantrell, at 108 Court Street or mailed to Tom Cantrell, PO Box 308, New Castle, VA 24127 or send by email to tcantrell@craigcountyva.gov. All Bids should be clearly marked on the outside "Cleaning Service Bid"

The Craig County Board of Supervisors reserves the right to award the Cleaning Service Contract to the lowest most responsible Bidder. In addition, the Board of Supervisors has the right to reject all bids.

## Governor Glenn Youngkin appoints Chief Diversity, Opportunity and Inclusion Officer

Virginia's 74th Governor recently chose Angela Sailor to be Virginia's Director of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. Governor Youngkin also issued Executive Order #10, designating Sailor as a member of his cabinet as the Commonwealth Chief Diversity, Opportunity and Inclusion Officer with a stronger and more focused role on promoting ideas, policies, and economic opportunities for disadvantaged Virginians, including Virginians living with disabilities and bringing Virginians of different faiths together.

"The people of Virginia elected the most diverse leadership in the Commonwealth's history. Virginia is big enough for the hopes and dreams of a diverse people. Angela Sailor's experience in government, nonprofits and the private sector will guide us as we ensure that the government is working for all Virginians across our diverse Commonwealth, especially when it comes to economic opportunity for all Virginians. In addition, I will introduce and support legislation to change the name of the office to the Diversity, Opportunity and Inclusion Office," said Governor Glenn Youngkin.

Angela Sailor, Chief Diversity, Equity, and Inclu-

Angela Sailor is an ex-

ecutive with 20 plus years of experience delivering measurable achievements in both in-house and advisory roles working with government (White House, Congress, U.S. Department of State, U.S. Department of Education), corporate, nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), and non-profit (NPOs). organizations Her most recent positions include, Vice President of The Feulner Institute at The Heritage Foundation, Chief of Staff to Heritage's President Kay Coles James and public member of the Senior Foreign Service Selection Board for the United States Department

Sailor has also worked to promote policy through public sector leadership positions at the federal, state and local levels. Serving in The White House Office of Public Liaison, Sailor successfully formed coalitions to support Presidential policy initiatives while driving stakeholder support and advancing strategic communication to traditional and niche markets. Her portfolio included domestic policy directly impacting the African-American and Senior Citizen communities. She served as a champion for Presidential policies supporting Education, Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Faith-based initiatives,

Health Care, Housing, Small Business, Social Security and Welfare policy. As a White House surrogate, Angela hosted White House briefings, East Room and Rose Garden events with the President, as well as, regional and local town hall meetings with cabinet and senior Administration officials. She served as Deputy

Chief of Staff to the United States Department of Education, Office of Secretary Rod Paige. In this role, Sailor worked closely with the White House on a wide variety of policy matters coming before the Secretary and represented the Secretary to internal and external stakeholders. She had oversight of White House Initiatives on Educational Excellence and Higher Education to include Historically Black Colleges and Universities, as well as the Office for Faith-Based Initiatives. Special Projects included No Child Left Behind War Room, 50th Anniversary of Brown v. Board Education and the Title IX Commission on Opportunities in Athletics. She worked for the United States Senate Judiciary Committee, Subcommittee on Immigration for former U.S. Sen. Spencer Abraham. Also, her roles at the state and local level include work in Michigan's Legal Office for longtime Republican

Governor John Engler, for the State of Michigan Appeals Court, Detroit, Michigan and for Detroit Michigan Wayne County Commission.

Sailor has been on the front lines working for the election of conservative leaders to federal and state offices. As National Coalitions Director, Department Head and Senior Advisor at the Republican National Committee, Sailor held budget management and oversight of three departments – Coalitions and Strategic Communications (internal/external), Constituent Services, and the RNC Internship Program. In this capacity, Angela was charged with building a new department, leading program design, planning, logistics, fundraising, cross-cultural messaging, cultural training, alliances, online engagement, roundtable discussions, promotion, and engagement. A signature project included creating and directing operations for a national bus tour covering 14,000 miles, 48 states, and 100+ cities, for which Angela oversaw 200 staff and volunteers and managed the operation at 45 percent under projected budget.

Sailor also served as Director of African-American Affairs, for George W. Bush's Victory 2000 Presidential Campaign. In

**Angela Sailor** 

this capacity, she served as liaison to Congressional, state, and local African-American Republican candidates. Sailor built stronger alliances with urban-centered businesses, community, education and religious leaders across America, and she managed coalition field staff and volunteers across the

Sailor's corporate experiences include serving as a Partner for Watts Consulting Group where Sailor managed government and legislative advocacy, crisis management, crisis communications, political, cultural analysis and thought leadership for clients such as John Deere, NASCAR, Strong American Schools, and Wells Fargo. She also built private/public partnerships among Universities, Congressional Offices, nonprofit organizations (NPOs) and trade associa-

Her early career includes Manager of the Detroit Regional Chamber of Commerce; Communications, Sales and Marketing Strategist for Black Entertainment Television; and Sales and Marketing for Procter and Gamble. Media experiences include serving as a radio host with WGTŽ 93 Dayton, Ohio, WCSU-FM 88.9, and as a freelance producer with Fox Morning News, Washington, D.C.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Sailor holds a Juris Doctorate from the University of Memphis, Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law and a Master's Degree in Broadcast Journalism and Public Affairs from the American University. She attended Spelman College and graduated from Central State University. She is married with two children.

> Submitted by Macaulay Porter, Office of the

## Dinner from page 1

mer of 2013," Vaughan explained. "This was an audacious goal as every kid going to camp represented around \$325-\$350. But the Lord provided. In fact, every year since, the Lord has provided enough funds not only for camp, but for so much more."

"Goal two was to connect with our community," he added. "Too often, it is easy to do life within our own little bubbles, but Catawba Valley Bapbers seek to break that mold and build relationships with those around us and introduce them to Jesus. Wild Game Dinner presents this opportunity.

Wild Game Dinner." Since 2013, Wild Game Dinner has ex-

Both of those goals have

become a standard of

panded, and now funds lies, with one mission in around 75 percent of mind, a closer relationtheir annual students' ship with Jesus. Our deministry budget. It covers sire is not to replace the things like summer camp, family, instead to simply weekly student ministry, be a resource to help the and outreach events while family. We seek to minisoffsetting other events ter to students and their such as retreats and ac- families in time of need,

Sara, Nora, Sam, CJ, Em- made." mie, Eli, Grace, William and the list can keep on goal is \$20,000.

we do is treated as an op-tunity. Yes, we seek to portunity to minister to do both of those things,

THE NEW CASTLE

**K**ECORD

relational strife, emo-That all sounds like a tional distress, or sufferwhole lot of fun and it is, ing loss. We also seek to but more than that fun, help students find other it allows opportunities friends who believe in Jeto minister to students of sus, where they can find all ages," Vaughan shard. community. Many stu-"Instead of thinking in dents and families have terms of events, it's more been ministered to when powerful to thinking they needed it most, beterms of people who have cause of the difference been affected, Logan, Wild Game Dinner has

This year's fundraising

"This year presents He added, "Everything us with a new opporstudents and their fami- but we want to exceed them," Vaughan said. "We want to connect

with those searching for a community of faith or for answer to life's questions and point them to Jesus. We want to build relationships with them and minister to our community. We want to raise more money than ever before for our student budget so that we can reach out to more kids and more schools in order that we can minister to them."

The church believes this is a group project.

In fact, it takes an army of volunteers to prep for the event and make it happen. But before the event ever happens, generous donors step forward every year and give items for our auction and sponsor certain aspects of the event," explained. Vaughan "And, the night of, a host of people from the community show up to

show their support. Every year is a reminder of two things: God is good and provides more than we could imagine, and He uses people from our church and community in amazing ways to accomplish His purpose."

Ticket sales are now open and available for purchase. There will be two different ticket options this year. Tickets may be purchased as "in person" or "take out."

People will have their choice of BBQ bear/ deer or regular bear/deer with sides of green beans, mashed potatoes and a dinner roll. Dessert is included as well as a bottle of water or canned drink.

The deadline for ticket sales is Sunday, February

This year there will be an exciting in-person auction and a week before the event, an online auction and raffle.

To participate in the grand prize giveaway,

you must be present at the event.

When tickets drop, you can select "in person" or "take out" for the ticket package you

In order to participate in Wild Game Dinner auctions and raffles, you must be a ticket holder.

The ticket page is https://www.catawbavalleybc.org/wild-gametickets.html. Once one purchases their ticket, they will receive an email with specific instructions to register and how to en-

If they prefer, they can still call the office to purchase tickets at (540) 380-8448, extension 4. Leave a message if no one answers and someone will call back.

ter the auction.

Join us as we prepare for the event, and join us the night of February 26, as we get to be a part of ministering to the next generation for the cause of Christ," Vaughan said.

Be sure to 'Like' the New Castle

Record on Facebook.

#### **TOWN OF NEW CASTLE** PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE PROPOSED CIGARETTE TAX FEBRUARY 21, 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, on February 21, **2022** at **7:00 PM** or as soon thereafter as persons may be heard, in the New Castle Town Hall, 339 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 20 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. Action may be taken at that time to adopt the ordinance. The Ordinance is available for review by contacting Clerk Nina Davis.

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.



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# Dogs Again

#### Library Corner

Empowering individuals to build a stronger community

Somewhere around 15,000 years ago, at the very least, dogs became domesticated. In the time since, those early apex predators such as wolves evolved into slightly less fearsome creatures such as pugs and Pomeranians.

It was only relatively recently, however, that dogs became genuine pets, living indoors, sleeping on the sofa and sporting silly haircuts. Prior to the 18th century, dogs were kept mainly for hunting and defense. Back then, even today's pampered poodles were used to retrieve waterfowl and stray arrows.

The now-common notion that dogs are "man's best friend" was first put forward by the Prussian King Frederick II sometime in the mid-1700s to describe one of his faithful greyhounds. Frederick loved his pups so much that he wanted to be buried next to them, a wish that

was denied upon his death grams' in 1786, but later granted in 1991 when he was interred alongside his canine companions.

Modern dog-lovers can certainly understand Fredthings in life give us as much ist joy as our furry friends. This sentiment has been shared you are deeply troubled, by many famous figures over the centuries, from Lord Byron to Oprah Winfrey, as the ionship of a dog that you can following quotes reveal.

The poor Dog, in life the firmest friend / the first to welcome, foremost to defend Lord Byron, from "Epitaph to a Dog"

Once you have had a wonderful dog, a life without one is a life diminished. – Dean Koontz

— Mark Twain

Everyone thinks they have the best dog. And none of them are wrong, a dog, one doesn't merely - W.R. Pursche, "Lessons try to train him to be semito Live By: The Canine human. The point of it is to Commandments"

those who know how to listen.

Orhan Pamuk, "My Name Is Red"

My little old dog: / A heartbeat / At my feet. — Edith Wharton, "In Provence and Lyrical Epi-

The gift which I am sending you is called a dog, and is in fact the most precious and valuable possession of

Theodorus Gaza, rick's point of view, as few 15th-century Greek human-

> I have found that when there are things you get from the silent devoted companget from no other source.

– Doris Day

When an 85-pound mammal licks your tears away, then tries to sit on your lap, it's hard to feel sad.

Kristan Higgins, "Catch of the Day"

The greatest pleasure of a dog is that you may make The dog is a gentle- a fool of yourself with him, man; I hope to go to and not only will he not his heaven not man's, scold you, but he will make a fool of himself, too.

Samuel Butler

In order to really enjoy open oneself to the possibil-Dogs do speak, but only to ity of becoming partly a dog.

- Edward Hoagland,

brought the highest num-

cron surge will be that we

that 2022 will be a much

better year with respect to

The high levels of trans-

from his essay "Dogs and the Tug of Life" for "Harper's Magazine"

My dog has a number of acquaintances of his own species — as do I — but it is abundantly clear to both of us that there is little company in all the world which we enjoy so much as each other's.

Donna Tartt

All knowledge, the totality of all questions and all answers, is contained in the

- Franz Kafka, "Investigations of a Dog"

Bo was a constant, gentle presence in our lives — happy to see us on our good days, our bad days, and every day in between He was exactly what we needed and more than we ever expected.

— Barack Obama A life without a dog is a

mistake.

 Carl Zuckmayer, German writer and playwright

Over the years, I have felt the truest, purest love - the love of God, really, I imagine that's what God's love feels like — is the love that comes from your dog.

– Oprah Winfrey Dog books at Craig

County Public Library: The Complete Encyclopedia of Dog Breeds

Disposable Dogs: heart-

warming, true stories of courage and compassion Dog to the Rescue: seventeen true tales of dog

A Dog's Life: the autobi-

ography of a stray A Dog's Way Home

How Smart is Your Dog? Test Your Pet's IQ

Marley & Me: Life and love with the world's worst The Puppy That Came

SUBMITTED PHOTO

for Christmas: how a dog brought one family the gift

War Dog Heroes: true stories of dog courage in wartime

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TLE RECORD 1633 W. Main St., Salem, Va. 24153

all sections of the county.

## Dr. Cynthia Testing update

Every New Year brings hope. Even though the first weeks of January have

1633 W. Main St.

Salem, VA 24153

ber of cases we have seen locally at any point in the pandemic, we continue to have hope as we look to the future. We remain THE NEW CASTLE RECORD hopeful that one of the consequences of the Omi-

> finally have a meaningful sustained decrease in CO-VID-19 activity. We remain hopeful that we will finally have a vaccine for children under the age of Michael Showell, Publisher five. With all that we have Shawn Nowlin, Editor shawn.nowlin@ourvalley.org learned over the past two Brian Hoffman, Sports Editor bhoffman@ourvalley.org years, we remain hopeful Lynn Hurst, General Manager lhurst@ourvalley.org

> > the pandemic. But hope is not enough.

mission in our communities have placed access to testing in the spotlight. Pharmacies and healthcare providers had been tasked with providing the bulk of testing opportunities over the previous year. And as demand for testing quickly outstripped their supply at year-end, local health departments stepped up.

Testing helps prevent the spread of COVID-19 and should be used alongside our best tools to stop this pandemic - getting vaccinated, getting boosted, wearing a mask in indoor public settings, and staying home when we are

Although there are a number of test options available, today we'll focus on two of the most common types:

Rapid at-home tests: Also known as self-tests, these tests are usually sold as kits with specific instructions for the user to follow to get results within minutes. Most tests are rapid antigen tests which do not have the same rate of accuracy as PCR tests, though they are relatively easy to use and can be used when a lab test is not avail-

Where can rapid tests be found? Rapid tests are sold over the counter at most pharmacies (and now covered by most insurable while supplies last at some local libraries. In addition, every household is now eligible to order up to

four free tests through the White House's new online portal at covidtests.gov.

Viral PCR tests: Considered the gold standard in terms of accuracy, PCR tests look for viral particles in the body, even in people who don't have symptoms. Typically PCR tests are analyzed in a laboratory and it can take 24-48 hours for people to receive their re-Where can PCR tests

be found? Locally, PCR tests can be found at healthcare facilities, pharmacies, as well as at our health department community testing events.

Because of increased demand and long wait times at the community events, we have transitioned to appointmentbased scheduling. While the Roanoke City and Alleghany Health Districts (RCAHD) were able to ramp up events to expand testing capacity to over 1000 people per week, we found that we still had had waited hours when our supplies ran out.

We are thankful that we now have a community testing center near the former Sears at Valley View Mall. We will be able to offer free PCR testing Monday-Thursday, 9:30-5pm. Appointments are available online the day before, or call 877-ASK-VDH3. Results are typically back within 24-48 hours. In addition, we are

committed to offering testing convenient to our more rural residents: this week we will hold Wednesday at events Dabney Lancaster College and Thursday at Fincastle Baptist. These events are also by appointment. Community testing events for the upcoming week will be announced on our website and social media. Please visit https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/roanoke/ or call 877-ASK-VDH to make an appointment.

We are thankful for the amazing partnerships that we have strengthened over the past two years. Together, we have weathered the past two years. And we know, no matter what 2022 brings, our community will persevere.

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## Huffman, Clyde Wilson

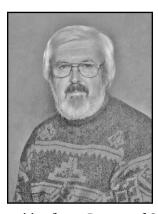
Clyde Wilson Huff-man, 78, of Newport, passed away peacefully on Wednesday, January 26. He was born to the late Cameron Wilson Huffman and Ileta Payne Hughes Huffman on December 9, 1943, and lived his entire life on the family farm in the Sinking Creek Valley of Craig County.

Clyde was proud of his service in the U.S. Army

from 1965 to 1967. He married his first love, Linda Gayle Jones Huffman on August 19, 1967, raised their two boys and lived together until her passing in March 2002. Clyde was an avid hunter and fisherman and also enjoyed gardening and playing music. After 30 years of service at General Electric in Salem, he retired and continued with his love of farming.

In 2006, he met and married his loving wife, Nancy Smith Huffman, and they lived together on the farm for the next 16 years.

Survivors include his wife, Nancy Smith Huffman; his sons, Greg and wife Elizabeth Huffman of Newport, Tim and wife Angie Huffman of Newport; stepson, Clayton and wife Kelly Allen of Henrico,



NC.: grandchildren, Kristen and husband Rusty Mattox of New Castle and Heather Huffman of New Castle, Maggie Huffman and Mason Huffman of Newport, Kara and husband Adam Clary of Lawrenceville, VA and Colby Allen of Raleigh, NC; great-granddaughters, Rylee Mattox and Kenzlee Mattox; and his sister Sherry and husband Ken

Pearson of Smith Mountain Lake; along with multiple brother-in-laws, sister-inlaws, nieces and nephews.

The family received visitors on Tuesday, February 1, beginning at 10 a.m. at Bethel United Methodist Church, 11599 Cumberland Gap Road, New Castle, Virginia. Funeral services began at 11 a.m., with Charles Stacy and Larry Jent officiating. Burial followed in the Ross Cemetery in Craig County.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Simmonsville Fire Department, Bethel United Methodist Church, or Good Samaritan Hospice in Clyde's

Arrangements by Paitsel Funeral Home. www.paitselfh.com

## Trivette, Madeline Huffman

Huffman Madeline Trivette, of New Castle, went home to be with her Lord and Savior on Monday, January 24, at the age of 88. Madeline was born on February 10, 1933. She was preceded in death by her husband, Ollie William Trivette; her parents, Josie Huffman and Kent Huffman; and her five brothers, Corbet Huffman, Oval Huffman, Stanley Huffman, Bobby Huffman and George Huff-

man; one sister, Leola Huffman Sarver. Survivors include three children, De-

lois Shelor, Muriel Jones (Ron), Les Trivette (Roberta); three grandchildren, Mike Jones (Donna), Chris Shelor (Jasper), Ashley Stewartson (Trey); greatgrandchild, Hunter Jones and one on the way; special sister-in-law, Wilma Trivette.



Madeline had a passion for flowers loved spending time with her family and fur baby, Molly. Madeline was a retired nurse aid from Catawba Hospital, where she served 17 years. Madeline was fortunate enough to live independently until a few months ago. A special thanks to Kindred Nursing and Hospice staff and Dr. Syed T. Haider.

Funeral Services were held at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, January 29, at Paitsel Funeral Home with Pastor Gary Kingery officiating. Interment followed at Huffman Memorial Park. Family received family and friends from 12 p.m. until 1

Arrangements by Paitsel Funeral Home. www.paitselfh.com

## Kendall, Mary Wilburn

Mary Wilburn Kendall, 66 of New Castle, passed away Wednesday, January 26, 2022. She was preceded in death by her mother and father, Walt and Frances Paitsel; father, Clarence Wilburn; sister, Louise Paitsel; special aunt, Libby Dequino; brother in law, Robert "Bootie" Via. Family left to cherish

many living memories are her husband of 43 years, Gene Kendall; son, Chad Kendall; special granddaughter, Harmony (Aaron) Smith; special grandson, Chase Kendall; greatgrandson Jasper Smith; sisters, Carolyn Via and Sandra (Keith) Ray. She also

called Virginia Radford her sister.

Mary was a loving wife, mother, granny and loved everyone. And always made sure she hugged loved ones before they left. She never met a stranger. Her family and her love of the lord were her main priority.

Funeral Services were held at 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 1, at

Paitsel Funeral Home with Pastor Lee Looney officiating. The family received friends from 6 to 8 p.m. on Monday, January 31, at Paitsel Funeral Home.

Arrangements by Paitsel Funeral Home. www.paitselfh.com

## Hypes, Harriet **Hutchison Farrier**

Harriet Hutchison Farrier Hypes, 87, passed away in her home on Saturday, January 22, in the Sinking Creek Valley of Craig County. She was born May 16, 1934, in Simmonsville to Bill and Neva Hutchison Farrier. She married Carlysle D. Hypes on September 2, 1955. Preceding her in death are her parents, W.L and Neva Farrier; her husband, CD Hypes; her brother and sister-in-law W. L and Geraldine Far-

She is survived by her daughters Carla (Rodney) Williams of the Sinking Creek Valley of Craig County and Ann (Bryan) Armel of Cody, WY. Her grandchildren Laura Williams, James (Christine) Armel and Sarah Armel and two great-grandchildren, Beckett and Myles Armel. Also surviving her are loving nephews and niece and family friends.

Harriet graduated from Maywood School in 1951. She received a bachelor's degree from Emory & Henry College and a master's degree from Virginia Commonwealth University. Harriet spent 30 years as a teacher and guidance counselor. She taught in the Virginia counties of Washington, Amelia, Rockbridge, and Craig. She was active in her local education associations and a member of the education organization of Delta Kappa Gamma.

Harriet loved family and friends.

Her hobbies were cooking, sewing, and quilting. She made her daughters' wedding gowns, and many clothes for her children and grandchildren.

Harriet loved travelling and seeing other places in Virginia and the US. In 1979, CD and Harriet returned to their beloved home in the Sinking Creek Valley. She spent 25 years as the pianist for Bethel United Methodist Church. She sang in the choir and taught adult Bible study. Harriet continued as communion steward for Bethel United Methodist Church after her mother, Neva H. Farrier, and her grandmother, Ressie Mc-Guire Farrier.

Harriet was a cherished member of her family, friends and community. Her family was blessed by her love and support. She is now at peace with her Savior.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorial donations to either Simmonsville Volunteer Fire Department, Bethel United Methodist Church or the charity of your choice.

Funeral Services were held at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, January 30, at Bethel United Methodist Church with Pastor Charles Stacy officiating. Interment followed at Ross Cemetery. The family received friends from 5 to 7 p.m. on Saturday, January 29 at Paitsel Funeral Home.

Arrangements by Paitsel Funeral Home. www.paitselfh.com

## **UCCVFD**

'When we started this program, some rules were accepted from another Volunteer Fire Department. We reduced the 175 rules and took it to 25-30 rules," Nicholson shared.

Decisions were to have officers and the following were chosen and honored at the meeting: Isaac Lucas (Lieutenant), Katherine Allen (Jr. Captain), and Carly Allen (Secretary).

"At the last meeting, the Jr. Squad voted for its Member of the Year," Nicholson said with emotion. "It was a difficult decision to pick just one member, therefore we made you all junior members of the year, presenting certificates. I just want to let you know that you have done a really good job and

we look forward to doing a lot more with you. We older ones aren't going to be around forever. We just want to say thank you from all of

The attendees then gave the Jr. Squad a big round of applause and shouts.

The Jr. Squad currently consists of Cora Arritt, Doug Yeisley, Jeremiah Lucas, Benny Arritt, Carly Allen, Ava Greenway, Chris Matheney, Isaac Lucas, Hunter Jackson, Katherine Allen and Alex

Nicholson also recognized Carly Allen, Katherine Allen and Hunter Jackson.

"On Thanksgiving Day, they chose to leave their dinner table and came out and worked their butts off, harder than some of us grown senior members," Nicholson shared. "I couldn't be more proud of these three. These guys didn't complain one

He continued, "These guys came to the fire scene geared up, ready to work and did not have a problem. Katherine had the hose slung over her shoulder for over 25 minutes, dragging that hose. That is amazing for a young lady to do that. Everyone of them had a tool or a hose in their hands the whole time." Handclaps and many whooos were shouted

out for them. They noted that for the juniors who do not have gear, they are working hard trying to get donations from

other departments. Matheney came back to

ning at 7PM.

the podium, adding, "For those who do not know, it seems me may be really working these juniors. But we have also built one heck of a game room at the fire house for them to use and have a place to relax and get away from everything.'

They have an air hockey table, card table, checkers, dartboard, foosball and are getting a pool table too.

"I have preached that from the get-go that we want the fire house to be a place for everybody to come and relax and enjoy being there," Matheney said. "Yes, we do a ton of hard work but when it's play time... we play. The fire department is a place where teenagers should be able to come and hang out. I know for me as a junior, I

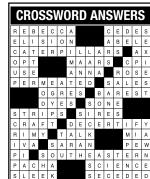
looked forward to being able to be at the firehouse every evening or weekend. It gave me an outlet, a purpose and something to do and it kept me out of trouble."

He noted, "I can stand right here and say that probably 95 percent of them worked harder than some of our techs ever did. With that being said, I would like for us to continue to grow the junior squad as a depart-

Matheney explained, "I kept saying baby steps baby steps, but we were jumping ten-foot at a time sometimes. It has paid off. Over the next year, I want us to continue to grow and build with the same enthusiasm as we had this past year."

The Squad invites the

community to come and enjoy a Valentine Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser on Saturday, February 12, from noon until 4 p.m. either through dine in, drive up or carry out. Concluded Matheny, "We hope to see you there as we work hard towards getting the equipment that we need for our Jr Squad."



#### BETHEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

CHESTNUT GROVE CHURCH

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

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

#### CRAIG HEALING SPRINGS CHRISTIAN CHURCH (Disciples of Christ)

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

#### **CRAIG VALLEY BAPTIST**

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

#### CRAIG VÄLLEÝ GÖSPEL 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 10:00ÅM, Sunday Worship 11:00AM and 6PM. Wednesday Evening Bible Study 7PM, Youth Group

7:00PM, Reformers Unanimous Addiction Recovery every Friday eve-

#### 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

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

#### **HEBRON UNITED METHODIST**

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

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

#### LEVEL GREEN CHRISTIAN CHURCH

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

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

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

#### NEW CASTLE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

"WHERE YOUR HEART CAN FEEL THE DIFFERENCE" 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

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Legals - City of

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Board to accomplish and

equalization of real estate

discharge the duties imposed by law upon the

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2022, unless the powers of

the Board are extended by order of the circuit court for

property assessments in the

City and to hear and give consideration to all

the City of Salem. The

purpose of the Board

meeting is to equalize

complaints of any

inequalities in such

assessment so that the

taxation shall rest equally

At its meeting, the Board

complaints, whether made

by property owners, the

City, or any taxpayer, on

property owners or their representatives. The Board

assessment by raising, or

by the Assessor, in proper

cases, in order to make

City as far as practicable.

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to the Board of Equalization

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upon all owners

inequality protest

may equalize any

adjourned on April 11th,

complete its task of

assessments and to

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Kalpana Budhathoki

NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

#### Legals - City of Salem

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159-Katelyn Bowman-Household goods: 023-Jeffery Terry -Household goods: 225-Marcus Harrison -Household good:

described as "general household items" unless

295-Travis Davidson-

259-Jonathan Walker-

Legals - City of

Salem

**NOTICE OF** 

**BOARD OF** 

**EQUALIZATION** 

**MEETING** 

TO: CITY OF SALEM REAL

The Board of Equalization

Assessments in the City of

April 11th, 2022, from 8:00

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Salem, Virginia.

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Household good

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VA CODE §§ 1-211 1; 8.01316, -317, 20-104
Case No. CL21001989
Montgomery County
Circuit Court
55 East Main Street, Suite
1, Christiansburg, VA 24073
Estate Of Ernestine B. Frith

v. Commonwealth of Virginia Mark B. Frith

Commonwealth of Virginia
The object of this suit is to:
Sale of Ernestine Burton
Frith's Real Property
It is ORDERED that Dennis
L. Frith appear at the
above-named court and
protect his/her interests on

January 13, 2022 Judge K. Mike Fleenor, Jr.

or before March 14, 2022.



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## AAU team wins tournament in Tennessee

The Craig County girls' AAU team finished in first place in a tournament in Tennessee over the weekend of January 23rd.

All the girls on the team are from Craig County and they're coached by Brock Jones and Tommy Fisher. The girls beat Gate City and George Wythe to win the tourney.

Kailyn Jones led Craig in scoring with 36 points in four games. Maggie Mays had 19 points, Jenna Boitnotte and Kallie Fisher had 15 each and Daileigh Donithan had

Kailyn Jones led the team in scoring with 36 total points in four games. Maggie Mays had 19 points, Jenna Boitnotte and Kallie Fisher had 15 each and Daileigh Donithan had 13.

"The future is bright as long as they keep buying in and listening and are willing to play the game," said coach Jones. This group plays so well together and they work



The Craig County AAU girls basketball team poses with their first place medals after winning a tournament in Tennessee. Coach Tommy Fisher in the back and, left to right, Kallie Fisher, Kammie Fisher, Cheyenne Bell, Natalie Fisher, Kailyn Jones, Jenna Boitnotte, Daileigh Donithan, Laiken May, Annalease Zimmerman, Hayliegh Flowers, Maggie Mays, and coach Brock Jones in the front. Not pictured is Emily Smith, who got sick after the second game and couldn't finish.

## Busy week for girls as they try to make up weathered out ballgames

The Craig County girls have a busy schedule this week, hoping to get in four Pioneer District games with the season winding down. The girls had one district game postponed last week and two nondistrict games cancelled due to inclement weather.

This week, the girls were scheduled to open

the week at Eastern Montgomery on Monday, followed by a game at Covington on Tuesday. They play a jayvee-varsity doubleheader on Thursday at Narrows, then return home to host Highland County on Friday in the first game of a doubleheader with the boys.

Due to the weather the

1200 STORIES

game last week, at home against Narrows. The visiting Green Wave took a 51-26 win. Craig was beset by foul trouble early in the game, as three starters had three fouls before the half. The Rockets trailed 35-11 at that point.

"We like to play physical around the rim and we

Rockets played just one just weren't having the calls while Sara Jones added five go our way in this game," said coach Brock Jones. "It dropped to 2-9. took the breath right out of

us in the first half." but only 16-15.

"We usually play well We won't get much pracin the second half," said tice this week again and Jones. "Scoring still seems to get the best of us. We struggle being able to score on the offensive end. We have eliminated a lot of the careless turnovers, but we struggle in half-court offense. We still aren't quite as physical in our defense like I would prefer and we get lost in our zone as a team. We have improved on beating the press recently, but we need to execute on the offensive end better. On film I thought Narrows was a team we could play with, and I still believe we can compete with them."

Hannah Caldwell had six points and eight rebounds to lead the Rockets

points. With the loss Craig

We really needed that in the first half." game to stay in third in The Wave outscored the the district," said Jones. Rockets in the second half, "I believe we are currently sitting in fourth.

we have four games this week. It makes it hard on myself and the girls as a first year head coach. They are trying to learn everything they know in limited practice times and this has been one crazy year that we have had as far as practice goes for Craig."



Sara Jones brings the ball up the floor.

## **Rocket Boys hope to get back to winning** ways after dropping two games last week

The Craig County boys have four big Pioneer District basketball games this week as they try to gain some momentum with the post-season

nearing. The Rockets dropped two games last week before inclement weather postponed a Friday home game with Narrows. This week they have four games, all at home, with Eastern Montgomery Monday, Covington Tuesday, Narrows on Thursday and Highland County on Friday in the second game of a doubleheader with the girls. The Rockets are 4-5 overall but 3-2 in the district.

"We are mathematically still in for first place in the district, and we control our own destiny for second or third," said Craig coach Ryan Frazier. "That's a good place for us to to this season. We have to fo-

strong. The game was closer

than the score indicates, as

Craig had to foul late in the

be given the stop-start nature cus on finishing strong.' Last Monday, January 24, the Rockets lost to the Green Wave in Narrows. The Rockets trailed by a point, 50-49, heading into the fourth quarter before the Wave finished



PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

Matthew Lucas pulls up for a jumper.

"The boys played their hearts out after a week off due to weather, we just ran out of steam," said coach Ryan Frazier. "At the time Narrows was undefeated in the district."

Matthew Lucas led Craig in scoring with 22 points, with Nathan Fisher chipping

in 14. Colton Moore did an excellent job on defense. "Our team defense is what kept us in the game," said Frazier. "We played solid indi-

vidual defense with great help

defense. We talk all the time

about five guys guarding the

ball, and for three and a half quarters I thought it was our best help defensive game."

A night later the boys were back home to host North Cross and took a 66-35 loss against the private school Raiders, coached by former Roanoke College coach Page Moir. Zach Peters led the Rockets with nine points and Moore had seven.

"North Cross was a very good and well coached team, said Frazier. "I thought playing them the night after we gave Narrows a real game hurt us, but we played nowhere near our capabilities."

