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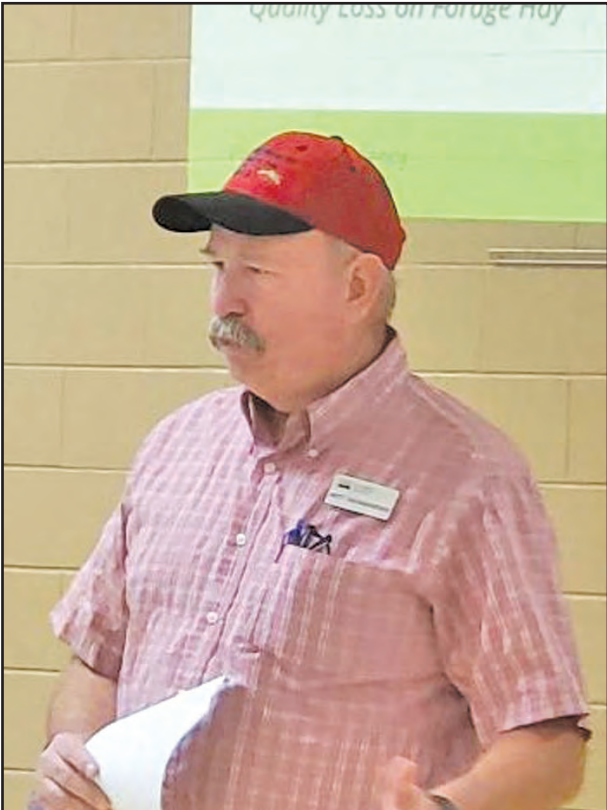

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# Speakers share bushels of knowledge with local farmers

## The meeting was hosted by Mountain Castles Soil and Water Conservation District



Derek Hancock, district conservationist for Roanoke, Craig and Botetourt counties, shared how he helps with natural resources conservation services that are paid for by the Department of Agriculture.



WP Johnson, FSA representative, works in economic development by investing in the communities to make farms more profitable.

PHOTO BY PAM DUDDING

**Pam Dudding**  
Contributing writer

Craig County is known for its agriculture. The county strives to maintain its agricultural legacy and to train others to become self-sufficient as well as learn the possible availabilities of assistance and better technology. The Mountain Castles Soil and Water Conservation District hosted a meeting, with a lineup of speakers who gave community members a wealth of knowledge. A number of board members, Emily Nolen, the agriculture teacher of Craig County High School, and some of Nolen’s students and Future Farmers of America members were present. The FFA members led the meeting with a prayer, The Pledge of Allegiance

and information of what they are doing at the school and the new Land Lab. The catered meal was provided by the conservation district team. Each speaker emphasized that they will be the liaisons to help each person work through all the steps. Abbey Pierson, district coordinator at Mountain Castles, studied at Virginia Tech and settled in New Castle with her husband about three years ago. He is also a pilot who learned to fly at the glider port in Craig. She has worked with Mountain Castles for a year. “They started serving Craig County in 1945, as Natural Bridge Soil and Water and then in the 80s it split off and was named Mountain Castles named

See **Conservation**, page 2



Steve Alley, of New Castle, received a Roanoke Valley Region Antique Automobile Club of America plaque for the GM 1958-1970 Antique category in Saturday’s Olde Salem Days Auto Show for his 1968 Camaro.

# New Castle resident receives plaque at Olde Salem Days Auto Show



PHOTOS COURTESY OF CINDI EDWARDS

# Shooting occurs near mile marker 137

**Aila Boyd**  
aboysd@mainstreetnewspapers.com

A shooting occurred on Interstate 81 around mile marker 137 in Roanoke County Sunday, according to a release from Virginia State Police. The shooter was reported to have been driving a green

Harley Davidson motorcycle, according to Sgt. Richard Garletts, a Virginia State Police public information officer. The unidentified victim, according to police, sustained life-threatening injuries and was transported to Roanoke Memorial Hospital. A midday Monday update

indicated that the public is not in danger. Garletts said, “The motorcycle and suspect are believed to have left Virginia.” The shooting remains under investigation, with the Virginia State Police Bureau of Criminal Investigation assisting with the shooting. Another incident involving

a motorcycle occurred on I-81 Sunday. A two-vehicle crash resulted in a fatality near mile marker 169 in Botetourt County. According to police, a 2008 Harley Davidson motorcycle was traveling north on the interstate when the motorcycle struck a 2022 tractor-trailer

in the rear. The driver of the motorcycle, Randall David Lucabaugh, 60, of Bunker Hill, West Virginia, died at the scene. “This motorcycle is not the suspect in the shooting, but may be part of the same group,” Garletts said Sunday, adding that information may change as the investigation continues.

# New youth program starting at school

**Pam Dudding**  
Contributing writer

Teens and preteens enjoy time with their peers, making relationships and growing lifelong friendships. These years are some of the most important years of their lives, shaping their souls and nourishing

their spirits. A new youth program will begin at the Craig County High School Sunday, Sept. 18 from 5 p.m. until 7 p.m. each week. Cornerstone Church - New Castle is launching this program for all area youth, middle and high school ages. There is no charge for this program or

for the dinner served. “This will be ongoing each Sunday evening,” Pastor David Brown shared. “Teens will enjoy a time of worship with singing and devotionals as well as recreation in the gym.” They will also enjoy being served dinner in the cafeteria.

Brown added, “The goal is to provide a safe environment for spiritual growth, social fellowship and to promote Christian values to all involved. School officials are eager for this partnership, believing it will benefit the moral fabric of our students and community.” Brown is the associ-

ate pastor of Cornerstone Church – New Castle and will be leading a group of approximately 25 volunteers in this community effort. He has 20 years of extensive experience with young people as a full-time youth and associate pastor with churches in Virginia, Tennessee and

North Carolina. For more information about participating, Brown may be contacted at (540) 765-0262. Brown added that the hope is that these teens and tweens connect with one another, grow in life, support each other and growing in spiritual values.



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# Fire department holding spaghetti dinner fundraiser

The Johns Creek Volunteer Fire Department will hold its annual Spaghetti Fundraiser Dinner from 5-7 p.m. Sept. 17, at 116 Dicks Creek Road. The meal is \$10, which will include spaghetti, Italian bread, salad, dessert and a drink. “We will have sit-down dining available in the new bay, or you may carry it out,” shared David Barrick, JCVFD treasurer. “Outside dining is also available at the pavilion across the street if the weather

permits.” This fundraiser will help them to purchase their equipment. “Our department’s funding comes mainly from donations and fundraising events that is supported by you the community,” the department shared. “We truly appreciate all the financial support you provide us in an effort to ensure our community is protected to the best of our ability.”

-The New Castle Record



PHOTO COURTESY OF JOHN'S CREEK VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

# County encourages residents to sign up for alert system

Craig County announced in a release that it is utilizing CodeRED Alert System to inform citizens and property owners when there may be an incident where safety and welfare is concerned.

Home phone numbers are prepopulated into the system. Individuals that use cellphones need to sign up for this free service.

The link to sign up can be found on the Craig County government website: craigcountyva.gov. On the home page, click “CodeRED Emergency Alert Sys-

tem.” The county said sign up information will be kept private.

The Craig County Sheriff's Office and Craig County Emergency Management said that they encourage everyone to sign up.

“The system allows for countywide alerts and can also be utilized to map out a certain section of the county where the incident is taking place for notifications,” the county said in the release.

-The New Castle Record

# Upcoming public meetings in Craig County

## Sept. 19

The New Castle Town Council will meet Sept. 19 from 7-8 p.m. at the New Castle Town Hall at 339 Market Street in New Castle.

## Sept. 21

A CPMT meeting will be at First Baptist Church at 40 Boyd Avenue Sept. 21 at 1 p.m.

## Oct. 6

The Craig County Board of Supervisors will meet Oct. 6 at 6 p.m. at the Craig County Courthouse in New Castle. All citizens are welcome to attend.

## Oct. 11

Rep. Morgan Griffith will hold a comment period at the Craig County Courthouse in the break room from 9-10:30 a.m. Oct. 11.

The Craig County School Board will meet at 5:30 p.m. in the Craig County High School auditorium.

## Oct. 17

The New Castle Town Council will meet Oct. 17 from 7-8 p.m. at the New

Castle Town Hall at 339 Market Street in New Castle.

## Oct. 19

A CPMT meeting will be at First Baptist Church at 40 Boyd Avenue Oct. 19.

## Nov. 3

The Craig County Board of Supervisors will meet Nov. 3 at 6 p.m. at the Craig County Courthouse in New Castle. All citizens are welcome to attend.

## Nov. 8

Rep. Morgan Griffith will hold a comment period at the Craig County Courthouse in the break room from 9-10:30 a.m. Nov. 8.

The Craig County School Board will meet at 5:30 p.m. in the Craig County High School auditorium.

## Nov. 16

A CPMT meeting will be at First Baptist Church at 40 Boyd Avenue Nov. 16.

## Nov. 21

The New Castle Town Council will meet Nov. 21 from 7-8 p.m. at the New Castle Town Hall at 339

Market Street in New Castle.

## Dec. 1

The Craig County Board of Supervisors will meet Dec. 1 at 6 p.m. at the Craig County Courthouse in New Castle. All citizens are welcome to attend.

## Dec. 13

Rep. Morgan Griffith will hold a comment period at the Craig County Courthouse in the break room from 9-10:30 a.m. Dec. 13.

The Craig County School Board will meet at 5:30 p.m. in the Craig County High School auditorium.

## Dec. 19

The New Castle Town Council will meet Dec. 19 from 7-8 p.m. at the New Castle Town Hall at 339 Market Street in New Castle.

## Dec. 21

A CPMT meeting will be at First Baptist Church at 40 Boyd Avenue Dec. 21.

-The New Castle Record

# OBITUARIES

## Jill Abbott

Jill Abbott, 70, of New Castle, VA went to be with the Lord on Saturday, September 10, 2022, in Roanoke, VA. She was born on March 4, 1952, to the late Charles and Edna Vandyke. Jill loved all her animals, and babies were especially fond of her. She was an avid Angel and Christmas ornament collector. Her family was her driving force, she was a loving wife, mother, and grandmother. In addition to her parents, she is preceded in death by her brothers, Charles, Jack, and James Vandyke; sister, Jean Vandyke; and mother-in-law, Alice Abbott.

Left to cherish her memory include her husband of 52 years, Dennis Abbott; her daughter, Missy All and husband, Ricky; grandson, Caleb All; sisters,



Joan Tripp and husband, Wayne, Geraldine Johnson and husband, Smith, Shirley Vandyke; brothers, Wayne Vandyke and wife, Nina, Clay Vandyke and wife, Marlene; sister-in-law, Gladys Lamb; sisters by marriage, Barbara Fisher, Patricia All, Vickie Hancock, Linda Crawford; numerous nieces and nephews.

A celebration of her life will be held at 2 p.m. on Saturday, September 17, 2022, at Paitsel Funeral Home in New Castle, VA, with Pastor Kenny Davis officiating.

Friends may visit with the family from 1 p.m. until the hour of the service.

Online condolences may be sent to the family at [www.paitselfuneral.com](http://www.paitselfuneral.com).

# VDOT ROADWATCH

## INTERSTATE 81

**INTERSTATE 81 LANE WIDENING CONSTRUCTION PROJECT EXIT 137 TO EXIT 141** – A \$179 million design-build project to widen both directions of I-81 between mile markers 136.6 and 141.8 from two to three lanes is set to begin. Starting in February and continuing into the early summer, work will be performed on the inside and outside shoulders along a five-mile section of both northbound and southbound Interstate 81 in Roanoke County and the city of Salem. The shoulders will be built up before barrier wall can be installed for road crews to work behind. Barrier wall will be installed along the shoulders in the spring and summer. Two lanes of I-81 traffic in each direction will remain open during the project with periodic lane closures scheduled during nighttime hours or outside of peak travel times as needed. Drivers can expect the following lane closures and upcoming impacts on northbound and southbound I-81:

- Nighttime lane closures may be in place and lane widths will be reduced to 11 feet.
- From mid-March until mid-June, nighttime right lane and shoulder closures between 8 p.m. and 6 a.m., Sunday through Thursday
- From mid-May to mid-June, alternating left and right lane and shoulder closures during nighttime hours between 8 p.m. and 6 a.m., Sunday through Thursday

Nightly lane closures may be in place along the right lane with possible nightly ramp narrows as needed for guardrail and shoulder strengthening.

- Northbound I-81 lane closures from mile marker 138 to 142
- Northbound I-81 exit and entrance ramp narrows possible at Route 311.

The project also includes replacing six bridges, widening two

bridges, installing approximately 2.6 miles of sound barrier walls along northbound I-81, improving the southbound exit 137 off-ramp intersection at Wildwood Road and adding interchange lighting at exits 137, 140 and 141 are also included in the project. Expected completion in early 2026.

**I-81 TROUTVILLE REST AREA CLOSURE** - The Troutville Rest Area located on southbound Interstate 81 near mile marker 158 in Botetourt County is currently closed until later in the month of September. Supply chain issues have delayed manufacture and delivery of metal bases for the new lighting poles that must be installed before the facility can be reopened. The Virginia Department of Transportation's contractor Branch Civil Inc. will need additional time to install the lighting so reopening the facility needs to be postponed.

Signage indicating the closure is posted in the rest area. A temporary concrete barrier wall will remain in place in front of the facility. The rest area facility, ramps and parking lot are closed to the public. This project will extend the ramp into the rest area by 500 feet and the ramp out of the rest area by 2,100 feet. It will also include expanding the truck parking area at the facility by about 10-13 spaces. Work is expected to be completed in early fall 2022.

**REST AREA OPERATIONS:** While the Troutville Rest Area is closed, southbound I-81 drivers can use the Fairfield Rest Area at mile marker 195 in Rockbridge County or the Radford Rest Area at mile marker 108 in Montgomery County. In addition, the Troutville Weigh Station, located on southbound I-81 at mile marker 149, will have portable toilets and parking will be temporarily available for commercial vehicles.

**INTERSTATE 81 LANE WIDENING CONSTRUCTION EXIT 141 TO EXIT 143** – A project to widen the lanes on

I-81 in Roanoke in both northbound and southbound directions between Exit 141 to Exit 143 has been underway. All lanes now open and will remain open through winter with periodic lane closures at night as needed. The final surface paving and markings for northbound is underway this summer during nighttime hours, 8 p.m. to 6 a.m. Drivers can expect rough pavement. Estimated completion date of the project is summer 2022.

**I-81 NORTHBOUND AT EXIT 105 NEW RIVER BRIDGE REPLACEMENT IN MONTGOMERY COUNTY** – **Traffic on northbound I-81** has been switched onto the newly constructed bridge over the New River at the Montgomery/Pulaski County line. The old bridge is being demolished. Lane and shoulder closures may be in place near exit 105. Lane closure may be in effect during the week from 8 p.m. to 7 a.m. Shoulder closures may be in effect at any time during the week. Slow rolls may be performed on I-81 in the north and southbound lanes from mile marker 98 to 109. Speed limit is reduced to 60 miles per hour in the work zone. Shoulder closures will remain in place though the duration of the project. Project completion is estimated by summer 2023.

- **ROUTE 605:** Intermittent flagging operations will be present on Route 605, located under the New River Bridge, for work overhead on the bridge.

- **LANE CLOSURES:** Nighttime alternating lane closures will be in place on I-81 northbound between mile markers 104-106 from 7 p.m. to 6 a.m. the following morning.

- **SLOW ROLLS:** Slow rolls may be utilized periodically on both the northbound and southbound lanes from mile marker 98-109 for structural steel deliveries and setting beams.

**I-81 PAVING OPERATIONS** – Weather permitting, crews will pave, patch and repair pavement on various routes. Lane closures may be in place during nighttime hours, 9 p.m. to 6 a.m. the following morning. Drivers should watch for signs and expect possible delays.

- Montgomery County: Lane closures in place for paving of I-81 northbound between mile marker 116 to 114.

- Roanoke County: Alternating lane closures on I-81 northbound for milling and paving from mile marker 134.5 to 132.4, 8 p.m. to 6 a.m. the following morning.

**I-81 BRIDGE DECK REPAIRS** – Weather permitting, crews will repair bridge decks on Interstate 81. Between mile markers 138 to 152, right and left lane closures will be in place northbound and southbound during nighttime hours, 9 p.m. to 6 a.m. the following morning. Drivers should watch for signs and expect possible delays.

**I-81 POTHOLE PATCHING OPERATIONS** – Weather permitting, crews will patch potholes along southbound and northbound Interstate 81. Mobile right and left lane closures will be in place and moving along northbound and southbound lanes during nighttime hours, 9 p.m. to 6 a.m. the following morning. Drivers should watch for moving vehicles and equipment. Expect possible delays.

**INTERSTATE 581 ROUTE 581 BRIDGE WORK OVER WILLIAMSON ROAD** –On Route 11 (Williamson Road) drivers can expect intermittent and alternating lane closures between the intersections with Rutherford Avenue and Wells Avenue. Intermittent daytime and nighttime lane closures between the intersections above might be

required, and will be in place utilizing flagging operations. Any impacts to I-581 will be minimal. The project is expected to be complete at the fall 2022.

- **LANE CLOSURES:**
  - o A left lane closure will be in place on northbound and southbound I-581 from mile marker 0-1, Monday at 7 a.m. through Wednesday at 7 p.m.
  - o A right lane closure will be in place on northbound and southbound I-581 from mile marker 0-1, Thursday at 7 a.m. through Saturday at 7 p.m.
  - o A left and center lane closure will be in place on northbound and southbound I-581 from mile marker 0-1, Saturday at 5 p.m. through Sunday at 2 p.m.
- A right lane closure may be in place on Route 11 northbound between the intersections of Rutherford Avenue and Wells Avenue periodically.
- Nighttime left lane closures for both the northbound and southbound directions of Route 11 are possible between the intersections referenced above.

**I-581/220 EXPRESSWAY PAVING OPERATIONS** – Weather permitting, crews will pave, patch and repair pavement on various routes. Lane closures may be in place during nighttime hours, 9 p.m. to 6 a.m. the following morning. Drivers should watch for signs and expect possible delays.

**I-581/220 LANE & RAMP CLOSURES FOR PAVING AND MAINTENANCE OPERATIONS IN ROANOKE COUNTY**– Weather permitting, crews will be milling and paving along Interstate 81. Right and left lane closures will be in place along northbound and southbound lanes during nighttime hours. Drivers should expect possible delays.

For a full list of VDOT Road Watch list, visit [www.vdot.virginia.gov](http://www.vdot.virginia.gov)  
The New Castle Record



# Conservation

from page 1

after New Castle and Fin-castle and the mountains that surround them both,” Pierson shared.

She noted that they have received a lot of fund-ing from the Virginia De-partment of Conservation Integration to support crop sharing programs.

“One of our biggest strengths is that we are lo-cal,” Pierson said. “We are governed by a local volun-tee board of directors.”

She explained that members of the public can sign up for conservation plans field-by-field and not all at once if needed, add-ing stream exclusion with flexible buffers, including crop sharing, drilling new wells, putting troughs in, stream crossings, nutrient management plans, cover crops, as well as manure pack barn or composting (a convenient way to store the manure) and they can help to put up a pad with an attached manure storage or a pack barn so that it can be spread when needed.

Many other services are available. The district’s of- fice is in Bonsack.

Derek Hancock, dis- trict conservationist for Roanoke, Craig and Bo- tetourt counties, shared how he helps with natural resources conservation ser- vices that are paid for by the Department of Agri- culture.

He is married to his wife, Amanda, and has three boys.

“I am pro-ag and pro- forestry,” he said. “I am all invested and am here to help anyone anyway I can.”

Hancock graduated from Ferrum College with a bachelor’s in agriculture and has been with the conservation district for 13 years. He discussed the importance of “getting your toolbox together.”

“When you start some- thing on your farm you need a toolbox full of these partners here who are present,” he said. “When you are running your er- rands, include a visit to the offices and know the partners that are available to help each farmer, who can help bring economic development to you and your farm. Our programs have some serious supple- ments.”

His agency serves in two ways, with technical assistance to answer ques- tions or guide people in the right direction.

“You may have a prob- lem on the farm such as evasive species, the pas- tures aren’t performing, guidance on how to take a soil sample, crop rotation, how to deal with animal waste or nutrient manage- ment,” he said.

He added that some may need financial as- sistance, giving two pro- grams, the EQUIP and CSP, the

Conservation Steward- ship Program which is a 5-year program.

“This is like a thank you payment for doing it on your farm and the bet- ter that you are the more money that you can make in the program,” Hancock explained. “Other things can help to accentuate this program such as rotational grazing or fertilizing soil samples.”

He emphasized the first and most important thing is for landowners to get him on their land to look at it and evaluate what programs could be of benefit.

He added, “There is nothing that I will be see- ing or doing or working with you on that I will re- port on to anyone, as we are here to help you. We can help design systems and work with you and cater to your operation. It will all be up to you in your decision.”

“You can take the pa- perwork and just use it in your fireplace if you choose,” he added with a smile. “To go forward and

learn about resources that are available to get this done, we start working on your prescription. There is some yearly paperwork that is required, but it al- ways seems to definitely be worth the time for every- one, for the exchange in benefits and assistance.”

Hancock added, “I will show you the one that pays you the best with the least amount of money out of your pocket possible.”

Matt Bumgardner, a Farm Service Agency farm loan specialist, shared that his organization loans money at a low interest to help in working with these programs, when needed.

“I partner with all the banks in the area and back their money up. We have a guarantee program. We also have a youth loan pro- gram designed to offer kids from ages 10 to 20 in an agricultural type of proj- ect,” he said.

WP Johnson, FSA rep- resentative, personally farms 900 acres in Bedford County, including wheat, soybeans, corn, barley, oats, hay and cows.

“You name it, and I will try it,” he said. “My job in economic develop- ment is to invest in your community. I am here to try to make your farm more profitable as 90% of my business is to give you money. My methodol- ogy is to help you pay the banks off, by increasing your profitability.”

He emphasized that if farmers want to do a proj- ect on their property or are struggling with cash flow, they should call, as there are many options avail- able.

He spoke of a few in- cluding, disaster assistance.

“We do a lot with crop insurance (floods, light- ning strikes, avian attacks from animals that you can- not control legally), those things that attack your an- imals and your operation we can reimburse you for,” he said.

He gave an example where a farmer put his hay up along the side of a field and the river got up and destroyed it and another example where a barn burned with their hay. Their program can help reimburse that value loss and help in the of natural disaster.

“Hay is a value to your farm. If you have animals and no hay to feed them, you don’t have the in- come,” Johnson said. “We can help you through all the steps needed to qual- ify.”

He covered many op- tions including pastures, corn, silage, hemp and financing different equip- ment with an easier pay- off option. There is also a program that helps people who raise Christmas trees, grapevines or fruit trees to replace them when they die.

Denny McCarthy, of the Virginia Department of Forestry, shared that the agency is the state entity in

Virginia that serves private landowners.

“Seventy-five percent of all the forest land in Vir- ginia is private land.” he said. “And this forest land contributes about \$30 bil- lion a year to the econo- my in Virginia primarily through timber sales.”

“Our agency was born and bred in 1914 with two primary mandates. The first is to suppress wild land fires, as we respond to fires where the local fire departments hoses cannot reach not reach and the second mandate is to plant trees on lands,” he said.

The agency has several nurseries to support this effort, growing about 48 different species.

“I spend the majority of my time working with in- dividual landowners, visit- ing their properties, giving them advice and guidance on how to manage their properties to meet their specific goals,” McCarthy shared.

He added that he spends most of his time writing management plans for landowners who have more interest in wildlife management like rais- ing bigger deer, attracting more turkeys, etc. and still brings the Smoky the Bear program to many counties.

He went over the hardwood management program and suggested a fundraiser to the FFA, where they can buy 1,000 trees for .12 each and re- sell to landowners in small bundles.

He can also provide lists of forest consultants who help landowners to sell their timber.

Scott Stevens, with Bank of Botetourt, shared that they have always been into ag lending, including real estate, equipment or livestock. He added, “My office is my truck and I come to see you!”

It was noted that when people say “agriculture,” they think farming but there were so many dif- ferent career speakers that aren’t farmers.

Farm Bureau shared many ways that the orga- nization can help commu- nities.

“There is the federation side and then there is the insurance side,” shared Jeannie Dudding. “The federation includes the \$40 per year dues that are paid, which much of it is reinvested back into the county through scholar- ships, ag in the classroom, ag promotion, 4-H and FFA programs.”

Mark Campbell, district field services director, en- couraged all in attendance to become a Farm Bureau member to help continue representation in Wash- ington, D.C.

He discussed some of the bills that were proposed in Virginia in 20220. One of the proposed bills man- dated stream fencing. Farm Bureau representa- tives opposed that with other organizations.

“We had members to



PHOTO COURTESY OF MOUNTAIN CASTLES SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

**This Frost Free watering trough made by Ritchie was installed on a Craig County farm that is owned by Allen and Jeanette Kremer, who participated in the conservation district’s Stream Exclusion Practice. The Kremer project was completed earlier this month and helped to exclude some of the headwaters of Sinking Creek, which reside along Route 42.**

come as far away as Bris- tol to speak enrichment against this mandate and it was because of that that it did not pass,” he shared. “I do not believe that there has been a louder voice than the Farm Bureau in promoting funding for soil and water conservation.”

He noted many other grassroots efforts that Farm Bureau is active in, in- cludes legislation in D.C. and Richmond.

Dudding added that members were encour- aged to attend the annual producers meeting, where they will have a veterinar- ian to speak on the tick is- sue.

She also discussed the Farm Bureau discount app button which will pull up discounts in whatever area individuals live in or are vacationing in.

Leeann Mattox, Young Farm committee chair, shared that they had joined up with a small group from Montgomery Coun- ty. They are doing projects with them. She said that she is looking forward to learning the ropes of her new position and helping teens to grow in agricul- ture.

Teens from 18 to 35 are welcome to join the group.

Mary Hunter shared that their goal is to pro- mote the importance of agriculture by helping with fundraisers to help the ag- riculture department grow and improve.

She added that she was very excited about seeing the new Land Lab up and running and continuing to grow.

“We are now working on some grants to develop the left-hand side of the property,” Hunter added. “We’ll be pleased to have your expertise as well as your time and any dona- tions that you would like

to give to help with fenc- ing, additional laughs stock and building up the program.”

They currently have a handmade quilt they are selling raffle tickets to raise funds.

The new Farm Bureau agent, David Brown, intro- duced himself. He shared that he would welcome a visit to anyone’s home to discuss how he may assist.

Door prizes that were given out.

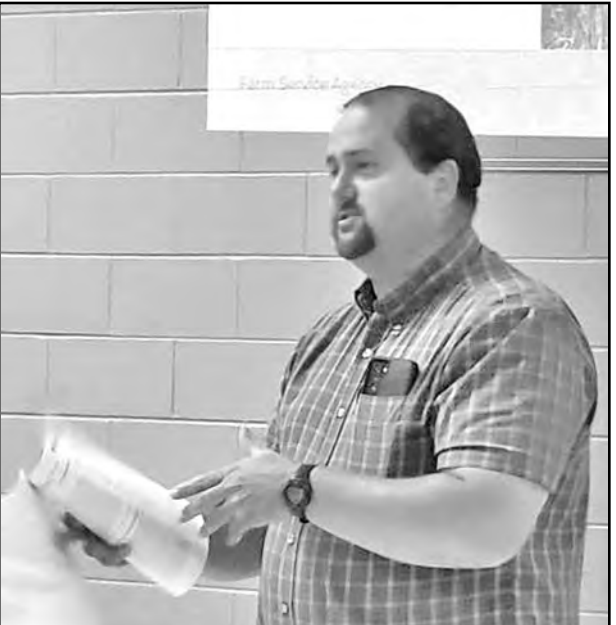



PHOTO BY PAM DUDDING

**Denny McCarthy, of the Virginia Department of Forestry, shared that the agency is the state entity in Virginia that serves private landowners.**




## Men’s Health Fair

**Monday October 10, 2022**  
Craig County Health Center  
(540) 864-6390  
226 Market Street, New Castle, VA

Call to schedule an appointment today!

**Free PSA, Cholesterol Screen,  
Blood Sugar, Blood Pressure Checks,  
Weight, BMI**

Enter Drawing to Win A Prize!



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CLUES ACROSS

- Undergarments for women
- Periods of time
- Dramatist Henrik
- Any thick messy substance
- Examination
- Japanese city
- Daze with a blow
- With fireplace residue
- Synthetic acrylic fabric fiber
- Pittsburgh University
- Scorched
- Potato state (abbr.)
- Anger
- Suitable for use as food
- To wipe out, obliterate
- Used of unskilled work, esp. domestic
- Loose earth, soil
- Petrol container

CLUES DOWN

- Pear variety
- The Sator-\_\_\_\_ Square
- Light purplish-blue
- Plants of the genus Cassia
- Shelf unit for ornaments
- Live in
- Arthur \_\_\_\_, Wimbledon champion
- A thwarting and distressing obstruction
- Cut off from others
- Tree trunk outgrowth
- Tower used for storing silage
- Br. public boys school
- \_\_\_\_ Ling mountain range
- To wipe out, obliterate
- Mild yellow Dutch cheese
- Peruvian province
- Diagonal cut of cloth
- A narrow path or road

CLUES DOWN

- Fraternal Order of \_\_\_\_
- The boundary of a surface
- Granular old snow
- Rt. angle cleaving tool
- Irreducible material
- Oldest man-made rayon fiber
- Affirmative! (slang)
- Burial cloths
- Surface layer of grass & roots
- Not shaky
- Kidney-shaped nut
- Approves food
- Golf ball supports
- Pearl Harbor actress Rue
- Coarse curly-leaved greens
- Cancer detecting smear



# Queen Elizabeth II: Icon of Britain, friend of America

The end of the life and reign of Queen Elizabeth II of the United Kingdom truly marks the change of an era in world history.

The span of her reign alone guaranteed her a place in history. When she came to the throne in 1952, the UK's Prime Minister was Winston Churchill. He said on the occasion, "I, whose youth was passed in the august, unchallenged and tranquil glories of the Victorian Era, may well feel a thrill in invoking, once more, the prayer and the Anthem, 'God Save the Queen!'"


Little Churchill have imagined that "God Save the Queen" would be said and sung of the same woman for 70 years, or that the final Prime Minister of the Queen's reign, Liz Truss, would be born in 1975, over a century after his birth.

She was not just a witness to the momentous events of her life and reign but a participant

in many of them. With every gathering of veterans in our towns we can see the passing of the World War II generation, and with the Queen one more departs from us. This royal served the Allied cause as a mechanic in the women's branch of the British Army. Her role in the war captured the spirit of service and humility with which she later approached her tasks as a monarch.

As the head of state of our closest ally, she was a guest of our country several times and a frequent host to our presidents. Virginia was fortunate to host her on four occasions. As the site of the first permanent English settlement in North America, Jamestown, our Commonwealth is a pivotal link in the Special Relationship between the United States and the United Kingdom.

Jamestown was the object of two of the Queen's visits. The first was in 1957, also her first



**Morgan Griffith**  
Representative

visit to the United States as Queen, to celebrate the colony's 350th anniversary. The Queen and Prince Philip toured Jamestown, greeted a crowd estimated at 25,000, commemorated the Battle of Yorktown, and viewed an original copy of the Magna Carta in Williamsburg.

The Queen's second visit to Jamestown was 50 years later in 2007 for its 400th anniversary. She began this trip to Virginia in Richmond, where I was honored as the Majority Leader of the House of Delegates to escort her to the chamber for a speech to a joint session of the General Assembly.

The Queen and Prince Philip

subsequently visited Williamsburg and Jamestown again. While not her escort on this occasion, I was there along with my wife Hilary. Further, I was allowed to invite as my guests my English history professor from Emory & Henry, Gene Rasor, and his wife, Claire.

The Queen visited Charlottesville in 1976, touring the University of Virginia and Monticello. Thomas Jefferson famously denounced the Queen's ancestor King George III in the Declaration of Independence and in turn was shunned by the King when he served as the American minister in London. The Queen's visit to Jefferson's home and the school he founded certainly shows how far the relationship between our countries had come.

Her other visit to Virginia came in 1991 at Arlington National Cemetery.

Also, one of the Queen's great interests was horse racing,

so she visited Kentucky for the Kentucky Derby. Before it became its own state, Kentucky was once part of Virginia.

The role of the Queen is highly symbolic, but symbolism is important. It is how we show what we treasure. In each of these visits, the symbolism emphasized the extensive shared heritage of our countries, even though we were at odds sometimes. It was the great fortune of the British people that they had someone for so long who was so committed and able to carry out the demands of the role. It was the great fortune of the American people to have had Queen Elizabeth II as a friend.

I offer my best wishes to the people of the United Kingdom and their new monarch, King Charles III. I join them in mourning the loss of an iconic figure in Queen Elizabeth II, a great patriot in her own country and a great friend to ours.

## An open invitation to spend time at the library

**Library Corner**

Empowering individuals to build a stronger community

By Marge Lewter

Dear resident, please come to your local library for a visit if you have not

yet come by! Your library is a place with something for everyone. All are welcome to spend time in the little library, to use the patio outside and to browse the book barns for bargains.

Moms, bring the kids by to look at picture books or work on some crafts while you use our high-speed Wi-Fi to catch up on

work. So many memories are built on the freedom to explore other worlds by looking at books.

Teens, come over to use our computers for gaming and make new friends after school. Check out materials to take home or take some free magazines to browse. There are tall stacks of DVDs for \$2 each in the library or you can check out movies in the current collection for no charge at all. Imagine this: do your homework in a quiet space!

Dads, come by to browse the book barn for nonfiction books including history, gardening, travel and building. There are magazines that would appeal to you for absolutely free. There are lots and lots of movies for rainy days and long nights. Take advantage of our business services.

Seniors, come by for your favorite westerns, movies, local authors and large print books. Volunteer to be a desk assistant and expand your comput-

er skills. Meet other book lovers in the community by your connection with the library.

Other services you may not know about are fax service, copying, notary service, tax assistance, online job application assistance and loads of educational resources through our website. The high-speed Wi-Fi is available 24/7 from the parking lot. Keep up on current activities through our Facebook page. Stay tuned for swap days and free book events. Be sure

to get your raffle tickets for the beautiful park bench to be selected at Fall Festival and for a weekend at Country Campground.

Everyone is invited to come visit the library and to participate in its growth to serve the growing needs of this community. It is one of the few public spaces where you can just come and meet up, visit, hang out, learn and check out stuff. Visit...read...join...support...your community library! Get connected!

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## State Police provides Labor Day report

RICHMOND – During the Labor Day weekend, there were a total of 10 traffic fatalities on Virginia highways, according to a report from the Virginia State Police.

Even with a reduction in fatal traffic crashes compared to the 2021 Labor Day holiday weekend, there was still a number of deaths among young people and pedestrians. Of the six traffic deaths reported for the holiday weekend, four involved juveniles, two were pedestrians and

three were not wearing a seatbelt.

Virginia State Police investigated a total of 772 traffic crashes over the holiday weekend.

"While the reduction in traffic deaths is encouraging, six families still lost loved ones this past weekend," Col. Gary T. Settle, Virginia State Police superintendent, said. "Four of those tragically lost were young people with a full life ahead of them, and two of those children were not wearing a seatbelt or safely

secured in a child safety restraint. I implore all Virginians to wear their seatbelts and require all those riding with you to do the same."

Virginia troopers stopped 4,094 speeders, stopped 1,807 reckless drivers, arrested 87 drivers for driving under the influence, cited 435 seat belt violations and assisted 818 disabled motorists from Friday, Sept. 2 to Monday, Sept. 5.

The New Castle Record

Email letters to the editor to [aboyd@mainstreetnewspapers.com](mailto:aboyd@mainstreetnewspapers.com)

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# Contributing writer attends car show



**Pam Dudding, a contributing writer for The New Castle Record, attended this year's Oldies Rock and Roll Weekend Car and Motorcycle Show Aug. 27 in Pipestem, West Virginia. This 1957 Chevy seemed to get a considerable amount of attention at the car show. Alongside many other vintage cars, one could tell how much detail and love went into its refurbishing.**



**The paint on this 1972 Chevelle sparkled in the sun, just like the other 259 vehicles that were at this year's show. Dudding said the car brought back memories, as her father had a 1972 Chevelle when she was a teenager. She was allowed to drive it to college a few times her first year.**

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PHOTOS BY PAM DUDDING

**Many people stood by the Dukes of Hazard - 01 car, smiling as their pictures were being taken, reminiscing about the TV Show it was depicted from.**

## Craig County Public Schools 2022-2023

### Special Education Advisory Committee

September 19, 2022

November 21, 2022

February 20, 2023

March 20, 2023

All meetings begin at 8:00 AM and  
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# God's House Is Always Open

<p><b>BETHEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH</b> 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.</p> <p><b>CHESTNUT GROVE CHURCH</b> Duane Wente, Minister, Rt. 42, New Castle, 540-864-5692. Sunday: Worship 10:00 a.m.</p> <p><b>CORNERSTONE CHURCH</b> 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.</p> <p><b>CRAIG HEALING SPRINGS CHRISTIAN CHURCH</b> (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!</p> <p><b>CRAIG VALLEY BAPTIST</b> 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</p> <p><b>CRAIG VALLEY GOSPEL FELLOWSHIP</b> 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.</p> <p><b>CROSSROADS CHURCH</b> 21892 Craigs Creek Road, New Castle. Pastor Gary Burch. 864-7520. Sunday School- 10-10:45AM, Sunday Worship - 11AM-Noon.</p> <p><b>FIRST BAPTIST</b> Pastor Kevin Altizer, Corner of Main Street &amp; 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</p>	<p>7:00PM, Reformers Unanimous Addiction Recovery every Friday evening at 7PM.</p> <p><b>GRACE ASSEMBLY OF GOD</b> 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) &amp; 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</p> <p><b>GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH</b> 159 Old Railroad Ave, New Castle, 540-864-PRAY, Sunday School 9:30AM, Sunday Worship Service 10:00AM, Wednesday Night Services 7:00PM.</p> <p><b>HEBRON UNITED METHODIST</b> Pastor Rodney Longmire, Rt. 606, 1981 Caldwell Mt. Rd., New Castle, 540- 400-3419. Worship 11:15AM.</p> <p><b>LIGHTHOUSE BAPTIST</b> Rev. Lee Looney, Rt. 311 N., New Castle. Sunday: Sunday School 10AM, 11AM, &amp; 6PM. Wednesday Bible Study 7PM.</p> <p><b>LEVEL GREEN CHRISTIAN CHURCH</b> 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.</p> <p><b>LIGHTHOUSE BAPTIST</b> Pastor Lee Looney, Rt. 311 N., New Castle, 540-525-7662. Sunday: Sunday School 10AM, 11AM, &amp; 6PM. Wednesday Bible Study 7PM.</p> <p><b>MOUNTAIN VIEW CHRISTIAN</b> 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.</p> <p><b>NEW CASTLE CHRISTIAN CHURCH</b> "WHERE YOUR HEART CAN FEEL THE DIFFERENCE" 282 Salem Ave., New Castle; 864-5212; Pastor Bill Frazier. Sunday Service: 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.</p>	<p><b>NEW CANTERBURY PENTECOSTAL FELLOWSHIP</b> 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.</p> <p><b>PAXTON CHAPEL</b> 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.</p> <p><b>THE CHURCH OF CHRIST</b> 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.</p> <p><b>NEW CASTLE UNITED METHODIST</b> Rev. San Kang, 364 Main St., New Castle, Va. Sunday School 10AM, Worship 11AM; UMW 3rd Wednesday@1PM, Youth and other programs, Bible Studies.</p> <p><b>ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST CATHOLIC CHURCH</b> 99 2nd Street, New Castle. Rev. Stephen McNally. 540-473-3691. Mass is on Sunday at 11:15 AM.</p> <p><b>CRAIG COUNTY COMMUNITY CHURCH - 'WELCOME HOME!'</b> 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.</p> <p><b>ST. THOMAS ANGLICAN CHURCH</b> Located at 4910 Hubert Rd, NW Roanoke, Va. Traditional Liturgical Lenten Services, Sunday at 10:30 am. Call (540) 589-1299 or visit www.sttofc.org for midweek masses and events. (In Roanoke, go E on Hershberger, L on Hubert to 4910).</p>
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# SPORTS

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## MABES WINS MIDDLE SCHOOL RACE AT BATH COUNTY



Cooper Mabes runs at Bath County.

Two Craig County runners competed in a cross country race at Bath County last week, one boy and one girl.

Craig's Cooper Mabes took first place in the middle

school division with a time of 15 minutes and 10 seconds. Cooper also ran in the varsity race and placed sixth in a three mile race, posting a time of 26 minutes.

Hannah Ratliff competed



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

Hannah Ratliff and Cooper Mabes ran in a meet at Bath County.

in the girls' race, which was also three miles. Hannah finished 10th with a time of 32 minutes.

The Rockets will next run on September 21 at Highland County.

## ROCKETS HAVE HOME VOLLEYBALL GAME THURSDAY

The Craig County volleyball team will have a home game Thursday night as Pioneer District rival Eastern Montgomery comes to town. It will be a jayvee-varsity doubleheader.

This will be a busy week for the program as they look to crack the win column on the varsity level. The Rockets were at Bath County Tuesday, and tonight the middle school team is home to host Highland County. The jayvee-varsity match with East Mont is a day later.

Craig dropped two matches last week to fall to 0-7 on the season. They lost to Parry McCluer at Buena Vista, 25-19, 25-14 and 25-

14. Annabelle Gragory led with six kills and 12 digs while Maggie Mays had four kills, three aces and two blocks. Jenna Boitnotte led the team with 10 assists and contributed two aces while Daileigh Donithan had three kills and a pair of aces and Randalyn Taylor had two kills and three aces.

"The first district game was a good game, even though it was a loss," said coach Suzanne Crawford. "In the first game the girls went out strong and played hard and aggressive. After that we had some serve receive trouble and we needed some blocking."

Craig hosted a talented

Covington team last Thursday and lost in three, 25-16, 25-12 and 25-7.

Gregory had 10 digs in this one to go with five kills and a pair of aces. Boitnotte had 12 assists and three digs and Taylor had three blocks, two kills and six digs. Mays had two blocks, four kills, two aces and five digs. Erin Snider had eight digs and two aces while Donovan had two kills, two aces and four digs.

"Covington was a tough game," said Crawford. "They were aggressive at the net and had hard serves. Blocking and serving are two of the main things we need to work on."



Annabelle Gregory digs one out.



PHOTOS BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

Daileigh Donithan serves for the Rockets.



PHOTO BY CHELSEA LOUTHEN

Craig quarterback Zach Peters has the Rockets in the huddle.

## ROCKET FOOTBALL TEAM IS BACK IN ACTION FRIDAY

After two weeks off the Craig County football team will be back in action Friday when the Rockets travel to Montcalm for a 7 pm game.

The Rockets were off the past two weeks, missing their game with Auburn scheduled for September 3rd due to illness and injuries. Last week was a scheduled bye week for the Rockets, who are 1-0 to this point.

Montcalm, of West Virginia, has opened the season 3-0. The Generals beat Phelps of Kentucky, 42-6, in their season opener then beat Twin Valley of Virginia, 44-14. Last Friday Montcalm defeated Paden City of West Virginia, 24-8.

The Rockets pounded Montcalm in New Castle last year, 40-8. Craig has won the last three meetings with the Generals, but this appears to be a much improved Montcalm team.

"Montcalm does not seem to be the traditional Montcalm this year," said Craig coach Jimmy Fisher. "They're averaging over 37 points per game over their first three games and they're running the ball effectively and throwing it efficiently.

"They have some big people up front and talented skill kids. Defensively, we have to play well in the secondary and we have to defeat blocks up front. We have to get a pass rush and contain a good young quarterback. Offensively, we have to consistently play at a lower pad level up front and execute our blocking assignments better than the Bland game."

Craig's only game thus far was a 20-14 win over Bland to open the season. Coach Fisher was excited to get a win but saw lots of things to work on.

"We put the ball on the ground a few times against Bland but were fortunate to recover our own fumbles," he said. "Our skill kids need to do a better job of securing the ball and not leaving our fate up to how an oblong football bounces.

"We hope to continue being methodical on offense and using up a lot of clock. Montcalm looks to be mirroring us on special teams. They use lots of on-side kicks and not much punting or fake punts. The very best defense is not giving the ball to the other team. They are young like us but they do have two scrimmages and three games under their belt while we only got one scrimmage in and have played just the one game."

The bright spot for the Rockets is that the two weeks off allowed them to heal up and get

better.

"We are getting healthy," said Fisher. "It was really nice to have most of the team back this week. We still have one kid out sick but he should be back next week. Right now we are about as healthy as we can be."

Tyler Fitzpatrick is still out with a broken collar bone but he is healing rapidly and there is a small chance that he could get cleared for the last game of the season. Trevyn Francisco is still out as well.

"What makes Trevyn so special, and such an offensive weapon, is his ability to cut on the proverbial dime," said Fisher. "He looked good in practice this week but the cutting ability isn't back yet. Trevyn and Tyler both had a great off-season and worked hard in the weight room. They are two of our best players and primary offensive weapons and neither has played a down yet this season."

Coach Fisher is looking to some younger kids to pick up the slack while Fitzpatrick and Francisco work to return.

"The light is coming on for some of our less experienced players," he said. "They are getting better every day. We are trying to build some depth at multiple positions."

Meanwhile, Jimmy is excited about how his coaching staff has responded.

"I'm Extremely pleased with our coaching staff this season," he said. "We retained most of last year's staff but were very fortunate to have added some really good young coaches. Jayke Dowdy played his high school ball at powerhouse Giles County. He came to us from Pulaski County's Varsity staff. He's a very knowledgeable coach that has quickly built a great rapport with the players and his students and he's also a new teacher here in Craig. Jayke coaches the back half of the defense and is the running backs coach.

"Corey Smith is helping coach the offensive and defensive lines. He played at Blacksburg High School a few years ago when they were competing for state titles. He has also built a great rapport with our kids.

"Craig native Derek Persinger is a new teacher in the system and is also helping out the football team. Derek helps with the secondary and coaches the wide receivers. Derek, like me, already knew most of the kids and their extended families. We are extremely blessed to have five coaches in the building; it makes everything easier."

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