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# THE NEW CASTLE RECORD

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Wednesday, September 28, 2022

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PHOTO BY PAM DUDDING

The FFA group at Craig County High School has been given a boost by new teacher Emily Nolen, who has a passion for agriculture and the success of her students. These ladies gave reports at the recent soil and water management meeting. Pictured are Nolen, front, and Emaleigh Radford, vice president, Brooke Beers, middle school FFA member, Makenzie Lucas, reporter, and Eliza Muncey, president.

## FFA and ag classes pursuing the Land Lab dream, selling sausage

**Pam Dudding**  
Contributing writer

Students in Craig County middle and high schools are enjoying a boost to their Future Farmers of America and ag department. The new agriculture teacher and FFA advisor, Emily Nolen, has taken this "bull by the horns" and is running with it. The students seem to be loving it.

"I really do love what I do," shared Nolen. "We have already accomplished a lot with the help of our community, but we still have a lot on our plate, and I am excited, but I think my students are more excited than me!"

At the recent Mountain Castles Soil and Water Conservation District meeting, four of the FFA students, including Emaleigh Radford, vice

president, Brooke Beers, middle school FFA member, Makenzie Lucas, reporter and Eliza Muncey, president, were present.

"Last year was the first year we had an active FFA Chapter in a while and we are thrilled to be a part of this organization," shared Lucas. "We had goals that we were determined to achieve, and we got straight to work. We started off with arranging a pet drive for the Montgomery County Animal Shelter. Later we partnered with the Farm Bureau Women's Committee and did Agriculture activities with the elementary students for National Ag week in the classroom. Last October, we set up booths at the Fall Festival and Joe's Tree Farm. In March, we took a field trip to John and Mary Hunter's farm to check and vaccinate their cattle. Thanks to Ms. Nolen and

See Land Lab Dream, page 2

## Law takes 2nd place in state backhoe contest

**Pam Dudding**  
Contributing writer

Most people have likely heard the expression, "boys and their toys," knowing that a lot of boys, and men, enjoy playing with big toys.

Some even get to compete with them and Craig County hometown man Jeremiah Law is one of them.

The Virginia Department of Transportation hosts its annual state Equipment RoadEO contest for operators to compete.

"There are a lot of competitors every year," Law shared. "I wouldn't even know where to start on how many competes, but I know every operator that works for state has the opportunity to sign up and it varies every year on the people that actually do. They will break Virginia up into nine different districts and it's roughly 50 people per district that signs up for Backhoe so probably around 450 - 500 competitors across the state."



COURTESY OF JEREMIAH LAW

Jeremiah Law took second place in the annual VDOT Equipment RoadEO. He went through competing with the bridge crews and won, then to district and won and then to state where he took second place and will now be competing in the regional contest in Louisiana, against 10 other states.

The nine winners of each district then proceed to Richmond to compete at the state competition.

Law said that he first learned

about the competition when he started working at VDOT over six years ago.

"I decided to enter because of my competitive nature," he

See Backhoe Contest, page 4



PHOTO BY PAM DUDDING

Glenn and Jackie Taylor took the Best Antique Car Award at Olde Salem Days car show this year with their 1956 Victoria. They are happy to be hosting the Annual Marshall Reynolds Memorial Automotive Show in Craig this year at the Fall Festival Oct. 9. Everyone is encouraged to join in.

## Marshall Reynolds Memorial Automobile Show set for Oct. 9

**Pam Dudding**  
Contributing writer

Antique vehicles bring fond and fun memories to many who enjoy looking at them, and for some, in owning and showing them.

The O. Marshall Reynolds Memorial Automobile Show is scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 9 at the Annual Craig County Fall Festival on Main Street, from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m.

Antiques, street rods, mud trucks and more are encouraged to join in on this festive day.

Plaques will be presented to the first 60 entries of the show and some goody bags as well. Thirty-three vehicles have already preregistered.

Also, the local Food Country grocery store will be showing its NASCAR Truck and Tractor at the show.

However, there will be no judging this year, just a time to share your vehicle with others and a day of fun and socializing with hundreds of fans.

It is suggested to arrive between 7-9 a.m. to place vehicles, before congestion

See Automobile Show, page 3



President and CEO of Feeding Southwest Virginia Pamela Irvine, second from left, led the roundtable. She discussed the organization's new mission and asked questions of the various representatives who were present.



PHOTOS BY AILA BOYD

Feeding Southwest Virginia held a community roundtable for Hunger Action Day Sept. 22 at its distribution center and administrative offices in Salem.

## Feeding Southwest Virginia holds community roundtable

**Aila Boyd**  
a Boyd@mainstreetnewspapers.com

SALEM -- Feeding Southwest Virginia held a community roundtable for Hunger Action Day Sept. 22 at its distribution center and administrative offices in Salem.

During the event, the organization's new mission was discussed. The mission now reads: "Nourish neighbors. Engage community partners. Develop solutions to address food insecurity."

The roundtable was led by Pamela Irvine, president and CEO of Feeding Southwest Virginia. The conversation focused on the three components of the new mission.

Representatives from Kroger, The Church of Jesus Christ

of Latter-day Saints, Voices of Faith, Beth Israel Roanoke, St. Marks Lutheran Church of Roanoke, Carilion Clinic, Local Environmental Agriculture Project, Carter Bank and Trust, Rescue Mission of Roanoke, Goodwill Industries of the Valleys, Presbyterian Community Center, United Way of Roanoke Valley and Vinton-Roanoke Area Agape Center.

The representatives discussed the ways they go about serving their various communities and the ways they engage with Feeding Southwest Virginia.

Those present also talked about how they can collaborate on different projects and initiatives.

Irvine specifically asked those present what reducing food insecurity looks like to them.

She noted an issue that is on her radar is the "benefits cliff," meaning once someone makes a certain amount of money their benefits are greatly reduced or eliminated.

"If they make a little bit more, they lose their benefits. One of the things we believe is going to be key in anybody's success in transferring from public benefits to feeding their own family and having financial security is going to be additional resources during that transition, not a decrease in resources," she said. "That's a policy thing we've been working on for a number of years."

Elected officials and their staff members were also present, including Roanoke City Councilman Joe Cobb, Del. Joe Mc-

See Roundtable, page 2

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# 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:

**Ramp closures:** Ramp closures at exit 137 are possible during nighttime hours, 12

a.m., to 5 a.m. Drivers should watch for message boards dates and times the ramp will be closed.

**Lane closures:** Alternating left and right lane and shoulder closures during nighttime hours between 8 p.m. and 6 a.m., Sunday through Thursday, are possible. Lane widths will be reduced to 11 feet.

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 options:** 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.

**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.

**Botetourt County:** Left lane closures on I-81 northbound between mile marker 147 and 149.

**Montgomery County:** Right lane closures in place for paving of I-81 southbound between mile marker 130 to 128.

**Pulaski County:** Right lane closures in place for paving of I-81 northbound between mile marker 102 to 104.

**Roanoke County:** Alternating lane closures on I-81 north-

See VDOT, page 5

# Land Lab Dream

from page 1

numerous gracious members of our community, as we got a great start last year and we hope to see success in this exciting upcoming year."

"Last year in October, we started to build the fence. It took several weeks to build," Radford said. "Fast forward a few months and we now have three bull calves by May. We were able to help castrate them, vaccinate them and worm them. We also had a Land Lab Ag Fair where the FFA had booths with games and there were vendors there too. Overall, it was a great success!"

She added, "For this year, we are planning on expanding the Land Lab more, moving the greenhouse and are hoping to fence in the

other side of the drive and will be using this space for livestock judging."

"We are still looking for community members to help expand the Land Lab as well as donations," said Radford. "We would like to thank everyone that has helped so far."

Beers spoke about the different competitions they went to.

"First, we went to Abington Southwest Virginia and Carter Calfee placed in the top five overall," Beers said. "A team of Mackenzie Lucas, Carter Calfee and myself placed fourth as a team overall for the Junior division. Second was VT Block and Bridle competition where a senior team of Chasity and Colby Wolfe, Aley

Drake and Eliza Munsey placed ninth on the senior team. Aley Drake was 19th overall."

While they were there, the seniors visited the meat lab, and the juniors toured the Virginia Tech campus.

"We also went to the Rockingham County Fairground for a dairy judging competition where the senior team placed fifth," Beers added. "It was fun and educating to do all of these competitions and helps us to improve for next year's events."

Munsey, shared, "We have many events planned in the upcoming year for our FFA Chapter such as a dodgeball tournament, another Land Lab Fair, a teacher appreciation night

and a farmer's breakfast. We plan to host the farmers breakfast for everything they do for the industry. We also plan on doing quite a few fundraisers such as pork sausage sales in the fall and strawberries in hopes to raise enough money to go to the State Convention. We want to thank everyone for all of the donations, time and resources that you have provided. We hope that this upcoming year will bring growth and new opportunities to all FFA members and opportunities to connect to the community."

Currently, the FFA members are selling sausage as a fundraiser. It is fresh mild, pork sausage that is packaged in one-pound vacuum-sealed bags ready

for the freezer and priced at \$5 per pound.

The fundraiser will take place until Oct. 10 and pickup will be Nov. 11, from 4 – 7 p.m. in the high school cafeteria.

Orders can be placed at the Catawba Farmer's Market on Thursdays or by emailing Nolen at enolen@craig.k12.va.us.

"These funds will help the students pay registration fees for the FFA State Convention," shared Nolen.

Payment is recommended before pickup, but if those interested need to pay at pickup, they should send Nolen an email.

Nolen said that their upcoming events and goals include:

Give every member the

opportunity to purchase an FFA jacket

Compete in career development events such as tractor driving and troubleshooting, livestock evaluation, stockmen's, dairy evaluation, poultry evaluation and floriculture

Create an alumni group Attend state convention at Virginia Tech

Co-coordinate with the Land Lab for the second Annual Land Lab Ag Fair

"We are loving our new teacher and the exciting things we are doing at the Land Lab and places we go to learn," shared the students. "We have just begun and can't wait to keep expanding as the community really seems to be behind us, helping us a lot!"

# Roundtable

from page 1

Namara, a representative for Sen. Tim Kaine, a representative for Del. Chris Head and a representative for state Sen. David Suterlein.

"We are so grateful for Feeding Southwest Virginia and the partnerships we have. You all were extraordinary partners during COVID, making sure our schools and kids and families had access to food," Cobb said.

McNamara encour-

aged the representatives to come to him and other officials with specific policy asks.

Prior to the roundtable, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints donated 40,000 pounds of food to Feeding Southwest Virginia.

"Our 41-year history has taught us a thing or two about change," James Pearman, board chair of Feeding Southwest Virginia, said in a

brochure that outlines the new mission that was given out during the roundtable. "As our communities and the world around us change, we are prompted to respond with innovative and dynamic strategies to serve our neighbors well."

The organization covers a region that consists of 26 counties and nine cities, including Craig County.



A volunteer opportunity was held following the roundtable.

PHOTO BY AILA BOYD

## CROSSWORD PUZZLE

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| <b>CLUES ACROSS</b>               | 41. En __ incidentally                        | <b>CLUES DOWN</b>                      | 28. Newspapers need it                    |
| 1. Fall down                      | 43. Queens baseball team                      | 1. Parts per thousand (abbr.)          | 29. Herbal tea                            |
| 5. Gas usage measurement          | 45. Commoner                                  | 2. Jump                                | 34. Distinctive practice                  |
| 8. Golf score                     | 47. Expenses in insurance world (abbr.)       | 3. Eaten as a vegetable                | 35. Exercise system __-bo                 |
| 11. A superior grade of black tea | 49. Payroll firm                              | 4. Residual paresis after anesthesia   | 36. Explosive                             |
| 13. Wrath                         | 50. Broadway actress                          | 5. Brunchtime staple                   | 37. Belonging to a thing                  |
| 14. Eating house                  | 51. Skipper butterflies                       | 6. Makes money off of                  | 39. Presidential candidates engage in the |
| 15. Delay leaving a place         | 52. Daisy                                     | 7. Refined                             | 40. Of the Swedes                         |
| 16. People now inhabiting Myanmar | 53. Hint                                      | 8. Nocturnal S. American rodents       | 41. Meadow-grass                          |
| 17. Canadian flyers               | 54. Daniel __, French composer                | 9. From a distance                     | 42. "Rule, Britannia" composer            |
| 18. Walks back and forth          | 55. English children's author Blyton          | 10. Officials                          | 44. Hooray!                               |
| 20. Frequently                    | 60. Midway between east and southeast         | 12. It helps you see                   | 45. Greek city                            |
| 21. Humans have two               | 61. Spiritual leader of a Jewish congregation | 14. Central Canadian indigenous person | 46. One way to do it by example           |
| 22. Surrounds with armed forces   | 62. Patriotic women's group                   | 19. Invests in little enterprises      | 47. Imitated                              |
| 25. Made proper                   | 63. The woman                                 | 23. They help in tough situations      | 48. "Game of Thrones" actress Headey      |
| 30. Medical buildings             | 64. Tall, slender-leaved plant                | 24. Industrial port in Poland          | 51. Swiss river                           |
| 31. Patty Hearst's captors        |   | 25. Type of screen                     | 52. Drought-resistant plant               |
| 32. Hits with a drop shot         |   | 26. Peyton's little brother            | 53. A French abbot                        |
| 33. Italy's PM 1919-20            |   |  | 54. One point east of northeast           |
| 38. Promotions                    |   |  | 58. Get free of                           |



## THE NEW CASTLE RECORD

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# Live entertainment planned for Craig County Fall Festival



**New Horizon Gospel**

COURTESY OF CRAIG COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The 39th Craig County Fall Festival will begin at 9 a.m. when local VFW Post 4491 will raise the American flag in the courthouse yard and lead the Pledge of Allegiance. The National Anthem will be sung by newly formed Fall Festival Singers, featuring Dennis D.R. Looney on keyboard. New Castle Mayor John "Bucky" Johnson and Craig County Historical Society Board Chair D.R. Looney will welcome attendees and pastor Kenny Davis will deliver a prayer of blessing over the festivities. With opening ceremonies complete, first-time emcee Trena Boudreaux will take over the mic and set the tone for the rest of the day.

The day's music kicks off on the Zimmerman Stage with more from the Fall Festival Singers doing patriotic and Americana songs. At 10 a.m. Merchant Copy featuring Craig teenager Cole Winebarger on guitar, with lead vocal Terry Dollar, John Epling on bass, Kyle Walker on rhythm guitar and backup vocals, and Geoff White on drums will entertain, followed by longtime festival entertainer David Francisco of Cadillac Ranch fame at 11:15 a.m.

At 12:30 p.m., bluegrass favorite Blue Connection will perform. Members Paul Boone on mandolin, Kenny Hamblin on banjo, John Hamilton on guitar, and Matt Spence with his upright bass have been delighting campgrounds, festivals, fundraisers and parties with their traditional hard driving bluegrass for years. As evidenced in their onstage banter, these fellows are friends first and band mates second. Blue Connection will accompany the second Annual Flat-Foot Dance competition.

Keeping the retro fun going, seasoned

guitar quartet 40 Years After will bring back those old time rock'n roll hits of the 1950s and 60s. This band includes Craig County's Steve Devinney and they've been busy entertaining at retirement and assisted living facilities across the area. New this year is a "Jitterbug" dance competition. There will be medals and cash prizes for both contests.

Finally, the day will be ended with a group new to the Fall Festival. Called New Horizon Gospel from Roncevert, West Virginia, they offer "bluegrass for the soul" and are led by Joe Howard on guitar. Also including Dennis Zeboskey, lead guitar, Joey Morgan, mandolin and fiddle, and Ernie Keller, bass guitar, this is a group gifted with warm vocal harmonies and skilled picking and grinning.

Attendees are encouraged to bring chairs.

Those interested in the dance competitions should note that there are no fees or registration. Flatfoot dancers should gather in front of the stage by 1 p.m. Jitterbug dancers should gather in front of the stage by 2 p.m.

**Schedule:**

- 9:20 a.m. – Fall Festival Singers
- 10 a.m. – Merchant Copy
- 11:15 a.m. – David Francisco
- 12:30 p.m. – Blue Connection
- 1 p.m. Flatfoot dance competition
- 2 p.m. – 40 Years After
- 2 p.m. – Jitterbug dance competition
- 3:30 p.m. – New Horizon Gospel

-Submitted by Craig County Historical Society Festival Entertainment Committee

## OBITUARIES

### Earl Franklin Devinney, Jr.

Earl Franklin Devinney Jr. of New Castle, Virginia went to be with his Lord on Sunday September 18, 2022.

Son of the late Earl Sr. and Grace Devinney. He is survived by his brother and sister-in-law Steve and Paula Devinney, his sons and daughters-in-law, Dwayne and Martha Devinney, Erick Devinney and Heather Milward, Christopher and Katie Devinney, and his grandchildren Gabriel, Bria, Shelby, Teagen and Marinette. He is also survived by his first wife Gay King and preceded by his second wife Karen Devinney.

Earl lived many lives over his 75 years, son, brother, soldier, husband, father, grandfather, car enthusiast, busi-



ness owner, veteran and devout Christian. His faith, his grandchildren and the pride of serving his country played a major role in his final years.

A special thank you to the Nurses, Staff and Physicians of Salem Veterans Affairs Medical Center Hospice and Palliative Care Unit for the care, joy and comfort provided to him in his

final months.

Visitation was held at Paitsel Funeral Home in New Castle, VA on Wednesday September 21st from 6 to 8 pm. His service was held at Cross Roads Church Cemetery at 21892 Craigs Creek Rd in New Castle on Thursday September 22nd at 1:00 pm.

### Lucille Persinger Dudding

Lucille Persinger Dudding, 99 of New Castle, VA went to be with her Lord on Thursday, Sept. 15, 2022. She was born April 30, 1923 to Ernest and Eva Lee Persinger, who preceded her in death. She was also preceded in death by her loving husband, William (Bill) Dudding and her four brothers, Marshall, Bud, Lawrence, and Rink.

She is survived by special nieces, Judy Looney, Sandra Hughes, Rhonda Zimmerman, and Lucille (Mickey) Hudgins. She is also survived by nephews, Bo, Greg, David, Terry, & Eddie; nieces, Betty Sharon, Karen, & Kathy; special friends, Ruth Sellers, Jeannie & Maynard Long, & Sylvia Sanders.



Her favorite thing was sitting on her front porch and watching people go by. She especially loved for people to stop and chat. She loved all the family get-togethers and celebrations. She was a wonderful cook, especially her pound cake.

Visitation was held at 2:00 PM Saturday, Sept. 24, 2022 at Paitsel Funeral Home with a

Memorial Service following at 3:00 PM with Pastor Jere King officiating.

In lieu of flowers, please donate to Grace Baptist Church 159 Old Railroad Ave. New Castle, VA 24127 or Craig Co. EMS PO Box 81 New Castle, VA 24127.

A private burial will be held at a later time.

### Richard 'Wormy' Allen Stebar

Richard "Wormy" Allen Stebar, 58 of New Castle, passed away Saturday, Sept. 24, 2022.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Lawrence & Emogene Stebar; sister, Debbie Stebar Church; and brother, Larry Stebar; best friend, Lloyd Mullins.

He is survived by children, Justin Stebar & wife Faith and Jessica Stebar O'Bryhim & husband John; grand-



children, Aiden & Aleena Stebar and Ireigh O'Bryhim; sister, Jenny Stebar Bryant; numerous nieces, nephews, & friends.

He loved good music and racing cars, and spending time with family and friends. He was always known to lend a helping hand.

A visitation will be held 6-8 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 28 at Paitsel Funeral Home.

# Upcoming public meetings in Craig County

**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

## Automobile Show

from page 1

of traffic begins.

There is an entry fee of \$20 per vehicle. Checks can be made to the Craig County Historical Society and registrations can be jrsofva.lumos.net or call (540) 520-5555. Pre-registration form and check can be mailed to Dr. Jackie R. Taylor, 330 Cumberland Avenue, New Castle, Virginia 24127. (Or send in name, address, phone, email and make and model of the vehicle with the check.)

Forms can also be found on the bulletin

board at Food Country.

This year, Jackie and Glenn won the Best Antique Award for their 1956 Victoria, at Olde Salem Days car show.

The sponsor of the Craig County show this year is South Main Auto Service in Blacksburg, owned by David Reynolds, son of Marshall Reynolds.

Over the years, the folks in Craig and surrounding counties have enjoyed this show, as adults and kids alike take pictures with their favorite vehicles.

# Mountain Magic

## In Fall

*Bluegrass, Antiques & Crafts Festival*

**Saturday, October 1<sup>st</sup>; 10 am – 4 pm**

**Downtown Buchanan**

*Where Main Street meets the mountains*

**More than 100 Vendor Spaces on the Town Park**

**Live Bluegrass Music • Great Food**

**Classic Auto & Tractor Show**

**Buchanan Scarecrow Trail**

**Main Street History Trail**

*Walk our Swinging Bridge*

Be sure to 'Like'

the New Castle Record on Facebook.

# OPINION

## The Commitment to America

In less than two short years, unified Democrat control of the Federal Government has diminished our country in ways that would astound even a pessimist.

Inflation has risen to levels not seen in forty years. Gas prices hit record highs earlier this year. More than two million illegal immigrants have been encountered at the southern border this fiscal year before it has even ended, not counting the significant number that have evaded detection.

Each of these crises has been created or made worse by policies promoted by President Biden and his party's majorities in the House and Senate.

President Biden and the liberals in Congress wreaked havoc on the economy by pouring trillions of dollars into it. Too many dollars chasing too few goods is the classic formula for inflation, yet Democrats persisted.

The good news is that these

problems can be solved with the right policies and the right congressional majorities.

Republicans in the U.S. House of Representatives have been working on a plan to improve the economy, lower costs, unleash the potential of our people and resources, and secure the country. Our plan is called the Commitment to America.

The Commitment to America contains four planks:

- An economy that's strong;
- A nation that's safe
- A future that's built on freedom; and
- A government that's accountable.

The Commitment to America calls for reducing wasteful spending to bring costs for essentials like housing and groceries under control. It also calls for tax and regulatory reform to grow wages, create good jobs, and stabilize the economy. After the pandemic



**Morgan Griffith**  
Representative

and the Biden-created cost of living crisis, Americans are ready for a return to economic normalcy, and the Commitment to America would deliver it.

As part of the Commitment to America, we would unleash America's energy potential by encouraging domestic production and cutting the time of the lengthy permitting process for projects. More energy produced here would lower gas and utility prices. We would also promote manufacturing in our country and seek to bring our supply chains closer to home. These moves would insulate our economy from the whims

of foreign powers.

The primary job of a government is to protect its citizens, and the Commitment to America demands that the Federal Government do this job better than it has under an inept and ideologically driven Biden Administration. We would give immigration enforcement officers the tools they need to secure the border, including money to finish the wall. We would also take aim at the perverse incentives in government policy that encourage illegal immigration, such as "catch and release" letting apprehended migrants stay here.

In the Commitment to America, law enforcement officers are supported with no risk of defunding them, and threats to public safety like fentanyl are treated with appropriate seriousness.

As part of the Commitment to America, we would expand the freedom and choices open to Americans. This includes health care. Access to telehealth would be improved, offering more opportunities for care in rural and

remote areas like many in Virginia's Ninth Congressional District. We would focus on bringing transparency and competition to health care, driving down costs without sacrificing medical innovation.

Finally, the Commitment to America would bring much-needed accountability to the Federal Government. Despite Congress' constitutional obligation to conduct oversight, Democrats have chosen to look the other way no matter how incompetently or dishonestly the Biden Administration behaves. That would end under Republican leadership.

The Commitment to America is a straightforward, focused plan to improve the way Washington works in order to better serve the citizens of our country. President Biden may oppose it, but he will have to explain why his approach is the better one despite the various failures under his leadership.

You can learn more about the Commitment to America by visiting <https://www.republicanleader.gov/commitment/>.

## New reads for fall

**Library Corner**

Empowering individuals to build a stronger community

By Marge Lewter

The Craig County Public Library gets new books from time to time to add to the collection. If you have a request, please drop us a note! Here are some of the newest additions:

- "A Safe House"

by Stuart Woods

- "Rising Tiger" by Brad Thor
- "High Stake" by Danielle Steel
- "What Happened to the Bennetts" by Lisa Scottoline
- "Shattered" by James Patterson
- "Ordinary Monsters" by J.M. Miro

- "A Face to Die For" by Iris Johansen
- "The Hotel Nantucket" by Elin Hildebrand
- "A Relative Murder" by Jude Deveraux
- "The Hidden One" by Linda Castillo
- "Violetta" by Isabel Allende
- "The Desperate Hours" by Marie Brenner
- "Wings of Fire The Flames of Hope" by Tui T Sutherland
- "Reading forces

you to be quiet in a world that no longer makes a place for that," John Green said.

Snuggle up with a good book! Read to your kids, read to your dog. They will love you for it!

**Library News:**  
Raffles to be drawn at Fall Festival: Be sure to get your ticket for the beautiful Nex Trex outdoor bench to be drawn at Fall Festival. Also raffle for a weekend at Country Campground is

being held. We invite you to support your library by buying a raffle ticket. These items would make fabulous Christmas gifts for someone you love.

Become a Friend of the Library by stopping in to register. Thanks friends!

Don't forget Kroger Community rewards and Amazon Smile, two programs that help us immensely!

Stop by and see us at Fall Festival on Oct. 8.

**THE NEW CASTLE RECORD**

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

## Backhoe Contest

from page 1

added. "I enjoy getting to compete and meet new people and other operators that I usually don't get to see until that time of year."

This was Law's third time he had entered the annual competition, but the first time that he had ever won for the district and got the opportunity to compete at the state level.

"I have worked with all types of heavy equipment throughout my career with the state and even beyond that around the house on my dad's equipment," Law shared. "But growing up and helping him out, my experience with equipment probably goes back to when I was around 10 years old."

He added with a chuckle, "I especially loved using my dad's backhoe

to smash the trunks in tight on my demolition derby cars."

The competition brackets started with competing against the bridge crews. After Law won that competition, he competed against all the other winners across the district. Again, he won, and that win took him to Richmond to compete on the state level.

"I came in second place in the state which was good enough for me to get to go forward to compete for the regional which will be held in Louisiana," Law said. "I will be competing against all the other states now."

Law shared that he won trophy plaques for each event.

He added with a laugh, "Some

said I should be getting some extra vacation time off for each event and I got to meet the commissioner of the state. Also, when I go to compete in state, I get a free trip to Baton Rouge. There will probably be trophies at state as well as a ton of bragging rights for the winner."

Law will be competing against the other state winners from Louisiana, Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee and West Virginia.

"I usually try to not work myself up on how good my competition is," Law shared. "I only focus on doing the best that I can possibly do myself and everything else that follows is out of my control."

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

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# VDOT from page 2

bound for milling and paving from mile marker 134.5 to 132.4, 8 p.m. to 6 a.m. the following morning. Periodically, exit 132 northbound may be closed. Message boards will notify drivers.

**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 will be in place northbound and southbound during nighttime hours, 10 p.m. to 6 a.m. the following morning. Drivers should watch for signs and expect possible delays.

**I-581 BRIDGE REPAIRS** – Weather permitting, crews will repair bridge decks on Interstate 581. Right, center and left lane closures will be in place northbound and southbound during nighttime hours, 10 p.m. to 6 a.m. the following morning. Drivers should watch for signs and expect possible delays. Scheduled traffic impacts include:

Left or right lane closures may be in place on I-581 northbound from Orange Avenue to Valley View Boulevard from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Left or right lane closures may be in place on I-581 from Valley View Boulevard to Orange Avenue from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Right or left lane closures may be in place on I-581 from Orange Avenue to Valley View Boulevard from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.

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.

nue from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Flagging operations may be in place on Liberty Road NW from Lukens Street NE to Hunt Avenue NW from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

**ROANOKE CITY 13th STREET SE IMPROVEMENTS WITH DETOUR** – A project to improve a portion of 13th Street SE in Roanoke is underway. Located in a residential neighborhood just east of downtown Roanoke, this project will improve traffic flow and connectivity along 13th Street SE from Tazewell Avenue to Norfolk Avenue. The project entails reconstructing about 0.2-mile of 13th Street as an improved, two-lane roadway with 10.5-foot-wide travel lane and a raised median. A new roadway will extend 13th Street to Norfolk Avenue and the intersection at 13th Street and Wise Avenue will be reconfigured to include a roundabout. Bike lanes, sidewalks, crosswalks and curb and gutter will also be added. Southbound 13th Street traffic has a detour in place using Norfolk Avenue onto 12th Street to Tazewell Avenue. This detour will be in place throughout the duration of this project. Signs will be posted to designate the detour route. Northbound 13th Street will remain open to traffic. Flaggers may be possible and the speed limit through the work zone is 25 mph. The project is expected to be completed in summer 2023.

**SURFACE TREATMENT OPERATIONS** – Weather permitting, crews will begin surface treatment operations on various routes. Lane closures may be in place and flaggers may control traffic at times during daylight hours. Drivers should watch for signs and expect possible delays. The road surface may be rough for a several weeks after surface treatment is applied. Once it packs down, the road surface will be brushed

and return to a more smooth surface.

**ROANOKE COUNTY ROUTE 311 AND ROUTE 419 ROUNDABOUT AT HANGING ROCK** - A road project to replace the signalized intersection of Route 311 and Route 419 in Roanoke County at Hanging Rock with a roundabout is underway. The new roundabout opened to traffic. During the remaining construction, lane closures may be in place. Drivers should expect the following:  
Paving: Paving is underway until complete. Drivers should expect lane closures and flagging operations during nighttime hours, 7:30 p.m. to 6 a.m. the following morning.  
July through November: The new roundabout is now open to traffic. Drivers should still expect nighttime lane closures with flaggers between 9 p.m. and 6 a.m., Sunday through Thursday around the roundabout for final paving, pavement marking and sign installation.

**ROUTE 628 CULVERT REPLACEMENT** – Beginning April 11, 2022, Route 628 (Greenridge Road) will undergo a culvert replacement located .25 miles east of the road's entrance from Route 780 (Cove Road). Both lanes are open to traffic with flagging operations in place through the end of the project. Expected completion is October 2022.

**BLUE RIDGE PARKWAY CLOSURE** – The Blue Ridge Parkway will be repairing slope failures and a culvert failure at mile marker 127.9. A 15-mile stretch of the Parkway, mile marker 121.4 to 136, will be closed to all uses including cyclists, pedestrians and drivers. Detour signs to detour traffic around the Bent Mountain section of the Parkway will be in place.

Traffic will be rerouted to Route 220 south to Route 419 north to Route 221 south. Traffic traveling north on the Parkway would be reversed. The detour is expected to be in place until 2023.

**PAVING OPERATIONS** – Weather permitting, crews will pave, patch and repair pavement on various routes. Lane closures may be in place and flaggers may control traffic at times during daylight hours. Drivers should watch for signs and expect possible delays.

**SURFACE TREATMENT OPERATIONS** – Weather permitting, crews will begin surface treatment operations on various routes. Lane closures may be in place and flaggers may control traffic at times during daylight hours. Drivers should watch for signs and expect possible delays. The road surface may be rough for a several weeks after surface treatment is applied. Once it packs down, the road surface will be brushed and return to a more smooth surface.

**BOTETOURT COUNTY ROUTE 11 BUCHANAN BRIDGE PROJECT** - A construction project on the Route 11 Bridge in the Town of Buchanan began on Monday, August 15. Water Street is closed and drivers should expect lane closures with flagging operations to begin in about two weeks. Message boards are present to alert and update drivers.

**ROUTE 1095 (HIGHLAND DRIVE) PIPE FAILURE CLOSURE** – Route 1095 (Highland Drive) near its intersection with Sanderson Road has been immediately closed until further notice due to a pipe failure. The road is currently impassable and is being assessed for repairs and materials. Drivers will need to seek alternate routes to avoid the area such as Murray Court to Richardson. Please adhere to closure signs. The road is expected to be closed approximately at least through Mid-December 2022.

**The Craig County Child Care Center (C5) is hiring maintenance / grounds keeper.**  
**Position would include but not be limited to:**

- Change air filters
- Service appliances – dishwasher, ice machine, freezers, refrigerators etc
- Service HVAC units
- Maintain cabinetry and indoor furnishings
- General upkeep of lighting, ceiling tiles and toilets
- Maintain and upkeep playground fences
- maintain mulch and landscaping fabric
- Mow lawn and weed removal
- Snow removal
- Remove snow from sidewalks and walkways put down salt
- Keep debris from trash can areas
- Remove trash
- Keep mulch off rubber mulch area
- Empty trash off playgrounds
- Keep all areas free of bees and insects as possible
- Oversee additional large scale contract projects
- And other assigned duties

Pay \$15.00 - \$20 an hour, based on experience. This is a 5+/- hour a week contracted position. C5 is an EOE.  
Accepting applications through Oct. 14th please apply at 100 Brooks ST, New Castle, VA 24127.



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**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**  
**COUNTY OF CRAIG, VIRGINIA**  
**PROPOSED BUDGET AMENDMENTS**

Pursuant to Section 15.2-2506 of the Code of Virginia, as amended, notice is hereby given of a public hearing to be held by the Craig County Board of Supervisors on the proposed County Budget amendment for Fiscal Year 2022-23 (July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023). The Public Hearing, which may be continued or adjourned, will be held October 6, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as the matter is heard during the Board of Supervisors meeting at the Craig County Courthouse in New Castle, Virginia.

A copy of the proposed budget is available for public review at the County Administrator's Office in the County Administration Building, New Castle, Virginia.

**PROPOSED BUDGET AMENDMENT FY 2022-23 TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR:**

<b>County of Craig</b>	<b>\$221,147</b>
<b>Reduction on personal property</b>	<b>(\$205,600)</b>
<b>Dept of Social Services</b>	<b>\$ 6,585</b>

# 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 (Disciples of Christ)</b> 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.graceassemblycatawba.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 in 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 Hershsberger, L on Hubert to 4910).</p>
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# SPORTS

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PHOTO BY CHELSEA LOUTHEN

The Rockets will back in action at Mountain View Friday for their first game in two weeks.

## ROCKET FOOTBALL TEAM IS BACK IN ACTION THIS WEEK WITH TRIP TO MOUNTAIN VIEW

The Craig County football team will be back on the field this week after picking up a win last Friday when Twin Valley forfeited. The Rockets lost a home game in the process when the Panthers couldn't field a team.

Craig has played just one home game thus far and the Rockets will be on the road again this week when they travel to Quicksburg to take on Mountain View. The Generals are off to an 0-3 start with losses to Bath County (54-6), Parry McCluer (44-6) and Thomas Jefferson of Alexandria (35-12). This will be the first meeting ever between Craig County and Mountain View.

"Mountain View is a 2A school, a classification above us," said Craig coach Jim Fisher. "They are winless but have improved every single week. They have

some athletes and are finally figuring out how and where to play those kids. They run a lot of zone read, ISO and toss. Their skill kids are big, fast and athletic. We will be relying on our offense to give us an opportunity to compete."

With last week's forfeit the Rockets had a chance to work on some things and give some injured players extra time to heal.

"We worked hard last week on the small details," said Fisher. "We still have a couple of starters dinged up and are concerned about their availability on Friday. Josh Craft is nursing a shoulder and Bryce Drake an ankle. Both are two way starters."

The Rockets won't have another home game until October 21 when they host Bath County.

## Mountaineers beat Hokies in rivalry game



PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

The West Virginia Mountaineers won the coveted "Black Diamond Trophy," symbolic of the rivalry between the West Virginia and Virginia Tech football teams, when the Mountaineers took a 33-10 win over Tech in Blacksburg last week. Here WVU's Tony Mathis picks up good yardage against the Hokies, and 15 more yards were added on as Tech defender Jalen Stroman got a piece of Mathis' facemask. Tech is at North Carolina this Saturday while West Virginia makes a trip to the University of Texas.

## ROCKETS RUN IN HIGHLAND MEET



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

Two Craig County runners participated in a meet at Highland County last week. Cooper Mabes finished first in the 2.1 mile jayvee race and Hannah Ratliff was fourth in the 3.1 mile varsity girls race with a time of 38 minutes. The runners will be back on the trails on October 5 at Eastern Montgomery.

## VOLLEYBALL TEAM IS HOME FRIDAY AGAINST PARRY McCLUER

The Craig County volleyball team will be looking to pick up a win on Thursday night when they host Parry McCluer in a Pioneer District volleyball match.

Craig had two home matches last week, dropping a district match against Narrows and a non-district match to North Cross. Both went three sets as Craig fell to 0-11 on the season.

The scores against Narrows were 25-9, 25-10 and 25-6. Highlights for the Rockets included six kills and 12 digs by Annabelle Gregory, five kills and five

aces by Maggie Mays and 11 assists and a pair of aces by Erin Snider.

"We tried Erin out for setting and she did a great job coming in halfway to the season after only playing as a defensive specialist," said coach Suzanne Crawford. "Annabelle had a great defensive game and Maggie was very aggressive at the serving line and on the net."

A night later North Cross visited New Castle and swept the season series, winning 25-14, 25-15 and 29-27 in a nail-biting finale.

"The North cross game

was a very intense game," said Crawford. "Annabelle killed it again defensively."

Gregory finished with eight kills, five aces and 17 digs. Daileigh Donithan and Jenna Boitnotte had four aces each while Snider had seven assists and two aces and Mays had a dozen digs.

"Everyone played in both matches last week," said Crawford. "This season has come with challenges, but every day they get better and play harder. Hopefully with the second round of games we can close some of these tight games with a 'W'."



Craig County coach Suzanne Crawford surveys the action at a recent match.



Annabelle Gregory goes high for a spike.



Daileigh Donithan serves one up for the Rockets.

PHOTOS BY JIM & REGINA DEVINNEY